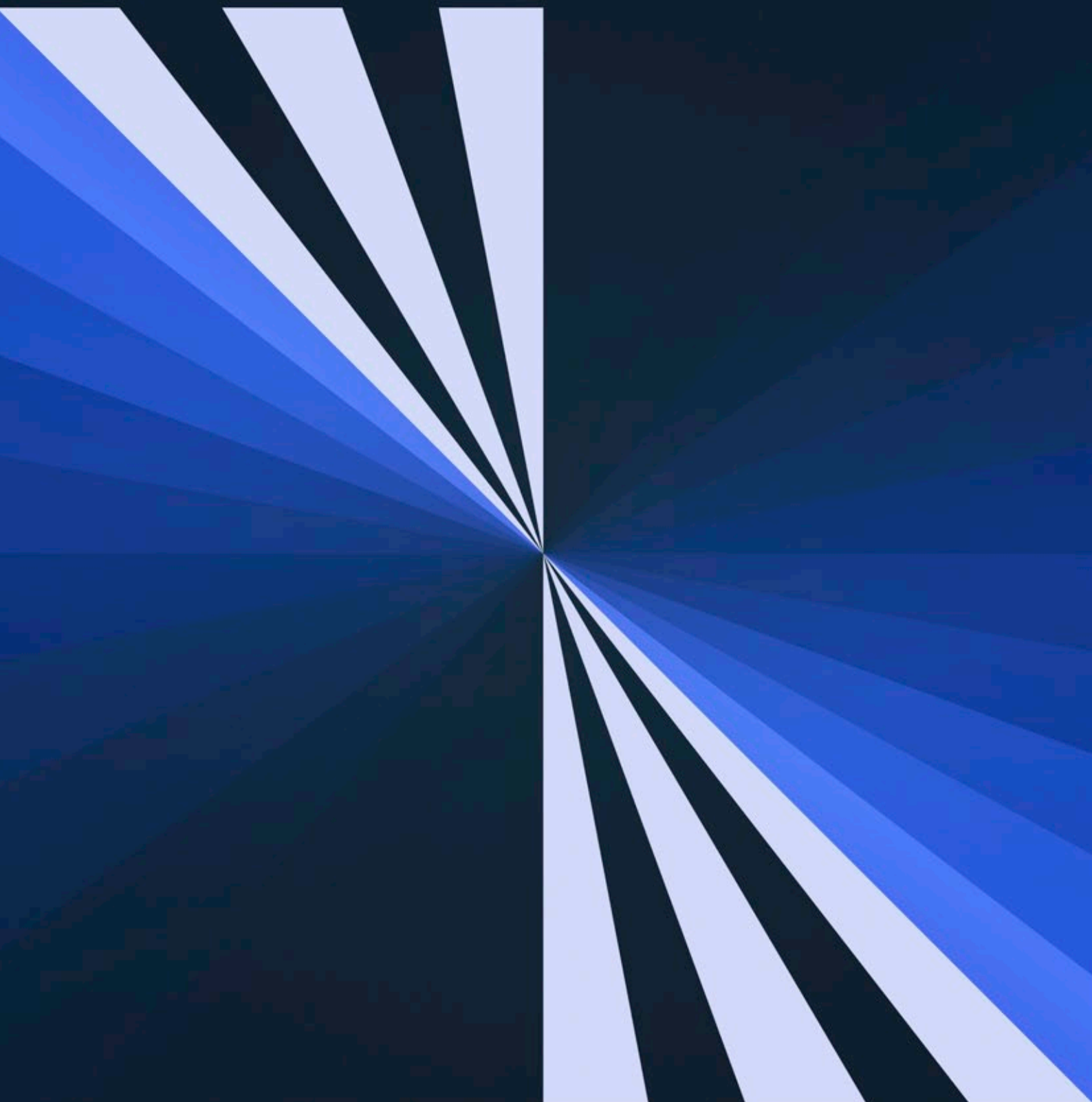


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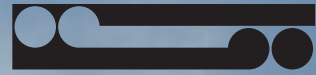
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## Key to Screening Information

**CIV:** The Civic, Auckland

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# Nau mai, Haere Mai

Welcome to Whānau Mārama: New Zealand International Film Festival 2024.

Welcome to the returning audiences, who have been watching films at the festival and supported it throughout the years. And welcome to those who perhaps will venture to the event for the first time, to indulge in cinematic discoveries that hopefully will see them return for more.

A film festival is like a communal house that opens its doors to audiences to offer a space for encounter and conversation. That space of shared experience is provided by the movie theatres and venues where its films screen. Every year, the windows of that house, the screens on which films are projected, offer multiple and diverse views on the world around us and the people who inhabit it.

Those views can entertain us, make us laugh and cry, and sometimes make us question ourselves. They remind us of the power and magic of cinema as a tool to capture our shared experiences as human beings, allowing us to get closer and understand other realities and people.

Selecting the films for our film festival is a delicate balancing act, reflecting on the state of cinema as both entertainment and art and as a porous vehicle channeling the state of our world.

Those who jointly and passionately worked on making Whānau Mārama: New Zealand International Film Festival 2024 happen subscribed to such vision and now share the excitement and trepidation of opening the doors of the communal house they built to its visitors – our audiences. We hope you will feel it is your home too.

## Paolo Bertolin – Artistic Director

We are excited to bring you Whānau Mārama: New Zealand International Film Festival 2024 – screening in 15 cinemas and venues in 10 cities and towns and featuring 86 films with international guests coming from Latvia, Somalia, China, Nepal, Japan, and Australia.

We thank our supporters – the funders, sponsors, partners and personal patrons who firmly believe in the film festival as a major cultural event for Aotearoa New Zealand and show it through much-needed funding and support to ensure NZIFF 2024 reaches screens in 10 cities and towns. In particular this year we acknowledge our regional venues, those in Hamilton, Tauranga, Napier, New Plymouth, Masterton and Nelson who, collectively and individually, worked with us to bring the festival to their audiences.

A HUGE thank you to the dedicated band – our incredible team and The New Zealand Film Festival Trust board members – who work tirelessly to bring you NZIFF 2024.

And to you, our audiences – come and join us. This festival is for YOU!

## Sally Woodfield – Executive Director

ISSUE 443

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# We Were Dangerous

Opening  
Night



**Director:**  
**Josephine Stewart-Te Whiu**  
Aotearoa New Zealand 2024

82 mins

**Producers:** Morgan Waru, Polly Fryer

**Screenplay:** Maddie Dai, Josephine Stewart-Te Whiu

**Cinematography:** María Inés Manchego

**Editors:** Hansjörg Weissbrich, Richard Shaw

**Music:** Cam Ballantyne

**Cast:** Rima Te Wiata, Erana James, Nathalie Morris, Manaia Hall

**Festivals:** SXSW, Sydney 2024

**Awards:** Special Jury Award for Filmmaking (Narrative), SXSW Film Festival 2024

**Introduction\*/Q&A\*\*:** Josephine Stewart-Te Whiu

“At its heart, *We Were Dangerous* is about hope, girlhood, and a celebration of female friendships; it’s about our power and having autonomy over our own bodies. Layered beneath, we examine the impacts of colonisation on young women and our indigenous communities.”

— Josephine Stewart-Te Whiu

Winning the Special Jury Award at SXSW this year, Josephine Stewart-Te Whiu’s electric debut launches our festival with a fiery trio of schoolgirls railing against the colonial system in 1950s New Zealand.

Ko te kawau moeroa,  
tōia te waitī, tōia te waitā.  
Ko te ika pukapuka, he kōhine,  
ko te ngohi, he kotiro Māori.  
He māreikura, tuhaina ki uta,  
He wāhine, whiua ki te toka.  
E te uri nō te whare o Ngāpuhi,  
Josephine,  
te whakapuaki i te mahi patu  
whare tāngata,  
tū tonu! Tū tonu!

New Zealand in the 1950s was not an especially friendly place for outcasts, especially for those who also happened to be young, queer, or Māori women. When teenage Nellie (Erana James) and Daisy (Manaia Hall, in her feature film debut) are rounded up on the city streets, they are sent to the School for Incurable and Delinquent Girls under the care of a devout matron (Rima Te Wiata). There, they meet Lou (Nathalie Morris), a wealthy Pākehā girl whose parents sent her to the school to curtail her wayward behaviour. Reminiscent of conversion therapy camps or Magdalene laundries for “fallen” women, the institution is

designed to reform these juvenile rebels into obedient young ladies primed for marriage.

After a failed escape attempt, the girls and their cohort of renegades are shipped off to the rugged, isolated former leper colony Ōtamahua (Quail Island). We follow the rebellious trio through etiquette classes and lessons in the virtues of British colonisation, but doom sets in when they catch a glimpse of the dead-of-night discipline being performed against those who act up. With nothing left to lose, the girls begin plotting their escape.

This vivid debut from Josephine Stewart-Te Whiu (Ngāpuhi, Te Rarawa) is a riotous middle finger to colonial tyranny, a fierce feminist anthem with a wicked sense of humour, and a potent portrait of friendship and solidarity. Written by *New Yorker* cartoonist Maddie Dai and Stewart-Te Whiu, and executive-produced by Taika Waititi, *We Were Dangerous* is a vibrant ode to adolescent anarchy and chosen family from a cast and crew of thrilling

new Aotearoa filmmaking talent. The film premiered to packed screenings at SXSW 2024 where it was awarded the Special Jury Award for Filmmaking in the Narrative Feature Competition. In awarding the prize, the Jury stated, “*We Were Dangerous*, a spirited and affecting tale of female rebellion at a 1950s New Zealand reform institution for so-called delinquent girls, heralds the arrival of an exciting new filmmaking talent in Josephine Stewart-Te Whiu. Her feature film directorial debut confronts a sobering and all-too-relevant history with a sly sense of absurdity and the camaraderie of its three young leads.” This award adds to Stewart-Te Whiu’s impressive resume, including the Māori Screen Excellence Award from the New Zealand Film Commission alongside her fellow *Waru* filmmakers in 2018, and *New Zealand’s Best 2021* Best Film Award (jointly awarded) and Auckland Live Spirit of The Civic Award for *When We Were Kids* at NZIFF 2021.

— Amanda Jane Robinson

## Screenings

### Auckland

CIV Wed 7 Aug, 7:00pm\*

AWT Thu 15 Aug, 10:30am\*\*

### Wellington

EMB Wed 31 Jul, 7:00pm\*

### Christchurch

LUM Fri 16 Aug, 6:15pm & 6:30pm\*

HOY Fri 16 Aug, 7:15pm\*\*

### Dunedin

REG Wed 14 Aug, 7:00pm\*

### Hamilton

LID Wed 21 Aug, 7:00pm\*

### Tauranga

LUX Thu 15 Aug, 7:00pm

### Napier

MTG Wed 21 Aug, 7:00pm

### New Plymouth

LLC Wed 21 Aug, 7:00pm

### Masterton

MAS Wed 21 Aug, 7:00pm

### Nelson

STA Wed 14 Aug, 7:00pm



Offensive language

## Head South

Opening Night  
Christchurch

Christchurch-born director Jonathan Ogilvie returns home for this evocative coming-of-age story that brilliantly captures growing up weird in the Garden City. Starring Ed Oxenbould, Márton Csókás and Stella Bennett, *Head South* opens the Christchurch leg of the festival.

Drawing from his own experience growing up in Christchurch in the 1970s and '80s, Jonathan Ogilvie's warmly engaging film delves beneath the city's prim and proper exterior to portray its nascent post-punk underground. A scene which would later birth the record label Flying Nun, that would go on to take South Island music to the world.

Ed Oxenbould stars as teenaged Angus, who has been left alone for a fortnight with his old-school civil engineer father Gordon (Márton Csókás). It's 1979 and long hair is out, spiky hair is in. While visiting the local record shop Angus's mind and the film literally expands on first listening to Public Image Limited, Johnny Rotten's post-Sex Pistols band. Soon enough, Angus has turned his flared trousers into stovepipes, repurposed Gordon's wedding shoes as a pair of winklepickers and visits the hair salon to lay waste to his flowing locks.

Angus becomes drawn both to cool punk chick Holly (Roxie Mohebbi), who claims to be from London, and musically talented shoppirl Kristen, played by Stella Bennett, better known as homegrown popstar Benee. Convinced to attend a gig by popular local band The Cursed, Angus is bullied by the sneery lead singer and claims to have his own band, only to be put into a position to then have to back up this little white lie, when he's asked to open The Cursed's next show. He hasn't even learned how to play yet – can you get any more punk rock?

Oxenbould provides just the right dose of wide-eyed naïveté and schoolboy enthusiasm in the role of Angus, while Csókás, who also expertly portrays uptight fatherhood in *Cuckoo* (pg 50), brings a real gravitas to the character of Gordon which belies his outwardly stiff and conservative nature. Bennett proves to be a natural on screen

and gets ample opportunity to display both her dramatic and musical talent.

The film makes pointed use of an era-appropriate soundtrack including choice cuts from the fabled AK79 punk compilation and several new tracks from composer Shayne Carter (frontman of iconic Flying Nun band Straitjacket Fits). A fab cover of The Velvet Underground's "Femme Fatale" by Carter and Bennett perfectly encapsulates the hazy, psych-influenced feel of the Christchurch scene as does the throbbing original title track which could be mistaken for a forgotten Flying Nun classic. Ogilvie, who got his start making music videos for that venerable Kiwi label, has really come full circle with *Head South*, crafting a coming-of-age film with a true heart that is an entertaining and loving tribute to his hometown.

— Michael McDonnell

## Screenings

## Auckland

CIV Sun 11 Aug, 6:30pm\*\*  
AWT Thu 15 Aug, 1:15pm

## Wellington

EMB Thu 8 Aug, 8:30pm\*\*  
EMB Fri 9 Aug, 10:00am\*\*

## Christchurch

HOY Thu 15 Aug, 6:20pm\*  
LUM Thu 15 Aug, 7:30pm & 7:45pm\*  
LUM Sat 17 Aug, 6:30pm  
LUM Tue 20 Aug, 2:00pm  
LUM Thu 29 Aug, 11:30am

## Dunedin

REG Wed 21 Aug, 4:00pm  
REG Fri 23 Aug, 6:15pm

## Hamilton

LID Fri 23 Aug, 6:15pm  
LID Tue 27 Aug, 4:00pm

## Tauranga

LUX Fri 23 Aug, 6:15pm  
LUX Tue 27 Aug, 3:45pm

## Napier

MTG Sat 24 Aug, 5:30pm  
MTG Mon 26 Aug, 3:30pm

## New Plymouth

LLC Sat 24 Aug, 6:15pm  
LLC Tue 27 Aug, 8:30pm

## Masterton

MAS Sat 24 Aug, 6:00pm  
MAS Fri 30 Aug, 3:45pm

## Nelson

STA Tue 20 Aug, 4:15pm  
STA Fri 23 Aug, 6:15pm

Director, Screenplay:  
Jonathan Ogilvie

Aotearoa New Zealand 2024  
98 mins

**Producers:** Antje Kulpe, Jonathan Ogilvie

**Cinematography:** John Chrisstoffels

**Editor:** Julie-Anne De Ruvo

**Music:** Shayne Carter

**Production Designer:** Christopher Bruce

**Sound Designer:** Chris Sinclair

**Cast:** Márton Csókás, Ed Oxenbould, Stella Bennett, Trendall Pulini, Roxie Mohebbi, Jackson Bliss

**Festivals:** Rotterdam, Sydney 2024

**Introduction\*/Q&A\*\*:** Jonathan Ogilvie

**“The characters are spot-on and it oozes the weirdness of the Christchurch I remember.”**

— Roger Shepherd, founder Flying Nun Records



Violence, drug use, offensive language & sexual coercion



# The Substance

Closing  
Night



**Director, Screenplay:**  
**Coralie Fargeat**  
UK/USA/France 2024  
140 mins

**Producers:** Coralie Fargeat, Tim Bevan, Eric Fellner  
**Cinematography:** Benjamin Kračun  
**Editors:** Coralie Fargeat, Jérôme Eltabet, Valentin Féron  
**Music:** Raffertie  
**Cast:** Demi Moore, Margaret Qualley, Dennis Quaid

**Festivals:** Cannes (In Competition), Sydney 2024

**Awards:** Best Screenplay, Cannes Film Festival 2024

*“The Substance is a humdinger of a satirical horror-thriller, by turns hilarious, affecting and jaw-droppingly grotesque.”*

— Tim Robey, *The Telegraph*

Direct from wowing audiences at Cannes, Coralie Fargeat’s magnificent shocker closes out this year’s Festival in style and lays down her marker to take the crown as the new queen of carnage with this wildly entertaining feminist body-horror feast.

Oscar Wilde, J.M. Barrie, even those blokes who wrote the Bible... all have admonished against the pursuit of eternal youth. Yet none have done so in quite such uncompromising fashion as the gloriously grotesque horror show that Coralie Fargeat presents with *The Substance*, winner of Best Screenplay at this year’s Cannes Film Festival.

After fading star Elizabeth Sparkles (yes, that is her name) is deemed surplus to requirements as a daytime TV fitness instructor, she’s presented with an offer too good to refuse. Slipped a mysterious piece of paper and a janky USB stick inscribed with the words “The Substance”, the Faustian pact soon becomes clear. Take “the Substance” to incarnate two versions of the self: one is young, crisp, unblemished, and goes by the name of Sue. The other remains the same faded star, put out to pasture by the big bad studio exec known only as

Harvey (and yes, that is his name).

Seven days apiece are what each “self” is assigned, one week on, one week off. With her renewed star power, Sue takes back her mantle as studio sweetheart, gyrating for the camera against the hardwood floor like an extra in an Eric Prydz video. But as with all parables, the good times don’t last forever, and her pumpkin arrives in the form of debilitating nose bleeds and head spins, before learning the hard way that the Substance is not to be cheated.

Demi Moore is at a career best bringing a meta pathos to the role of Elizabeth. Margaret Qualley is both dazzling and disturbing, reversing patriarchal power dynamics as Sue and toying with any male character stupid enough to be dragged into her orbit. And Denis Quaid – well, he’s taking *liberties* as the cartoonishly loathsome TV boss, Harvey.

Fargeat forgoes any kind of subtlety in her dissection of

systemic misogyny, instead opting for broad brushstrokes, each character as transgressive as the next, intense close-ups and high angle shots inflating the caricatures.

With hyper-sexualised iconography that makes the opening scenes of *Titane* (NZIFF 2021) look like *Toy Story*, and body-horror prosthetics that’d make Cronenberg cringe, by the time the film’s spectacular finale comes to a close, you’ll be ready for a cold towel and a stiff drink – this one is not for the faint of heart. — Matt Bloomfield

“An immensely, unstoppably, ecstatically demented fairy tale... Fargeat’s mad experiment is equal parts *Freaky Friday*, *All About Eve*, and Andrzej Żuławski’s *Possession*... Those with the stomach to stick it out will be rewarded with the most sickly entertaining theatrical experience of the year.”

— David Ehrlich, *Indiewire*

## Screenings

**Auckland**  
CIV Sun 18 Aug, 8:15pm inc. awards  
**Wellington**  
EMB Sun 11 Aug, 8:30pm  
**Christchurch**  
LUM Sun 1 Sep, 8:15pm  
LUM Sun 1 Sep, 8:30pm  
**Dunedin**  
REG Sun 25 Aug, 8:00pm  
**Hamilton**  
LID Wed 4 Sep, 8:15pm  
**Tauranga**  
LUX Wed 28 Aug, 8:00pm  
**Napier**  
MTG Sun 1 Sep, 7:45pm  
**New Plymouth**  
LLC Wed 4 Sep, 8:15pm  
**Masterton**  
MAS Wed 4 Sep, 8:00pm  
**Nelson**  
STA Sun 25 Aug, 7:45pm

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# Meet the Filmmakers

We are delighted to have New Zealand and international filmmakers presenting their films at selected screenings during NZIFF 2024.



## Adam Kamien and Luke Rynderman

*The Speedway Murders*, p37

**Adam Kamien** is a writer and director renowned for his investigative journalism skills. Kamien's debut feature film, docu-drama *The Speedway Murders*, is screening at NZIFF 2024, and his follow-up project, *Spirited Away*, *The Case Against Malka Leifer* is currently in production. Adam's teleplay *Virulent*, based on his experiences in digital publishing, was shortlisted in the 2017 AWG Prime Time TV writing competition and his feature script *Unadorned* made it through to the quarter finals of the prestigious global screenwriting competition Script Pipeline.

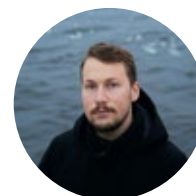
*The Speedway Murders* is writer-director **Luke Rynderman's** debut feature. He has spent much of the past decade working as a sought-after production designer and art director for several of Australia's leading graphic design firms on major advertising campaigns for fashion and arts clients, including *Vogue*, The Australian Ballet and the Melbourne Fashion Festival. Luke has a Masters in Screenwriting from Victorian College of the Arts, and a Bachelor of Design from Swinburne University of Technology.



## Christine Jeffs

*A Mistake*, p15

Christine Jeffs is a New Zealand filmmaker, known for her distinct visual style and compelling narratives with a focus on strong female protagonists. She made an immediate mark with her first short film, *Stroke*. Jeffs then adapted the Kirsty Gunn novel *Rain* (NZIFF 2001) for the screen, confirming her unique and nuanced approach to storytelling as both director and writer. It was her first feature-length film. Both *Stroke* and *Rain* were officially selected for the Cannes Film Festival. *A Mistake* is Jeffs' fourth feature film.



## Gints Zilbalodis

*Flow*, p60

Gints Zilbalodis is a Latvian filmmaker and animator. His debut feature film *Away*, which he made entirely by himself, won the Best Feature Film Contrechamp Award in Annecy. His second film, *Flow*, premiered in the Un Certain Regard section of the Cannes Film Festival. His fascination for filmmaking began at an early age watching classic films and making shorts. Prior to *Away* he made seven short films in various mediums, including hand-drawn animation, 3D animation and live-action, often mixing their characteristic aesthetics. In 2019 he founded Dream Well Studio in Riga, Latvia.



## Lin Jianjie

*Brief History of a Family*, p27

After obtaining a Bachelor's degree in bioinformatics, Lin Jianjie's passion for deciphering human existence led him to filmmaking. He received his MFA degree from NYU Tisch School of the Arts. His short films *A Visit* (2015), a satire about corruption and vanity, and *Gu* (2017), about a family's last reunion at court, were screened at many international film festivals. *Brief History of a Family*, his debut feature film, premiered at Sundance Film Festival 2024 World Cinema Dramatic Competition and Berlin International Film Festival 2024 Panorama.



## Jonathan Ogilvie

*Head South*, p6

Hailing from Ōtautahi Christchurch, Jonathan Ogilvie lives and works in Poihakena Sydney. His immersion in NZ's independent music scene led to an early career making music videos for seminal Australasian bands. While living in London in the 1980s, he worked on several feature films including Stanley Kubrick's *Full Metal Jacket*. Following back-to-back official competition selections of his films at Cannes, Ogilvie had success with *The Tender Hook* (nominated for an Australian Writers Guild Award – AWGIE) and *Lone Wolf* (2019) which premiered at the IFFR and MIFF. *Head South* is his second AWGIE nomination for Best Feature Screenplay.



## Josephine Stewart Te-Whiu

(Ngāpuhi, Te Rarawa)  
*We Were Dangerous*, p5

Josephine Stewart-Te Whiu's debut feature film follows her international success with short films. In 2016, she was one of nine Māori women filmmakers who worked on *Waru* (NZIFF 2017), which also screened at Toronto International Film Festival. In 2018 the filmmakers were awarded the New Zealand Film Commission Māori Screen Excellence Award. Her short *Ani* (NZIFF 2019) screened at TIFF and the Berlin International Film Festival, and in 2021 her short *When We Were Kids* won the Vista Group Best Film Award (jointly awarded) in *New Zealand's Best* (NZIFF 2021). Stewart-Te Whiu is an alumni of the 2020 TIFF Filmmakers Lab.



## Joshua Prendeville

*The House Within*, p14

Joshua Prendeville's first feature film, *In Passing*, which he wrote and directed, was released internationally in 2020. His latest film, *The House Within*, is a feature-length documentary examining the life and work of New Zealand author Dame Fiona Kidman. He is currently in development on a feature film set against the backdrop of the European fashion industry, and an adaptation of an award-winning New Zealand novel.

*Fiona Kidman will join Joshua Prendeville for Q&As in Auckland and Wellington.*



**Katie Wolfe**  
(Ngāti Mutunga, Ngāti Tama,  
Ngāti Toa Rangatira)  
*The Haka Party Incident*, p13

Katie Wolfe's debut short *This is Her* featured at NZIFF in 2009, followed by *Redemption* (NZIFF 2010) and *Waru* (NZIFF 2017). All three films had international success. Her first feature, *Kawa*, won Best Narrative feature at the 2011 National Geographic All Roads Film Festival. Wolfe was awarded the inaugural Women in Film and Television Mana Wahine Award in 2011, and received the 2017 Te Aupounamu Screen Excellence Award. The stage version of *The Haka Party Incident* received three Adam NZ Play Awards 2021 and won three major awards at the 2023 Wellington Theatre Awards.



**Kent Belcher**  
(Ngāti Kahu)  
*Alien Weaponry: Kua Tupu Te Ara*, p12

Kent Belcher grew up on Auckland's North Shore as a 1990s surf skate punk. He started his film career fresh out of school at 17, beginning at the bottom and working his way up through the camera department ranks to become a cinematographer. His recent foray into directing marks a significant milestone in his career, reflecting his passion for storytelling. When he's not working, you'll most likely find him surfing on Auckland's west coast or on Aotea Great Barrier Island with his 12-year-old twins.



**Lucy Lawless**  
*Never Look Away*, p15

Lucy Lawless is internationally known for her role as *Xena: Warrior Princess*. She has starred in *Minions: The Rise of Gru*, *Parks & Recreation*, *Top of the Lake*, *Ash Vs Evil Dead*, *Bedtime Stories* and much more, and currently executive-produces and stars in the TV series *My Life Is Murder*. When introduced to the story of CNN war cameraperson Margaret Moth, Lawless jumped at the chance to tell her story. "It felt like destiny... [Moth is] a true warrior princess. I had played one on TV, but Margaret Moth was the real deal."



**Min Bahadur Bham**  
*Shambhala*, p65

Nepalese filmmaker Min Bahadur Bham holds Masters degrees in Buddhist Philosophy and Political Science and is pursuing a PhD in Anthropology. His short film, *Bansulli* (2012), Nepal's first entry to the Venice International Film Festival, was followed by his debut feature *Kalo Pothi* (2015), which won the Fedora Best Film Award at Venice Critics' Week, and became Nepal's official Academy Award entry. His second feature, *Shambhala*, made history as Nepal's first film in the Berlinale International Film Festival Competition section.



**Mo Harawe**  
*The Village Next to Paradise*, p30

Mo Harawe is a Somali/Austrian writer and director born in Mogadishu. He has been studying Visual Communication and Film at Kunsthochschule Kassel. *The Village Next to Paradise* is his debut feature film. His short film *Life on the Horn* (2022) earned a Special Mention at Locarno International Film Festival, while *Will My Parents Come to See Me* (2022), also a short, was nominated for the European Film Award and won the Grand Prix at Clermont-Ferrand, German LOLA and Austrian Film Award for Best Short Film in 2023.



**Neo Sora**  
*Ryuichi Sakamoto | Opus*, p57

Neo Sora was born in New York and was raised in the US and Tokyo. As a filmmaker, he has directed, shot, and produced short narrative films, documentaries, music videos, fashion spots, and a concert film. His newest short film, *The Chicken*, an adaptation of a short story by Naoya Shiga, premiered at Locarno International Film Festival 2020 and has subsequently played at New York Film Festival 2020, among others. His latest film documents the final concert of his late father, Ryuichi Sakamoto.



**Paul Wolfram**  
*Marimari*, p14

Dr. Paul Wolfram is an award-winning director and producer whose work pushes the boundaries of traditional documentary and explore the way we understand the world around us. He has spent the last 20 years working with the communities in Papua New Guinea, the Pacific Islands and New Zealand. His work is highly collaborative and involves creative engagement with traditional mythologies, indigenous music and dance, and spiritual practices.

*Evelyn Kunda will join Paul Wolfram at Q&As in Auckland and Wellington.*



**Whetū Fala**  
(Ngā Rauru Kītahi, Te Ati Haunui-a-Paparangi, Ngāti Maniapoto, Ngāti Maru ki Taranaki, Samoa, Rotuma)  
*Taki Rua Theatre – Breaking Barriers*, p17

"Toi tū te kupu, toi tū te mana, toi tū te whenua e!" Tinirau  
A producer and director of theatre, television and film, Whetū Fala lives and works in her tribal home city of Whanganui. She says, "Thanks to whanau and friends we were able to create parts of the film on our whenua. Our kaumatua here and in Taki Rua showed us that anything is possible." In 2019 she was awarded the Mana Wahine tohu by Women in Film and Television NZ and Wairoa Māori Film Festival in recognition of her work promoting Māori culture, te reo Māori, tikanga Māori and the welfare and stories of wāhine.

# NZIFF Engage

Providing opportunities for New Zealand audiences and filmmakers to broaden their knowledge and connect with like-minded film festival fans, visiting filmmakers and local industry professionals. Details for all NZIFF Engage events available at [nziff.co.nz/engage](http://nziff.co.nz/engage). All NZIFF Engage events are free unless otherwise indicated.

## Pae Kōrero – Panel Discussions

Join us for panel discussions to delve deeper into the themes of selected films in NZIFF 2024.

### Tāmaki Makaurau Auckland

#### Statues Also Die: On Repatriating and Reanimating Stolen Taonga

**Saturday 10 August 11:15am–12:15pm**  
Wintergarden, The Civic

Follows *Dahomey*. With visual artists Yana Dombrowsky-M'Baye and Luke Willis Thompson. Hosted by *Art News Aotearoa*.

#### Refugee Journeys On-Screen

**Saturday 10 August 5:00pm–6:00pm**  
Hollywood Hall, Hollywood Avondale  
Precedes *To a Land Unknown*

#### Online Lives

**Thursday 15 August 5:45pm–6:45pm**  
Wintergarden, The Civic  
Follows *The Remarkable Life of Ibelin*

#### The Art of Keeping the Language Alive

**Saturday 17 August 1:30pm–2:30pm**  
Villa Maria Gallery, ASB Waterfront Theatre

Related films: *Alien Weaponry: Kua Tupu Te Ara*, *Kneecap*, *Taki Rua Theatre – Breaking Barriers*, *The Haka Party Incident*  
Part of Aotearoa Film Focus Weekend

#### Boosted Pathways

**Sunday 18 August 1:30pm–2:30pm**  
Villa Maria Gallery, ASB Waterfront Theatre

Follows *Short Connections 2024*  
Part of Aotearoa Film Focus Weekend  
Presented in association with Boosted

#### Indian Alternative Cinema

**Sunday 18 August 5:00pm–6:00pm**  
Wintergarden, The Civic  
Follows *All We Imagine As Light*  
Presented in association with Pan-Asian Screen Collective



## Te Whanganui-a-Tara Wellington

### Online Lives

**Saturday 3 August 12:45pm–1:45pm**  
Southern Cross Garden Bar, 39 Abel Smith St, Te Aro

Follows *The Remarkable Life of Ibelin*

### Refugee Journeys On-Screen

**Tuesday 6 August 6:00pm–7:00pm**  
The Dome, BATS Theatre\*, 1 Kent Tce, Mt Victoria

Follows *To a Land Unknown*

### Music as a Form of Protest

**Friday 9 August 6:00pm–7:00pm**  
Roxy Cinemas

Follows *Kneecap*

### True Crime: An Ethical Debate

**Sunday 11 August 12:30pm–1:30pm**  
Southern Cross Garden Bar, 39 Abel Smith St, Te Aro

Follows *The Speedway Murders*.  
With directors Adam Kamien and Luke Rynderman

## Pou Kōrero – Workshops

**Josephine Stewart-Te Whiu** has received plaudits across the globe for her debut feature *We Were Dangerous*, not to mention the Special Jury Award for Filmmaking at this year's SXSW. Find out more about her creative process and making the jump from short film to first feature, in this informal conversation. For more information and to register, visit [nziff.co.nz/engage](http://nziff.co.nz/engage)

### Tāmaki Makaurau Auckland

**Thursday 15 August, 1:30pm–2:30pm**  
Villa Maria Gallery, ASB Waterfront Theatre

Part of Aotearoa Film Focus Weekend  
Presented in association with Women in Film and Television (WIFT)  
Free entry, registration essential

### Te Whanganui-a-Tara Wellington

**Thursday 1 August 1:00pm–2:00pm**  
The Dome, BATS Theatre\*, 1 Kent Tce, Mt Victoria

Presented in association with Women in Film and Television (WIFT)  
Free entry, registration essential



## Taumata Kōrero – Masterclasses

Prodigious Latvian filmmaker **Gints Zilbalodis** presents his sophomore feature *Flow*, direct from Cannes to NZIFF 2024. Zilbalodis takes us inside his filmmaking process, with a focus on animation, imagination and giving life to a computer-generated world. For more information and to book visit [nziff.co.nz/engage](http://nziff.co.nz/engage)

### Tāmaki Makaurau Auckland

**Friday 16 August 10:00am–1:30pm**  
Villa Maria Gallery, ASB Waterfront Theatre

Part of Aotearoa Film Focus Weekend  
Tickets: Full price \$30/student concession or film industry guild member \$25  
Limited to: 50 participants  
Presented in association with the Directors and Editors Guild of Aotearoa New Zealand (DEGANZ)

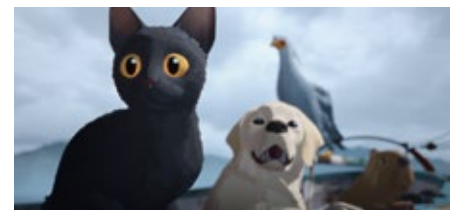
### Te Whanganui-a-Tara Wellington

**Saturday 10 August 10:00am–1:30pm**  
College of Creative Arts, Massey University

Tickets: Full price \$30/student concession or film industry guild member \$25  
Limited to: 50 participants  
Presented in association with the Directors and Editors Guild of Aotearoa New Zealand (DEGANZ), Massey University College of Creative Arts and Wellington UNESCO Creative City of Film



*We Were Dangerous* (p5)



*Flow* (p60)

\*We regret to advise that *The Dome*, BATS Theatre is up two flights of stairs with no accessibility options.

## NZIFF Movie T-Shirt Day

Wear your favourite movie tees on Friday 9 August and show some love for cinema! Whether a well-worn classic or a brand new purchase, we're calling on film fans across the motu to step out in their favourite movie tees. Share your photos and tag us on social media to be in with a chance of winning a limited edition NZIFF 2024 t-shirt. Scan the QR code for more.



NZIFF Engage is supported by

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## Film Quizzes

Are you film fit? Know your Akerman from your Antonioni? Your Bergman from your Bresson? Get your team together and put your knowledge to the test at NZIFF Film Quizzes in Auckland, Wellington, Christchurch and Hamilton.

Visit [nziff.co.nz/filmquiz](https://nziff.co.nz/filmquiz) for details.

### Tāmaki Makaurau Auckland

**Saturday 10 August, 2:00pm–4:00pm**

Auckland Film Society Quiz – Wintergarden, The Civic  
Registration and information: [aucklandfilmsociety@gmail.com](mailto:aucklandfilmsociety@gmail.com)

### Ōtautahi Christchurch

**Sunday 25 August, 4:00pm–6:00pm**

Canterbury Film Society Film Quiz – Dux Central,  
144 Lichfield St, Christchurch Central City  
Registration and information: [canterburyfilmsoc@gmail.com](mailto:canterburyfilmsoc@gmail.com)

### Te Whanganui-a-Tara Wellington

**Saturday 10 August, 2:00pm–3:30pm**

Wellington Film Society Quiz – The Welsh Dragon Bar,  
10a Cambridge Tce, Mt Victoria (opposite Embassy Theatre)  
Visit [wellingtonfilms.nz](https://wellingtonfilms.nz) for details

### Kirikiroa Hamilton

**Sunday 31 August, 2:00pm–4:00pm**

Hamilton Film Society Film Quiz – Foyer, LIDO Cinemas  
Registration and information: [peterfarrell99@gmail.com](mailto:peterfarrell99@gmail.com)



## NZIFF After Dark

Midnight screenings, dress-up nights, spot prizes, themed cocktails, late-night yarns, gigs, goths and gore... we've got it all this year at NZIFF After Dark. A chance to let your hair down before or after catching your favourite festival flick.

Visit [nziff.co.nz/afterdark](https://nziff.co.nz/afterdark) for details of all After Dark events.

### Tāmaki Makaurau Auckland

**Jokers and Harlequins Midnight Screening Costume Party**  
**Friday 9 August 10:00pm–11:00pm**  
**Hollywood Avondale**  
Precedes *The People's Joker*

**Head South Pre-Premiere Gig with Big Sur**  
**Sunday 11 August 3:30pm–5:30pm**  
Flying Out, 80 Pitt St, Auckland CBD  
Precedes *Head South*

### Late Night Lounge

**Friday 16 August 9:00pm–10:15pm**  
**Auditorium, ASB Waterfront Theatre**  
Follows screenings of *Naughty Little Peep Toe* and *Come With Us* and a response from queer erotic fiction writer Samuel Te Kani, followed by an informal discussion with Garth Maxwell  
Part of Aotearoa Film Focus Weekend

**Goth Girl and Gorecore Midnight Screening Costume Party**  
**Friday 16 August 10:00pm–11:00pm**  
**Hollywood Avondale**  
Follows *Humanist Vampire Seeking Consenting Suicidal Person* and precedes *Anguish*

### Te Whanganui-a-Tara Wellington

**Goth Girl Vamp Costume Party**  
**Wednesday 7 August 8:00pm–9:00pm**  
**The Black Sparrow, Embassy Theatre**  
Precedes *Humanist Vampire Seeking Consenting Suicidal Person*

**Jokers and Harlequins Midnight Screening Costume Party**  
**Friday 9 August 10:00pm–11:00pm**  
**The Black Sparrow, Embassy Theatre**  
Precedes *The People's Joker*

Midnight screenings and costume parties for *The People's Joker* presented in association with



## Our Festival Patrons

In 2023 we launched the Whānau Mārama New Zealand International Film Festival Patrons Programme. This year we welcome returning and new patrons. In 2024, the NZIFF Patrons sponsor the Best Film Award for *New Zealand's Best 2024*. A HUGE thank you to all our patrons who have shown their love and support for the film festival.

## NZIFF PATRONS

### Gold Star

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Jacquie Kean, Wellington  
Jane Kominik, Wellington  
Anouk Minaar, Christchurch  
Isiah Roberts, Wellington  
Anonymous (1)

### Festival Whānau

Amber Coulter, Auckland  
Penelope England, Wellington  
Vesa-Matti Leppanen, Wellington  
Diana Marsh & Francis Cooke, Wellington  
John Marsh, Wellington  
Alister McDonald, Dunedin  
Anonymous (1)

Patrons are a special part of the film festival whānau and enjoy a range of benefits including an early preview of the festival programme and booking priority. Find out more about how you can be a festival patron at [nziff.co.nz/patrons](https://nziff.co.nz/patrons)

### Join the discussion

For behind-the-scenes photos and footage, sneak peeks, trailer reveals and giveaways, check out any of our social media channels.



NZIFFilmFestival



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NZIFF



NZIntFilmFestival

While Matariki ushers the sun to its dawn rising, Māhutonga – the Southern Cross, stands sentinel in the evening sky, shining the way to our storytellers from Aotearoa, both narrative and documentary, including three short film programmes. (See also *We Were Dangerous*, p7 and *Head South*, p8).

# Māhutonga

Proudly supported by



## Alien Weaponry: Kua Tupu Te Ara



He tauā! He tauā! He riri! He riri!  
He tama e toru, e ngāueue ana i te kōpū o Pāpātuānuku,  
i te kawenga o te reo, ki wī, ki wā. I ā haha!  
Ngā tama, te uaua ana!  
Ngā tama, te māro!  
Nei a Whānau Mārama, e hioioi ana te pane!  
Haumi e! Hui e! Taiki e!

If you think the tāne of heavy metal band Alien Weaponry are young now, *Alien Weaponry: Kua Tupu Te Ara* reveals that this project has actually been more than a decade in the making. It takes you all the way back to the band's formation in 2010 by Henry De Jong and his brother Lewis, then just ten and eight years old respectively. We follow the band from their first performances at

Smokefree Rockquest, through to international headlining concerts, jam-packed with metalheads. These tours are littered with the occasional amusing brotherly spat, and random outbursts of "Tutira Mai Ngā lwi", joined by anyone who knows it.

Although their success is huge, what's most impressive is Alien Weaponry's commitment

to Māori culture. Their music is written and performed in te reo Māori and tells the stories of tangata whenua (people of the land), the band members' ancestors, and denounces colonisation.

These young men are still rising and championing our indigenous culture to the world – and when you measure their audience, it's clear the world doesn't want them to stop. — Huia Haupapa

### Screenings

**Auckland**  
CIV Wed 14 Aug, 8:45pm\*  
AWT Fri 16 Aug, 12:45pm\*  
**Wellington**  
EMB Sat 10 Aug, 8:45pm\*  
**Christchurch**  
LUM Thu 22 Aug, 4:00pm  
LUM Fri 23 Aug, 8:15pm  
**Dunedin**  
REG Wed 21 Aug, 8:30pm  
**Hamilton**  
LID Sat 24 Aug, 8:15pm  
**Tauranga**  
LUX Fri 16 Aug 8:15pm  
LUX Mon 19 Aug 8:00pm  
**Napier**  
MTG Fri 30 Aug, 8:00pm  
**New Plymouth**  
LLC Fri 30 Aug, 8:30pm  
**Masterton**  
MAS Mon 26 Aug, 8:00pm  
MAS Thu 29 Aug, 8:00pm  
**Nelson**  
STA Thu 22 Aug, 8:15pm

### Director, Cinematography: Kent Belcher

Aotearoa New Zealand 2024  
100 mins

**Producer:** Nigel McCulloch

**Editor:** Sacha Campbell

**Music:** Alien Weaponry (Henry De Jong, Lewis De Jong, Turanga Morgan-Edmonds), Ethan Trembath

**With:** Henry De Jong, Lewis De Jong, Ethan Trembath, Turanga Morgan-Edmonds, Niel De Jong, Jette De Jong

**Festivals:** Tribeca 2024

**Q&A\*:** Kent Belcher

**"An intimate deep dive beneath the surface of the band's past, present and fast-approaching future."**

— Ashley Perez Hollingsworth,  
*Genre Is Dead*

Presented in association with



Documentary film exempt from NZ Classification labelling requirements

## Grafted



To say this film packs a punch would be an understatement. Not for the faint of heart, *Grafted* deftly handles serious themes with care, humour, and complete and utter carnage.

Our young protagonist, Wei, has had an extremely rough start in life. The film opens with her father's horrific death as he tries to rid himself of a hereditary facial disfigurement. Years later, still reeling from the loss, and the shame of her own disfigurement, Wei is rejected by her family in China. She gains a university scholarship in New Zealand and is packed off to live with her aunt and cousin Angela, who was born here

and treats Wei with disgust. Her aunt means well but has bigger priorities, leaving the cousins to end up at each other's throats – literally.

Wei throws herself into continuing her father's scientific work and is thrilled when her professor takes an interest, but before she knows it, she has yet another problem – not only is he a total sleaze, he's trying to steal her research and formulas. Pushed to the brink, Wei goes wild. In her desperation to be accepted by her peers, she takes the concept of masking to the extreme and gets a taste for revenge, backdropped by a perfectly off-kilter score by Lachlan Anderson that'll make your skin crawl. — Louise Adams

### Screenings

#### Auckland

CIV Thu 8 Aug, 8:45pm\*  
AWT Fri 16 Aug, 3:30pm\*

#### Wellington

EMB Fri 9 Aug, 8:30pm\*

#### Christchurch

LUM Tue 20 Aug, 8:30pm  
LUM Thu 22 Aug, 4:30pm  
LUM Fri 30 Aug, 8:15pm

### Director: Sasha Rainbow

Aotearoa New Zealand 2024  
96 mins

**Producers:** Murray Francis, Leela Menon

**Screenplay:** Mia Maramara, Hweiling Ow, Lee Murray, Sasha Rainbow

**Editor:** Fauze Hassen

**Cinematography:** Tammy Williams

**Music:** Lachlan Anderson

**Cast:** Joyena Sun, Jess Hong, Eden Hart, Jared Turner, Sepi To'a

**Languages:** English and Mandarin, with English subtitles

**World Premiere**

**Q&A\*: Leela Menon & Joyena Sun**

“The obsession with beauty and changing our bodies has a certain Frankenstein nature to it which has been so fun to explore.”

— Sasha Rainbow

**R16** Graphic violence, horror, sex scenes & offensive language

## The Haka Party Incident



Houhia ki te rongō, horahia ki te kura.

Te kura nā Te Whiti.

Te rongō nā Rongomai.

Kia murua ngā hara o mua,  
E te tai o awatea!

“The last New Zealand war took place in 1979. It lasted three minutes.”

This simple opening credit to *The Haka Party Incident* propels the viewer into Auckland 1979 to a protest that was until recently largely forgotten.

It covers the day when a group of young Māori and Pasifika activists, later named He Taua, sought to stop Pākehā engineering students at the

University of Auckland performing a parody of haka each capping week. By then the “Haka Party” had evolved into mayhem as these students, dressed in grass skirts, staged “hit and run” performances of their “haka” throughout Central Auckland.

Written complaints in previous years had been consistently ignored when He Taua decided to take more direct action in 1979. Headlines described it as a “gang rampage” with “students bashed”, and several activists were convicted of crimes. But the Haka Party has not been held since.

*The Haka Party Incident* was rescued from historical oblivion by writer and filmmaker Katie Wolfe –

originally as a play commissioned by Auckland Theatre Company and first staged in 2021.

The film intertwines interviews from both sides; for members of He Taua, many who became seasoned activists around protests including the Springbok Tour and the Waitangi hikoi, there's gentle joviality as they recall they didn't have much of a plan, and a quiet sense of pride for what they achieved. For the engineering students, there's an underlying nervousness as they defend their involvement in the Haka Party – a “fun” tradition of which they had no knowledge of the offence that it caused.

— Moerangi Vercoe

### Screenings

#### Auckland

AWT Fri 16 Aug, 6:15pm\*

#### Wellington

RXY Sun 11 Aug, 4:30pm\*

#### Christchurch

LUM Tue 27 Aug, 6:15pm  
LUM Thu 29 Aug, 1:45pm

#### New Plymouth

LLC Fri 23 Aug, 6:00pm\*

### Director, Screenplay:

#### Katie Wolfe

Aotearoa New Zealand 2024  
90 mins

**Producers:** Tim Balme, Katie Wolfe

**Cinematography:** Lise Cook, Marty Smith, Yves Simard, Evan Howell, Dave Murray

**Editor:** Carly Turner

**Taonga Puoro:** Kingsley Spargo

**Kaitiō Haka:** Nikau Balme

**Archive Producer:** Phoebe Shum

**Languages:** English and te reo Māori, with English subtitles

**World Premiere**

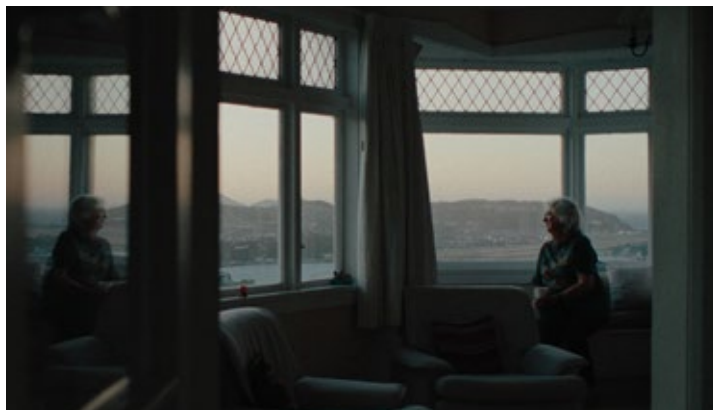
**Q&A\*: Katie Wolfe**

“This important piece of history uncovers the story through the voices and perspectives of those who were in the room that day.”

— Simon Day, *The Spinoff*

**E** Documentary film exempt from NZ Classification labelling requirements

## The House Within



At 84, Dame Fiona Kidman has published more than 30 books of fiction, poetry, and memoir, and received a raft of the highest accolades here and abroad. As the *New Zealand Listener* put it, “in her craft and storytelling and in her compassionate, gutsy, tough expression of female experience, she is the best we have.”

In this gentle, meandering film, we’re shown a vocational life lived with conviction and courage, punctuated by loss. From precocious beginnings in rural Northland to her involvement with the New Zealand Women’s Liberation Movement, Kidman has always been propelled by her

sense of the power of words to inspire change, and a nose for thinly veiled Kiwi conservatism.

One might imagine a documentary about a writer to lack imagery, but quiet domestic scenes set among Wellington’s lush, rugged landscape make for a compelling accompaniment to Kidman’s voice. With a dreamy score from talented Auckland composer Xavier Mañetto, the film renders the emotional cadences of her words with sophisticated restraint. The keen support from readers, writers, and bookstores across the country is a sure sign *The House Within* is a film we’ve been waiting for. — Manon Revuelta

### Screenings

**Auckland**  
AWT Sun 18 Aug, 12:45pm\*  
**Wellington**  
RXY Sat 3 Aug, 6:00pm\*  
LHC Mon 5 Aug, 12:00pm\*  
**Christchurch**  
LUM Mon 26 Aug, 6:30pm  
LUM Tue 27 Aug, 2:15pm  
LUM Sat 31 Aug, 11:30am

### Director:

**Joshua Prendeville**  
Aotearoa New Zealand 2024  
71 mins

**Producers:** Kerry Prendeville, Joshua Prendeville, Victoire Maderou  
**Cinematography:** Bill Bycroft  
**Editor:** Cushla Dillon, Richard Shaw  
**Music:** Xavier Mañetto  
**With:** Fiona Kidman

### World Premiere

**Q&A\*:** Joshua Prendeville and Fiona Kidman

“[Fiona Kidman] is a wonderful storyteller; she is a social historian from a feminist point of view... her body of work is formidable, and so is her bravery in exposing details of her own life in order to bring more weight to her arguments when tackling the taboo subjects of her epoch.”

— Anna Leclercq, Academy of New Zealand Literature

**E** Documentary film exempt from NZ Classification labelling requirements

## Marimari



In a Highlands village of Papua New Guinea, a baby falls sick and does not recover; this is grounds for women of the village and their families to be accused of *sanguma*, a type of witchcraft or black magic. They are left with a difficult choice; abandon their home and flee into the bush, or face retribution at the hands of their accusers. It’s just one case of a violent epidemic that continues to grow within the country.

The observational lens of Kiwi documentary filmmaker Paul Wolfram takes the audience deep into lushly forested landscapes to hear harrowing first-hand accounts from both survivors and

perpetrators. It’s distressing, but the beating heart of this hard-nosed investigation is Evelyn Kunda, a human rights worker who has devoted herself entirely to rescuing and protecting those fleeing accusations – cooking for kids living rough, opening her home to those in need, and trying to establish safehouses.

The natural beauty of Papua New Guinea is gracefully shot, providing a stunning contrast to the adversity faced by the accused, just as Evelyn’s unflagging compassion shines so bright in difficult circumstances. *Marimari* is a hopeful, necessary, urgent call to action. — Adrian Hatwell

### Screenings

**Auckland**  
AWT Sat 17 Aug, 10:00am\*  
**Wellington**  
RXY Sun 4 Aug, 3:15pm\*  
LHC Thu 8 Aug, 11:30am\*  
**Christchurch**  
LUM Wed 21 Aug, 8:30pm  
LUM Sat 24 Aug, 2:30pm  
LUM Wed 28 Aug, 2:00pm  
**Dunedin**  
REG Mon 19 Aug, 8:30pm  
**Masterton**  
MAS Sat 31 Aug, 2:30pm\*

### Director: Paul Wolfram

Aotearoa New Zealand 2024  
97 mins

**Producers:** Shu Run Yap, Paul Wolfram  
**Cinematography:** Adam Joseph Browne, Paul Wolfram  
**Editor:** Annie Collins  
**Music:** David Long  
**With:** Evelyn Kunda  
**Languages:** English and Tok Pisin, with English subtitles

### World Premiere

**Q&A\*:** Paul Wolfram and Evelyn Kunda

“Evelyn’s work is having a real impact on the lives of the survivors ... the film reveals the power of an individual to help bring about significant change even in the face of seemingly insurmountable odds.”

— Paul Wolfram

**E** Documentary film exempt from NZ Classification labelling requirements



## A Mistake



When sickness or injury strikes, we all want to understand the what, why, and how of our maladies and their proposed treatments. But how do physicians communicate nuance and probabilities when patients and their loved ones crave certainty?

Adapted from Carl Shuker's Ockham-shortlisted novel of the same name, Christine Jeffs' *A Mistake* delves into the complexity of our healthcare system, through the personal lens of a surgical error – at once minor yet with far-reaching implications – in the workday of gifted surgeon Elizabeth (a finely-tuned performance from Elizabeth Banks). With a hard-won reputation in a male-

dominated system, Elizabeth's cool demeanour is challenged in the face of collegial mistrust, public misunderstanding, and management's desire to scapegoat as a means of mitigating PR crises.

With a cool colour palette to match both its central character and clinical setting, Jeffs and her team deftly apply an array of production elements to underscore the film's narrative and character trajectories, maintaining a compelling thread of tension throughout. As Elizabeth's steely veneer crumples, we are faced with the question: where does responsibility start and where does it end? — Jacob Powell

### Screenings

**Auckland**  
AWT Sat 17 Aug, 6:00pm\*

**Wellington**  
EMB Wed 7 Aug, 6:15pm\*

**Christchurch**  
LUM Sun 25 Aug, 5:30pm  
LUM Mon 26 Aug, 11:30am  
LUM Tue 27 Aug, 8:30pm

**Dunedin**  
REG Thu 22 Aug, 6:15pm  
REG Fri 23 Aug, 11:15am

**Hamilton**  
LID Sun 1 Sep, 5:30pm  
LID Mon 2 Sep, 11:30am

**Tauranga**  
LUX Sun 25 Aug, 5:30pm  
LUX Mon 26 Aug, 1:00pm

**Napier**  
MTG Wed 28 Aug, 5:30pm  
MTG Thu 29 Aug, 3:15pm

**New Plymouth**  
LLC Sun 1 Sep, 5:30pm  
LLC Tue 3 Sep, 1:00pm

**Masterton**  
MAS Sun 25 Aug, 3:15pm  
MAS Wed 28 Aug, 12:00pm

**Nelson**  
STA Thu 22 Aug, 11:15am  
STA Sun 25 Aug, 5:30pm

### Director: Christine Jeffs

Aotearoa New Zealand 2024  
101 mins

**Producers:** Christine Jeffs, Matthew Metcalfe

**Screenplay:** Christine Jeffs. Based on the novel by Carl Shuker

**Cinematography:** John Toon

**Editors:** Paul Maxwell, Christine Jeffs

**Music:** Frank Ilfman

**Cast:** Elizabeth Banks, Mickey Sumner, Rena Owen, Fern Sutherland, Simon McBurney

**Festivals:** Tribeca 2024

**Q&A\*:** Christine Jeffs

**“Emotionally gripping in all the ways a medical drama should be. The compelling nature of the narrative and character study simply cannot be denied.”**

— Brittany Witherspoon,  
*Next Best Picture*



Suicide, offensive language & content that may disturb

## Never Look Away



Margaret Moth was a CNN video journalist during the 1990s, known for her willingness – or eagerness, even – to put her safety on the line to get amongst terrifying military action. *Never Look Away* features friends, lovers, and colleagues sharing their admiration, wonder, and fear over Moth's unyielding determination in many of the world's most dangerous warzones.

Fellow war reporters, including Christiane Amanpour, make clear the huge impact Moth had as a photojournalist, a woman in a male-dominated field, shining a light on humanity's darkest moments – some of which the documentary brings to life as stylish digital

dioramas built by Wētā Workshop. Despite this, she remains a largely unsung hero here, a situation this energetic film seeks to remedy. But it doesn't simply canonise the prickly photographer, paying just as much attention to Moth's complicated character as her achievements. Her personal life contained no less adrenaline than the warzone workdays; a flurry of LSD, punk clubs, open relationships, and risky behaviour.

As Moth boldly thrust the grimy realities of war onto the TV screen, so does Lucy Lawless's documentary present the details of her life and legacy in all their tangled complexity.

— Adrian Hatwell

### Screenings

**Auckland**  
AWT Thu 15 Aug, 7:00pm\*  
AWT Fri 16 Aug, 10:15am\*

**Wellington**  
EMB Thu 1 Aug, 6:15pm\*  
RXY Fri 2 Aug, 1:45pm\*

**Christchurch**  
LUM Wed 21 Aug, 6:15pm  
LUM Fri 23 Aug, 1:30pm  
LUM Mon 26 Aug, 2:45pm

**Dunedin**  
REG Sun 18 Aug, 6:00pm  
REG Mon 19 Aug, 2:00pm

**Hamilton**  
LID Wed 28 Aug, 6:15pm  
LID Thu 29 Aug, 2:00pm

**Tauranga**  
LUX Thu 22 Aug, 4:15pm  
LUX Sat 24 Aug, 6:15pm

**Napier**  
MTG Sat 31 Aug, 5:15pm

**New Plymouth**  
LLC Wed 28 Aug, 6:15pm  
LLC Fri 30 Aug, 4:15pm

**Masterton**  
MAS Tue 3 Sep, 6:00pm  
MAS Wed 4 Sep, 4:15pm

**Nelson**  
STA Wed 21 Aug, 6:15pm  
STA Fri 23 Aug, 1:15pm

### Director: Lucy Lawless

Aotearoa New Zealand 2024  
86 mins

**Producers:** Matthew Metcalfe, Tom Blackwell, Lucy Lawless

**Cinematography:** Darryl Ward, Richard Bluck

**Editors:** Whetham Allpress, Tim Woodhouse

**Music:** Jason Smith, Karl Sölve Steven

**With:** Margaret Moth, Christiane Amanpour, Joe Duran, Sausan Ghosheh, Tom Johnson, Stefano Kotsonis, Jeff Russi

**Languages:** English and French, with English subtitles

**Festivals:** Sundance, SXSW, Hot Docs 2024

**Q&A\*:** Lucy Lawless

**“I was compelled to make this film and to tell the story of a wild-hearted iconoclast who proves that even bad girls can walk on the side of the angels.”**

— Lucy Lawless

Presented in association with



Documentary film exempt from NZ Classification labelling requirements



# Know where

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NEWS WORTH KNOWING

## Taki Rua Theatre – Breaking Barriers

Ko Tapu-te-ranga karanga atu ki a Tangi-te-kio, ki a Whitireia, Whitireia titiro ki a Marotiri, ki te ata hapara ki runga o Hikurangi, Hikurangi titiro ki a Tongaririo, ki a Pihanga, ki a Tauhara, ki a Tairahia, ki a Ngongotahā, ki a Taupiri, ki te maunga titohea, ko Koro Taranaki.

Ko Taranaki e karangahia atu, 'ko rātou, ko mātou, ko tātou.' E ngā maunga whakahī, i whai hā ai te Whare Tapere o Takirua, i tauwhirotia te ao, me te po, tēnei te whakamānawa atu nei.



Post the 1981 Springbok tour, as New Zealanders were embracing a new maturity of valuing their own identity, a group of liberal-minded Pākehā theatre practitioners took over an unwanted theatre space in downtown Wellington near Downstage Theatre.

The New Depot focused on New Zealand stories for New Zealand audiences. Within a few years the collective's thinking grew to understand that to truly represent our stories, they needed to be in partnership with Māori and the humble theatre company evolved into Taki Rua Theatre.

Taki Rua has survived financial struggles, creative disputes, earthquakes,

intolerance, and internal conflict to navigate its place today as the unofficial national Māori theatre of Aotearoa.

In her film, director Whetū Fala connects with Taki Rua actors, writers, producers, directors, staff, governors and te reo Māori advocates who have helped shape the theatre company over the last 40 years – the experiences and challenges faced by Taki Rua mirroring our journey towards nationhood. Observation, interviews and rare archival footage are combined with filmed Taki Rua dramas including

*Te Hokina, Purapurawhetū, Whatungarongaro, and Ngā Tangata Toa.* These plays originally shocked audiences with incisive social commentary. Fast-forward to present day and a new Taki Rua production for children, *Te Kuia Me Te Pūngāwerewere*, presents an immersive te reo Māori play that is received with joy and happiness.

It's hard to imagine a theatre scene in Aotearoa today that doesn't include stories about ourselves. *Taki Rua Theatre – Breaking Barriers* is a reminder that they exist because people took chances and broke down barriers.

### Director, Screenplay: Whetū Fala

Aotearoa New Zealand 2024  
80 mins

**Consulting Director:** Christina Asher

**Producers:** Whetū Fala, Selina Joe

**Cinematography:** Fred Renata, Matt Henley, Richard Bluck

**Editor:** Siobhan Houkamau

**With:** Amanda Noblett, Jason Te Kare, Eds Eramiha, Roimata Fox, Scotty Cotter, Rena Owen, Briar Grace Smith, Mere Boynton, Mika X, Kara Paewai, Tina Cook, Hone Kouka, Maila Urale, Tanemahuta Gray, Toni Huata, Philippa Campbell, Sunny Amey, Rangimoana Taylor, Tama Kirikiri

**Kaumtua:** Wi Kuki Kaa, Tungia Baker, Rona Bailey, Keri Kaa with Nancy Brunning

**Language:** English and te reo Māori, with English subtitles

**World Premiere**

**Introduction and Q&A\*: Whetū Fala**

### Screenings

#### Auckland

AWT Sun 18 Aug, 6:00pm\*

#### Wellington

EMB Fri 2 Aug, 6:15pm\*

RXY Mon 5 Aug, 11:15am\*

#### Christchurch

LUM Fri 30 Aug, 2:45pm

LUM Sat 31 Aug, 5:45pm\*

#### Hamilton

LID Sat 31 Aug, 3:30pm\*

#### New Plymouth

LLC Tue 27 Aug, 6:15pm\*

**E** Documentary film exempt from NZ Classification labelling requirements

## Short Connections 2024

83 mins approx.

Five new Aotearoa shorts examine the ways we connect with each other. From strangers uniting to stand up for what is right to fleeting moments of understanding between loved ones, these films deftly capture the bonds between us. — Amanda Jane Robinson



### Payback

**Director:** Mia Blake  
**Aotearoa NZ 2023**

**Producer:** Miryam Jacobi, Jack Barry  
**Cinematography:** Jack Barry | **Editor:** Ben Chesters | **Cast:** Gentiane Lupi, Nova Moala Knox, Hariata Sanders, Caleb Teaupā, Troy Wynyard  
**12 mins**

When a welfare department's prejudice can no longer be tolerated, a group of unlikely heroes band together. Made in collaboration with Toi Whakaari, Mia Blake cleverly reflects the state of the nation in this punchy black comedy.

### Screenings

#### Auckland

AWT Sun 18 Aug, 10:00am

#### Wellington

RXY Sun 11 Aug, 10:00am



### The Sea Inside Her

**Director:** Alyx Duncan  
**Aotearoa NZ 2024**

**Producers:** Lani-rain Feltham, Michele Powles, Alyx Duncan | **Screenplay:** Michele Powles  
**Cinematography:** Gin Loane | **Editor:** Adam-Luka Turjak | **Music:** Francesca Mountfort  
**Cast:** Kilda Northcott, Mateo Cruz | **9 mins**

Award-winning filmmaker and choreographer Alyx Duncan builds on her unique movement-led films, depicting an anxious grandmother desperate to protect her grandchild from the dangers of the world.



### Earthings

**Director, Screenplay:** Jamie Lawrence  
**Aotearoa NZ 2023**

**Producer:** Desray Armstrong  
**Cinematography:** María Inés Manchego | **Editor:** Anastasia Doniants  
**Music:** Stephen Gallagher  
**Cast:** Chloe Parker, Elliot Lloyd-Bell | **15 mins**

A lonely teenager shares a moment of intimacy with a mysterious stranger in this surprising and sensitive film. Jamie Lawrence evokes a surreal world that tenderly explores identity, belonging and the desire for connection.



### Lost at Sea

**Director, Screenplay:** Asuka Sylvie  
**Aotearoa NZ 2024**

**Producer:** Emma Mortimer  
**Cinematography:** Adam Luxton | **Editor:** Simon Price | **Cast:** Louise Jiang, Nomundari Amarat, Chloe Jaques, Lauren O'Hara, Reon Bell, Leonardo Gunterg  
**12 mins**

A young woman and her friends gather at a bach to honour the memory of a loved one. Made in collaboration with Toi Whakaari, Asuka Sylvie conjures an evocative atmosphere in this poignant portrait of grief.



### The Lascar

**Director, Screenplay:** Adi Parige  
**Aotearoa NZ 2023**

**Producers:** Adi Parige, Rao Parige, Jessica George, Matt Asunder  
**Cinematography:** Jenna Eriksen | **Music:** Jose Jugo  
**Cast:** Vinith Shiva, Mark Matthews, Tanea Heke  
In English, Urdu and te reo Māori, with English subtitles | **35 mins**

In the 18th century, hundreds of Indian sailors, known as lascars, worked in brutal conditions among seal-hunting gangs in Aotearoa. One such crew is shaken when a lascar is caught trading with two Māori behind the back of the gang's tyrannical British leader.

**M** Violence, offensive language & content that may disturb

# Ngā Whanaunga Māori Pasifika Shorts 2024

79 mins approx.

Ka whiti, ka whiti, te whakawhitinga mai o ngā moana,  
i te toki aronui, i te taura tuituia, i te kōpū matanga,  
i te kaipūrakau nō te moana nui a Kiwa.  
He taura here i te iti, i te rahi.  
He waka kawea manako e ngā iwi katoa.

This collection of Māori and Pasifika short films has been selected by co-curators Leo Koziol (Ngāti Kahungunu, Ngāti Rakaipaaka), Director of the Wairoa Film Festival, and Craig Fasi (Nuie), Director of Pollywood Film Festival. Support these homegrown films across the motu and vote for your favourites at screenings in Auckland and Wellington.

The Wellington UNESCO Creative City of Film Best Film Award will be presented at the Wellington screening. The Letterboxd Audience Award will be announced at the NZIFF 2024 Auckland Closing Night on Sunday 18 August.



## The Great South

**Director, Screenplay:** Taniora Ormsby  
**Aotearoa NZ 2023 | Producers:** Taniora Ormsby, Aimee Laurent | **Cinematography:** Christopher Jackson | **Editor:** Issac Hetaraka  
**Cast:** Zharn Pokoati, Tumamao George, Chantal Stowers, Tawhero Ungakore, Lucy James | **11 mins**

Sometimes life isn't as black and white as we think it is, sometimes it's red and blue – the hope in hopeless times is to somehow stay true. — LK



## Hands of Fate

**Director:** Sima Urale | **Aotearoa NZ 2023**  
**Cinematography:** Jared Jones | **Cast:** Zaynah Alexander-Champion, Nikhil Jade, Tulsa Saumamao | **6 mins**

Not just another night in the city, a tale untold revealed; perhaps helplessness is a disguise. — LK

Wellington UNESCO  
Creative City of Film Award



Letterboxd  
Audience Award



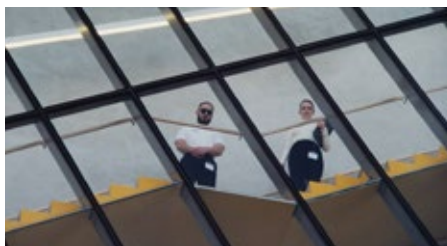
Presented in  
association with



## My Brother

**Director, Screenplay:** Misa Tupou | **USA 2024**  
**Producer:** Jana Park Moore | **Cinematography, Editor:** Keli'i Grace | **Cast:** Maima Savusa, Tupasi Toetu'u | In English, Tongan, and Samoan, with English subtitles | **8 mins**

Health of mind and especially body is often overlooked – Pasifika people are proud, towers of strength, in denial of the unwilling host to illness that they are. Change is choice – quality of life the decision. — CF



## The Red Room

**Director, Screenplay:** Alex Liu | **Aotearoa NZ 2023 | Producer:** Jacob Vale  
**Cinematography:** Caleb Corlett | **Editor:** Luke Earl | **Music:** Mike Newport | **Cast:** Mikey Falesiu, Catherine Yates, Samson Vaotuuu, Brendon Greene, TJ Snow | **17 mins**

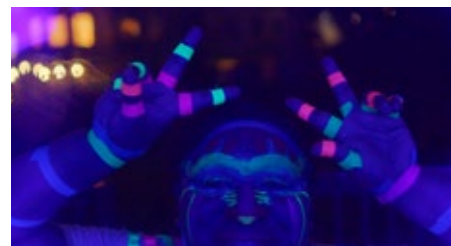
Therapy in the form of fantasy located in tomorrow here for you today. Suffering to heal via an "institution" that thrives with failure of the human condition. Stay calm – be prepared – know your enemy. — CF



## Chatterbox

**Director:** Tainui Tukiwaho | **Aotearoa NZ 2023**  
**Producer:** Acacia O'Connor | **Screenplay:** Tuakoi Ohia, Tainui Tukiwaho, Brady Peeti  
**Cinematography, Editor:** Amarbir Singh  
**Music:** Brady Peeti, Tuakoi Ohia | **Cast:** Brady Peeti, Tuakoi Ohia, Richie Grzyb, Rei Samuel | **14 mins**

The new Aotearoa *Rocky Horror* we didn't know we needed explodes on screen. Enjoy the ride, for this story will surely leave you wanting more, more, more! — LK



## Butterfly/Bataplai

**Director, Producer, Screenplay, Editor:** Veialu Aila-Unsworth | **USA 2024 | Cinematography:** Judd Overton | **Music:** Maxwell Stone, Otis Kane | **Cast:** Regina Pande, Graham Pande, Joana Mate, Olivia Korken | In English and Tok Pisin, with English subtitles | **8 mins**

Unique, distinct, bold and proud – owning who you are despite the prejudice you will encounter. Embrace, enhance, expose – be Butterfly/Bataplai. — CF



## Show Home

**Director:** Jane Shearer | **Aotearoa NZ 2023**  
**Producers:** Sarah Cook, Jimena Murray  
**Screenplay:** Jane Shearer, Steve Ayson  
**Cinematography:** Marty Williams | **Editor:** Lucas Baynes | **Cast:** Miriama McDowell, Kip Chapman | **15 mins**

The universe can teach if you are willing to learn. Desperation and lack of any contingency creates delusion and false hope. Sacrifice deserves certainty – words like hope and potential are fairytales. — CF

## Screenings

### Auckland

AWT Sat 17 Aug, 3:15pm

### Wellington

RXY Sat 3 Aug, 3:45pm

### Christchurch

LUM Sat 17 Aug, 4:45pm

LUM Mon 19 Aug, 12:30pm

### Dunedin

REG Sat 24 Aug, 11:00am

### Hamilton

LID Sat 31 Aug, 10:15am

### Tauranga

LUX Sat 17 Aug, 10:30am

### Napier

MTG Sat 31 Aug, 10:00am

### New Plymouth

LLC Sat 24 Aug, 11:15am

### Masterton

MAS Sat 24 Aug, 11:00am

### Nelson

STA Sat 24 Aug, 10:30am

# New Zealand's Best 2024

81 mins approx.

NZIFF Patrons  
Best Film Award

**NZIFF**  
PATRONS

Creative New Zealand  
Emerging Talent Award

**creative**  
nz  
ARTS COUNCIL OF NEW ZEALAND TOI AOTEAROA

Auckland Live  
Spirit of The Civic Award

**AUCKLAND LIVE**

Panavision Audience  
Award

**PANAVISION**

A total of 95 films were submitted for this year's New Zealand's Best short film competition. NZIFF Head of Programming, Michael McDonnell, Production and Events Manager Matt Bloomfield, and Marketing Lead – Auckland Amanda Jane Robinson viewed them all to draw up a shortlist of 12, from which Guest Selector Gerard Johnstone selected the five finalists.

A jury of three will select the winner of the \$7500 **NZIFF Patrons Best Short Film Award**, the \$4000 **Creative New Zealand Emerging Talent Award**, and the \$4000 **Auckland Live Spirit of The Civic Award**. The winner of the audience vote takes away the **Panavision Audience Award**, consisting of a \$5000 credit for Panavision equipment hire and 25 percent of the box office from NZIFF screenings in Auckland, Wellington, Christchurch and Dunedin.

The jury awards will be presented following the Auckland screening. The Panavision Audience Award will be announced at the NZIFF 2024 Auckland Closing Night on Sunday 18 August.



**Guest Selector: Gerard Johnstone**

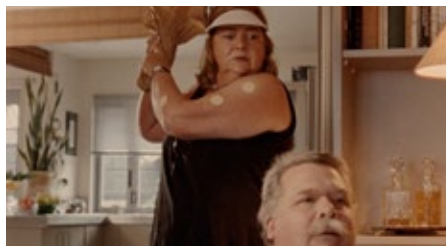
Writer and director Gerard Johnstone started his career in film through the 48Hours film contest and won two years of the competition. He went on to make the award-winning comedy *The Jaquie Brown Diaries*, which aired on TV3 for two seasons. He made his feature directorial debut in 2014 with haunted house horror comedy *Housebound* and in 2016 went on to reboot the 1980s series *Terry and the Gunrunners* as *Terry Teo*. Johnstone's second feature, killer robot horror *M3gan*, was released with Blumhouse in 2022.



## I See You

**Director, Screenplay:** Briar March | **Aotearoa NZ 2022** | **Producers:** Caroline Hutchison  
**Cinematography:** Adam Luxton **Editor:** Adam-Luka Turjak | **Music:** Dana Lund  
**Cast:** Anne March, Susannah Sherriff, Kieran Charnock | **17 mins**

A mother struggles with her toddler's delayed development until a chance encounter with a charismatic young man shifts her feelings.



## Grateful Grapefruit

**Director, Screenplay, Producer, Editor:** Sam Handley | **Aotearoa NZ 2024** |  
**Cinematography:** Caleb Corlett | **Music:** Connan Mockasin | **Cast:** Caroline Lowry, Connan Mockasin, David Berry, Jack Garvey, John Cocking, Gillian Davies | **15 mins**

A frustrated wife at her wits' end finds a message in a bottle which leads her into the mysterious world of The Hypnotist, and before long she's on track to put the glitter back in her grapefruit.



## Lea Tupu'anga/Mother Tongue

**Director:** Veā Mafīle'o | **Aotearoa NZ 2023**  
**Producers:** Alex Lovell, Eldon Booth  
**Screenplay:** Luciane Buchanan  
**Cinematography:** María Inés Manchego  
**Editors:** Lisa Greenfield, Anastasia Doniants  
**Music:** Stephen Gallagher | **Cast:** Luciane Buchanan, Albert Rounds, Mikey Falesiu, Michael Koloi, Elizabeth Thomson | In English and Tongan, with English subtitles | **17 mins**

A young speech therapist who has lied about her language skills must find a new way to communicate when she is assigned to an elderly Tongan patient with aphasia who can no longer speak English.



## First Horse

**Director:** Awanui Simich-Pene | **Aotearoa NZ 2024** | **Producers:** Puti Simich, Mia Henry-Tierney, Heperi Mita | **Screenplay:** Awanui Simich-Pene, Heperi Mita | **Cinematography:** Fred Renata | **Editor:** Cushla Dillon | **Music:** Troy Kingi | **Cast:** Te Atakōrihi Tūtengahe, Troy Kingi | In te reo Māori with English subtitles | **11 mins**

In pre-colonial Aotearoa a young Māori girl witnesses the best and worst of a rapidly changing world when she encounters a dying man and his horse.



## Rochelle

**Director, Screenplay, Editor:** Tom Furniss  
**Aotearoa NZ 2024** | **Producer:** Luke Sharpe  
**Cinematography:** Ryan Heron | **Music:** Karl Sölve Steven | **Cast:** Ben Sawyer, Roxie Mohebbi, Glen Paul Waru | **21 mins**

A brazen young man takes it upon himself to send his friend's busted up car, Rochelle, out in style by entering it in a local demolition derby, but to get there he needs help from an unexpected source.

## Screenings

**Auckland**  
AWT Sun 18 Aug, 3:15pm plus awards ceremony  
**Wellington**  
EMB Tue 6 Aug, 6:15pm  
**Christchurch**  
LUM Sun 25 Aug, 2:00pm  
LUM Wed 28 Aug, 12:15pm  
**Dunedin**  
REG Sun 18 Aug, 10:30am  
**Hamilton**  
LID Sat 24 Aug, 10:00am  
**Tauranga**  
LUX Sat 24 Aug, 10:45am  
**Napier**  
MTG Sat 24 Aug, 11:00am  
**New Plymouth**  
LLC Sun 1 Sep, 10:30am  
**Masterton**  
MAS Sun 1 Sep, 10:30am  
**Nelson**  
STA Sat 17 Aug, 10:30am

FILMAHOLICS, *cinephiles*, RED CARPET OBSERVERS, old movie buffs, **DIALOGUE JUNKIES**, *those who noticed the lighting shift in scene two*, HOLLYWOOD, BOLLYWOOD & HALLYUWOOD FANS, **SCRIPT SURGEONS**, mise-en-scene analysts, PLOT-HOLE DETECTIVES, *card-carrying cinecult members*, **streaming service power users**, story arc astronomers, **CHARACTER PSYCHOANALYSTS**, *anime addicts*, ARMCHAIR CRITICS...

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ARTS

# AOTEAROA FILM FOCUS WEEKEND

➤➤➤ **AUGUST 15-18** ⚡⚡⚡

Mānawa maiea te putanga o Matariki ki runga o Rangitoto,  
e owha ana ki te rā, “Ara mai rā! Ara mai rā!”  
Mānawa maiea te Ariki o te rangi,  
e korokī ana, “ko rātou ki a rātou, ko tātou ki a tātou”.  
Mānawa maiea te Mātahi o te Tau,  
e hora nei he kai anō mō te hirikapo o ngā iwi o Tāmaki  
Makaurau,  
pakeke mai, mātātahi mai, taitamariki mai.

NZIFF is dedicated to exhibiting the best and brightest in New Zealand cinema, and we're thrilled to launch the inaugural Aotearoa Film Focus Weekend as part of NZIFF 2024. The “festival within a festival” takes place in Tāmaki Makaurau at ASB Waterfront Theatre across four days, 15 – 18 August, showcasing screenings and events with a specific focus on homegrown cinema.

For decades, NZIFF has championed our homegrown talent and provided a launchpad for Kiwi filmmakers – Jane Campion, Taika Waititi, Peter Jackson, Gaylene Preston and many more premiered their first feature films at the festival.

The Aotearoa Film Focus Weekend shines a light on a stellar selection of Aotearoa New Zealand filmmakers, presenting 13 features and documentaries, three short film collections, two panel discussions, a photography exhibition, a workshop, a masterclass and more than a dozen Q&A sessions.

Providing inspiration through visual storytelling, the Aotearoa Film Focus Weekend is an opportunity to take audiences behind the curtain, a chance to connect and collaborate with the community, engage with filmmakers, and learn from the very best, in this celebration of cinema from across the motu.

Proudly supported by



**ARTS**



**ASB WATERFRONT THEATRE, TĀMAKI MAKAUROU AUCKLAND**

# Māhutonga

A selection of key films from Aotearoa New Zealand, both narrative and documentary, as well as three short film collections will play at the Aotearoa Film Focus Weekend. These films will also feature across the motu throughout the festival – see the Māhutonga strand (p12-19) for more details.

## A Mistake (p15)

Aotearoa NZ 2024 | 101 mins  
Director: Christine Jeffs

Saturday 17 August 6:00pm

## Alien Weaponry:

### Kua Tupu Te Ara (p12)

Aotearoa NZ 2024 | 97 mins  
Director, Cinematography:  
Kent Belcher

Friday 16 August 12:45pm

## Grafted (p13)

Aotearoa NZ 2024 | 93 mins  
Director: Sasha Rainbow

Friday 16 August 3:30pm

## Head South (p6)

Aotearoa NZ 2024 | 98 mins  
Director, Screenplay:  
Jonathan Ogilvie

Thursday 15 August 1:15pm

## The Haka Party Incident (p13)

Aotearoa NZ 2024 | 90 mins  
Director: Katie Wolfe

Friday 16 August 6:15pm

## The House Within (p14)

Aotearoa NZ 2024 | 71 mins  
Director: Joshua Prendeville

Sunday 18 August 12:45pm

## Marimari (p14)

Aotearoa NZ 2024 | 97 mins  
Director: Paul Wolfram

Saturday 17 August 10:00am

## Never Look Away (p15)

Aotearoa NZ 2024 | 85 mins  
Director: Lucy Lawless

Thursday 15 August 7:00pm

## Taki Rua Theatre - Breaking Barriers (p17)

Aotearoa NZ 2024 | 90 mins  
Director, Screenplay:  
Whetū Fala

Sunday 18 August 6:00pm

## We Were

### Dangerous (p5)

Aotearoa NZ 2024 | 82 mins  
Director: Josephine  
Stewart-Te Whiu

Thursday 15 August 10:30am

## New Zealand's Best 2024 (p19)

81 mins approx.

The year's best New Zealand short films as chosen by guest selector, Gerard Johnstone. Jury awards will be presented following this screening.

Sunday 18 August 3:15pm

## Ngā Whanaunga Māori Pasifika Shorts 2024 (p18)

79 mins approx.

A collection of seven Māori and Pasifika short films, curated by Leo Koziol (Ngāti Kahungunu, Ngāti Rakaipaaka) and Craig Fasi (Niue).

Saturday 17 August 3:15pm

## Short Connections 2024 (p17)

83 mins approx.

Five new Aotearoa shorts examine the ways we connect with each other.

Sunday 18 August 10:00am

# Meet the Filmmakers

An opportunity for audiences to connect with local filmmakers and to put a face to the name behind the camera. The filmmakers below will present their films exclusively at the Aotearoa Film Focus Weekend. Filmmaker Q&As will follow most screenings during AFFW. See p8 for filmmaker bios.

## Bridget Sutherland

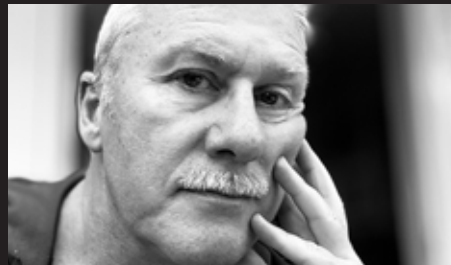
Night Piece



Bridget Sutherland is a writer on art, a painter and filmmaker. She produced and directed the documentaries *Far off Town*, and *Infinity on Trial*. She co-wrote and produced the documentary *Don Driver Magician*. She also wrote and directed a number of short experimental films including *Seeing War*, a hand-painted film honouring the horses sent to World War I. Bridget has a Doctorate in Fine Arts and is currently lecturing in Visual Arts at Eastern Institute of Technology, New Zealand.

## Garth Maxwell

Naughty Little PeepToe



Garth Maxwell started his film career as a 20-year-old working in post-production before deciding to write and direct, creating his own projects from the mid-1980s. His ambition was to make films that had both intensity (melodrama, suspense) and heart, integrating his perspective as a gay man with the demands of the artistic and commercial worlds. He cites Christopher Marlowe, Hitchcock and Almodovar as inspirations. His films have screened at Sundance Film Festival, Toronto International Film Festival, and have been acquired by MoMA.

## Tessa Mitchell

I Am a Dark River



Tessa Mitchell is an award-winning actor, performer, and storyteller who has worked in theatre, film, and television over the past three decades. *I Am a Dark River* is her first film as a director and utilises material developed with her partner Ben Holmes in a stage show originally performed in 1999. She is the granddaughter of Bob Lowry, the subject of her documentary and a figure who has loomed large in her family history.



# Exclusive Screenings

We proudly present three screenings exclusive to the Aotearoa Film Focus Weekend: two world premieres and a retrospective featurette not screened in Aotearoa since the turn of the century.



PHOTO: By Clifton Firth courtesy of Vanya Lowry.

## I Am a Dark River

Aotearoa NZ 2024 | 70 mins

**Director:** Tessa Mitchell  
**Producer:** Orlando Stewart  
**Cinematography:** Adam Luxton  
**Editor:** Jason Pengelly  
**Music:** Ben Holmes  
**With:** Bob Lowry, Tessa Mitchell, Ben Holmes

**Screening:**  
 Saturday 17 August 9:00pm

Dubbed “the kumara god” by James K. Baxter, Bob Lowry was, famously, a lot of things. Printmaker, writer, activist, publisher, raconteur—but to Tessa Mitchell, he is the mysterious grandfather she grew up hearing so much about but never knew. Does the dark river that ran through him also run through her? Mitchell, herself as unconventional and creative as her grandfather, uses the medium of performance documentary to explore this question, revealing the fascinating history of her family; her grandfather’s activism and notoriety, and the subversive, bohemian house parties her grandparents threw during a deeply repressive time in New Zealand’s history. — Louise Adams



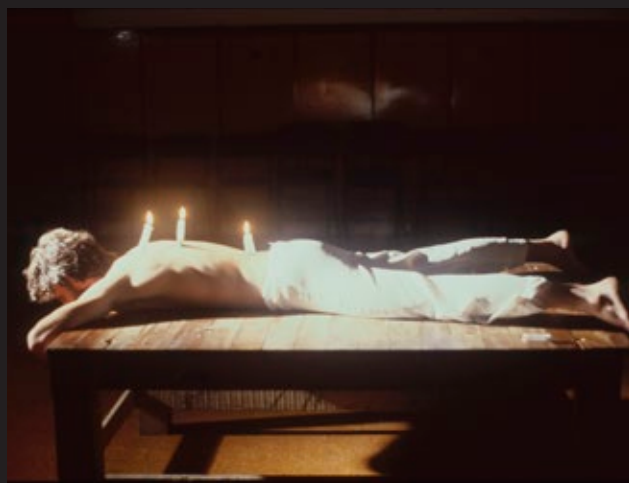
## Naughty Little Peep toe

Aotearoa NZ 2000 | 35 mins

**Directors, Cinematography:** Garth Maxwell, Peter Wells  
**Producer:** Michele Fantl  
**Editor:** Matt House  
**Music:** Lisa Morrison  
**Special appearance by** Tairaroa Royal  
**Doug George interviewed by** Debra Daley and Garth Maxwell  
**Preceded by short film** *Come With Us*, 8 mins

**Screening:**  
 Friday 16 August 9:00pm

Best known for his cultish debut feature *Jack Be Nimble*, Garth Maxwell here offers a deeply personal film, co-directed by the late Peter Wells. An ode to friend, fashionista and foot-fetishist Doug George, Maxwell along with collaborator Debra Daley recorded the caustic, chaotic narration from George, retelling the story of how high heels saved his life. Recently picked up by MoMA as part of its permanent film collection, film curator Ron Magliozzi dubbed it a “witty testimony to the durable, liberating spirit of a queer perspective”. *Come with Us*, a short collaboration with Simon Marler, will precede *Naughty Little Peep toe*, and a response from queer erotic fiction writer Samuel Te Kani will follow. — Matt Bloomfield



## Night Piece

Aotearoa NZ 2024 | 59 mins

**Director:** Bridget Sutherland  
**Producers, Editors:** Bridget Sutherland, Stuart Page  
**Cinematography:** Stuart Page  
**Music:** David Kilgour  
**With:** Peter Roche, Linda Buis, Gregory Burke, Christina Barton, Wytan Curnow

**Screening:**  
 Saturday 17 August 1:00pm

*Night Piece* documents the confronting career of Peter Roche, one of Aotearoa’s most electrifying conceptual artists. From early performances spiked with danger, pushing audience and artist to their limits, to immense neon sculptures that would become permanent parts of Auckland’s landscape, the documentary offers intimate insight into the mind and process of a creative who truly lived his art. Affectionately assembled with archive photos and video stretching from the mid-1980s to Peter’s untimely death at 63 in 2020, *Night Piece* is a warm tribute to the man and an accessible overview of the art – provocative work that demands to live on. — Adrian Hatwell

# NZIFF Engage at AFFW

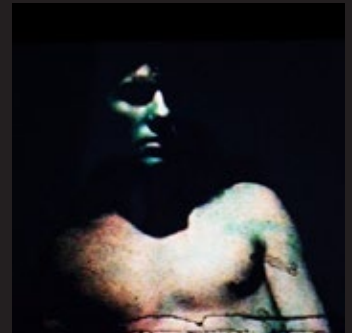
## Late Night Lounge with Garth Maxwell and Samuel Te Kani

Auditorium, Fri 16 Aug 9:00pm–10:15pm

A celebration of the works of iconoclastic New Zealand filmmaker **Garth Maxwell**, following on from screenings of his first-ever film *Come With Us* (co-directed with **Simon Marler**) as well as raucous tribute to foot-fetishist Doug George, *Naughty Little Peeptoe* (co-directed with Peter Wells). Queer erotic fiction writer **Samuel Te Kani** will perform an excerpt in response to *Naughty Little Peeptoe*, before hosting an informal discussion with Maxwell around his body of work, and his approach to art and cinema.



*Naughty Little Peeptoe* (2000)



*Come With Us* (1981)

## Pae Kōrero – Panel Discussions

### The Art of Keeping the Language Alive

Villa Maria Gallery, Sat 17 Aug 1:00pm–2:00pm

A panel focused on celebrating the preservation of indigenous languages through the use of music, theatre and film. Related films: *Alien Weaponry: Kua Tupu Te Ara*, *Kneecap*, *Taki Rua Theatre – Breaking Barriers*, *The Haka Party Incident*.

### Boosted Pathways

Villa Maria Gallery, Sun 18 Aug 9:00pm–10:15pm

Want to get your film made but anxious about the current funding climate? Learn how to run a successful Boosted crowdfunding campaign from those who have been through it, in this engaging and purposeful discussion. Presented in association with Boosted.

## Workshop

Villa Maria Gallery, Thu 15 Aug 1:30pm–2:30pm

Winner of the Special Jury Award for Filmmaking this year at SXSW, **Josephine Stewart-Te Whiu** joins us to chat about her journey from winning the Vista Group Award for Best Film at New Zealand's Best 2021 to opening this year's festival with her debut feature *We Were Dangerous*. After making her mark at the helm of several short films, Stewart-Te Whiu will discuss lessons learnt moving from short filmmaking to shooting your first feature. This informal conversation is an opportunity to hear from one of Aotearoa's most promising filmmakers.

Free entry, registration essential – see [nziff.co.nz/engage](https://nziff.co.nz/engage) for more details.



Presented in association with



## Masterclass with Gints Zilbalodis

Villa Maria Gallery, Fri 16 Aug 10:00am–1:30pm

Latvian animation maestro **Gints Zilbalodis** presents a masterclass at Aotearoa Film Focus Weekend ahead of screenings of his mesmerising sophomore feature, *Flow* (see p60). Drawing comparisons to the world-building prowess of Hayao Miyazaki, Zilbalodis won big with *Flow* at this year's Annecy International Animation Film Festival, nabbing four awards. Take a peek under the hood and get an inside look at the creative process as Zilbalodis leads this animation-focused masterclass.

Full price \$30  
Student concession or film industry guild member \$25  
See [nziff.co.nz/engage](https://nziff.co.nz/engage) for more details.



Presented in association with



## Still Stories: Photography Exhibition

AUT Atrium, Thu 15 Aug – Sun 18 Aug

On display during the Aotearoa Film Focus Weekend is an exhibition of still photographs captured by members of the New Zealand Cinematographers Society (NZCS) and selected by New Zealand cinema icon Roger Donaldson. The project was inspired by the unprecedented success of the American Cinematographer Society's *Stories in a Single Frame* exhibition. Prints will be available for purchase.



Presented in association with



# Te Hōtaka - Schedule

Stay up to date: visit [nziff.co.nz/affw](http://nziff.co.nz/affw)

	THURSDAY 15	FRIDAY 16	SATURDAY 17	SUNDAY 18
10AM				
11AM	<b>We Were Dangerous</b> 10:30am Followed by Q&A	<b>Never Look Away</b> 10:15am Followed by Q&A	<b>Marimari</b> 10:00am Followed by Q&A	<b>Short Connections 2024</b> 10:00am
12PM				
1PM				
2PM	<b>Head South</b> 1:15pm	<b>Alien Weaponry: Kua Tupu Te Ara</b> 12:45pm Followed by Q&A	<b>Night Piece</b> 1:00pm Followed by Q&A	<b>The House Within</b> 12:45pm Followed by Q&A
3PM				
4PM		<b>Grafted</b> 3:30pm Followed by Q&A	<b>Ngā Whanaunga Māori Pasifika Shorts 2024</b> 3:15pm Followed by Q&A	<b>New Zealand's Best 2024</b> 3:15pm Followed by Q&A + Awards
5PM				
6PM				
7PM	<b>Never Look Away</b> 7:00pm Followed by Q&A	<b>The Haka Party Incident</b> 6:15pm Followed by Q&A	<b>A Mistake</b> 6:00pm Followed by Q&A	<b>Taki Rua Theatre – Breaking Barriers</b> 6:00pm Followed by Q&A
8PM				
9PM		<b>Naughty Little PeepToe</b> 9:00pm Followed by Late Night Lounge	<b>I Am a Dark River</b> 9:00pm Followed by Q&A	
10PM				
	▲	▲	▲	▲
	<b>Workshop</b> 1:30pm–2:30pm With Josephine Stewart-Te Whiu	<b>Masterclass</b> 10:00am–1:30pm With Gints Zilbalodis	<b>Panel: The Art of Keeping the Language Alive</b> 1:00pm–2:00pm	<b>Panel: Boosted Pathways</b> 1:00pm–2:00pm Supported by Boosted

Venue Information and Accessibility: See p73

A newly minted competition comprising 10 must-see features lining up some of the best narrative debuts of the last 12 months. Discover the most exciting and promising new voices in international cinema.

*Vote for your favourite at screenings in Auckland and Wellington and be in to win an annual membership to Auckland or Wellington Film Society.*

# Fresh Competition

## Birdeater



From the off, something doesn't feel quite right in Australian directors Jack Clark and Jim Weir's *Birdeater*, a film that isn't strictly a horror in a classic sense, and yet moves with the aggressiveness and deep-seated foreboding of one of the great psychological horror-thrillers such as *Don't Look Now* or Australia's own *Wake in Fright*. The tension slowly ratcheting to fever pitch as Louie, a young Australian man, convinces Irene, his British expat fiancée, to join him and his groomsmen for a stag do in an isolated cabin in the Outback. Initially, the idea is presented as a progressive twist on the traditional gender norms intrinsic to wedding

celebrations, but the deadly cocktail of inebriation, sweltering heat, misguided masculine ritual and buried secrets soon reveal the nature of the pair's relationship to be something entirely more sinister than it seems.

Uniting a broad ensemble of young Australian actors, the directors flex a confidence and aptitude with cinematic language that is particularly striking, this being their feature debut. Employing visual, sound and editing techniques associated with horror cinema, seemingly benign moments are given new layers of terror. *Birdeater's* erratic, frenetic style imbues the picture with

### Screenings

**Auckland**  
HWD Sun 11 Aug, 8:45pm  
**Wellington**  
RXY Thu 1 Aug, 8:30pm  
LHC Mon 5 Aug, 8:15pm  
LHC Wed 7 Aug, 4:00pm  
**Christchurch**  
LUM Tue 20 Aug, 7:45pm  
LUM Wed 28 Aug, 4:00pm  
LUM Thu 29 Aug, 8:45pm

### Directors: Jim Weir, Jack Clark

Australia 2023 | 115 mins

**Producers:** Ulysses Oliver, Stephanie Troost

**Screenplay:** Jack Clark

**Cinematography:** Roger Stonehouse

**Editor:** Ben Anderson

**Music:** Andreas Dominguez

**Cast:** Mackenzie Fearnley, Shabana Azeez, Ben Hunter, Jack Bannister, Clementine Anderson, Alfie Gledhill

**Festivals:** Sydney, Melbourne 2023; SXSW 2024

lashings of dark comedy and fearsome setpieces of drunken chaos, but it is the ominous depiction of toxic masculinity that sets the film apart. Though the subject has become a *thème du jour* in modern horror cinema, few films are as unflinching as this one.

— Tom Augustine

"Considering this is Clark and Weir's first feature-length film, their ability to execute gnarly match cuts and gorgeous montage sequences awash in colour is even more impressive."

— Coleman Spilde, *Daily Beast*

**"The undisguised ferocity of *Birdeater* is truly next level."**

— Alexandra Heller-Nicholas, *Film International*

## Brief History of a Family

*Jia ting jian shi*



Equally mysterious and revealing, Lin Jianjie's debut feature provides a dispassionate, almost analytical look into the dynamics of an estranged family in contemporary China. Drawing inspiration from Pier Paolo Pasolini's *Theorem* (1968), the surreal tale of a stranger seducing every member of one family, Lin dissects the dissolution of a bourgeois household, as an inconspicuous intruder ingratiates himself among its members and reawakens their suppressed individualities.

The film opens on an incident in the schoolyard, as introvert Shuo is hit by a basketball thrown by exuberant Wei. Feeling guilty,

Wei invites Shuo to play video games at his house. During dinner with Wei's parents, Shuo reveals that his mother is dead and hints at the abuse he receives from his often-drunk father. Shuo spends more and more time at the affluent home, securing trust, while stoking Wei's jealousy.

Lin tracks Shuo's effortless manipulation, retaining an adroit and unfathomable ambiguity. At the same time, he observes his characters as if they were framed through the lens of a microscope. The result is a quietly thrilling investigation into the pretence undermining the pillars of a society. — Paolo Bertolin

### Screenings

#### Auckland

HWD Sun 11 Aug, 6:00pm\*

HWD Mon 12 Aug, 12:15pm\*

#### Wellington

RXY Thu 8 Aug, 6:15pm\*

LHC Fri 9 Aug, 10:30am\*

### Director, Screenplay:

#### Lin Jianjie

China/France/Denmark/  
Qatar 2024 | 99 mins

**Producers:** Lou Ying, Zheng Yue, Wang Yiwen

**Cinematography:** Zhang Jiahao

**Editor:** Per K. Kirkegaard

**Music:** Toke Brorson Odin

**Cast:** Zu Feng, Guo Keyu, Sun Xilun, Lin Muran

**Languages:** Mandarin with English subtitles

**Festivals:** Sundance, Berlin, Hong Kong 2024

**Q&A\*:** Lin Jianjie

“Populated with thematically relevant imagery, Lin Jianjie's sleek and stimulating feature debut follows a teenager gaining the trust of his friend's moneyed parents.”

— Carlos Aguilar, *Variety*

**M** Adult themes

## Dormitory

*Yurt*



Turkey, 1996. Ahmet is a 14-year-old student who, like all his peers, attends the flag-raising ceremony celebrating President Atatürk every morning and learns English at school. At night, however, he is sent to an Islamic dormitory (or *yurt*) against his will by his father, to learn the doctrine of the Qur'an and pray in Arabic. At a time when Turkey is shifting towards secularism, Ahmet conceals his stay at the dormitory from his classmates and suffers the bars of what feels like a prison.

As he navigates his awakening sexuality, floating between a crush for classmate Sevinç and his bond with his best pal Hakan, an orphan

working at the yurt, Ahmet plans his own rebellion.

Sharply shot in pristine black-and-white, Nehir Tuna's debut illustrates the rebellious stance of Ahmet with energetic direction underscoring an ebullient rage. It will remind some of Jean Vigo's 1933 classic *Zéro de conduite* or of Marco Belloccchio's provocative *Fists in the Pocket*. But Tuna's inspiration is François Truffaut's *The 400 Blows*, as he plans to follow Ahmet's apprenticeship to life as Truffaut did with his iconic recurring character Antoine Doinel. After this dazzling first chapter, we can't wait to see what is coming next! — Paolo Bertolin

### Screenings

#### Auckland

HWD Sat 17 Aug, 1:00pm

#### Wellington

RXY Sat 10 Aug, 12:15pm

### Director, Screenplay:

#### Nehir Tuna

Turkey/Germany/France  
2023 | 118 mins

**Producers:** Tanay Abbasoğlu, Dorothe Beinemeier, Thierry Lenouvel

**Cinematography:** Florent Herry

**Editor:** Ayris Alptekin

**Music:** Avi Medina

**Cast:** Doğa Karakaş, Can Bartu Arslan, Ozan Çelik, Tansu Biçer, Didem Ellialtı, Orhan Güner, Işıltı Su Alyanak

**Languages:** Turkish with English subtitles

**Festivals:** Venice 2023

“In *Dormitory*, I tried to bring my own experience to tell a story that transcends the macro political struggle between religiosity and secularism.”

— Nehir Tuna

**TBC** NZ Classification TBC

## Good One



“You two are fools,” smirks 17-year-old Sam. She’s addressing her father and his oldest friend while they tell tales from their glory days as the trio trek through the Catskills. It’s an accurate observation, one of many Sam makes over the course of the weekend.

Both men are divorced, with stunted ambitions and palpable insecurities. At best they’re embarrassing, tactless, pathetic. At worst, they’re selfish, oblivious to the callousness of their behaviour. Amid mounting tension, Sam remains tolerant, attempting to appease the egos of these middle-aged men, but after a moment of transgression, she must confront

the extent of their cowardice.

The role of Sam is a star-making turn for Lily Collias. It’s her first lead role, yet she is naturalistic and completely magnetic. India Donaldson, daughter of New Zealand filmmaking legend Roger Donaldson, has made an assured, incisive feature debut. The film’s intimate scale is deceptive – ostensibly, it’s a movie about three people on a hike. Yet it is emotionally vast, an unshowy but profound story of betrayal. It’s a film about inadequacy and disappointment; about trust lost; about parents who don’t really know you, and worse, don’t make the effort to try.

— Amanda Jane Robinson

### Screenings

#### Auckland

HWD Fri 9 Aug, 6:15pm

#### Wellington

LHC Thu 1 Aug, 2:15pm

RXY Mon 5 Aug, 6:15pm

### Director, Screenplay: India Donaldson

USA 2024 | 90 mins

**Producers:** Diana Irvine, Graham Mason, Wilson Cameron, India Donaldson

**Cinematography:** Wilson Cameron

**Editor:** Graham Mason

**Music:** Celia Hollander

**Cast:** Lily Collias, James Le Gros, Danny McCarthy, Sumaya Bouhbal, Diana Irvine

**Festivals:** Sundance, New Directors/New Films, Cannes (Directors’ Fortnight) 2024

“A fantastically assured debut that unfolds with the pointillistic detail of a great short story, a coming-of-age story that jettisons all of the genre’s most familiar trappings in favor of a long walk in the woods.”

— David Ehrlich, *Indiewire*

Presented in association with

VIVA

TBC NZ Classification TBC

## Janet Planet



Being just the two of them for so long has lent a certain codependency to the relationship between taciturn 11-year-old Lacy (Zoe Ziegler) and her acupuncturist single mother Janet (Julianne Nicholson, *Monos*, NZIFF 2019). It’s 1991, the summer holidays between fifth and sixth grade, and Lacy isn’t yet searching for independence. If anything, she’s clinging to her closeness with her mother, still wanting to share a bed, even as Janet resists.

Piano lessons and trips to the local mall punctuate a long, lazy Massachusetts summer with Lacy forced to contend with the presence of those Janet invites

into their lives – migraine-prone boyfriend Wayne (Will Patton, *Meek’s Cutoff*, NZIFF 2011), old friend Regina (Sophie Okonedo), and charming commune leader Avi (Elias Koteas, *The Killer Inside Me*, NZIFF 2010). In lieu of friends her own age, Lacy spends time alone in her imagination, or diligently studying the adults in her life. As director Annie Baker puts it, *Janet Planet* is “a story about falling out of love with your mother.” Lacy is trying to understand what it is that pulls people into her mother’s orbit, and in turn, prepare for her own looming womanhood.

Baker made the jump to debut

### Screenings

#### Auckland

CIV Fri 9 Aug, 1:30pm

HWD Wed 14 Aug, 6:15pm

#### Wellington

LHC Sun 4 Aug, 10:15am

LHC Tue 6 Aug, 2:15pm

RXY Sun 11 Aug, 2:15pm

#### Christchurch

LUM Fri 23 Aug, 4:00pm

LUM Sat 24 Aug, 6:45pm

LUM Sun 1 Sep, 6:00pm

#### Dunedin

REG Tue 20 Aug, 6:15pm

### Director, Screenplay: Annie Baker

USA/UK 2023 | 110 mins

**Producers:** Dan Janvey, Andrew Goldman, Derrick Tseng

**Cinematography:** Maria von Hausswolff

**Editor:** Lucian Johnston

**Music:** Joe Rudge

**Cast:** Julianne Nicholson, Zoe Ziegler, Elias Koteas, Will Patton, Sophie Okonedo

**Festivals:** Telluride, New York 2023; Berlin, San Francisco 2024

“Baker’s tingling delicacy of touch makes it a subtly distinctive experience: it’s a film I already looked forward to revisiting while tiptoeing through it the first time.”

— Tim Robey, *The Telegraph*

M Adult themes

filmmaker from an acclaimed career as a playwright, the same trajectory taken in recent years by Celine Song (*Past Lives*, NZIFF 2023) and Tina Satter (*Reality*, NZIFF 2023). In *Janet Planet*, as in her writing for the stage, Baker has a keen ear for what is said and unsaid. Her dialogue is wry and naturalistic, and her direction is emotionally precise – even her sound design is nostalgic. It’s a film observed in intimate detail, shot on lush 16mm film, with glances and gestures that reverberate long after the credits roll.

— Amanda Jane Robinson

## Oceans Are the Real Continents

*Los oceanos son los verdaderos continentes*



*Oceans Are the Real Continents* is a heartfelt ode to the beauty and resilience of the Cuban people. After attending a workshop held by Filipino director Lav Diaz at the film school of San Antonio de los Baños, Italian filmmaker Tommaso Santambrogio decided to turn his camera on real people in the town to chronicle the life of Cubans at a time of calamitous economic downturn.

In his exquisite black and white debut, Santambrogio juxtaposes three stories where non-professional actors play fictionalised versions of their own stories. Edith and Alex are a couple in their twenties: she is a puppeteer who has been offered work in Italy, while

he is a playwright deeply attached to his roots in San Antonio. Elderly Milagros indulges in reading the letters her husband sent her from Angola, where in the 1980s Cubans joined the war against South Africa. Every day, she goes to the train station with the undying hope he will come back. Children Franck and Alain are best friends who dream of becoming baseball champs in the US.

With admirable compassion, Santambrogio captures the predicament of his characters and of the whole Cuban people, torn between resistance and exile, between past, present and future.

— Paolo Bertolin

### Screenings

**Auckland**  
HWD Fri 16 Aug, 3:30pm  
**Wellington**  
LHC Fri 2 Aug, 4:00pm  
RXY Sat 10 Aug, 10:00am

**Director, Screenplay:**  
**Tommaso Santambrogio**  
Italy/Cuba 2023 | 119 mins

**Producers:** Marica Stocchi, Gianluca Arocinto

**Cinematography:** Lorenzo Casadio Vannucci

**Editor:** Matteo Faccenda

**Music:** Ramiro Cordero, Marwco Reccagni

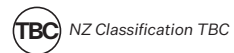
**Cast:** Alexander Diego, Edith Ybarra Clara, Frank Ernesto Lam, Alain Alain Alfonso González, Milagros Llanes Martínez

**Language:** Spanish with English subtitles

**Festivals:** Venice 2023

**“A poetic, poignant and beautifully constructed work that is both artistically resonant and deeply moving.”**

— Matthew Joseph Jenner, International Cinephile Society



## To a Land Unknown



Chatila and Reda are Palestinian cousins stranded in Athens. They left their families in a refugee camp in Lebanon and now lead the clandestine life of illegal immigrants. They will play any trick, from bag-snatching to sex work, to save enough money to get to Germany, the “real Europe”.

The resolute Chatila (played with astonishing conviction by Mahmood Bakri) dreams of opening a café and is determined to make it happen, while Reda (sensitively portrayed by Aram Sabbah) is on the precipice of succumbing to drug addiction. Their escape plans involve ploys that keep raising the stakes.

With his first narrative feature *To a Land Unknown*, Palestinian-Danish filmmaker Mahdi Fleifel delivers a rough and gripping update on *Midnight Cowboy*, centered on a chiaroscuro portrait of survival at the margins of society. His characters’ parable powerfully captures the plight of Palestinians, in constant search of a land to belong to, never at home anywhere. Thanks to its true-to-life approach, its vigorous mise en scène and its terrific performances, *To a Land Unknown* accomplishes a lot without being preachy. One of the year’s must-see debuts.

— Paolo Bertolin

### Screenings

**Auckland**  
HWD Sat 10 Aug, 6:15pm  
**Wellington**  
RXY Fri 2 Aug, 6:15pm  
EMB Tue 6 Aug, 3:45pm

**Director: Mahdi Fleifel**  
Palestine/UK/France/  
Germany/Greece/  
Netherlands/Qatar/Saudi  
Arabia 2024 | 105 mins

**Producers:** Geoff Arbourne, Mahdi Fleifel

**Screenplay:** Fyzal Boulifa, Mahdi Fleifel, Jason McColgan

**Cinematography:** Thodoros Mihopoulos

**Editor:** Halim Sabbagh

**Music:** Nadah El Shazly

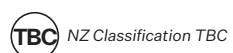
**Cast:** Mahmood Bakri, Aram Sabbagh, Angeliki Papoulia, Mohammad Alsurafa, Mouataz Alshalton

**Languages:** Arabic, Greek and English, with English subtitles

**Festivals:** Cannes (Directors’ Fortnight) 2024

**“A tour-de-force of empathic storytelling, with its genre narrative bursting with an overabundance of humanity.”**

— Sophie Monks Kaufman, *Indiewire*



## Viet and Nam

*Trong lòng đất*



Viet and Nam are two young coal miners enveloped in a languid romantic connection. Working together in the dark and cold abysses of the earth, there they also find shelter to consummate their passion. Their bodies meet and dissolve into each other in the sparkling darkness of the mine, while they tenderly seek acceptance in the outside world.

They playfully walk together along the seashore, as all lovers would do, but they feel theirs is a doomed romance, as Nam plans to illegally emigrate overseas. Nam's loving mother seems to accept their union, and before he leaves the country to seek better luck

abroad, he and Viet embark on the mission to help her look for the earthly remains of his father, who died during the war.

Shot in textured 16mm, *Viet and Nam* is a slow-burning and quietly absorbing drama that effortlessly weaves together a heartbreaking love story with a poetic meditation on the recent history of Vietnam. Director Truong Minh Quý's sensuous and sensual approach will remind many of Thai maestro Apichatpong Weerasethakul, but his emotional melancholy is his own trademark. And certainly, the next time you eat watermelon, you will think of the strikingly poignant finale.

— Paolo Bertolin

### Screenings

**Auckland**  
HWD Sat 17 Aug, 3:45pm  
**Wellington**  
RXY Sat 10 Aug, 5:30pm

### Director, Screenplay: Truong Minh Quý

Vietnam/Philippines/  
Singapore/France/  
Netherlands/Italy/Germany  
2024 | 129 mins

**Producers:** Bianca Balbuena, Bradley Liew

**Cinematography:** Son Doan

**Editor:** Félix Rehm

**Production Designer:** Truong Trung Đạo

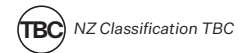
**Cast:** Pham Thanh Hai, Đào Duy Bao Đình, Nguyen Thi Nga, Lê Viet Tung

**Language:** Vietnamese with English subtitles

**Festivals:** Cannes (Un Certain Regard), Sydney 2024

**“A transfixing drama that further showcases the talents of one of Vietnam’s most exciting modern filmmakers.”**

— Josh Slater-Williams, *Indiewire*



## The Village Next to Paradise



In a country where you could suddenly be killed by an American drone and paramilitaries patrol every street, leading a normal life seems like a utopian delusion. Yet in Somali-Austrian director Mo Harawe's quietly stunning debut *The Village Next to Paradise*, a trio of characters negotiate their own way maybe not to paradise, but something close to it.

Mamargade is a middle-aged man who drives trucks carrying mysterious cargo and tries to keep away from trouble. His young son, Cigaal, shares his dreams with anyone who will listen. Mamargade's sister, Araweelo, aspires to buy a sewing

machine so that she may gain her independence.

Plunging us into everyday life in a Somali village with the ever-present sound of the desert wind, the waves lapping the seashore, the vividly colourful landscapes and fabrics, Harawe's fond and tender labour of love retains a documentary-like quality. His ethically conscious cinematic gaze draws audiences close to his characters, who pursue their simple goals with intent and dignity. Through this heartwarming gem of a film, Harawe bestows upon his characters and his country the priceless gift of hope.

— Paolo Bertolin

### Screenings

**Auckland**  
HWD Mon 12 Aug, 5:30pm\*  
HWD Tue 13 Aug, 10:00am\*  
**Wellington**  
LHC Fri 9 Aug, 1:15pm  
RXY Sat 10 Aug, 2:30pm\*

### Director, Screenplay: Mo Harawe

Somalia/Austria/France/  
Germany 2024 | 133 mins

**Producers:** Sabine Moser, Oliver Neumann

**Cinematography:** Mostafa El Kashef

**Editor:** Joana Scrinzi

**Cast:** Ahmed Ali Farah, Anab Ahmed Ibrahim, Ahmed Mohamud Saleban

**Language:** Somali with English subtitles

**Festivals:** Cannes (Un Certain Regard) 2024

**Q&A\*:** Mo Harawe

**“A compelling narrative of one family’s survival in a sleepy Somali town. But it’s the devastating backdrop against which their drama plays out that lingers long after the credits roll.”**

— Lovia Gyarkye, *Hollywood Reporter*





# Wild Diamond

*Diamant brut*



To most people of a certain age or generation, wanting to be on a reality TV show is an odd aspiration. But to 19-year-old Liane, it is everything. Literally. She lives large, despite her small means, and dreams big. She knows exactly what she will be when she grows up – a star. And she wants everyone else to know it, too.

Living in difficult circumstances with her mother and younger sister, Liane rejects the idea of a “normal” job, instead opting to shoplift and sell products on the street so she can afford the copious amounts of beauty products she believes she needs. Glamour comes at quite a price. She also works hard on her

social media presence, actively seeking objectification – and when she is selected to audition for reality TV show *Miracle Island*, it seems everything she’s gone through has been worth it.

In Liane, actress Malou Khebizi and director Agathe Riedinger have created a truly unique heroine – making such a seemingly vain and selfish character so sympathetic is quite a feat. Evocatively and beautifully shot, showing a side of France we don’t often see, it was surprising to learn that this is Riedinger’s feature-length debut. It will be exciting to see what these two brilliant, talented women do next.

— Louise Adams

## Screenings

**Auckland**  
HWD Tue 13 Aug, 6:15pm  
**Wellington**  
EMB Fri 2 Aug, 3:45pm  
RXY Tue 6 Aug, 6:15pm

**Director, Screenplay:**  
**Agathe Riedinger**  
France 2024 | 103 mins

**Producers:** Priscilla Bertin, Judith Nora  
**Cinematography:** Noé Bach  
**Editor:** Lila Desiles  
**Music:** Audrey Ismaël  
**Cast:** Malou Khebizi, Idir Azougli, Andréa Bescond, Ashley Romano, Alexis Manenti  
**Language:** French with English subtitles  
**Festivals:** Cannes (In Competition) 2024

“Riedinger smartly maps a relationship between the desire to be famous, class aspirations and the worship of money.”

— Lovia Gyarkye, *Hollywood Reporter*



Joe Sheehan, Tilted Perspective Pendant, Pounamu

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# Frames Competition

## Black Box Diaries



When 28-year-old aspiring journalist Shiori Ito goes public in May 2017 with her rape allegation against a well-known media figure and biographer of then-Prime Minister Shinzo Abe, she feels she has no other choice but to try to change Japan's antiquated sexual assault laws. In a society where speaking up on such matters is considered shameful, her press conference shocks the public.

Within days, Ito is swept into the centre of Japanese politics – the right views her as a threat to the Abe government and the left hails her a hero for the same reason. Death threats, cyberbullying, and hate mail take Ito into a downward

spiral. When she files a civil case, the accused wages an all-out war against her. Determined not to set a bad example for other victims, Ito pushes on and publishes a book about her experience.

Directed by Ito herself, *Black Box Diaries* captures her tumultuous, heart-wrenching, and ultimately triumphant journey, going behind the headlines to reveal what has been like to walk in her shoes. It reveals the toll that politics, media, and technology takes on the humanity of individuals. Being both a victim and a journalist, the documentary shows that Ito did this to not only create a great social change, but to keep herself alive.

### Screenings

**Auckland**  
HWD Sat 10 Aug, 1:00pm  
**Wellington**  
RXY Wed 7 Aug, 6:15pm  
LHC Thu 8 Aug, 4:15pm

### Director: Shiori Ito

Japan/USA/UK 2024  
103 mins

**Producers:** Eric Nyari, Hanna Aqvillin, Shiori Ito

**Cinematography:** Hanna Aqvillin, Yuta Okamura, Shiori Ito, Keke Shiratama, Yuichiro Otsuka

**Editor:** Ema Ryan Yamazaki

**Music:** Mark degli Antoni

**With:** Shiori Ito

**Languages:** Japanese and English, with English subtitles

**Festivals:** Sundance, SXSW, CPH:DOX, Hot Docs, Sydney 2024

**“A pulverising illustration of truth and its consequences... it seems to encapsulate a generation's dreams and disappointments, torments and triumphs.”**

— Fionnuala Halligan, *Screen Daily*

## Grand Theft Hamlet



In the depths of the pandemic, amid the umpteenth lockdown, actors Mark and Sam decide to stage the first-ever performance of Shakespeare's *Hamlet* at the Pinewood Bowl in the universe of *Grand Theft Auto Online*. Sam's wife, filmmaker Pinny Grylls, logs on out of curiosity as to where her husband disappears to all hours of the day, and soon begins to document the audacious pursuit, shooting entirely within the game on an in-game phone camera.

What results is a remarkable feat of filmmaking, following the duo's comical attempts to bring the Bard to the Bowl. On top of the usual logistical headaches

of auditions, juggling rehearsal schedules and promoting the performance, Sam and Mark must contend with bullets flying past their avatars every other minute, as trigger-happy users fire off at the would-be thespians.

To Mark, Sam, and the rest of the cast, *GTA Online* becomes a virtual haven, a place for building community in unprecedented times and an escape from a grim reality. Finding sanity in moments of delusion and friendship in times of despair, *Grand Theft Hamlet* transcends the bloody chaos of both of its namesakes to offer a poignant, bittersweet portrait of life during the pandemic. — Matt Bloomfield

### Screenings

**Auckland**  
HWD Mon 12 Aug, 3:15pm  
**Wellington**  
RXY Wed 7 Aug, 8:15pm  
LHC Thu 8 Aug, 2:00pm

### Directors, Screenplay: Pinny Grylls, Sam Crane

UK 2023 | 91 mins

**Producers:** Julia Ton, Rebecca Wolff  
**Cinematography, Editor:** Pinny Grylls

**Music:** Jamie Perera

**With:** Sam Crane, Mark Oosterveen, Pinny Grylls, Jen Cohn, Tilly Steele

**Festivals:** SXSW, CPH:DOX, Hot Docs 2024

**Awards:** Grand Jury Award (Documentary), SXSW Film Festival 2024

“A world with car chases and gun fights is inevitably more exciting than most people's average lives, but who knew it could also be a little more revealing of who we are?”

— Stephen Saito, *Variety*

**M** Violence, offensive language & suicide themes

## Hollywoodgate



With the withdrawal of American troops from Afghanistan in the late 2010s, one of the most catastrophic periods of Western imperialism came to a close, leading to the entirely expected resurgence and recapturing of the country by the Taliban, the brutal Sunni Islamist nationalist cabal that ruled the country prior to the September 11 attacks of 2001.

Just how Egyptian documentarian Ibrahim Nash'at gained access to the inner workings of a movement known for its secrecy and silencing of opponents is left unexplored – instead, we are thrown headfirst into the inner

circle of Malawi Mansour, the head of Afghanistan's air force, on the day following the exit of the last American soldiers on August 30, 2021. What is immediately apparent is the imminent peril Nash'at faces – his subjects routinely assure each other that one toe out of line will lead to the documentarian's immediate execution.

The term “Hollywoodgate” refers to the enormous American facility distantly reminiscent of a Hollywood studio lot, which the Taliban leaders gain access to, only to find a treasure trove of medicine, technology and military

### Screenings

**Auckland**  
HWD Sat 10 Aug, 10:45am  
**Wellington**  
RXY Mon 5 Aug, 1:30pm  
LHC Wed 7 Aug, 6:15pm

### Director, Cinematography: Ibrahim Nash'at

Germany/USA 2023 | 92 mins

**Producers:** Talal Derki, Odessa Rae, Shane Boris

**Screenplay:** Ibrahim Nash'at, Talal Derki, Shane Boris

**Editors:** Atanas Georgiev, Marion Tuor

**Music:** Volker Bertelmann

**Languages:** Pashto, Dari and English, with English subtitles

**Festivals:** Venice, Telluride, Adelaide 2023; CPH:DOX 2024

equipment that they can retool for their own purposes. Along the way, we understand that Nash'at's indictment isn't exclusively reserved for the Taliban, but also for the enormous global superpower that set out to eradicate them, only to leave generational scars and widespread destruction that paved the way for their return.

We are reminded in the watching that all this ugliness and insidiousness is what the Taliban allowed us to see. What haunts you is what couldn't be filmed. — Tom Augustine

“A documentary that reveals the Taliban like never before, and pretty much confirms Westerners' fears about them, without Nash'at necessarily having his thumb on the scale.”

— Christian Blauvelt, *Indiewire*

**E** Documentary film exempt from NZ Classification labelling requirements

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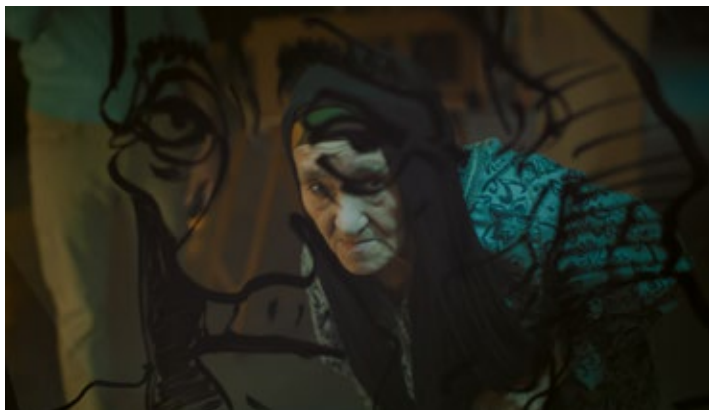
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# The Mother of All Lies

Kadib abyad



Winner of Best Documentary film at Cannes 2023 and shortlisted for the 2024 Academy Award for Best International Feature, Asmae El Moudir's *The Mother of All Lies* is a truly unique cinematic work, combining unbridled courage and an original artistic vision. In her feature debut, El Moudir explores familial and collective traumas, unearthing silenced truths thanks to the cathartic power of cinema.

The uncompromising director calls her own family into her experiment in art therapy. She enlists her father to recreate a cardboard replica of their family home and the street where she grew up. Within that backdrop, El

Moudir uses tiny dolls to re-enact a past that is both personal and political.

Her family has long lived under the silencing muzzle imposed by authoritative grandmother Zahra, a stern guardian of the status quo, whose intimidating, unforgiving demeanor makes her the villain of the film. Zahra claims that it is out of love and protection that she has imposed her rule. And indeed, something dreadful did happen on that street decades ago. El Moudir challenges her grandmother and breaks the silence around an untold tragedy, thus finding her own voice as a woman and as a filmmaker. — Paolo Bertolin

## Screenings

**Auckland**  
HWD Fri 16 Aug, 1:15pm  
**Wellington**  
RXY Thu 1 Aug, 11:30am  
LHC Mon 5 Aug, 6:15pm

## Director, Producer, Screenplay, Editor: Asmae El Moudir

Morocco/Saudi Arabia/  
Qatar/Egypt 2023 | 96 mins

**Cinematography:** Hatem Nechi  
**Music:** Nass El Ghiwane  
**With:** Zahra Jeddaoui, Mohamed El Moudir, Ouarda Zorkani, Abdallah EZ Zouid, Said Masrour, Asmae El Moudir  
**Language:** Arabic with English subtitles  
**Festivals:** Cannes, Sydney, Toronto, DOC NYC 2023; Sundance, CPH:DOX 2024

**Awards:** Best Documentary and Best Director Un Certain Regard, Cannes Film Festival 2023; Best Film, Sydney Film Festival 2023

**“A sly, often playful but ultimately moving study of community, generational anguish and atrocities covered up by the state that blends documentary technique with originality and polished storytelling skill.”**

— Leslie Felperin, *Hollywood Reporter*

**E** Documentary film exempt from NZ Classification labelling requirements

# My First Film



“Collaboration is god”, tweeted Zia Anger in 2024, 15 years after she shot her debut feature, *Always All Ways*, *Anne Marie*, with a cast and crew of family and friends. As it never screened anywhere, IMDb classifies *Always* as “abandoned”, but it was Anger’s actual “first film”.

*My First Film*, on the other hand, is a meta yet accessible personal treatise on the fraught process of making *Always* and the seemingly futile attempt to find satisfaction, catharsis, even happiness, as an artist. A striking piece of autofiction, *My First Film* is bitterly resonant for anyone who has committed to a life of making

art and is worried they may have wasted their energy in doing so.

Starring Odessa Young as Vita, a stand-in for younger Zia, and model Devon Ross as the lead actress of Vita’s micro-budget film, Anger recreates and recontextualises scenes from her debut effort. Vita has a crew of friends, a selfish boyfriend, an Adderall addiction and an unwanted pregnancy. She is trying her best to make a good movie, but she is not well equipped. Anger, conversely, has made an excellent movie in *My First Film*, which threads narration, plot, recreation, archival footage, Instagram stories and scenes from Maya Deren’s

## Screenings

**Auckland**  
HWD Fri 9 Aug, 3:45pm  
**Wellington**  
LHC Thu 8 Aug, 6:15pm  
RXY Fri 9 Aug, 2:00pm

## Director: Zia Anger

USA 2024 | 100 mins

**Producers:** Taylor Shung, Riel Roch Decter  
**Screenplay:** Zia Anger, Billy Feldman  
**Cinematography:** Ashley Connor  
**Editor:** Joe Bini, Matthew Hannam  
**Music:** Perfume Genius  
**With:** Odessa Young, Devon Ross, Cole Doman, Eamon Farren, Jack Anthony, Eleonore Hendricks  
**Festivals:** CPH:DOX 2024

*Meshes of the Afternoon* to tell its story of ambition, control and compromise.

Monumentally generous in its transparency, *My First Film* is, in some ways, a film about failure. It is also a film about cinema, abortion, truth and storytelling, and about the perils of being a “young” “female” “independent filmmaker”. It is about the process of attempting to resurrect your spirit after rejection, and it is about trying to treat people better. More than anything, it is a joyous tribute to the very act of creation, and a must-see for young artists.

— Amanda Jane Robinson

**“A wildly imaginative, almost disorientingly complex and unapologetically sincere film, is a testament to the collective energy necessary for all creation, be it biological or artistic.”**

— Chris Cassingham, *Journey into Cinema*

**TBC** NZ Classification TBC

## Seeking Mavis Beacon



Director Jazmin Renée Jones and collaborator Olivia McKayla Ross knew the model for the popular American educational computer programme Mavis Beacon Teaches Typing was never a real person when they began their “Seeking Mavis Beacon” project. Finding her – whoever she may be – was never the point; *Seeking Mavis Beacon* is instead a pursuit of answers to existential questions surrounding the subject of identity. What does it mean to be young and Black in America? What did Mavis’s face signify to those who grew up learning to type with her?

When the search proves more elusive than anticipated, the

filmmakers take it upon themselves to seek answers from the spirit world, turning to tarot readings and even performing séances.

The filmmaking is irreverent and lends itself to a new generation of cinema. Cuts scenes include a flurry of images popping up as windows on a computer screen – akin to neurodivergent-friendly clips on TikTok and Instagram where an explainer video is stacked on top of a screen recording of a mobile phone game. *Seeking Mavis Beacon* throws you headfirst into a cacophony of colour, sound, and stimulation. It’s near impossible to look away from; if you do, it will pass you by in a millisecond.

— Huia Haupapa

### Screenings

**Auckland**  
HWD Wed 14 Aug, 3:45pm  
**Wellington**  
LHC Tue 6 Aug, 6:15pm  
RXY Thu 8 Aug, 12:15pm

**Director, Screenplay:**  
Jazmin Renée Jones  
USA 2024 | 102 mins

**Producer:** Guetty Felin  
**Cinematography:** Yeelen Cohen  
**Editors:** Jon Fine, Jazmin Renée Jones, Yeelen Cohen  
**With:** Jazmin Renée Jones, Olivia McKayla Ross

**Festivals:** Sundance, San Francisco, Hot Docs 2024

**Awards:** Bay Area Documentary Award, San Francisco International Film Festival 2024

“Jones and Ross... uncover surprising details along the way about subjects that obsess them. As investigators, they are tenacious and relentless; as filmmakers they are exciting and determined.”

— Murtada Elfadl, *Variety*

**E** Documentary film exempt from NZ Classification labelling requirements

## Soundtrack to a Coup d’Etat



A deplorable episode in geopolitical history is recounted with vivid, exhilarating energy in Johan Grimontprez’s singular, simmeringly angry documentary. African American jazz provides not only the kinetic soundtrack but the engine to this story of postcolonial Congo, a newly independent nation of particular interest to rival superpowers because of the mines at Shinkolobwe, source of the uranium for Oppenheimer’s Manhattan Project.

Against the 1960s backdrop of a bitter cold war, Black American musical royalty – Louis Armstrong, Nina Simone, Duke Ellington – are dispatched to Africa as “jazz

ambassadors”. Unbeknownst to the artists, they’ve been weaponised: a cultural smokescreen to more sinister enterprises, including the ousting and assassination of the Republic of Congo, Patrice Lumumba, in a plot knitted together with the collusion of the Belgian royal family, the CIA and corporate interests.

In New York, a group protesting the execution, among them Max Roach and Abbey Lincoln, burst into the UN security council denouncing “murderers”. It is all pieced together in a kaleidoscope of archival material: newsreel, testimony from mercenaries and home video footage.

— Toby Manhire

### Screenings

**Auckland**  
HWD Thu 15 Aug, 1:00pm  
HWD Sat 17 Aug, 10:00am  
**Wellington**  
LHC Thu 1 Aug, 11:30am  
LHC Fri 2 Aug, 8:15pm  
LHC Sat 10 Aug, 6:00pm  
**Christchurch**  
LUM Sun 18 Aug, 7:30pm  
LUM Tue 27 Aug, 11:30am  
LUM Thu 29 Aug, 3:45pm  
LUM Sun 1 Sep, 10:00am

**Director: Johan Grimontprez**  
Belgium/France/Netherlands  
2024 | 150 mins

**Producers:** Rémi Grellety, Daan Milius  
**Cinematography:** Jonathan Wannyn  
**Editor:** Rik Chaubet  
**With:** Louis Armstrong, Dizzy Gillespie, Abbey Lincoln, Max Roach, Nina Simone, Miriam Makeba, Duke Ellington  
**Languages:** English, French, Dutch and Russian, with English subtitles

**Festivals:** Sundance, CPH:DOX, Sydney 2024

**Awards:** Special Jury Award for Cinematic Innovation (World Cinema Documentary), Sundance Film Festival 2024

“A remarkable film – exhaustive, informative and rigorously researched, but also crackling with energy, ideas and formal daring ... Political history has never felt so energising and dynamically alive as it does here.”

— Wendy Ide, *Screen Daily*

**E** Documentary film exempt from NZ Classification labelling requirements

## The Speedway Murders



On November 17, 1978, four young employees of Indianapolis fast food chain Burger Chef went missing after closing up for the night. Two days later, their bodies were found in rural Johnson County, around 32 kilometres away. The case remains unsolved to this day.

So far, so true crime. But *The Speedway Murders* is no ordinary true crime documentary.

It comes with some twists; although it focuses on murders that occurred in the United States, it is Australian directors Luke Rynderman and Adam Kamien's first feature, and was

mostly filmed at an abandoned Chinese restaurant in Adelaide – not that you'd ever be able to tell, the set dressing is that impressive. Secondly, unlike other true crime documentaries where reenactments seem like an afterthought, *The Speedway Murders* turns them into a virtue. It creatively presents various theories surrounding the crime by having the actors – including young Kiwi Davida McKenzie – discuss them amongst themselves or directly to camera.

Thirdly, in amongst cathartic and moving interviews with the victims' families, law

### Screenings

**Auckland**  
HWD Tue 13 Aug, 8:30pm\*  
**Wellington**  
RXY Sat 10 Aug, 8:00pm\*  
LHC Sun 11 Aug, 10:00am\*  
**Christchurch**  
LUM Mon 19 Aug, 6:30pm  
LUM Fri 23 Aug, 1:15pm  
LUM Mon 26 Aug, 4:30pm  
LUM Wed 28 Aug, 8:45pm

### Directors, Screenplay:

**Luke Rynderman,  
Adam Kamien**

Australia 2024 | 102 mins

**Producers:** Bonnie McBride,  
Anna Vincent, Louise Nathanson, Lisa Scott

**Cinematography:** Maxx Corkindale

**Editor:** Sean Lahiff

**Music:** Antony Partos

**Cast:** Essie Randles, Nya Cofie, Davida McKenzie, Jo Cumpston

**Festivals:** Adelaide 2023

**Q&A:** Luke Rynderman and Adam Kamien

enforcement and eyewitnesses, revelatory new evidence emerges.

Gripping and visually stunning, *The Speedway Murders* is remarkable not only for its stylistic choices and investigation of an intriguing case, but also the rare accomplishment of effectively and respectfully honouring victims and their families. Presented with deep care and authenticity, right down to the real 1970s Burger Chef uniforms, this is an incredibly impressive debut.

— Louise Adams

**“In getting this film out into the world we’re hopeful new evidence will come to light, that the case can be closed, and those affected by the crime will finally have a sense of relief.”**

— Luke Rynderman and Adam Kamien

**E** Documentary film exempt from NZ Classification labelling requirements



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A gallery of character-driven narrative and documentary films that draw us into the lives of ordinary and extraordinary people. Hilarious and moving, these films will reconcile you with the beauty and complexity of being human.

# Portraits

## Didi



Rising star Sean Wang returns off the back of the success of his Oscar-nominated documentary short, *Nai Nai & Wai Pó* (*Grandma & Grandma*) with his feature-length directorial debut *Didi*. Set in 2008, *Didi* embraces the early-2000s milieu of Paramore-inflected bedroom walls, flirting over AOL and early YouTube skate videos.

*Didi* presents the familiar coming-of-age genre with a new twist, through the lens of Taiwanese-American 13-year-old Chris Wang, as he navigates friends, crushes, and his first-generation family in Seattle.

Despite being steeped in early-2000s nostalgia, *Didi* doesn't shy

away from the growing pains of new teenagehood; director Sean Wang sensitively captures Chris's painful social missteps and lies, among the joy of his boyish hijinks. The film sensitively navigates the intersectionality of an Asian American experience, as we watch Chris negotiating his familial identity while jostling to find a place in diaspora.

Winner of the Sundance US Dramatic Audience Award and US Special Jury Award for Best Ensemble Cast, *Didi* will delight and make you groan with embarrassment, much like any bittersweet recollection of early teenagehood. — Nahyeon Lee

### Screenings

**Auckland**  
HWD Fri 9 Aug, 11:00am  
CIV Fri 16 Aug, 6:15pm  
**Wellington**  
EMB Thu 1 Aug, 1:30pm  
EMB Thu 8 Aug, 6:15pm  
**Christchurch**  
LUM Thu 22 Aug, 6:15pm  
LUM Sat 24 Aug, 1:45pm  
**Dunedin**  
REG Fri 16 Aug, 2:00pm  
REG Sat 17 Aug, 4:15pm

### Director, Screenplay: Sean Wang

USA 2024 | 93 mins

**Producers:** Carlos López Estrada, Josh Peters, Valerie Bush, Sean Wang

**Cinematography:** Sam Davis

**Editor:** Arielle Zakowski

**Music:** Giosuè Greco

**Cast:** Izaac Wang, Joan Chen, Shirley Chen, Chang Li Hua

**Languages:** English and Mandarin, with English subtitles

**Festivals:** Sundance, SXSW 2024

**Awards:** Special Jury Award and Audience Award (US Dramatic), Sundance Film Festival 2024

“*Didi*’s final touching, soft note of growth – so much internalized and overcome already, so much to go – would be moving in any year.”

— Adrian Horton, *The Guardian*



# A Different Man



Aspiring actor Edward has been living a life of seclusion when playwright Ingrid moves in next door. Edward falls for Ingrid, who, of course, is way out of his league – it’s a classic New York rom-com, right?

Things begin to take a turn when Edward is invited to take part in a drug trial that may reverse the effects of his neurofibromatosis, a rare genetic condition that causes excess body tissue to grow, predominantly on his face. Dreaming of becoming someone he imagines as “normal”, he jumps at the opportunity. Nights of anguish ensue as the tumours peel from Edward’s face like bubble-

gum. He emerges completely unrecognisable, anonymous; a man transformed. While his new looks give him a brief bout of confidence, the shine soon wears off as old habits prove to die hard.

In a cast boasting festival favourite Renate Reinsve (*The Worst Person in the World*), and Marvel man Sebastian Stan, it’s Adam Pearson (himself born with neurofibromatosis) as Oswald who steals the show in a third act cameo that proves to be the tipping point for Edward’s spiralling mental state. Oswald might resemble Edward’s pre-procedure physical form, but he’s otherwise the polar opposite:

## Screenings

**Auckland**  
HWD Fri 9 Aug, 1:15pm  
CIV Tue 13 Aug, 9:00pm  
**Wellington**  
EMB Thu 1 Aug, 9:00pm  
EMB Mon 5 Aug, 1:00pm  
**Christchurch**  
LUM Thu 22 Aug, 8:15pm  
LUM Fri 30 Aug, 8:30pm  
**Dunedin**  
REG Thu 22 Aug, 8:30pm

confident, braggadocios, and nauseatingly full of charm.

Deliciously discomfiting and full of awkward provocations, director Aaron Schimberg never shies away from holding a mirror to our own internal prejudices in this deeply twisted, nightmarish satire. — Matt Bloomfield

“Aaron Schimberg’s *A Different Man* throws away the kid gloves to unpack the complicated ways in which contemporary society responds to disability.” — Marshall Shaffer, *Slant Magazine*

## Director, Screenplay: Aaron Schimberg

USA 2024 | 112 mins

**Producers:** Christine Vachon, Vanessa McDonnell, Gabriel Mayers

**Cinematography:** Wyatt Garfield  
**Editor:** Taylor Levy

**Music:** Umberto Smerilli

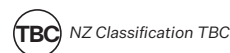
**Cast:** Sebastian Stan, Renate Reinsve, Adam Pearson, Owen Kline

**Festivals:** Sundance, Berlin, New Directors/New Films, Sydney 2024

**Awards:** Best Leading Performance (Sebastian Stan), Berlin International Film Festival 2024

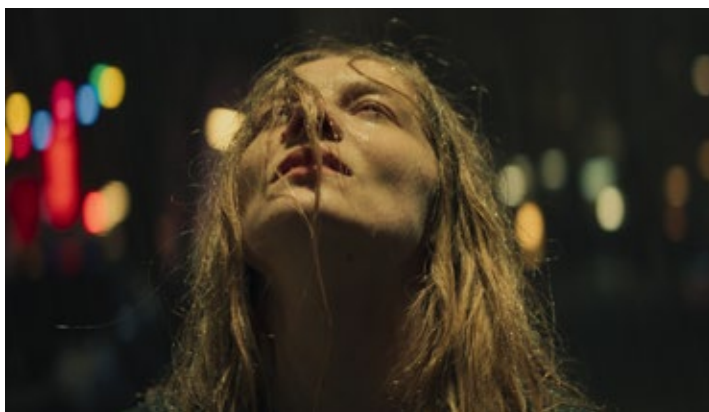
“[A] delirious and extraordinary mindfuck of a movie.”

— David Ehrlich, *Indiewire*



# Dying

Sterben



“Unabashedly sporting the most inauspicious of titles, a three-hour running time and a logline that features terminally ill elders and self-destructive descendants, *Dying* looks like a hard sell on paper. And yet writer-director Matthias Glasner’s crisscrossing family drama manages to be exceedingly funny, often in some of its darkest moments, as well as expectedly sad. Anchored by a nuanced, detailed performance by Lars Eidinger as Tom, an orchestra conductor juggling all manner of personal and professional commitments, and pitch-perfect turns by Corinna Harfouch, Lilith

Stangenberg and Ronald Zehrfeld as the rest of his combustible nuclear family, this richly rewards the time investment it requires.” — Leslie Felperin, *Hollywood Reporter*

“As much about the mess of life as about life’s end, *Dying* ... is a surprising, shape-shifting modern melodrama held aloft by a string of fine performances. It is given added emotional ballast by a specially composed orchestral piece, whose troubled rehearsal and performance history becomes the story’s existential soul.”

— Lee Marshall, *Screen Daily*

## Screenings

**Auckland**  
CIV Thu 8 Aug, 12:15pm  
HWD Sun 18 Aug, 10:00am  
**Wellington**  
EMB Fri 2 Aug, 12:15pm  
LHC Sun 4 Aug, 2:45pm  
LHC Sat 10 Aug, 12:00pm  
**Christchurch**  
LUM Sun 18 Aug, 4:15pm  
LUM Fri 23 Aug, 3:15pm  
LUM Sat 31 Aug, 10:15am  
**Hamilton**  
LID Sat 31 Aug, 12:00pm  
LID Tue 3 Sep, 12:45pm  
**Tauranga**  
LUX Fri 23 Aug, 3:00pm  
LUX Sat 24 Aug, 12:30pm  
**Napier**  
MTG Sat 31 Aug, 1:45pm  
**New Plymouth**  
LLC Sun 25 Aug, 2:15pm  
LLC Fri 30 Aug, 12:45pm  
**Masterton**  
MAS Wed 28 Aug, 2:15pm  
MAS Sat 31 Aug, 11:00am  
**Nelson**  
STA Sat 24 Aug, 12:15pm

## Director, Screenplay: Matthias Glasner

Germany 2024 | 181 mins

**Producers:** Jan Krüger, Ulf Israel, Matthias Glasner

**Cinematography:** Jakub Bejnarowicz  
**Editor:** Heike Gnida

**Music:** Lorenz Dangel

**Cast:** Lars Eidinger, Corinna Harfouch, Lilith Stangenberg, Ronald Zehrfeld

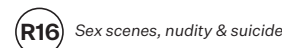
**Language:** German with English subtitles

**Festivals:** Berlin, Sydney 2024

**Awards:** Best Screenplay, Berlin International Film Festival 2024

“Matthias Glasner’s epic is a black comedy of Franzenesque family dysfunction; maybe not profound exactly but terrifically watchable and entertaining.”

— Peter Bradshaw, *The Guardian*



# Explanation For Everything

Magyarázat mindenre



Ábel is a high schooler preparing for his graduation exam while coping with the butterflies his classmate Janka sends to his stomach. Little does he know that his exam will send shockwaves through the nation, turning into a case that exemplifies and amplifies the fraught divisions in Hungarian society.

Director Gábor Reisz shot *Explanation for Everything* on a shoestring budget over the course of a fortnight in the summer of 2022, feeling the urgency to open a conversation on the state of things in his country. The result is one of the most beautiful, thought-provoking and necessary films

European cinema has produced in years. Conveying complexity through harmonious direction, naturalistic writing and flawless performances, Reisz gives body and soul to the different sides of political debates through a gallery of stunning characters, whom we may not always agree with, but whose reasons we fully understand.

Punctuated by Ábel's cathartic bicycle rides through the majestic urban landscape of Budapest, *Explanation for Everything* is a call to mutual understanding, full of hope in the youth that comes from the heart of Europe and speaks to the whole world. — Paolo Bertolin

## Screenings

**Auckland**  
HWD Sun 11 Aug, 2:45pm  
CIV Wed 14 Aug, 3:00pm  
**Wellington**  
RXY Sat 3 Aug, 12:45pm  
EMB Wed 7 Aug, 3:00pm

**Director: Gábor Reisz**  
Hungary/Slovakia 2023  
152 mins

**Producers:** Júlia Berkes, Máttyás Prikler  
**Screenplay:** Gábor Reisz, Éva Schulze  
**Cinematography:** Kristóf Becsey  
**Editors:** Vanda Gorác, Gábor Reisz  
**Music:** András Kálmán, Gábor Reisz  
**Cast:** Gáspár Adonyi-Walsh, István Znamenák, András Rusznák, Rebeka Hatházi  
**Language:** Hungarian with English subtitles

**Festivals:** Venice 2023; Rotterdam, New Directors/New Films, Sydney 2024

**Awards:** Best Film Horizons, Venice Film Festival 2023

“Accomplished, sophisticated and surprisingly even-handed... As fresh as the generation bubbling up whose classrooms are the setting for this humming drama.”

– Fionnuala Halligan, *Screen Daily*

**M** Sex scenes & offensive language

# My Favourite Cake

Keyke mahboobe man



This sweet cinematic confectionery was a huge hit with critics and audiences alike at the 2024 Berlin International Film Festival. With modesty and passion, co-directors Maryam Moghadam and Behtash Sanaeeha strike a tasteful balance between adorable, almost sugary affability and an affecting aftertaste.

Mahin, a 70-year-old woman played with irresistible humanity by Lily Farhadpour, has been living alone in Tehran since her husband passed away and her daughter left for Europe. She takes care of her plants, she goes to the market, she takes the side of a girl molested by the morality police for not wearing her hijab properly (a clear reference

to Mahsa Amini) and she hosts afternoon teas for her friends. After one of these chatty and irreverent congregations, Mahin decides to revitalise her love life.

When she opens herself up to romance, an unpredictable, unforgettable evening unfolds. Through the endearing portrait of a woman who tries for a second chance at love, Sanaeeha and Moghadam superbly convey a critique of a society that gives women no real freedom. It is no surprise that they were denied authorisation to present their film in Berlin. Despite that, it is now charming and touching audiences all over the world. — Paolo Bertolin

## Screenings

**Auckland**  
HWD Mon 12 Aug, 10:00am  
CIV Sun 18 Aug, 10:00am  
**Wellington**  
EMB Fri 2 Aug, 10:00am  
LHC Sat 3 Aug, 12:45pm  
EMB Sun 11 Aug, 10:30am  
**Christchurch**  
LUM Sun 18 Aug, 10:45am  
LUM Tue 20 Aug, 12:00pm  
LUM Wed 21 Aug, 6:30pm  
LUM Thu 22 Aug, 2:30pm  
**Dunedin**  
REG Thu 15 Aug, 6:15pm  
REG Fri 16 Aug, 11:45am  
**Hamilton**  
LID Thu 22 Aug, 10:45am  
LID Mon 2 Sep, 6:15pm  
**Tauranga**  
LUX Sun 18 Aug, 10:30am  
LUX Thu 22 Aug, 6:00pm  
**Napier**  
MTG Sat 24 Aug, 1:00pm  
MTG Tue 27 Aug, 12:45pm  
**New Plymouth**  
LLC Fri 23 Aug, 12:00pm  
LLC Mon 26 Aug, 6:15pm  
**Masterton**  
MAS Tue 27 Aug, 10:45am  
MAS Thu 29 Aug, 5:45pm  
**Nelson**  
STA Mon 19 Aug, 12:15pm  
STA Sun 25 Aug, 3:30pm

**Directors, Screenplay: Maryam Moghadam, Behtash Sanaeeha**  
Iran/France/Sweden/  
Germany 2024 | 97 mins

**Producers:** Gholamreza Mousavi, Behtash Sanaeeha, Etienne de Ricaud, Peter Krupenin, Christopher Zitterbart  
**Cinematography:** Mohammad Haddadi  
**Editors:** Ata Mehrad, Behtash Sanaeeha, Ricardo Saraiva  
**Music:** Henrik Nagy  
**Cast:** Lily Farhadpour, Esmail Mehrabi  
**Language:** Farsi with English subtitles

**Festivals:** Berlin 2024

**Awards:** FIPRESCI Prize, Berlin International Film Festival 2024

“Deeply endearing on every level, from its anti-authoritarian politics to its body positivity to general joie de vivre, this is a crowdpleaser through and through.”

— Leslie Felperin, *Hollywood Reporter*

**M**

# The Outrun



Saoirse Ronan, in perhaps her most powerful role yet, plays Rona, a recovering alcoholic, in this stunning film adaptation of Amy Liptrot's memoir of the same name. Rona returns to her home, the Orkney Islands of Scotland, after hitting rock bottom in London.

*The Outrun* blends folklore into realism to make a recovery narrative that's unique and fresh. The scenery is painted with the magnificent colours of nature and is accented with Rona's vivid hair changes – representing each stage of her journey. Flashbacks to her past and the striking imagery of the Orkney Islands are

juxtaposed in a way that magnifies their differences. In London, humans are the initiators of drama, whereas on the islands it is nature that creates chaos.

Upon her return home, Rona finds it difficult to relate. How can she control chaos if she is not the creator? The story wills us to question whether she will truly make it. Her reluctance to embrace anything pure can be sadly

relatable, but her reconnection with her passions provides hope. *The Outrun* takes you through a beautiful yet raw journey treated with honesty and tenderness, never looking down on those who struggle.

— Huia Haupapa

## Screenings

### Auckland

CIV Sun 11 Aug, 12:15pm  
CIV Tue 13 Aug, 10:45am

### Wellington

LHC Fri 2 Aug, 11:45am  
EMB Mon 5 Aug, 6:15pm  
EMB Thu 8 Aug, 10:00am

### Christchurch

LUM Fri 16 Aug, 10:30am  
LUM Tue 20 Aug, 12:15pm  
LUM Sat 24 Aug, 4:30pm  
LUM Thu 29 Aug, 6:30pm

### Dunedin

REG Thu 22 Aug, 10:30am  
REG Sat 24 Aug, 3:45pm

### Hamilton

LID Thu 29 Aug, 11:30am  
LID Sat 31 Aug, 5:30pm

### Tauranga

LUX Fri 16 Aug, 10:30am  
LUX Sun 18 Aug, 2:45pm

### Napier

MTG Wed 28 Aug, 12:45pm  
MTG Fri 30 Aug, 5:30pm

### New Plymouth

LLC Thu 29 Aug, 11:15am  
LLC Sat 31 Aug, 5:30pm

### Masterton

MAS Fri 30 Aug, 11:00am  
MAS Sat 31 Aug, 5:15pm

### Nelson

STA Fri 23 Aug, 10:45am  
STA Sat 24 Aug, 5:45pm

## Director: Nora Fingscheidt

UK/Germany 2024 | 118 mins

**Producers:** Sarah Brocklehurst, Jack Lowden, Dominic Norris, Saoirse Ronan

**Screenplay:** Nora Fingscheidt, Amy Liptrot. Based on the memoir by Amy Liptrot

**Cinematography:** Yunus Roy Imer

**Editor:** Stephan Bechinger

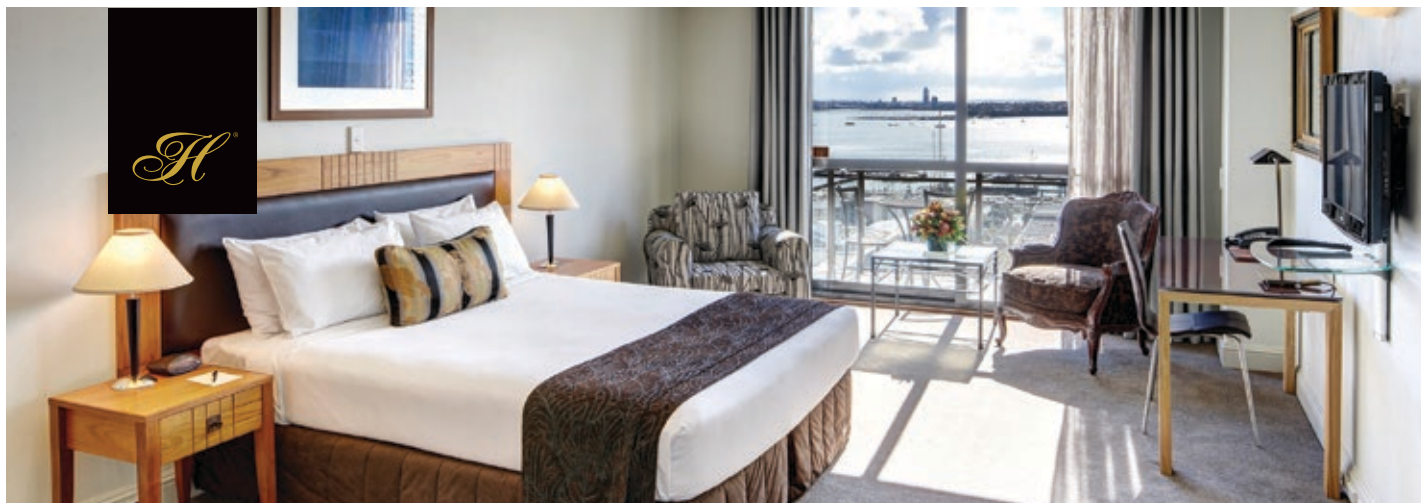
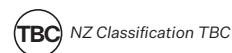
**Music:** John Gürtler, Jan Miserre

**Cast:** Saoirse Ronan, Paapa Essiedu, Stephen Dillane, Lauren Lyle, Nabil Elouahabi

**Festivals:** Sundance, Berlin, Sydney 2024

“Saoirse Ronan astounds as a young woman searching for grace in the face of addiction.”

— Stephen A. Russell, *Time Out*



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## Auckland

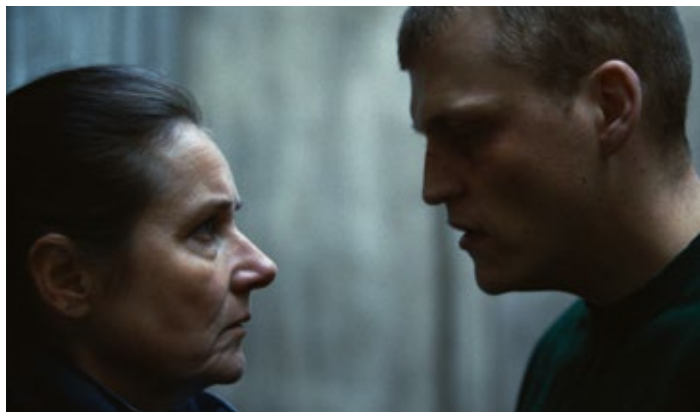
Level 30, Vero Centre, 48 Shortland Street

## Wellington

Level 19, NTT Tower, 157 Lambton Quay

# Sons

Vogter



Prison guard Eva (*Borgen's* Sidse Babett Knudsen) is at ease working the minimum-security block. Leading group yoga and giving algebra lessons, she wears her maternal instincts on her sleeve, separating bickering inmates as if they were toddlers having a tantrum. But when newcomer Mikkel arrives, Eva transfers to maximum-security to supervise this supposed stranger.

It's not long before we learn who Mikkel really is, and the smiles and good humour are replaced with malice, as Eva pushes the limits of prison regulations to reinforce her position of power. Fans of Gustav Möller's debut *The*

*Guilty* (NZIFF 2018) will recognise the claustrophobic confines of a film dominated by one location, trading an emergency call centre for the sterile walls of a prison complex.

Imprisoned by guilt and grief, Eva is at a crossroad – to choose forgiveness, or revenge, to rehabilitate, or to retaliate, her mental turmoil bleeding onto the screen as moments of surrealism punctuate the otherwise stark naturalism. Wrestling with rage and fuelled by regret, Eva must come to terms with her own demons if she, or her charges, have any hope of redemption in this tense psychological thriller.

— Matt Bloomfield

## Screenings

**Auckland**  
CIV Mon 12 Aug, 9:00pm  
**Wellington**  
RXY Fri 2 Aug, 4:15pm  
LHC Sat 3 Aug, 8:15pm  
EMB Mon 5 Aug, 8:45pm  
**Christchurch**  
LUM Mon 19 Aug, 2:00pm  
LUM Wed 21 Aug, 8:30pm  
LUM Fri 30 Aug, 12:45pm  
LUM Sat 31 Aug, 1:30pm  
**Dunedin**  
REG Tue 20 Aug, 8:30pm  
**Hamilton**  
LID Sun 25 Aug, 8:15pm  
LID Mon 2 Sep, 8:30pm  
**Tauranga**  
LUX Tue 20 Aug, 3:45pm  
LUX Tue 27 Aug, 8:00pm  
**Napier**  
MTG Thu 22 Aug, 7:45pm  
**New Plymouth**  
LLC Thu 22 Aug, 8:30pm  
LLC Mon 26 Aug, 4:15pm  
**Masterton**  
MAS Thu 22 Aug, 6:00pm  
MAS Mon 2 Sep, 8:00pm  
**Nelson**  
STA Tue 20 Aug, 8:15pm

## Director: Gustav Möller

Denmark/Sweden 2024  
100 mins

**Producers:** Lina Flint, Eva Åkergren, Thomas Heinesen  
**Screenplay:** Gustav Möller, Emil Nygaard Albertsen  
**Cinematography:** Jasper J Spanning  
**Editor:** Rasmus Stensgaard Madsen  
**Music:** Jon Ekstrand  
**Cast:** Sidse Babett Knudsen, Sebastian Bull, Dar Salim, Marina Bouras, Olaf Johannessen  
**Language:** Danish with English subtitles  
**Festivals:** Berlin 2024

“*Sons* maintains its icy grip because of the creeping realization that Eva – for all of her personal baggage – is still a microcosm of the institution that employs her.”

— David Ehrlich, *Indiewire*

**M** Violence, offensive language & suicide

# Super/Man: The Christopher Reeve Story



With the release of *Superman* in 1978, the world came to believe a man could fly and Christopher Reeve catapulted from unknown theatre actor to cinema icon overnight. So completely did he embody the character that it seemed an especially cruel fate when a horse-riding accident left the actor paralysed and needing a respirator to breathe.

The broad strokes of Reeve's story will be familiar to many, but directors Ian Bonhôte and Peter Ettegui (*McQueen*, NZIFF 2018) bring viewers deep into the family domain to witness the heart-wrenching realities of dealing with unimagined tragedy.

The film gives equal time to the pre-accident timeline, exploring a challenging childhood with a disapproving father, early days at Juilliard with peers who would become major stars, and the destabilising impact of sudden fame.

Following the accident, resilience and community are revealed to be Reeve's true superpowers. The love of his family, particularly staunch wife Dana, and support from the likes of Susan Sarandon, Glenn Close, and best friend Robin Williams (of whom there are some tear-jerking stories), enables Reeve to turn his tragedy into an inspiring tale of advocacy for the disability community.

— Adrian Hatwell

## Screenings

**Auckland**  
CIV Sun 18 Aug, 12:15pm  
**Wellington**  
EMB Sun 11 Aug, 12:45pm

## Directors: Ian Bonhôte, Peter Ettegui

UK/USA 2024 | 105 mins

**Producers:** Lizzie Gillett, Robert Ford, Ian Bonhôte  
**Screenplay:** Peter Ettegui  
**Cinematography:** Brett Wiley  
**Editor:** Otto Burnham  
**Music:** Ian Eshkeri  
**With:** Christopher Reeve, Alexandra Reeve, Matthew Reeve, Will Reeve, Glenn Close, Jeff Daniels, Susan Sarandon  
**Festivals:** Sundance, CPH:DOX, Sydney 2024

“What the film does exceptionally well, above all else, is to portray the Man of Steel as a fallible family guy – an immensely gifted and passionate actor, activist, father and husband, who wanted to do the right thing, and ultimately did.”

— Edd Gibbs, *Time Out*

**E** Documentary film exempt from NZ Classification labelling requirements

A diverse and engaging panorama of narrative and documentary films that provide snapshots of reality from different corners of the globe; these are films that will spark vibrant conversations about the world we live in.

# Widescreen

## Black Dog

Gou zhen



Featuring a canine cast of hundreds as well as a literal zoo-full of other creatures, the animal wranglers were surely working overtime on this one-of-a-kind Chinese feature. Eddie Peng stars as Lang, an ex-convict who returns to his dilapidated hometown on the fringe of the Gobi Desert which has been overrun with stray dogs. Soon he finds gainful employment in helping to round them up as part of a nationwide cleanup campaign.

But perhaps the real star of the film is a lively black whippet who is suspected to be rabid, and whose elusiveness has made its capture something of an obsession for the hapless dogcatchers it runs

rings around. Even though their first encounter sees the black dog viciously bite him in the ass, Lang seems to see something of himself in the rangy mutt.

As fellow outsiders, the two form an unlikely friendship as Lang faces up to his past and the violent grudge held against him by a scary snake venom dealer named Butcher Hu while the black dog graduates from misjudged cur to noble companion. The buddy chemistry between the nameless black dog and Peng's character proved to be so strong that Peng adopted the good boy after filming wrapped.

— Michael McDonnell

### Screenings

#### Auckland

CIV Tue 13 Aug, 3:45pm

CIV Sat 17 Aug, 8:30pm

#### Wellington

LHC Thu 1 Aug, 4:00pm

LHC Sun 4 Aug, 12:30pm

EMB Tue 6 Aug, 8:45pm

#### Christchurch

LUM Tue 20 Aug, 4:00pm

LUM Thu 29 Aug, 6:15pm

LUM Sun 1 Sep, 3:45pm

#### Hamilton

LID Wed 28 Aug, 8:15pm

LID Thu 29 Aug, 4:00pm

#### Tauranga

LUX Thu 22 Aug, 8:00pm

#### Napier

MTG Mon 26 Aug, 7:45pm

#### New Plymouth

LLC Sun 1 Sep, 7:45pm

LLC Wed 4 Sep, 4:00pm

#### Masterton

MAS Mon 2 Sep, 5:45pm

MAS Wed 4 Sep, 2:00pm

#### Nelson

STA Wed 21 Aug, 8:15pm

### Director: Guan Hu

China 2024 | 110 mins

**Producer:** Zhu Wenjiu

**Screenplay:** Guan Hu, Ge Rui, Wu Bing

**Cinematography:** Gao Weizhe

**Editors:** Matthieu Laclau, He Yongyi

**Music:** Breton Vivian

**Cast:** Eddie Peng, Tong Liya, Jia Zhangke, Zhang Yi, Zhou You, Xin

**Language:** Mandarin with English subtitles

**Festivals:** Cannes (Un Certain Regard), Sydney 2024

**Awards:** Un Certain Regard Prize, Cannes Film Festival 2024

“Has the grandly cinematic vision to lend an intimate tale a gloriously epic, allegorical edge... enhanced by both Peng’s impassive yet physically expressive performance, and that of his wonderful canine co-star.”

— Jessica Kiang, *Variety*

## Crossing



Retired history teacher Lia made a deathbed promise to her sister: to track down her niece who, years earlier, was chased from her home thanks to smalltown transphobia. Stoic and determined, Lia follows a lead down the Georgian shoreline and meets impish teen Achi, who claims to have knowledge of her niece's whereabouts and offers to help with the search as a means to escape his own parochial prison.

Together the mismatched pair stumble through language barriers and culture clashes as they explore the back alleys of Istanbul. The story unwinds in an unhurried, dreamy fashion, eventually bringing the unlikely

sleuths into the orbit of Everim, a streetwise trans woman in the final stages of securing both her new ID documents and licence to practice law.

With knockout performances from all three leads, viewers will fall for each character's prickly charms as they drift through the seductive city, its crowded historical majesty shot with languorous finesse. *Crossing* is a sweetly sad elegy of connection across geographic and social borders, shaped by a filmmaker eager to explore specificities of time and place, teasing out the crucial threads of dignity that bind us together.

— Adrian Hatwell

### Screenings

**Auckland**  
CIV Thu 8 Aug, 3:45pm  
HWD Mon 12 Aug, 8:30pm  
**Wellington**  
RXY Thu 1 Aug, 6:15pm  
LHC Sun 4 Aug, 8:15pm  
EMB Fri 9 Aug, 1:00pm  
**Christchurch**  
LUM Wed 28 Aug, 8:30pm  
LUM Thu 29 Aug, 11:45am  
LUM Sat 31 Aug, 1:15pm  
**Hamilton**  
LID Tue 3 Sep, 8:30pm  
LID Wed 4 Sep, 1:45pm  
**Tauranga**  
LUX Mon 26 Aug, 8:00pm  
LUX Wed 28 Aug, 3:30pm  
**Napier**  
MTG Thu 29 Aug, 5:30pm  
**New Plymouth**  
LLC Mon 26 Aug, 8:15pm  
LLC Wed 28 Aug, 2:00pm  
**Masterton**  
MAS Tue 27 Aug, 5:45pm  
MAS Mon 2 Sep, 12:30pm  
**Nelson**  
STA Sun 18 Aug, 8:15pm

### Director, Screenplay:

**Levan Akin**

Sweden/Denmark/France/  
Turkey/Georgia 2024

106 mins

**Producer:** Mathilde Dedyé

**Cinematography:** Lisabi Fridell

**Editors:** Levan Akin, Emma Lagrelius

**Cast:** Mzia Arabuli, Lucas Kankava, Deniz Dumanli

**Languages:** Georgian, Turkish and English, with English subtitles

**Festivals:** Berlin, Sydney, Tribeca 2024

**Awards:** Panorama Audience Award, Berlin International Film Festival 2024

"Akin's approach feels so tied to novel-writing – with shifts in perspectives and at least one plot-twisting formal deceit that whiplashes you only to leave you breathless and a bit swoony – and yet the axis around which his universe orbits is entirely cinematic, and universal."

— Ryan Lattanzio, *Indiewire*

**M** Sex scenes, offensive language & nudity

## Green Border

*Zielona granica*



Polish auteur Agnieszka Holland has rarely been as strident or unflinching as with *Green Border*, a sprawling and terrifying depiction of the humanitarian crisis unfolding on the borders of Poland and Belarus. The titular border is in fact a stretch of dense forest in which refugees become political pawns of the hidden conflict between the European Union and Alexander Lukashenko, the authoritarian ruler of Belarus. Lured by propaganda promising a safe passage, refugees are then bullied, assaulted and tossed into the freezing and treacherous border territory, only to be rounded up by Polish guards and tossed back into Belarus,

in an endless cycle of pain and misery subjected upon some of the world's most vulnerable citizens.

Captured in stark black and white, Holland weaves together stories of refugees, aid workers and Polish border guards, which has touched a nerve within a country wrestling with its own responsibilities and history. *Green Border* can be a tough watch, but the persistent thrum of Holland's outrage is what hits the hardest. In a conflict dedicated to often overwhelming dehumanisation, that stirring of empathy within us, the audience, is what is most important to preserve.

— Tom Augustine

### Screenings

**Auckland**  
HWD Wed 14 Aug, 10:00am  
CIV Thu 15 Aug, 8:45pm  
**Wellington**  
LHC Sat 3 Aug, 2:45pm  
EMB Tue 6 Aug, 12:30pm  
LHC Fri 9 Aug, 8:15pm  
**Christchurch**  
LUM Fri 16 Aug, 3:00pm  
LUM Sat 24 Aug, 11:30am  
LUM Sat 31 Aug, 8:00pm  
**Dunedin**  
REG Sat 24 Aug, 12:45pm  
**Hamilton**  
LID Fri 30 Aug, 1:00pm  
LID Sun 1 Sep, 7:45pm  
**Tauranga**  
LUX Sun 25 Aug, 7:30pm  
LUX Wed 28 Aug, 12:30pm  
**Napier**  
MTG Sat 31 Aug, 8:00pm  
**New Plymouth**  
LLC Sun 25 Aug, 7:30pm  
LLC Tue 27 Aug, 3:15pm  
**Masterton**  
MAS Sun 25 Aug, 7:30pm  
MAS Mon 26 Aug, 3:00pm  
**Nelson**  
STA Sat 17 Aug, 8:15pm  
STA Fri 23 Aug, 3:15pm

### Director: Agnieszka Holland

Poland/France/Czech  
Republic/Germany 2023

152 mins

**Producers:** Marcin Wierzczościński, Fred Bernstein, Agnieszka Holland

**Screenplay:** Maciej Pisuk, Gabriela Łazarkiewicz-Sieczko, Agnieszka Holland

**Cinematography:** Tomek Naumiuk

**Editor:** Pavel Hrdlička

**Music:** Frédéric Vercheval

**Cast:** Jalal Altawil, Maja Ostaszewska, Behi Djanati Atai, Mohamad Al Rashi, Dalia Naous, Tomasz Włosok

**Languages:** Polish, Arabic, French and English, with English subtitles

**Festivals:** Venice, Toronto 2023; Rotterdam, Sydney 2024

**Awards:** Special Jury Prize, Venice Film Festival 2023; Audience Award, International Film Festival Rotterdam 2024

"A heart-in-mouth thriller set on the Polish-Belarusian border that wraps its social critique in the razor wire of punchy, intelligent cinematic craft."

— Jessica Kiang, *Variety*

**M** Violence, offensive language & cruelty

## No Other Land



Produced by a Palestinian-Israeli collective, *No Other Land* documents a Palestinian village struggling against displacement. The West Bank's Masafer Yatta residents face mass evictions at hands of Israeli authorities; but this is much a story of its own co-directors' asymmetrical relationship as it is an account of Masafer Yatta. The result is a masterful exploration of 21st century apartheid and colonisation.

At the centre is Masafer Yatta activist and one of the film's co-directors, Basel Adra. Beside him is Israeli journalist and another co-director, Yuval Abraham. He has arrived on the scene to report

on what his own government is doing. Despite becoming invested in the struggles of the village, he enjoys many freedoms not afforded to Adra, who names these inequalities openly. In refusing to manufacture a harmonious scene of Palestinian and Israeli friendship, the film demonstrates respect for its subjects, and ultimately, its audience too.

Given the lengths that Adra and Abraham go to during years of filming in order to share the truth, this is a film that asks: if people only knew, would things change? *No Other Land* is both an invitation and a wero, a film that demands to be seen. — Nadia Abu-Shanab

### Screenings

**Auckland**  
CIV Thu 8 Aug, 10:00am  
CIV Sat 17 Aug, 1:15pm  
**Wellington**  
LHC Thu 1 Aug, 8:15pm  
RXY Thu 8 Aug, 2:15pm  
EMB Sat 10 Aug, 1:15pm  
**Christchurch**  
LUM Sun 18 Aug, 10:00am  
LUM Fri 30 Aug, 4:15pm  
LUM Sat 31 Aug, 3:30pm  
**Dunedin**  
REG Sun 25 Aug, 10:45am  
**Hamilton**  
LID Mon 26 Aug, 6:15pm  
LID Sun 1 Sep, 1:00pm  
**Tauranga**  
LUX Mon 19 Aug, 6:00pm  
LUX Thu 22 Aug, 2:15pm  
**Napier**  
MTG Tue 27 Aug, 7:45pm  
**New Plymouth**  
LLC Mon 2 Sep, 4:15pm  
LLC Wed 4 Sep, 6:15pm  
**Masterton**  
MAS Fri 23 Aug, 2:00pm  
MAS Mon 26 Aug, 6:00pm  
**Nelson**  
STA Thu 15 Aug, 2:00pm  
STA Thu 22 Aug, 6:15pm

*This film has been selected by renowned filmmaker and New Zealand Arts Foundation Laureate Annie Goldson, recipient of the 2023 Dame Gaylene Preston Award for Documentary Filmmakers Arts Laureate.*

**Directors, Screenplay, Editors: Basel Adra, Hamdan Ballal, Yuval Abraham, Rachel Szor**  
Palestine/Norway 2024  
95 mins

**Producers:** Fabien Greenberg, Bård Kjøge Rønning, Basel Adra, Hamdan Ballal, Yuval Abraham, Rachel Szor  
**Cinematography:** Rachel Szor  
**Music:** Julius Pollux Rothlaender  
**Languages:** Arabic, Hebrew and English, with English subtitles

**Festivals:** Berlin, CPH:DOX, Sydney 2024

**Awards:** Panorama Audience Award and Documentary Award, Berlin International Film Festival 2024; Audience Award, CPH: DOX 2024

**“Witnessing is the most effective defense... The footage is out there, and it’s rarely been assembled into a more concise, powerful, and damning array than it is here. Now it only has to be seen.”**

— David Ehrlich, *Indiewire*

**E** Documentary film exempt from NZ Classification labelling requirements

## Problemista



Set in a colourful, surreal, and only ever-so-slightly alternate reality that could only have been created by actor, writer and director Julio Torres, *Problemista* follows Alejandro, a young man from El Salvador whose dream in life is to work for Hasbro, designing toys that challenge children rather than being “too focused on fun”. But Alejandro must overcome his own challenges first.

As he struggles to navigate America’s baffling immigration process, he finds an unlikely ally in Elizabeth (played to absolutely unhinged perfection by Tilda Swinton), who can only

be described as a hyper-Hydra. She hires Alejandro, and the two develop an intriguing dynamic; he quickly realises the only way to tame the beast is to buy into her bizarre reality and make her feel understood. The odd couple work on their challenges in tandem – Alejandro, desperate to fund his visa application, enters the deranged world of Craigslist (hilariously embodied by Larry Owens), and Elizabeth scrambles to find the money to keep her beloved husband “alive” in a cryogenic freezing facility, while also mourning the “death” of the only person who understood her.

### Screenings

**Auckland**  
CIV Sat 10 Aug, 6:45pm  
CIV Fri 16 Aug, 3:45pm  
**Wellington**  
EMB Thu 1 Aug, 3:45pm  
EMB Sun 4 Aug, 6:15pm  
**Christchurch**  
LUM Sun 18 Aug, 5:30pm  
LUM Sat 24 Aug, 6:30pm  
**Dunedin**  
REG Fri 23 Aug, 4:00pm  
REG Sat 24 Aug, 6:15pm

Anyone familiar with Torres’s writing (*Los Espookys*, *Fantasmas*) will recognise his unique aptitude with colour theory, which he uses to create worlds of whimsy, surrealism, and absurdity. *Problemista* is no exception, and effectively makes the point that nothing could beat the very real absurdity of America’s convoluted immigration system. This is a marvellous and astounding directorial debut, and we’re eagerly awaiting more beautiful cinematic worlds from the mind of Torres.

— Louise Adams

**Director, Screenplay: Julio Torres**  
USA 2023 | 105 mins

**Producers:** Dave McCary, Ali Herting, Emma Stone, Julio Torres  
**Cinematography:** Fredrik Wenzel  
**Editors:** Sara Shaw, Jacob Secher Schulsinger  
**Music:** Robert Ouyang Rusli  
**Cast:** Julio Torres, Tilda Swinton, RZA, Isabella Rossellini

**Festivals:** SXSW, Sydney 2024

**“Problemista is playful, its comic sensibility curious and askew...a delight throughout.”**

— Adrian Horton, *The Guardian*

Presented in association with

**VIVA**

**M** Sex scenes & offensive language



## The Seed of the Sacred Fig



*The Seed of the Sacred Fig* received the longest and most emotional standing ovation at Cannes this year. Director Mohammad Rasoulof daringly escaped Iran to attend, after being sentenced to flagellation and eight years in jail. Many believe that his exceptionally brave film, possibly the most explicitly political cinematic work to come out of contemporary Iran, should have won the Palme d'Or.

Rasoulof takes an oblique look at the protests that erupted after the death of Mahsa Amini at the hands of Iran's so-called morality police, and zooms in on the shockwaves that the protests

send straight into the household of an inspector of the Revolutionary Court. This is a man with the power to prosecute political opponents directly. His wife and two daughters are deeply affected, and the family cannot cope with the growing paranoia and distrust that the events outside are causing within their relationships.

Starting as an oppressive, almost claustrophobic family drama featuring real footage from the protests, *The Seed of the Sacred Fig* unexpectedly morphs into a breathtaking thriller with allegorical undertones and an unforgettable, cathartic finale.

— Paolo Bertolin

### Screenings

**Auckland**  
CIV Sun 11 Aug, 3:00pm  
CIV Thu 15 Aug, 10:00am  
**Wellington**  
EMB Sun 4 Aug, 2:45pm  
RXY Tue 6 Aug, 11:00am  
EMB Thu 8 Aug, 12:30pm  
**Christchurch**  
LUM Sat 24 Aug, 10:30am  
LUM Tue 27 Aug, 11:15am  
LUM Sat 31 Aug, 5:30pm  
**Dunedin**  
REG Sun 18 Aug, 2:30pm  
REG Wed 21 Aug, 12:30pm  
**Hamilton**  
LID Sun 25 Aug, 4:45pm  
LID Wed 28 Aug, 2:45pm  
**Tauranga**  
LUX Sun 25 Aug, 2:15pm  
LUX Mon 26 Aug, 3:00pm  
**Napier**  
MTG Fri 30 Aug, 11:30am  
MTG Sun 1 Sep, 2:00pm  
**New Plymouth**  
LLC Sat 24 Aug, 1:00pm  
LLC Mon 2 Sep, 1:00pm  
**Masterton**  
MAS Sun 1 Sep, 2:30pm  
MAS Tue 3 Sep, 2:45pm  
**Nelson**  
STA Sun 18 Aug, 2:45pm  
STA Wed 21 Aug, 12:45pm

### Director, Screenplay: Mohammad Rasoulof

Iran/France/Germany 2024  
172 mins

**Producers:** Mohammad Rasoulof, Amin Sadraei, Jean-Christophe Simon, Mani Tilgner, Rozita Hendijanian

**Cinematography:** Pooyan Aghababaei

**Editor:** Andrew Bird

**Music:** Karzan Mahmood

**Cast:** Misagh Zare, Soheila Golestani, Mahsa Rostami, Setareh Maleki, Niusha Akhshi, Reza Akhlaghi


**Language:** Farsi with English subtitles

**Festivals:** Cannes (In Competition), Sydney 2024

**Awards:** Special Award, Cannes Film Festival 2024

“Rasoulof crafts an extraordinarily gripping allegory about the corrupting costs of power and the suppression of women under a religious patriarchy that crushes the very people it claims to protect.”

— Ryan Lattanzio, *Indiewire*

 NZ Classification TBC

## The Story of Souleymane

*L'histoire de Souleymane*



Much like the woodland-bound asylum seekers of this year's *Green Border* (p45), the asylum seekers of Boris Lojkine's *The Story of Souleymane* exist in a purgatorial space – this one an urban cityscape, where all the trappings of the easy life lie before them, tantalisingly out of reach. Among these stateless citizens is Souleymane (Abou Sangare), a young Guinean man fleeing tragedy and pain in his home country in search of a better life. He works as a food delivery man, pounding his bicycle through the streets of Paris on a rented account, as he is not legally allowed to work.

Paid a meagre percentage of his hours, Souleymane sleeps in a giant facility for the homeless, waking before dawn to make sure he has a bed booked in for the following evening. All the while, Souleymane is rehearsing his story, one given to him by shady advisors who assure him if he is not note-perfect in his fiction, he will never be granted asylum.

Following Souleymane's breathless existence in the days before his interview, Lojkine rarely leaves Sangare's side, evoking the intensely naturalistic films of the Dardenne brothers as well as Vittorio De Sica's *The Bicycle Thieves* in

### Screenings

**Auckland**  
HWD Fri 16 Aug, 6:15pm  
**Wellington**  
RXY Fri 9 Aug, 6:15pm

### Director: Boris Lojkine

France 2024 | 92 mins

**Producer:** Bruno Nahon

**Screenplay:** Boris Lojkine, Delphine Agut

**Cinematography:** Tristan Galand

**Editor:** Xavier Sirven

**Cast:** Abou Sangare, Nina Meurisse, Alpha Oumar Sow, Emmanuel Yovanie, Younoussa Diallo, Ghislain Mahan

**Languages:** French with English subtitles

**Festivals:** Cannes (Un Certain Regard) 2024

**Awards:** Jury Prize and Performance Prize Un Certain Regard, Cannes Film Festival 2024


“First-time actor Abou Sangare is a revelation... Boris Lojkine's intelligent and empathetic film places us right alongside him, with each cog of circumstance and each gear of good fortune grinding against him at every turn.”

— Jessica Kiang, *Variety*

his unsentimental and often gruelling rendering of the everyday indignities of society's most vulnerable. Anchoring the film is first-time actor Sangare, whose performance here is nothing short of astonishing.

The film culminates in a heart-stopping interview sequence, as we witness the walls Souleymane has built to protect himself from his own trauma fall away one by one. *The Story of Souleymane* arrives at a crossroads, one with glimmers of hope, the soul of this young man laid bare in unforgettable fashion.

— Tom Augustine

 NZ Classification TBC

## Tatami



A surprising collaboration between Iranian actress-turned-director Zar Amir Ebrahimi (*Holy Spider*, NZIFF 2023) and US-based Israeli filmmaker Guy Nattiv, *Tatami* delivers a daring takedown of state oppression via the world of judo. The film follows rising judoka Leila Hosseini (a fierce performance from Iranian-American actor and martial artist Arienne Mandi) and her coach Maryam Ghanbari (given depth and complexity by the excellent Amir Ebrahimi).

Using tight Academy ratio framing and striking black and white cinematography, the filmmakers underscore the constrained circumstances

of its female leads: as athletes, as women in what some see as a masculine sphere, and as people pursuing their dreams. Giving a nod to *Raging Bull* in its spirited *mêlée* sequences, *Tatami* deftly conveys the intensity and focus of its embattled protagonist, with Mandi's real-world experience helping the action to land. And yet, the highest-stake battle is the one happening in between Leila's judo matches.

In production during the tragic death of 22-year-old Mahsa Amini, the resulting protests and tragic regime clampdown that followed, *Tatami* strikes a poignant chord on the ability of Iranian women to decide their own destiny. — Jacob Powell

### Screenings

#### Auckland

CIV Mon 12 Aug, 3:45pm  
HWD Sat 17 Aug, 6:30pm

#### Wellington

LHC Fri 2 Aug, 2:00pm  
RXY Tue 6 Aug, 8:15pm  
LHC Sat 10 Aug, 10:00am

#### Christchurch

LUM Fri 16 Aug, 4:15pm  
LUM Mon 19 Aug, 8:00pm  
LUM Mon 26 Aug, 1:30pm  
LUM Sat 31 Aug, 3:30pm

#### Hamilton

LID Fri 23 Aug, 11:30am  
LID Thu 29 Aug, 8:30pm

#### Tauranga

LUX Wed 21 Aug, 8:00pm

#### Napier

MTG Wed 28 Aug, 7:45pm

#### New Plymouth

LLC Thu 29 Aug, 1:45pm  
LLC Tue 3 Sep, 6:15pm

#### Masterton

MAS Fri 30 Aug, 1:30pm  
MAS Sun 1 Sep, 8:00pm

#### Nelson

STA Mon 19 Aug, 8:00pm

### Directors: Guy Nattiv, Zar Amir Ebrahimi

Georgia/USA 2023

105 mins

**Producers:** Guy Nattiv, Mandy Tagger Brockey, Jaime Ray Newman

**Screenplay:** Guy Nattiv, Elham Erfani

**Cinematography:** Todd Martin

**Editor:** Yuval Orr

**Music:** Dascha Dauenhauer

**Cast:** Arienne Mandi, Zar Amir Ebrahimi, Jaime Ray Newman, Nadine Marshall

**Languages:** Hebrew and Farsi, with English subtitles

**Festivals:** Venice, Tokyo 2023

“The film is a win both behind and in front of the camera.”

— Jordan Mintzer, *Hollywood Reporter*

**M** Offensive language

## The Teachers' Lounge

*Das Lehrerzimmer*



School can be awkward at the best of times, and confronting illegal or unacceptable behaviour is sure to be a fraught affair. How do you balance institutional and individual needs, personal safety, and any inherent power dynamics at play?

With deft handling of complex relational issues, *The Teachers' Lounge* utilises a string of thefts at a German school as the catalyst to explore broader social issues – racial prejudice, socio-economic status, institutional conformity – and Germany's troubled history, a spectre always lurking at the film's edge.

Rising Turkish-German filmmaker İlker Çatak maintains a taut tone, aided by smart framing, a cool palette, and a disquieting score. Leonie Benesch is incisive and expressive as idealist immigrant teacher Carla Nowak. Benesch conveys great empathy, contrasted by an officious workplace and jaded colleagues, plus a mounting sense of unease as Carla struggles to navigate difficult circumstances. Çatak's screenplay makes provocative use of the film's relatable context, resulting in a gripping human drama. — Jacob Powell

### Screenings

#### Auckland

CIV Fri 9 Aug, 6:15pm  
CIV Wed 14 Aug, 10:00am

#### Wellington

RXY Fri 2 Aug, 11:45am  
EMB Wed 7 Aug, 10:15am  
EMB Sat 10 Aug, 6:15pm

#### Christchurch

LUM Fri 16 Aug, 2:15pm  
LUM Tue 20 Aug, 6:30pm  
LUM Wed 21 Aug, 11:45am  
LUM Fri 30 Aug, 6:15pm

#### Dunedin

REG Sat 17 Aug, 6:15pm  
REG Wed 21 Aug, 10:15am

#### Hamilton

LID Fri 23 Aug, 1:45pm  
LID Sat 24 Aug, 6:00pm

#### Tauranga

LUX Sat 17 Aug, 6:15pm  
LUX Mon 19 Aug, 12:00pm

#### Napier

MTG Thu 22 Aug, 1:00pm  
MTG Sun 25 Aug, 2:45pm

#### New Plymouth

LLC Thu 22 Aug, 2:15pm  
LLC Sat 24 Aug, 4:15pm

#### Masterton

MAS Thu 22 Aug, 1:45pm  
MAS Fri 23 Aug, 6:00pm

#### Nelson

STA Fri 16 Aug, 12:30pm  
STA Sat 17 Aug, 6:15pm

### Director: İlker Çatak

Germany 2023 | 98 mins

**Producer:** Ingo Fliess

**Screenplay:** İlker Çatak, Johannes Duncker

**Cinematography:** Judith Kaufmann

**Editor:** Gesa Jäger

**Music:** Marvin Miller

**Cast:** Leonie Benesch, Michael Klammer, Rafael Stachowiak, Ann-Kathrin Gummich, Eva Löbau

**Language:** German with English subtitles

**Festivals:** Berlin, Toronto 2023

“It's not easy to make an intense thriller about things that happen every day. But when one appears, it's glorious.”

— Matt Zoller Seitz, *RogerEbert.com*

Presented in association with



**M** Offensive language

# When the Light Breaks

Ljósbrott



If you've known grief, you'll know how long the pain lingers, but also how quickly it can come storming into the present. Rúnar Rúnarsson's moving film perfectly captures the ripple effect of grief and the way it presents itself in different people; separately and together.

The film's English title is left open to interpretation. Does it herald the breaking of a new dawn? Or is darkness ahead? *When the Light Breaks* takes place over 24 hours, opening with a romantically quiet moment; a couple watch the sunset over Iceland's still waters. They affectionately jest, and exchange

plans for the future – solo and shared.

The next day, a devastating and sudden accident tears these plans apart. As news spreads to a group of young, university-aged adults, it becomes increasingly clear why Una (Elin Hall) is unable to contact Diddi (Baldur Einarsson), with whom she has just spent an intimate night. Una is our focus, but we watch the tragedy bringing people together. The friends naturally rush to one another for comfort and hold their own kind of wake. Although the group's connection is strong, things are stifled for Una when Diddi's girlfriend arrives to mourn with them.

— Huia Haupapa

## Screenings

**Auckland**  
HWD Thu 8 Aug, 6:15pm

**Wellington**  
RXY Sat 3 Aug, 11:00am  
LHC Tue 6 Aug, 4:30pm  
LHC Sun 11 Aug, 8:30pm

**Christchurch**  
LUM Sat 17 Aug, 10:30am  
LUM Mon 19 Aug, 6:15pm  
LUM Tue 20 Aug, 2:30pm  
LUM Tue 27 Aug, 2:30pm

**Hamilton**  
LID Mon 26 Aug, 8:15pm  
LID Wed 4 Sep, 6:15pm

**Tauranga**  
LUX Mon 26 Aug, 6:15pm  
LUX Tue 27 Aug, 2:00pm

**Napier**  
MTG Sat 31 Aug, 11:45am

**New Plymouth**  
LLC Sun 25 Aug, 5:45pm  
LLC Wed 4 Sep, 2:15pm

**Masterton**  
MAS Thu 29 Aug, 12:00pm  
MAS Wed 4 Sep, 6:15pm

**Nelson**  
STA Fri 16 Aug, 2:30pm  
STA Mon 19 Aug, 6:15pm

**Director:** Rúnar Rúnarsson  
Iceland/Netherlands/Croatia/  
France 2024 | 82 mins

**Producers:** Heather Millard, Rúnar Rúnarsson

**Cinematography:** Sophia Olsson  
**Editor:** Andri Steinn Guðjónsson

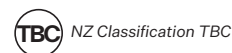
**Music:** Jóhann Jóhannsson  
**Cast:** Elin Hall, Mikael Kaaber, Katla Njálisdóttir, Baldur Einarsson, Gunnar Hrafn Kristjánsson, Ágúst Wigum

**Languages:** Icelandic with English subtitles

**Festivals:** Cannes (Un Certain Regard) 2024

“Rúnarsson’s film eschews easy melodrama for a more tacit, sensory exploration of the sudden connections that death forges among the living.”

— Guy Lodge, *Variety*



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Director Penny Ashton  
Producer Gavin Rutherford

**LIZZIE**  
10 Aug - 7 Sept  
Director Ben Emerson,  
Co-director Greta Casey-Solly  
(Te Atiawa)

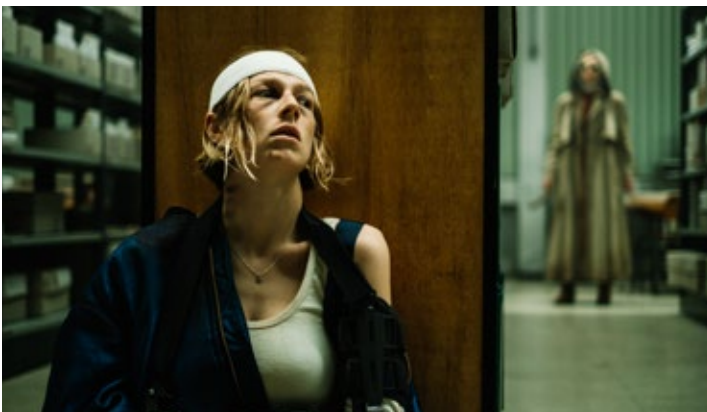
**AND THE LOCHBURNS**  
5 Oct - 2 Nov  
By William Duignan  
Director Andrew Paterson

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A strand devoted to the kind of cinema flourishing out of dreams – and nightmares. Irreverent genre and out-of-the-box films bound to take you on exhilarating journeys of amusement, fear and awe.

# Nocturnal

## Cuckoo



After her mother's death, 17-year-old Gretchen has no choice but to go with her father, stepmother and half-sister to alpine Germany, where her architect father plans to work on a new resort. The dynamics are what you'd expect – sullen teen hates her "new" family and the circumstances that led her here. It doesn't help that her father and his wife treat her like a cuckoo in their nest. As Gretchen looks for answers as to why they moved to this strange place, director Tilman Singer masterfully builds suspense as deeper truths are revealed.

Gretchen is particularly suspicious of Herr König, her father's friend and the director of

the resort she's given a job at. And with good reason – played to *Silence of the Lambs'* Hannibal Lecter-esque perfection with just touch of camp by Dan Stevens (*I'm Your Man*, NZIFF 2021), König makes little effort to hide his oddities. While not an outright horror-comedy, moments of comic relief save the film from going too dark, and excellent sound design creates an incredibly eerie atmosphere, best experienced in the cinema.

With a striking performance from Hunter Schafer in her first feature-film lead role, *Cuckoo* has everything you could ask for in a horror – a puzzling premise, campy humour, *Shining*-esque scenery, just the right amount of gore, and weird bird-people. — Louise Adams

### Screenings

**Auckland**  
CIV Sat 10 Aug, 9:15pm  
HWD Tue 13 Aug, 3:45pm  
**Wellington**  
EMB Fri 2 Aug, 9:00pm  
RXY Tue 6 Aug, 4:15pm  
**Christchurch**  
LUM Sat 17 Aug, 8:15pm  
LUM Thu 22 Aug, 8:30pm  
**Dunedin**  
REG Fri 16 Aug, 8:30pm  
REG Tue 20 Aug, 4:00pm

### Director, Screenplay: Tilman Singer

Germany/USA 2024  
102 mins

**Producers:** Markus Halberschmidt, Josh Rosenbaum, Maria Tsigka, Ken Kao, Thor Bradwell

**Cinematography:** Paul Faltz

**Editors:** Terel Gibson, Philipp Thomas

**Music:** Simon Waskow

**Cast:** Hunter Schafer, Dan Stevens, Jessica Henwick, Marton Csókás, Jan Bluthardt

**Languages:** English, German and French, with English subtitles

**Festivals:** Berlin, SXSW, Sydney 2024

“Tilman Singer jettisons logic to make room for more horror tropes than you can shiv with a butterfly knife in his deliriously entertaining, very bonkers second feature.”

— Jessica Kiang, *Variety*

**R16** Violence, offensive language & horror

# Humanist Vampire Seeking Consenting Suicidal Person

*Vampire humaniste cherche suicidaire consentant*



*Amélie* for goth girls, Ariane Louis-Seize's debut feature is an endearing tale of life, death, love and blood.

The film follows sensitive teenage vampire Sasha as she struggles with the moral weight of killing humans for their blood. When her parents enact tough love and cut off her supply, she is forced to hunt, but finds her fangs don't necessarily cooperate – she just can't bring herself to commit murder. She is sent to live with her ruthless cousin who is more than eager to show her the ropes – and meat-hooks. Only when Sasha meets Paul, a depressed teenager

planning his suicide, does she find a moral loophole – killing someone who wants to die. The two make a pact: she can kill him if she spends the night helping him complete a few final tasks before he dies.

Quirky and charming, *Humanist Vampire Seeking Consenting Suicidal Person* playfully attends to the rules and regulations of vampire mythology. Sure, Sasha sucks on blood baggies and avoids the sun, but when she's dancing in her room to Brenda Lee or restlessly wandering the streets at night, you could mistake her for any surly teen just looking to fit in.

— Amanda Jane Robinson

## Screenings

**Auckland**  
CIV Fri 9 Aug, 4:00pm  
HWD Fri 16 Aug, 8:30pm  
**Wellington**  
RXY Thu 1 Aug, 4:15pm  
EMB Wed 7 Aug, 9:00pm  
**Christchurch**  
LUM Mon 19 Aug, 8:30pm  
LUM Thu 22 Aug, 2:00pm  
LUM Sat 31 Aug, 8:45pm  
**Dunedin**  
REG Fri 23 Aug, 8:30pm  
**Hamilton**  
LID Fri 30 Aug, 8:30pm  
LID Tue 3 Sep, 4:15pm  
**Tauranga**  
LUX Wed 21 Aug, 3:45pm  
LUX Fri 23 Aug, 8:15pm  
**Napier**  
MTG Thu 29 Aug, 7:45pm  
**New Plymouth**  
LLC Thu 22 Aug, 4:15pm  
LLC Thu 29 Aug, 8:30pm  
**Masterton**  
MAS Fri 23 Aug, 4:00pm  
MAS Fri 30 Aug, 8:00pm  
**Nelson**  
STA Thu 15 Aug, 8:30pm

## Director: Ariane Louis-Seize

Canada 2023 | 92 mins

**Producers:** Jeanne-Marie Poulain, Line Sander Egede  
**Screenplay:** Ariane Louis-Seize, Christine Doyon  
**Cinematography:** Shaun Pavlin  
**Editor:** Stéphane Lafleur  
**Music:** Pierre-Philippe Côté  
**Cast:** Sara Montpetit, Félix-Antoine Bénard, Steve Laplante, Sophie Cadieux, Noémie O'Farrell  
**Language:** French with English subtitles  
**Festivals:** Venice, Toronto, Vancouver 2023

## NZIFF After Dark

Dress up, enjoy themed cocktails and win spot prizes!  
**Auckland:** Goth Girl and Gorecore Costume Party Fri 16 Aug 10pm, Hollywood Avondale (post-screening)  
**Wellington:** Goth Girl Vamp Costume Party Wed 7 Aug 8pm, The Black Sparrow, Embassy Theatre (pre-screening)

## Presented in association with



**M** Offensive language & suicide references

# I Saw the TV Glow



It's 1998 and Owen and Maddy are awkward, lonely teenagers, stuck somewhere in smalltown America. In a time before the internet, their escape is the alluring weirdness of late-night TV. One show in particular draws them in – *The Pink Opaque*. Think *Buffy* meets *Power Rangers*. But after Maddy mysteriously disappears, the line between TV and reality blurs, leaving Owen alone to navigate a grotesque nightmare world of memory, monsters, and regret.

Writer/director Jane Schoenbrun's first feature, *We're All Going to the World's Fair*, was an intimate, slow-burning horror about loneliness and isolation

online. With a bigger budget and a more confident hand, *I Saw the TV Glow* is a revelatory expansion on that debut, using alienation and media obsession as the springboard to tell a heartbreaking parable about self-denial, and – in carefully surfaced subtext – about transness and the suffocating horror of the closet.

With a soundtrack by indie darling Alex G (and contributions from Phoebe Bridgers and Caroline Polachek), stunning use of colour and light, and some truly astonishing 1990s-style prosthetic make-up, *I Saw the TV Glow* is the rare surreal freak-out with real heart and real pain. — Amelia Berry

## Screenings

**Auckland**  
HWD Thu 8 Aug, 3:45pm  
CIV Sat 17 Aug, 6:00pm  
**Wellington**  
EMB Sat 3 Aug, 6:30pm  
EMB Thu 8 Aug, 4:00pm  
**Christchurch**  
LUM Wed 21 Aug, 4:30pm  
LUM Fri 23 Aug, 6:15pm  
LUM Sun 25 Aug, 8:15pm  
LUM Tue 27 Aug, 4:15pm  
**Dunedin**  
REG Sat 17 Aug, 8:30pm  
REG Mon 19 Aug, 4:00pm  
**Hamilton**  
LID Fri 23 Aug, 8:30pm  
LID Tue 27 Aug, 8:15pm  
**Tauranga**  
LUX Sat 17 Aug, 8:15pm  
LUX Tue 20 Aug, 8:00pm  
**Napier**  
MTG Fri 23 Aug, 3:15pm  
MTG Sat 24 Aug, 7:45pm  
**New Plymouth**  
LLC Sat 24 Aug, 8:15pm  
LLC Wed 28 Aug, 8:15pm  
**Masterton**  
MAS Sat 24 Aug, 8:00pm  
MAS Wed 28 Aug, 8:00pm  
**Nelson**  
STA Fri 16 Aug, 4:15pm  
STA Fri 23 Aug, 8:15pm

## Director, Screenplay: Jane Schoenbrun

USA 2024 | 100 mins

**Producers:** Emma Stone, Dave McCary, Ali Herting, Sam Intili, Sarah Winshall  
**Cinematography:** Eric Yue  
**Editor:** Sofi Marshall  
**Music:** Alex G  
**Cast:** Justice Smith, Brigette Lundy-Paine, Ian Foreman, Helena Howard, Fred Durst, Danielle Deadwyler

**Festivals:** Sundance, Berlin, SXSW, Sydney 2024

*"I Saw the TV Glow* is an earnest personal statement wrapped in a surreal art-horror movie, a labor of love whose originality and astonishing beauty establish writer-director Jane Schoenbrun as a major cinematic talent."

— Katie Rife, *IGN*

**M** Horror scenes

## The People's Joker

Midnight  
Screening



If you're a fan of the DC Universe, you might think you'll hate this film... but if you watch it, you'll probably love it. In *The People's Joker*, director Vera Drew narrates her own story of growing up and moving out of home as a psych-trip dive into a hero versus villain tale that is not only whimsical and moving, but also strangely hilarious.

Born into a God-fearing family with a straight-edge mother and absent father, \*deadname\* found it difficult to find themselves. After a childhood of emotional abuse and gender liberty deprivation, they move to Gotham City, where comedy is highly regulated.

After pursuing comedy illegally, \*deadname\* chooses to instead go by Harlequin the Joker – opening her world to the empowering and exciting, but also dark and grimy.

Pop culture references and hilarious bits, plus a clever use of CGI and animation, give the film a DIY feel that enriches the wackiness of its setting. *The People's Joker* scrutinises why we view some as “heroes” and others as “villains” (is Batman actually a closeted gay man with a history of abuse and far too much money?). It urges us to consider if life really is as black and white as heroes and villains, or man and woman.

— Huia Haupapa

### Screenings

**Auckland**  
HWD Fri 9 Aug, 11:00pm  
**Wellington**  
EMB Fri 9 Aug, 11:00pm  
**Christchurch**  
LUM Sat 24 Aug, 9:00pm  
**Dunedin**  
REG Sat 24 Aug, 8:30pm

### NZIFF After Dark

Join us from 10pm before Auckland and Wellington screenings of *The People's Joker* for the Jokers and Harlequins Midnight Screening Costume Party at Hollywood Avondale, Auckland, and The Black Sparrow, Embassy Theatre, Wellington. Dress up, enjoy themed cocktails and win spot prizes!

Presented in association with



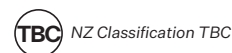
### Director, Editor: Vera Drew

USA 2022 | 92 mins

**Producer:** Joey Lyons  
**Screenplay:** Vera Drew, Bri LeRose  
**Cinematography:** Nate Cornett  
**Music:** Justin Krol, Quinn Scharber, Ember Knight, Danni Rowan, Elias and the Error  
**Cast:** Vera Drew, Lynn Downey, Kane Distler, Griffin Kramer, Tim Heidecker, Bob Odenkirk  
**Festivals:** Toronto, Fantastic Fest 2022; SXSW Sydney 2023

“Hollywood’s superhero blockbuster business has grown creatively stale, but Vera Drew’s irreverent renegade opus *The People's Joker* is just the antidote the genre desperately needs.”

— Jen Yamato, *Washington Post*



## Sasquatch Sunset



Four hirsute figures stagger out of Bigfoot mythology for a journey of survival through North America’s beautiful wildlands, in this unique story of curious cryptids. With threadbare folklore as a foundation and a backdrop of gorgeous landscapes, the film tracks a pack of Sasquatches as they struggle to subsist through the seasons.

The fuzzy family communicates entirely in grunts and yelps, and an absence of subtitles challenges the audience to acclimatise to a different mode of storytelling. Like observing the behaviours of any wild species, the dynamics are revealed through interaction, problem-solving, and primal urges

– not to mention a good dose of scatological humour.

Riley Keough plays the sole female in the group, Jesse Eisenberg and co-director Nathan Zellner are two mature males, with Christophe Zajac-Denek as the pack’s youngest. All four are called to give expansive performances, scoring laughs via Chaplin-like physicality while acting through masses of prosthetics to sell emotive scenes.

A soulful tale equally interested in matters of the heart as fluids of the body, *Sasquatch Sunset* is totally dedicated to its high-concept strangeness and rewards an audience that can match the commitment. — Adrian Hatwell

### Screenings

**Auckland**  
HWD Thu 15 Aug, 9:15pm  
**Wellington**  
RXY Thu 8 Aug, 8:45pm  
LHC Fri 9 Aug, 4:30pm  
**Christchurch**  
LUM Fri 23 Aug, 8:30pm  
LUM Tue 27 Aug, 8:15pm  
LUM Fri 30 Aug, 4:30pm

### Directors: David Zellner, Nathan Zellner

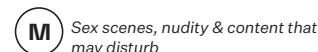
USA 2024 | 90 mins

**Producers:** George Rush, Lars Knudsen, Tyler Campellone, David Zellner, Nathan Zellner  
**Screenplay:** David Zellner  
**Cinematography:** Michael Gioulakis  
**Editor:** Daniel Tarr  
**Music:** The Octopus Project  
**Cast:** Riley Keough, Jesse Eisenberg, Christophe Zajac-Denek, Nathan Zellner  
**Language:** No dialogue

**Festivals:** Sundance, Berlin, SXSW 2024

“A unicorn of a movie... it must be seen to be believed.”

— Peter Debruge, *Variety*



## Sleep

Jam



Newlyweds Soo-jin (Jung Yu-mi) and Hyeon-soo (*Parasite's* Lee Sun-kyun in one of his final roles) have a seemingly idyllic life – a new apartment, the cutest doggo, and a baby on the way. But when night falls, strange things start to happen. At first, Hyeon-soo is sleep-talking: he ominously declares “Someone’s inside”, but is it just a line from the TV series he’s in? When he starts sleepwalking and becomes a danger to himself and those around him, Soo-jin gets more concerned. Doctors diagnose a sleep disorder, but could there be something more sinister going on?

Having worked with such maestros of Korean cinema as Lee

Chang-dong and Bong Joon-ho, first-time director Jason Yu delivers tightly paced suspense and deft humour from the get-go. What is basically a two-hander on a single set is cleverly divided into three increasingly wild chapters and as the stakes continue to rise, there’s no danger of dozing off. This diabolical debut will keep you on the edge of your seat. — Michael McDonnell

“Easily one of the best (and most fun) thrillers of the year... Jason Yu crafts a twisty delight that leaves you doubting what you’re seeing and wondering what to believe right till the last moment.”

— Alissa Wilkinson, Vox

### Screenings

**Auckland**  
CIV Sun 11 Aug, 9:00pm  
**Wellington**  
EMB Sun 4 Aug, 8:45pm

### Director, Screenplay: Jason Yu

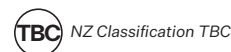
South Korea 2023 | 95 mins

**Producer:** Lewis Tae-wan Kim  
**Cinematography:** Kim Tae-soo  
**Editor:** Han Mee-yeon  
**Music:** Chang Hyuk-jin, Chang Yong-jin  
**Cast:** Jung Yu-mi, Lee Sun-kyun  
**Language:** Korean with English subtitles

**Festivals:** Cannes (Critics’ Week), Toronto 2023

“The most unique horror film and the smartest debut film I’ve seen in 10 years.”

— Bong Joon-ho



## The Sweet East



At once wildly scrappy and laden with potent musings on modern-day societal fracture, Sean Price Williams makes the leap from cinematographer to director with this story of winsome and headstrong high schooler Lillian (Talia Ryder, of *Never Rarely Sometimes Always* and *Jojo*) who runs away from a school trip and into a warped modern Wonderland. Said Wonderland is otherwise known as the United States of America, at once familiar and bizarre, as Lillian encounters and interacts with various cults, sects and idiosyncratic individuals all representing the country they live in and yet seemingly entirely

divorced from each other’s existences. These include a group of white supremacists led by a hilariously fragile academic (*Red Rocket's* Simon Rex), religious fundamentalists who express their rage through thumping EDM, a tabloid-famous movie star (*Priscilla* heartthrob Jacob Elordi) and a pair of pretentious filmmakers (Jeremy O. Harris and Ayo Edebiri, of *The Bear*) who immediately latch onto Lillian as their muse.

Williams’ film bears an anarchic, improvisatory independent spirit, his rich, grainy images conjuring a tetchy, vivid sense of Americana that positively coats the film.

### Screenings

**Auckland**  
HWD Wed 14 Aug, 8:45pm  
**Wellington**  
RXY Sun 4 Aug, 8:15pm  
LHC Wed 7 Aug, 2:00pm  
LHC Sat 10 Aug, 8:45pm  
**Christchurch**  
LUM Fri 16 Aug, 8:15pm  
LUM Tue 20 Aug, 4:15pm  
LUM Mon 26 Aug, 8:30pm

### Director, Cinematography: Sean Price Williams

USA 2023 | 104 mins

**Producers:** Craig Butta, Alex Coco, Alex Ross Pery  
**Screenplay:** Nick Pinkerton  
**Editor:** Stephen Gurewitz  
**Music:** Paul Grimstad  
**Cast:** Talia Ryder, Simon Rex, Earl Cave, Jacob Elordi, Jeremy O. Harris, Ayo Edebiri, Rish Shah

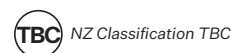
**Festivals:** Cannes (Directors’ Fortnight), Melbourne, London, New York 2023

In adapting critic-turned-writer Nick Pinkerton’s acidic, entirely unsubtle scripting, the two find a fascinating oil-and-water partnership that results in a film not quite like any other in modern American cinema. It’s a film in conversation with Nabokov and Godard, *Red Scare* and cable news, at once a heady love letter to the lost souls and particular madness of the American way of life and a caustic diagnosis of its many flaws and evils. *The Sweet East* strikes a balance between the funny, the psychedelic and the socio-politically ripe.

— Tom Augustine

“The film is intriguingly anthropological in its take on America as a subject, viewed less through the prism of what American might signify as a nation, than how America might feel as an experience.”

— Catherine Bray, *Variety*



Six narrative and documentary films focused on music and its many forms and styles. This selection highlights the power of music, be it rap or classical, as a tool of enlightenment and liberation.

# Rhythms

## Eno



Visionary artist and musical pioneer Brian Eno is perhaps best known for being a founding member of Roxy Music and for the series of landmark solo albums that popularised ambient music to the masses. As a producer, he has collaborated with artists including David Bowie, Talking Heads, U2 and Coldplay. He has exhibited his art worldwide and written extensively on music, art and culture. He even had a cameo in the 1990s sitcom *Father Ted* as “Father Brian Eno” and scored the Netflix series *Top Boy*.

A conventional documentary couldn’t hope to cover a career this diverse, but director Gary Hustwit, taking inspiration from Eno’s own

experiments in generative music that evolves over time, has instead created a world-first generative documentary. Much like a musical performance that changes every night, every screening of *Eno* is completely different to the last. Utilising a bespoke software system developed by Hustwit and digital artist Brendan Dawes, the film has millions of possible variations drawing from interviews and Eno’s archive of unreleased footage and music. Subverting the traditional grand narrative typical of biopics, Hustwit and Eno’s collaboration is a one-of-a-kind event designed to be experienced on the big screen.

— Michael McDonnell

### Screenings

#### Auckland

🌀 CIV Thu 15 Aug, 6:15pm

#### Wellington

🌀 EMB Fri 9 Aug, 6:15pm

Special pricing applies

### Director: Gary Hustwit

USA/UK 2024 | 90 mins

**Producers:** Jessica Edwards, Gary Hustwit

**Cinematography:** Mary Farbrother

**Editors:** Maya Tippet, Marley McDonald

**Software Programming:** Brendan

Dawes. Generative software by

Anamorph

**Music:** Brian Eno

**With:** Brian Eno

**Festivals:** Sundance, CPH:DOX, Hot Docs 2024

“A documentary with a (paradoxically) programmed spontaneity, free of the usual dutiful march through biography, or the sense of a director burnishing an artist’s inevitable rise to greatness.”

— Sam Davies, *Sight & Sound*



# Gloria!



Venice, 1800. A women's orphanage and a prideful priest. *Gloria!* has the foundations of a slow-burn period piece. However, the setting proves irrelevant to this energetic and refreshing film about women, power, and freedom.

Appropriate to the period, *Gloria!* is full of dramatic and flourishing Baroque-style music. These pieces are associated with Perlina (Paolo Rossi), the priest who oversees the main setting: a religious institution for orphan women raised as musicians. Perlina despises many things, including progression. Under his eye is Teresa (Galathea Bellugi), a mute servant who yearns to

express herself through music as she watches the orphanage orchestra, yet is punished for any form of transgression.

Much like its rhythmic editing, honest female characterisation, and – of course – music, *Gloria!* tells the story of a group of women breaking the glass ceiling made up of traditions that hindered their creativity, freedom, and their voices. The discovery of the pianoforte punctuates a shift in power, and the origination of a silent coup against the powers that be.

*Gloria!* speaks to any creative who has felt restrained or silenced.  
— Huia Haupapa

## Screenings

**Auckland**  
CIV Mon 12 Aug, 11:00am  
CIV Sat 17 Aug, 3:30pm  
**Wellington**  
LHC Thu 1 Aug, 6:15pm  
EMB Tue 6 Aug, 10:15am  
LHC Sun 11 Aug, 2:30pm  
**Christchurch**  
LUM Sat 17 Aug, 10:00am  
LUM Fri 23 Aug, 11:30am  
LUM Sun 25 Aug, 3:30pm  
LUM Mon 26 Aug, 12:45pm  
**Dunedin**  
REG Tue 20 Aug, 11:30am  
REG Wed 21 Aug, 6:15pm  
**Hamilton**  
LID Fri 30 Aug, 10:45am  
LID Tue 3 Sep, 6:15pm  
**Tauranga**  
LUX Tue 20 Aug, 5:45pm  
LUX Fri 23 Aug, 10:30am  
**Napier**  
MTG Thu 22 Aug, 5:30pm  
MTG Mon 26 Aug, 1:15pm  
**New Plymouth**  
LLC Fri 30 Aug, 10:30am  
LLC Sat 31 Aug, 3:15pm  
**Masterton**  
MAS Sun 1 Sep, 12:15pm  
MAS Wed 4 Sep, 11:45am  
**Nelson**  
STA Thu 15 Aug, 12:00pm  
STA Sat 17 Aug, 4:15pm

**Director:**  
**Margherita Vicario**  
Italy/Switzerland 2024  
106 mins

**Producers:** Valeria Jamonte, Manuela Melissano, Carlo Cresto-Dina  
**Screenplay:** Anita Rivaroli, Margherita Vicario

**Cinematography:** Gianluca Palma

**Editor:** Christian Marsiglia

**Music:** Margherita Vicario, Dade Cast; Galathea Bellugi, Carlotta Gamba, Sara Mafodda, Paolo Rossi, Veronica Lucchesi, Maria Vittoria Dallasta

**Language:** Italian with English subtitles

**Festivals:** Berlin 2024

“One would need a tough skin not to be won over by the mischievous musical anachronism at the heart of *Gloria!* and the chemistry of the young female cast that delivers it.”

— Lee Marshall, *Screen Daily*

**M** Deals with suicide

# In Restless Dreams: The Music of Paul Simon



Of all the pop stars to emerge in the 1960s, none constructed their music more meticulously than Paul Simon. What's more, Simon has remained one of the few stars of that era who has continued to make interesting new music rather than resting on a catalogue of hits.

Director Alex Gibney illuminates Simon's perfectionism as well as his perpetual pursuit of the unproven. We see his processes in action, as Gibney follows him through the making of his most recent, and possibly final album, *Seven Psalms*. We catch him in conversation with his friend, jazz trumpeter Wynton Marsalis, one of the most eloquent voices in the

film, and see Simon coming to terms with the debilitating effects of sudden hearing loss.

The film shifts between this contemporary portrait of a mature artist at work and the story of how he got there. We learn about the origins of Simon's music and how it has developed, through his colossally popular but ultimately fraught partnership with Art Garfunkel, to the controversial triumph of *Graceland*. We get glimpses of the personal life, and we hear a lot of his music, including rare live performances, which serve as a reminder of the remarkable body of work he has created.  
— Nick Bollinger

## Screenings

**Auckland**  
CIV Sat 10 Aug, 12:00pm  
**Wellington**  
EMB Sat 3 Aug, 11:45am  
RXY Wed 7 Aug, 12:30pm  
**Christchurch**  
LUM Sat 17 Aug, 12:15pm  
LUM Sun 25 Aug, 10:00am  
LUM Wed 28 Aug, 2:45pm  
**Dunedin**  
REG Sat 17 Aug, 12:15pm  
REG Mon 19 Aug, 10:00am  
**Hamilton**  
LID Sat 24 Aug, 11:45am  
LID Mon 26 Aug, 2:15pm  
**Tauranga**  
LUX Sat 17 Aug, 12:15pm  
LUX Mon 19 Aug, 2:00pm  
**Napier**  
MTG Sun 25 Aug, 10:45am  
**New Plymouth**  
LLC Fri 23 Aug, 2:00pm  
LLC Sat 31 Aug, 11:15am  
**Masterton**  
MAS Sun 25 Aug, 11:15am  
MAS Thu 29 Aug, 1:45pm  
**Nelson**  
STA Sat 17 Aug, 12:15pm  
STA Mon 19 Aug, 2:15pm

**Director:** Alex Gibney  
USA 2023 | 209 mins

**Producers:** Alex Gibney, Erin Edeiken, Svetlana Zill, David Rahtz

**Cinematography:** Benjamin Bloodwell

**Editor:** Andy Grieve

**Music:** Paul Simon

**With:** Paul Simon, Art Garfunkel, Wynton Marsalis, Lorne Michaels, Edie Brickell

**Festivals:** Toronto, London 2023; CPH: DOX 2024

“What's interesting about this doc's sideways look at Simon's career... is the way it makes a case for failure being something that inspires opportunities for renewal even more than success.”

— David Fear, *Rolling Stone*

Presented in association with

Coast

**E** Documentary film exempt from NZ Classification labelling requirements

# Kneecap



Never has a film had so much fun with Irish indigeneity. Rich Peppiatt's sophomore feature forgoes the bleak Belfast of car bombings and sectarian conflict in its following of the rise of Irish-language hip-hop group Kneecap.

Members Naoise and Liam (playing themselves) capitalise on the intergenerational trauma of The Troubles as an easy ticket to score drugs. That isn't to say those days have been forgotten; rather that these lads from West Belfast won't let that history define them.

After they meet teacher JJ (also playing himself) the trio form Kneecap and become a hit on both sides of the border. Despite their

affinity for courting controversy with songs ranging from the rebellious ("C.E.A.R.T.A", the Irish word for rights) to the ridiculous ("Your Sniffer Dogs Are Shite"), the band fast become a political symbol for the Irish Language Act.

How much truth there is in what occurs onscreen is up for debate, but when you're having this much fun, who cares? With barn-storming breakbeats and enough horse tranquiliser to put Pegasus on the No-Fly List, *Kneecap* is a rip-roaring two-finger salute to the establishment and a resounding statement that the Irish language is here to stay.

— Matt Bloomfield

## Screenings

**Auckland**  
 HWD Thu 15 Aug, 4:00pm  
 CIV Fri 16 Aug, 8:30pm  
**Wellington**  
 EMB Sat 3 Aug, 8:45pm  
 RXY Fri 9 Aug, 4:00pm  
**Christchurch**  
 LUM Fri 16 Aug, 8:30pm  
 LUM Wed 21 Aug, 4:00pm  
 LUM Sat 24 Aug, 8:30pm  
**Dunedin**  
 REG Thu 15 Aug, 8:30pm  
 REG Fri 16 Aug, 4:00pm  
**Hamilton**  
 LID Thu 22 Aug, 8:30pm  
 LID Fri 23 Aug, 4:00pm  
**Tauranga**  
 LUX Fri 16 Aug, 3:45pm  
 LUX Sat 24 Aug, 8:00pm  
**Napier**  
 MTG Fri 23 Aug, 7:45pm  
 MTG Wed 28 Aug, 3:15pm  
**New Plymouth**  
 LLC Fri 23 Aug, 8:30pm  
 LLC Tue 3 Sep, 8:30pm  
**Masterton**  
 MAS Fri 23 Aug, 8:00pm  
 MAS Tue 27 Aug, 8:00pm  
**Nelson**  
 STA Fri 16 Aug, 8:30pm  
 STA Thu 22 Aug, 4:00pm

Presented in association with



## Director: Rich Peppiatt

Ireland/UK 2024 | 105 mins

**Producers:** Trevor Birney, Jack Tarling, Patrick O'Neill

**Cinematography:** Ryan Kernaghan

**Editors:** Chris Gill, Julian Ulrichs

**Music:** Michael "Mikey" J Asante

**Cast:** Liam Óg Ó Hannaidh, Naoise Ó Cairealláin, JJ Ó Dochartaigh, Michael Fassbender, Simone Kirby, Josie Walker

**Languages:** English and Irish, with English subtitles

**Festivals:** Sundance, SXSW, Tribeca 2024

"Bursting with unruly energy that practically escapes the confines of the screen, *Kneecap* is a riotous, drug-laced triumph in the name of freedom that bridges political substance and crowd-pleasing entertainment."

— Carlos Aguiar, *Variety*

**R16** Violence, offensive language, drug use & sex scenes

# Midnight Oil: The Hardest Line



Midnight Oil is not your typical band, so it makes sense that this is not your typical rockumentary. Sex and drugs play little if any part in this tale. Neither will you find the kind of rivalries and tensions that one comes to expect of a band with a career as long as this one.

Formed at high school by drummer Rob Hirst and guitarist Jim Moginie and soon joined by singer and frontman Peter Garrett, after almost five decades together they regard each other with a respect and camaraderie that looks a lot like love.

From their beginnings, playing high-octane rock to Sydney surf crowds, the developing

social conscience of Garrett saw the group's music become increasingly political, leading to Garrett eventually taking leave to become a member of Parliament. Yet in a climactic moment, we see how a rock band can use its platform in ways that are denied even to a politician.

If there is a single *This Is Spinal Tap* element, it is in the revolving cast of bass players, though the group's response to the death of their longest-serving bass player, New Zealander Bones Hillman, is just one of the documentary's many genuinely moving moments.

— Nick Bollinger

## Screenings

**Auckland**  
 HWD Tue 13 Aug, 1:30pm  
 CIV Sun 18 Aug, 5:45pm  
**Wellington**  
 RXY Thu 8 Aug, 4:15pm  
 EMB Sun 11 Aug, 6:00pm  
**Christchurch**  
 LUM Mon 19 Aug, 4:00pm  
 LUM Fri 23 Aug, 6:30pm  
 LUM Sun 1 Sep, 6:30pm  
**Dunedin**  
 REG Thu 22 Aug, 4:00pm  
 REG Sun 25 Aug, 5:45pm  
**Hamilton**  
 LID Fri 30 Aug, 6:15pm  
 LID Wed 4 Sep, 4:00pm  
**Tauranga**  
 LUX Sun 18 Aug, 5:15pm  
 LUX Wed 28 Aug, 5:45pm  
**Napier**  
 MTG Fri 30 Aug, 3:00pm  
 MTG Sun 1 Sep, 5:30pm  
**New Plymouth**  
 LLC Thu 29 Aug, 6:15pm  
 LLC Mon 2 Sep, 8:15pm  
**Masterton**  
 MAS Sun 1 Sep, 5:45pm  
 MAS Tue 3 Sep, 8:00pm  
**Nelson**  
 STA Thu 15 Aug, 4:00pm  
 STA Sun 18 Aug, 6:00pm

Presented in association with



## Director, Screenplay:

**Paul Clarke**

Australia 2024 | 105 mins

**Producer:** Carolina Sorensen

**Cinematography:** Kevin Scott

**Editor:** Gretchen Peterson

**Music:** Midnight Oil

**With:** Peter Garrett, Martin Rotsey, Rob Hirst, Jim Moginie

**Festivals:** Sydney 2024

"Over 45 years Midnight Oil helped shape modern Australia. This is their trailblazing story for the first time on film."

— Connor Lochire, *Variety*

**E** Documentary film exempt from NZ Classification labelling requirements

## Ryuichi Sakamoto | Opus



Filmed just months before Ryuichi Sakamoto's death at 72, *Opus* is both a moving performance by a dying man and a chance for the composer to delve into the finely nuanced notes of a lifetime's work; a gift to fans that conveys the depth of emotion in a body of work that prizes Satie-esque gestures of minimalism and perfectly rendered, heartbreaking melodies over the electronic pop he played with the Yellow Magic Orchestra.

Helmed by Sakamoto's son, Neo Sora, and filmed in black and white, there's an unexpected drama to the performance as

Sakamoto occasionally gets it wrong or, exhausted, announces a brief pause. Featuring pieces that cover the gamut of his 50-year career including fresh readings of YMO classics "Tong Poo" and "Happy Ending" and several of his unforgettable soundtracks – including themes from Nagisa Ōshima's *Merry Christmas, Mr. Lawrence* (1983) and Bertolucci's *The Last Emperor* (1987) and *The Sheltering Sky* (1990) – this stark but intensely intimate film is a tender, brave and honest intermingling of art as life and, inevitably, a rumination on mortality.

— Gary Steel

### Screenings

#### Auckland

CIV Tue 13 Aug, 6:15pm\*  
CIV Wed 14 Aug, 12:15pm\*

#### Wellington

EMB Sun 4 Aug, 12:15pm  
EMB Mon 5 Aug, 10:45am

#### Christchurch

LUM Sun 18 Aug, 12:45pm\*  
LUM Mon 19 Aug, 11:15am  
LUM Wed 21 Aug, 12:30pm

#### Dunedin

REG Thu 15 Aug, 1:45pm  
REG Sun 25 Aug, 12:45pm

#### Hamilton

LID Sun 25 Aug, 10:00am  
LID Thu 29 Aug, 6:15pm

#### Tauranga

LUX Sun 18 Aug, 12:30pm  
LUX Wed 21 Aug, 5:45pm

#### Napier

MTG Fri 23 Aug, 1:00pm  
MTG Tue 27 Aug, 5:30pm

#### New Plymouth

LLC Sun 25 Aug, 12:00pm  
LLC Tue 27 Aug, 1:00pm

#### Masterton

MAS Wed 28 Aug, 5:45pm  
MAS Tue 3 Sep, 12:30pm

#### Nelson

STA Wed 21 Aug, 10:30am  
STA Sat 24 Aug, 3:45pm

### Director: Neo Sora

Japan 2023 | 103 mins

**Producers:** Norika Sora, Albert Tholen, Aiko Masubuchi, Eric Nyari

**Cinematography:** Bill Kirstein

**Editor:** Takuya Kawakami

**Music:** Ryuichi Sakamoto

**With:** Ryuichi Sakamoto

**Language:** Japanese with English subtitles

**Festivals:** Venice, New York, Tokyo 2023; CPH: DOX 2024

**Q&A\*:** Neo Sora

“Neo Sora gives Sakamoto his final wish, but it’s a gift to the world – both commemorating an incredible life and career and chronicling a performance rich and sophisticated enough to inspire dozens more.”

– Todd Gilchrist, *Variety*

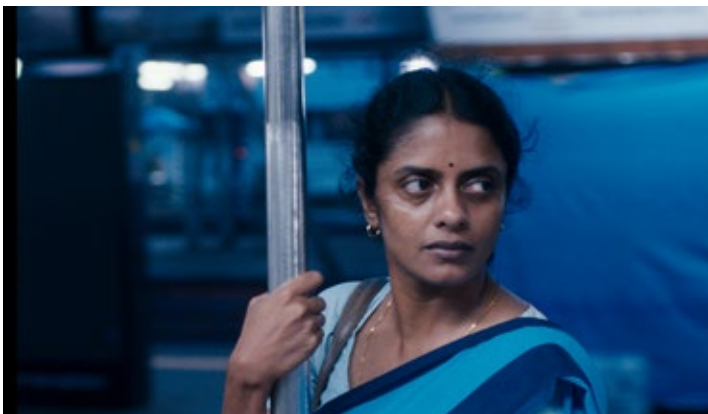
**E** Documentary film exempt from NZ Classification labelling requirements



Critically acclaimed films and contemporary masterpieces are gathered here for the joy of cinephiles. These works showcase the distinct cinematic style of revered masters and emerging talents, including a hugely engrossing animated feature.

# Visions

## All We Imagine As Light



The conversation on the female gaze in cinema finds apt material for a case study in Payal Kapadia's richly textured and magnificently subdued *All We Imagine As Light*. After winning Best Documentary at the 2021 Cannes Festival with *A Night of Knowing Nothing* (NZIFF 2021), Kapadia was the first Indian filmmaker invited to the Cannes Competition in 30 years, and ultimately won the Grand Prix.

Kapadia's narrative debut is a delicate ode to female bonding set against the backdrop of Mumbai, which plays as a pulsating, vivid part in the story. The protagonists are two nurses sharing an apartment: Prabha, whose absent

husband is working in Germany, and Anu, who has a secret relationship with a Muslim man. Finding a place in the sprawling metropolis is a key aspect of Kapadia's narrative: Anu struggles for privacy to hide her affair, while Prabha's friend Parvati is evicted. When Parvati moves back to her village, Prabha and Anu pay her a visit, finding a communal shelter from their daily worries.

Filmed with exquisite elegance and precision, the film has an unconventional, even subversive approach to visual storytelling and confirms Kapadia as a singular and compelling voice of contemporary cinema. — Paolo Bertolin

### Screenings

#### Auckland

HWD Thu 8 Aug, 11:30am

CIV Sun 18 Aug, 2:45pm

#### Wellington

RXY Fri 9 Aug, 11:45am

EMB Sun 11 Aug, 3:15pm

#### Christchurch

LUM Thu 22 Aug, 12:00pm

LUM Mon 26 Aug, 8:00pm

LUM Fri 30 Aug, 11:15am

LUM Sun 1 Sep, 4:00pm

#### Dunedin

REG Fri 23 Aug, 1:30pm

REG Sun 25 Aug, 3:00pm

#### Hamilton

LID Tue 27 Aug, 1:30pm

LID Sun 1 Sep, 3:00pm

#### Tauranga

LUX Thu 22 Aug, 12:00pm

LUX Sat 24 Aug, 4:00pm

#### Napier

MTG Sun 25 Aug, 5:00pm

MTG Tue 27 Aug, 3:00pm

#### New Plymouth

LLC Mon 26 Aug, 2:00pm

LLC Sun 1 Sep, 3:15pm

#### Masterton

MAS Thu 22 Aug, 3:45pm

MAS Sat 24 Aug, 3:45pm

#### Nelson

STA Sun 18 Aug, 12:30pm

STA Tue 20 Aug, 2:00pm

### Director, Screenplay: Payal Kapadia

India 2024 | 114 mins

**Producers:** Thomas Hakim, Julien Graff

**Cinematography:** Ranabir Das

**Editors:** Clément Pinteaux

**Music:** Dhritiman Das

**Cast:** Kani Kusruti, Divya Prabha, Chhaya Kadam, Hridhu Haroon

**Languages:** Malayalam and Hindi, with English subtitles

**Festivals:** Cannes (In Competition), Sydney 2024

**Awards:** Grand Prix, Cannes Film Festival 2024

“Few films have ever so beautifully captured the lonesome romance of Mumbai after dark.”

— Jessica Kaing, *Variety*

Presented in association with



**M** Sex scenes, offensive language & nudity

# The Beast

La bête



Love in the time of AI. Léa Seydoux and George MacKay are star-crossed lovers chasing and escaping each other in different times and on different sides of the fence of attraction in Bertrand Bonello's mesmerising adaptation and expansion of Henry James' novella *The Beast in the Jungle*.

*The Beast* frames Gabrielle and Louis meeting at three moments in time – in 1910, in 2014 and in 2044. The future setting, a deserted Paris eerily devoid of human presence, provides the conceptual catch: in times to come, to better perform in life and work, humans will be able to purify their DNA from burdensome sediments of memories and

previous lives. Call it the high-tech version of a lobotomy. As Gabrielle is about to undergo the procedure, she incidentally meets the weirdly familiar Louis. Because indeed, the two had met previously: during the Great Flood of Paris, as aristocrats who fail to admit the reciprocal enamourment, and in present days LA, as an actress house-sitting a villa and a vicious incel.

Venturing into thematic and narrative territories close to Cronenberg and Lynch, Bonello forges a seductive triptych that is both elegant and edgy, cerebral and romantic. An instant classic of auteur cinema hurling out an unforgettable cry for love. — Paolo Bertolin

## Screenings

**Auckland**  
CIV Fri 9 Aug, 8:45pm  
HWD Thu 15 Aug, 10:00am  
**Wellington**  
RXY Mon 5 Aug, 3:30pm  
LHC Tue 6 Aug, 8:15pm  
RXY Sat 3 Aug, 8:00pm  
**Christchurch**  
LUM Sat 17 Aug, 8:30pm  
LUM Sun 25 Aug, 7:30pm  
LUM Thu 29 Aug, 2:00pm  
**Dunedin**  
REG Sun 18 Aug, 8:00pm  
**Hamilton**  
LID Thu 22 Aug, 3:15pm  
LID Sat 31 Aug, 8:00pm  
**Tauranga**  
LUX Fri 16 Aug, 1:00pm  
LUX Sun 18 Aug, 7:30pm  
**Napier**  
MTG Sun 25 Aug, 7:30pm  
**New Plymouth**  
LLC Sat 31 Aug, 8:00pm  
LLC Tue 3 Sep, 3:15pm  
**Masterton**  
MAS Sat 31 Aug, 7:45pm  
MAS Mon 2 Sep, 2:45pm  
**Nelson**  
STA Thu 22 Aug, 1:15pm  
STA Sat 24 Aug, 8:15pm

## Director, Screenplay: Bertrand Bonello

France, Canada 2023  
146 mins

**Producers:** Justin Taurand, Bertrand Bonello

**Cinematography:** Josée Deshaies

**Editor:** Anita Roth

**Music:** Bertrand Bonello, Anna Bonello

**Cast:** Léa Seydoux, George MacKay, Guslagie Malanga, Dasha Nekrasova, Martin Scali, Elina Löwensohn

**Languages:** French and English, with English subtitles

**Festivals:** Venice, Toronto, New York, London 2023; Rotterdam 2024

“A vast unsettling dream of the future and the past... It's rich, strange, with a chilly indifference to your viewing comfort and a tremor of imminent disaster.”

— Peter Bradshaw, *The Guardian*

**M** Offensive language & sexual references

# Dahomey



Casting a fascinating cinematic spell, Mati Diop, winner of the Cannes Grand Prix in 2019 with *Atlantics*, gives voice to an ancient statue of King Gezo, ruler of the Kingdom of Dahomey, in *Dahomey*, winner of the Golden Bear at the 2024 Berlin Film Festival.

French soldiers purloined the artefact, along with another 25 sculptures, in 1892. In 2021, the French government returned them to what today is the Republic of Benin. With her deceptively straightforward documentary, Diop chronicles the journey home from the trauma of colonialism.

As the royal treasures emerge from the vaults of a French museum,

as if from a crypt, they are cleansed and placed in craters, while the charismatic voice of King Gezo muses on their fate as if he were a *griot*, a traditional West African storyteller. When the sculptures reach Benin, Diop switches from the voice of King Gezo, emblem of a stolen past, steeped in myth and intangible wonder, to the polyphony of a thought-provoking debate among university students, who passionately reflect on the meaning of this repatriation. Far from staid academic discourse, Mati Diop's *Dahomey* provides a lucid and nuanced contribution to the debate on post-colonialism, in Africa and everywhere. — Paolo Bertolin

## Screenings

**Auckland**  
HWD Thu 8 Aug, 2:00pm  
CIV Sat 10 Aug, 10:00am  
**Wellington**  
EMB Sat 3 Aug, 10:00am  
LHC Wed 7 Aug, 10:30am  
LHC Sun 11 Aug, 4:30pm  
**Christchurch**  
LUM Tue 20 Aug, 6:15pm  
LUM Fri 23 Aug, 11:45am  
LUM Thu 29 Aug, 4:45pm  
LUM Sun 1 Sep, 2:30pm  
**Dunedin**  
REG Sat 17 Aug, 10:30am

## Director: Mati Diop

France 2024 | 68 mins

**Producers:** Eve Robin, Judith Lou Lévy, Mati Diop

**Cinematography:** Josephine Drouin-Viallard

**Editor:** Gabriel Gonzalez

**Music:** Wally Badarou, Dean Blunt

**With:** Gildas Adannou, Habib Ahandessi, Joséa Guedje

**Languages:** French, Fon and English, with English subtitles

**Festivals:** Berlin, Sydney 2024

**Awards:** Best Film, Berlin International Film Festival 2024

“*Dahomey* [is] a slim lever that cracks open the sealed crate of colonial history, sending a hundred of its associated erasures and injustices tumbling into the light.”

— Jessica Kiang, *Variety*

**E** Documentary film exempt from NZ Classification labelling requirements

## Evil Does Not Exist

Aku wa sonzai shinai



Set in a small rural village near Tokyo, *Evil Does Not Exist* follows a taciturn woodsman Takumi (a splendid debut by Hitoshi Omika) as he is inadvertently embroiled in plans to bring a high-end glamping retreat to the isolated idyll. Not only is the single father's placid daily life set to be upended, but the entire village's delicate subsistence is threatened.

The film began life as a visual accompaniment to musical works by composer Eiko Ishibashi, who also worked with Ryūsuke Hamaguchi on *Drive My Car*. The director became so engaged with the themes in the musician's

work that the project evolved into a full-blown feature. The DNA of a music-centred visual poem remains, brought to preternatural life by cinematographer Yoshio Kitagawa's entrancing compositions.

Hamaguchi imbues each character with such generous empathy that passing judgement becomes as difficult as untangling the interactions between culture and the natural world. Beautifully lensed and deliberately paced, *Evil Does Not Exist* starts as a stroll through a world of flawed heroes, complicit victims, and vacillating villains, before pitching towards a startling crescendo. — Adrian Hatwell

### Screenings

**Auckland**  
CIV Thu 8 Aug, 6:15pm  
CIV Fri 16 Aug, 10:30am  
**Wellington**  
EMB Thu 1 Aug, 11:00am  
EMB Sat 3 Aug, 4:00pm  
RXY Wed 7 Aug, 10:15am  
**Christchurch**  
LUM Sat 17 Aug, 6:00pm  
LUM Thu 22 Aug, 11:45am  
LUM Tue 27 Aug, 4:00pm  
LUM Wed 28 Aug, 6:15pm  
**Dunedin**  
REG Fri 16 Aug, 6:15pm  
REG Tue 20 Aug, 1:45pm  
**Hamilton**  
LID Thu 22 Aug, 1:00pm  
LID Sat 24 Aug, 3:45pm  
**Tauranga**  
LUX Fri 16 Aug, 6:00pm  
LUX Tue 20 Aug, 1:30pm  
**Napier**  
MTG Sat 24 Aug, 3:15pm  
MTG Thu 29 Aug, 1:00pm  
**New Plymouth**  
LLC Wed 28 Aug, 11:45am  
LLC Fri 30 Aug, 6:15pm  
**Masterton**  
MAS Fri 23 Aug, 11:45am  
MAS Fri 30 Aug, 5:45pm  
**Nelson**  
STA Fri 16 Aug, 6:15pm  
STA Tue 20 Aug, 11:45am

### Director, Screenplay: Ryūsuke Hamaguchi

Japan 2023 | 106 mins

**Cast:** Hitoshi Omika, Ryo Nishikawa, Ryuji Kosaka, Ayaka Shibutani

**Producer:** Satoshi Takata

**Cinematography:** Yoshio Kitagawa

**Editors:** Ryūsuke Hamaguchi, Azusa Yamazaki

**Music:** Eiko Ishibashi

**Language:** Japanese with English subtitles

**Festivals:** Venice, Toronto, San Sebastián, New York, Vancouver, Busan, London 2023; Rotterdam 2024

**Awards:** Grand Jury Prize, Venice Film Festival 2023; Best Film, London Film Festival 2023

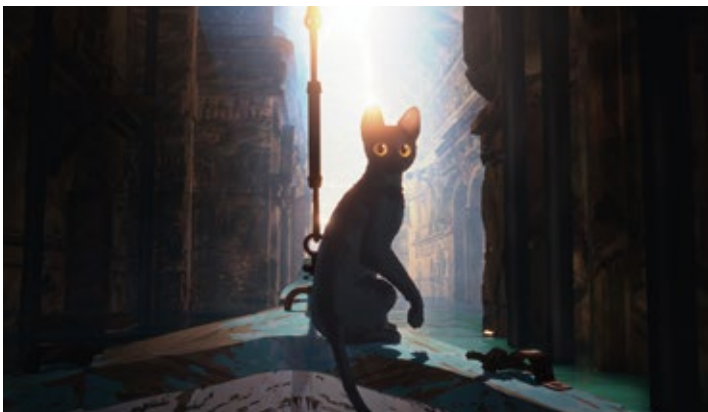
“This haunting stealth thriller about violations of nature is a work of undeniable power.”

— David Rooney, *Hollywood Reporter*

Presented in association with



## Flow



In a world free of humans, a staunchly independent cat narrowly survives a severe flood by teaming up with a sleepy capybara, a cheeky lemur, an overly friendly Labrador, and an enormous, crane-like bird. The unlikely menagerie has no choice but to stay together on a rickety boat as they navigate the new and rapidly changing environment they find themselves in.

Combining beautiful animation with a captivating and stirring score, the world director Gints Zilbalodis has created is lush, intriguing and mesmerising. Adults and children alike will love both the drama and humour derived from accurate observations of

behaviour exhibited by each species. Without dialogue, the animals must read and communicate with each other via body language alone as they are forced to navigate the stark differences between their species. In particular, our feline protagonist is often rubbed the wrong way by their shipmates' quirks, but as they learn to trust, friendship and emotional investment grows.

Engaging and suspenseful, *Flow* is a love letter to the natural world that not only holds a mirror up to our reality – particularly the human tendency to focus on individualism – but also beautifully examines the complex inner lives of animals. We're really not so different, after all. — Louise Adams

### Screenings

**Auckland**  
CIV Wed 14 Aug, 6:15pm\*  
CIV Thu 15 Aug, 1:30pm\*  
**Wellington**  
EMB Fri 9 Aug, 3:30pm\*  
EMB Sat 10 Aug, 3:30pm\*

### NZIFF Engage

See page 10 for details on Masterclasses with Gints Zilbalodis.

### Director, Editor: Gints Zilbalodis

Latvia/France/Belgium 2024  
85 mins

**Producers:** Matīss Kaža, Gregory Zalcmāns, Ron Dyens

**Screenplay:** Matīss Kaža, Gints Zilbalodis

**Music:** Rihards Zalupe, Gints Zilbalodis

**Language:** No dialogue

**Festivals:** Cannes (Un Certain Regard), Annecy 2024

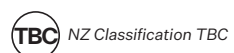
**Awards:** Jury Award and Audience Award, Annecy International Animated Film Festival 2024

**Q&A\*:** Gints Zilbalodis

“A vividly experiential white-knuckle survival adventure... The work of a unique talent who deserves to be ranked among the world's great animation artists.”

— David Rooney, *Hollywood Reporter*

Presented with the generous support of Gold Star patrons John and Jo Gow.



## Grand Tour



Merging the old-school cinematic elegance of his charming festival favourite *Tabu* with the semi-documentary stylings of *Our Beloved Month of August* or his epic *Arabian Nights*, the latest from eccentric Portuguese director Miguel Gomes takes us on an exotic journey zigzagging not just throughout Eastern Asia but also through space and time. *Grand Tour* earned Gomes the prize for Best Director at Cannes as well as widespread critical acclaim.

In Rangoon, Burma, 1917, British civil servant Edward (Gonçalo Waddington) waits on the docks to meet his fiancée Molly (Crista Alfaiate), but faced with sudden

cold feet, he jumps on the nearest steamer instead. When he discovers Molly isn't far behind, he begins a "grand tour", fleeing through Thailand, the Philippines, Vietnam, Japan and China to avoid her.

Gomes bridges scenes with the actors shot on sound stages with contemporary documentary footage of the locales Edward and Molly travel through, accompanied by sardonic narration in a variety of Asian languages. The marriage of melodramatic artificiality with found footage plays with both time and geography in a truly unique fashion. Unlike the film's hapless betrothed, this marriage is a beguiling success.

— Michael McDonnell

### Screenings

#### Auckland

CIV Fri 16 Aug, 1:00pm  
HWD Thu 15 Aug, 6:30pm

#### Wellington

EMB Mon 5 Aug, 3:30pm  
LHC Sat 3 Aug, 5:45pm  
LHC Sun 11 Aug, 6:00pm

#### Christchurch

LUM Fri 30 Aug, 1:30pm  
LUM Sat 17 Aug, 2:15pm  
LUM Sun 25 Aug, 5:45pm

### Director: Miguel Gomes

Portugal/Italy/France 2024  
128 mins

**Producer:** Filipa Reis

**Screenplay:** Mariana Ricardo, Telmo Churro, Maureen Fazendeiro, Miguel Gomes

**Cinematography:** Rui Poças, Sayombhu Mukdeeprom, Guo Liang

**Editors:** Telmo Churro, Pedro Filipe Marques

**Cast:** Crista Alfaiate, Gonçalo Waddington, Claudio da Silva, Lang Khê Tran

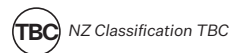
**Languages:** Portuguese, Mandarin, Thai, French, Burmese, Vietnamese, Tagalog, and Japanese, with English subtitles

**Festivals:** Cannes (In Competition), Sydney 2024

**Awards:** Best Director, Cannes Film Festival 2024

**"Bristling with life and song and revelatory collisions between cultures and timeframes, the Portuguese master's Cannes Competition title is a healing balm for trying times."**

— Jessica Kiang, *Variety*



## Menus-Plaisirs – Les Troisgros



In *Menus-Plaisirs – Les Troisgros*, director Frederick Wiseman is attuned to small pleasures (menus-plaisirs). Spending countless hours at Le Bois san Feuilles, a three-star Michelin restaurant which has been in the Troisgros family for decades, Wiseman is less interested in the product and more enamoured by the process – a holistic approach that methodically connects family, staff and suppliers.

Eschewing typical documentary crutches such as piece-to-camera interviews or scene-setting narration, the film invites you to relax into its rhythm, figuring out the restaurant's complex hierarchies, dynamics and familial tensions

by observing the day-to-day. The camera is obviously in reverence of culinary artistry and the very specific balance of creativity and order that is needed in the pursuit of gastronomic greatness. It stays static, lingering, as its practitioners chop, blanche, pipe, and plate to an exacting precision. Sojourns into the kitchens are interspersed with meetings with the accountant, tours to cheese farms, and conversations between chef (namely Michel, the Troisgros patriarch) and diners. Gradually, viewers piece together the puzzle, building an innate understanding of what it takes to get a plate of thoughtfully tweezered food on the table.

— Jean Teng

### Screenings

#### Auckland

HWD Sun 11 Aug, 10:00am

#### Wellington

RXY Sun 4 Aug, 11:00am  
LHC Mon 5 Aug, 2:00pm

#### Christchurch

LUM Sun 18 Aug, 12:00pm  
LUM Mon 19 Aug, 2:15pm  
LUM Sun 25 Aug, 11:15am

#### Hamilton

LID Sun 25 Aug, 12:15pm  
LID Mon 2 Sep, 1:45pm

### Director, Editor:

#### Frederick Wiseman

France 2023 | 240 mins

**Producers:** Frederick Wiseman, Karen Konicek, Olivier Giel

**Cinematography:** James Bishop

**Sound:** Jean-Paul Mugal

**With:** Michel Troisgros, Cesar Troisgros, Léo Troisgros

**Language:** French and English, with English subtitles

**Festivals:** Venice, Toronto, New York, London, Tokyo 2023; CPH:DOX, Sydney 2024

**Awards:** Best Documentary/Non-Fiction Film, LA Film Critics Association Awards 2023; Best Nonfiction Film, National Society of Film Critics 2024

**"Menus-Plaisirs – Les Troisgros is every food lover and documentary lover's dream."**

— Belen Edwards, *Mashable*

Presented in association with



**E** Documentary film exempt from NZ Classification labelling requirements

# The Mike Hosking Breakfast.

6AM – 9AM WEEKDAYS



## Newstalk **ZB**

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## Pepe



Pepe was the first hippopotamus shot in the Americas. He was freely roaming the waters of Rio Magdalena, Colombia, leaving fishermen in awe and terror. Pepe was a “cocaine hippo”, part of drug lord Pablo Escobar’s personal menagerie. “Imported” from Namibia, Escobar’s hippos thrived in their new habitat. But Pepe was an unwanted guest.

Dominican director Nelson de los Santos Arias summons the spirit of that legendary hippo in *Pepe*, giving him voice and turning him into a polyglottal narrator in what is possibly the most unclassifiable cinematic oddity of 2024. Guided by an adamant post-colonial stand

and influenced by the tropical cinema of Brazilian master Glauber Rocha, de los Santos Arias cleverly experiments with narration and formats, blurring fiction and documentary, factual narration and magic realism, and adopting a structure that favors digressions and diversions rather than linearity.

Bridging Africa and Latin America, *Pepe* provides an alternative, politically charged retelling of the colonial connection between the two shores of the Atlantic. Hailed as the Apichatpong Weerasethakul of Latin America, he is a talent that New Zealand audiences should also discover. — Paolo Bertolin

### Screenings

**Auckland**  
HWD Sat 10 Aug, 3:30pm  
**Wellington**  
LHC Wed 7 Aug, 8:15pm  
LHC Sat 10 Aug, 3:30pm

**Director, Screenplay, Editor, Music: Nelson Carlos de los Santos Arias**  
Dominican Republic/  
Namibia/Germany/France  
2024 | 122 mins

**Producers:** Pablo Lozano, Tanya Valette, Nelson Carlos de los Santos Arias  
**Cinematography:** Camilo Soratti, Roman Lechapelier, Nelson Carlos de los Santos Arias  
**Cast:** Jhon Narváez, Sor Maria Rios, Fareed Matjila, Harmony Ahalwa  
**Languages:** Spanish, Afrikaans, Mbukushu and German, with English subtitles

**Festivals:** Berlin, Sydney 2024

**Awards:** Best Director, Berlin International Film Festival 2024

“What is striking about *Pepe*... is its challenging, utterly distinctive style... defined by a radically inventive filmic language.”

— Jonathan Romney, *Sight & Sound*



Offensive language, drug use & flashing images that may cause seizures

## The Universal Theory

*Die Theorie von Allem*



A pure cinephile delight presented in sumptuous black and white, Timm Kröger’s *The Universal Theory* is a superb auteur version of multiverse storytelling.

The film opens in colour in 1974 as a German TV host welcomes Johannes Leinert, bestselling writer of *Die Theorie von Allem* (*The Theory of Everything*).

The conversation leads to a disagreement on the existence of parallel universes and, as Johannes storms out of the studio, he addresses the camera to send a message to a woman named Karin.

Flashback to 1962: in the Swiss Alps, a boy and a girl play in the snow and accidentally uncover

a dangerous secret. A younger Johannes, then a physics PhD candidate, travels to that same location to attend a summit.

There, he meets a host of bizarre characters and becomes entangled in a conspiracy. And he falls in love with Karin, a jazz pianist who knows too much about his past.

Richly referencing classic cinema, from Hitchcock to Fassbinder, Welles to Lynch, film noir to giallo, Kröger creates a puzzle that is suspenseful and visually mesmerising. Yet, at its core, *The Universal Theory* isn’t just a cinematic pastiche, but a sublime and heart-wrenching love story. — Paolo Bertolin

### Screenings

**Auckland**  
HWD Sun 18 Aug, 6:15pm  
**Wellington**  
RXY Sun 11 Aug, 6:45pm

**Director: Timm Kröger**  
Germany/Austria/  
Switzerland 2023 | 118 mins

**Producers:** Heino Deckert, Tina Börner, Viktoria Stolpe, Timm Kröger, Lixi Frank, David Bohun, Sarah Born, Rajko Jazbec, Dario Schoch

**Screenplay:** Roderick Warich, Timm Kröger

**Cinematography:** Roland Stuprich

**Editor:** Jann Anderegg

**Music:** Diego Ramos Rodríguez

**Cast:** Jan Bülow, Olivia Ross, Hanns Zischler, Gottfried Breitfuss, David Bennent

**Language:** German with English subtitles

**Festivals:** Venice 2023

“Timm Kröger’s superbly crafted *The Universal Theory*... delivers pastiche so meticulous it becomes its own source of supremely cinematic pleasure.”

— Jessica Kiang, *Variety*



NZ Classification TBC

A special focus on countries and regions whose films emerged as groundbreaking and topical. This year, we zero in on endearing works showing the reality of life in the Himalayas and the thought-provoking and irreverent films out of Norway.

# Journeys

## Agent of Happiness



Amber is a government official traversing the mountains of Bhutan, seeking to determine the gross national happiness of the small Buddhist kingdom. Filling out paperwork in rural farmhouses and mountainous shantytowns, the task is supposed to inform policy and parliamentary decision-making, to help the country prosper.

Regarded by their own government as the happiest country in the world, after a few minutes with Amber and his coworker Guna, you come to realise that not everything is fun and games for the so-called “agent of happiness”. He longs for marriage, declaring his intentions to prospective companion Sarita early

in the piece. But as anyone who’s ever downloaded a dating app will know, it’s never that simple.

For some, the number of livestock they own is directly proportional to their degree of contentment on the Gross National Happiness Index. Yet for others, such as Dechan, a transwoman whose mother struggles to accept her, a more worrisome picture is painted by her survey answers.

Encapsulating a vast range of the human experience, Bhattarai and Zurbó play with juxtaposition, drawn-out close-ups of wistful citizens interspersed with breathtaking vistas of the Bhutanese countryside. — Matt Bloomfield

### Screenings

**Auckland**  
HWD Sun 18 Aug, 1:45pm  
**Wellington**  
LHC Fri 2 Aug, 6:15pm  
RXY Wed 7 Aug, 4:15pm  
LHC Sun 11 Aug, 12:30pm  
**Christchurch**  
LUM Wed 21 Aug, 2:30pm  
LUM Wed 28 Aug, 6:45pm  
LUM Fri 30 Aug, 6:30pm  
**Hamilton**  
LID Mon 26 Aug, 12:15pm  
LID Tue 27 Aug, 6:15pm  
**Tauranga**  
LUX Sat 17 Aug, 4:15pm  
LUX Wed 21 Aug, 1:45pm  
**Napier**  
MTG Mon 26 Aug, 5:45pm  
**New Plymouth**  
LLC Wed 28 Aug, 4:15pm  
LLC Mon 2 Sep, 6:15pm  
**Masterton**  
MAS Sun 25 Aug, 5:30pm  
MAS Tue 27 Aug, 3:45pm  
**Nelson**  
STA Tue 20 Aug, 6:15pm

### Directors: Arun Bhattarai, Dorottya Zurbó

Bhutan 2024 | 94 mins

**Producers:** Noémi Veronika Szakonyi, Máté Artur Vincze, Arun Bhattarai

**Cinematography:** Arun Bhattarai

**Editor:** Péter Sass

**Music:** Ádám Balázs

**With:** Amber Kumar Gurung, Sarita Chettri, Guna Raj Kuikel

**Languages:** Dzongkha and Nepali, with English subtitles

**Festivals:** Sundance, CPH:DOX, Hot Docs, San Francisco, Sydney 2024

**Awards:** Best Documentary and Audience Award, San Francisco International Film Festival 2024

“Agent of Happiness shows that the manner in which Bhutan measures contentment is unique, but life’s always better with a smile on one’s face. It’s a universal truth.”

— Pat Mullen, *POV Magazine*

# The Monk and the Gun



When young monk Tashi's lama (Buddhist master) asks him to procure two guns ahead of their country's first mock election – to "set it right", whatever that means – he doesn't ask questions, he simply strolls into the unspoiled countryside towards neighbouring Ura village. One problem: Tashi has never seen a gun before!

Sporting a premise that could lead to tragedy, tomfoolery, or transcendence, Pawo Choyning Dorji's *The Monk and the Gun* keeps you guessing, with a half-smile at the corner of its cinematic mouth. Balancing views on tradition and modernisation,

city and village life, the film weaves a colourful tapestry of Bhutan's democratic transition, gilded with a subtle comedic edge. Forget understanding the electoral process, bemused villagers struggle to even fathom the need for the proposed changes, while a confused American arms dealer may get more (and less) than he bargains for. Dorji's satire may be gentle rather than sharp, yet the film effectively skewers "democracy" and "modernity" as Western cultural constructs; exploring what an indigenous approach might look like, carrying culture and values into the future. — Jacob Powell

## Screenings

- Auckland**  
CIV Sat 10 Aug, 4:15pm  
HWD Wed 14 Aug, 1:15pm
- Wellington**  
LHC Sun 4 Aug, 6:00pm  
EMB Wed 7 Aug, 12:30pm  
LHC Thu 8 Aug, 8:15pm
- Christchurch**  
LUM Fri 16 Aug, 12:45pm  
LUM Sat 17 Aug, 12:00pm  
LUM Mon 26 Aug, 6:15pm
- Dunedin**  
REG Mon 19 Aug, 6:15pm
- Hamilton**  
LID Thu 22 Aug, 6:15pm  
LID Fri 30 Aug, 4:00pm
- Tauranga**  
LUX Fri 23 Aug, 12:45pm  
LUX Tue 27 Aug, 5:45pm
- Napier**  
MTG Thu 22 Aug, 3:15pm  
MTG Fri 23 Aug, 5:30pm
- New Plymouth**  
LLC Thu 22 Aug, 6:15pm  
LLC Thu 29 Aug, 4:00pm
- Masterton**  
MAS Thu 22 Aug, 8:00pm
- Special pricing applies**  
MAS Mon 26 Aug, 12:45pm
- Nelson**  
STA Thu 15 Aug, 6:15pm  
STA Wed 21 Aug, 4:00pm

**Director, Screenplay:**  
**Pawo Choyning Dorji**  
Bhutan/France/USA/  
Taiwan 2023 | 107 mins

**Producers:** Jean-Christophe Simon, Hsu Feng, Stephanie Lai, Pawo Choyning Dorji  
**Cinematography:** Jigmè T Tenzing  
**Editor:** Hsiao-Yun Ku  
**Music:** Frederic Alvarez  
**Cast:** Tandin Wangchuk, Deki Lhamo, Pema Zangmo Sherpa, Tandin Sonam, Harry Einhorn  
**Languages:** Dzongkha and English, with English subtitles

**Festivals:** Telluride, Toronto, Vancouver, Rome 2023; Sydney 2024

**Awards:** Audience Award (Showcase), Vancouver International Film Festival 2023

**“An unexpectedly suspenseful shaggy dog story, as well as a pretty funny one.”**

— Michael O’Sullivan, *Washington Post*

**M** Sex scenes, offensive language & nudity

# Shambhala



Pema resides in a polyandrous village in the Himalayas with three fraternal husbands: Tashi, her chosen beloved; Karma, a kind Buddhist; and Dawa, the youngest of the brothers, still in school. The four live in content harmony until Karma returns to the monastery and Tashi embarks on a months-long journey for resources.

Before Tashi departs, he and Pema share an intimate night, causing Pema to fall pregnant. Her joy is overshadowed when a rumour rips through the tiny village that Pema was unfaithful while Tashi was away. Word spreads to Tashi, and he doesn't return. Determined to quash these accusations, Pema

takes it upon herself to find Tashi and prove her devotion to him. She sets out alone, taking only the necessities and her trusty horse.

According to Tibetan Buddhist legend, Shambhala is a kingdom of peace and prosperity that exists somewhere between the Himalayas and the Gobi Desert. It is a place for those who have achieved complete enlightenment. While we follow Pema through the stunning landscape and experience each of the spiritual rituals she encounters, we also watch as she moves further away from the surface-level civility she grew up with to embrace the raw emotion she truly feels.

— Huia Haupapa

## Screenings

- Auckland**  
HWD Thu 8 Aug, 8:15pm\*  
CIV Fri 9 Aug, 10:00am\*
- Wellington**  
RXY Mon 5 Aug, 8:00pm\*  
LHC Tue 6 Aug, 11:00am\*
- Christchurch**  
LUM Sun 18 Aug, 7:45pm  
LUM Wed 28 Aug, 12:00pm  
LUM Sun 1 Sep, 12:45pm

**Director, Producer:**  
**Min Bahadur Bham**  
Nepal/France/Norway/  
Turkey/Hong Kong/Taiwan/  
USA/Qatar 2024 | 150 mins

**Screenplay:** Min Bahadur Bham, Abinash Bikram Shah  
**Cinematography:** Aziz Jan Baki  
**Editors:** Liao Ching-Sung, Kiran Shrestha  
**Music:** Nhyoo Bajracharya  
**Cast:** Thinley Lhamo, Sonam Topden, Tenzin Dalha, Karma Wangyal Gurung, Karma Shakya, Loten Namling  
**Languages:** Tibetan and Nepali, with English subtitles

**Festivals:** Berlin 2024

**Q&A\*:** Min Bahadur Bham

**“At once a spiritual odyssey and a more concrete journey of female self-determination, this is a visually magnificent slow-burner filmed high in the Himalayas.”**

— Jonathan Romney, *Screen Daily*

**PG** Violence, coarse language, some scenes may disturb

# Armand



Actress Elizabeth (rising star Renate Reinsve, also at this year's Festival in *A Different Man*, p39) is summoned to a meeting at her son Armand's school with his best friend's parents, who make a severe accusation against Armand. What really happened among the children? And what does this tell us about the parents raising them? Is Elizabeth responsible for Armand's misbehavior?

*Armand* invites audiences to be judges at an unofficial trial, where the thin divide between truth and lies is blurred. But the actress could be playing games, ready to lead the seductive dance of manipulation. Once again, Reinsve proves the

subtle finesse of her thespian skills, leaving the audience to ponder how much her character's maternal instinct is served by her well-oiled histrionics. Pulling the strings of this outstanding Bergmanian drama with evocative and elegant camerawork is Halfdan Ullmann Tøndel, grandson of Liv Ullmann and Ingmar Bergman himself.

— Paolo Bertolini

"As much as Reinsve proved herself the ideal vessel to portray millennial angst and ennui in *The Worst Person in the World*, here she establishes herself as an ultimate portrayal of women on the edge." — Ryan Lattanzio, *Indiewire*

## Screenings

**Auckland**  
HWD Sat 17 Aug, 9:00pm  
**Wellington**  
RXY Fri 9 Aug, 8:15pm

**Director, Screenplay:**  
**Halfdan Ullmann Tøndel**  
Norway/The Netherlands/  
Sweden/Germany 2024  
117 mins

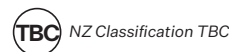
**Producer:** Andrea Berentsen Ottmar  
**Cinematography:** Pål Ulvik Rokseth  
**Editor:** Robert Krantz  
**Music:** Ella Van Der Woude  
**Cast:** Renate Reinsve, Ellen Dorrit Petersen, Øystein Røger, Endre Hellestveit, Thea Lambrechts Vaulen  
**Language:** Norwegian with English subtitles

**Festivals:** Cannes (Un Certain Regard), Sydney 2024

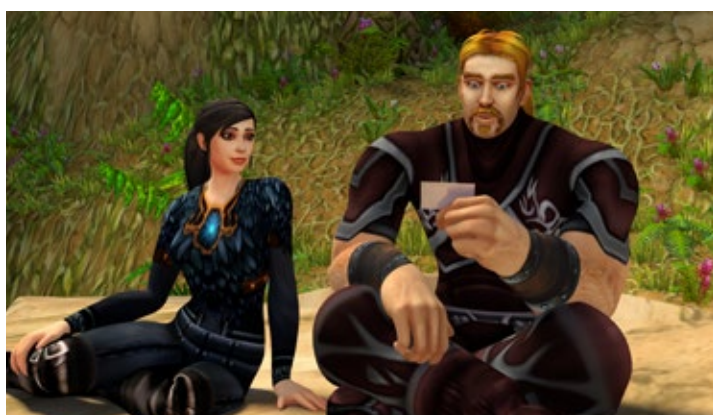
**Awards:** Camera d'Or, Cannes Film Festival 2024

**"Reinsve completely commands the screen in the most unexpected and captivating manner."**

— Gregory Ellwood, *The Playlist*



# The Remarkable Life of Ibelin



A parent's greatest desire for their children is for them to live a fulfilling life with friendships and love. Born with a degenerative muscular disease, Mats Steen's life narrows until as a young adult he spends much of his day in his bedroom on his modified computer, seemingly disconnected with the real world. His family views his life as lonely and isolated.

When he dies aged 25, his parents post a final message to Mats' blog, not knowing whether anyone would even read it... until their inbox is flooded with hundreds of emails from online friends around the world who had

connected with Mats through the online role-playing game *World of Warcraft* and his dashing virtual avatar Ibelin.

Director Benjamin Ree vividly re-imagines Ibelin's life within *World of Warcraft* where Ibelin poignantly enjoys so many of the things Mats couldn't – he's buff and goes for daily jogs, meets friends for a beer, chats up girls and falls in love.

Interspersed with interviews with family and the friends Mats made online, Ree's heart-rending film portrays the power of human connection and a life well lived; a truly remarkable life.

— Sally Woodfield

## Screenings

**Auckland**  
HWD Fri 9 Aug, 8:30pm  
CIV Thu 15 Aug, 3:45pm  
**Wellington**  
LHC Sat 3 Aug, 10:45am  
LHC Fri 9 Aug, 6:15pm  
**Christchurch**  
LUM Sat 17 Aug, 4:00pm  
LUM Thu 22 Aug, 6:30pm  
**Dunedin**  
REG Thu 15 Aug, 4:00pm  
REG Sun 18 Aug, 12:15pm

**Director: Benjamin Ree**  
Norway 2024 | 104 mins

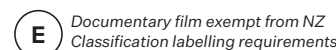
**Producer:** Ingvil Giske  
**Cinematography:** Rasmus Tukia, Tore Vollan  
**Editor:** Robert Stengård  
**With:** Robert Steen, Trude Steen, Mia Steen, Kai Simon, Fredriksen Lisette Roovers, Mikkel Riknagel Nielsen, Xenia-Anni Nielsen  
**Languages:** English and Norwegian, with English subtitles

**Festivals:** Sundance, CPH:DOX, Sydney 2024

**Awards:** Directing and Audience Awards (World Cinema Documentary), Sundance Film Festival 2024

**"Through films as touching and powerful as these, there is hope we can continue on our own journeys following a truly selfless example."**

— Lex Briscuso, *The Wrap*



# Sex



## Screenings

**Auckland**  
HWD Sat 10 Aug, 8:45pm  
**Wellington**  
RXY Sun 4 Aug, 5:45pm

## Director: Dag Johan Haugerud

Norway 2024 | 118 mins

**Producers:** Yngve Sæther, Hege Hauff Hvattum

**Cinematography:** Cecilie Semec

**Editor:** Jens Christian Fodstad

**Music:** Peder Capjon Kjellsby

**Cast:** Jan Gunnar Røise, Thorbjørn Harr, Siri Forberg, Birgitte Larsen

**Language:** Norwegian with English subtitles

**Festivals:** Berlin, Sydney 2024

There has hardly been an investigation on male identity and sexuality as candid, insightful and hilarious as Norwegian auteur Dag Johan Haugerud's *Sex*. After winning all major laurels in Nordic cinema with *Beware of Children*, the acclaimed director and author is now embarking on a trilogy, *Sex Dreams Love*.

The first instalment opens on one of the most tantalising preludes in recent cinema. Two chimney sweeps frankly open up to each other on a coffee break: the first reveals that he dreamt of being checked out by none other than David Bowie; the other confesses that he accepted

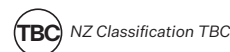
the sexual advances of a male customer who invited him to have sex with him. But both men are "straight" and married to women. Here, the deft tone of the film is immediately set.

A fervent admirer of Eric Rohmer's thickly scripted love skirmishes, Haugerud infuses irony, depth and compassion in his elegantly composed tableaux depicting how these men cope with the turmoil these experiences bring into their relationships with their partners and themselves. Featuring some of the brightest and funniest dialogue of 2024, *Sex* is a real eye-opener.

— Paolo Bertolin

"Sex is a compelling exploration of ordinary men trying to figure out who they are permitted to be, how they are evolving and what their lives are all about."

— Alan Hunter, *Screen Daily*



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A selection of hand-picked classics and recently restored films. A valuable opportunity to watch landmarks from the history of cinema on the big screen, and unearth some unsung gems.

*Special Screenings: As we went to print we confirmed two special 30th anniversary screenings of Peter Jackson's Heavenly Creatures. The film will screen in Auckland and Wellington on Monday 12 August. See [nziff.co.nz](http://nziff.co.nz) for details.*

# Treasures

## American Stories: Food, Family and Philosophy

*Histoires d'Amérique: Food, Family and Philosophy*



Like most of Chantal Akerman's films, *American Stories*, now beautifully restored in 4K, is a deeply personal one. Having yearned to fill the blanks of a past that her mother – an Auschwitz survivor – left largely unspoken, she sought to bring the “invented memories” of her people to life.

After a dazzling New York skyline emerges from the sea fog (a mirror of the closing shots from Akerman's 1977 film *News from Home*), the breathless confessions of its Jewish immigrants are given against the graffitied streets and eerie vacant lots of Williamsburg. A man laments his loss of religion and the strangeness of an acculturated

generation; a woman is torn between a Jewish and a non-Jewish lover. In these glimpses of grief, longing, and alienation, all the mess of exile and migration is unsilenced with mesmerising intimacy.

Between these touching moments come rapid-fire Vaudeville skits: Beckettian riddles meet Yiddish songs; Woody Allen-esque back-and-forths meet religious fables. Storytelling, as Akerman noted, “has permitted people to survive history by laughing – laughing although the source is distress.” It's this attention to both sides of the coin that makes *American Stories* a true portrait of a culture. — Manon Revuelta

### Screenings

**Auckland**  
HWD Sun 18 Aug, 4:00pm  
**Wellington**  
RXY Sun 11 Aug, 12:15pm

### Director, Screenplay: Chantal Akerman

Belgium/France 1989  
96 mins

**Producer:** Bertrand Van Effenterre  
**Editor:** Patrick Mimouni  
**Cinematography:** Luc Benhamou  
**Music:** Sonia Wieder-Atherton  
**Cast:** Maurice Brenner, Carl Don, David Buntzman, Judith Malina, Eszter Balint, Dean Jackson, Roy Nathanson  
**Languages:** French with English subtitles

**Festivals:** Cannes (Directors' Fortnight) 2024

**4K restoration**

“The stories and the comedy meld into a cohesive whole that sustains an entire community. Food, family, and philosophy are just the tip of the iceberg.”

— Vikram Murthi,  
*RogerEbert.com*



# Anguish

*Angustia*



The midnight screening – once a staple of cinema-going; a mecca for late-night naughtiness and witching hour antics – is now practically unheard of in New Zealand. This year, we're bringing this sacred cinematic ritual roaring back into Aotearoa in lurid and gory style with this screening of the cult classic horror film from Spanish iconoclast Bigas Luna.

With a 35mm print sourced from Hollywood Avondale's vault, *Anguish* will be like no other cinema experience you'll have this year. Coen brothers regular and beloved character actor Michael Lerner stars as a

tortured ophthalmologist with a sadistic obsession for gathering eyeballs for his mother (*Poltergeist* series' Zelda Rubinstein), who collects and displays them. Things take a turn for the demented when reality starts to blur between the fabric of the film, and the fabric of the audience's reality. What is the truth, and who is watching whom after all?

Gruesome, frightening and totally bananas, *Anguish* deftly mixes comedy, eroticism and primal terror, drawing on giallo-style gore and splashes of colour, and going gleefully meta in its interrogation of voyeurism and the act of watching. Luna, a

## Screenings

**Auckland**  
HWD Fri 16 Aug, 11:00pm

## Director, Screenplay: Bigas Luna

Spain 1987 | 89 mins

**Producer:** Pepón Coromina  
**Cinematography:** Joseph M. Civit  
**Editor:** Tom Sabin  
**Music:** José Manuel Pagán  
**Cast:** Zelda Rubinstein, Michael Lerner, Talia Paul, Angel Jove, Clara Pastor, Isabel García Lorca

**35mm screening**

**“A strikingly original, intricately constructed, and extremely gruesome horror film about a mother-fixated ophthalmologist's assistant with an unhealthy interest in eyeballs.”**

— Nigel Floyd, *Time Out*

flamboyant stylist perhaps best known for his sweltering, erotic *Jamón Jamón*, is at his most outlandish and disturbing here, crafting a horror that evokes that other great auteur of style and suspense, Brian De Palma.

Renowned for a mid-film narrative gearshift of tectonic proportions, whatever you may think *Anguish* is going to be as the movie flickers to life, prepare for something else entirely. And be warned: serial killers don't just exist in the movies. In fact, they could be sitting right next to you.

— Tom Augustine



# Days of Heaven



The filmmaker's impulse to make “every frame a painting” has perhaps never been more fully realised, or transcended, than in the rapturous imagery of Terrence Malick's *Days of Heaven*, a visual astonishment of the highest order. After the runaway critical success of *Badlands*, Malick's intentions turned toward the more outwardly poetic, rendered here in the wispy tale of a doomed love triangle on the farmlands of the Texas prairie before World War I.

Bill has gotten into a fight in Chicago which ended with the killing of a steel mill foreman. On the run with his lover Abby and his

watchful younger sister Linda, the three take up seasonal work for a farmer (Sam Shepard) who falls for Abby, kicking off a tragic chain of events that will permanently alter the course of their lives.

Arriving deep within the “New Hollywood” period of the 1970s, when visionaries such as Martin Scorsese, David Lynch and Francis Ford Coppola were cutting their teeth, *Days of Heaven* is a reflection of the subversive ideas of the time – a grand melodrama sans-soapiness, opting instead for visual lyricism and elegiac, haunting majesty.

— Tom Augustine

## Screenings

**Auckland**  
CIV Sun 11 Aug, 10:00am  
CIV Tue 13 Aug, 1:15pm  
**Wellington**  
EMB Sun 4 Aug, 10:00am  
RXY Tue 6 Aug, 2:15pm  
**Christchurch**  
LUM Fri 16 Aug, 12:15pm  
LUM Sun 18 Aug, 3:30pm  
LUM Tue 27 Aug, 6:30pm  
**Dunedin**  
REG Thu 15 Aug, 11:45am

## Director, Screenplay: Terrence Malick

USA 1978 | 94 mins

**Producers:** Bert Schneider, Harold Schneider  
**Cinematography:** Néstor Almendros  
**Editor:** Bill Weber  
**Music:** Ennio Morricone  
**Cast:** Richard Gere, Brooke Adams, Sam Shepard, Linda Manz, Robert J. Wilke, Jackie Shultis, Stuart Margolin, Timothy Scott

**Festivals:** Venice 2023

**4K restoration**

**“Days of Heaven reintroduces to movie audiences Malick's passionate sense of landscape, his unhurried tempo and mastery of calm, although this is in fact an eventful and dramatic film.”**

— Peter Bradshaw, *The Guardian*

Presented in association with  
 Wellington Film Society



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## Paris, Texas



Director Wim Wenders (*Wings of Desire*, *Perfect Days*) fuses his expertise with the road movie – this was his fifth – and fascination for Americana in this intimate epic of the modern West.

A man emerges from the desert, mute and dishevelled. After reconnecting with his brother and son, he embarks on a quest to find his missing wife. Harry Dean Stanton, the venerable character actor cherished by David Lynch, gets a rare opportunity to stretch out in a lead role, and he's subtly magnetic as a man slowly recovering from a mysterious existential crisis. His climactic

encounter with Nastassja Kinski is a mesmerising tour de force.

After the debacle of Wenders' first American project, *Hammert*, this was the film where everything went right, from cinematographer Robby Muller's magnificent shots of Monument Valley to Ry Cooder's dusty, iconic score. The film won the Palme d'Or at Cannes in 1984 and secured the Best Director BAFTA the following year. It has become a modern classic, inspiring generations of filmmakers and musicians (including Kurt Cobain, who named it his favourite film). We are delighted to present *Paris, Texas* in a new 4K restoration. — Andrew Langridge

### Screenings

**Auckland**  
HWD Fri 16 Aug, 10:15am  
CIV Sat 17 Aug, 10:00am  
**Wellington**  
RXY Thu 1 Aug, 1:30pm  
EMB Sat 10 Aug, 10:00am  
**Christchurch**  
LUM Sat 24 Aug, 3:45pm  
LUM Mon 26 Aug, 3:30pm  
LUM Sun 1 Sep, 11:45am  
**Dunedin**  
REG Thu 22 Aug, 1:00pm  
**Hamilton**  
LID Wed 28 Aug, 11:45am  
LID Sun 1 Sep, 10:00am  
**Tauranga**  
LUX Sun 25 Aug, 11:30am  
**Napier**  
MTG Sun 1 Sep, 11:00am  
**New Plymouth**  
LLC Sun 1 Sep, 12:15pm  
**Masterton**  
MAS Sat 24 Aug, 12:45pm  
MAS Tue 27 Aug, 12:45pm  
**Nelson**  
STA Sun 25 Aug, 12:30pm

Presented in association with  
**DUNEDIN FILM SOCIETY**  
taking you further into film

**Director: Wim Wenders**  
West Germany/France 1984  
148 mins

**Producer:** Don Guest  
**Screenplay:** Sam Shepard, L.M. Kit Carson  
**Cinematography:** Robby Müller  
**Editor:** Peter Przygodda  
**Music:** Ry Cooder  
**Cast:** Harry Dean Stanton, Dean Stockwell, Nastassja Kinski, Aurore Clément, Hunter Carson

**Festivals:** Cannes (Cannes Classics) 2024

4K restoration

“Wim Wenders’ iconic vision of American alienation, starring [Harry Dean] Stanton as a weatherbeaten drifter, has held its mystery for 40 years.”

— Peter Bradshaw, *The Guardian*

RP13 Extra material may offend or disturb

## Peeping Tom



When the pair amicably split in the late 1950s, master filmmaking duo Michael Powell and Emeric Pressburger (*The Red Shoes*, *Black Narcissus*) both saw a significant downturn in their careers – that is, except for *Peeping Tom*, a fascinating outlier in Powell's career and a remarkably incisive psychological thriller.

Carl Boehm is Mark Lewis, a tortured loner who longs to become a great director. Working onset as a focus puller by day and a lewd photographer by night, Mark is working on a film “about fear”, which involves

him capturing the final moments of women he murders with a custom-designed tripod that doubles as a knife.

With *Peeping Tom*, Powell offered up his own addition to the provocative, psychologically complex pictures being made by the likes of Alfred Hitchcock and Henri Georges-Clouzot. Released the same year as Hitchcock's *Psycho*, Powell's film shares its taboo-breaking menace, even pushing past Hitchcock in his disturbing equation of the camera eye with perverse acts of murder, linking the audience's voyeuristic

### Screenings

**Auckland**  
CIV Mon 12 Aug, 1:15pm  
HWD Sun 18 Aug, 8:45pm  
**Wellington**  
RXY Fri 2 Aug, 8:15pm  
LHC Wed 7 Aug, 12:00pm  
**Christchurch**  
LUM Wed 21 Aug, 1:45pm  
LUM Sun 25 Aug, 3:45pm  
LUM Thu 29 Aug, 8:30pm

Presented in association with  
**CANTERBURY FILM SOCIETY**

**Director: Michael Powell**  
UK 1960 | 102 mins

**Producers:** Michael Powell, Albert Fennell  
**Screenplay:** Leo Marks  
**Cinematography:** Otto Heller  
**Editor:** Noreen Ackland  
**Music:** Brian Easdale  
**Cast:** Karlheinz Böhm, Moira Shearer, Anna Massey

**Festivals:** Sydney, London 2024

4K restoration

pleasure to that of the killer himself. Mark's weapon is profoundly suggestive – a watchful eye coupled with a pointed penetrative device. Titillation and terrible violence intermingle, playing to our worst instincts even as it frightens us. Throughout, Powell indicts himself as well – it is no mistake that *Peeping Tom's* empathetic monster is a wannabe film director, and that he forfeits so much of his soul in the name of the pursuit of his terrible creation.

— Tom Augustine

“If anything deserves the ‘dark masterpiece’ tag, this does: a brilliant satirical insight into the neurotic, pornographic element in the act of filming, more relevant than ever in the age of reality television and CCTV.”

— Peter Bradshaw, *The Guardian*

M Violence

## For answers to frequently asked questions, visit [nziff.co.nz](http://nziff.co.nz)

### Programme Changes

Information in the programme catalogue is correct at the time of printing. We reluctantly reserve the right to change the schedule by amending dates or replacing films. Any changes will be updated and communicated on NZIFF's website [nziff.co.nz](http://nziff.co.nz) and in our daily newsletters.

### Buying Tickets

Ticket prices and information on buying tickets for each venue can be found in the following pages together with specific information on booking fees. Fees vary from venue to venue. Ticketing links can also be found on the NZIFF website once tickets for each venue go on sale. Book early to ensure you don't miss out.

### Concessions

Special price tickets are available for A-coded films for students, seniors (65+), children, film industry guild members, and Film Society members in relevant centres. Other centre-specific discounts may apply. Student/Membership/CSC ID may be required at the time of purchase, when collecting tickets or when entering the venues. Film Society "Three Film Sampler" holders are not entitled to the concession discount. Child concession price tickets are not available for R13 films – student price applies.

### Multi-trip passes

Ten-trip passes are available in Auckland and Wellington, and five-trip passes are available in Auckland, Wellington, Christchurch and Dunedin. Five-trip student passes are available in Auckland, Wellington, Christchurch and Dunedin. Information on pass prices and redeeming passes can be found on the following pages.

### Refunds

Please note that **NO REFUNDS will be given for tickets** (either unused, uncollected or collected late) except as required by law. **Bookings once made cannot be altered.** Please see below re: Covid-19 related refunds.

### Please arrive early

There are no advertising films or trailers at NZIFF. **We reserve the right to ask latecomers to wait until the conclusion of any introductions or short films before they are seated, or to seat latecomers in seats other than those originally purchased, to minimise disturbing other patrons.** Session starting times will not be delayed in deference to late arrivals. If collecting tickets prior to a screening allow extra time in case there are queues.

### Mobile phones

Please ensure mobile phones and other electronic devices are switched off before entering the auditorium. Any video recording is strictly prohibited.

### Classification

**TBC** – NZ classification pending

**E** – Documentary film exempt from NZ classification labelling requirements

**G** – Suitable for general audiences

**PG** – Parental guidance recommended for younger viewers

**M** – Unrestricted. Recommended as more suitable for mature audiences 16 years and over

**RP13** – Restricted to persons 13 years and over, unless they are accompanied by a parent or guardian

**RP16** – Restricted to persons 16 years and over, unless they are accompanied by a parent or guardian

**R13** – Restricted to persons 13 years and over

**R16** – Restricted to persons 16 years and over

**R18** – Restricted to persons 18 years and over

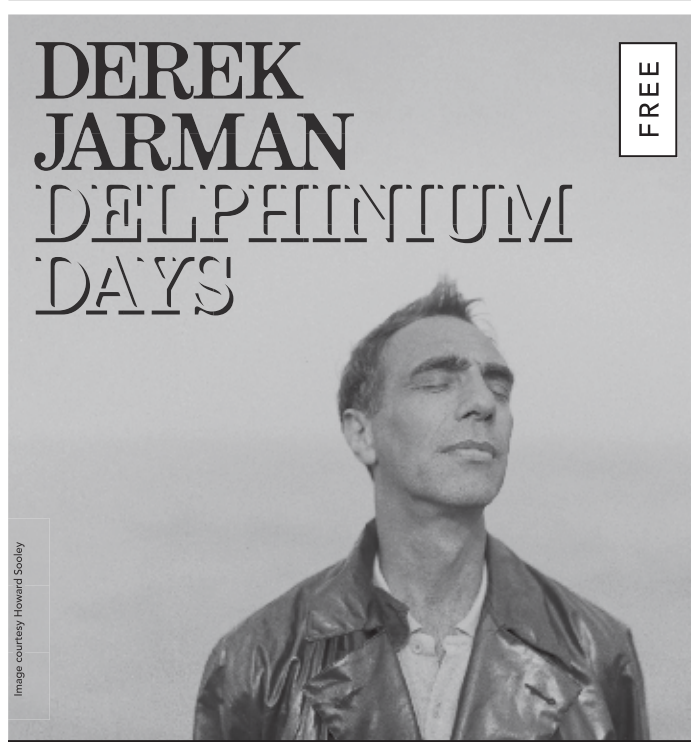
Classifications are published on the NZIFF website and displayed at venue box offices. Children's tickets are available only for films classified G, PG & M. At the time of printing some films had not been rated. Until they receive a classification rating, they are considered R18 (unless clearly aimed at children) and can only be purchased by and for people aged 18 and over. For more information please visit the ticketing and venue information page on our website.

**Please note:** ID may be requested for restricted films.

### Our website has it all: [nziff.co.nz](http://nziff.co.nz)

Find out more about the feature films and short film programmes we've selected for this year's NZIFF, access exclusive trailers and content, and curate your own shortlist and schedule of screenings.

- » **Films:** Explore films by theme, genre, country, language and more.
- » **Register:** Sign up to receive monthly news and daily session updates during NZIFF, and to create wishlists that you can share.
- » **Curate a wishlist:** Add any film to your own wishlist and share it with friends (great for organising a crew), save sessions to your calendar, and create a handy shopping list to purchase from. You can even create a wishlist for every town and city where NZIFF screens.
- » **Schedule reminders:** Select the reminder on a film session to be alerted if tickets start selling fast, so you can book ASAP.
- » **News:** Read the latest film announcements, meet the filmmakers and peruse our guest profiles on the news section of the website.
- » **Galleries:** Browse NZIFF photos of special events, including world premieres, awards evenings and Q+As with leading filmmakers.



15 June  
— 14 September

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### Covid-19 Guidelines

By entering a cinema or venue for a NZIFF screening, you agree to comply with the Covid-19 requirements at the time and any specific requirements of individual venues. These requirements may vary from venue to venue and will be communicated on the NZIFF website and displayed at the venue.

- NZIFF asks that you do not attend a NZIFF film screening if the following applies to you or any members of your group:
- You have Covid-19 or are awaiting the results of a Covid-19 test
  - You are currently isolating
  - You are feeling unwell with symptoms associated with Covid-19.

For refunds due to Covid-19 related reasons, please email [tickets@nziff.co.nz](mailto:tickets@nziff.co.nz).

# Tāmaki Makaurau Auckland

## Ngā Tiketi – Tickets

### A-coded sessions

Weekdays after 5:00pm and weekends

Full Price	\$26.00
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Student/Community Services Card/ Film Society/Film Guilds/Senior (65+)*	\$22.00
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Child (15 and under)	\$19.00
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### B-coded sessions

Sessions starting before 5.00pm weekdays

All tickets	\$19.00
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### Opening Night VIP tickets

Wednesday 7 August, The Civic  
Includes film ticket + Gala event in the Wintergarden with food, beverages and entertainment. Limited to 100 tickets only.

VIP tickets	\$50.00
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### Eno

Thursday 15 August, The Civic

All tickets	\$28.00
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### All prices are GST inclusive and in NZD.

\*Discount available on presentation of current relevant ID/membership

Service and booking fees of \$3.00 included in ticket price. Credit card fees apply.

### Online Discount

Purchase 10 or more Full Price tickets in one online transaction and automatically receive a discount of \$2.00 per ticket.

### Multi-Trip Passes

10-Trip Pass	\$180.00
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5-Trip Pass	\$97.50
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5-Trip Student Pass	\$85.00
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Multi-trip passes can be purchased in advance at [nziff.co.nz](http://nziff.co.nz), in person from the NZIFF Box Office or from NZIFF venues during the NZIFF 2024 dates. They can be redeemed for tickets in advance or on the day at NZIFF box offices for any session that is not sold out. No online redemption available.

Multi-trip passes are valid for all sessions subject to seat availability, except *Eno*. Passes are flexible and can be used in any configuration up to the number of tickets (e.g. you may wish to use your pass for 10 tickets to one film or two tickets for five films). Passes cannot be refunded, either in part or in full. Tickets booked via a pass cannot be refunded if a particular film is cancelled but may be transferred to a different film (subject to availability).

### Concession Prices

Special price tickets are available for A-coded films for students, seniors (65+), Community Service Cardholders, film industry guild members and Film Society members. Film Society Three Film Sampler holders are not entitled to the concession discount.

### Buying your tickets

Tickets for all film screenings at NZIFF 2024 are only available through [nziff.co.nz](http://nziff.co.nz) and can be purchased in advance online or from the NZIFF Box Office at The Civic from Friday 19 July. During NZIFF 2024, tickets are also available to purchase from NZIFF venues.

We recommend you book early to secure the best seats. Please note that all advance bookings for The Civic and ASB Waterfront Theatre screenings will be allocated in the Stalls first.

**Online bookings:** Tickets can be purchased online at [nziff.co.nz](http://nziff.co.nz) up until the time the session commences. To select seats, use the CHANGE SEAT button before completing your purchase. Tickets purchased online will be emailed to you, allowing you to print them at home or present them on a mobile device.

**Phone bookings:** (09) 302 0043

**In-person bookings:** The Civic from 19 July:  
Friday 19 July 10.00am – 6.00pm  
Tuesdays to Fridays 1.00pm – 6.00pm  
Saturdays 11.00am – 4.00pm

### During NZIFF 2024

Tickets for all NZIFF screenings available. Each office will open 30 minutes before the first NZIFF session commences and closes 15 minutes after the start of the final NZIFF session for the day.

**Group Bookings:** Special ticket prices apply for school groups and other groups of 20 or more. Email [amanda@nziff.co.nz](mailto:amanda@nziff.co.nz) for details.

## Whare Kiriata – Venues

### ASB Waterfront Theatre (AWT)

138 Halsey St, Wynyard Quarter  
NZIFF box office located on ground floor between 15-18 August.

Note: Venue will be closed on Thursday 15 August between 3.00pm-6.00pm.

### Accessibility

Ground floor lift accesses all levels of the theatre. Hearing loops available. Assistance dogs are welcome.

### Parents

Please leave strollers and pushchairs on the ground floor during screenings. Please speak to venue staff for storage. Booster cushions are available from our ushers.

### Meet Up Eat Up

Theatre bar is fully licenced and offers a range of hot and cold beverages, snacks, sweet treats and pizzas.

### Parking

Several car parks available at Wynyard Quarter including mobility parks. Visit [asbwaterfronttheatre.co.nz](http://asbwaterfronttheatre.co.nz) for details. Mobility parking is available on Madden St and Jellicoe St.

### Drop-off zone

Outside theatre on Halsey St.

### On foot

Please note that the Wynard Quarter Te Wero Bridge is currently closed for repairs. Please take the alternative route around Viaduct Harbour.

### The Civic (CIV)

Corner Queen & Wellesley Sts, Auckland CBD  
[aucklandlive.co.nz](http://aucklandlive.co.nz)  
Box office located at the Wellesley St

entrance. During NZIFF dates tickets can also be purchased at the Candy Bar.

### Accessibility

Six wheelchair spaces available. Venue fully accessible via ramps and lifts for those with difficulty using stairs. For assistance, please ask at the Information Desk. The Wintergarden (where events and Q&As are held) is fully accessible by lifts and ramps. Guide dogs are welcome. Hearing loop available.

### Parents

Please leave prams with staff.

### Meet Up Eat Up

Theatre Bars at The Civic or Stark's Café and Bar for a variety of hot and cold drinks and cabinet food during the day.

### Parking

The Civic Carpark is located underground with entry from Greys Avenue or Mayoral Dr with 20 mobility parks available. Alternative parking buildings are situated nearby on Greys Ave, Albert St and Victoria St.

### Drop-off zones

Please note: Auckland Transport is upgrading the bus stop facilities outside The Civic on Wellesley St. Wellesley St is closed to vehicles between Elliott and Queen Sts and will be bus-only from 7am to 7pm. Authorised vehicles (goods and emergency vehicles) will be able to use this part of the street at all other times. The drop off location on Elliot St behind Smith and Caughey's is available throughout the duration of the construction project. Pedestrian access to The Civic is maintained.

### Public Transport

For information on bus, train and ferry timetables, visit [at.govt.nz](http://at.govt.nz).

### Hollywood Avondale (HWD)

20 St Georges Rd, Avondale

NZIFF box office located in the foyer.

### Accessibility

Three wheelchair spaces available. Wheelchair access at side entrance and accessible bathroom available from courtyard.

### Parents

Prams can be stored with staff.

### Meet Up Eat Up

Vegan candy bar featuring a range of alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages (hot and cold) along with snacks including candy, ice-cream, popcorn, pies, sausage rolls and soup.

### Parking

Street parking only. No parking in 5-minute zone in front of dairy.

### On foot

Five-minute walk from Avondale train station and bus stops.

### Auckland Film Society

- [aucklandfilmsociety.org.nz](http://aucklandfilmsociety.org.nz)
- [aucklandfilmsociety@gmail.com](mailto:aucklandfilmsociety@gmail.com)

## Auckland schedule

### Wednesday 7 August

A 7:00pm **We Were Dangerous** CIV 5

### Thursday 8 August

B 10:00am **No Other Land** CIV 46  
 B 11:30am **All We Imagine As...** HWD 58  
 B 12:15pm **Dying** CIV 39  
 B 2:00pm **Dahomey** HWD 59  
 B 3:45pm **Crossing** CIV 45  
 B 3:45pm **I Saw the TV Glow** HWD 51  
 A 6:15pm **Evil Does Not Exist** CIV 60  
 A 6:15pm **When the Light...** HWD 49  
 A 8:15pm **Shambhala** HWD 65  
 A 8:45pm **Grafted** CIV 13

### Friday 9 August

B 10:00am **Shambhala** CIV 65  
 B 11:00am **Didi** HWD 38  
 B 1:15pm **A Different Man** HWD 39  
 B 1:30pm **Janet Planet** CIV 28  
 B 3:45pm **My First Film** HWD 35  
 B 4:00pm **Humanist Vampire...** CIV 51  
 A 6:15pm **The Teachers'...** CIV 48  
 A 6:15pm **Good One** HWD 28  
 A 8:30pm **The Remarkable...** HWD 66  
 A 8:45pm **The Beast** CIV 59  
 A 11:00pm **The People's Joker** HWD 52

### Saturday 10 August

A 10:00am **Dahomey** CIV 59  
 A 10:45am **Hollywoodgate** HWD 33  
 A 12:00pm **In Restless Dreams...** CIV 55  
 A 1:00pm **Black Box Diaries** HWD 32  
 A 3:30pm **Pepe** HWD 63  
 A 4:15pm **The Monk and the...** CIV 65  
 A 6:15pm **To a Land Unknown** HWD 29  
 A 6:45pm **Problemista** CIV 46  
 A 8:45pm **Sex** HWD 67  
 A 9:15pm **Cuckoo** CIV 50

### Sunday 11 August

A 10:00am **Days of Heaven** CIV 69  
 A 10:00am **Menus-Plaisirs...** HWD 61  
 A 12:15pm **The Outrun** CIV 41  
 A 2:45pm **Explanation for...** HWD 40  
 A 3:00pm **The Seed of the...** CIV 47  
 A 6:00pm **Brief History of a...** HWD 27  
 A 6:30pm **Head South** CIV 6  
 A 8:45pm **Birdeater** HWD 26  
 A 9:00pm **Sleep** CIV 53

### Monday 12 August

B 10:00am **My Favourite Cake** HWD 40  
 B 11:00am **Gloria!** CIV 55  
 B 12:15pm **Brief History of a ...** HWD 27  
 B 1:15pm **Peeping Tom** CIV 71  
 B 3:15pm **Grand Theft Hamlet** HWD 33  
 B 3:45pm **Tatami** CIV 48  
 A 5:30pm **The Village Next to...** HWD 30  
 A 6:15pm **Heavenly Creatures** CIV 68  
 A 8:30pm **Crossing** HWD 45  
 A 9:00pm **Sons** CIV 43

### Tuesday 13 August

B 10:00am **The Village Next...** HWD 30  
 B 10:45am **The Outrun** CIV 41  
 B 1:15pm **Days of Heaven** CIV 69  
 B 1:30pm **Midnight Oil...** HWD 56  
 B 3:45pm **Black Dog** CIV 44  
 B 3:45pm **Cuckoo** HWD 50  
 A 6:15pm **Ryuichi Sakamoto...** CIV 57  
 A 6:15pm **Wild Diamond** HWD 31  
 A 8:30pm **The Speedway...** HWD 37  
 A 9:00pm **A Different Man** CIV 39

### Wednesday 14 August

B 10:00am **The Teachers'...** CIV 48

B 10:00am **Green Border** HWD 45  
 B 12:15pm **Ryuichi Sakamoto...** CIV 57  
 B 1:15pm **The Monk and the...** HWD 65  
 B 3:00pm **Explanation for...** CIV 40  
 B 3:45pm **Seeking Mavis...** HWD 36  
 A 6:15pm **Flow** CIV 60  
 A 6:15pm **Janet Planet** HWD 28  
 A 8:45pm **Alien Weaponry...** CIV 12  
 A 8:45pm **The Sweet East** HWD 53

### Thursday 15 August

B 10:00am **The Seed of the...** CIV 47  
 B 10:00am **The Beast** HWD 59  
 B 10:30am **We Were Dangerous** AWT 5  
 B 1:00pm **Soundtrack to a...** HWD 36  
 B 1:15pm **Head South** AWT 6  
 B 1:30pm **Flow** CIV 60  
 B 3:45pm **The Remarkable...** CIV 66  
 B 4:00pm **Kneecap** HWD 56  
 B 6:15pm **Eno** CIV 54  
 A 6:30pm **Grand Tour** HWD 61  
 A 7:00pm **Never Look Away** AWT 15  
 A 8:45pm **Green Border** CIV 45  
 A 9:15pm **Sasquatch Sunset** HWD 52

### Friday 16 August

B 10:15am **Paris, Texas** HWD 71  
 B 10:15am **Never Look Away** AWT 15  
 B 10:30am **Evil Does Not Exist** CIV 60  
 B 12:45pm **Alien Weaponry...** AWT 12  
 B 1:00pm **Grand Tour** CIV 61  
 B 1:15pm **The Mother of All...** HWD 35  
 B 3:30pm **Oceans Are the...** HWD 29  
 B 3:30pm **Grafted** AWT 13  
 B 3:45pm **Problemista** CIV 46  
 A 6:15pm **Didi** CIV 38  
 A 6:15pm **The Haka Party...** AWT 13  
 A 6:15pm **The Story of...** HWD 47  
 A 8:30pm **Kneecap** CIV 56  
 A 8:30pm **Humanist...** HWD 51  
 A 9:00pm **Naughty Little...** AWT 23  
 A 11:00pm **Anguish** HWD 69

### Saturday 17 August

A 10:00am **Paris, Texas** CIV 71  
 A 10:00am **Marimari** AWT 14  
 A 10:00am **Soundtrack to a...** HWD 36  
 A 1:00pm **Night Piece** AWT 23  
 A 1:00pm **Dormitory** HWD 27  
 A 1:15pm **No Other Land** CIV 46  
 A 3:15pm **Ngā Whanaunga...** AWT 18  
 A 3:30pm **Gloria!** CIV 55  
 A 3:45pm **Griet and Nam** HWD 30  
 A 6:00pm **I Saw the TV...** CIV 51  
 A 6:00pm **A Mistake** AWT 15  
 A 6:30pm **Tatami** HWD 48  
 A 8:30pm **Black Dog** CIV 44  
 A 9:00pm **I Am a Dark River** AWT 23  
 A 9:00pm **Armand** HWD 66

### Sunday 18 August

A 10:00am **My Favourite Cake** CIV 40  
 A 10:00am **Short Connections** AWT 17  
 A 10:00am **Dying** HWD 39  
 A 12:15pm **Super/Man...** CIV 43  
 A 12:45pm **The House Within** AWT 14  
 A 1:45pm **Agent of Happiness** HWD 64  
 A 2:45pm **All We Imagine As...** CIV 58  
 A 3:15pm **New Zealand's Best** AWT 19  
 A 4:00pm **American Stories...** HWD 68  
 A 5:45pm **Midnight Oil...** CIV 56  
 A 6:00pm **Taki Rua Theatre...** AWT 17  
 A 6:15pm **The Universal...** HWD 63  
 A 8:15pm **The Substance** CIV 7  
 A 8:45pm **Peeping Tom** HWD 71

## Te Whanganui-a-Tara Wellington

### Ngā Tiketi – Tickets

#### A-coded sessions

Weekdays after 5.00pm and weekends

Full price	\$23.00
Student/Community Services Card/ Film Society/Film Guilds/Senior (65+)*	\$19.00
Child (15 and under)	\$17.00

#### B-coded sessions

Sessions starting before 5.00pm weekdays

Full/Student/Community Services Card/ Film Society/Film Guilds/Senior (65+)*	\$19.00
Child (15 and under)	\$17.00

#### Eno

Friday 9 August, 6:15pm at The Embassy

All tickets	\$25.00
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#### All prices are GST inclusive and in NZD

\*Discount available on presentation of current relevant ID/membership  
 Service and booking fees of \$2.00 included in ticket price. Credit card fees apply.

#### Online Discount

Purchase 10 or more Full Price tickets in one online transaction and automatically receive a discount of \$2.00 per ticket.

#### Multi-Trip Passes

10-Trip Pass	\$170.00
5-Trip Pass	\$90.00
5-Trip Student Pass	\$80.00

Multi-trip passes can be purchased in advance online at [nziff.co.nz](http://nziff.co.nz), in person from the NZIFF Box Office or from NZIFF venues during the NZIFF 2024 dates. They can be redeemed for tickets in advance or on the day at NZIFF box offices for any session that is not sold out.

Multi-trip passes are valid for all sessions subject to seat availability, except *Eno*. Passes are flexible and can be used in any configuration up to the number of tickets (e.g you may wish to use your pass for 10 tickets to one film or two tickets for five films). Passes cannot be refunded, either in part or in full. Tickets booked via a pass cannot be refunded if a particular film is cancelled but may be transferred to a different film (subject to availability).

#### Concession Prices

Special price tickets are available for A-coded films for students, seniors (65+), Community Service Cardholders, film industry guild members and Film Society members. Film Society Three Film Sampler holders are not entitled to the concession discount.

#### Buying your tickets

Tickets for all film screenings at NZIFF 2024 are only available through [nziff.co.nz](http://nziff.co.nz) and can be purchased in advance online or from the NZIFF pop-up Box Office from Friday 12 July. During NZIFF 2024, tickets are also available to purchase from NZIFF venues. Please note: Light House Cinema Cuba only sells tickets to screenings at that venue. We recommend you book early to secure the best seats.

**Online bookings**

Tickets can be purchased online at [nziff.co.nz](http://nziff.co.nz) up until the time the session commences. To select your own seats, use the CHANGE SEAT button before completing your purchase. Tickets purchased online will be emailed to you, allowing you to print them at home or present them on a mobile device.

**In-person bookings**

Tickets available from the pop-up box office at Capital Creative Arts Trust, 17 Allen St, Te Aro, 12-31 July.  
 Friday 12 July 10.00am – 6.00pm  
 Tuesdays to Fridays 1.00pm – 6.00pm  
 Saturdays 11.00am – 4.00pm  
 Box office will close at 4.00pm on Wednesday 31 July.

**During NZIFF 2024**

**Embassy and Roxy Cinemas**

Tickets for all NZIFF screenings available. Each box office opens 30 minutes before the first NZIFF session of the day commences and closes 15 minutes after the start of the final NZIFF session for the day.

**Light House Cinema Cuba**

Only tickets for screenings at this cinema available. Box office opens 30 minutes before each NZIFF session commences and closes 15 minutes after each session starts. Box offices may be closed between sessions.

Please note: Patrons buying tickets for sessions about to start may be given priority over patrons seeking advance bookings.

**Phone bookings:** Limited phone booking service available and we strongly recommend booking online or in-person. Phone (04) 802 4001.

**Until Wednesday 31 July:**

Monday to Friday: 1.00pm – 6.00pm  
 Saturday: 11.00am – 4.00pm

**1 August – 11 August:**  
 11.00am – 5.00pm daily

**Group Bookings:** Special ticket prices apply for school groups and other groups of 20 or more. Please email [amanda@nziff.co.nz](mailto:amanda@nziff.co.nz) for details.

**Whare Kiriata – Venues**

**Embassy Theatre (EMB)**

10 Kent Tce, Mt Victoria  
 Phone: (04) 802 4001

The Embassy cinema (EMB) is located on Level 1.

**Box Office**

A dedicated NZIFF 2024 box office will be located on the ground floor from Thursday 1 August to Sunday 11 August. Tickets for all NZIFF 2024 sessions in Wellington are available to purchase from this box office.

**Information Desk**

Located in The Embassy and staffed by Wellington Film Society committee members.

**Accessibility**

Six wheelchair spaces available in the main cinema. Venue fully accessible via lift to Level 1 for the main cinema. Lift is located to the left of the main foyer. Headsets are available

for films that have the technology enabled. Please enquire at the box office to ensure this is available for your film of choice.

**Parents**

Please leave prams with staff.

**Meet Up Eat Up**

Candy Bar on Level 1 will be open for the duration of the festival for drinks (hot and cold) and snacks. The Black Sparrow (ground level through tunnel) will be open in the evenings.

**Roxy Cinema (RXY)**

5 Park Rd, Miramar  
 Phone: (04) 388 5555  
 Screenings will be in Cinemas 1 & 2.

**Accessibility**

One wheelchair space available in each cinema. Venue fully accessible via lift (access through the right side of the restaurant and down the back corridor). Infra-red headphones available from the box office. Cinema 1 is located on the upstairs floor and Cinema 2 is located on the ground floor down a corridor to the left of the restaurant. The accessibility toilet is located on the ground floor only.

**Parents**

Changing tables in accessible toilet.

**Meet Up Eat Up**

Roxy Café serves a wide range of hot and cold beverages, snacks and cabinet food daily. Coco restaurant is open Thursday to Sunday evenings and bookings are recommended.

**Light House Cinema Cuba (LHC)**

29 Wigan St, Te Aro  
 Phone: (04) 385 3337  
 All screenings will be in Cinema 1.

**Accessibility**

One wheelchair space. Venue fully accessible. Infra-red headphones available from the box office.

**Parents**

Changing tables in accessible toilet

**Meet Up Eat Up**

A selection of hot and cold beverages, snacks and light meals available.

**On foot**

Drop off outside cinema.

**Public Transport**

Buses: 2, 18, 30x pr 31x from Courtenay Place to Miramar shops.

**Wellington Film Society**

• [filmsocietywellington.net.nz](http://filmsocietywellington.net.nz)  
 • [filmsociety@gmail.com](mailto:filmsociety@gmail.com)

**Wellington schedule**

**Wednesday 31 July**

A 7:00pm **We Were Dangerous** EMB 5

**Thursday 1 August**

B 11:00am **Evil Does Not Exist** EMB 60  
 B 11:30am **The Mother of All...** RXY 35  
 B 11:30am **Soundtrack to a...** LHC 36  
 B 1:30pm **Didi** EMB 38  
 B 1:30pm **Paris, Texas** RXY 71  
 B 2:15pm **Good One** LHC 28  
 B 3:45pm **Problemista** EMB 46  
 B 4:00pm **Black Dog** LHC 44  
 B 4:15pm **Humanist Vampire...** RXY 51  
 A 6:15pm **Never Look Away** EMB 15  
 A 6:15pm **Crossing** RXY 45  
 A 6:15pm **Gloria!** LHC 55  
 A 8:15pm **No Other Land** LHC 46  
 A 8:30pm **Birdeater** RXY 26  
 A 9:00pm **A Different Man** EMB 39

**Friday 2 August**

B 10:00am **My Favourite Cake** EMB 40  
 B 11:45am **The Outrun** LHC 41  
 B 11:45am **The Teachers'...** RXY 48  
 B 12:15pm **Dying** EMB 39  
 B 1:45pm **Never Look Away** RXY 15  
 B 2:00pm **Tatami** LHC 48  
 B 3:45pm **Wild Diamond** EMB 31  
 B 4:00pm **Oceans Are the...** LHC 29  
 B 4:15pm **Sons** RXY 43  
 A 6:15pm **Taki Rua Theatre...** EMB 17  
 A 6:15pm **To a Land Unknown** RXY 29  
 A 6:15pm **Agent of Happiness** LHC 64  
 A 8:15pm **Peeping Tom** RXY 71  
 A 8:15pm **Soundtrack to a...** LHC 36  
 A 9:00pm **Cuckoo** EMB 50

**Saturday 3 August**

A 10:00am **Dahomey** EMB 59  
 A 10:45am **The Remarkable...** LHC 66  
 A 11:00am **When the Light...** RXY 49  
 A 11:45am **In Restless Dreams...** EMB 55  
 A 12:45pm **My Favourite Cake** LHC 40  
 A 12:45pm **Explanation for...** RXY 40  
 A 2:45pm **Green Border** LHC 45  
 A 3:45pm **Ngā Whanaunga...** RXY 18  
 A 4:00pm **Evil Does Not Exist** EMB 60  
 A 5:45pm **Grand Tour** LHC 61  
 A 6:00pm **The House Within** RXY 14  
 A 6:30pm **I Saw the TV Glow** EMB 51  
 A 8:00pm **The Beast** RXY 59  
 A 8:15pm **Sons** LHC 43  
 A 8:45pm **Kneecap** EMB 56

**Sunday 4 August**

A 10:00am **Days of Heaven** EMB 69  
 A 10:15am **Janet Planet** LHC 28  
 A 11:00am **Menus-Plaisirs...** RXY 61  
 A 12:15pm **Ryuichi Sakamoto...** EMB 57  
 A 12:30pm **Black Dog** LHC 44  
 A 2:45pm **The Seed of the...** EMB 47  
 A 2:45pm **Dying** LHC 39  
 A 3:15pm **Marimari** RXY 14  
 A 5:45pm **Sex** RXY 67  
 A 6:00pm **The Monk and the...** LHC 65  
 A 6:15pm **Problemista** EMB 46  
 A 8:15pm **Crossing** LHC 45  
 A 8:15pm **The Sweet East** RXY 53  
 A 8:45pm **Sleep** EMB 53

**Monday 5 August**

B 10:45am **Ryuichi Sakamoto...** EMB 57  
 B 11:15am **Taki Rua Theatre...** RXY 17  
 B 12:00pm **The House Within** LHC 14  
 B 1:00pm **A Different Man** EMB 39  
 B 1:30pm **Hollywoodgate** RXY 33  
 B 2:00pm **Menus-Plaisirs...** LHC 61

B 3:30pm	<b>Grand Tour</b>	EMB	61
B 3:30pm	<b>The Beast</b>	RXY	59
A 6:15pm	<b>The Outrun</b>	EMB	41
A 6:15pm	<b>Good One</b>	RXY	28
A 6:15pm	<b>The Mother of All...</b>	LHC	35
A 8:00pm	<b>Shambhala</b>	RXY	65
A 8:15pm	<b>Birdeater</b>	LHC	26
A 8:45pm	<b>Sons</b>	EMB	43

**Tuesday 6 August**

B 10:15am	<b>Gloria!</b>	EMB	55
B 11:00am	<b>Shambhala</b>	LHC	65
B 11:00am	<b>The Seed of the...</b>	RXY	47
B 12:30pm	<b>Green Border</b>	EMB	45
B 2:15pm	<b>Days of Heaven</b>	RXY	69
B 2:15pm	<b>Janet Planet</b>	LHC	28
B 3:45pm	<b>To a Land Unknown</b>	EMB	29
B 4:15pm	<b>Cuckoo</b>	RXY	50
B 4:30pm	<b>When the Light...</b>	LHC	49
A 6:15pm	<b>New Zealand's Best...</b>	EMB	19
A 6:15pm	<b>Seeking Mavis...</b>	LHC	36
A 6:15pm	<b>Wild Diamond</b>	RXY	31
A 8:15pm	<b>The Beast</b>	LHC	59
A 8:15pm	<b>Tatami</b>	RXY	48
A 8:45pm	<b>Black Dog</b>	EMB	44

**Wednesday 7 August**

B 10:15am	<b>The Teachers'...</b>	EMB	48
B 10:15am	<b>Evil Does Not Exist</b>	RXY	60
B 10:30am	<b>Dahomey</b>	LHC	59
B 12:00pm	<b>Peeping Tom</b>	LHC	71
B 12:30pm	<b>The Monk and the...</b>	EMB	65
B 12:30pm	<b>In Restless Dreams...</b>	RXY	55
B 2:00pm	<b>The Sweet East</b>	LHC	53
B 3:00pm	<b>Explanation for...</b>	EMB	40
B 4:00pm	<b>Birdeater</b>	LHC	26
B 4:15pm	<b>Agent of Happiness</b>	RXY	64
A 6:15pm	<b>A Mistake</b>	EMB	15
A 6:15pm	<b>Hollywoodgate</b>	LHC	33
A 6:15pm	<b>Black Box Diaries</b>	RXY	32
A 8:15pm	<b>Grand Theft Hamlet</b>	RXY	33
A 8:15pm	<b>Pepe</b>	LHC	63
A 9:00pm	<b>Humanist Vampire...</b>	EMB	51

**Thursday 8 August**

B 10:00am	<b>The Outrun</b>	EMB	41
B 11:30am	<b>Marimari</b>	LHC	14
B 12:15pm	<b>Seeking Mavis...</b>	RXY	36
B 12:30pm	<b>The Seed of the...</b>	EMB	47
B 2:00pm	<b>Grand Theft Hamlet</b>	LHC	33
B 2:15pm	<b>No Other Land</b>	RXY	46
B 4:00pm	<b>I Saw the TV Glow</b>	EMB	51
B 4:15pm	<b>Black Box Diaries</b>	LHC	32
B 4:15pm	<b>Midnight Oil...</b>	RXY	56
A 6:15pm	<b>Didi</b>	EMB	38
A 6:15pm	<b>Brief History of a...</b>	RXY	27
A 6:15pm	<b>My First Film</b>	LHC	35
A 8:15pm	<b>The Monk and the...</b>	LHC	65
A 8:30pm	<b>Head South</b>	EMB	6
A 8:45pm	<b>Sasquatch Sunset</b>	RXY	52

**Friday 9 August**

B 10:00am	<b>Head South</b>	EMB	6
B 10:30am	<b>Brief History of a...</b>	LHC	27
B 11:45am	<b>All We Imagine As</b>	RXY	58
B 1:00pm	<b>Crossing</b>	EMB	45
B 1:15pm	<b>The Village Next to...</b>	LHC	30
B 2:00pm	<b>My First Film</b>	RXY	35
B 3:30pm	<b>Flow</b>	EMB	60
B 4:00pm	<b>Kneecap</b>	RXY	56
B 4:30pm	<b>Sasquatch Sunset</b>	LHC	52
☉ 6:15pm	<b>Eno</b>	EMB	54
A 6:15pm	<b>The Remarkable...</b>	LHC	66
A 6:15pm	<b>The Story of...</b>	RXY	47
A 8:15pm	<b>Green Border</b>	LHC	45
A 8:15pm	<b>Armand</b>	RXY	66

A 8:30pm	<b>Grafted</b>	EMB	13
A 11:00pm	<b>The People's Joker</b>	EMB	52

**Saturday 10 August**

A 10:00am	<b>Paris, Texas</b>	EMB	71
A 10:00am	<b>Tatami</b>	LHC	48
A 10:00am	<b>Oceans Are the...</b>	RXY	29
A 12:00pm	<b>Dying</b>	LHC	39
A 12:15pm	<b>Dormitory</b>	RXY	27
A 1:15pm	<b>No Other Land</b>	EMB	46
A 2:30pm	<b>The Village Next to...</b>	RXY	30
A 3:30pm	<b>Flow</b>	EMB	60
A 3:30pm	<b>Pepe</b>	LHC	63
A 5:30pm	<b>Viet and Nam</b>	RXY	30
A 6:00pm	<b>Soundtrack to a...</b>	LHC	36
A 6:15pm	<b>The Teachers'...</b>	EMB	48
A 8:00pm	<b>The Speedway...</b>	RXY	37
A 8:45pm	<b>The Sweet East</b>	LHC	53
A 8:45pm	<b>Alien Weaponry...</b>	EMB	12

**Sunday 11 August**

A 10:00am	<b>The Speedway...</b>	LHC	37
A 10:00am	<b>Short Connections</b>	RXY	17
A 10:30am	<b>My Favourite Cake</b>	EMB	40
A 12:15pm	<b>American Stories...</b>	RXY	68
A 12:30pm	<b>Agent of Happiness</b>	LHC	64
A 12:45pm	<b>Super/Man...</b>	EMB	43
A 2:15pm	<b>Janet Planet</b>	RXY	28
A 2:30pm	<b>Gloria!</b>	LHC	55
A 3:15pm	<b>All We Imagine As...</b>	EMB	58
A 4:30pm	<b>Dahomey</b>	LHC	59
A 4:30pm	<b>The Haka Party...</b>	RXY	13
A 6:00pm	<b>Midnight Oil...</b>	EMB	56
A 6:00pm	<b>Grand Tour</b>	LHC	61
A 6:45pm	<b>The Universal...</b>	RXY	63
A 8:30pm	<b>The Substance</b>	EMB	7
A 8:30pm	<b>When the Light...</b>	LHC	49

**Monday 12 August**

A 6:15pm	<b>Heavenly Creatures</b>	EMB	68
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# Ōtautahi Christchurch

## Ngā Tiketi – Tickets

**Opening Night: Head South**

Thursday 15 August

Lumière Cinemas (includes wine, beer or soft drink on arrival)	\$25.00
Hoyts EntX	\$22.00

**All Other Sessions**

Full price	\$22.00
Student/Community Services Card/ Film Society/Film Industry Guilds/ Senior (65+)*	\$18.00
Child (15 and under)	\$16.50

**All prices are GST inclusive and in NZD.**

\*Discount available on presentation of current relevant ID/membership

**Booking fees: Lumière Cinemas:** A booking fee of \$1.50 per ticket applies for all sessions.  
**Hoyts EntX:** A booking fee of \$1.65 per ticket applies. Credit card fees apply.

**Five-Trip Pass**

Available online at [nziff.co.nz](http://nziff.co.nz) or from Lumière Cinemas. Valid for all sessions at Lumière Cinemas only.

Five-Trip Pass	\$80.00
Five-Trip Student Pass	\$75.00

The Five-Trip Pass can be purchased in advance and can be redeemed for tickets in advance or on the day at the box offices for any session that is not sold out. Not valid for sessions at HoytsEntX. Passes are flexible and can be shared. They cannot be used for online or phone bookings. Passes cannot be refunded, either in part or in full. Tickets booked via a pass cannot be refunded if a particular film is cancelled but may be transferred to a different film (subject to availability).

**Concessions**

Special price tickets are available for students, seniors (65+), children, Community Service Cardholders, film industry guild members, and Film Society members.

Film Society Three Film Sampler holders are not entitled to the concession discount.

**Buying your tickets**

**Online bookings:** [lumierecinemas.co.nz](http://lumierecinemas.co.nz)

**Hoyts EntX:** [hoyts.co.nz](http://hoyts.co.nz) (select EntX Christchurch under Cinemas)

**In-person bookings:** Advance tickets are available for all sessions and can be purchased from the venue where the film is screening. These box offices are operated by the venues themselves and are not equipped to sell tickets for the other NZIFF venue. The Lumière box office will be open from 30 minutes before the first session of the day until 30 minutes after the last session commences. Hoyts EntX: 1:00pm – 10:00pm daily.

## Whare Kiriata – Venues

**Hoyts EntX (HOY)**

617-649 Colombo St, Christchurch  
(03) 742 7143

Only on Thursday 15 August for *Head South* and Friday 16 August for *We Were Dangerous*.

**Accessibility**

Fully accessible via lifts. Accessible bathrooms. Three wheelchair spaces.

**Meet Up Eat Up**

A selection of hot and cold beverages, licensed bar and traditional movie snacks available.

**Parking**

Best options at Lichfield or The Crossing car parks.

**Lumière Cinemas (LUM)**

Arts Centre, 26 Rolleston Ave, Christchurch  
Phone: (03) 365 0066

NZIFF films screen in Lumière Cinemas' two boutique theatres, the Bernhardt and the Bardot.

**Accessibility**

Fully accessible via lifts. Accessible bathrooms. Wheelchair spaces and hearing loop available.

**Meet Up Eat Up**

A selection of hot and cold beverages and traditional movie snacks are available at

the ticket counter while the Bijoux Lounge offers a selection of local craft beers and wines. Cheeseboards from Canterbury cheesemongers are a specialty and designed to take into the cinema on swivel tablets on each seat.

**Parking**

Limited on-street parking in the vicinity. Four mobility parks outside venue on Rolleston Ave.

**Christchurch schedule**

**Thursday 15 August**

6:20pm	Head South	HOY	6
7:30pm	Head South	LUM	6
7:45pm	Head South	LUM	6

**Friday 16 August**

10:30am	The Outrun	LUM	41
12:15pm	Days of Heaven	LUM	69
12:45pm	The Monk and the...	LUM	65
2:15pm	The Teachers'...	LUM	48
3:00pm	Green Border	LUM	45
4:15pm	Tatami	LUM	48
6:15pm	We Were Dangerous	LUM	5
6:30pm	We Were Dangerous	LUM	5
7:15pm	We Were Dangerous	HOY	5
8:15pm	The Sweet East	LUM	53
8:30pm	Kneecap	LUM	56

**Saturday 17 August**

10:00am	Gloria!	LUM	55
10:30am	When the Light...	LUM	49
12:00pm	The Monk and the...	LUM	65
12:15pm	In Restless Dreams...	LUM	55
2:15pm	Grand Tour	LUM	61
4:00pm	The Remarkable...	LUM	66
4:45pm	Ngā Whanaunga ...	LUM	18
6:00pm	Evil Does Not Exist	LUM	60
6:30pm	Head South	LUM	6
8:15pm	Cuckoo	LUM	50
8:30pm	The Beast	LUM	59

**Sunday 18 August**

10:00am	No Other Land	LUM	46
10:45am	My Favourite Cake	LUM	40
12:00pm	Menus-Plaisirs...	LUM	61
12:45pm	Ryuichi Sakamoto...	LUM	57
3:30pm	Days of Heaven	LUM	69
4:15pm	Dying	LUM	39
5:30pm	Problemista	LUM	46
7:30pm	Soundtrack to a...	LUM	36
7:45pm	Shambhala	LUM	65

**Monday 19 August**

11:15am	Ryuichi Sakamoto...	LUM	57
12:30pm	Ngā Whanaunga...	LUM	18
2:00pm	Sons	LUM	43
2:15pm	Menus-Plaisirs...	LUM	61
4:00pm	Midnight Oil...	LUM	56
6:15pm	When the Light...	LUM	49
6:30pm	The Speedway...	LUM	37
8:00pm	Tatami	LUM	48
8:30pm	Humanist Vampire...	LUM	51

**Tuesday 20 August**

12:00pm	My Favourite Cake	LUM	40
12:15pm	The Outrun	LUM	41
2:00pm	Head South	LUM	6
2:30pm	When the Light...	LUM	49
4:00pm	Black Dog	LUM	44
4:15pm	The Sweet East	LUM	53
6:15pm	Dahomey	LUM	59

6:30pm	The Teachers'...	LUM	48
7:45pm	Birdeater	LUM	26
8:30pm	Grafted	LUM	13

**Wednesday 21 August**

11:45am	The Teachers'...	LUM	48
12:30pm	Ryuichi Sakamoto...	LUM	57
1:45pm	Peeping Tom	LUM	71
2:30pm	Agent of Happiness	LUM	64
4:00pm	Kneecap	LUM	56
4:30pm	I Saw the TV Glow	LUM	51
6:15pm	Never Look Away	LUM	15
6:30pm	My Favourite Cake	LUM	40
8:30pm	Sons	LUM	43
8:30pm	Marimari	LUM	14

**Thursday 22 August**

11:45am	Evil Does Not Exist	LUM	60
12:00pm	All We Imagine As...	LUM	58
2:00pm	Humanist Vampire...	LUM	51
2:30pm	My Favourite Cake	LUM	40
4:00pm	Alien Weaponry...	LUM	12
4:30pm	Grafted	LUM	13
6:15pm	Didi	LUM	38
6:30pm	The Remarkable...	LUM	66
8:15pm	A Different Man	LUM	39
8:30pm	Cuckoo	LUM	50

**Friday 23 August**

11:30am	Gloria!	LUM	55
11:45am	Dahomey	LUM	59
1:15pm	The Speedway...	LUM	37
1:30pm	Never Look Away	LUM	15
3:15pm	Dying	LUM	39
4:00pm	Janet Planet	LUM	28
6:15pm	I Saw the TV Glow	LUM	51
6:30pm	Midnight Oil...	LUM	56
8:15pm	Alien Weaponry...	LUM	12
8:30pm	Sasquatch Sunset	LUM	52

**Saturday 24 August**

10:30am	The Seed of the...	LUM	47
11:30am	Green Border	LUM	45
1:45pm	Didi	LUM	38
2:30pm	Marimari	LUM	14
3:45pm	Paris, Texas	LUM	71
4:30pm	The Outrun	LUM	41
6:30pm	Problemista	LUM	46
6:45pm	Janet Planet	LUM	28
8:30pm	Kneecap	LUM	56
9:00pm	The People's Joker	LUM	52

**Sunday 25 August**

10:00am	In Restless Dreams...	LUM	55
11:15am	Menus-Plaisirs...	LUM	61
2:00pm	New Zealand's Best	LUM	19
3:30pm	Gloria!	LUM	55
3:45pm	Peeping Tom	LUM	71
5:30pm	A Mistake	LUM	15
5:45pm	Grand Tour	LUM	61
7:30pm	The Beast	LUM	59
8:15pm	I Saw the TV Glow	LUM	51

**Monday 26 August**

11:30am	A Mistake	LUM	15
12:45pm	Gloria!	LUM	55
1:30pm	Tatami	LUM	48
2:45pm	Never Look Away	LUM	15
3:30pm	Paris, Texas	LUM	71
4:30pm	The Speedway...	LUM	37
6:15pm	The Monk and the...	LUM	65
6:30pm	The House Within	LUM	14
8:00pm	All We Imagine As...	LUM	58
8:30pm	The Sweet East	LUM	53

**Tuesday 27 August**

11:15am	The Seed of the...	LUM	47
11:30am	Soundtrack to a...	LUM	36
2:15pm	The House Within	LUM	14
2:30pm	When the Light...	LUM	49
4:00pm	Evil Does Not Exist	LUM	60
4:15pm	I Saw the TV Glow	LUM	51
6:15pm	The Haka Party...	LUM	13
6:30pm	Days of Heaven	LUM	69
8:15pm	Sasquatch Sunset	LUM	52
8:30pm	A Mistake	LUM	15

**Wednesday 28 August**

12:00pm	Shambhala	LUM	65
12:15pm	New Zealand's Best	LUM	19
2:00pm	Marimari	LUM	14
2:45pm	In Restless Dreams...	LUM	55
4:00pm	Birdeater	LUM	26
6:15pm	Evil Does Not Exist	LUM	60
6:45pm	Agent of Happiness	LUM	64
8:30pm	Crossing	LUM	45
8:45pm	The Speedway Murders	LUM	37

**Thursday 29 August**

11:30am	Head South	LUM	6
11:45am	Crossing	LUM	45
1:45pm	The Haka Party Incident	LUM	13
2:00pm	The Beast	LUM	59
3:45pm	Soundtrack to a Coup...	LUM	36
4:45pm	Dahomey	LUM	59
6:15pm	Black Dog	LUM	44
6:30pm	The Outrun	LUM	41
8:30pm	Peeping Tom	LUM	71
8:45pm	Birdeater	LUM	26

**Friday 30 August**

11:15am	All We Imagine As Light	LUM	58
12:45pm	Sons	LUM	43
1:30pm	Grand Tour	LUM	61
2:45pm	Taki Rua Theatre...	LUM	17
4:15pm	No Other Land	LUM	46
4:30pm	Sasquatch Sunset	LUM	52
6:15pm	The Teachers' Lounge	LUM	48
6:30pm	Agent of Happiness	LUM	64
8:15pm	Grafted	LUM	13
8:30pm	A Different Man	LUM	39

**Saturday 31 August**

10:15am	Dying	LUM	39
11:30am	The House Within	LUM	14
1:15pm	Crossing	LUM	45
1:30pm	Sons	LUM	43
3:30pm	Tatami	LUM	48
3:30pm	No Other Land	LUM	46
5:30pm	The Seed of the...	LUM	47
5:45pm	Taki Rua Theatre...	LUM	17
8:00pm	Green Border	LUM	45
8:45pm	Humanist Vampire...	LUM	51

**Sunday 1 September**

10:00am	Soundtrack to a Coup...	LUM	36
11:45am	Paris, Texas	LUM	71
12:45pm	Shambhala	LUM	65
2:30pm	Dahomey	LUM	59
3:45pm	Black Dog	LUM	44
4:00pm	All We Imagine As Light	LUM	58
6:00pm	Janet Planet	LUM	28
6:30pm	Midnight Oil...	LUM	56
8:15pm	The Substance	LUM	7
8:30pm	The Substance	LUM	7

# Ōtepoti Dunedin

## Ngā Tiketi – Tickets

### A-coded sessions

Weekdays after 5.00pm and weekends.

Full price \$20.00

Student/Community Services Card/  
Film Society/Regent Theatre Friends/  
Film Industry Guilds/Senior (65+)\* \$17.00

Child (14 and under) \$15.00

### B-coded sessions

Sessions starting before 5.00pm weekdays.

Full price/Student/Community Services Card/  
Film Society/Regent Theatre Friends/  
Film Industry Guilds/Senior (65+)\* \$17.00

Child (14 and under) at A-coded prices  
\$15.00

### All prices are GST inclusive and in NZD.

Booking fee of \$2.00 per ticket applies.

Additional fees apply for collection of hard copy tickets booked online.

\*Discount available on presentation of current relevant ID/membership.

### Five-Trip Pass

Valid for all sessions.

Five-Trip Pass \$75.00

Five-Trip Student Pass \$70.00

The Five-Trip Pass can be purchased in advance and can be redeemed for tickets in advance or on the day at the box offices for any session that is not sold out. Passes are flexible and can be shared. They cannot be used for online or phone bookings. Passes cannot be refunded, either in part or in full. Tickets booked via a pass cannot be refunded if a particular film is cancelled but may be transferred to a different film (subject to availability).

### Concessions

Special-price tickets are available for A-coded films for students, seniors (65+), children, Community Service Cardholders, film industry guild members, and Film Society members. Community Services Cardholder concession only available for tickets purchased in person at the box office with current relevant ID. Film Society members, Film Industry Guild members and Regent Theatre Friends are entitled to purchase one ticket per session at the discounted rate. Membership ID is required – please bring it with you to the venue to present to staff on request otherwise full price will be charged. Film Society Three Film Sampler holders are not entitled to the concession discount.

### Buying your tickets

Online bookings: [regenttheatre.co.nz](http://regenttheatre.co.nz)

In person: Advance tickets are available for all sessions from Monday 22 July.

Phone bookings: Ph: (03) 477 8597

Booking fee of \$5.00 per ticket applies.

Credit card fees apply.

Group bookings: Special ticket prices apply for school groups and other groups of 20 or more. Please email [amanda@nziff.co.nz](mailto:amanda@nziff.co.nz) for details.

## Whare Kiriata – Venue

### Regent Theatre (REG)

17 The Octagon, Dunedin  
Ph: (03) 477 8597

9.00am – 5.00pm Monday to Friday  
Additional hours during NZIFF: The box office will also be open on Saturdays and Sundays one hour prior to the first screening of the day.

### Accessibility

Drop-off zone in front of theatre. Flat access with lift to theatre stalls. Note: Circle is only accessible by stairs. Contact the box office if you have concerns about accessible seating. Accessible bathrooms. A number of wheelchair spaces or alternative seating options available. Book by phoning the box office.

### Parents

Prams can be stored in theatre foyer.

### Meet Up Eat Up

A selection of cold beverages, licensed bar and snacks available. No hot food onsite. The Regent Theatre is located in the heart of the city centre with a range of food and drink options adjacent.

### Dunedin Film Society

- [dunedinfilmsociety.org.nz](http://dunedinfilmsociety.org.nz)
- [dunedinfilmsociety@gmail.com](mailto:dunedinfilmsociety@gmail.com)

NZIFF 2024 in Dunedin is supported by



## Dunedin schedule

### Wednesday 14 August

A 7:00pm **We Were Dangerous** 5

### Thursday 15 August

B 11:45am **Days of Heaven** 69  
B 1:45pm **Ryuichi Sakamoto** 57  
B 4:00pm **The Remarkable Life...** 66  
A 6:15pm **My Favourite Cake** 40  
A 8:30pm **Kneecap** 56

### Friday 16 August

B 11:45am **My Favourite Cake** 40  
B 2:00pm **Didi** 38  
B 4:00pm **Kneecap** 56  
A 6:15pm **Evil Does Not...** 60  
A 8:30pm **Cuckoo** 50

### Saturday 17 August

A 10:30am **Dahomey** 59  
A 12:15pm **In Restless Dreams** 55  
A 4:15pm **Didi** 38  
A 6:15pm **The Teachers' Lounge** 48  
A 8:30pm **I Saw the TV Glow** 51

### Sunday 18 August

A 10:30am **New Zealand's Best** 19  
A 12:15pm **The Remarkable Life...** 66  
A 2:30pm **The Seed of the...** 47  
A 6:00pm **Never Look Away** 15  
A 8:00pm **The Beast** 59

### Monday 19 August

B 10:00am **In Restless Dreams...** 55  
B 2:00pm **Never Look Away** 15  
B 4:00pm **I Saw the TV Glow** 51  
A 6:15pm **The Monk and the Gun** 65  
A 8:30pm **Marimari** 14

### Tuesday 20 August

B 11:30am **Gloria!** 55  
B 1:45pm **Evil Does Not Exist** 60  
B 4:00pm **Cuckoo** 50  
A 6:15pm **Janet Planet** 28  
A 8:30pm **Sons** 43

### Wednesday 21 August

B 10:15am **The Teachers' Lounge** 48  
B 12:30pm **The Seed of...** 47  
B 4:00pm **Head South** 6  
A 6:15pm **Gloria!** 55  
A 8:30pm **Alien Weaponry...** 12

### Thursday 22 August

B 10:30am **The Outrun** 41  
B 1:00pm **Paris, Texas** 71  
B 4:00pm **Midnight Oil...** 56  
A 6:15pm **A Mistake** 15  
A 8:30pm **A Different Man** 39

### Friday 23 August

B 11:15am **A Mistake** 15  
B 1:30pm **All We Imagine as Light** 58  
B 4:00pm **Problemista** 46  
A 6:15pm **Head South** 6  
A 8:30pm **Humanist Vampire** 51

### Saturday 24 August

A 11:00am **Ngā Whanaunga...** 18  
A 12:45pm **Green Border** 45  
A 3:45pm **The Outrun** 41  
A 6:15pm **Problemista** 46  
A 8:30pm **The People's Joker** 52

### Sunday 25 August

A 10:45am **No Other Land** 46  
A 12:45pm **Ryuichi Sakamoto** 57  
A 3:00pm **All We Imagine as Light** 58  
A 5:45pm **Midnight Oil...** 56  
A 8:00pm **The Substance** 7

## Kirikiroa Hamilton

## Ngā Tiketi – Tickets

### Opening Night: *We Were Dangerous*

Wednesday 14 August

All tickets (includes pre-screening gala with drinks and food) \$30.00

### All Other Sessions

Full price \$22.00

Student/Community Services Card/Film Industry Guilds Senior (65+)\* \$18.00

Film Society\*\*/Child (15 and under) \$16.00

### All prices are GST inclusive and in NZD

Booking fee of \$1.50 per ticket is included in the price. Credit card fees apply.

\*Discount available on presentation of current relevant ID

\*\*Hamilton Film Society tickets only available in person

### Buying tickets

Online bookings: [lidothamilton.com](http://lidothamilton.com)

In-person bookings: LIDO Cinemas during normal opening hours.



**Group bookings:** Special ticket prices apply for school groups and other groups of 20 or more. Please email [amanda@nziff.co.nz](mailto:amanda@nziff.co.nz) for details.

**Whare Kiriata – Venue**

**LIDO Cinemas (LID)**  
The Balcony, Centre Place, 501 Victoria Street, Hamilton, ph (07) 838 9010

**Accessibility**  
Fully accessible. Accessible bathrooms, two wheelchair spaces, assistive listening available.

**Meet Up Eat Up**  
A selection of hot and cold beverages, licensed bar and traditional movie snacks available.

**Parking**  
Centre Place Shopping Mall.

**Hamilton Film Society**  
• [hamiltonfilmsociety.org.nz](http://hamiltonfilmsociety.org.nz)  
• [hamiltonfilmsociety@gmail.com](mailto:hamiltonfilmsociety@gmail.com)

NZIFF 2024 in Hamilton is presented with the support of LIDO Cinemas Hamilton, Hamilton Film Society and The Waikato Friends of the New Zealand Film Festival Trust.

**Hamilton schedule**

**Wednesday 21 August**

7:00pm **We Were Dangerous** 5

**Thursday 22 August**

10:45am **My Favourite Cake** 40  
1:00pm **Evil Does Not Exist** 60  
3:15pm **The Beast** 59  
6:15pm **The Monk and the Gun** 65  
8:30pm **Kneecap** 56

**Friday 23 August**

11:30am **Tatami** 48  
1:45pm **The Teachers' Lounge** 48  
4:00pm **Kneecap** 56  
6:15pm **Head South** 6  
8:30pm **I Saw the TV Glow** 51

**Saturday 24 August**

10:00am **New Zealand's Best 2024** 19  
11:45am **In Restless Dreams...** 55  
3:45pm **Evil Does Not Exist** 60  
6:00pm **The Teachers' Lounge** 48  
8:15pm **Alien Weaponry...** 12

**Sunday 25 August**

10:00am **Ryuichi Sakamoto | Opus** 57  
12:15pm **Menus-Plaisirs...** 61  
4:45pm **The Seed of the Sacred...** 47  
8:15pm **Sons** 43

**Monday 26 August**

12:15pm **Agent of Happiness** 64  
2:15pm **In Restless Dreams...** 55  
6:15pm **No Other Land** 46  
8:15pm **When the Light Breaks** 49

**Tuesday 27 August**

1:30pm **All We Imagine As Light** 58  
4:00pm **Head South** 6

6:15pm **Agent of Happiness** 64  
8:15pm **I Saw the TV Glow** 51

**Wednesday 28 August**

11:45am **Paris, Texas** 71  
2:45pm **The Seed of the Sacred...** 47  
6:15pm **Never Look Away** 15  
8:15pm **Black Dog** 44

**Thursday 29 August**

11:30am **The Outrun** 41  
2:00pm **Never Look Away** 15  
4:00pm **Black Dog** 44  
6:15pm **Ryuichi Sakamoto | Opus** 57  
8:30pm **Tatami** 48

**Friday 30 August**

10:45am **Gloria!** 55  
1:00pm **Green Border** 45  
4:00pm **The Monk and the Gun** 65  
6:15pm **Midnight Oil...** 56  
8:30pm **Humanist Vampire...** 51

**Saturday 31 August**

10:15am **Ngā Whanaunga...** 18  
12:00pm **Dying** 39  
3:30pm **Taki Rua Theatre...\*** 17  
5:30pm **The Outrun** 41  
8:00pm **The Beast** 59

**Sunday 1 September**

10:00am **Paris, Texas** 71  
1:00pm **No Other Land** 46  
3:00pm **All We Imagine As Light** 58  
5:30pm **A Mistake** 15  
7:45pm **Green Border** 45

**Monday 2 September**

11:30am **A Mistake** 15  
1:45pm **Menus-Plaisirs - Les...** 61  
6:15pm **My Favourite Cake** 40  
8:30pm **Sons** 43

**Tuesday 3 September**

12:45pm **Dying** 39  
4:15pm **Humanist Vampire Seeking...** 51  
6:15pm **Gloria!** 55  
8:30pm **Crossing** 45

**Wednesday 4 September**

1:45pm **Crossing** 45  
4:00pm **Midnight Oil: The Hardest...** 56  
6:15pm **When the Light Breaks** 49  
8:15pm **The Substance** 7

**Tauranga-Moana Tauranga**

**Ngā Tiketi – Tickets**

All sessions	
Full price	\$22.00
Student/ Senior (65+)/Film Society/ Film Guilds*	\$19.00
Child (15 and under)	\$17.00

**Prices are GST inclusive and in NZD.**  
Booking fee of \$1.50 per ticket applies for online bookings

**Buying tickets**

**Online bookings:** [luxecinemas.nz/tauranga](http://luxecinemas.nz/tauranga)

**In-person bookings:** At Luxe Cinemas Tauranga, during normal opening hours.

**Phone bookings:** Luxe Cinemas Tauranga: (07) 577 0445. Tickets must be collected 30 minutes prior to screening time.

**Group Bookings**  
Special ticket prices apply for school groups and other groups of 20 or more. Please email [amanda@nziff.co.nz](mailto:amanda@nziff.co.nz) for details.

**Whare Kiriata – Venue**

**Luxe Cinemas Tauranga**  
21 Devonport Road, Tauranga  
Phone: (07) 577 0445

**Accessibility**  
Fully accessible with accessible bathrooms. Wheelchair spaces available – book online. Hearing loop available. Drop-off zone outside entrance. Please discuss any specific requirements when booking.

**Meet Up Eat Up**  
A selection of hot and cold beverages, licensed bar and traditional movie snacks are available.

**Tauranga Film Society**  
• [nzfilmsociety.org.nz/Tauranga](http://nzfilmsociety.org.nz/Tauranga)  
• [michael@obriengeotech.co.nz](mailto:michael@obriengeotech.co.nz)

NZIFF 2024 in Tauranga is presented with the support of Luxe Cinemas and



## Tauranga schedule

<b>Thursday 15 August</b>		
7:00pm	We Were Dangerous	5
<b>Friday 16 August</b>		
10:30am	The Outrun	41
1:00pm	The Beast	59
3:45pm	Kneecap	56
6:00pm	Evil Does Not Exist	60
8:15pm	Alien Weaponry...	12
<b>Saturday 17 August</b>		
10:30am	Ngā Whanaunga Māori...	18
12:15pm	In Restless Dreams...	55
4:15pm	Agent of Happiness	64
6:15pm	The Teachers' Lounge	48
8:15pm	I Saw the TV Glow	51
<b>Sunday 18 August</b>		
10:30am	My Favourite Cake	40
12:30pm	Ryuichi Sakamoto   Opus	57
2:45pm	The Outrun	41
5:15pm	Midnight Oil...	56
7:30pm	The Beast	59
<b>Monday 19 August</b>		
12:00pm	The Teachers' Lounge	48
2:00pm	In Restless Dreams...	55
6:00pm	No Other Land	46
8:00pm	Alien Weaponry...	12
<b>Tuesday 20 August</b>		
1:30pm	Evil Does Not Exist	60
3:45pm	Sons	43
5:45pm	Gloria!	55
8:00pm	I Saw the TV Glow	51
<b>Wednesday 21 August</b>		
1:45pm	Agent of Happiness	64
3:45pm	Humanist Vampire...	51
5:45pm	Ryuichi Sakamoto   Opus	57
8:00pm	Tatami	48
<b>Thursday 22 August</b>		
12:00pm	All We Imagine As Light	58
2:15pm	No Other Land	46
4:15pm	Never Look Away	15
6:00pm	My Favourite Cake	40
8:00pm	Black Dog	44
<b>Friday 23 August</b>		
10:30am	Gloria!	55
12:45pm	The Monk and the Gun	65
3:00pm	Dying	39
6:15pm	Head South	6
8:15pm	Humanist Vampire...	51
<b>Saturday 24 August</b>		
10:45am	New Zealand's Best 2024	19
12:30pm	Dying	39
4:00pm	All We Imagine As Light	58
6:15pm	Never Look Away	15
8:00pm	Kneecap	56
<b>Sunday 25 August</b>		
11:30am	Paris, Texas	71
2:15pm	The Seed of the Sacred Fig	47
5:30pm	A Mistake	15
7:30pm	Green Border	45
<b>Monday 26 August</b>		
1:00pm	A Mistake	15

3:00pm	The Seed of the Sacred Fig	47
6:15pm	When the Light Breaks	49
8:00pm	Crossing	45
<b>Tuesday 27 August</b>		
2:00pm	When the Light Breaks	49
3:45pm	Head South	6
5:45pm	The Monk and the Gun	65
8:00pm	Sons	43
<b>Wednesday 28 August</b>		
12:30pm	Green Border	45
3:30pm	Crossing	45
5:45pm	Midnight Oil: The Hardest...	56
8:00pm	The Substance	7

## Ahuriri Napier

### Ngā Tiketi – Tickets

<b>All sessions</b>	
Full price	\$20.00
Student/Community Services Card/ Friends of MTG/Senior (65+)*	\$17.00
Child (15 and under)	\$13.00

Prices are GST inclusive and in NZD.  
\*Discount available on presentation of current relevant ID

### Buying your tickets

<b>Online bookings</b> store.mtghawkesbay.com
<b>In-person bookings</b> MTG reception during normal opening hours

**Group bookings:** Special ticket prices apply for school groups and other groups of 20 or more. Please email [amanda@nziff.co.nz](mailto:amanda@nziff.co.nz) for details.

### Whare Kiriata – Venue

**MTG Century Theatre (MTG)**  
9 Herschell St, Napier, ph (06) 835 7781

**Accessibility**  
Wheelchair access via Herschell St foot ramp. Accessible bathrooms and wheelchair spaces available. Drop-off zone outside venue plus three accessible parks outside theatre. Please discuss any specific requirements when booking.

**Meet Up Eat Up**  
A selection of cold beverages, licensed bar and traditional movie snacks are available. Located in the central city close to cafes, bars and restaurants.

**Parking**  
Metered parking surrounding the Museum and Century Theatre and all-day Napier City Council car parking one block away.

NZIFF 2024 in Napier is presented with the support of MTG Century Theatre, Napier.

## Napier schedule

<b>Wednesday 21 August</b>		
7:00pm	We Were Dangerous	5
<b>Thursday 22 August</b>		
1:00pm	The Teachers' Lounge	48
3:15pm	The Monk and the Gun	65
5:30pm	Gloria!	55
7:45pm	Sons	43
<b>Friday 23 August</b>		
1:00pm	Ryuichi Sakamoto   Opus	57
3:15pm	I Saw the TV Glow	51
5:30pm	The Monk and the Gun	65
7:45pm	Kneecap	56
<b>Saturday 24 August</b>		
11:00am	New Zealand's Best 2024	19
1:00pm	My Favourite Cake	40
3:15pm	Evil Does Not Exist	60
5:30pm	Head South	6
7:45pm	I Saw the TV Glow	51
<b>Sunday 25 August</b>		
10:45am	In Restless Dreams...	55
2:45pm	The Teachers' Lounge	48
5:00pm	All We Imagine As Light	58
7:30pm	The Beast	59
<b>Monday 26 August</b>		
1:15pm	Gloria!	55
3:30pm	Head South	6
5:45pm	Agent of Happiness	64
7:45pm	Black Dog	44
<b>Tuesday 27 August</b>		
12:45pm	My Favourite Cake	40
3:00pm	All We Imagine As Light	58
5:30pm	Ryuichi Sakamoto   Opus	57
7:45pm	No Other Land	46
<b>Wednesday 28 August</b>		
12:45pm	The Outrun	41
3:15pm	Kneecap	56
5:30pm	A Mistake	15
7:45pm	Tatami	48
<b>Thursday 29 August</b>		
1:00pm	Evil Does Not Exist	60
3:15pm	A Mistake	15
5:30pm	Crossing	45
7:45pm	Humanist Vampire...	51
<b>Friday 30 August</b>		
11:30am	The Seed of the Sacred Fig	47
3:00pm	Midnight Oil...	56
5:30pm	The Outrun	41
8:00pm	Alien Weaponry...	12
<b>Saturday 31 August</b>		
10:00am	Ngā Whanaunga Māori...	18
11:45am	When the Light Breaks	49
1:45pm	Dying	39
5:15pm	Never Look Away	15
8:00pm	Green Border	45
<b>Sunday 1 September</b>		
11:00am	Paris, Texas	71
2:00pm	The Seed of the Sacred Fig	47
5:30pm	Midnight Oil...	56
7:45pm	The Substance	7

# Ngāmotu New Plymouth

## Ngā Tiketi – Tickets

### Opening Night: *We Were Dangerous*

Wednesday 21 August

All tickets (includes pre-screening gala with drinks and food) **\$20.00**

### A-coded sessions

Weekdays after 5.00pm and weekends.

Full price	\$18.00
Student/Community Services Card/ Film Industry Guilds/ Senior (65+)*	\$15.00
Film Society Members	\$14.00
Child (15 and under)	\$12.00

### B-coded sessions

Sessions starting before 5.00pm weekdays.

Full price/Student/Community Services Card/ Film Industry Guilds/Senior (65+)*	\$15.00
Film Society Members	\$14.00
Child (15 and under)	\$12.00

### All prices are GST inclusive and in NZD.

Credit card fees apply.

\*Discount available on presentation of current relevant ID

### Concessions

Students, Community Service Cardholders, film industry guild members, and Film Society members are entitled to purchase one ticket per session at the discounted rate. Membership ID is required – please remember to bring it with you to the venue to present to staff on request, otherwise full price will be charged. Film Society Three Film Sampler holders are not entitled to the concession discount.

### Buying your tickets

Online bookings: [govettbrewster.com](http://govettbrewster.com)

**In-person:** Advance tickets are available for all sessions and can be purchased from Len Lye Cinema, open 10.00am – 5.00pm daily. Open late for festival screenings.

**Group bookings:** Special ticket prices apply for school groups and other groups of 20 or more. Please email [amanda@nziff.co.nz](mailto:amanda@nziff.co.nz) for details.

### Whare Kiriata – Venue

#### Len Lye Cinema (LLC)

42 Queen St, New Plymouth  
(06) 759 6060  
[govettbrewster.com](http://govettbrewster.com)

### Accessibility

Fully accessible. Wheelchair spaces available by booking in-person only. Free entry for companion to assist an audience member has a disability or impairment (valid ID required). Assistive listening available.

### Meet Up Eat Up

Patrons are welcome to bring food and beverages from Public Kitchen (across the road) with them to screenings.

### Parking

Metered street parking available in surrounding streets Centre City carpark building 10 minutes' walk from venue (opening hours vary).

### New Plymouth Film Society

• [nzfilmsociety.org.nz/new-plymouth](http://nzfilmsociety.org.nz/new-plymouth)  
• [npfilmsociety@gmail.com](mailto:npfilmsociety@gmail.com)

NZIFF 2024 is supported by Len Lye Cinema Toi Foundation and New Plymouth Film Society.

## New Plymouth schedule

### Wednesday 21 August

A 7:00pm *We Were Dangerous* 5

### Thursday 22 August

B 2:15pm *The Teachers' Lounge* 48  
B 4:15pm *Humanist Vampire...* 51  
A 6:15pm *The Monk and the Gun* 65  
A 8:30pm *Sons* 43

### Friday 23 August

B 12:00pm *My Favourite Cake* 40  
B 2:00pm *In Restless Dreams...* 55  
A 6:00pm *The Haka Party Incident* 13  
A 8:30pm *Kneecap* 56

### Saturday 24 August

A 11:15am *Ngā Whanaunga Māori...* 18  
A 1:00pm *The Seed of the Sacred...* 47  
A 4:15pm *The Teachers' Lounge* 48  
A 6:15pm *Head South* 6  
A 8:15pm *I Saw the TV Glow* 51

### Sunday 25 August

A 12:00pm *Ryuichi Sakamoto | Opus* 57  
A 2:15pm *Dying* 39  
A 5:45pm *When the Light Breaks* 49  
A 7:30pm *Green Border* 45

### Monday 26 August

B 2:00pm *All We Imagine As Light* 58  
B 4:15pm *Sons* 43  
A 6:15pm *My Favourite Cake* 40  
A 8:15pm *Crossing* 45

### Tuesday 27 August

B 1:00pm *Ryuichi Sakamoto | Opus* 57  
B 3:15pm *Green Border* 45  
A 6:15pm *Taki Rua Theatre...* 17  
A 8:30pm *Head South* 6

### Wednesday 28 August

B 11:45am *Evil Does Not Exist* 60  
B 2:00pm *Crossing* 45  
B 4:15pm *Agent of Happiness* 64  
A 6:15pm *Never Look Away* 15  
A 8:15pm *I Saw the TV Glow* 51

### Thursday 29 August

B 11:15am *The Outrun* 41  
B 1:45pm *Tatami* 48  
B 4:00pm *The Monk and the Gun* 65  
A 6:15pm *Midnight Oil...* 56  
A 8:30pm *Humanist Vampire...* 51

### Friday 30 August

B 10:30am *Gloria!* 55  
B 12:45pm *Dying* 39  
B 4:15pm *Never Look Away* 15  
A 6:15pm *Evil Does Not Exist* 60  
A 8:30pm *Alien Weaponry...* 12

### Saturday 31 August

A 11:15am *In Restless Dreams...* 55  
A 3:15pm *Gloria!* 55  
A 5:30pm *The Outrun* 41  
A 8:00pm *The Beast* 59

### Sunday 1 September

A 10:30am *New Zealand's Best 2024* 19  
A 12:15pm *Paris, Texas* 71  
A 3:15pm *All We Imagine As Light* 58  
A 5:30pm *A Mistake* 15  
A 7:45pm *Black Dog* 44

### Monday 2 September

B 1:00pm *The Seed of the Sacred...* 47  
B 4:15pm *No Other Land* 46  
A 6:15pm *Agent of Happiness* 64  
A 8:15pm *Midnight Oil...* 56

### Tuesday 3 September

B 1:00pm *A Mistake* 15  
B 3:15pm *The Beast* 59  
A 6:15pm *Tatami* 48  
A 8:30pm *Kneecap* 56

### Wednesday 4 September

B 2:15pm *When the Light Breaks* 49  
B 4:00pm *Black Dog* 44  
A 6:15pm *No Other Land* 46  
A 8:15pm *The Substance* 7

## Whakaoriori Masterton

### Ngā Tiketi – Tickets

#### A-coded sessions

(weekdays after 5.00pm and weekends)

Full price	\$15.00
Student/Senior (65+)/Community Services Card/Film Industry Guilds*	\$13.00
Child (12 and under)	\$10.00

#### B-coded sessions

(Sessions starting before 5.00pm weekdays)

Full price/ Student/Community Services Card/Film Industry Guilds*	\$13.00
Child (12 and under)	\$10.00

### All prices are GST inclusive and in NZD.

Credit card fees apply.

\*Discount available on presentation of current relevant ID

### Special Events

#### *The Monk and the Gun*

The screening of *The Monk and the Gun* on Thursday 22 August is a fundraiser for the Wairarapa branch of the NZ Institute of International Affairs (NZIIA). Enjoy nibbles and drinks from 7.15pm. The film will screen at 8.00pm.

Tickets **\$22.00**

Available from the venue or phone  
027 811 0006.

The NZIIA meets monthly to facilitate expert discussion and understanding of international issues as they relate to New Zealand.

#### Meet The Filmmaker

*Marimari* (p14) will screen on Sat 31 Aug at 2.30pm, followed by a talk by director Paul Wolfram hosted by Film Talks.

**Concessions**

Students, Community Service Cardholders, and film industry guild members are entitled to purchase one ticket per session at the discounted rate. Membership ID is required – please remember to bring it with you to the venue to present to staff on request otherwise full price will be charged. 10-Trip discount passes available. Enquire at the venue.

**Buying your tickets**

**Online bookings:** [regent3.co.nz](http://regent3.co.nz)

**In-person:** At Regent 3 Cinemas during normal opening hours.

**Phone bookings:** (06) 377 5479

Tickets booked by phone must be collected at least 15 minutes before the session’s start time.

**Group bookings:** Special ticket prices apply for school groups and other groups of 20 or more. Please email [amanda@nziff.co.nz](mailto:amanda@nziff.co.nz) for details.

**Whare Kiriata – Venue**

**Regent 3 Cinemas (MAS)**

230 Queen St, Masterton

Phone: (06) 377 5479

All sessions will be held in the downstairs cinemas.

**Accessibility**

Fully accessible. Wheelchair spaces available. Please discuss your needs when purchasing your tickets.

**Meet Up Eat Up**

A selection of traditional movie snacks available. Adjacent café sells meals, hot and cold beverages and is a licensed bar.

**Parking**

Metered street parking available in surrounding streets.

**Masterton schedule**

**Wednesday 21 August**

A 7:00pm **We Were Dangerous** 5

**Thursday 22 August**

B 1:45pm **The Teachers' Lounge** 48  
 B 3:45pm **All We Imagine As Light** 58  
 A 6:00pm **Sons** 43  
 ☛ 8:00pm **The Monk and the Gun** 65

**Friday 23 August**

B 11:45am **Evil Does Not Exist** 60  
 B 2:00pm **No Other Land** 46  
 B 4:00pm **Humanist Vampire...** 51  
 A 6:00pm **The Teachers' Lounge** 48  
 A 8:00pm **Kneecap** 56

**Saturday 24 August**

A 11:00am **Ngā Whanaunga Māori...** 18  
 A 12:45pm **Paris, Texas** 71  
 A 3:45pm **All We Imagine As Light** 58  
 A 6:00pm **Head South** 6  
 A 8:00pm **I Saw the TV Glow** 51

**Sunday 25 August**

A 11:15am **In Restless Dreams...** 55  
 A 3:15pm **A Mistake** 15  
 A 5:30pm **Agent of Happiness** 64  
 A 7:30pm **Green Border** 45

**Monday 26 August**

B 12:45pm **The Monk and the Gun** 65  
 B 3:00pm **Green Border** 45  
 A 6:00pm **No Other Land** 46  
 A 8:00pm **Alien Weaponry...** 12

**Tuesday 27 August**

B 10:45am **My Favourite Cake** 40  
 B 12:45pm **Paris, Texas** 71  
 B 3:45pm **Agent of Happiness** 64  
 A 5:45pm **Crossing** 45  
 A 8:00pm **Kneecap** 56

**Wednesday 28 August**

B 12:00pm **A Mistake** 15  
 B 2:15pm **Dying** 39  
 A 5:45pm **Ryuichi Sakamoto | Opus** 57  
 A 8:00pm **I Saw the TV Glow** 51

**Thursday 29 August**

B 12:00pm **When the Light Breaks** 49  
 B 1:45pm **In Restless Dreams...** 55  
 A 5:45pm **My Favourite Cake** 40  
 A 8:00pm **Alien Weaponry** 12

**Friday 30 August**

B 11:00am **The Outrun** 41  
 B 1:30pm **Tatami** 48  
 B 3:45pm **Head South** 6  
 A 5:45pm **Evil Does Not Exist** 60  
 A 8:00pm **Humanist Vampire...** 51

**Saturday 31 August**

A 11:00am **Dying** 39  
 A 2:30pm **Marimari** 14  
 A 5:15pm **The Outrun** 41  
 A 7:45pm **The Beast** 59

**Sunday 1 September**

A 10:30am **New Zealand's Best 2024** 19  
 A 12:15pm **Gloria!** 55  
 A 2:30pm **The Seed of the Sacred...** 47  
 A 5:45pm **Midnight Oil...** 56  
 A 8:00pm **Tatami** 48

**Monday 2 September**

B 12:30pm **Crossing** 45  
 B 2:45pm **The Beast** 59

A 5:45pm **Black Dog** 44  
 A 8:00pm **Sons** 43

**Tuesday 3 September**

B 12:30pm **Ryuichi Sakamoto | Opus** 57  
 B 2:45pm **The Seed of the Sacred...** 47  
 A 6:00pm **Never Look Away** 15  
 A 8:00pm **Midnight Oil...** 56

**Wednesday 4 September**

B 11:45am **Gloria!** 55  
 B 2:00pm **Black Dog** 44  
 B 4:15pm **Never Look Away** 15  
 A 6:15pm **When the Light Breaks** 49  
 A 8:00pm **The Substance** 7

**Whakatū Nelson**

**Ngā Tiketi – Tickets**

**Opening Night: We Were Dangerous**

Wednesday 14 August

All tickets (includes pre-screening gala with drinks and food) \$30.00

**A-coded sessions**

Weekdays after 5.00pm and weekends.

Full price	\$21.00
Student/Film Industry Guilds*	\$19.00
Senior (65+)/Child (16 and under)	\$15.00

**B-coded sessions**

Sessions starting before 5.00pm weekdays.

Full price/Student/ Film Industry Guilds*	\$19.00
Senior (65+)/Child (16 and under)	\$15.00

**All prices are GST inclusive and in NZD.**

Booking fee of \$1.00 per ticket applies. Credit card fees apply. Booking fee of \$1.00 per ticket applies to online bookings.

\*Discount available on presentation of current relevant ID.

**Buying your tickets**

**Online bookings:** [statecinemas.co.nz](http://statecinemas.co.nz)

**In-person bookings:** Advance tickets are available for all sessions during normal opening hours or on the day at the State Cinema box office.

**Phone bookings:** (03) 548 3885

**Ticket collection:** All tickets booked in advance must be collected from the box office counter at State Cinemas. Bookings may be collected at any time in advance of the session start time – early collection is strongly recommended.

**Group Bookings:** Special ticket prices apply for school groups and other groups of 20 or more. Please email [amanda@nziff.co.nz](mailto:amanda@nziff.co.nz) for details.

**Whare Kiriata – Venue**

**State Cinemas (STA)**

91 Trafalgar Street, Nelson  
 (03) 548 3885

**Accessibility**

Fully accessible. Accessible bathrooms, two wheelchair spaces, assistive listening available.

**Meet Up Eat Up**

A selection of cold beverages, licensed bar and traditional movie snacks available.

**Nelson Film Society**

- nzfilmsociety.org.nz/nelson
- nelsonfilmsociety@gmail.com

NZIFF 2024 in Nelson is supported by State Cinemas and Nelson Film Society.

**Nelson schedule**

**Wednesday 14 August**

A 7:00pm **We Were Dangerous** 5

**Thursday 15 August**

B 12:00pm **Gloria!** 55  
 B 2:00pm **No Other Land** 46  
 B 4:00pm **Midnight Oil...** 56  
 A 6:15pm **The Monk...** 65  
 A 8:30pm **Humanist...** 51

**Friday 16 August**

B 12:30pm **The Teachers' Lounge** 48  
 B 2:30pm **When the Light Breaks** 49  
 B 4:15pm **I Saw the TV Glow** 51  
 A 6:15pm **Evil Does Not Exist** 60  
 A 8:30pm **Kneecap** 56

**Saturday 17 August**

A 10:30am **New Zealand's Best** 19  
 A 12:15pm **In Restless Dreams...** 55  
 A 4:15pm **Gloria!** 55  
 A 6:15pm **The Teachers' Lounge** 48  
 A 8:15pm **Green Border** 45

**Sunday 18 August**

A 12:30pm **All We Imagine As Light** 58  
 A 2:45pm **The Seed of the Sacred..** 47  
 A 6:00pm **Midnight Oil...** 56  
 A 8:15pm **Crossing** 45

**Monday 19 August**

B 12:15pm **My Favourite Cake** 40  
 B 2:15pm **In Restless Dreams...** 55  
 A 6:15pm **When the Light Breaks** 49  
 A 8:00pm **Tatami** 48

**Tuesday 20 August**

B 11:45am **Evil Does Not Exist** 60  
 B 2:00pm **All We Imagine As Light** 58

B 4:15pm **Head South** 6  
 A 6:15pm **Agent of Happiness** 64  
 A 8:15pm **Sons** 43

**Wednesday 21 August**

B 10:30am **Ryuichi Sakamoto** 57  
 B 12:45pm **The Seed of the Sacred** 47  
 B 4:00pm **The Monk and the Gun** 65  
 A 6:15pm **Never Look Away** 15  
 A 8:15pm **Black Dog** 44

**Thursday 22 August**

B 11:15am **A Mistake** 15  
 B 1:15pm **The Beast** 59  
 B 4:00pm **Kneecap** 56  
 A 6:15pm **No Other Land** 46  
 A 8:15pm **Alien Weaponry** 12

**Friday 23 August**

B 10:45am **The Outrun** 41  
 B 1:15pm **Never Look Away** 15  
 B 3:15pm **Green Border** 45  
 A 6:15pm **Head South** 6  
 A 8:15pm **I Saw the TV Glow** 51

**Saturday 24 August**

A 10:30am **Ngā Whanaunga** 18  
 A 12:15pm **Dying** 39  
 A 3:45pm **Ryuichi Sakamoto...** 57  
 A 5:45pm **The Outrun** 41  
 A 8:15pm **The Beast** 59


**Sunday 25 August**

A 12:30pm **Paris, Texas** 71  
 A 3:30pm **My Favourite Cake** 40  
 A 5:30pm **A Mistake** 15  
 A 7:45pm **The Substance** 7

  
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**Film Societies of Aotearoa New Zealand**

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West Germany/France  
1984

Notes in this brochure are written and compiled by members of the NZIFF 2024 team including Executive Director Sally Woodfield, Artistic Director Paolo Bertolin, Head of Programming Michael McDonnell, Production and Events Manager Matt Bloomfield, Publications Editor Louise Adams, Junior Programmers Amanda Jane Robinson and Huia Haupapa, and Programmers Leo Koziol and Craig Fasi. Nadia Abu-Shanab, Tom Augustine, Amelia Berry, Nick Bollinger, Adrian Hatwell, Tearepa Kahi, Andrew Langridge, Nahyeon Lee, Toby Manhire, Jacob Powell, Manon Revuelta, Gary Steel, Jean Teng and Moerangi Vercoe also contributed notes. With thanks to proofreaders Robin Laing and Cate Shave.

Views expressed in the brochure do not necessarily represent the views of the staff or trustees of The New Zealand Film Festival Trust.



# Inspirational Aotearoa

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7 – 18 August

**Te Whanganui-a-Tara**  
Wellington  
31 July – 11 August

**Ōtautahi**  
Christchurch  
15 August –  
1 September

**Ōtepoti**  
Dunedin  
14 – 25 August

**Kirikiroa**  
Hamilton  
21 August –  
4 September

**Tauranga-Moana**  
Tauranga  
15 – 28 August

**Ahuriri**  
Napier  
21 August –  
1 September

**Ngāmotu**  
New Plymouth  
21 August –  
4 September

**Whakaoriori**  
Masterton  
21 August –  
4 September

**Whakatū**  
Nelson  
14 – 25 August

