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SYDNEY FILM FESTIVAL

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Cover Image: All of Us Strangers

HOW TO BOOK

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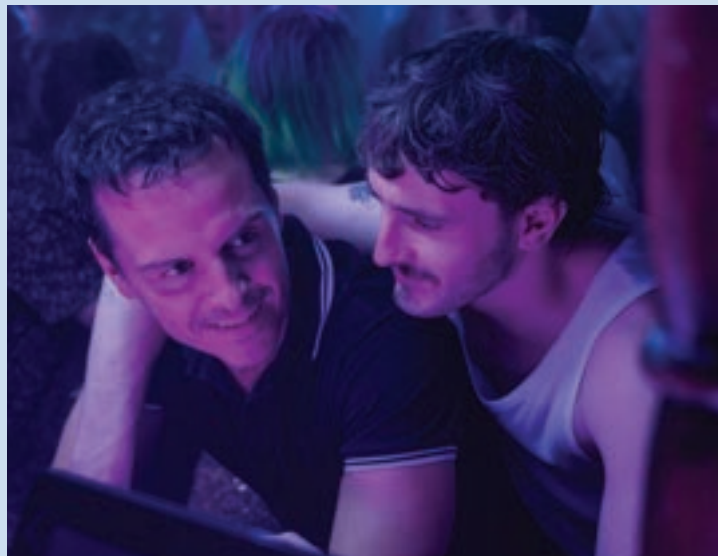
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As a non-profit organisation, the Travelling Film Festival exists through support from you—our audience. Your donations are an investment in the Festival's future and enable us to keep bringing the best and most important stories from around the world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

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TRAVELLING FILM FESTIVAL

22-25
FEB
2024



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SCHEDULE All films start at the advertised time.

THURSDAY 22 FEBRUARY

7:00 PM ALL OF US STRANGERS (MA 15+)

FRIDAY 23 FEBRUARY

6:00 PM ISLA'S WAY (M)

8:00 PM LA CHIMERA (M)

SATURDAY 24 FEBRUARY

2:00 PM BANEL & ADAMA (Unclassified 15+)

4:00 PM EVIL DOES NOT EXIST (Unclassified 15+)

6:30 PM THE EIGHT MOUNTAINS (M)

SUNDAY 25 FEBRUARY

1:00 PM BEYOND UTOPIA (M)

3:30 PM TÔTEM (Unclassified 15+)

Screens with short film CARAVAN PARK (Unclassified 15+)

6:00 PM THE ZONE OF INTEREST (Unclassified 18+)

STAY IN TOUCH

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



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OPENING NIGHT ALL OF US STRANGERS



THURSDAY 22 FEBRUARY 2024 | 7:00 PM

Directed by Andrew Haigh | UK

English | 105 mins | MA 15+

Andrew Scott (*Fleabag*) and Paul Mescal (*Aftersun*) star in this alluring and soulful mystery about a man whose parents, having been deceased for 30 years, suddenly occupy the childhood home that he revisits.

Director Andrew Haigh (*Weekend, 45 Years*) returns with another deeply moving film, cloaked in a haunting mystery. Andrew Scott stars as Adam, a lonely London man who has a chance encounter with his neighbour Harry (Paul Mescal). As the relationship unearths old memories, Adam revisits what was his childhood home before his parents (Clare Foy and Jamie Bell) died 30 years before. Surprisingly he finds them both there awaiting him, just as they were at the time they died. Winner Best Feature & Best Director – BIFA Awards

tiff

ISLA'S WAY



FRI 23 FEB | 6:00 PM

Directed by Marion Pilowsky
Australia | English
84 mins | M

Cowboy. Rebel. Survivor. Grandmother. You'll never forget meeting Isla.

Formidable grandmother Isla Roberts is adamant. She insists that although she's not a lesbian, her girlfriend Susan is. In this tender, richly humorous portrait of an 87-year-old horse carriage driving champion, we learn what makes an ordinary life extraordinary. Straight-shooting Isla's lived experience of rural Australia, raising a family in severe economic hardship, and coming out later in life, all make for a poignant documentary of a woman who's well ahead of her time and refuses to be put in a box. The film follows Isla over one eventful, cathartic year.

ADELAIDE
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FILMINK

"Plenty of great moments and more than a few laughs...an inspiring story about a remarkable octogenarian"

THE EIGHT MOUNTAINS



SAT 24 FEB | 6:30 PM

Directed by Felix Van Groeningen & Charlotte Vandermeersch
Italy, Belgium | In Italian, English, Nepali with English subtitles 147 mins | M

In this Cannes Film Festival Jury Prize winner, two lifelong friends grow apart and back together through the twists and turns of life, set and shot against the stunning backdrop of the Italian Alps and the Himalayas.

Director Felix van Groeningen (*The Broken Circle Breakdown*) achieves another remarkable film with the story of Pietro and Bruno who meet in the Italian Alps as children and become fast friends. Over their divergent lives, they reconnect again and again around the mountain where they met. A potent exploration of friendship, resilience, and realisation, this is an unforgettable film intimately felt, and beautifully filmed in magnificent locations. "A movie with air in its lungs and love in its heart," to quote *The Guardian*. Winner, Four David di Donatello Awards (Italian "Oscars").

FESTIVAL DE CANNES

THE GUARDIAN

"This film has mystery and passion; it climbs mountainous heights and rewards you with the opposite of vertigo: a sort of exaltation."

LA CHIMERA



FRI 23 FEB | 8:00 PM

Directed by Alice Rohrwacher
Italy, Switzerland | English, Italian with English subtitles | 130 mins | M

Tuscany, early 1980s. Arthur (a revelatory Josh O'Connor, *The Crown*) has just been released from a short stint in prison. During his earlier studies in the region, he fell in love with Beniamina, the daughter of an aging local aristocrat (Isabella Rossellini), but she's now gone. And he's fallen in with the Tombaroli, a rowdy crew of twenty-somethings who pretend to make their living as farmers and entertainers, but instead pilfer ancient Etruscan tombs for treasures to sell on the black market, hoping to one day strike it rich...

Straight from 2023 Cannes Film Festival, Rohrwacher's (*Happy as Lazzaro*) rule-breaking, magical film uncovers a world of wonders just below the surface. *La Chimera* is a mesmerising ode to the fragility of the beautiful things in life, and a cautionary tale about how easily they can be lost.

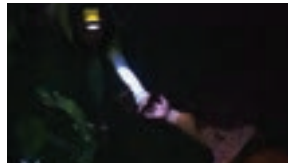
FESTIVAL DE CANNES

tiff

HOLLYWOOD REPORTER

"Uniquely magical."

BEYOND UTOPIA



SUN 25 FEB | 1:00 PM

Directed by Madeleine Gavin
United States | English, Korean with English subtitles | 115 mins | M

A family of five attempt a dramatic journey from North Korea to freedom, painting a devastating portrait of life under an oppressive regime. Audience Award winner, Sydney & Sundance 2023.

South Korean Pastor Seungeun Kim uses an underground network to rescue North Korean defectors who've made the hazardous trip across the Yalu River into China. Time is of the essence – if the Chinese authorities find them, they will be returned to face severe punishment. When the pastor hears of a family in hiding he rushes to help. The family embarks on a treacherous journey wherein their understanding of the West is challenged. Director Madeleine Gavin's prize-winning documentary, is gripping and totally unforgettable.

SFF sundance
FILM FESTIVAL

SCREEN DAILY

"This is a film you haven't seen before from a place you'll never visit, a first-class example of bravery and reportage melding into a filmed testament."

BANEL & ADAMA



SAT 24 FEB | 2:00 PM

Directed by Ramata-Toulaye Sy
Senegal, France, Mali | In Pulaar, French with English Subtitles | 87 mins | UC 15+

Winner of the top prize at the Melbourne International Film Festival, this rare film from Senegal charts an intense love story against a backdrop of suspicion, folklore and drought.

After premiering to great acclaim at the Cannes Film Festival, director Ramata-Toulaye Sy's astonishing debut film has been hailed as the arrival of a great new voice in cinema. When a passionate young couple, Banel (Khady Mane) and Adama (Mamadou Diallo), begin to defy societal expectation, the locals begin to correlate their behaviour and the drought befalling their region. This atmospheric exploration of love, obsession and madness is lyrical filmmaking at its best and freshest.

FESTIVAL DE CANNES

THE GUARDIAN

"... this film finds an assured place in the quietist tradition of African cinema with beautiful images and strong moments, and with relevant things to say about community, a woman's place and the climate crisis."

TÓTEM



SUN 25 FEB | 3:30 PM

Directed by Lila Avilés
Mexico, Denmark, France | In Spanish with English subtitles | 95 mins | UC 15+

Over the space of one day, the secrets, troubles and surprises of a Mexican family are viewed through the eyes of seven-year-old in this inventive and elegant film that has won multiple awards at festivals around the world.

Sol is carefully helping prepare for a surprise birthday party for her father at her grandfather's house. But something more is afoot, and she's starting to put the pieces together. As daylight fades and guests arrive – so too does that chaos, revelations and humour that only comes when family get together. Director Lila Avilés (award winner for her debut *The Chambermaid*) delivers a moving tribute to cherishing life and letting go what you can't control; this deftly crafted film will linger long after the credits roll.

Internationale
Filmfestspiele
Berlin

SCREEN DAILY

"This thematically rich piece offers a set of vivid character studies, while musing on life, death, and time – largely from a child's perspective."

EVIL DOES NOT EXIST



SAT 24 FEB | 4:00 PM

Directed by Ryusuke Hamaguchi
Japan | In Japanese with English subtitles | 106 mins | Unclassified 15+

The encroachment of modernity into the natural world goes under the microscope of director Ryusuke Hamaguchi's (*Drive My Car*) latest engrossing and tender masterpiece – a multiple winner at Venice 2023.

Tamuki and his daughter Hama live outside of Tokyo in a serene woodland setting. They lives are closely connected to, and in reverence to, the vibrant forest around them. But their serenity soon is viewed as a commodity, when their area becomes a target for corporations looking to find areas to offer glamping – "escapes to nature" – that will disrupt the delicate ecological balance. With ever growing tension, this magical, timely drama is not to be missed.



Venice Film Festival

TIME OUT

"Japanese superstar-in-the-making Ryusuke Hamaguchi's (*Drive My Car*) latest film is a touching ecological parable full of little feints and narrative red herrings. Just when you think it's heading in one direction, it slips off elsewhere, like a fawn in the woods."

THE ZONE OF INTEREST



SUN 25 FEB | 6:00 PM

Directed by Jonathan Glazer
USA, UK, Poland | In German, Polish with English subtitles | 106 mins | Unclassified 18+

Jonathan Glazer (*Under the Skin, Sexy Beast*) delivers a chilling masterpiece unlike any other WWII film, as the camera coolly spies on the daily mechanics of a German family living next door to Auschwitz.

Winner of the Grand Prix Cannes 2023, this haunting and unique film, follows a seemingly everyday family mundanely crafting a dream home. A home that shares a wall with Auschwitz during WWII where patriarch Rudolf Höss (Christian Friedel) methodically works, and the atrocities within earshot are ignored by the family (including Höss' wife, played by the award-winning Sandra Hüller). Generating a haunting mood by what is unseen rather than seen, Glazer crafts a scalpel sharp examination of how banal evil can be, that keeps audiences tight in its atmospheric grip. Nominated for three Golden Globes including Best Motion Picture, Drama

FESTIVAL DE CANNES

SCREEN INTERNATIONAL

"Essential viewing and a work that will be a vital focus of discussion."

SHORT FILM

CARAVAN PARK



Directed by Phillip Noyce
Australia | English
14 mins | Unclassified 15+

When their car breaks down on the way to Queensland, a family is forced to take up residence at a caravan park while the father tries to earn enough money to get the car repaired.

SCREENS WITH
TOTEM

KEY

SFF

Sydney Film Festival

tiff

Toronto International Film Festival

Venice Film Festival

Venice Film Festival

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