

# 2019 AACTA AWARDS PRESENTED BY FOXTEL

## - FEATURE FILM IN COMPETITION -

## **ACUTE MISFORTUNE**

The film adaptation of Erik Jensen's biography of Adam Cullen is the story of the biographer and his subject as it descends into a dependent and abusive relationship.

Director: Thomas M Wright Producers: Virginia Kay, Jamie Houge, Liz Kearney, Thomas M Wright Writer: Thomas M Wright , Erik Jensen Editor: Luca Campbell Sound: Chris Goodes, Steve Bond, Cam Rees Cinematographer: Germain McMicking, Stefan Duscio Original Music Score: Evelyn Ida Morris Production Designer: Leah Popple Costume Design: Sophie Fletcher Lead Actor: Daniel Henshall, Toby Wallace Supporting Actor: Max Cullen Supporting Actress: Gillian Jones, Genevieve Lemon Casting Director: Jane Norris, Holly Anderson

## ANGEL OF MINE

Divorced mother, Lizzie, an imbalanced woman battling for custody of her son, has her life turned upside down on crossing paths with Lola, a child who she believes to be the daughter she lost seven years ago in a hospital fire. Unable to let her suspicions go, Lizzie stalks and befriends Lola's mother, Claire, inching her way into Lola's life, to the bewilderment of her family. Claire grows suspicious on discovering that this strange woman is systematically following her little girl, appearing everywhere. As Lizzie's obsession heightens and her behaviour becomes increasingly disturbing, Claire confronts her, which brings deeply buried secrets to the surface and the devastating truth is revealed.

Director: Kim Farrant Producer: Brian Etting, Josh Etting, Su Armstrong Writer: Luke Davies, David Regal Editor: Jack Hutchings Sound: Ann Aucote, Chris Goodes, Luke Millar, Lee Yee Cinematographer: Andrew Commis Original Music Score: Gabe Noel Production Designer: Ruby Mathers Lead Actress: Noomi Rapace, Yvonne Strahovski Supporting Actor: Finn Little Supporting Actress: Annika Whiteley Casting Director: Alison Meadows



## ANIMALS

After a decade of partying, Laura and Tyler's friendship is strained when Laura falls in love. But what is really stopping her from fulfilling her dreams? A fierce and unapologetic celebration of female friendship, ANIMALS is an intimate, funny and bittersweet examination of the challenges of turning talent into action, and being a modern woman, with faults, longings and competing desires.

Director: Sophie Hyde Producer: Sarah Brocklehurst, Rebecca Summerton, Cormac Fox, Sophie Hyde Writer: Emma Jane Unsworth Editor: Bryan Mason Sound: Josh Williams, Adrien Medhurst, Pete Smith, Emma Bortignon Cinematographer: Bryan Mason Original Music Score: Jed Palmer, Zoë Barry Production Designer: Louise Mathews Costume Design: Renate Henschke Lead Actress: Holliday Grainger, Alia Shawkat Supporting Actor: Fra Free, Dermot Murphy Supporting Actress: Amy Molloy Casting Director: Shaheen Baig

#### BILCHED

BLITCHED is an Aussie teen comedy following best mates Hal and Matt as they blunder through their final days of High School. Raw, honest, hilarious and heart-warming in equal measure, Hal's striking writing, producing and acting debut (written when just 18) perfectly captures the banter and laconic humour of Australian coastal youth at the cusp of adulthood...knowing their lives are about to change and yet revelling in their youth and all the freedom and stupidity it affords.

Director: Jeremy Cumpston Producer: Hal Cumpston, Rachel Lane, Jeremy Cumpston, Noel Vinson, James Campbell, Ewan Wall Writer: Hal Cumpston Editor: Liam Vanderwaal, James Campbell Sound: Sam Petty, Gordon Fletcher Cinematographer: Shane Kavanagh, James Campbell Original Music Score: Jonathon Zwartz, Ewan Wall Production Designer: Leonie Barker Costume Design: Monique Caldow Lead Actor: Hal Cumpston, Fred Du Rietz Lead Actress: Mitzi Ruhlmann Supporting Actor: Otis Pavlovic, Ewan Wall, Will Johnson Supporting Actress: Paloma Bolton-Brito, Juliet Lochrin Casting Director: Ann Fay



## **BOOK WEEK**

Book Week is a shaggy dark comedy about a disgraced novelist turned English teacher trying to find redemption.

Director: Heath Davis Producer: Heath Davis, Joanne Weatherstone Writer: Heath Davis Editor: Romain Mongin Sound: Sasha Zastavnikovic Cinematographer: Chris Bland Original Music Score: Sam Lockwood, Heather Shannon Production Designer: Lee Launay Costume Design: Cat de Lound Lead Actor: Alan Dukes Lead Actress: Susan Prior Supporting Actor: Thuso Lekwape, Rhys Muldoon, Tiriel Mora, Toby Schmitz Supporting Actress: Matilda Ridgeway, Airlie Dodds, Rose Riley, Pippa Grandison Hair and Makeup: Candice Hickson

## BUOYANCY

A 14-year-old Cambodian boy secretly leaves home in search of a better life, but is sold to a Thai broker and enslaved on a fishing trawler. As fellow slaves are tortured and murdered around him, he decides his only hope of freedom is to become as violent as his captors.

Director: Rodd Rathjen Producer: Samantha Jennings, Kristina Ceyton, Rita Walsh Writer: Rodd Rathjen Editor: Graeme Pereira Sound: Sam Petty Cinematographer: Michael Latham Original Music Score: Lawrence English Production Designer: Bethany Ryan Costume Design: Kanchana Samrit Lead Actor: Sarm Heng Supporting Actor: Thanawut Kasro, Mony Ros Casting Director: Non Jungmeier Hair and Makeup: Rachana Buon

## CELESTE

Celeste was once Australia's most beloved opera singer. Yet she threw it all away to follow the man she loved to a crumbling property deep in the rainforests of Tropical North Queensland. Ten years after his tragic death, Celeste is ready to make one final return to the stage. But her stepson Jack, still haunted by the past, arrives at her behest amidst the preparations for the performance and finds Celeste is as he remembered - beautiful, intoxicating and dangerous. When Celeste asks Jack for an impossible favour, the secrets that drove them apart explode back into rhapsodic life.



Director: Ben Hackworth Producer: Lizette Atkins, Raphael Cocks Writer: Ben Hackworth, Bille Brown Editor: Peter Carrodus Sound: Dane Cody, Sam Gain-Emery, Phil Heywood, Lachlan Harris Cinematographer: Katie Milwright Original Music Score: Jackson Milas, Antony Partos, Production Designer: Ross Wallace Costume Design: Erin Roche Lead Actor: Thomas Cocquerel Lead Actress: Radha Mitchell Supporting Actress: Odessa Young, Nadine Garner Hair and Makeup: Gail Kane, Jodie Hellingman

## CHOCOLATE OYSTER

CHOCOLATE OYSTER follows twenty-somethings Ellie and Taylor, who live in Bondi apartments they can't really afford, and pursue their dreams in a city that seems intent on thwarting them. Taylor chases a dance career by day and works as a waitress at night, while supporting her new boyfriend Henry, an aspiring playwright. Tired of being with a dependent boyfriend, Ellie ends her relationship and begins to see Craig, a chef who dreams of creating a signature dish. With the story work-shopped between actors and director, and a great deal of improvisation, the monochrome CHOCOLATE OYSTER has a breezy quality that reflects both the beauty and difficulty of life in Sydney.

Director: Steve Jaggi Producer: Christine Luby, Steve Jaggi Writer: Steve Jaggi Editor: Adrian Powers, Paul Murphy Sound: Craig Beckett Cinematographer: Rhiannon Bannenberg Original Music Score: Angela Little Lead Actor: Ryan Harrison, Aaron Glenane Lead Actress: Rosie Lourde, Anna Lawrence Supporting Actor: Stephen Multari Supporting Actress: Stephanie King

#### THE COMBINATION REDEMPTION

Six years have passed, and Lebanese-Australian John Morkos remains haunted by the events that led to his death of his brother. As John begins to rebuild his life, he finds solace in the boxing ring at his local gymnasium. Meanwhile, tensions are building on the streets of western Sydney, as a ruthless new crime boss Nas seeks to expand his empire, and the formation of a radical group of white supremacists threatens to shatter the social fabric of the entire community.

Director: David Field Producer: George Basha, David Field, John Tedesco Writer: George Basha Editor: Shelley O'Neill



Sound: Tim Lloyd Cinematographer: Robert C. Morton Lead Actor: George Basha Lead Actress: Abbey Aziz Supporting Actor: Tony Ryan, Johnny Nasser, Simon Elrahi

#### DANGER CLOSE: THE BATTLE OF LONG TAN

South Vietnam, late afternoon on August 18, 1966 - for three and a half hours, in the pouring rain, amid the mud and shattered trees of a rubber plantation called Long Tan, a dispersed company of 108 young and mostly inexperienced Australian and New Zealand soldiers are fighting for their lives, holding off an overwhelming force of over 2,000 battle hardened North Vietnamese soldiers.

Director: Kriv Stenders Producer: Martin Walsh, John Schwarz, Michael Schwarz Writer: Stuart Beattie, Jack Brislee, James Nicholas, Karel Segers, Paul Sullivan Editor: Veronika Jenet Sound: Liam Egan Cinematographer: Ben Nott Original Music Score: Caitlin Yeo Production Designer: Sam Hobbs Costume Design: Lizzy Gardiner Lead Actor: Travis Fimmel, Daniel Webber Supporting Actor: Luke Bracey, Anthony Hayes, Richard Roxburgh Casting Director: Kirsty McGregor, Stevie Ray Hair and Makeup: Tess Natoli, Sean Genders, Anita Morgan

#### **EMU RUNNER**

Emu Runner is about the impact a mother's death has on an Indigenous family living in an isolated Australian community. The story is seen through the eyes of Gem, a spirited nine-year-old girl, who deals with grief by forging a bond with a wild emu, a mythical bird of her ancestors. It is a bond she will do anything to keep but one that puts her at odds with a young and inexperienced social worker.

Director: Imogen Thomas Producer: Victor Evatt, Imogen Thomas, Antonia Barnard, John Fink Writer: Imogen Thomas Editor: Jenny Hicks, Nicole Norelli Sound: Tom Heuzenroeder Cinematographer: Michael Gibbs Original Music Score: Ben Fink, Peter Michael Davison, Glenn Skuthorpe Production Designer: Lissa Coote Costume Design: Tiffany Daro Lead Actor: Wayne Blair Lead Actress: Rhae-Kye Waites Supporting Actor: Rodney McHughes, Robert Carlton, Lindsay Waites, Supporting Actress: Stella Carter, Maurial Spearim, Georgia Blizzard, Letisha Boney, Mary Waites



## **ESCAPE AND EVASION**

After his men are killed in Burma, a lone soldier returns home in search of solace. Hiding a dark secret and confronted by an unrelenting journalist, he's forced to face the ghosts of his past one last time.

Director: Storm Ashwood Producer: Blake Northfield, Jane Corden Writer: Storm Ashwood Editor: Marcus D'Arcy Sound: David Gaylard Cinematographer: Wade Muller Original Music Score: Miachel Lira Production Designer: Michael Turner Costume Design: Andrew Infanti Lead Actor: Josh McConville Lead Actress: Bonnie Sveen Supporting Actor: Hugh Sheridan Supporting Actress: Rena Owen Casting Director: Gregory Apps Hair and Makeup: Billie Weston

#### HEARTS AND BONES

A war photographer has just returned home to prepare for his latest exhibition when a South Sudanese refugee appears at his door with a request - that he not exhibit any photographs of the massacre in his village, taken 15 years earlier. What emerges is an unlikely friendship between the two men. While sifting through the photographer's archive, they make a startling discovery: the refugee's daughter, thought dead, may still be alive. As more revelations arise, both men begin to question their past and in their search, they discover salvation.

Director: Ben Lawrence Producer: Matt Reeder Writer: Ben Lawrence, Beatrix Chrristian Editor: Philip Horn Sound: Angus Robertson, Phil Heywood, Sam Hayward, Robert McKay Cinematographer: Hugh Miller Original Music Score: Rafael May Production Designer: Carlo Crescini Costume Design: Rita Carmody Lead Actor: Hugo Weaving Lead Actress: Hayley McElhinney Supporting Actor: Andrew Luri Supporting Actress: Bolude Watson Casting Director: Kirsty McGregor, Gemma Brown Hair and Makeup: Leah Taylor



#### HOTEL MUMBAI

HOTEL MUMBAI is based on the true story of the devastating terrorist attack on the Taj Mahal Palace Hotel in 2008. The terrifying assault brings together the guests and staff of the luxurious hotel including wealthy new parents David and Zahra, Russian businessman Vasili, and newly promoted waiter Arjun and Head Chef in a desperate fight for survival. This story celebrates humanity, compassion, courage, resilience and the unwavering desire to survive.

Director: Anthony Maras Producer: Basil Iwanyk, Gary Hamilton, Julie Ryan, Jomon Thomas Writer: John Collee, Anthony Maras Editor: Peter McNulty, Anthony Maras Sound: Sam Petty Cinematographer: Nick Remy Matthews Original Music Score: Volker Bertelmann (Hauschka) Production Designer: Steven Jones-Evans Costume Design: Anna Borghesi Lead Actor: Dev Patel Lead Actress: Nazanin Boniadi Supporting Actor: Anupam Kher Supporting Actress: Tilda Cobham-Hervey Casting Director: Ann Fay, Leigh Pickford, Trishaan Sarkar Hair and Makeup: Fiona Rees-Jones

#### I AM MOTHER

I AM MOTHER is a sci-fi thriller about a teenage girl, who is the first of a new generation of humans to be raised by Mother, a robot designed to repopulate the earth after the extinction of humankind. But the pair's unique relationship is threatened when an injured stranger arrives with news that calls into question everything Daughter has been told about the outside world.

Director: Grant Sputore Producer: Timothy White, Kelvin Munro Writer: Miachel Lloyd Green Editor: Sean Lahiff Sound: Pete Smith Cinematographer: Steven D. Annis Original Music Score: Dan Luscombe, Antony Partos Production Designer: Hugh Bateup Costume Design: Mariot Kerr Lead Actress: Clara Rugaard Supporting Actress: Hilary Swank Casting Director: Nikki Barrett Hair and Makeup: Tracy Phillpot



## JUDY AND PUNCH

In the anarchic town of Seaside, nowhere near the sea, puppeteers JUDY AND PUNCH are trying to resurrect their marionette show. The show is a hit due to Judy's superior puppeteering, but Punch's driving ambition and penchant for whisky lead to an inevitable tragedy that Judy must avenge. In a visceral and dynamic live-action reinterpretation of the famous 16th century puppet show, writer director MIRRAH FOULKES turns the traditional story of Punch and Judy on its head and brings to life a fierce, darkly comic and epic female-driven revenge story.

Director: Mirrah Foulkes Producer: Michele Bennett, Nash Edgerton, Danny Gabai Writer: Mirrah Foulkes Editor: Danny Cooper Sound: Robert MacKenzie, Andrew Ramage Cinematographer: Stefan Duscio Original Music Score: Francois Tetaz Production Designer: Jo Ford Costume Design: Edie Kurzer Lead Actor: Damon Herriman Lead Actress: Mia Wasikowska Supporting Actor: Terry Norris, Benedict Hardie, Tom Budge Supporting Actress: Lucy Velik, Gillian Jones, Virginia Gay, Daisy Axon Casting Director: Kirsty McGregor Hair and Makeup: Kirsten Veysey

#### JUVENILE DELINQUENTS

Broken teens facing incarceration for a crime they were forced to commit decide not to accept their destiny and go about making a new one. The Juvenile Delinquents (JD's) form a new dysfunctional family as they maneuver around problems manifesting from their youth, competitiveness, irrationality and the gruesomeness of their new lives. Nobody said teen vengeance would be painless.

Director: Neil Goss Producer: Neil Goss Writer: Neil Goss Editor: James Sterling, Nicholas Levanti Sound: Carlo Albuin, Henry Bellingham Cinematographer: Dominick Sivilli Original Music Score: Adonis Tsilimparis Production Designer: Marni Brucato Lead Actor: Phil Blevins, Cha-tah Ellem, Xavier Michael, Moses Meads, Kaleal Cerafici Lead Actress: Corynn Treadwell, Silvia Dionicio Supporting Actor: John Living Supporting Actress: Marie Smalley Hair and Makeup: Anthony O'Brien



## THE KING

Hal, wayward prince and reluctant heir to the English throne, has turned his back on royal life and is living among the people. But when his tyrannical father dies, Hal is crowned King Henry V and is forced to embrace the life he had previously tried to escape. Now the young king must navigate the palace politics, chaos and war his father left behind, and the emotional strings of his past life—including his relationship with his closest friend and mentor, the ageing alcoholic knight, John Falstaff.

Director: David Michôd Producer: Brad Pitt, Dede Gardner, Jeremy Kleiner, David Michôd, Liz Watts, Joel Edgerton Writer: David Michôd, Joel Edgerton Editor: Peter Sciberras Sound: Robert McKenzie, Sam Petty Cinematographer: Adam Arkapaw Original Music Score: Nicholas Britell Production Designer: Fiona Crombie & Alice Felton Costume Design: Jane Petrie Lead Actor: Timothée Chalamet Supporting Actor: Joel Edgerton, Sean Harris, Ben Mendelsohn, Robert Pattinson Supporting Actress: Lily-Rose Depp, Thomasin McKenzie

## LOCUSTS

Estranged tech entrepreneur Ryan Black returns to his remote post-mining boom hometown for his father's funeral, where he's reluctantly reunited with his ex-con brother. But when he becomes the target of an extortion scam at the hands of a gang of small-town criminals, Ryan is forced to resort to desperate measures, exposing the dark underbelly of the dystopian town.

Director: Heath Davis Producer: Angus Watts Writer: Angus Watts Editor: Romain Mongin, Scott Gray Sound: Mark D'Angelo Cinematographer: Chris Bland Original Music Score: Burkhard Dallwitz Production Designer: Carlo Crescini Costume Design: Zohie Castellano Lead Actor: Ben Geurens Lead Actress: Jessica McNamee Supporting Actor: Nathaniel Dean, Justin Rosniak, Alan Dukes, Rhys Morgan Supporting Actress: Caroline Brazier Casting Director: Angus Watts Hair and Makeup: Candice Hickson



## THE NAKED WANDERER

Dumped by his girlfriend and sponsored by media scoundrel Brian King, desolate Jake walks all-but-naked up Western Australia's coast for charity, in the hope that his gesture will win back his ex, Jasmine. That is, until he meets mesmerising backpacker Valerie.

Director: Alan Lindsay Producer: Alan Lindsay, Helen Clucas Writer: Callan Durlik Cinematographer: Michael McDermott Original Music Score: Mark D'Angelo Production Designer: Nigel Devenport Costume Design: Nicole Ferraro Lead Actor: Angus McLaren Lead Actress: Natasha Liu Bordizzo Supporting Actor: Callan Durlik, Jamie Timony, Alan Little Supporting Actress: Megan Smart, Lucy-Rose Leonard Hair and Makeup: Hayley Atherton, Kate Anderson

#### NEKROTRONIC

Howard North, a scruffy down-on-his-luck sewerage-waste worker, mysteriously orphaned while still a baby, learns that he is the only one with the ability to stop a demonic corporate billionaire's plot to devour the souls of a million human beings. And as if that wasn't bad enough, the corporate billionaire is Finnegan... his mother. Nekrotronic is a mind-bending, genre-mashing, sci-fi-horror film - funny, scary, thrilling and action-packed, this is a cinematic roller coaster, which traverses the full spectrum of human (and inhuman) emotion.

Director: Kiah Roache-Turner Producer: Tristan Roache-Turner, Andrew Mason, Troy Lum Writer: Kiah Roache-Turner, Tristan Roache-Turner Editor: Christine Cheung Sound: David White, Cath Cahill, Jed Dodge, Peter Purcell Cinematographer: Tim Nagle Original Music Score: Michael Lira Production Designer: Nicholas Dare, Peter Owens, Matt Milgate, Di Robertson Costume Design: Xanthe Heubel Lead Actor: Ben O'Toole Lead Actress: Caroline Ford Supporting Actor: Epine Bob Savea Supporting Actress: Tess Haubrich, Monica Bellucci Casting Director: Nikki Barrett Hair and Makeup: Angela Conte, Paul Katte, Nick Nicolaou, Rosemary Saffioti



## THE NIGHTINGALE

Set in 1825, Clare, a young Irish convict woman, chases a British officer through the rugged Tasmanian wilderness, bent on revenge for a terrible act of violence he committed against her family. On the way, she enlists the services of an Aboriginal tracker named Billy, who is also marked by trauma from his own violence filled past.

Director: Jennifer Kent Producer: Kristina Ceyton, Bruna Papandrea, Steve Hutensky, Jennifer Kent Writer: Jennifer Kent Editor: Simon Njoo Sound: Robert Mackenzie, Dean Ryan, Leah Katz, Pete Smith Cinematographer: Radek Ladczuk Original Music Score: Jed Kurzel Production Designer: Alex Holmes Costume Design: Margot Wilson Lead Actor: Sam Claflin, Baykali Ganambarr Lead Actress: Aisling Franciosi Supporting Actor: Damon Herriman, Harry Greenwood, Michael Sheasby Supporting Actress: Magnolia Maymuru Casting Director: Nikki Barrett Hair and Makeup: Nikki Gooley, Larry Van Duynhoven, Cassie O'Brien

#### OUTBACK

Down Under for an adventure-filled vacation, a young American couple quickly find themselves stranded in the unforgiving Australian outback.

Director: Mike Green Producer: Mike Green, Julie Kneebone, Antonia Barnard Writer: Mike Green Editor: Alan Harca Sound: Peter Climpson, Wayne Pashley, Derryn Pasquill, John Simpson Cinematographer: Tim Nagle Original Music Score: Justin Bell Production Designer: Courtney Covey Costume Design: Courtney Covey Lead Actor: Taylor Wiese Lead Actress: Lauren Lofberg Supporting Actor: Brendan Donoghue Hair and Makeup: Lucy Woolfman

## PALM BEACH

PALM BEACH is a drama/comedy about a group of lifelong friends reuniting to celebrate a special birthday. Sydney's iconic Palm Beach provides a stunning backdrop for the unfolding drama. The good times roll, with loads of laughter, lavish meals, flowing wine and fantastic music, but tensions slowly mount and deep secrets soon emerge.



Director: Rachel Ward Producer: Bryan Brown, Deborah Balderstone Writer: Joanna Murray-Smith, Rachel Ward Editor: Nick Meyers Sound: Angus Robertson, Phil Heywood, Ben Osmo Cinematographer: Bonnie Elliott Original Music Score: The Teskey Brothers Production Designer: Melinda Doring Costume Design: Joanna Mae Park Lead Actor: Bryan Brown Lead Actress: Greta Scacchi Supporting Actor: Sam Neill, Richard E. Grant Supporting Actress: Heather Mitchell, Jacqueline McKenzie Casting Director: Kirsty McGregor

#### PIMPED

Sarah Montrose is a conflicted, mysterious woman who meets the philosophical, smooth-talking Lewis Blake. Handsome and captivating, Lewis is the bait in a sick and twisted game conjured up with his low-life-rich-kid housemate, Kenneth. When the men's sexual game backfires, Sarah has to do battle with a psychopath and her own inner demon.

Director: David Barker Producer: Annie Kinnane, David Barker Writer: David Barker, Lou Mentor Editor: Marianne Khoo Cinematographer: Joshua Flavell Original Music Score: Pete Jones Production Designer: Bethany Ryan Costume Design: Olivia Simpson Lead Actor: Benedict Samuel Lead Actress: Ella Scott Lynch Casting Director: Amanda Mitchell

#### PROMISED

In Melbourne, 1953, five-year-old Robert and newborn Angela are promised in marriage by their fathers, Sal and Joe. Against the misgivings of Angela's mother, Sal is insistent that he must uphold his promise to Joe. Fast-forward to 1974, and Angela is now a beautiful, intelligent and modern lady whose aspirations lie beyond the family pastry shop. Robert, now 25, has returned home from studying law abroad at Oxford. Despite changing times, fading traditions and Angela's love for another man, she is still expected to marry Robert. As a web of secrets, lies and revelations surface, it teaches everyone involved that love, like life, can never be perfectly arranged.

Director: Nick Conidi, Nathan Primmer, Tony Ferrieri Producer: Nathan Primmer, Nick Conidi Writer: Nick Conidi Editor: Katie Flaxman Cinematographer: Tony Ferrieri



Original Music Score: Dorian West Production Designer: Sean Dennis Costume Design: Aphrodite Condos Lead Actor: Daniel Berini Lead Actress: Antoinette Iesue Supporting Actor: Paul Mercurio, Santo Tripodi Supporting Actress: Tina Arena, Sunday Barca-Irving

#### **REFLECTIONS IN THE DUST**

An unspoken event has caused civilisation to crumble, leaving the survivors to cluster in the wilderness. Among them is a blind girl who struggles to survive with her father- a tormented and emotionally abusive clown. There is no future anymore, so the past becomes their only resource for meaning.

Director: Luke Sullivan Producer: Giovanni De Santolo, Luke Sullivan, Carla Sullivan Writer: Luke Sullivan Editor: Shaun Smith Cinematographer: Ryan Barry-Cotter Original Music Score: Dylan Sullivan Lead Actor: Robin Queree Lead Actress: Sarah Houbolt

#### RIDE LIKE A GIRL

The incredible true story of Michelle Payne - the first woman to win the Melbourne Cup.

Director: Rachel Griffiths Producer: Richard Keddie, Rachel Griffiths, Susie Montague, Naomi Cleaver, Felicity Stoward Writer: Elise McCredie, Andrew Knight Editor: Maria Papoutsis, Jill Bilcock Sound: Chris Goodes, John Wilkinson Cinematographer: Martin McGrath Original Music Score: David Hirschfelder Production Designer: Carrie Kennedy Costume Design: Cappi Ireland Lead Actor: Sam Neill Lead Actress: Teresa Palmer Supporting Actress: Genevieve Morris Casting Director: Nikki Barrett Hair and Makeup: Chiara Tripodi



## **SEQUIN IN A BLUE ROOM**

After a chance encounter at an anonymous sex party, a sixteen-year-old boy hunts through the world of a hook-up app to track down the mystery man. Favouring the instant gratification of anonymous, no-strings sexual encounters over meaningful relationships, high schooler Sequin is part of the always logged-on, but never engaged, hook-up generation. He ghosts ex-partners and remains emotionally unavailable. That's until he finds his way to an anonymous sex party, where a whole new dizzyingly alluring world unfolds before him. In one scene, Sequin connects with a mysterious stranger, but they are separated suddenly. Utterly fixated on this man, Sequin sets off on an exhilarating and perilous mission.

Director: Samuel Van Grinsven Producer: Sophie Hattch, Linus Gibson Writer: Samuel Van Grinsven, Jory Anast Editor: Timothy Guthrie Sound: Audrey Houssard, Stuart Melvey Cinematographer: Jay Grant, Carina Burke Original Music Score: Brent Williams Production Designer: Anna Gardiner Costume Design: William Tran Lead Actor: Conor Leach Supporting Actor: Anthony Brandon Wong, Jeremy Lindsay Taylor, Simon Croker, Ed Wrightman

## SLAM

Ricky is a Muslim refugee who is proudly assimilated into Australian culture. His estranged sister Ameena, is a hijabwearing, politicised slam poet who is unafraid to air her views on Australian society. When Ameena disappears, Ricky is forced to revisit his internal conflicts over his own identity as he and his mother desperately search for her. When the right-wing media seizes on the story, speculating that Ameena has fled the country to join the Islamic State, the family suffers a barrage of scrutiny - even as they fear it could be true. Joanne is the troubled police officer in charge of investigating the case.

Director: Partho Sen-Gupta Producer: Michael Wrenn, Tenille Kennedy, Marc Irmer Writer: Partho Sen-Gupta Editor: Annick Raoul Sound: Paul Finlay Cinematographer: Bonnie Elliott Original Music Score: Eryck Abecassis Production Designer: Clayton Jauncey Costume Design: Shareen Beringer Lead Actor: Adam Bakri Lead Actress: Rachael Blake Supporting Actress: Rebecca Breeds, Abbey Aziz Casting Director: Leigh Pickford



#### **STORM BOY**

A beautiful and contemporary retelling of Colin Thiele's classic Australian tale. 'Storm Boy' has grown up to be Michael Kingley, a successful retired businessman and grandfather. When Kingley starts to see images from his past that he can't explain, he is forced to remember his long-forgotten childhood, growing up on an isolated coastline with his father. He recounts to his granddaughter the story of how, as a boy, he rescued and raised an extraordinary orphaned pelican, Mr. Percival. Their remarkable adventures and very special bond has a profound effect on all their lives. STORM BOY is a timeless story of an unusual and unconditional friendship.

Director: Shawn Seet Producer: Michael Boughen, Matthew Street Writer: Justin Monjo Editor: Denise Haratzis Sound: Des Kenneally, Pete Best Cinematographer: Bruce Young Original Music Score: Alan John Production Designer: Melinda Doring Costume Design: Louise McCarthy Lead Actor: Finn Little, Jai Courtney Supporting Actor: Geoffrey Rush, Trevor Jamieson, Erik Thomson Supporting Actress: Morgan Davies Casting Director: Ann Robinson Hair and Makeup: Tracy Phillpot

## SUBURBAN WILDLIFE

With one week left before the departure of their best friend, a close-knit group of university graduates are left facing decisions that will define the rest of their lives.

Director: Imogen McCluskey Producer: Imogen McCluskey, Beatrice Barbeau-Scuria, Sophie Hattch Writer: Imogen McCluskey, Beatrice Barbeau-Scuria Editor: Adam Shean, Sophie Hattch Sound: Shane Vancuylenberg Cinematographer: Lucca Barone-Peters Original Music Score: Isha Ram Das Production Designer: Alexandra Culliver Costume Design: Alexandra Culliver Lead Actress: Maddy McWilliam Supporting Actor: Alex King Supporting Actress: Priscilla Donueihy, Hannah Lehmann



## TOP END WEDDING

Lauren and Ned are engaged, they are in love, and they have just ten days to find Lauren's mother who has gone AWOL somewhere in the remote far north of Australia, reunite her parents and pull off their dream wedding.

Director: Wayne Blair Producer: Rosemary Blight, Kylie du Fresne, Kate Croser Writer: Joshua Tyler, Miranda Tapsell Editor: Chris Plummer Sound: Robert Mackenzie, Tara Webb, Will Sheridan, Pete Smith Cinematographer: Eric Murray Lui Original Music Score: Antony Partos Production Designer: Amy Baker Costume Design: Heather Wallace Lead Actor: Gwilym Lee Lead Actress: Miranda Tapsell Supporting Actor: Huw Higginson Supporting Actress: Ursula Yovich, Kerry Fox Casting Director: Kirsty McGregor Hair and Makeup: Beverley Freeman

## UNDERTOW

Grieving the loss of her stillborn baby, Claire meets pregnant teenager Angie. Feisty and irrepressible, Angie challenges Claire's careful control. Drawn into Angie's world, Claire develops a dangerous obsession that risks both of their lives. Only when Claire is confronted with the terrible secret behind Angie's pregnancy can both women begin to heal.

Director: Miranda Nation Producer: Lyn Norfor Writer: Miranda Nation Editor: Julie-Anne De Ruvo, Nick Meyers Sound: Liam Egan Cinematographer: Bonnie Elliott Original Music Score: Lisa Gerrard, James Orr, Raul Sanchez i Jorge Production Designer: Penelope Southgate Costume Design: Stacey O'Connor Lead Actor: Rob Collins Lead Actress: Laura Gordon Supporting Actor: Josh Helman Supporting Actress: Olivia DeJonge Casting Director: Marianne Jade Hair and Makeup: Marie Princi