

HEALTH AND SAFETY PROTOCOLS

Safety and comfort is a high priority and our venue partner is working very hard to ensure all health and safety protocols are in place as mandated by QLD Government. We also strongly encourage our patrons to follow all safety precautions as required by the health authorities for a fun and safe festival experience.

TICKETS

SINGLE TICKETS

**\$14.50 Adult \$12.50 Concession
\$10 Kids/Students**

Subscriptions are transferable but admit only one person per film.

Concessions: unemployed, pensioners & seniors - upon presentation of ID.

All films start at the advertised time.

In the event that a pass-holder is sick/ unable to attend/waiting for a test result, please call or email the cinema to avail a full refund. In the event that any TFF is cancelled, the full value will be refunded to the credit or debit card used for purchase.

HOW TO BOOK

Capacity strictly limited. Tickets available online, at the cinema or over the phone. Book now to avoid disappointment.

Online:

[www.eventcinemas.com.au/
TravellingFilmFestival](http://www.eventcinemas.com.au/TravellingFilmFestival)

Over the phone:

1300 733 733

VENUE DETAILS

Warrina Cineplex
164 Dalrymple Rd, Currajong,
QLD 4812
(07) 4725 7295

PRESENTED BY

Sydney Film Festival

Email: tff@sff.org.au

Website: sff.org.au/tff

More info: [www.sff.org.au/tff/
program/townsville](http://www.sff.org.au/tff/program/townsville)

Cover image: *The Perfect Candidate*

TRAVELLING FILM FESTIVAL

**BRINGING THE WORLD'S
BEST CINEMA TO QUEENSLAND!**



The Perfect Candidate

TOWNSVILLE

WARRINA CINEPLEX
13 - 16 November 2020

TRAVELLING FILM FESTIVAL VISITS...

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

NSW Huskisson, Newcastle, Port Macquarie, Sawtell, Tamworth, Ulladulla, Wagga Wagga, Wollongong



SCHEDULE

FRIDAY 13 NOVEMBER

7:30 PM THE PERFECT CANDIDATE (15+)
Screens with short film DIVING IN (All Ages)

SATURDAY 14 NOVEMBER

12:30 PM LUNANA: A YAK IN THE CLASSROOM (All Ages)
2:45 PM TWO OF US (15+)
Screens with short film GROUNDHOG NIGHT (15+)
6:30 PM CORPUS CHRISTI (15+)

SUNDAY 15 NOVEMBER

12:30 PM THE PAINTER AND THE THIEF (15+)
2:45 AM ONLY THE ANIMALS (M)
Screens with short film SAFETY NET (M)
6:30 PM FIRESTARTER - THE STORY OF BANGARRA (15+)

MONDAY 16 NOVEMBER

6:30 PM MASTER CHENG (PG)
Screens with short film OBSCURA (PG)

STAY IN TOUCH

Keep up to date with program and tour announcements, giveaways and more!



www.sff.org.au/tff



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Sign up to our eNews or to receive a print program in the post next year at sff.org.au/tff

OPENING FILM: THE PERFECT CANDIDATE



FRIDAY 13 NOV 7:30 PM

Directed by Haifaa Al-Mansour | Saudi Arabia, Germany | In Arabic with English subtitles | 101 mins | 15+

NOMINATED: BEST FILM, VENICE FILM FESTIVAL 2019

SELECTED: LONDON FILM FESTIVAL 2019

Oscar nominee and Saudi Arabia's first woman director Haifaa Al-Mansour (*Wadjda* SFF 2012), brings a revealing look at the changing roles of women in Saudi Arabia. Maryam is a doctor in a Saudi hospital, the only one in town with emergency facilities. Despite her qualifications, she struggles to to earn the respect of male colleagues and patients every day. After Maryam is prevented from traveling to Dubai in search of a better job, a bureaucratic mixup leads her to run for the local elections. With her musician father away on tour playing the first public concerts allowed in the Kingdom in decades, Maryam enlists her two younger sisters to begin fundraising and planning campaign events. She becomes a phenomenon, first via social media, than by appearing on an interview show and refusing to answer questions on "women's subjects" like gardens.

Despite her father and her community's struggle to accept her as their town's first woman candidate, Maryam's journey starts to become a symbol for a larger movement.

"A compelling tale by Saudi Arabia's first female director."
- FORBES

Screens with short film **DIVING IN**

LUNANA: A YAK IN THE CLASSROOM



SAT 14 NOV 12:30 PM

Directed by Pawo Choyning Dorji | Kingdom of Bhutan | In Dzongkha with English subtitles | 109 mins | PG

SELECTED: BERLINALE 2019

Shot with solar powered batteries in the Himalayan village of Lunana (population 56), this glorious directorial debut takes place in one of the most secluded and undeveloped areas of the entire world.

Ugyen is an aspiring singer living with his grandmother in Bhutan's capital. He dreams of moving to Australia but first he must finish his final year with the government's teaching service. Slacking on his duties, he is punished by being assigned to "the world's most remote school". After an eight-day trek, Ugyen reaches the high-altitude village with more yak dung than people, few amenities, and a bunch of eager-to-learn kids who've never seen a car. It's a shock for a city slicker and he's determined to leave as soon as he can despite the local community's warm welcome. But as winter approaches, he slowly succumbs to the charm of his students, the community and its traditions. Both poignant and beautiful, this charming film gently explores the concept of happiness while also providing a surprising amount of knowledge about the world of yaks.

TWO OF US



SAT 14 NOV 2:45 PM

Directed by Filippo Meneghetti | France | In French with English subtitles | 92 mins | 15+

Director Filippo Meneghetti's debut feature breaks the rules of traditional romance as we follow two pensioners who have been in a clandestine relationship for decades.

Nina (Barbara Sukowa, *Hannah Arendt, Lola*) is a seventy something retiree living in Paris, her neighbour Madeline (Martine Chevallier, *Tell No One*) lives just across the hall. While to the world, they have simply been long-term neighbours, secretly they have been inseparable partners for many years. Now, both in their 70s, they plan to sell up their Parisian apartments and start a new life together in Rome. There's just one problem. Madeleine has yet to come out to her family about their relationship. When she falls gravely ill, Nina conspires to continue with their scheme, ultimately circumventing the family in the process. Meneghetti delivers a moving and deceptively complex drama filled with moments of drama, suspense, despair and humour.

"Deftly adds layers of thematic complexity that go beyond the facile, if touching, notion that love conquers all."

-VARIETY

Screens with short film
GROUNDHOG NIGHT

CORPUS CHRISTI



SAT 14 NOV 6:30 PM

Directed by Jan Komasa | Poland and France | In Polish with English subtitles | 116 mins | 15+

NOMINATED: BEST FOREIGN FILM, ACADEMY AWARDS 2019

With 36 awards on the festival circuit, including an Oscar nomination, Polish director Jan Komasa's third feature is inspired by real events.

Daniel (a magnetic Bartosz Bielenia) leaves a correctional center at age 20 after serving time for unnamed crimes. Having experienced a spiritual epiphany behind bars, he wants to pursue a career in the clergy, but is told that this is impossible because of his conviction. However, rather than reporting for his new job at a small-town sawmill, Daniel walks into the Catholic church, kneels down in a pew and begins praying. In no time, the same streetwise survival instincts that got him into trouble as a kid kick in and he ends up being the "new priest" who brings a certain relief to a town grieving a major tragedy.

Audacious and cleverly, this moving drama raises intriguing questions about conscience and morality.

"Often moving but also disquieting and even intermittently funny, this drama unfurls a spiritual parable that is uniquely Polish but accessible to all."

-THE GUARDIAN

THE PAINTER AND THE THIEF



SUN 15 NOV 12:30 PM

Directed by Benjamin Ree | Norway | In English and Norwegian with English subtitles | 102 mins | 15+

WINNER: SPECIAL JURY PRIZE, SUNDANCE FILM FESTIVAL 2020

In this thrilling and mysterious blend of fact and narrative, director Benjamin Ree (*Magnus*, 2016) quietly observes the interaction between a painter, Barbora Kysilkova, and one of the thieves, Karl-Bertil Norddand, who stole her work.

At the court hearing, Barbora works up the courage to speak to Karl-Bertil and thereafter asks if she can paint him. As he sits in her apartment, they talk about their lives and become friends. Karl-Bertil claims to not remember a thing about that day. He took one painting; his buddy took the other. A severe drug addict who had been awake for four days and was looking for his next high, he doesn't even remember what he did with the painting.

As painter and the thief embrace and circle each other warily, hypersensitive to ulterior motives, this compelling documentary reveals how perilous it can be to write people off on the basis of who they seem to be.

"A tribute to an unlikely, undeniably powerful friendship."

-ROLLING STONE

ONLY THE ANIMALS



SUN 15 NOV 2:45 PM

Directed by Dominik Moll | France, Germany | In French with English subtitles | 116 mins | M

SELECTED: VENICE FILM FESTIVAL 2019

A highly memorable opening scene, introduces us turn by turn to five characters each confessing a secret. In a rural plateau in southern France caught in the grip of a snowy winter, Alice (Laura Calamy), a farmer's wife sells insurance to – and is having an affair with – Joseph (Damien Bonnard, *Les Misérables*). Meanwhile, prominent Parisian Evelynne (Valeria Bruni Tedeschi) has gone missing on the plateau, with only her abandoned car offering any clue. Does Alice's grumpy husband Michel (Denis Ménochet, *Inglorious Bastards*) know anything about it? With exceptional performances that take you across continents, Dominik Moll's constantly engaging film is a cleverly structured, non-linear thriller, that will keep your synapses firing.

"The film's constituent parts... interlock like the workings of an intricate and malign musical box, creating dashes of melodrama, erotic obsession and even soap opera, and all superbly performed."

-THE GUARDIAN

Screens with short film
SAFETY NET

FIRESTARTER: THE STORY OF BANGARRA



SUN 15 NOV 6:30 PM

Directed by Wayne Blair and Nel Minchin | Australia | In English | 90 mins | 15+

Directors Wayne Blair (*The Sapphires, Top End Wedding*) and Nel Minchin (Making Muriel) join forces to bring a story of three Aboriginal boys who took a tiny Australian dance company and turned it into an energetic, revered and world-renowned cultural powerhouse.

Tracking the pivotal year approaching its 30th anniversary, Firestarter tells the story of the Bangarra Dance Theatre through the eyes of their long standing and charismatic artistic director, Stephen Page. This captivating documentary celebrates Bangarra's unique signature style of authentic storytelling, technique and deeply moving performances combined with utterly inimitable soundscapes, candid interviews and a treasure trove of archival footage. Bangarra's spectacular rise and triumph against the odds was not without tragedy. Ultimately this brand new documentary is a tale of pride, heartbreak, adversity and empowerment – with the transformative strength of Indigenous dance at its centre.

"A modern dance company unlike any other... remarkable, imaginative and richly varied"

-THE NEW YORK TIMES

MASTER CHENG



MON 16 NOV 6:30 PM

Directed by Mika Kaurismäki | Finland, UK, China | In Finnish and Chinese with English subtitles | 114 mins | PG

A mysterious Chinese man (Pak Hon Chu, *My Prince Edward*) and his young son arrive in a remote, idyllic Finnish town on a mission to find a one-time acquaintance. The man's repeated requests of whether anyone knows "Fongtrong", results in only blank stares. After dinner, restaurant owner Sirkka (Anna-Maija Tuokko) takes pity on them and offers them a place to stay. Cheng sees an opportunity to return the favour when a bus load of Chinese tourists pass through looking for a meal. When Sirkka's sausage specialities are rejected, Cheng offers to make chicken noodles, which prove to be a massive hit. Slowly his creative dishes gain favour with the notoriously fickle and adverse-to-change regular clientele. With a troupe of charming supporting characters, veteran, multiple award-winning Finnish director Mika Kaurismäki's lyrical and heartwarming comedy brings to life a tale of culinary love and cultural acceptance.

"It's [Master Cheng] overall message of human connection and empathy wins out, where food and nourishment are literal salves for the human malaise and where compassion and friendship can save lives" -FILMINK

Screens with short film
OBSCURA

SHORT FILMS

GROUNDHOG NIGHT



Directed by Genevieve Clay-Smith | Australia | 16 mins | 15+

SELECTED: SYDNEY FILM FESTIVAL 2020

For carer Gary, moving on and keeping his family together isn't always easy. Tensions run high when his late wife's parents arrive unannounced after he brings home a date. A charming insightful comedy written by multi-disciplinary artist Emily Dash.

Screens with feature film
TWO OF US

DIVING IN



Directed by Adam Bowes, Nina Oyama | Australia | 9 mins | All Ages

SELECTED: SYDNEY FILM FESTIVAL 2020

Will romance blossom for Alex? The competitive swimmer is madly in love with Jen, who works at the local pool. First, he needs to make a date, but his mischievous friends aren't helping.

Screens with feature film
THE PERFECT CANDIDATE

OBSCURA



Directed by Emily Jordan and Hannah Jordan | Australia | 9 mins | PG

SELECTED: SYDNEY FILM FESTIVAL 2020

An imaginative stop-motion animation that looks inside our cameras at the creatures within, who are living lives defined by what they see through the lens.

Screens with feature film
MASTER CHENG

SAFETY NET



Directed by Anthea Williams | Australia | 12 mins | M

SELECTED: SYDNEY FILM FESTIVAL 2020

Thirteen-year-old Terry is in emergency care with guardians after his mother's arrest. Cheeky and living with a disability, he's able to outwit one guardian while finding exactly the connection he needs from the other
Screens with feature film
ONLY THE ANIMALS

SUPPORT TFF



As a non-profit organization, the Travelling Film Festival exists through support from you—our audience. Your donations are an investment in the Festival's future and enable us to keep bringing the best and most important stories from around the world to Townsville each year.

Make a tax-deductible donation today at sff.org.au/tff/support

OUR AUDIENCES SAY:

"One of the best. Love the variety and high standard."

"It was wonderful. I feel as if I have been on a long holiday...in just one weekend! All excellent- 5 star event."

"We look forward to the festival returning year after year."

HOW TO BOOK:

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