

MEDIA RELEASE

EMBARGOED UNTIL WEDNESDAY 9 MAY 2018

NEXT STOP NEWCASTLE FOR TRAVELLING FILM FESTIVAL

The Travelling Film Festival, the regional tour of the Sydney Film Festival, returns to Newcastle's Tower Cinemas this June, showcasing nine outstanding feature films from the 65th Sydney Film Festival from **22-24 June 2018**.

The Travelling Film Festival, started by David Stratton in 1974, tours to 18 regional locations year-round, including six Queensland centres, nine in New South Wales and three in the Northern Territory.

Opening the Festival is *The Breaker Upperers*. A side-splittingly funny New Zealand film from writers-directors-stars Jackie van Beek and Madeleine Sami, the film follows two cynical misfits earning a living breaking up unhappy couples for cash, by faking deaths, impersonating cops and strippers, and feigning pregnancies.

"We're thrilled to bring the Festival back to Newcastle!" said **Festival Manager, Karina Libbey**. "With nine of the best films direct from Sydney Film Festival, from star-studded comedies to captivating dramas by award-winning directors, the local community have plenty of brilliant films to look forward to."

Program highlights include: Australian paramedic-turned-filmmaker Benjamin Gilmour's *Jirga*, shot entirely in war-torn Afghanistan; and *Don't Worry, He Won't Get Far On Foot*, starring Joaquin Phoenix, alongside Jonah Hill, Rooney Mara and Jack Black.

Closing the Festival will be the wildly entertaining docu-fiction *American Animals*, featuring young Hollywood talents Evan Peters (*American Horror Story*) and Barry Keoghan (*Dunkirk*, *The Killing of a Sacred Deer*).

The program also includes incredible stories from across the world, including: *Foxtrot*, a thrillingly inventive examination of Israeli military culture; award-winning Bulgarian director Milko Lazarov's story of enduring love in frozen Siberia, *Ága*; double award-winner at the Berlinale, *The Heiresses*; wartime drama *Transit*; and dark Iranian comedy *Pig*.

Tickets to Australia's longest running travelling film festival are now on sale with 'Subscribe and Save' packages offering great value for multiple ticket purchases, with tickets from just \$9.

Travelling Film Festival acknowledges the financial assistance of Screen Australia, Create NSW and Destination NSW, and is supported by media partner ABC Newcastle and distinguished partner Princess Cruises.

The Program:

Opening Night: Friday 22 June

- *The Breaker Upperers* – A side-splittingly funny New Zealand film from writers-directors-stars Jackie van Beek and Madeleine Sami, following two cynical misfits earning a living breaking up unhappy couples for cash, by faking deaths, impersonating cops and strippers, and feigning pregnancies.

Saturday 23 June

- ***Aga*** - Award-winning Bulgarian director Milko Lazarov's story of enduring love in frozen Siberia follows an older Inuit couple whose traditional way of life erodes each day with the melting ice. **Screens with short film *Barbara* (competing in the 2018 Dendy Awards)**
- ***Pig*** – A hilarious dark comedy from Iranian filmmaker Mani Haghighi, following a blacklisted director who is enraged that he is being ignored by a serial killer murdering famous filmmakers.
- ***Don't Worry, He Won't Get Far On Foot*** – Oscar-nominated actors Joaquin Phoenix, Jonah Hill and Rooney Mara star alongside Golden-Globe nominee Jack Black in Gus Van Sant's portrait of cult cartoonist John Callahan.
- ***Foxtrot*** – Winner of the Venice Grand Jury Prize and eight Israeli Ophir awards, *Foxtrot* is a thrillingly inventive, tragic and funny examination of Israeli military culture.

Sunday 24 June

- ***The Heiresses*** – Winner of the Berlinale Silver Bear Alfred Bauer Prize for opening new perspectives, and the Silver Bear for Best Actress, this complex drama takes an unusual look at the lives of wealthy Paraguayan families through the tribulations of a lesbian couple. **Screens with short film *Kaya***
- ***Transit*** – Award-winning German director Christian Petzold's daring wartime drama follows a love story between World War II refugees, set in contemporary Marseille.
- ***Jirga*** – Australian paramedic-turned-director Benjamin Gilmour's film follows a former Australian soldier's journey to redemption, filmed entirely in Afghanistan.
- ***American Animals*** – Starring young Hollywood talents Evan Peters (*American Horror Story*) and Barry Keoghan (*Dunkirk*, *The Killing of a Sacred Deer*), this wildly entertaining docu-fiction follows the true story of four students attempting one of the most audacious art heists in history.

WHAT:	Travelling Film Festival Newcastle
WHEN:	Friday 22 June – Sunday 24 June, 2018
WHERE:	Tower Cinemas Newcastle, 183-185 King St Newcastle NSW 2300
SINGLE TICKETS:	\$14 / \$12 / \$10 (Adult / Concession / Student & Kids)
SUBSCRIBE AND SAVE:	FULL SUBSCRIPTION: \$81 Adult / \$72 Concession 5-FILM FLEXIPASS: \$53 Adult / \$48 Concession

HOW TO BOOK: Book tickets online in advance at sff.org.au/newcastle

For ticket enquiries please contact Sydney Film Festival on 02 8220 6600 or contact the cinema box office.



TRAVELLING FILM FESTIVAL VISITS...

NT Alice Springs, Darwin, Katherine **QLD** Bundaberg, Cairns, Mackay, Nambour, Toowoomba, Townsville

NSW Huskisson, Newcastle, Mid North Coast, Tamworth, Ulladulla, Wagga Wagga, Wollongong

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