

DUBBO READING CINEMAS 19- 21 MAR 2010



SYDNEY
TRAVELLING
FILM
FESTIVAL

**'I was informed,
confronted, impassioned,
inspired, entertained
— what an emotional
rollercoaster.'**

**AUDIENCE FEEDBACK FROM LAST
YEAR'S HIGHLY-PRaised TOUR**

The Sydney Travelling Film Festival visits...

NT Alice Springs, Darwin, Katherine QLD Bundaberg, Cairns, Mackay, Townsville NSW Bowraville, Byron Bay, Dubbo, Huskisson, Newcastle, Wagga Wagga, Wollongong

Presented by

Sydney Film Festival, PO Box 96, Strawberry Hills NSW 2012
Tel 02 9318 0999 Fax 02 9319 0055

tff@sff.org.au www.sff.org.au/tff

Sydney Travelling Film Festival acknowledges the financial assistance of Screen Australia, is assisted by the NSW Government through Arts NSW and is supported by ABC Western Plains.



OPENING NIGHT

FRI 19 MAR 7PM

THE BOYS ARE BACK

Dir Scott Hicks | Australia | English | 104 mins | M

NOMINATED, BRITISH INDEPENDENT FILM AWARDS

OFFICIAL SELECTION, LONDON AND TORONTO INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVALS

From the producer of *Billy Elliot* and the Academy Award® nominated director of *Shine* comes this beautiful and touching film. Clive Owen (*City of Men*, *Elizabeth*) stars as Joe Warr, a British ex-pat living and working in South Australia who is forced into single parenthood following the sudden death of his wife. Adopting an unconventional 'just say yes' philosophy, Joe throws chaos to the wind in dealing with his energetic young son Arty, much to the frustration of his mother-in-law. Relations are further strained when Harry arrives; Joe's estranged teenage son from his previous marriage. Exquisitely shot by cinematographer Greig Fraser (*Bright Star*), *The Boys are Back* is filled with knock-out performances and shines with honesty, charm and hope.

★★★★ 'A really lovely film' Margaret Pomeranz, *At the Movies*

'The best film Adelaide director Scott Hicks has made since *Shine* — and the peak of Clive Owen's acting career.' *The Age*

Screens with short **BOOTH STORY**

Dir Kasimir Burgess & Edwin McGill | Australia | English | 11 mins | UC

A car park attendant's daily routine is changed forever when he finds an egg

Opening night film followed by complimentary drinks.

Special guest to be announced.

SUBSCRIBE AND SAVE...

Save over 40% off regular ticket prices with a subscription, all nine films for only \$7.80 per film (\$6.70 concession), including Opening Night. Or dip into the festival with a 5-film FlexiPass for just \$10 per film (\$9 concession).

9-FILM FULL SUBSCRIPTION

\$70 Adult

\$60 Concession

5-FILM FLEXIPASS

\$50 Adult

\$45 Concession

Note: films must be selected at time of purchase

SINGLE TICKETS

\$13.00 Adult

\$11.00 Concession

\$7.00 Student/Kids/<26

Opening Night includes complimentary drinks

Subscriptions are transferable but admit only one person per screening.

Concessions: unemployed, pensioners, seniors, members of Dubbo Film Society and Sydney Film Festival, upon presentation of ID.

All films start at the advertised time, we do not screen ads or trailers.

All details correct at time of printing but subject to change without notice.

HOW TO BOOK

Tickets on sale in advance from cinema box office.

Reading Cinemas
49 Macquarie Street
Dubbo NSW 2830

PH (02) 6881 8600

FRIDAY 19 MAR

7-9pm **The Boys are Back**

Opening night screening followed by complimentary drinks.

SATURDAY 20 MAR

12-1.30pm

The Strength of Water

2-3.30pm **Amreeka**

5-7.10pm **S raphine**

8-10pm **Broken Embraces**

SUNDAY 21 MAR

11am-12.40pm

Red Like the Sky

1.30-3.10pm **The Topp Twins**

4.30-6.30pm **Bright Star**

7-8.40pm **An Education**

Poster images (top to bottom):

The Topp Twins, An Education, Bright Star, Broken Embraces, The Boys are Back, Red Like the Sky, Amreeka

Cover image: *Bright Star*



THE STRENGTH OF WATER

SAT 20 MAR 12PM

Dir Armagan Ballantyne | New Zealand | English | 86 mins | M

OFFICIAL SELECTION, SYDNEY FILM FESTIVAL NOMINATED, TIGER AWARD, ROTTERDAM FILM FESTIVAL

The dramatic north coast of New Zealand is the emotionally-charged backdrop for this story about the ties that bind us together. When a stranger arrives in a small coastal community, tragedy unexpectedly strikes a local family, and has a ripple effect throughout the town. But for ten-year-old Kimi, the loss is closest to home, and seems almost unfathomable. Over a few magic tinged days, while the adults around him adopt more conventional forms of grief, Kimi learns how to love and let go. In Ballantyne's beautiful debut feature, sadness manifests in the damp and misty landscape, the grey and over-burdened skies, and the jellyfish washed up on the beach.

★★★★ 'A remarkable achievement... with a heart as big as Hokiangā where the film is set.' *NZ Herald*

★★★★ 'Stunningly assured and original feature debut.' *Herald On Sunday*

★★★★★ 'A hands-down winner and triumphant return to grassroots storytelling.' *Christchurch Star*



AMREEKA

SAT 20 MAR 2PM

Dir Cherien Dabis | Canada, Kuwait, USA | English and Arabic with English subtitles | 96 mins | M

OFFICIAL SELECTION, SYDNEY FILM FESTIVAL WINNER, FIPRESCI PRIZE, CANNES FF

Pudgy divorcee Muna (Nisreen Faour in a charming debut) crosses the checkpoint into Bethlehem to reach home, a barrage of complaints from her elderly mother, and the offer of a US green card. Muni doesn't want to leave, but she wants a better future of her son, so, with teenage Fadi, she boards the plane. Her sister's (TFF favourite Hiam Abbass – *Lemon Tree, The Visitor*) home outside Chicago isn't the refuge they expected, jobs are hard to find and, with the start of the US-Iraq war, anti-Arabic sentiment is on the rise. Dabis's charming debut skilfully mixes contemporary politics with a very human story of a woman struggling to build a new life.

'Reaffirms social realism's validity as humanistic art.' *The New York Times*

'Heartfelt and engaging.' Louise Keller, *Urban Cinefile*

'There's nothing bitter or cynical about *Amreeka*, which is directed with impish wit, an observant visual competence, and an open, conciliatory spirit.' *Village Voice*



SÉRAPHINE

SAT 20 MAR 5PM

Dir Martin Provost | France | French with English subtitles | 126 mins | PG

WINNER, 7 CÉSAR AWARDS INCLUDING BEST FILM, BEST WRITING AND BEST ACTRESS (MOREAU) NOMINATED, EUROPEAN FILM OF THE YEAR, EUROPEAN FILM AWARDS

This movingly dramatised, beautifully mounted portrait of the French 'naïve' painter Séraphine de Senlis (1864–1942) was the deserved winner at France's César Awards. The marvellous Belgian actress Yolande Moreau vanishes into the role of the awkward small town housemaid who believed God had told her to paint. She's like a pagan spirit, trapped in her heavy body and the cumbersome skirts of a century ago. But when she paints, that spirit flies free in ecstatic celebration of flowers, fruit and fertility itself. The intensity of these paintings, now considered masterpieces of modern primitivism, can still be experienced in galleries around the world. *NZFF*

Co-presented by WESTERN PLAINS CULTURAL CENTRE



★★★★ 'Lovely seeing a film so meticulously crafted to represent the life of this artist and her benefactor.' Margaret Pomeranz, *At the Movies*

★★★★ 'A really beautiful film.' David Stratton, *At the Movies*



BROKEN EMBRACES

SAT 20 MAR 8PM

Dir Pedro Almodóvar | Spain | Spanish with English subtitles | 128 mins | M

NOMINATED, PALME D'OR, CANNES FILM FESTIVAL

Spain's best known and most celebrated filmmaker Pedro Almodóvar (*Volver, All About My Mother*) celebrates cinema with his latest offering; a lush, vibrant and energetic ode to the silver screen. Almodóvar's muse Penélope Cruz stars as Lena, a young woman thrown into the world of the movies when her older lover tries his hand at producing. When an on set affair develops between Lena and the film's director the ramifications have far reaching consequences for all involved. Littered with cinematic references and bursting with the melodrama and passion for which Almodóvar is revered, *Broken Embraces* is an absolute treat.

★★★★ Margaret Pomeranz, *At the Movies*

★★★★ David Stratton, *At the Movies*

★★★★ 'No other contemporary filmmaker's style is so recognisable; no one else dares to be so bold and shocking in the breadth of emotions. I just sit back and surrender.' *Sydney Morning Herald*

'Gorgeous and seductive.' *Empire Magazine*



RED LIKE THE SKY

SUN 21 MAR 11AM

Dir Cristiano Bortone | Italy | Italian with English subtitles | 100 mins | M

WINNER, AUDIENCE AWARD, SYDNEY FILM FESTIVAL WINNER, GRAND PRIX DE MONTRÉAL, MICFF

Set in 1970s Italy, Bortone's enchanting film is reminiscent of *Cinema Paradiso* with its unshamed love of the movies. Ten-year-old Mirco is blinded in an accident and sent to a rather stern boarding school for the blind. The headmaster, blind himself, doesn't believe his pupils have much of a future beyond switchboard operating and weaving. Young Mirco, however, discovers a talent for sound engineering when he records over the school's bible readings to create a sonic tribute to the seasons for a class assignment. Inevitably he incurs the wrath of his wretched headmaster. Based on the experiences of one of Italy's leading sound editors (who also worked on this film), *Red Like the Sky* is both thought-provoking and captivating.

'This gently conceived film juggles crowd-pleasing sentiments about the love of movies with anti-authoritarian views that make the pic classically Italian.' *Variety*



THE TOPP TWINS

SUN 21 MAR 1.30PM

Dir Leanne Pooley | New Zealand | English | 84 mins | PG

WINNER, AUDIENCE AWARD, MELBOURNE & TORONTO FILM FESTIVALS

New Zealand's Topp Twins are a national treasure; the world's only comedic, country singing, dancing and yodelling lesbian twin sisters, these two have to be seen to be believed. The Topp's humour and zest for life is infectious, their commitment to their rural roots inspiring and their journey fascinating. Celebrating 50 years of the Topp's and interweaving their story with the cultural and political history of their homeland, this enlightening and uplifting film reveals why the Topp's fans range from political activist to sheep farmers to ladies who lunch. Filled with music, laughs and candid chats with a mix of alter-egos.

★★★★ 'A very, very enjoyable film. I think people are going to love meeting these two.' Margaret Pomeranz, *At the Movies*

'Has you falling in love with two of the crazier people you've never met... a film that's pure fun, very musical and a can of mixed nuts.' *Variety*

Screens with short **REMEMBER MY NAME** Dir Kasimir Burgess, Bowen Duffy & Nick Moore | Australia | English | 12 mins | UC Ordinary people at odds with they way things are, see a different way forward



BRIGHT STAR

SUN 21 MAR 4.30PM

Dir Jane Campion | Australia | English | 119 mins | PG

NOMINATED, PALME D'OR, CANNES FILM FESTIVAL

NOMINATED, BEST COSTUME: ACADEMY AWARDS®; BAFTA AWARDS

Academy Award® winner Jane Campion (*The Piano*) returns to the big screen with a tender exploration of first love based on the relationship between the poet John Keats and his love Fanny Brawne. Set in the early 19th century the story is inspired by the letters exchanged between the pair. Upon first encounter the romantic Keats (British newcomer Ben Wishaw) and the fashion-conscious Fanny (played to perfection by Abbie Cornish – *Somersault, Elizabeth, Candy*) seem at odds. However an infatuation soon envelops them both, much to the lament of Keats' benefactor Charles Brown (Paul Schnieder). Breathtakingly beautiful, *Bright Star* draws you irresistibly into a world of rare emotional honesty with its unapologetic reverence for romantic love.

★★★★★ 'Certainly one of the best films of the year' David Stratton, *At the Movies*

★★★★★ 'An exquisite film' Margaret Pomeranz, *At the Movies*



AN EDUCATION

SUN 21 MAR 7PM

Dir Lone Scherfig | UK | English | 95 mins | M

CLOSING NIGHT SELECTION, SYDNEY FF NOMINATED, 3 ACADEMY AWARDS® AND 8 BAFTA AWARDS NOMINATED, BEST ACTRESS, GOLDEN GLOBE AWARDS

Lone Scherfig (*Italian For Beginners, Wilbur Wants to Kill Himself*) astutely directs this celebration of intuitive intelligence from Nick Hornby's sprightly script. Heralded by critics at Sundance (where the film won the Audience Award) and Berlin Film Festivals as the new Audrey Hepburn, Carey Mulligan is sparkling as 16-year old Jenny, a schoolgirl whose thirst for knowledge strays from the academic to the experiential when she falls for David (Peter Sarsgaard), a charming scoundrel twice her age. Flaunting her new-found adult style in the schoolyard by day, and eagerly consuming the education David and his dashing (if somewhat dubious) associates dish-up by night, Jenny begins to neglect her goal of an Oxford scholarship, much to the concern of her uptight teacher and stuffy parents.

★★★★ 'An astonishing film.' *Sydney Morning Herald*

'Lone Scherfig's emotionally pulsing, culturally observant picture simply bursts with life... Carey Mulligan shines in a captivating performance.' *Variety*