



MEDIA RELEASE

EMBARGOED UNTIL 10:00 WEDNESDAY 7 MAY

SYDNEY FILM FESTIVAL PRESENTS FESTIVAL HUB: THE BEATING HEART OF THE FESTIVAL

The Hub returns to Town Hall for a third year this 5-15 June with a packed program of talks, exhibitions, performances and over 25 free events.

Open until midnight for 11 days only, this pop-up bar and event space is the beating heart of Sydney Film Festival. Situated within a short stroll of most Festival venues, the Hub is the perfect meeting place for film lovers to relax, mingle and be entertained.

The 2014 Hub features a **Festival Bar and lounge**, a **Discount Ticket Booth**, savvy **Program Gurus**, a **Gelato Messina cart**, a **TITLE Pop-Up Store**, a vintage **Photo and Video Booth**, an informal daily **Film Club**, an exclusive collection of iconic American **Eames** furniture, the stunning **Hugh Hamilton *Rosebud*** photographic exhibition, a not-to-be-missed **Viewmaster Experience by artist Vladimir**, a series of **illustrated talks and panels** as well as a rock 'n' roll dance party ***Girl Rock Riot***, **Cinema Burlesque** and so much more.

"This year the Hub simply could not be contained, spreading to the grand Treasury Room upstairs at Town Hall with a program of free talks and performances," says **Hub Programmer Matt Ravier**. "Meanwhile the bar downstairs will include a stylish lounge, a gelato cart and a photo booth, making it the absolute best place to hang out in between screenings."

The Hub presents the largest and most comprehensive display of furniture pieces ever to be exhibited in Australia from **the Herman Miller Collection**, presented by **Living Edge**. Herman Miller's association with film has its roots in the company's long relationship with furniture designers **Charles** and **Ray Eames**. During their prolific career, Charles and Ray produced over 125 films including ground-breaking works such as *Powers of Ten*. This June, their grandson **Eames Demetrios** will attend the Festival as a special guest and present an illustrated talk at the Hub called **Eames on Eames**, around a program of short films that define the designers' legacy.

The Hub also features a free, exclusively curated exhibition by Los Angeles-based Australian photographer **Hugh Hamilton** entitled ***Rosebud***. *Rosebud* includes a series of strikingly intimate portraits of some of the world's brightest film talent posing with personal items of great significance to their life and work, a concept inspired by the classic film ***Citizen Kane***. *Rosebud* is presented in association with **Head On Photo Festival** with support from **Arthead**. From **Steve Martin** with his collapsible top hat to **Anthony LaPaglia** with his professional football jersey, the *Rosebud* exhibition takes us into the private lives of cinema's great actors and storytellers.

"I am thrilled to bring their stories to Australia by showcasing the exhibition at the Sydney Film Festival Hub" says *Rosebud* photographer **Hugh Hamilton**. "I look forward to completing the exhibition in Sydney by shooting actors and filmmakers during the Festival."

Tying in with the SFF 2014's *Altman on Altman Retrospective*, the Hub presents the eldest son of Robert Altman, filmmaker **Michael Altman**, taking audiences through his father's filmography. Expect riveting anecdotes about the Cannes award-winning director's career, including *Short Cuts* and *M*A*S*H* (whose theme song *Suicide Is Painless* features lyrics written by the junior Altman at age 14). Michael is just one of many special guests stopping by the Hub this June 5-15.

Here is the 2014 Hub program as of Wednesday 7 May. For the most up-to-date program visit sff.org.au

DOWNSTAIRS AT THE HUB

The Hub

Make yourself comfortable in exclusive designer furniture from Living Edge and Herman Miller, charge your phone, jump on our free wi-fi, and browse trailers on our SFF Video Jukebox.

Gelato Messina Thursday 5, Friday 6, Saturday 7, Sunday 8, Friday 13 and Saturday 14 June, 5:30-9:30pm
Pop down to the Hub before or after your screening and try some scrumptious flavour combos from the Gelato Messina cart.

Discount Tickets Daily, until 8:30pm

Purchase \$10 tickets (with no booking fee!) to select SFF screenings, only in person at the Hub Box Office

Foxtel Movies Photo and Video Booth

Record a 30-second video review of a Festival film for your chance to win a Flexipass 30 to attend SFF 2015, or strike a pose and take home a strip of vintage Hollywood glamour!

Title Pop-Up Store

A pop-up store for film lovers, featuring a collection of books, music and movies inspired by this year's program, courtesy of TITLE Store, Australia's largest independent retailer of music, books and film.

Program Gurus Daily until 8:30pm

Sit down for a free 10-minute consultation with one of our friendly film buffs, who will guide you through the 2014 line-up and recommend films or events that best suit your moviegoing profile.

Film Club June 6-14, 5-6pm

Everyone's a critic! Want to chat about the films you've seen at SFF? Come to this informal and inclusive space hosted by the critics of Graffiti With Punctuation every afternoon.

Eames On Eames Friday 6 June 6pm, Event Cinemas George Street, followed by a book signing in the Hub
Iconic American designers Charles and Ray Eames were also filmmakers. Grandson and Eames Office director Eames Demetrios presents a program of short films that define the designers' legacy. \$10

Film Trivia: Francis Ford Question Mark Wednesday 11 June 8:30pm-10pm

Do you know your Fassbender from your Fassbinder and your Nick Cave from your Nic Cage? Flexipasses and hot prizes are up for grabs at this trivia night hosted by Josh Wheatley and puppet critic Harvey Feltstein.

Cinema Burlesque Thursday 12 June 9:30-11pm

Making a popular return to the Hub, the talented artists of Bobbi's Pole Studio perform sassy, outrageous burlesque and pole-dance performances inspired by cult movies.

Junkee Do: Friday The 13th 9pm-midnight

Following the Junkee Death of Horror debate upstairs, do the monster mash in the Hub: there'll be a special live interactive performance by VJ Michela Ledwige, and prizes for best dressed.

Freak Me Out Disco: Girl Rock Riot Saturday 14 June 9pm-midnight

Get ready for a wild night dedicated exclusively to female rock 'n' roll. Freak Me Out curator Richard Kuipers and filmmaker and grrl-music expert Daz Chandler are your DJs for this highly danceable tribute to the goddesses of guitar, bass and drums.

UPSTAIRS AT THE HUB

Altman on Altman 5:30-7pm, Thursday 5 June

In this live recording of the Hell Is for Hyphenates podcast, hosts Lee Zachariah and Paul Anthony Nelson run through the filmography of the great Robert Altman with his son Michael.

Pod Save Our Screen 6-7pm, Friday 6 June

Join this live recording of the popular film-geek podcast. For this special edition, the critics of Graffiti with Punctuation will guide audiences through the films of the Festival, including what not to miss.

Trippy Films 8-9pm, Friday 6 June

Australian Film Critics Association chair Richard Haridy presents an illustrated talk on representations of altered states and psychedelia in cinema, from *Easy Rider* to *Enter the Void*.

Panel: Women in Film 5:30-7pm, Saturday 7 June

How do we measure and improve female representation on film? How do we ensure complex and realistic portrayals of women? What is the Bechdel Test and how can it help disrupt the status quo? Join producer Julie Byrne (*Touch*), film critic Christopher Johnson, screenwriter Natasha Pincus (*Fell*) and Sophia Turkiewicz (*Once My Mother*) as they tackle the vexing issue of gender equality on screen.

Vladmaster Viewmaster Experience 8-9pm, Saturday 7 June, 8-9pm, Wednesday 11 June, and 6-7pm, Saturday 14 June

Vladmasters are handmade View-Master reels designed, photographed, and hand-assembled by artist Vladimir. Attendees are given a viewer and set of disks, and led through a story by a soundtrack featuring music and narration. The experience of private viewing in a communal space, peppered by the loud ker-thunk of 100 View-Masters turning at once, is one you won't soon forget!

\$10 – Presented in association with the Australian Centre for the Moving Image

Film Critics Death Match 3:30-5pm, Sunday 8 June

Can the indefensible film be defended? Can you write a review in 140 characters or less? What's the weirdest movie ever made? Come and put our panel of film critics to the test in this interactive set of movie review challenges.

Presented in association with the Australian Film Critics Association

It's Not Just an Act: Kate Mulvany Chats With Josh Lawson 6-7pm, Sunday 8 June

Highly regarded actress Kate Mulvany chats with *The Little Death* actor and director Josh Lawson, unpacking the filmmaking experience from an actor's point of view.

Presented in association with The Equity Foundation and Screen Australia

Panel: Can Docos Change the World? 3:30-5pm, Monday 9 June

Can cinema really make a difference? Hear from a panel of passionate activists, including Oscar-winning filmmaker Ross Kauffman, Professor Andrea Durbach, Director of the Australian Human Rights Centre at UNSW, Good Pitch² Australia's Malinda Wink and Human Rights Watch Emergency Team member Anna Neistat (*E-Team*).

Panel: Action, Romance And Silliness – Great Cinematic Moments 6-7:30pm, Monday 9 June

Fun, playful and full of banter, this special panel discussion delves into the history of film to examine memorable screen moments in the action and romance genres: the good, the bad and the cringeworthy. *Presented in association with AFTRS.*

Panel: Cross-Pollination – The Hive Project 6-7:30pm, Tuesday 10 June

HIVE Lab alumni share their experience of this groundbreaking project, which aims to nurture screen-based creative ideas that cut across artistic boundaries. Panelists include filmmakers Lynette Wallworth (*Tender*), Gideon Obarzanek and Matt Bate (*I Want to Dance Better at Parties*) and Adelaide Film Festival director Amanda Duthie. *Presented in association with the Australia Council for the Arts*

In Conversation: Alan Hicks 6-7pm, Wednesday 11 June

OzDox presents an in-depth conversation with US-based Australian musician and documentary filmmaker Alan Hicks (*Keep on Keepin' On*).

In Conversation: David Zellner 6-7:30pm, Thursday 12 June

The Australian Directors Guild presents an in-depth conversation with American filmmaker David Zellner, director of the award-winning *Kumiko, the Treasure Hunter*.

Friday On My Mind: Pan Nalin 6-7:30pm, Friday 13 June

AFTRS presents an in-depth conversation with Indian filmmaker Pan Nalin (*Faith Connections*), as part of their popular Friday on My Mind series.

Junkee Debate: The Death of Horror? 8-9pm, Friday 13 June

Celebrate Friday the 13th with pop culture and comment site Junkee, whose film experts pick sides: can cinema still scare us, or has the genre become a joke?

Micro-Talks 4-5:30pm, Saturday 14 June

A series of four entertaining and fascinating 15-minute talks by academics from the University of Sydney, including Associate Professor Catherine Driscoll on teen movies and Dr Rebecca Sheehan on masculinity in cinema.

The Dom & Giles Talk Show 8-9:30pm, Saturday 14 June

The Chaser's Dom Knight and entertainment journalist Giles Hardie take an irreverent look back at the Festival with very special surprise guests from the line-up.

Panel: Dendy Awards Finalists 2-3:30pm, Sunday 15 June

Meet the Dendy Awards finalists at this enlightening panel hosted by Metro Screen, and grill them on what it took to bring their acclaimed short film from idea to red-carpet premiere.

The Festival Hub is open daily between 5-15 June

Saturday, Sunday and Monday: noon-midnight

Tuesday-Friday: 5pm-midnight

Final Sunday: noon-6pm

ALL EVENTS ARE FREE unless otherwise indicated

The Hub is the beating heart of Sydney Film Festival, a meeting place for film lovers featuring over 25 free events, talks and performances presented over 11 days and nights. Come in from the cold and enjoy a drink or a snack from the Festival Bar, see an exhibition, listen to a talk upstairs, visit the TITLE pop-up store, recharge your phone and jump on the free Wi-Fi!

The 61st Sydney Film Festival runs 4-15 June and brings a packed program of screenings and special events to even more venues across Sydney. For tickets and full up-to-date program information visit sff.org.au

ABOUT SYDNEY FILM FESTIVAL

Sydney Film Festival screens feature films, documentaries, short films and animated films across the city at the State Theatre, Event Cinemas George Street, Dendy Opera Quays, the Art Gallery of NSW, Hayden Orpheum Picture Palace Cremorne, the Apple Store, SFFTV at Martin Place, Skyline Drive-In Blacktown, and the Festival Hub at Town Hall.

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

Sydney Film Festival also presents 12 films that vie for the Official Competition, a highly respected international honour that awards a \$60,000 cash prize based on the decision of a jury of international and Australian filmmakers and industry professionals. Previous Sydney Film Prize winners include: *Only God Forgives* (2013), *Alps* (2012), *A Separation* (2011) – which went on to win an Academy Award, *Heartbeats* (2010), *Bronson* (2009) and *Hunger* (2008).

The 61st Sydney Film Festival is supported by the NSW Government through Screen NSW, the Federal Government through Screen Australia, and the City of Sydney. The Festival's Strategic partner is the NSW Government through Destination NSW.

What: Sydney Film Festival

When: 4-15 June, 2014

Tickets & Info: 1300 733 733 sff.org.au

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Principal State Government partner



Strategic partner



Government partners

