

Academy Award® and BAFTA qualifying

**STRICTLY GREAT
SHORT FILMS**



Flickertfest

34th International Short Film Festival

17-26 JAN 2025 | BONDI BEACH

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Flickerfest

PROGRAM AND SESSION TIMES

DAY	10.00AM	1.30PM	4.00PM	6.30PM	9.00PM
FRI 17	Festival Opening Highlights & After-Party – Arrive 8PM for 8.30PM START				
SAT 18		Best of International 1	Best of Australian 1	Best of Australian 2	Best of Australian 3
SUN 19		Best of International 2	Best of Documentary 1	Best of Documentary 2	Best of Australian 4
MON 20				Best of International 3	Best of Australian 5
TUE 21				Best of International 4	Best of Australian 6
WED 22				Best of International 5	Best of Australian 7
THU 23				EU Shorts Showcase	Short Laughs Comedy 1
FRI 24	FlickerLab: 1 Day Workshop (10AM - 5.15PM)			Rainbow LGBTQi Shorts	LoveBites Shorts
SAT 25	Lights, Camera Donate! (11.30AM)	FlickerKids Shorts (ages 4-12)	FlickerUp Youth Shorts	Indigenous Spotlight	Short Laughs Comedy 2
SUN 26	Closing Night Awards, Winner Highlights & After-Party – Arrive 7PM for 7.30PM START				

FESTIVAL INFORMATION

WELCOME TO THE 34TH FLICKERFEST!

We are thrilled to have reached over 3 decades sharing the best of the short films from Australia and the world. Flickerfest remains committed to shining the bright light of cinema that connects us all, screening 200+ short films this year handpicked from a record 3,500 entries. Thank you for joining us under the stars for the most innovative, provocative and wildly entertaining short films the world has to offer at Australia's only Academy Award® and BAFTA Qualifying short film festival.

BRONWYN KIDD Flickerfest Director

SPECIAL EVENTS

GALA RED CARPET OPENING NIGHT FRIDAY 17TH JANUARY

FESTIVAL INTRO & HIGHLIGHTS SCREENING 8PM for 8.30PM start. Includes welcome drink, festival intro and film screening
FESTIVAL AFTER-PARTY 10.30PM - late. Includes music, food and drinks at our beachside Festival Bar.

CLOSING NIGHT SUNDAY 26TH JANUARY

AWARDS, SCREENING AND AFTER-PARTY 7PM - late. Celebrate the end of the festival at our Gala Closing Night and Awards Ceremony. A selection of the festival's award-winning films will be screened, followed by music, food and drinks at the Flickerfest Bar.

FLICKERLAB WORKSHOP FRIDAY 24TH JAN 10AM - 5.15PM

A one-day journey from shorts to features and long form content.

All Tickets on sale at Flickerfest.com.au
 Flickerfest is an all weather event.

Thank You

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SPECIAL EVENT OPENING NIGHT

FRIDAY 19TH JANUARY 2025
8PM FOR 8.30PM

Glitter with the stars of the silver screen, under a starry sky... Join us for the Gala Red Carpet Opening night & enjoy a selection of Flickerfest's juiciest highlights - an introduction to the incredible cinema to come in our 2025 season. After the films, party till late in our panoramic palm fringed lawn bar at the fabulous Bondi Beach, and raise a glass to 34 years of the best short films from across the globe!



OPENING NIGHT SCREENING TICKET:
INCLUDES A WELCOME DRINK AND FESTIVAL HIGHLIGHTS SCREENING

OPENING NIGHT SCREENING AND PARTY TICKET: ALSO INCLUDES A CATERED AFTER-PARTY AND ENTERTAINMENT AT THE FLICKERFEST BAR

FESTIVAL INTRO & SCREENING
8PM FOR 8.30PM START.

AFTER-PARTY
10.30PM - LATE

OPENING NIGHT FESTIVAL HIGHLIGHTS FRIDAY 17TH JAN 8PM DURATION: 91MINS

THE FIX-IT-MAN AND THE FIX-IT-WOMAN

Australia | 9min | 2024
DIR: Nelson Armstrong, Cornelius Ebatarinja
WRI: Rhonda Sharpe, Courtney Collins
In the "bright lights, big city of Alice Springs", two soft sculptures try to impress each other with their dance moves. But it's an unfortunate accident that finally brings them together as they discover they both have a talent for fixing things. Artwork by the Yarrenyty Arterre Artists.
NSW PREMIERE

THANKS FOR THE MILK

France | 8min | 2024
WRI/DIR: Côme Ferré
A young delivery man realizes he's the reincarnation of an elderly man's beloved cat, rekindling a bond from a past life
AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE

ME AND DAD

Ireland | 9min | 2024
WRI/DIR: Shane Connellan | PROD: Jamie Eileen Strickler
A boy struggles in his attempts to bond with his oblivious father at a bar. All efforts are ignored. The barman is the boy's only soft ear. He empties everything in one final push to break dad.
AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE

CANDY BAR

Australia | 6min | 2025
DIR: Nash Edgerton | WRI: Damon Herriman
PROD: Serena Paull, Nash Edgerton
A young girl thinks a man in the candy bar line looks like her dad.
WORLD PREMIERE

THE COCKROACH

United States | 20min | 2024
WRI/DIR/PROD: Mary Pat Bentel
After a body altering accident, a woman must find a way forward in her new reality.
AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE

THE DOG

Australia | 12min | 2025
WRI/DIR: Danielle Baynes
PROD: Danielle Baynes, Morgan Hind, Lottie Aspinall
A sick dog mysteriously appears in the clinic of a struggling vet (Kate Walsh, GREY'S ANATOMY) and tries to negotiate their own death, leading both on a surreal journey through life and mortality.
WORLD PREMIERE

DRAGFOX

United Kingdom | 8min | 2024
DIR: Lisa Ott | PROD: Owen Thomas
Sam's search for identity gets interrupted by a mysterious neighbourhood fox. Together they embark on a magical journey to the attic to discover the surprising things they might have in common, and how to celebrate the ways in which they differ.
AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE

THE AUDITION

Australia | 10min | 2024
WRI/DIR: Dee Dogan | PROD: Bethany Bruce, Bridget Ikin
Milan, 21, is a talented Kurdish singer, currently auditioning for a major singing competition. When Milan hears her father has left their family for another woman, she's expected to plead with him to return home. All Milan wants is to make her own choices in life, and with this audition, for her mother, Emine, not to sabotage her.
WORLD PREMIERE

LOVERDANCE

France | 9min | 2024
WRI: Pauline Latanska | DIR: Victor Gomez
PROD: Tommaso Cohen, Charles Tognet
Lola meets Simon at a 24-hour dance marathon. Motivated by the competition, she tries to avoid the growing complicity between them. .
AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE

FESTIVAL SUPPORTERS & TRAILER SPONSORS

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BEST OF INTERNATIONAL SHORTS

Five sessions of the best International short films in competition. Be uplifted, inspired and moved by the next generation of the world's most talented filmmakers. *Academy Award® and BAFTA Qualifying competition.



BEST OF INTERNATIONAL SHORTS 1

SATURDAY 18TH JANUARY, 1:30PM

RUNTIME: 124 MINS

BEAUTIFUL MEN

Belgium | 19min | 2024

WRI/DIR: Nicolas Keppens

PROD: Emmanuel-Alain Raynal

Three balding brothers travel to Istanbul to get a hair transplant. Stuck with each other in a hotel far from home, their insecurities grow faster than their hair.

AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE



CAUGHT IN 4K

Austria | 15min | 2025

WRI: Adriana Mrnjavac

DIR: Adriana Mrnjavac, Nicole Stigler

PROD: Elahe Aman

Someone is captured in 4K, high definition, caught red-handed on the internet.

Eleven-year-old Ava is home alone. She skilfully presents herself online. Takes Selfies. Dances. Puts on make-up. TOM_X12 likes this.

WORLD PREMIERE



EBB AND FLOW

Lebanon | 18min | 2024

WRI/DIR: Nay Tabbara | PROD: Isabelle Mecattaf

Determined to have her first kiss, Loulwa defies her tumultuous world in search of normalcy.

As she braves the streets of Beirut in pursuit of her sexual awakening, she finds herself taking an instant leap into adulthood when her world erupts into a redefined "normal".

AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE



SPRING WALTZ

Italy | 12min | 2024

WRI: Stefano Lorenzi

DIR: Stefano Lorenzi, Clelia Catalano

PROD: Guja Quaranta, Aurelia Musumeci Greco

A man and a woman separated by a wall. However, their love doesn't accept divisions, barriers, obstacles. They are a couple of street artists: freedom runs in their veins. Borders don't exist. The man can't tolerate the "death strip" that separates him from her. And day after day, with tenacity, imagination, love, he tries to return to her arms.

AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE

FROM TOP TO BOTTOM: BEAUTIFUL MEN, CHANGING ROOMS, SPRING WALTZ, THANKS FOR THE MILK

MILK BROTHERS

Morocco | 19min | 2024

WRI/DIR: Kenza Tazi

PROD: Mohammed Abderrahman Tazi, Marine Vaillant

A young single mother sees the boundaries blurring between breastfeeding and maternal instinct under the eyes of Ghali, her son, and Karam, the orphan she is breastfeeding between the walls of a Foundouk in the heart of Fez. But traditional Moroccan society does not view this attachment beyond blood ties favorably.

AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE

CHANGING ROOMS

France | 18min | 2024

DIR: Violette Gitton

PROD: Jules Reinartz

César is 12 when his older sister Lou is sexually assaulted. In the changing rooms of the fencing classes he attends, everything is measured by the yardstick of violence. César would like to take part in every fight, but he doesn't have the weapons.

AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE

THANKS FOR THE MILK

France | 8min | 2024

WRI/DIR: Côme Ferré

A young delivery man realizes he's the reincarnation of an elderly man's beloved cat, rekindling a bond from a past life

AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE

THE THREE SISTERS

Cyprus | 15min | 2024

WRI/DIR: Timur Kognov

PROD: Alexander Perishev, Dave Henderson

Three sisters live a lonely life on an isolated island, each in their own small house. One day, circumstances develop in such a way that they are forced to rent out one of the houses.

AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE

BEST OF INTERNATIONAL SHORTS 2

SUNDAY 19TH JANUARY, 1:30PM

RUNTIME: 120 MINS

AND GRANNY WOULD DANCE

United Kingdom | 10min | 2024

WRI/DIR: Maryam Mohajer

PROD: Abigail Addison

Marmar listens to the stories told by her grandmother's friends as they play an illicit game of cards. Based on childhood memories and shared stories, And Granny would dance is a tale of love, grief and resilience. At its heart, it is a tribute to the solidarity of Iranian women.

AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE

A SUMMER'S END POEM

China | 15min | 2024

WRI: Lam Can-zhao, Yupeng He, Shutong Xu

DIR/PROD: Lam Can-zhao

Shortly before the end of the summer holidays, a country boy spends his savings on his dream of a city hairstyle - with surprising results. A story about bidding farewell to childhood and the poetic end of a summer.

AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE

GAME RULES

Sweden | 12min | 2024

WRI: Christian Zetterberg, Albin Abrahamsson

DIR: Christian Zetterberg

PROD: Liselotte Persson

A youth handball team is about to participate in their first major tournament. As they aim for the top, facing professional players, talent scouts and sponsors, the game is suddenly interrupted by adults questioning who's really allowed to play.

AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE

THIS IS NOT A CHARACTER.

THIS IS BETRAYAL

Germany | 13min | 2024

WRI: Romina Küper, Max Lindemann

DIR: Romina Küper

PROD: Katharina Messias Mumper, Maxine Paatzsch, Isabella Müller de Paula

The film tells the story of mother and son. The 58-year-old hairdresser Melanie drives her son Stefan (32), a young author, to the first reading of his autobiographical debut novel DER SALON.

AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE

TINKLING

France | 21min | 2023

WRI/DIR: Nicolas Birkenstock

PROD: Anthony Doncque

Cherie, a maid from the Philippines accepts a job at a reception organized by a wealthy family. But at her arrival, she finds out that she has to take care of the dogs. She meets incongruously Milo, the young son of the family.

AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE

MY MOTHER IS A COW

Brazil | 15min | 2024

DIR: Moara Passoni

WRI: Moara Passoni, Fernanda Frotte

PROD: Sofia Geld, Daniel Liu

Left in her aunt's care on a family ranch at the edge of the burning Brazilian wetland, 12 year old Mia is desperate for the touch of her mother's love - but in this volatile natural world, with the impending threat of a deadly Jaguar consuming the family, love comes in unexpected form.

AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE

NO MORE POOL TIME

Germany | 34min | 2024

WRI: Jonas Baumann, Sebastian Sicker

DIR: Jonas Baumann

PROD: Sebastian Sicker

A freshly minted pool owner finds himself in a moral dilemma between his promise to his young daughter and his new partner's charity event for a water project in Africa.

AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE



FROM TOP TO BOTTOM: A SUMMER'S END POEM, AND GRANNY WOULD DANCE, MY MOTHER IS A COW, THIS IS NOT A CHARACTER

BEST OF INTERNATIONAL SHORTS CONTINUED



FROM TOP TO BOTTOM: DAWN EVERY DAY, MAYBE ELEPHANTS, THE BOY WITH WHITE SKIN, THE CASCADE

BEST OF INTERNATIONAL SHORTS 3 MONDAY 20TH JANUARY, 6:30PM RUNTIME: 112 MINS

MAYBE ELEPHANTS

Canada | 17min | 2024
WRI/DIR: Torill Kove
PROD: Lise Fernley, Maral Mohammadian, Tonje Skar Reiersen
Three rebellious teenage daughters, a restless mother, a father struggling with potatoes, and maybe some elephants, find themselves in Nairobi. What could possibly go wrong?
AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE

ADO

United States | 16min | 2025
WRI: Sam Henderson, Ryan Romine
DIR: Sam Henderson
PROD: Rachel Jobin
Ms. Hopkins is rehearsing Much Ado About Nothing with her middle school theatre class when it becomes a rehearsal unlike any other. Starring Jenifer Lewis in a tour-de-force as Ms. Hopkins.
WORLD PREMIERE

THE BOY WITH WHITE SKIN

France, Senegal | 14min | 2024
WRI/DIR: Simon Panay
PROD: Rafael Andrea Soatto, Laëtitia Denis, Kévin Rousseau, Souleymane Kébé, Maud Leclair-Névé
Entrusted by his father to a group of gold-miners, an albino child embodies all of their hopes.
AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE

DAWN EVERY DAY

Egypt | 20min | 2024
WRI/DIR: Amir Youssef
PROD: Norah El Khateeb
Set in 1956, 8 year old Nabil navigates through new social norms he cannot fathom that impact his next door best friend in post nationalized Egypt. Inspired by true events.
AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE

ONE PUNCH

United Kingdom | 10min | 2024
WRI/DIR: Huse Monfaradi
PROD: Harvey Ascott, Xiaoxuan Zhu
A misguided young prisoner confronts his overwhelming guilt when he is visited by the compassionate parents of the boy he killed.
AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE

THE BROWN DOG

United States | 14min | 2024
DIR: Nadia Hallgren, Jamie-James Medina
PROD: Michael Stirton
EXEC PROD: Steve Buscemi, Wren Arthur Arthur
Night after night, a watchman clocks into a lonely security booth in the empty parking lot of an upscale apartment complex. Voiced by the late Michael K. Williams, the character - identified only as "NOBODY" - spends his shifts composing endless security logs to stay awake. As the darkness slowly closes in on him, he abandons his post and goes in search of a mysterious brown dog.
AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE

THE CASCADE

Mexico | 20min | 2024
WRI/DIR: Pablo Delgado Sanchez
PROD: Mariana Rodriguez Cabarga, Eva Ruiz de Chavez
A man discovers he's been crying for several months without even noticing. Strangely, his tear ducts have decided to work in an inverse manner, transforming his interiors into a waterfall. The man will have to find a way to stop a cry that he can't even feel.
AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE

BEST OF INTERNATIONAL SHORTS 4 TUESDAY 21ST JANUARY, 6:30PM RUNTIME: 123 MINS

ZARKO, YOU WILL SPOIL THE CHILD!

Croatia | 14min | 2024
WRI: Veljko Popovic, Tisja Kljakovic Braic
DIR: Veljko Popovic, Milivoj Popovic
PROD: Veljko Popovic, Milivoj Popovic, Patrick Hernandez
The film recounts the memories of a childhood in Split in the 1980s. These are stories retold after Sunday lunch when everyone is in a good mood, stories filled with emotions we can easily relate to. But above all, the film is a moving tribute to the love of a grandpa and grandma who did their best to keep their granddaughter smiling.
AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE

THE COCKROACH

United States | 20min | 2024
WRI/DIR/PROD: Mary Pat Bentel
After a body altering accident, a woman must find a way forward in her new reality.
AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE

ME AND DAD

Ireland | 9min | 2024
WRI/DIR: Shane Connellan
PROD: Jamie Eileen Strickler
A boy struggles in his attempts to bond with his oblivious father at a bar. All efforts are ignored. The barman is the boy's only soft ear. He empties everything in one final push to break dad.
AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE

RED SKY AT NIGHT

United Kingdom | 19min | 2024
WRI/DIR: Kieran Stringfellow
PROD: Tasha Williams
Val is a century old vampire, but in human terms, she can barely pass for twenty. After what feels like an eternity spent at her family home in the northern reaches of the UK, she's now ready to embark on a new chapter at university. However, the long trip down south soon turns frosty as grieving mother Vera struggles to come to terms with her little girl flying the nest.
AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE

ON THE WAY

Kosovo | 15min | 2024
WRI: Samir Karahoda, Miron Karahoda
DIR: Samir Karahoda
PROD: Eroll Bilibani, Samir Karahoda
Father and son are on their way to the airport to pick up a gift sent from abroad by the boy's godfather. Amid bureaucratic hurdles, with little or no hope for real political and social changes in the country, they find comfort and strength in their shared optimism for the future.
AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE

RHUBARB RHUBARB

United Kingdom | 16min | 2025
WRI: Kate McMullen, Paul Wauters
DIR: Kate McMullen
PROD: Rob Godbold
In the legendary Yorkshire Rhubarb Triangle, Jo and her elderly father produce the pink delicacy that made the region world-famous a century ago. Harvesting by candlelight like their ancestors before them, they could not prepare for the danger looming in the dark.
WORLD PREMIERE

HEARTS OF STONE

Belgium | 30min | 2024
WRI: Tom van Avermaet, Alison Kathleen Kelly
DIR: Tom van Avermaet
PROD: Katleen Goossens
In a sculpture park in the heart of a bustling metropolis, Paula, a lonely street artist, entertains people as a living statue. She longs with an impossible love of Agatha, a stone sculpture next to her regular spot. When a festival for living statues arrives in the park, Paula is dismayed to find that Agatha has been replaced by a new, modern sculpture. After a frantic search, she finds Agatha in a group of discarded statues, ready to be taken away. Almost as a farewell, she kisses the object of her affection. Later, at the festival's closing party, Paula meets Agatha in the flesh.
AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE



FROM TOP TO BOTTOM: ME AND DAD, ON THE WAY, THE COCKROACH, ZARKO, YOU WILL SPOIL THE CHILD!

BEST OF INTERNATIONAL SHORTS CONTINUED



FROM TOP TO BOTTOM: BUTTERFLY (PAPILLON), CRUST, ROCHELLE, TURNAROUND

BEST OF INTERNATIONAL SHORTS 5 WEDNESDAY 22ND JANUARY, 6:30PM RUNTIME: 112 MINS

HELLO SUMMER

Slovakia | 11min | 2024
WRI/DIR: Martin Smatana, Veronika Zacharová
PROD: Martin Smatana, Martin Vandas, Kamila Dohnalová, Jean-François Le Corre
Sea, sun, beaches and family holidays. But what if the hotel isn't as stellar as promised, your room has a bit of a naughty view, the dinner is surprisingly exotic and your luggage travels elsewhere?
AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE

INSIDE

Islamic Republic of Iran | 10min | 2024
WRI/DIR/PROD: Mahtab Pishghadam
Mahtab unexpectedly has to face her inner reality..
AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE

TURNAROUND

Ireland | 17min | 2024
WRI/DIR: Aisling Byrne
PROD: Killian Coyle
Following a sudden, tragic bereavement, a West Cork cleaner must decide if she will uphold a tightly hidden secret whilst navigating the fast paced pressures of a tourist property turnaround
AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE

BUTTERFLY (PAPILLON)

France | 15min | 2024
DIR: Florence Miaillhe
PROD: Ron Dyens
In the sea, a man swims. As he does, memories come to the surface. From his early childhood to his life as a man, all his memories are linked to water. Some are happy, some glorious, some traumatic. This story will be that of his last swim. It will take us from the source to the river - from the waters of childhood pools to those of swimming pools - from a North African country to the shores of the Mediterranean - from Olympic stadiums to water retention basins - from concentration camp to the dream beaches of Reunion.
AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE

PUNTER

South Africa | 14min | 2024
WRI/DIR: Jason Adam Maselle
PROD: Jason Adam Maselle, Noam Argov, Rethabile Mothobi
Young Brett must navigate the underbelly of the Johannesburg gambling world as a seemingly harmless horse racing bet jeopardizes the surprise he's prepared for his Father's birthday.
AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE

CRUST

Germany | 26min | 2023
WRI/DIR: Jens Kevin Georg
PROD: Fritzie Benesch, Charlotte Jülide Hansen
In this family, you only truly belong when you've gotten your first wound. But Fabi is 12 and still without scars. On Grandpa's farm, he has to finally prove that he fits in. Fabi's father knows the boy must face this now - after all, they all had to. And Fabi really wants to belong. But how much of him (and his skin) will be left in the end?
AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE

ROCHELLE

New Zealand | 19min | 2024
WRI: Tom Furniss
DIR: Tom Annan Furniss
PROD: Luke Sharpe
A presumptuous teenage boy signs up for a local demolition derby with a car named Rochelle - the car his best friend took his life in.
AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE



EUROPEAN UNION

2025 Best of EU Showcase 2025 EU Rainbow Award

Europe - the birthplace of cinema - continues to inspire with innovative and captivating storytelling.

Join us for a special screening of the best EU short films, celebrating the creativity and diversity that define European filmmaking.

The best of the EU Shorts are handpicked from the Academy Award® Qualifying International competition at Flickerfest 2025!

SYDNEY
Thursday, 23 January
6.30pm
Bondi Pavilion

BRISBANE
Friday, 4 April
7.00pm
Palace James St Cinemas

CANBERRA
Thursday, 15 May
7.00pm
Palace Electric Cinema



Papillon (Butterfly) (France)



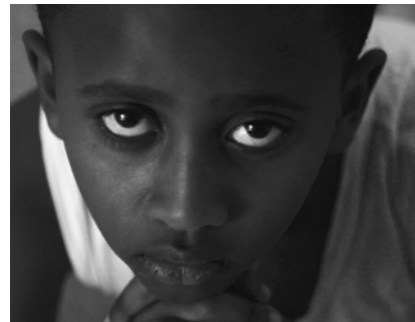
Game Rules (Sweden)



Chico (France)

BEST OF AUSTRALIAN SHORTS

Seven sessions of the best Australian short films in competition. Our homegrown talent battle it out for the prestigious Academy® Qualifying Award for Best Australian Short Film.



FROM TOP TO BOTTOM: A GOOD BOY, HONEY CAKE, TRAVELS ON MY DONKEY, TYPO

BEST OF AUSTRALIAN SHORTS 1

SATURDAY 18TH JANUARY, 4:00PM

RUNTIME: 116 MINS

BAGGAGE

Australia | 5min | 2024

DIR: Lucy Davidson

PROD: Vanessa Batten

Three girlfriends check in their baggage at the airport, but one is carrying a little more than the others. As they travel along the conveyor belt to security, can she hide what's inside?

AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE

TYPO

Australia | 13min | 2025

DIR: Alinta Burton

WRI: Alinta Burton, Vishka Davina Haydock

PROD: Alinta Burton, Ethan McDonald

After graduating from university a year ago, Astrid has been struggling to find a job that fits with her Asperger's characteristics. Dependent on her pregnant sister and brother-in-law, time is running out for her to gain her independence before the baby is due. A misguided idea to hold an 'art' garage sale unexpectedly opens the door to pursuing her passion for typography as a career. However, the question remains: can she overcome the challenges of her Asperger's and succeed in the interview?

WORLD PREMIERE

OVER

Australia | 18min | 2024

WRI/DIR: Duncan Ragg, Anna Phillips

PROD: Isabella Debbage

A father must confront his apathy towards the world's big issues when his disabled son, who is terrified of open water, steals his boat and refuses to come back to shore until his Dad has saved the world.

AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE

THE DISCONNECTED

Australia | 15min | 2024

DIR/WRI/PROD: Pia Derya

A story of a Kurdish guy who has immigrated to Australia from Turkey and did not achieve what he hoped for. Chemil's lost himself and his purpose and his life is like a leaf in the wind. He now has a simple human desire that he wants to die in Turkey, the land of his birth. But he has to pay for the ticket and it won't be easy.

AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE

TRAVELS ON MY DONKEY

Australia | 32min | 2024

DIR/WRI: Lee Whitmore

PROD: Jing Jing Ma, Mark Stiles

In the film Lee travels back in time on her donkey to meet her great great uncle John Reed Hill in Egypt in 1837. John and his wife Ann run a hotel in the Frank quarter of Cairo. When Lee arrives Mr Hill is about to join an expedition led by an eccentric English aristocrat, Colonel Howard Vyse, to explore the pyramids of Giza. Lee rides along and her journey quickly becomes the adventure of a lifetime.

AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE

A GOOD BOY

Australia | 14min | 2024

WRI/DIR/PROD: Ras-Samuel

PROD: Daniela Ercoli, Alessandra Merlo

A poignant coming-of-age short film told through the perspective of Michael, who harbors a dark, shameful secret that threatens his budding relationship with Aisha. The film examines the burden of childhood trauma & the transformative power of healing through friendship.

WORLD PREMIERE

AGOGÉ

Australia | 13min | 2024

WRI: Veniamin Gialouris, Marcus Khoudair

DIR: Veniamin Gialouris

PROD: Adam Daniel, Marco Alexiadis

Placed in detention after a physical altercation on the school playground, two teenage boys find their developing friendship challenged by the limits of their emotional honesty.

AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE

HONEY CAKE

Australia | 6min | 2024

DIR/WRI/PROD: Stephen Engstrom

An obsessive nutritionist argues with his partner about the inclusion of honey in a luncheon cake.

WORLD PREMIERE

BEST OF AUSTRALIAN SHORTS 2

SATURDAY 18TH JANUARY, 6:30PM

RUNTIME: 112 MINS

SWEETMEATS

Australia | 7min | 2024

WRI/DIR: George Metaxas

PROD: George Metaxas, Jason Rodriguez

Sweetmeats City Times news reporter Paxton Paddlepop is on location at MOSA (the Museum of Sweetmeat Art) to learn what's truly baked under the crust of contemporary Sweetmeat art. Through a series of one-on-one conversations, Paddlepop explores the confectionery stories behind a slew of emerging and prominent Sweetmeat artists as he seeks to answer the modern art question of our day: "Why art?"

AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE

ASIAN MALE, 60s, LEAD

Australia | 15min | 2025

DIR/WRI: Charlotte Nicdao

PROD: Luke Goodall, Bron Belcher, Charlotte Nicdao

63-year-old Filipino-Australian actor Alex Montes is given 48 hours to prepare for the biggest opportunity of his life. But his scattered enthusiasm takes over and the rest of his life falls apart.

WORLD PREMIERE

A THOUSAND ODD DAYS

Australia | 14min | 2024

DIR/WRI: Riley Blakeway

PROD: Sarah Nichols

A young man reflects on a day spent with his estranged mother, in an attempt to understand her enduring trauma and its effect on their relationship.

NSW PREMIERE

BEFORE THE SON

Australia | 15min | 2024

WRI: Alex Champion De Crespigny, Harrison Pearse

DIR: Jay Peardon

PROD: Ben Corlett, Jay Peardon, Harrison Pearse, Alex Champion De Crespigny

Amidst a tumultuous economy a young man battles his friend's addiction and the struggle of feeding his new born - leading him to turn to petty crime.

AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE

SAY

Australia | 12min | 2024

WRI/DIR: Chloe Kemp

PROD: Madeline Blake, Chloe Kemp

Escalating conflict during a car journey through rural Victoria forces 21-year-old Dana to determine where true safety lies for her three-year-old daughter.

OI

Australia | 16min | 2024

DIR: Sophie Serisier

WRI: Laneikka Denne

PROD: Monique Placko

When a turbulent teenage girl undergoes a traumatic sexual experience, she must face her own violent bravado head-on. Oi explores the stigma around "catfights" and how hyper-sexuality can occur when feminine rage isn't accepted and queerness is ignored.

NSW PREMIERE

APARTMENT 42

Australia | 20min | 2024

DIR Ross Dwyer

WRI: Isabella Perversi, Ross Dwyer

PROD: Madeleine Galea, Isabella Perversi, Ross Dwyer

Before fleeing the country to escape his past, a drunken man is forced to bide his time with a well-meaning yet forceful neighbour intent on saving his soul.

AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE

JOAN

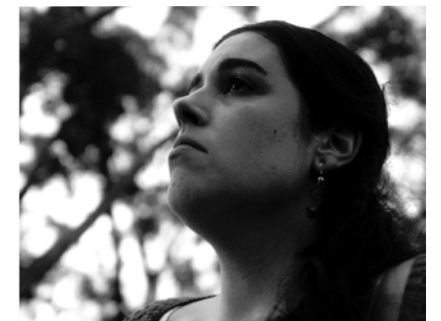
Australia | 13min | 2024

WRI: Emma Jackson, Lee Devaney

PROD: Priscilla-Anne Jacob, Stephanie Davis

After discovering her much-loved rescue dog, Brian, has committed an unforgivable house-sitting crime, Joan must go to ridiculous lengths to cover his tracks.

NSW PREMIERE



FROM TOP TO BOTTOM: APARTMENT 42, BEFORE THE SON, JOAN, SAY



FROM TOP TO BOTTOM: LIKE THAT DVD SCREENSAVER, NOT YET, PARALYSIS, WHEN A KNIGHT JUMPS

BEST OF AUSTRALIAN SHORTS 3 SATURDAY 18TH JANUARY, 9:00PM RUNTIME: 112 MINS

THE FIX-IT-MAN AND THE FIX-IT-WOMAN

Australia | 9min | 2024

DIR: Nelson Armstrong, Cornelius Ebatarinja

WRI: Rhonda Sharpe, Courtney Collins

In the "bright lights, big city of Alice Springs", two soft sculptures try to impress each other with their dance moves. But it's an unfortunate accident that finally brings them together as they discover they both have a talent for fixing things. Artwork by the Yarrenyty Arttere Artists, renowned for their beautiful soft sculptures, comes alive in this gentle funny tale of love and connection.

NSW PREMIERE

LIKE THAT DVD SCREENSAVER

Australia | 16min | 2025

WRI/DIR/PROD: Aditya Raj Gureja

Kabir anxiously rushes toward a dinner with his friends. But when he arrives, a friend's playful comment causes him to disassociate from the entire night.

WORLD PREMIERE

WHEN A KNIGHT JUMPS

Australia | 15min | 2025

DIR/WRI: Brittany Frappell

PROD: Brittany Frappell, Liam Frappell

Grieving a tragic loss, Charlie Ford returns home to her affluent family, facing strained bonds and complex dynamics. With her twin brother Bobbie's support, she must navigate her new role as executor of the family estate, by confronting the past and forging a new path towards forgiveness.

WORLD PREMIERE

VLOG

United States | 17min | 2024

WRI/DIR/PROD: Yvonne Strahovski

PROD: Mekenna Melvin, Tim Loden

Our heroine juggles her chaotic #momlife and blossoming Mommy social media Vlog. Walking the line between her real self and her social media self. Her and her husband get a surprise - she is pregnant. Again. With baby #3. They're both overjoyed but the juggle becomes more of a struggle. On one particularly difficult morning her son grabs her phone as she is attempting to record her Vlog. The very real, raw and not so perfect mom moment is accidentally uploaded to her channel in all the chaos. How her followers react, may just be her biggest surprise yet.

AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE

NOT YET

Australia | 14min | 2025

DIR: Holly Fraser

WRI: Sami Swilks

PROD: Caleb Irwin

Sisters Emily and Nina grit their teeth through their mother Josephine's extravagant engagement party. When Josephine's new partner Gill lets slip that they're selling the family home, the two young women rebel, jeopardising Josephine's standing in Gill's family. Tensions come to a head and Emily is forced to confront the truth of what is really happening at this party.

WORLD PREMIERE

EAT UP!

Australia | 17min | 2025

DIR: Yuxin Cao

WRI: Roslyn Zhang

PROD: Denis Curnow, Emily Bull, Neisha Dallamora

In a future of synthetic food, a prodigious flavour designer, whose new portable food printer promises to launch her career, discovers the lost art of cooking and a human connection science cannot simulate.

WORLD PREMIERE

PARALYSIS

Australia | 7min | 2025

WRI: Jon Rex Williams, Greg Moran

WRI/DIR: Lianne Mackessy

PROD: Greg Moran, Susan O'Rourke

When Tom returns to his hometown after a five-year absence, he is forced to see his estranged best friend, Garry, and deal with their wounds of the past.

WORLD PREMIERE

STRANDED

Australia | 17min | 2024

DIR: Reilly Archer-Whelan

DIR/WRI: Michael Whyntie | PROD: Andre Scholz

When Kelly dumps Brian, his world comes crashing down—again. Just like when their cruise ship sank, leaving them as the only two survivors stranded on a deserted island. Brian is left adrift in a sea of misery, while Kelly thrives. After several unlikely encounters, Brian realises he needs to get his life afloat. Just as it looks like their love might be rescued, an actual ship appears on the horizon.

WORLD PREMIERE

BEST OF AUSTRALIAN SHORTS 4 SUNDAY 19TH JANUARY, 9:00PM RUNTIME: 113 MINS

DOG EATS WORLD

Australia | 15min | 2025

DIR: Harry Lloyd

WRI: Chika Ikogwe

PROD: Cyna Strachan, Liam Heyen

A young, money hungry black woman lands the job of a lifetime working for a mega celebrity & her dog, unaware she is about to be consumed by this bizarre new world....

WORLD PREMIERE

MARS FUTURES

Australia | 15min | 2024

WRI: Lucy Moir, Hannah Moore

DIR: Hannah Moore

PROD: Molly O'Connor, Cameron Nelson

Ana works for a stock footage company and is deep in an existential crisis when she learns of an opportunity for ordinary people to move to Mars.

NSW PREMIERE

GLOVE

Australia | 11min | 2025

WRI/DIR: Belinda Bromilow

PROD: Belinda Bromilow, Milo Beyts

A young woman with a curious idiosyncrasy, is trying to find her true love. When she steals a lamb and the shepherd follows her to the city, they become entangled in a way that surprises them both.

WORLD PREMIERE

LOCKED IN

Australia | 11min | 2025

WRI/DIR: Stephanie Pringle

PROD: Charlotte Chimes

Gemma's first shift at a trendy Bondi bar starts off simple until she finds herself in an initiation game she didn't realise she was a part of.

AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE

RED RIVER COWBOY

Australia | 18min | 2024

DIR/WRI: Grace Wriggles

PROD: Christian McCarty, Grace Wriggles, Aaron McCarty

A vengeful-mistress is kidnapped and left to die in the 1900's Australian bush on her morning of ex-lovers wedding day.

WORLD PREMIERE

MARCIA AND THE SHARK

Australia | 16min | 2024

WRI: Sam Ferris Bryant, Hugo O'Connor

DIR: Sam Ferris Bryant

PROD: Hugo O'Connor

Following a shark attack, Marcia comes back to life with something wild inside her, testing her doting fiancée Frank as they take to the road in his mustang. Based on the true story of Sydney Harbour's last fatal shark attack in 1963.

AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE

DRAGON'S BREATH

Australia | 10min | 2024

WRI/DIR: Melanie Easton

PROD: Lisa Bishop, Poppy Fitzpatrick

A group of middle schoolers must convince their friend to perform in the school talent show after she reveals an embarrassing and fantastical secret.

WORLD PREMIERE

DIRTY LAUNDRY

Australia | 8min | 2025

DIR: Andy Diep

WRI: Daniel Forbes

PROD: Sophia Carolyn Wallace

Australian Prime Minister Peter Carrington is having his worst day in office since being elected after his attempt to kill Centrelink is shot down by the senate. With the party in crisis, he turns to his Chief of Staff, Tim and his assistant, Shay (a supposed diversity hire), for answers. Carrington however, must remember that there is always a higher power to answer to.

WORLD PREMIERE

FAMOUS LAST WORDS

Australia | 9min | 2025

DIR/WRI: Rob Draper

PROD: Phil Spencer, Lisa Fineberg

A down-trodden man is given some information from his dying mother which might change the course of his life.

WORLD PREMIERE



FROM TOP TO BOTTOM: DOG EATS WORLD, LOCKED IN, MARCIA AND THE SHARK, MARS FUTURES



BEST OF AUSTRALIAN SHORTS 5 MONDAY 20TH JANUARY, 9:00PM

RUNTIME: 115 MINS

MR WONDERFUL

Australia | 3min | 2025
DIR/WRI/PROD: Cooper Clark
A young man races through early adulthood while trying to find his childhood dog.
WORLD PREMIERE



THE DOG

Australia | 12min | 2025
WRI/DIR: Danielle Baynes
PROD: Danielle Baynes, Morgan Hind, Lottie Aspinall
A sick dog mysteriously appears in the clinic of a struggling vet (Kate Walsh, GREY'S ANATOMY) and tries to negotiate their own death, leading both on a surreal journey through life and mortality.
AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE



WHY WE FIGHT

Australia | 15min | 2024
DIR: Danielle Cormack
WRI: Harrison Pearse
PROD: Danielle Cormack, Nicole da Silva
An aspiring teen boxer, haunted by his father's death, tries to save his mother from throwing in the towel on the anniversary of his passing — but Andreas will discover that his greatest fight will be learning how to save himself.
WORLD PREMIERE



BEAUTIFUL SMILE

Australia | 15min | 2024
DIR: Eugenie Muggleton
WRI: Nicholas Jaquinot
PROD: Katarina Anik, Nicholas Jaquinot
Leah, an aspiring model, sees her upcoming photoshoot with Hamish as a chance at her big break. However, when she come face to face with the prodigious photographer she is left reeling, as she faces a predator intent on shattering boundaries she didn't know she had.
AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE

SISTERS

Australia | 17min | 2024
WRI/DIR: Luke Underhill Neher, Sam Gill
PROD: Elle Marsh
Jacqui's sister Leia comes home for a week to help her decide whether to sell their late mother's house. Leia thinks Jacqui should learn to communicate with the dead.
WORLD PREMIERE

FROM TOP TO BOTTOM: MR. WONDERFUL, SKIN HUNGER WINTER LOVE, THE RECIPE FOR JAM, WHY WE FIGHT

THE RECIPE FOR JAM

Australia | 18min | 2024
WRI: Ryan Silvey, Leslie Thiele
DIR/PROD: Ryan Silvey
"The Recipe For Jam" was adapted from the short story of the same name by Leslie Thiele from her book "Skyglow". The film follows Del and Marjorie who start off their life as a young married couple in the 1970s moving into their first home on a farm in Western Australia.
WORLD PREMIERE

SKIN HUNGER WINTER LOVE

Australia | 9min | 2024
DIR/WRI/PROD: Hannah Oliver
What begins as a narrative drama bends into an experimental fever dream: skin hunger winter love is lockdown, in the winter of a couple's love. Mark tries to do something nice for Shelly, and the taste of a passion fruit hurls us into a feast of memory. But who is the observer and who is observed? And what happens to desire, when it has nowhere to go?
WORLD PREMIERE

REHABILITATING

Australia | 18min | 2024
DIR/WRI: Inez Playford
PROD: Freya Brunning
A woman with chronic pain is stuck in a rehab hospital, unable to leave until she can find a way out of her fears and pain with the help of a new friend.

7 MINUTES TO RICE

Australia | 8min | 2025
WRI/DIR: Manuel Ashman
PROD: Manuel Ashman, Caitlin Ellen Moore
Seven housemates prepare separate meals as they wait for the rice to cook. When they discover that there isn't enough rice, a witch hunt for the culprit begins. For the crime of ruining their meal the punishment is DEATH!
WORLD PREMIERE

BEST OF AUSTRALIAN SHORTS 6 TUESDAY 21ST JANUARY, 9:00PM

RUNTIME: 113 MINS

THIS MUST BE LOVE

Australia | 6min | 2024
WRI/DIR: Andrew Kavanagh, Bus Stop Films participants | PROD: Dianna La Grassa
Two children are caught up in their parents' immature relationship dramas in this short musing on the nature of love. This film was made in collaboration with Bus Stop Films participants.
AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE

MADE BY US

Australia | 10min | 2025
WRI/DIR/PROD: Hannah Dougherty
An Australian artist living in France clashes with her model while working on her latest portrait.
WORLD PREMIERE

PENDING PICK UP

Australia | 8min | 2025
WRI/DIR: Andy Gallagher
The ever chirpy Bethany, asks long time but unhelpful friend Miles to assist with some curious Marketplace bargains on a rainy Saturday morning. Miles, it seems, may need the adventure more than he thinks.
WORLD PREMIERE

LIGHT CAN'T ESCAPE

Australia | 10min | 2024
WRI/DIR: Tim Sharp
PROD: Cecilia Low
Harriet's disaster of a life gets a lot weirder when she discovers a black hole in her apartment.
AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE

ALL OF US AT RIVER'S END

Australia | 18min | 2024
WRI: Ruben Russo
DIR: Nick Elson
PROD: Ruben Russo, William Toft
Lucas and friends reunite on the anniversary of their friend's passing. As tensions run high through liquor and blame, they all tear at the seams.
WORLD PREMIERE

EDIE AND AUDREY

Australia | 9min | 2024
DIR/WRI/PROD: Alexandra Millen
An older sister takes her younger sister out of the house for a day of movies, arcade games and bowling as a distraction from a more ominous situation unravelling back at home.
NSW PREMIERE

ASIAN MALE LEAD

Australia | 13min | 2024
WRI: Aran Thangaratnam, Brendan Wan, Jeremy Teh, Vivian Nguyen
DIR: Jeremy Teh
PROD: Brendan Wan
On the fringe of the Australian film industry, where actors dream of getting their big break on free-to-air TV - we meet Eli, a hustler who feels entitled to a future as the next 'Asian male lead'.
WORLD PREMIERE

THE SAX

Australia | 14min | 2025
WRI: Melissa Jacob
DIR: Naomi Fryer
PROD: Denis Curnow
A prodigious young saxophonist discovers a horrifying truth about his teacher, shattering his ideas of his mentor, his music and himself.
WORLD PREMIERE

ACCOLADIA

Australia | 15min | 2024
WRI/DIR: Jesse Vogelhaar
PROD: Grace Quinn, Sophie Booth
A metal detectorist saves the life of his greatest rival. After being recognised for this brave act, his friendship with an award winning mannequin is tested.
NSW PREMIERE

ROBBED

Australia | 10min | 2024
WRI/DIR: Ben Crisp
PROD: Ben Crisp, Ty Linegar
A bickering couple's marriage is tested while they cower on the floor, as hostages during a bank robbery.
AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE



FROM TOP TO BOTTOM: ACCOLADIA, PENDING PICKUP, ASIAN MALE LEAD, THE SAX

BEST OF AUSTRALIAN SHORTS CONTINUED



BEST OF AUSTRALIAN SHORTS 7
WEDNESDAY 22ND JANUARY, 9:00PM
 RUNTIME: 100 MINS

CANDY BAR

Australia | 6min | 2025
 DIR: Nash Edgerton
 WRI: Damon Herriman
 PROD: Serena Paull, Nash Edgerton
 A young girl thinks a man in the candy bar line looks like her dad.
WORLD PREMIERE



THE AUDITION

Australia | 10min | 2024
 WRI/DIR: Dee Dogan
 PROD: Bethany Bruce, Bridget Ikin
 Milan, 21, is a talented Kurdish singer, currently auditioning for a major singing competition. When Milan hears her father has left their family for another woman, she's expected to plead with him to return home. All Milan wants is to make her own choices in life, and with this audition, for her mother, Emine, not to sabotage her. Distracted, Milan almost messes up the audition, but Emine – for once - comes to her rescue, giving Milan the courage she needs to sing powerfully.
WORLD PREMIERE



THE PERFECT SHOT

Australia | 11min | 2025
 WRI/PROD: Monty Callen
 A world renowned photographer gives a masterclass to a student who couldn't care less.
WORLD PREMIERE



BASKETBALL BERT

Australia | 8min | 2025
 WRI: Hugo Kent
 DIR: Hugo Kent, Jake Smith
 PROD: Luca Blades
 Basketball Bert is a 10-minute film exploring masculinity and body image through a tense basketball game between rivals and friends.
WORLD PREMIERE

THE MANIC HELM

Australia | 6min | 2024
 WRI/DIR: Alexander Peter Lercher
 A penniless father gambles on winning the Doctor's game of mind manipulation, in order to create a better life for his son.
AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE

FROM TOP TO BOTTOM: AND THE OCEAN AGREED, CANDY BAR, HOUSEKEEPERS, THE PERFECT SHOT

END POINTE

Australia | 13min | 2025
 DIR: Lesley Pinder
 WRI: Eva Seymour
 PROD: Tessa Mansfield-Hung, Lauren Nichols
 In the not-too-distant future, climate change has forever altered our way of life; a reliance on fossil fuels leads to inhospitable living conditions. An emergency shelter-in-place order traps a group of women in a scout hall during their adult ballet class. They soon discover it's not only the outside world they need to survive, but each other.
WORLD PREMIERE

HOUSEKEEPERS

Australia | 12min | 2025
 WRI/DIR: Kaede Miyamura
 PROD: Evangeline Parks
 A tween's childhood comes to a premature end in light of her non-English mother's sacking, upending their parent-child relationship.
WORLD PREMIERE

ECHOES

Australia | 7min | 2024
 DIR/WRI/PROD: Ahmad Ebrahimi
 In "Echoes," Lena, a resilient immigrant, navigates the challenges of displacement in a tent. Inside her tent, she grapples with the scars of her past, revealing the resilience and determination of those living on the margins of society.
NSW PREMIERE

RASH

Australia | 13min | 2024
 WRI/DIR: Claudia Osborne
 PROD: Imogen Gardam, Amy Powter
 Set over one afternoon, Rash follows two young brothers navigating the recent death of their mother. Unsettled by their father's inability to cope with their grief, Quinn and Max embark on a tumultuous encounter with their new babysitter. Exploring the cataclysmic disruption and instability of early experiences of grief, Rash is an unnerving yet tender portrait of two children struggling with an unthinkable loss and the unwitting outsider inadvertently caught in the crossfire.
AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE

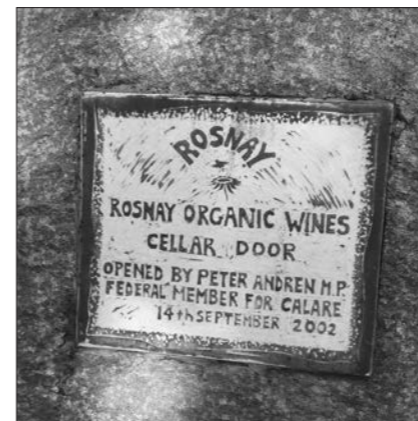
AND THE OCEAN AGREED

Australia | 14min | 2024
 WRI/DIR: Tanya Modini
 PROD: Tanya Modini, Stephanie Dower, Luisa Martiri
 Vina is fading away, lost to dementia, but on a rare outing to the ocean, she finds herself and a chance for freedom.
NSW PREMIERE

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BEST OF DOCUMENTARY SHORTS

Two sessions of the best international and Australian documentaries in competition, vying for the prestigious Academy® Qualifying Flickerfest Award for Best Documentary.



FROM TOP TO BOTTOM: THE WAY HOME, SOSUKE THE DUCK, THE CONVERSATION, THE CAR THAT CAME BACK FROM THE SEA

BEST OF DOCUMENTARY SHORTS 1 SUNDAY 19TH JANUARY, 4:00PM

RUNTIME: 124 MINS

SOSUKE THE DUCK

Canada | 5min | 2025
DIR: Bekky O'Neil

A girl learns about caring for a duck with special needs during her first year on the farm. An animated documentary rendered in plant based inks about a little runner duck who couldn't.

WORLD PREMIERE

ORMMOL

Australia | 10min | 2025
WRI/DIR/PROD: Marlikka Perdrisat
PROD: Anna Kaplan, Jayde Harding
Kupungarri, a remote community in the North-West of Australia is one of the most natural places left in the world. This small community fosters confidence in their young people through their relationship with Country. Watch the excitement grow as they prepare for one of the biggest events of the year, the annual Mowanjum Festival.

WORLD PREMIERE

LANAWARU

Colombia | 15min | 2024
WRI: Angello Faccini, Juan Pablo Polanco
DIR: Angello Faccini
PROD: Constanza Pérez

When a local community member disappears, a boy faces an early memory, seeking comfort in the indigenous traditions, healing rituals, and guidance from his grandfather.

AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE

AM I THE SKINNIEST PERSON

YOU'VE EVER SEEN?

Canada | 24min | 2024
DIR: Eisha Marjara

PROD: Joe Balass, Ariel Nasr
They were sisters and soul mates—and dieting together seemed like fun...

AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE

AUDIO & THE ALLIGATOR

Venezuela | 16min | 2024
WRI/DIR: Andrés I. Estrada
PROD: Ophelia Spinosa, Andrés I. Estrada
Audio Caña enjoys telling fantastic stories to his loved ones. But when he claims there's a giant alligator living in his pond, no one believes him. With his 6 year-old granddaughter, Audio will try to prove the alligator's existence to everyone.

AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE

THE "CONVERSATION"

Australia | 9min | 2024
DIR: Jack Zimmerman, Archie Hancock
For her whole life, Judith suspected she was secretly adopted, but was always too afraid to ask her mother.

At the crossroads of documentary and fiction, with the help of a few actresses, we gave Judith the chance to re-create this important conversation.

AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE

THE WAY HOME

Australia | 17min | 2024
DIR: Stefan Bugryn

PROD: Stefan Bugryn, Steven Zelko
After Stalin ordered the forced collectivisation of all the farms in 1930s Ukraine, Maxim, a humble cucumber farmer, rebels. He is arrested by local authorities and shipped off to forced labour camps of Siberia. In a bid to survive and return to his family, he steals away in the dead of night and begins the 1,000km journey home.

WORLD PREMIERE

RECOMPOSING EARTH

United Kingdom | 28min | 2024
DIR: Christian Cargill

PROD: Christian Cargill, John Bannister
Under two feet of peaty soil in Orkney, lies the only recording of Scottish composer Erland Cooper's unheard album. In an entirely unique attempt to collaborate with the natural world, it would be an experiment on patience, art and value. Will the tape emerge silent, and does it matter if it does?

'Recomposing Earth' takes you into the mind of an artist and the magic of the Orkney Islands that inspire him, with a story that reminds us of music's importance as an expression of the human condition. With interviews including Paul Weller and Sir Ian Rankin.

AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE

BEST OF DOCUMENTARY SHORTS 2 SUNDAY 19TH JANUARY, 6:30PM

RUNTIME: 121 MINS

NELSON THE PIGLET

Netherlands | 15min | 2023
DIR: Anneke de Lind van Wijngaarden
PROD: Nienke Rispens, Maarten Kuit, Jeroen van den Idsert
The Verbeek family, consisting of two mothers with their two sons, adopted a mini pig as a pet seven years ago. However, when the pig miraculously grows into a 500-kilo beast, the neat neighbourhood, the police and housing revolt. The classmates of their son Brandon don't like it either, because such a big and dirty pig in the house is unacceptable, isn't it? Brandon begins to have doubts...but eventually takes action with his family.

AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE

TOUCHING KNEES

United States | 16min | 2025
WRI/DIR/PROD: Victoria Schultz
A memoir of the film-maker's romance long ago with a radio personality in NY city, their puppies and their travels in Central America, and now, after thirty years, their meeting for a candid coda in rural upstate New York.

WORLD PREMIERE

MAMA MICRA

Germany | 24min | 2024
WRI/DIR: Rebecca Blöcher,
CO-WRI/DIR: Frédéric Schuld
PROD: Fabian Driehorst
My mother led a very unorthodox life, living in palaces and under bridges. Her independence was most important for her, which in the end became her undoing. She decided to live in her tiny car for 10 years. Only when the car broke down and she was unable to walk even, we got the chance to re-connect.

AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE

MOI AUSSI

France | 17min | 2024
WRI/DIR: Judith Godrèche
PROD: Didar Domehri
At the dawn of a new day, a young woman finds an entire crowd staring her straight in the eye. Each face evokes a story from the past. That young woman becomes the voice of those countless stories. Each one is different, yet together, they forge a path forward — from unspeakable pain to the beginnings of liberation through the spoken word.

AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE

PERCEBES

Portugal | 12 | 2024
WRI/DIR: Alexandra Ramires, Laura Gonçalves
WRI: Regina Guimarães
PROD: David Doutel, Vasco Sá, Edwina Liard, Nidia Santiago

With the sea and the urban Algarve as a background, we follow a complete cycle of the life of a special shellfish called PERCEBES, goose barnacle. From their formation, to the dish, in this journey, we cross different contexts that allow us to better understand this region and those who live there.

AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE

ECHOES OF DISSENT

Australia | 8min | 2025
DIR/PROD: Dylan Nicholls | PROD: Luke Hodge
Echoes of Dissent attempts to piece together the tragic life story of Anthony Martin Fernando, an Aboriginal man who protested Indigenous rights over a century ago in Europe. By enlisting his father to re-enact Fernando's famous protests, the film's director uncovers just how prophetic Fernando's protests would become.

WORLD PREMIERE

WITH GRACE

Norway | 30min | 2024
WRI/DIR: Dina Mwendu, Julia Dahr
PROD: Natalya Sarch, Johanne Kristensen Sandvik, Arne Dahr, Julia Dahr
Grace, a witty 13-year-old girl, with big dreams and the rare gift of making everyone around her laugh, takes us back to her early childhood years with her close-knit, loving farmer family in Kenya: a time with lots of fun, but also a time when disaster almost split her family apart.

AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE



FROM TOP TO BOTTOM: AUDIO AND THE ALLIGATOR, NELSON THE PIGLET, MOI AUSSI, WITH GRACE

INDIGENOUS SPOTLIGHT

In celebration of screening an incredible collection of some of our country's most creative Indigenous talent, both behind and in front of the camera.



FROM TOP TO BOTTOM: FENCE ,
NGARRIDURDENG KURED, THE FIX-IT MAN
AND THE FIX-IT WOOMAN, HYDRAULIC

INDIGENOUS SPOTLIGHT

SATURDAY 25TH JANUARY, 6:30PM

RUNTIME: 91 MINS

THE FIX-IT-MAN AND THE FIX-IT-WOOMAN

Australia | 9min | 2024

WRI: Rhonda Sharpe, Courtney Collins

DIR: Cornelius Ebatarinja, Nelson Armstrong
In the "bright lights, big city of Alice Springs", two soft sculptures try to impress each other with their dance moves. But it's an unfortunate accident that finally brings them together as they discover they both have a talent for fixing things. Artwork by the Yarrenyty Arterre Artists, renowned for their beautiful soft sculptures, comes alive in this gentle funny tale of love and connection.

NSW PREMIERE

FARM BLOCK A67

Australia | 12min | 2023

WRI: Nicholas Harle, Simone Detourbet

DIR: Jason Haji-Ali, Simone Detourbet

PROD: Nicholas Harle

Ari, a young aboriginal woman with 48 hours, a busted up car and a sacred promise she made to her mother, sets off in the dead of night to save her family farm from a greedy enemy...

NSW PREMIERE

ANANGU WAY

Australia | 12min | 2025

WR/DIR: Tace Stevens | PROD: Brooke Collard

Anangu Way follows Keenan, a Noongar and Spinifex man, as he drives 10 hours from Perth to Cundeelee, to spend a week on Country with his father, Lydon. As Lydon teaches Keenan how to make a woomera, Keenan learns more about his father and the Anangu way of life.

WORLD PREMIERE

FENCE

Australia | 14min | 2024

WRI/DIR/PROD: Samantha Alexis Laughton

A Young Woman slaves to maintain the boundary line fence of a remote cattle station for a brutal Boss Man, until a mysterious captive is brought in, revealing an ancient inner strength to her from the Foremothers of her homelands, giving her the courage to escape the fence that has entrapped her womanhood and spirit since birth - returning back to Herself, on country (Apmere).

JARDA BURA, GURRI BURA, JARDA NGARLI, GURRI NGARLI (SENIOR WOMAN, YOUNG WOMAN)

Australia | 12min | 2024

WRI: Nina Allen | DIR: Genevieve Dugard

PROD: Big hART, WA Museum- Boola Bardip
Strength and power is relational. In this short film of layered film, voice over, and composition, intergenerational relationships between Aboriginal women, their kinship system and their living connection to Country, practice and power are explored. Jarda Bura, Gurri Bura, Jarda Ngarli, Gurri Ngarli highlights women's stories of strength, the leadership they draw collectively from their relationships, and the importance of cultural transmission.

NSW PREMIERE

ECHOES OF DISSENT

Australia | 8min | 2025

DIR/PROD: Dylan Nicholls | PROD: Luke Hodge

Echoes of Dissent attempts to piece together the tragic life story of Anthony Martin Fernando, an Aboriginal man who protested Indigenous rights over a century ago in Europe. By enlisting his father to re-enact Fernando's famous protests, the film's director uncovers just how prophetic Fernando's protests would become.

WORLD PREMIERE

ORMMOL

Australia | 10min | 2025

WRI/DIR: Mariikka Perdisat

PROD: Anna Kaplan

Kupungarri, a remote community in the North-West of Australia is one of the most natural places left in the world. This small community fosters confidence in their young people through their relationship with Country. Watch the excitement grow as they prepare for one of the biggest events of the year, the annual Mowanjum Festival.

WORLD PREMIERE

HYDRAULIC

Australia | 15min | 2024

WRI/DIR: Nicole Hutton-Lewis

PROD: Rhory Mackellar

Harry is torn from tending to his bed-ridden mother by his erratic and sticky-fingered father, Bill, who takes him on a wild goose chase to kill a cow for Christmas supper – but they better not get caught.

LOVEBITES SHORTS

A quirky short journey through the joys and pitfalls of modern relationship.

LOVE BITES (RELATIONSHIPS) SHORTS

FRIDAY 24TH JANUARY 9:00PM

RUNTIME: 112 MINS

COLD FEET

New Zealand | 6min | 2024

WRI/DIR: Isla Macleod

PROD: Miryam Jacobi

A six-minute continuous take following a bride-to-be who is having doubts just before she walks down the aisle.

AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE

AMIGO

United Kingdom | 11min | 2024

WRI: James Newman, Tom Waterhouse

DIR: James Newman, Harrison Newman

PROD: Guy Lindley

'Amigo', the rent-a-friend app has taken London by storm. An unfriendly 'Amigo's' life comes crashing down when he finds out his life is a lie.

AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE

DON'T YOU DARE YUCK MY YUM

Australia | 13min | 2024

WRI: Rhett Hughes | DIR: Andrew Mills

PROD: Andrew Mills, Rhett Hughes

A couple wrestle with the boundaries of their relationship after their best friends come out as ethically non monogamous.

WORLD PREMIERE

LOVE YA BABY

Australia | 15min | 2023

WRI/DIR: Tom Slater

PROD: James Kwong, Josh Anderson

Will and Bertie are in love and having a great time, until he buys her a piano for her birthday, and she absolutely hates it, and it pulls at a thread that threatens to unravel their whole relationship.

AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE

SEXTYO

Australia | 7min | 2024

WRI: Freyja Benjamin | DIR: Sarinah Masukor

PROD: Freyja Benjamin, Sarinah Masukor

When Fi receives a surprising birthday gift her deepest desires come to light.

AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE

DIFFERENT THINGS

Australia | 8min | 2024

WRI: Grace Chapple | DIR: Murray Enders

After a chance encounter on a dating app, two emotionally guarded thirty-somethings navigate a night of awkward connections, unresolved grief, and unexpected moments of intimacy, only to discover that sometimes, the right person comes along at the wrong time.

AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE

RIPE!

United States | 18min | 2024

WRI/DIR: Tusk | PROD: Cookie Walukas

Nothing says "it's complicated" like breaking your crush's arm.

NSW PREMIERE

DOMME

Australia | 6min | 2023

WRI: Natasha Henry

DIR: Lindsay Hamilton McDonald

PROD: Neisha Sophie Dallamora

Equipped with good intentions and a pair of latex boots, Monique sets out for a romantic night of kink as she navigates the murky depths of her newfound partner's peculiar sexual predilections.

WORLD PREMIERE

AMOK

Australia | 10min | 2024

WRI/DIR: Kahlil Gaskin | PROD: E. Bennett

Walsh, Isabelle Scott-Fullerton

Hot on the heels of a heated argument, Sam and Edie are determined to salvage their anniversary dinner, but their night goes from silly to scary when they're forced to stop at a mysterious mansion. What begins as a speedy detour quickly spirals into a bizarre, spooky adventure. Is this eerie encounter a gift from the universe, a sinister setup, or just the strangest date night ever?

AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE

SKIN AND BONER

Australia | 9min | 2024

WRI: Clare Toonen | DIR: Georgia Nottage

PROD: Hannah Ngo

Two housemates find themselves at odds when one brings home the other's former Tinder date, but are forced to work together when an unexpected accident occurs...

WORLD PREMIERE

LOVERDANCE

France | 9min | 2024

WRI: Pauline Latanska | DIR: Victor Gomez

PROD: Tommaso Cohen, Charles Tognat

Lola meets Simon at a 24-hour dance marathon. Motivated by the competition, she tries to avoid the growing complicity between them. But as the eliminations mount and exhaustion becomes insurmountable, her attachment to him could well lead her to victory...

AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE



FROM TOP TO BOTTOM: COLD FEET,
DIFFERENT THINGS, LOVERDANCE, RIPE!

SHORT LAUGHS COMEDY SHOWCASE

Two programmes of clever off-kilter comedy shorts from at home and across the world.



FROM TOP TO BOTTOM: MUGGED!, OFFICER STANLEY, HELLO SUMMER, MR. WONDERFUL

SHORT LAUGHS COMEDY 1 THURSDAY 23TH JANUARY, 9:00PM RUNTIME: 106 MINS

HELLO SUMMER

Slovakia | 11min | 2024
WRI/DIR: Martin Smatana, Veronika Zacharová
PROD: Martin Smatana, Martin Vandas, Kamila Dohnalová, Jean-François Le Corre
Sea, sun, beaches and family holidays. But what if the hotel isn't as stellar as promised, your room has a bit of a naughty view, the dinner is surprisingly exotic and your luggage travels elsewhere?

AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE

THANKS FOR THE MILK

France | 8min | 2024
WRI/DIR: Côme Ferré
A young delivery man realizes he's the reincarnation of an elderly man's beloved cat, rekindling a bond from a past life

AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE

JANE AUSTEN'S PERIOD DRAMA

United States | 13min | 2023
WRI/DIR: Julia Aks, Steve Pinder
PROD: Elli Legerski
England, 1813. In the middle of a long-awaited marriage proposal, Miss Estrogenia Talbot gets her period. Her suitor, the dashing Mr. Dickley, mistakes the blood for an injury, and it soon becomes clear that his very expensive education has most certainly missed a spot.

STRANDED

Australia | 17min | 2024
WRI: Michael Whyntie
DIR: Reilly Archer-Whelan, Michael Whyntie
PROD: Andre Scholz
When Kelly dumps Brian, his world comes crashing down—again. Just like when their cruise ship sank, leaving them as the only two survivors stranded on a deserted island. Brian is left adrift in a sea of misery, while Kelly thrives. After several unlikely encounters, Brian realises he needs to get his life afloat. Just as it looks like their love might be rescued, an actual ship appears on the horizon. Now, Brian faces his biggest dilemma yet: sail solo or stay marooned for a second shot at love.

AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE

MUGGED!

United Kingdom | 10min | 2024
WRI/DIR/PROD: Maria Pawlikowska, Jessie Barnett
A gay black man and an illegal immigrant meet during the dead of night on the dingy streets of London.

AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE

THE HOIST

Australia | 12min | 2024
WRI: Emma Morgan | DIR: Janneke Williamson
PROD: Janneke Williamson, Eve Donohue
Based on an outrageously true story, we follow local inventor, Bill, in his efforts to protect the most important thing at the annual bush dance... the supper. But will the chaotic entrance of an uninvited guest ruin everything?

NSW PREMIERE

SEA ANGELS

Sweden | 8min | 2024
WRI/DIR: Cissi Efraimsson | PROD: Saga Gärde
The polluted ocean forced mermaids to reveal their existence as non-mythological creatures and seek help on land. We follow their daily life in a pool named Sea Angels, a Sea World-like theme park for humans. Sea Angels is a stop motion animation mockumentary by Swedish artist Cissi Efraimsson.

AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE

NEIGHBORING GRAVES

Spain | 16min | 2023
WRI: Ángel Villahermosa
DIR: José Antonio Gutiérrez Bustos
PROD: Álvaro García Márquez, Inania Studios
Lola, a lady obsessed with her deceased husband's grave be the cleanest and most beautiful of the entire cemetery, receives for the first time a worthy competition: Antonio, a very gallant widower who, with the intention to seduce her, he begins to compete against her by decorating her tomb just to get his attention.

AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE

OFFICER STANLEY

United States | 8min | 2024
WRI/DIR: Scottie Cameron
PROD: Abbi Jacobson
A police officer embarrasses himself on the job and gets wound up in a string of lies and confusion to cover up the situation.

AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE

MR. WONDERFUL

Australia | 3min | 2025
DIR/WRI/PROD: Cooper Clark
A young man races through early adulthood while trying to find his childhood dog.

WORLD PREMIERE

SHORT LAUGHS COMEDY 2 SATURDAY 25TH JANUARY, 9:00PM RUNTIME: 114 MINS

THE THREE SISTERS

Cyprus | 15min | 2025
WRI/DIR: Timur Kognov
PROD: Alexander Perishev, Dave Henderson
Three sisters live a lonely life on an isolated island, each in their own small house. One day, circumstances develop in such a way that they are forced to rent out one of the houses.

WORLD PREMIERE

REJOYCE!

United Kingdom | 15min | 2023
WRI/DIR: David Ledger
PROD: Alexandra Bierman, Daniel Ward Garber
After the death of her husband, an elderly vicar's wife re-discovers a book of erotic fiction that she wrote in her youth.

AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE

THE HEAD ON HIM

Ireland | 15min | 2024
WRI/DIR: Seán Gallen
PROD: Ciara Gillan, Kevin Napier
A Coming-of-age Dramey about a young, biracial boy who moves to Ireland in the '90s. He shaves off his Afro in order to fit in and it works...but then his Afro grows back, bigger and bigger, until it traps him in his room and he has to find a way out.

AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE

ROBBED

Australia | 10min | 2025
WRI/DIR: Ben Crisp
PROD: Ben Crisp, Jonathan Baker, Ty Linegar
A bickering couple's marriage is tested while they cower on the floor, as hostages during a bank robbery.

WORLD PREMIERE

NIP IT IN THE BUD

Norway | 4min | 2024
WRI/DIR: Ida Thronæs Rotli
PROD: Kjersti Sofie Greger
We meet a young woman with tousled hair and sleepy eyes, who goes through her daily morning routine check in the mirror. She notices a thin long hair on her chin and tries to pluck it. To her great dislike, the hair stretches out and becomes longer instead of yielding to the tweezers. She becomes more and more desperate, and resorts to stronger and stronger tools, but the hair remains stubbornly stuck, and grows longer for each attempt to remove it. But after a moment of dark hopelessness, she gets a brilliant idea.

AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE

GRAVE ERROR

United Kingdom | 12min | 2024
WRI: Abraham Kleinman, Andrew Jonathan Smith
DIR: Andrew Jonathan Smith
PROD: Luke Grech
Emma embarks on a bureaucratic odyssey to get her life back after an administrative error leaves her legally dead.

AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE

OASIS

Australia | 14min | 2025
WRI/DIR: Samuel Galloway
PROD: Erinn Stevenson
A suburban dad becomes stranded under the shade of an ice cream cart where the vendor charges rent for shelter.

WORLD PREMIERE

7 MINUTES TO RICE

Australia | 8min | 2025
WRI/DIR: Manuel Ashman
PROD: Manuel Ashman, Caitlin Ellen Moore
Seven housemates prepare separate meals as they wait for the rice to cook. When they discover that there isn't enough rice, a witch hunt for the culprit begins. For the crime of ruining their meal the punishment is DEATH!

WORLD PREMIERE

FREE THE CHICKENS

Slovakia | 15min | 2024
WRI/DIR: Matúš Vizár
PROD: Jakub Viktorin, Tomáš Hrubý
A rescue mission to free chickens from a factory farm goes radically wrong, and a group of four activists is forced to escape into the wilderness to experience a series of borderline situations and ethical dilemmas that lead to new insights, such as that nature is not a safe place for animals.

AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE

CANDY BAR

Australia | 6min | 2025
WRI: Damon Herriman
DIR: Nash Edgerton
PROD: Serena Paull, Nash Ederton
A young girl thinks a man in the candy bar line looks like her dad.

WORLD PREMIERE



FROM TOP TO BOTTOM: FREE THE CHICKEN, REJOYCE!, OASIS, THE THREE SISTERS

FLICKERUP SHORTS

The finalist short films in our National Youth Competition for school students or filmmakers aged 18 years and under.



FROM TOP TO BOTTOM: TOMBER TO FALL, MORE THAN MILK, GRAVARE, THE APARTMENT

FLICKERUP SHORTS

SATURDAY 25TH JANUARY 4:00PM
RUNTIME: 118 MINS

BUBBLE BOY

Australia | 1min | 2024
WRI/DIR/PROD: Summer Douar
A journey following a young boy who unexpectedly finds himself trapped inside a giant bubble gum bubble.

JUST KEEP SWIMMING

Australia | 3min | 2024
WRI/DIR: Lynnette Robinson
PROD: Kylie Agnew
Rose is devastated to learn of the death of her beloved goldfish and channels her grief by organising a funeral for him at the park.

A GENTLE BREEZE, AND IT'S GONE

Australia | 2min | 2024
WRI/DIR: Courtney Au
PROD: Courtney Florette
An unnamed artist attempts to grasp onto deteriorating memories about a friend from their past.

MORE THAN MILK

Australia | 5min | 2024
WRI/DIR/PROD: Abigail Rain Knight
Delving into the transformative power of The Cow Project, as told through the voices of the women experiencing poverty, malnutrition, and inequality in India.

FADE

Australia | 3min | 2024
WRI/DIR/PROD: Bradfield Senior College
Everything must fade. A last journey awaits.

SANDWICH

Australia | 7min | 2024
WRI/DIR: Dutch Young
PROD: Diego Jara Garcia, Loene Carmen, Aden Young
Sandwich explores the relationship between a father & son through the making of two sandwiches.

HOPPY

Australia | 5min | 2024
WRI/DIR/PROD: Arlo Linwood
When 13-year-old Arlo travels to England to visit his Nanna, he discovers she's formed an unlikely friendship—with a one-legged seagull named Hoppy.

BUBBLEGUM AND BUNYIPS

Australia | 7min | 2024
WRI/DIR: Kellyville High School
PROD: Fabio Caprarelli
The sound of bubblegum popping reminds an Indigenous woman of her childhood.

MAMA GRUB

Australia | 3min | 2024
WRI/DIR: Edith Marion Erica Farrar Matson
PROD: Simon Rippingale
Deep in the Australian bush, a feral old woman collects gumnuts for her stew. A curious gecko may sacrifice everything for a taste.

ANAHERA

WRI/DIR/PROD: Kyro Anahera Russell
Australia | 6min | 2024
An exploration of identity & childhood growing up as a mixed person away from one's home country; a tale of Māori acceptance & heartbreak.

ALONE TOGETHER

Australia | 5min | 2024
WRI/DIR/PROD: Arlo Louis Newman
In a dystopian city, an orphaned girl forms an emotional bond with an AI longing to experience life as human.

DON'T IGNORE ME

Australia | 9min | 2024
DIR: Charli Fletcher | WRI: Sam78
PROD: Raymond Mendez
An app seemingly begins to stalk its followers. With every notification blurring the line between your screen and reality. *Supernatural theme.

SUVIRA

Australia | 7min | 2024
WRI/DIR/PROD: Sam Clarke
The story of artist, Suvira McDonald; and explores what makes his passion for pottery so special.

BAIT

Australia | 5min | 2024
WRI/DIR/PROD: Beau Ritchie
When a fisherman loses his favourite fishing spot, he must do all he can to get it back.

TOMBER: TO FALL

Australia | 7min | 2024
WRI/DIR/PROD: Bianca Rozsa

A gripping examination of a ballerina's descent into madness following a career-threatening injury.

CHASING WILD

Australia | 7min | 2024
WRI/DIR/PROD: Harrison Flynn Braund
Two young men, Jake and Luca, abandon their city lives and rediscover their lost passions—surfing and wing foiling—after encounters that awaken them to the emptiness of societal expectations.

THE FUTURE IS YOURS VOLUME 2

Australia | 5min | 2024
WRI/DIR/PROD: James Latrou, Constantine Latrou
Two years after the events of the original, The Future Is Yours Volume 2 picks up the inspiring story of two brothers, James and Constantine, as they continue to chase their shared dream of making it big in the film industry.

MIND THE GAPS

Australia | 7min | 2024
WRI/DIR: Lucia Carman Murray
My whole life my dad always had a camera in my face. Now, over a decade later, I turned around the camera to ask my dad about life, father.

THE APARTMENT

Australia | 4min | 2024
WRI/DIR: Y7 Doveton College Students
PROD: Gene Geoffrey
We meet three intriguing characters whose lives are entwined through social media.

LAMB

Australia | 7min | 2024
WRI/DIR/PROD: Ido Safra
A contemporary take on the biblical father-son relationship. A teenage boy is forced to distinguish between reality and delusions as his sense of familial security is threatened by the people around him.

GRAVARE

Australia | 7min | 2024
WRI/DIR/PROD: Kai Cheung
In a post-apocalyptic world, a lonely android must try to live without their other half.

SOLE SISTA

Australia | 6min | 2024
WRI/DIR: Emerie Elise Boone
PROD: Black Girls Film Camp
Chelsea navigates the feeling of being different as the only black girl in school and sits in limbo between feeling included but not embraced, after experiencing micro-aggression after micro-aggression.



FROM TOP TO BOTTOM: MIND THE GAP, THE FUTURE IS YOURS VOLUME 2, MAMA GRUB, JUST KEEP SWIMMING

RAINBOW SHORTS

Flickerfest is celebrating LGBTQI+ stories from around the world in our eighth year of Rainbow Shorts, curated by award-winning queer filmmaker Craig Boreham.



RAINBOW SHORTS
THURSDAY 24TH JAN 6:30PM
 RUNTIME: 117 MINS

HOLY CURSE

United States | 16min | 2024
 DIR/WRI: Snigdha Kapoor
 PROD: Neeraj Churi

On a visit to India, 11-year-old Radha grapples with their gender identity when subjected to manipulative orthodox rituals by their family, looking to dispel a supposed ancestral curse allegedly distorting Radha's thinking.

AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE

PLEASURE

Australia | 10min | 2024
 DIR/WRI: Jasper Caverly
 PROD: Sarah Hegge-Taylor

Two teenage boys are cut apart across a sweaty summer night after they're caught graffitiing a train in Melbourne's inner-west, until a moment of unexpected intimacy brings them closer together than ever before.

NSW PREMIERE

IN HEAT

United Kingdom | 20min | 2024
 DIR/WRI: Rory Fleck Byrne
 a surreal psychosis. Deeper into the sand dunes. Deeper into himself.

AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE

BATHSHEBA

United Kingdom | 13min | 2024
 DIR/WRI: Myah Asha Jeffers
 PROD: Victoria Bavister

Living as a precarious property guardian and facing eviction, a grieving widow is forced to live with a younger woman.

Little does she know, the new tenant holds the key for her to move on.

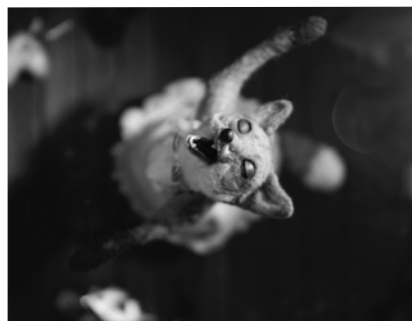
AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE

SILVIA'S HOUSE

Spain | 12min | 2025
 DIR/WRI/PROD: Álvaro Lucas

Two friends, Martín and Raúl, are walking through the night in Madrid, heading to a party at Silvia's house. Along the way, they talk, argue, and joke around. Although it is not a comedy, it speaks with humour and affection about friendship, love, and the fears of a generation that has grown up in an uncertain time, with little to hold on to.

WORLD PREMIERE



FROM TOP TO BOTTOM: BATHSHEBA, CHICO, DRAGFOX, HOLY CURSE

presented by
starobserver

THREE

United States | 15min | 2024
 DIR/WRI: Amie Song
 PROD: Jingwen Fang

At a home gathering, a Chinese woman who has recently moved to the United States to live with her daughter, tries to keep her daughter's secrets from her new friends.

NSW PREMIERE

CHICO

France | 23min | 2024
 DIR: Théo Abadie
 WRI: Louise Courvoisier, Théo Abadie
 PROD: Pauline Attal

Jojo, a clumsy and bumbling young gay squatter, sets out to repair a washing machine in order to satisfy Lucien, whom he desires. He roams Brussels in a frantic quest, ready to take any risk to achieve his goals.

AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE

DRAGFOX

United Kingdom | 8min | 2024
 DIR: Lisa Ott
 PROD: Owen Thomas

Sam's search for identity gets interrupted by a mysterious neighbourhood fox. Together they embark on a magical journey to the attic to discover the surprising things they might have in common, and how to celebrate the ways in which they differ.

AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE

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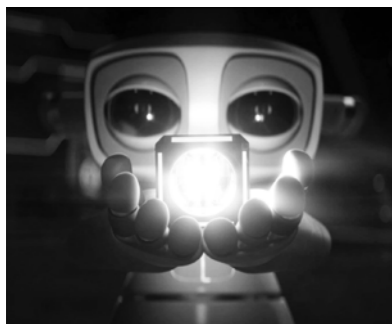
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FLICKERKIDS SHORTS

A delightful and entertaining program of shorts for shorties & families that will appeal to the kid in everyone.



FROM TOP TO BOTTOM: ALONE, KEO AND THE STARDUST, MOG'S CHRISTMAS, SNOW BEAR

FLICKERKIDS

SATURDAY 25TH JANUARY, 1:30PM

RUNTIME: 86 MINS

KEO AND THE STARDUST

France | 13min | 2024

DIR: Victor Halfen

Keo, a cosmic pirate, risks his life every day to collect as much stardust as possible. His routine is turned upside down when he meets a strange alien who needs this precious resource to live.

AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE

MASTER PAINTER ERNST

Germany | 2min | 2023

WRI: Alice von Gwinner, Uli Seis

DIR/PROD: Uli Seis

Forgetful Squirrel "Ernst" almost goes nuts looking for his meticulously hidden acorns. Only a shift in perspective can help him now.

AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE

ALONE

Australia | 7min | 2023

DIR: Alex Weight | PROD: Ian Thomson

During a lengthy space voyage to a distant galaxy, a solitary robot diligently tends to the human incubators, ensuring the survival of the settlers on the new planet. Watching the dreams of the hibernating humans makes the robot feel lonely. So, it assembles a new companion from spare parts. However, when complications arise, the robot faces a crucial decision: prioritise the preservation of human life or save its new friend.

SPARROW'S BRAINS (SPATZENHIRN)

Germany | 2min | 2024

DIR: Arun Leander Boudodimos

The picnicking park visitors occasionally leave behind a few morsels - much to the delight of the SPARROWS. However, the SPARROWS are not content with mere meager crumbs. They aim to swipe the entire meal from the unsuspecting ones. Their sparcial mission comes with top secret sparrowcifications and requires cutting-edge sparweilance technologies.

AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE

M-8

Australia | 12min | 2025

WRIDIR/PROD: Dante Julian Neidzwiedz

WRI: Angus Becke-Smith | PROD: Alice Reardon

M-8 is a short film that follows Ruby and her new creation, a support robot named 'M-8'. Ruby is an introverted teenager with a strong passion for robotics and inventions. She is ambitious and dreams of winning a scholarship to the most prestigious robotics academy in the country to pursue her dream of creating robots that can make a change in the world. The story starts with the creation of M-8. Ruby makes a huge step in

achieving her goal by bringing this robot to life just in time for the annual robotics competition. Initially overjoyed with her creation, she is quickly brought down to Earth by the brash judging panel, who interrogate the usefulness of M-8. She casts M-8 aside but M-8's optimistic persistence in connecting with Ruby helps her see value in persevering and being vulnerable.

WORLD PREMIERE

BAKING WITH BORIS

France | 8min | 2023

WRI/DIR: Maša Avramović | PROD: Reginald de

Guillebon, Nicolas Bulet, Draško Ivezic

Every morning, Boris the village baker makes a fresh batch of crusty bread and pastries for all his neighbours until... Achoo! He can't stop sneezing. He has become allergic to flour. How will he manage to keep baking for everyone in the village?

AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE

WISHES: WINDOWS & NESTS

Australia | 7min | 2024

WRI/DIR: Ana Maria Mendez Salgado |

WRI/PROD: Carlos Manrique Clavijo | WRI: Ruth

Inside every one of us there's a box of wishes, but the most powerful ones are those that belong to others. When Lulu notices that birds can't nest due to spikes that line the buildings, she invokes Kino, her Guardian-creature. Together, they explore solutions in Lulu's surreal inner universe.

SNOW BEAR

United States | 11min | 2024

WRI: Aaron Blaise, Nicholas Burch

DIR: Aaron Blaise

PROD: Nicholas Burch

Set in a rapidly changing world, "Snow Bear" tells the story of a polar bear in an unforgivable environment on his quest to find a friend. This 2D hand drawn film was painstakingly created entirely by Aaron Blaise over 3 years. With Aaron's lifelong dedication to studying, drawing and animating animals, the adventure is infused with humor, relatability and emotional depth in the tradition of classic animated films.

AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE

MOG'S CHRISTMAS

United Kingdom | 23min | 2023

WRI: Joanna Harrison | DIR: Robin Shaw

PROD: Ruth Fielding, Camilla Deakin

Celebrating the 100th anniversary of Judith Kerr's birth, Kerr's much-loved children's book, 'Mog's Christmas' is brought to life as a beautifully crafted hand-drawn animated special by the same team that made the Emmy award-winning adaption of Kerr's 'The Tiger Who Came to Tea', produced by Lupus Films for HarperCollins Children's Books, Channel 4 Television and Universal Pictures Content Group.

AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE

FLICKERLAB

A ONE-DAY JOURNEY FROM SHORTS TO FEATURES

FRIDAY 24 JAN 10AM – 5.15PM

FlickerLab gives you the chance to immerse yourself in the latest Film and TV trends as you spend the day with some of the industry's leading experts, offering up their expertise and wisdom with a range of panels designed to enhance and develop your creative ideas and get your content creation noticed in the marketplace. The entire scope of the film making experience is covered, from initial concept through to script, producing, marketing, distribution and the latest cross platform and alternative distribution methods.

Listen, share, network and engage as our panellists guide you through the joys and challenges of content creation. Absorb essential tips and knowledge and be inspired on your own creative journey.

Our panellists on the day will include: Nick Waterman (How to Make Gravy), Emile Sherman (Sweetpea, The Kings Speech), Hannah Reilly (The Deb), Sheila Jayadev (Critical Incident), Dane McCusker (The Big Dog), Kristina Ceyton (The Moogai), Jane Nice (Icon Film), Garry Maddox, Andrea Ulbrick (Screen Australia), Imogen Gardam (Screen Australia), Robbie Miles (AFTRS), Leela Varghese (Lesbian Space Princess), Marcus Gillezeau StudioCanal (Storm Surfers), Sara Khan (Paper Dolls, Gold Diggers), Jack Clark (Birdeater).



Nick Waterman



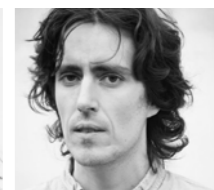
Emile Sherman



Hannah Reilly



Sheila Jayadev



Dane McCusker



Kristina Ceyton



Jane Nice



Garry Maddox



Andrea Ulbrick



Imogen Gardam

4x 1.5hr session FROM IDEA TO PAGE

10am – 11.30am

Everyone will tell you a good script is an essential ingredient for any good film. Our panel of experienced screenwriters will discuss turning a good idea into a good script, looking in detail at development, collaboration and script editing. They will share their insights about their own transitions from independent shorts to lauded feature films. Discussions will also include observations about writing for some of television's most successful and acclaimed dramas. This valuable session is a must for all budding screenwriters and filmmakers looking to develop and write scripts.

THE DIRECTOR'S JOURNEY

11.45am – 1.15pm

Intimately follow the career path of an esteemed Australian director from independent short filmmaker to feature film director. Areas of discussion will include script development, working collaboratively, casting, directing actors, where ideas come from and how to make the leap from shorts to features.

MAKING IT HAPPEN

2pm – 3.30pm

The Producer oversees the entire film from the initial idea, right through to production and distribution. They are key in *making it happen*. Our panellists discuss the role of the producer, from budgeting and financing to marketing and distribution and everything in between. All producers are different and this diverse and hard-working panel will share their differing approaches to the very important task of getting your content made.

MARKET TO MARKET – CONQUER THE WORLD ON ALL PLATFORMS: DISTRIBUTION, FESTIVALS AND MULTI-PLATFORM DISTRIBUTION

3.45pm – 5.15pm

Now your short film is finished. What next? How do you launch your next project? This informative session puts the spotlight on current marketing and distribution trends to get your feature, web or TV series seen by the largest audiences possible. The panel will dissect traditional distribution models and offer up innovative cross platform alternatives. In the age of digital distribution, find out how these new models can enhance the viewing potential of your film and build your filmmaking reputation.

BEST OF EU SHORTS SHOWCASE

A selection of moving and entertaining shorts from the European Union that captures the diversity and cinematic excellence of Europe.



EU SHORTS SHOWCASE

THURSDAY 23RD JANUARY, 6:30PM
RUNTIME: 109 MINS



ZARKO, YOU WILL SPOIL THE CHILD!

Croatia | 14min | 2024
WRI: Veljko Popovic, Tisja Kljakovic Braic
DIR: Veljko Popovic, Milivoj Popovic
PROD: Veljko Popovic, Milivoj Popovic, Patrick Hernandez

The film recounts the memories of a childhood in Split in the 1980s. These are stories retold after Sunday lunch when everyone is in a good mood, stories filled with emotions we can easily relate to. But above all, the film is a moving tribute to the love of a grandpa and grandma who did their best to keep their granddaughter smiling.

AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE

ME AND DAD

Ireland | 9min | 2024
WRI/DIR: Shane Connellan
PROD: Jamie Eileen Strickler

A boy struggles in his attempts to bond with his oblivious father at a bar. All efforts are ignored. The barman is the boy's only soft ear. He empties everything in one final push to break dad.

AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE



CAUGHT IN 4K

Austria | 15min | 2025
WRI: Adriana Mrnjavac
DIR: Adriana Mrnjavac, Nicole Stigler
PROD: Elahe Aman

Someone is captured in 4K, high definition, caught red-handed on the internet. Eleven-year-old Ava is home alone. She skilfully presents herself online. Takes Selfies. Dances. Puts on make-up. TOM_X12 likes this.

WORLD PREMIERE

SPRING WALTZ

Italy | 12min | 2024
WRI: Stefano Lorenzi
DIR: Stefano Lorenzi, Clelia Catalano
PROD: Guja Quaranta, Aurelia Musumeci Greco

A man and a woman separated by a wall. However, their love doesn't accept divisions, barriers, obstacles. They are a couple of street artists: freedom runs in their veins. Borders don't exist. The man can't tolerate the "death strip" that separates him from her. And day after day, with tenacity, imagination, love, he tries to return to her arms.

AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE



FROM TOP TO BOTTOM: BUTTERFLY (PAPILION), GAME RULES, ME AND DAD, THIS IS NOT A CHARACTER

presented by



GAME RULES

Sweden | 12min | 2024
WRI: Christian Zetterberg, Albin Abrahamsson
DIR: Christian Zetterberg
PROD: Liselotte Persson

A youth handball team is about to participate in their first major tournament. As they aim for the top, facing professional players, talent scouts and sponsors, the game is suddenly interrupted by adults questioning who's really allowed to play.

AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE

BUTTERFLY (PAPILLON)

France | 15min | 2024
DIR: Florence Mialhe
PROD: Ron Dyens

In the sea, a man swims. As he does, memories come to the surface. From his early childhood to his life as a man, all his memories are linked to water. Some are happy, some glorious, some traumatic. This story will be that of his last swim. It will take us from the source to the river - from the waters of childhood pools to those of swimming pools - from a North African country to the shores of the Mediterranean - from Olympic stadiums to water retention basins - from concentration camp to the dream beaches of Reunion.

AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE

THIS IS NOT A CHARACTER, THIS IS BETRAYAL

Germany | 13min | 2024
WRI: Romina Küper, Max Lindemann
DIR: Romina Küper
PROD: Katharina Messias Mumper, Maxine Paatzsch, Isabella Müller de Paula
The film tells the story of mother and son. The 58-year-old hairdresser Melanie drives her son Stefan (32), a young author, to the first reading of his autobiographical debut novel DER SALON.
AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE

BEAUTIFUL MEN

Belgium | 19min | 2024
WRI/DIR: Nicolas Keppens
PROD: Emmanuel-Alain Raynal
Three balding brothers travel to Istanbul to get a hair transplant. Stuck with each other in a hotel far from home, their insecurities grow faster than their hair.
AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE

PRIZES

AUSTRALIAN AWARDS

Panasonic

PANASONIC LUMIX AWARD FOR BEST AUSTRALIAN SHORT FILM (ACADEMY® QUALIFYING)
Prize: LUMIX S5IIX Full-Frame Mirrorless Camera DC-S5M2XK valued at \$3,999+ RRP

AFTRS

Australian Film Television and Radio School

AFTRS AWARD FOR BEST SCREENPLAY IN AN AUSTRALIAN SHORT FILM

Prize: \$1,000 AUD

John Barry sales

JOHN BARRY AUSTRALIA AWARD FOR BEST CINEMATOGRAPHY IN AN AUSTRALIAN SHORT FILM

Prize: TRIPOD or SHAPE PRODUCT VALUED AT OVER \$1,000

SPECTRUM FILMS

SPECTRUM FILMS AWARD FOR BEST DIRECTION IN AN AUSTRALIAN SHORT FILM
Prize: 1x post-production support valued at \$5,000



AVID AWARD FOR BEST EDITING IN AN AUSTRALIAN SHORT FILM

Prize: 2-YEAR SUBSCRIPTION OF AVID MEDIA COMPOSER SOFTWARE VALUED AT OVER \$1,300



REBEL8 AWARD OUTSTANDING EMERGING FEMALE DIRECTOR IN AN AUSTRALIAN SHORT FILM - IN HONOUR OF SAMANTHA REBILLET

Prize: \$1,000 AUD

Yoram Gross FILMS

YORAM GROSS AWARD FOR BEST AUSTRALIAN ANIMATED SHORT FILM
Prize: \$1,000 AUD



AVID AWARD FOR BEST ORIGINAL MUSIC IN AN AUSTRALIAN SHORT FILM

Prize: 1-YEAR SUBSCRIPTION OF AVID PRO TOOLS ULTIMATE SOFTWARE PLUS 1-YEAR SUBSCRIPTION OF AVID SIBELIUS SOFTWARE VALUED AT OVER \$1,200



SPECSAVERS AWARD FOR BEST AUSTRALIAN COMEDY SHORT

Prize: \$500 AUD

INTERNATIONAL AWARDS



FLICKERFEST AWARD FOR BEST INTERNATIONAL SHORT FILM (ACADEMY® QUALIFYING)

Prize: \$2,500 AUD

DOCUMENTARY AWARD



FLICKERFEST AWARD FOR BEST DOCUMENTARY SHORT FILM (ACADEMY® QUALIFYING)

Prize: \$500 AUD

Yoram Gross FILMS

YORAM GROSS AWARD FOR BEST INTERNATIONAL ANIMATED SHORT FILM (ACADEMY® QUALIFYING)

Prize: \$1,000 AUD

RAINBOW AWARDS



AZURE PRODUCTIONS AWARD FOR BEST RAINBOW SHORT FILM

Prize: \$500 AUD



EU IN AUSTRALIA AWARD FOR BEST EU SHORT FILM

Prize: \$1000 AUD



EU IN AUSTRALIA AWARD FOR BEST EU RAINBOW SHORT FILM

Prize: \$500 AUD

PRIZES CONTINUED

FLICKERUP AWARD



AFTRS AWARD FOR BEST YOUTH SHORT FILM

Prize: \$500 AUD



YORAM GROSS AWARD FOR BEST YOUTH ANIMATED SHORT FILM

Prize: \$250 AUD



AVID AWARD FOR BEST EDITING IN A YOUTH SHORT FILM

Prize: 2-year subscription of avid media composer software valued at over \$1,300



KARMA AWARD SPECIAL MENTION YOUTH SHORT FILM

Prize: \$250 AUD

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Flickerfest

34th International Short Film Festival