

MEDIA RELEASE

TUESDAY 5 FEBRUARY 2019

**SYDNEY FILM FESTIVAL'S SCREEN DAY OUT RETURNS FOR
HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS**

Sydney Film Festival today announced the return of Screen Day Out, an exciting program for high school students, supported by Australian Teachers of Media Inc.

Screen Day Out is Sydney Film Festival's secondary education program, presenting two documentaries at the State Theatre on Thursday 6 and Thursday 13 June 2019.

The 2019 Screen Day Out program includes: *Eternity*, a brand-new National Film and Sound Archive (NFSA) digital restoration of Lawrence Johnston's 1994 film about Arthur Stace, a Sydneysider who famously chalked the word 'Eternity' on his hometown's streets; and *The Miracle of the Little Prince*, a captivating documentary exploring the nature of language and culture, particularly disappearing Indigenous languages, through Antoine Saint-Exupéry's classic book *The Little Prince*.

- All Screen Day Out sessions will be introduced by filmmakers or special guests, and after the screening students will have the opportunity to ask questions.
- In-depth ATOM Study Guides have been created for each film and will be available for teachers to download from The Education Shop at theeducationshop.com.au.

"We are delighted that students participating in Screen Day Out will be able to discover the story of Arthur Stace, a Sydney icon, in this beautiful *NFSA Restores* digital restoration which gives new life to director Lawrence Johnston's documentary and Academy Award winner Dion Beebe's stunning black and white cinematography work," said **NFSA CEO Jan Müller**.

"The NFSA collection exists to excite and inspire, and our partnership with Sydney Film Festival allows us to reach new generations and audiences with these restored Australian classics."

HOW TO BOOK

Tickets are **\$10 per student**, and free for teachers who bring ten or more students. Teachers can find more information and book sessions at sff.org.au/program/screen-day-out. General admission tickets are also open to the public.

All the ATOM Study Guides will be available from The Education Shop by Monday 18 February.

MEDIA ENQUIRIES

Amber Forrest-Bisley, Publicity Manager

E: amber@originalspin.com.au P: 02 8065 7363 M: 0405 363 817

Amy Owen, Communications Project Manager

E: amy@originalspin.com.au M: 0404 977 338

Genvin In, Communications Advisor

E: genvin@originalspin.com.au M: 0449 939 864

***Sydney Film Festival Press Pack and Images Available [HERE](#)

EDITOR'S NOTES

SCREEN DAY OUT

ETERNITY

The story of Arthur Stace, who famously chalked the word 'Eternity' on Sydney's streets. A brand-new restoration, courtesy of the National Film and Sound Archive, of Lawrence Johnston's award-winning documentary.

A brand-new restoration, courtesy of the National Film and Sound Archive's digital restoration program - NFSA Restores, of filmmaker Lawrence Johnston's stunning documentary, *Eternity*. Johnston's 1994 award winning film tells the story of Sydneysider Arthur Stace, who famously chalked the word 'Eternity' in elegant copperplate handwriting on the streets of his hometown. Stace had a hard life, growing up in inner-city poverty, working as a stretcher bearer in World War I, returning to Sydney a chronic alcoholic. In 1930, however, he embraced Christianity, sobered up, and started his life's work - going out each night to write his anonymous message on Sydney's pavements. Today, his message is a Sydney icon, referenced by artists like Martin Sharp, and emblazoned across Sydney Harbour Bridge as part of the 2000 New Year's Eve celebrations. The film, using interviews, and with haunting images of the city's once grand architecture (vividly filmed in black and white by Oscar-winning cinematographer Dion Beebe), recreates Stace's extraordinary story.

Presented by the National Film and Sound Archive's digital restoration program – NFSA Restores – reviving our cinema icons.

THE MIRACLE OF THE LITTLE PRINCE

The nature of language and culture, in particular the world's disappearing indigenous languages, is explored through Antoine Saint-Exupéry's classic book, *The Little Prince*, in this captivating documentary.

The much-loved story *The Little Prince*, by French aviator, poet and writer Antoine Saint-Exupéry, has been translated into over 375 languages. It is one of the best-selling and most-translated books ever published. Saint-Exupéry's 1943 novella features a lonesome boy from a remote star on a quest for love and friendship who travels from planet to planet before finally arriving on Earth, where he encounters all manner of creatures and characters. In 2019, the UN International Year of Indigenous Languages celebrates the immense value of the world's indigenous languages, many of which are now rapidly disappearing. This inspiring documentary looks at how four communities use translations of *The Little Prince* to keep their language and culture alive. From the desert sands of Morocco and the Berber language of Tamazight, to the Sami people on the border of Norway and Finland, exiled Tibetan translators, and the ancient Aztec language of the Pipil people of El Salvador, *The Miracle of the Little Prince* explores the nature of language and the significance of Saint-Exupéry's words in the today's world.

ABOUT SYDNEY FILM FESTIVAL

From Wednesday 5 June to Sunday 16 June 2019, the 66th Sydney Film Festival offers Sydneysiders another exciting season of cinema amidst a whirlwind of premieres, red-carpet openings, in-depth discussions, international guests and more.

Sydney Film Festival also presents an Official Competition of 12 films that vie for the Sydney Film Prize, a highly respected honour that awards a \$60,000 cash prize based on the decision of a jury of international and Australian filmmakers and industry professionals. Previous Sydney Film Prize winners: *The Heiresses* (2018), *On Body and Soul* (2017); *Aquarius* (2016); *Arabian Nights* (2015); *Two Days, One Night* (2014); *Only God Forgives* (2013); *Alps* (2012); *A Separation* (2011); *Heartbeats* (2010); *Bronson* (2009); and *Hunger* (2008).

The Festival is a major event on the New South Wales cultural calendar and is one of the world's longest-running film festivals. For more information visit: sff.org.au.

The 66th Sydney Film Festival is supported by the NSW Government through Create NSW and Destination NSW, the Federal Government through Screen Australia and the City of Sydney. The Festival's Strategic Partner is the NSW Government via its tourism and major events agency, Destination NSW.

Flexipasses and subscriptions to the 66th Sydney Film Festival (5-16 June 2019) are on sale now. Please call 1300 733 733 or visit sff.org.au/tickets/flexipasses for more information.

