

# MWFF

MELBOURNE  
**WOMEN IN  
FILMFESTIVAL**

*stories in colour*

THURSDAY 20 FEB  
to SUNDAY 23 FEB



## FOREWORD



As proud principal partner of the Melbourne Women in Film Festival, it's wonderful to see the event take its place amongst more than 100 festivals worldwide promoting women in the film industry. Since its launch three years ago, the festival has gone from strength to strength and in 2020 will deliver another remarkable program of films written by women, directed by women, produced by women and made by women. Alongside the screenings, the festival's networking events, forums, panels and workshops will give our female filmmakers the opportunity to further develop their unique voices, become leaders in the industry and, ultimately, bring more women's stories to screens in Australia and around the world.

**Caroline Pitcher, Film Victoria CEO**

# LIDO

**HERITAGE THEATRE  
WITH A MODERN TWIST  
+ ROOFTOP CINEMA**



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**OPENING NIGHT  
+ PARTY  
CAPITOL THEATRE**

**DOORS 6:30PM / THURSDAY 20<sup>TH</sup> FEB**

The opening night screening will be followed by an after party

**Tickets:** Full \$35 / Concession \$30

Come and celebrate the opening of MWFF 2020 with a feature screening of the beautifully crafted film, *Vai* (2019) plus special guest filmmakers.

**VAI (2019 / 88 MINS / PG) SCREENING 7PM**

Vai is a portmanteau feature film created by nine female Pacific filmmakers and filmed across seven Pacific countries including Fiji, Tonga, Solomon Islands, Kuki Airani (Cook Islands), Samoa, Niue, and Aotearoa (New Zealand). Each of the eight vignettes explores the journey of Vai from a seven year old girl to the grand matriarch of her family. In each of these Pacific nations 'vai' means water.

Beautifully shot, *Vai* brings together Indigenous cultural and storytelling traditions, all told uniquely from a woman's perspective.

**Directors:**

Nicole Whippy  
'Ofa-Ki-Levuka Guttenbeil-Likiliki  
Matasila Freshwater  
Amberley Jo Aumua  
Mīria George  
Marina Alofagia McCartney  
Dianna Fuemana  
Becs Arahanga

**Producers:**

Kerry Warkia  
Kiel McNaughton

**Writers:**

Sharon Whippy  
Nicole Whippy  
'Ofa-Ki-Levuka Guttenbeil-Likiliki  
Matasila Freshwater  
Amberley Jo Aumua  
Mīria George  
Marina Alofagia McCartney  
Dianna Fuemana  
Becs Arahanga



## FEATURES + RETROSPECTIVES



### **AN EXERCISE IN DISCIPLINE: JANE CAMPION RETROSPECTIVE**

**FRIDAY 21<sup>ST</sup> FEB**

6:30PM

**RMIT KALEIDE THEATRE**

**TICKETS:** Full \$18; Concession \$15

Arguably one of Australia and New Zealand's most prolific and celebrated filmmakers, Jane Campion has had an extraordinary international career spanning decades. Campion remains the only woman to date to have won the prestigious Palme D'or for her film *The Piano* (1993) at the Cannes Film Festival. Campion's career traverses feature filmmaking and television however on occasion she has returned to her short film roots, using the form as a means for independent, creative expression.

Co-presented with Melbourne Cinémathèque, the Melbourne Women in Film Festival pays homage to the work of Jane Campion in this special retrospective screening of her short films including:

#### **Mishaps of Seduction and Conquest**

(1981, 15 mins)

#### **An Exercise in Discipline: Peel**

(1982, 9 mins)

#### **Passionless Moments** (1983, 12 mins)

#### **A Girl's Own Story** (1984, 25 mins)

#### **The Water Diary** (2006, 17 mins)

#### **The Lady Bug** (2007, 3 mins)

Australia / 90 mins / Unclassified



### **BIRTHS, DEATHS AND MARRIAGES**

Australian Premiere

**FRIDAY 21<sup>ST</sup> FEB**

8:30PM

**KINO CINEMAS**

**TICKETS:** Full \$18; Concession \$15

In the depths of Upper Hutt, 1994, the Hart clan is going through a very bad-hair day. Hugh returns from a quick foray to the supermarket for emergency supplies to bolster morale after her cousin Sinead is jilted at the altar, only to find all the relatives facing another upset: grandma has gone. Well, she's still at home, but she's popped her clogs. Auntie Ngaire is on the case. No way is a death going to interrupt Shannon's plans to chase a bit of cheap trouser on a Saturday night. A girl has priorities, and if grandma were upright, she'd be all for it.

Premiering at the 2019 New Zealand International Film Festival, Bea Joblin's debut indie feature is a slice of life kiwi comedy about life, death and everything in between!

**Director & Writer:** Bea Joblin

**Producers:** Bea Joblin, Sophie Lloyd  
Aotearoa

New Zealand / 2019 / 76 mins

Unclassified

### **PLAYING WITH WALK A MILE**

Grumpy old Russ lives next door to a noisy family, whom he hates. All he wants is peace and quiet and not have to care about anyone. But when something happens to his neighbours, he realises he does care.

**Director & Writer:** Judith Crowley

**Producer:** Sarah Anne Dudley

Aotearoa / New Zealand / 2019 / 16 mins

Unclassified



### **WHAT IF IT WORKS? + AMAR (MOON) SCREENING / PANEL**

**SATURDAY 22<sup>ND</sup> FEB**

6:00PM

**KINO CINEMAS**

**TICKETS:** Full \$18; Concession \$15

A colourful romantic comedy all about having the courage to love and be loved.

Adrian, an irrepressibly chirpy tech nerd, has OCD. Grace, a beautiful street artist, has Multiple Personality Disorder. As new neighbours in an edgy, graffitied suburb of Melbourne, they find themselves in therapy with the same psychiatrist and crash into each other one afternoon. As Adrian becomes aware of a threat to Grace lurking in the form of a fellow street artist 'Sledgehammer'. Will he overcome his biggest fear? It's a love story that seems impossible. But what if it works?

Winner of the Best Australian Indie Film award at the Gold Coast Film Festival (2017).

**Director & Writer:** Romi Trower

**Producers:** Romi Trower, Tristram Miall

Australia / 2017 / 95 mins / M

### **PLAYING WITH AMAR (MOON)**

Amar, a 28-year-old Muslim woman with Down syndrome, is secretly planning the wedding of her dreams... without a groom. Living with her widowed mother, grandmother and sister, Amar's family struggles with unwanted community prejudice, discrimination and marginalisation.

**Director & Writer:** Fatima Mawas

**Producers:** Ade Djamihardja, Leanne Tonkes

Australia / 2019 / 12 mins / Unclassified



### **SHE WHO MUST BE LOVED + THE FARM**

**SATURDAY 22<sup>ND</sup> FEB**

6:30PM

**KINO CINEMAS**

**TICKETS:** Full \$18; Concession \$15

She Who Must Be Loved is a documentary that tells the epic life story of Alfreda Glynn, the 78 year old Kaytetye woman, stills photographer, co founder of the Central Australian Aboriginal Media Association (CAAMA), and Imparja TV, mother, grandmother, great grandmother, radical, pacifist, grumpy old woman, who in equal measure loves the limelight and total privacy.

Both social history and detective story, this film investigates the mystery behind Glynn's grandmother, who was killed in a massacre. Directed by Glynn's daughter, filmmaker Erica Glynn, the film is an affecting portrait of an iconic figure in Australia's media history.

**Director & Writer:** Erica Glynn

**Producer:** Tanith Glynn-Maloney

**DOP:** Kathryn Milliss

**Editor:** Karen Johnson

Australia / 2019 / 100 mins / Unclassified

### **PLAYING WITH THE FARM**

The Farm tells the story of a girl who sees her ancestors and of her mother's efforts to avoid revealing the truth about the past.

**Director & Writer:** Romaine Moreton /

**Producer:** John Harvey

Australia / 2009 / 11 mins / Unclassified

This session features a post-screening panel with filmmakers discussing representation of disabilities on screen.

## SHORT FILMS



### FRESHLY SQUEEZED SHORTS PROGRAM 1

**SATURDAY 22<sup>ND</sup> FEB**

11AM / 95 MINS / Unclassified

**RMIT CINEMA**

**TICKETS:** Full \$18; Concession \$15

An eclectically fresh mix of short films traversing genres and styles that push the boundaries of gender, sexuality, culture, age, ability, and identity - exploring the many facets of Australian and Aotearoa/New Zealand life and society.



### GLOBAL PERSPECTIVES SCREENING/PANEL

**SATURDAY 22<sup>ND</sup> FEB**

12:30PM / 120 MINS / Unclassified

**RMIT KALEIDE THEATRE**

**TICKETS:** Full \$18; Concession \$15

Women's cinema is world cinema. In this very special event, MWFF presents a unique series of shorts by women that celebrate our global citizenship. United by their international outlook, these films embrace our world and its peoples, telling stories of migration, travel and life in other lands. After the screening, join us for a lively Q&A discussion with the filmmakers about what it means to be a global woman storyteller.





## NEXT GEN SHORTS

**SATURDAY 22<sup>ND</sup> FEB**

4PM / 100 MINS / Unclassified

**RMIT CINEMA**

**TICKETS:** Full \$18; Concession \$15

From animated and true stories to gut-wrenching drama and a giallo fantasy, this diverse range of films showcases the creativity and talents of Australia and Aotearoa/New Zealand's up-and-coming student filmmakers.



## STRANGER THAN FICTION

**SUNDAY 23<sup>RD</sup> FEB**

12PM / 90 MINS / Unclassified

**RMIT CINEMA**

**TICKETS:** Full \$18; Concession \$15

YouTube rap sensations, fighting for reproductive rights, dumpster diving, and the next generation of WAFL footballers... these are some of the stories proving that real life is often stranger than fiction. A collection of documentaries that dig deep beneath the surface of Australian society, bringing to light the issues that often remain buried.



## SHORT FILMS



### FRESHLY SQUEEZED SHORTS PROGRAM 2

**SUNDAY 23<sup>RD</sup> FEB**

4:30PM / 100 MINS / Unclassified

**RMIT CINEMA**

**TICKETS:** Full \$18; Concession \$15

An eclectically fresh mix of short films traversing genres and styles that push the boundaries of gender, sexuality, culture, age, ability, and identity - exploring the many facets of Australian and Aotearoa/New Zealand life and society.





## CLOSING NIGHT



## FUTURE CREATIVES INITIATIVE

### SCREENING + SHORT AWARDS

Includes the World Premiere of  
*Stalling - Future Creatives Initiative*

**SUNDAY 23<sup>RD</sup> FEB**

7PM / 3.5 HRS

**KINO CINEMAS**

**TICKETS:** Full \$25; Concession \$20

A celebration of MWFF 2020's short film award winners plus the world premiere of *Stalling* - the short film produced through the inaugural 2019 Future Creatives Initiative and Nik James' winning script.

### STALLING

*Stalling* is a coming of age short film about Eva who upon the discovery that everyone on the planet has suddenly disappeared, decides that the only rational solution is to jump off a cliff. Frankie makes her question this decision, forcing her to come to terms with her fear of being vulnerable and her need to belong.

**Director:** Olivia Altavilla

**Writer:** Nik James

**Producers:** Georgie Davis, Mud Vonkip

**DOP:** Nicoletta Centofanti

Australia / 2019 / 10 mins / Unclassified

Co-presented with Taival Films.

The closing night screening includes an awards presentation of this year's winning short films - then join us for our after party!



# CONVERSATIONS

## YOUR PROJECT OVERSEAS: BUILDING INTERNATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

**SATURDAY 22<sup>ND</sup> FEB 2PM / 60 MINS**  
**RMIT CINEMA**

**TICKETS:** FREE (Registration required)

Festivals, production companies, tax breaks and talent—there's no question cinema is a global industry. So how do you get started working abroad, and what opportunities are available outside of Australia? Join our panel of experts for practical advice on making the most of the global film industry, and how to get out there.

## INDIGENOUS WOMEN FILMMAKERS ON SELF-REPRESENTATION AND SOVEREIGN STORYTELLING

**SATURDAY 22<sup>ND</sup> FEB 3:30PM / 90 MINS**  
**RMIT CINEMA**

**TICKETS:** Full \$12; Concession \$10

An international panel of indigenous women from Australian and Pacific nations' screen industries and cultures, moderated by Dr Romaine Moreton (Yagara Goenpul Minjinbul Bundjulong), writer, filmmaker, and scholar. Panellists will discuss issues of indigenous women's self-representation, opportunities for participation in screen industries and indigenous storytelling in screen media as visual sovereignty.

Co-presented with Monash University, the Australian Indigenous Film & TV Research Network and Binung Boorigan Pty Ltd.

## REPRESENTATION STARTS HERE PANEL

**SUNDAY 23<sup>RD</sup> FEB 2:30PM / 60 MINS**  
**RMIT CINEMA**

**TICKETS:** Full \$12; Concession \$10

What can filmmakers do to champion diversity in their work? Many screen creatives want to include a multitude of voices, experiences and identities. But what can we actually do to ensure diversity, beyond tokenistic or superficial measures? Featuring critics and filmmakers, this panel explores how screen creatives can meaningfully strive for more inclusive representation, both on-screen and behind the camera. Our panellists explore gender diversity, ethnicity, sexuality, disability and age, and discuss practical ways to celebrate and champion the many voices in our community.

Co-presented with Women in Film and Television Victoria

# MWFF 2020 SCHOOL SCREENING

## EMU RUNNER + WORKSHOP

**FRIDAY 21<sup>ST</sup> FEB** 10:30AM / 120 MINS  
**RMIT CINEMA**

**BOOKINGS:** \$5 per student; teachers free

Emu Runner tells the story of Gem (Rhae-Kye Waites), a nine year girl dealing with the death of her mother in the isolated community located in western NSW. As her father Jay Jay (Wayne Blair) tries to keep the family together, Gem copes with her loss by forging a bond with a wild emu, a bird connecting with her mother's traditional totem animal.

Director Imogen Thomas' debut feature beautifully explores themes of loss, family, Country, and respecting difference. The film was written in consultation with Frayne Barker, an Aboriginal Ngemba woman, from Brewarrina, and with the participation of the local community in its production. Barker has brought to this project her knowledge of the pressing issues and challenges that come from living in this isolated community.

**Director:** Imogen Thomas

**Writer:** Imogen Thomas

**Producers:** Imogen Thomas, Victor Evatt, Antonia Barnard, John Fink, Gabriel Barber-Shipton

Australia / 2019 / 96 mins / PG

The film aligns with VCE Unit 1 on Representations and Australian stories, and for years 9-10 students of English, Media Arts. The workshop focuses on the representation of women and girls both in front of and behind the camera, and emphasises the importance of Indigenous Australian voices telling stories on our screens.



# WORKSHOPS

## IMPACT STORYTELLING

**SATURDAY 22<sup>ND</sup> FEB** 10:30AM / 3 HRS  
**SAE CREATIVE MEDIA INSTITUTE**

**TICKETS:** Full \$20; Concession \$15

Co-presented with Digital Storytellers.

This workshop helps participants to brainstorm and distill their story ideas. Workshop facilitators will work through their 'Story Canvas' model with you - a brainstorming tool, based on the popular Business Model Canvas. Central to the process, it provides a lens for telling stories that resonate with audiences and build into a successful campaign.



**Image:** Behind the scenes of short film *Blackwood* (2018).  
Photo by Ivy Mutuku

## VISUALISE YOUR VOICE

**SATURDAY 22<sup>ND</sup> FEB** 10:30AM / 7 HRS  
**SAE CREATIVE MEDIA INSTITUTE**

**TICKETS:** FREE (Registration required)

Visualise Your Voice is a practical workshop aimed at culturally and linguistically diverse young women aged 15-19 who aspire to create their own films. This day long workshop focuses on building knowledge of the different pathways for working as a screen practitioner through the creation of self-devised short films and storytelling.

Participants will be mentored by professional screen industry practitioners and educators, having the opportunity to experience different creative roles on a film shoot, using industry-standard equipment to translate their stories to the screen.

Maximum participants is 12 and registrations are required.

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## VENUES

**The Capitol** / 113 Swanston St, Melbourne

**Kino Cinemas** / 45 Collins St, Melbourne

**RMIT Cinema** / Building 80, City Campus, 445 Swanston St, Melbourne

**RMIT Kaleide Theatre** / 360 Swanston St, Melbourne

**Treasury Theatre** / Lower Plaza, 1 Macarthur St, Melbourne

**SAE Creative Media Institute** / 235 Normanby Rd, South Melbourne

**Lido Cinemas** / 675 Glenferrie Rd, Hawthorn



Mustangs FC | True History of the Kelly Gang



# FILM VICTORIA

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# MWIFF

## MELBOURNE WOMEN IN FILM FESTIVAL FESTIVAL CALENDAR

AM  
10

11

PM  
12

1

2

3

4

THUR 20

FRI 21

**SCHOOL SCREENING:**  
**Emu Runner**  
**+ workshop**  
LIDO CINEMA

SAT 22

**VISUALISE YOUR VOICE**  
SAE CREATIVE MEDIA INSTITUTE

**IMPACT STORYTELLING**  
SAE CREATIVE MEDIA INSTITUTE

**FRESHLY  
SQUEEZED 1**  
RMIT CINEMA

**YOUR  
PROJECT  
OVERSEAS:**  
RMIT CINEMA

**NEX**  
RMIT

**GLOBAL PERSPECTIVES  
SCREENING + PANEL**  
RMIT KALEIDE THEATRE

**INDIGENOUS  
WOMEN  
FILMMAKERS**  
RMIT KALEIDE  
THEATRE

SUN 23

**STRANGER  
THAN FICTION**  
RMIT CINEMA

**REPRESENTATION  
STARTS  
HERE**  
RMIT CINEMA

- FEATURE
- SHORTS
- WORKSHOPS
- PANELS

5                      6                      7                      8                      9                      10                      11                      12

**OPENING NIGHT: VAI + PARTY**  
CAPITOL THEATRE

**AN EXERCISE IN DISCIPLINE:  
JANE CAMPION  
RETROSPECTIVE**  
RMIT KALEIDE  
THEATRE

**BIRTHS, DEATHS  
AND MARRIAGES**  
KINO CINEMAS

**WHAT IF IT WORKS  
+ AMAR MOON**  
KINO CINEMAS

**SHE WHO MUST BE LOVED  
+ THE FARM**  
KINO CINEMAS

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**FRESHLY  
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RMIT CINEMA

**CLOSING NIGHT  
SCREENING  
+ short awards**  
KINO CINEMAS

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## FESTIVAL PARTNERS



## FESTIVAL STAFF

**Festival Director**  
**Deputy Director**  
**Festival Coordinators**

Sian Mitchell  
Kirsten Stevens  
Whitney Monaghan  
Janice Loreck

**Education Coordinator**  
**Event Coordinator**  
**Social Media Coordinator**  
**Design**  
Illustration artwork

Melanie Ashe  
Rachel Bostock  
Kate Henderson  
Sheri El Tantawy  
**Angelina Klein**