

# CANBERRA FILM FILES

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## NEWS

### LOCAL FILMMAKERS MAKE TROPFEST SHORTLIST

#### *Tropfest*

Several groups of local filmmakers have made it to the top 60 of Tropfest this year. There is one more round of culling before the Top 16 Finalists are announced by the incredibly popular festival. Making it to the top 60 is a huge achievement and a hearty congratulations goes out to those filmmakers who spent their summers productively: Belinda Barancewicz & Simon Cadman with their TV commercial send up 'Key Trop200730', The Holgate Brothers, Brent & Scott with their childhood drama 'Next Try Wins', Duane Charles Fogwell with his short 'Fore!' about golf, Bobby Farquhar and Ben Patrick and team with their film as well as Simon Weaving and Dan Miller with their

animation 'The Story of Ned'. The Finalists are due to be announced this week - so keep your fingers crossed that the ACT will have a representative in the Top 16. <http://www.tropfest.com/>

## FILMMAKER RECEIVES FTO FUNDING

*NSW Film and Television Office*

Clare Young has been awarded a highly competitive NSW FTO Young Filmmakers Fund grant for a film she is producing this year. THE MIRAGE Producer: Clare Young, Mark Bradshaw. Writer/Director: Leonie Savvides is a short drama about Ali, dying and lost in a war ravaged desert, is seduced by the mirage of a distant world where pop culture reigns. In the heart of this illusion lies the answer to all his strife, held in the hands of two lustful teenagers trapped in their own game of seduction. Congratulations to Clare. <http://www.fto.nsw.gov.au/about.asp>

## LIGHTS! CANBERRA! ACTION! ANNOUNCES THEME FOR 2007 COMPETITION

*Lights! Canberra! Action! Filmmaking Festival*

The ever popular Lights! Canberra! Action! Filmmaking Festival is gearing up for 2007 with the announcement of this year's theme: Canberra's Best Kept Secrets. Filmmakers are invited to consider what Canberra's best kept secret might be as they run around the capital collecting items in their films during the ten day filmmaking festival.

Filmmakers will have from 2nd to 12th of March to make their films with a red carpet gala screening of the Top Twelve at the National Museum of Australia on March 16th. <http://www.eormedia.com.au/lca.htm>

# SCREENINGS & EVENTS

## TROPFEST

*Stage 88, Commonwealth Park, Sunday 18th February from 4.30pm (films from about 8pm), Free Entry*

Join the largest audience outside of Sydney for the 15th annual screening of Sony Tropfest: one of the largest short film festivals held in Australia. The 16 finalist films will be screened in Commonwealth Park in the heart of the national capital. Grab a picnic rug and join us for this free event. Canberra screening presented by the National Capital Authority. <http://www.tropfest.com/> or <http://tropfest.nationalcapital.gov.au/>

## FLICKERFEST

*Dendy Canberra Centre, February 17th & 18th*

The 16th Flickerfest International Short Film Festival is making its annual pilgrimage to Canberra to delight local audiences with the best of the international programs of short films.

<http://www.flickerfest.com.au/>

## MOONLIGHT MOVIES

*Commonwealth Place, between the international flag display, Friday nights in February from 8.15pm, Entry is free*

Looking for something different to do on Friday nights during the last month of Summer? Then check out the open-air cinema. Four aquatic themed films will be screened under the stars at Commonwealth Place. Presented by the National Capital Authority.

2 Feb - **ICE AGE 2** (PG) Animation voiced by Ray Romano, John Leguizamo and Denis Leary. Manny, Sid and Diego return in another incredible adventure. The Ice Age is coming to an end, and the animals are delighting in their new world: a melting paradise of water parks, geysers and tar pits. But when Manny, Sid and Diego discover that the miles of melted ice will flood their valley, they must warn everyone and somehow figure out a way to escape the coming deluge.

9 Feb - **POSEIDON** (M) Action / adventure starring Josh Lucas, Kurt Russell and Richard Dreyfuss. It's New Years Eve and celebrations have begun on board the luxury cruise Poseidon. Tonight many of the ship's guests have gathered to greet the new year with style in the magnificent Main Ballroom. Meanwhile the ship's first officer senses that something is wrong. Scanning the horizon he sees it – a rogue wave over one hundred feet high bearing down on them - but it's too late.

16 Feb - **THE LAKE HOUSE** (PG) Romantic drama starring Keanu Reeves and Sandra Bullock. Feeling its time for a change Dr Kate Forster reluctantly leaves the uniquely beautiful house she has been renting in suburban Illinois for a job in Chicago. She leaves a note in the mailbox for the house's next tenant, noting that the inexplicable painted paw prints by the front door were there when she moved in. When the next tenant, Alex, arrives he sees a very different picture. As Kate and Alex continue to correspond through the lake house's mailbox they confirm that they are incredibly, impossibly living two years apart, and each at a time in their lives when they are struggling with past disappointments. The Lake House is an epic love story that invites you to believe in the impossible.

23 Feb - **PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN: DEAD MAN'S CHEST** (M) Comedy with an all star cast including Johnny Depp, Orlando Bloom and Keira Knightley. Pirates of the Caribbean: Dead Man's Chest is a fantastic tale of pirates, love and the supernatural. Blacksmith Will Turner and his upper class love Elizabeth Swann are preparing to wed when they are confronted with a warrant for their arrests because they helped the notorious pirate Captain Jack Sparrow escape the authorities. Their only choice for a pardon is to find Jack. Will's attempt to track Jack down however, becomes an adventure unto itself.

<http://www.summerinthecapital.gov.au/events/moonlight.asp>

### **EGYPTIAN ANTIQUITIES FROM THE LOUVRE FILM SCREENINGS**

*National Gallery of Australia, Sunday 4 & 11th February, 2pm, Entry is Free*

Travel through France, Italy, Asia, America, the Middle East and even into space in a quest to uncover the mysteries of Egypt. Adventure, animation and romance movies are presented in conjunction with the NGA's Egyptian antiquities from the Louvre exhibition.

**CLEOPATRA:** Sunday 4 February 2 pm: The Academy Award winning epic of Cleopatra (Elizabeth Taylor), Queen of Egypt, who struggles to resist the Roman Empire but falls in love with Julius Caesar (Rex Harrison) and Marc Antony (Richard Burton) DVD, 1963, 121 min., M

**THE DA VINCI CODE:** Sunday 11 February 2 pm: A murder inside the Musée du Louvre and clues in paintings by Leonardo da Vinci lead to the discovery of a religious mystery protected by a secret society for 2000 years: a mystery that could shake the foundations of Christianity 35 mm film, 2006, 149 min., M

Free admission. James O Fairfax Theatre. National Gallery of Australia, Parkes Place Canberra More information: 6240 6504 or: <http://www.nga.gov.au/Home/Frameset.cfm?View=../Menus/events.htm>

### **KIDS SUMMER SUNDAY FLICKS**

*National Museum of Australia, Visions Theatre, Sunday 4th February at 1.30pm, Entry is Free*

Enjoy free family films linked to the Museum's exhibitions. Please note some movies may contain scenes that may be frightening for very young children. Sun 4 Feb, 1.30–3pm: **The Wiggles Movie** (G) Step into Wiggles World and see if the Wiggles find Dorothy in time to celebrate her 5th birthday. After the movie, check out the Wiggles' colourful tops in the Eternity gallery. Enquiries: 6208 5000 or [http://www.nma.gov.au/events/kflicks\\_family\\_films\\_for\\_summer/](http://www.nma.gov.au/events/kflicks_family_films_for_summer/)

### **NATIONAL LIBRARY SCREENINGS**

*National Library of Australia, Various dates, Gold Coin Donation*

**Russes in Australia: An Avalanche of Dancing** (1999) Wednesday, January 31, 2007 12:30 pm - 1:30 pm. VHS, 44mins. A documentary telling the story of the Ballets Russes tours to Australia in the 1930s. Includes interviews with Irina Baronova, Kira Abricossova Bousloff and Max Dupain.

**Ballets Russes** (2006) Thursday, February 8, 2007 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm. DVD 118 mins, G rated. A warts-and-all look at the still dazzling but ageing ballet stars in all their glory, dancing like gods in rare archival footage and talking frankly, and with gutsy humour, about their love of dance and life.

**The African Queen** (1951) Thursday, February 22, 2007 6:00 pm - 7:45 pm. 16mm, 103mins, Rated G. An iconic favourite, Humphrey Bogart plays an alcoholic steamboat captain who agreed to take schoolmarm Katharine Hepburn down river during World War One. An entertaining and romantic adventure film.

## **FILM SOCIETIES & REGULAR SCREENINGS**

### **NFSA OPEN AIR CINEMA**

*National Film and Sound Archive, Various Dates throughout February, Tix: \$8 each*

Throughout summer, outdoor film screenings will continue in the elegant art deco courtyard of NFSA's headquarters every Saturday night. Watch the NFSA's projectionist work from our special film-watching deck chairs and enjoy the ambience of real film under the stars.

8.30pm, Sat 3 Feb: NFSA Outdoor Screening – **Short Cuts** (MA15+)

8.30pm, Fri 9 Feb: NFSA Outdoor Screening – **Yellow Submarine** (G)

8.30pm, Sat 10 Feb: NFSA Outdoor Screening – Trash-O-Rama! Mu-Meson at the NFSA featuring **Carnival of Souls** (PG)

8.30pm, Sat 17 Feb: NFSA Outdoor Screening – **French CanCan** (unclassified15+)

8.30pm, Sat 24 Feb: NFSA Outdoor Screening – Roger Corman's **Frankenstein Unbound** (M)

8.30pm, Sat 3 Mar: NFSA Outdoor Screening – **The Getaway** (M)

For all films, tickets \$8. Admission according to classification and to venue capacity only, on first-come, first served basis. Doors open at 7.30pm for 8.30pm start or as soon thereafter as light levels permit. Cinema seating only; we regret that tables and picnic rugs are not permitted. No BYO alcohol. Café food and drinks available up until 30 minutes after the film starts.

If you'd like to receive our three-monthly screening calendar by mail, contact 02 6248 2000 or email

[theflicks@nfsa.afc.gov.au](mailto:theflicks@nfsa.afc.gov.au). Further info at [www.nfsa.afc.gov.au](http://www.nfsa.afc.gov.au)

## ANU FILM GROUP

Coombs Lecture Theatre corner of Fellows and Garran Roads, ANU campus, Members Only: \$30/semester or \$50/year

Currently in the process of finalising the semester's programme, some upcoming films have been announced: Their opening free screening (on Monday 12th) will be *Casino Royale*. The rest of the week will see *Renaissance*, *Macbeth*, *Devil Wears Prada*, *John Tucker Must Die*, *Deja Vu* and *The Guardian*. Check out their website in the coming week: <http://www.anufg.org.au/>

## BIG HOUSE FILM SOCIETY SCREENINGS: FILM NOIR SOCIETY

Canberra Museum and Gallery, Sundays, Members Only: Membership 3 months - \$15; 6 - \$25; or 12 - \$50.

It's that time of year again when we congregate under a sliver of Canberra's night sky in the CMAG courtyard to enjoy our annual outdoor screening. It takes place this Sunday, February 4, from 8.00pm for drinks and nibbles, and a program starting time around 8.45. Our 'Moonlight Matinee' feature this year is **THEY MET IN BOMBAY** (1941) starring Clark Gable, Rosalind Russell and Peter Lorre - now there's a cast! It's the sort of thriller-romance that puts the 'Golden' in Hollywood's greatest age of classic entertainment! Sticking to the 1940s theme BOMBAY will be preceded by the cartoon short **FIFTH COLUMN MOUSE** from 1943. The whole program should be concluded by 10.30 so it's as family-friendly as possible; and young film buffs of all ages are welcome. Because this is a 'flagship' prestige event for CMAG and Big House, we cater the night based on RSVPs, which we'd appreciate receiving by 6pm Saturday February 3rd. Please RSVP by return email or by voice/text to Roger on 0422984673.

25th February, 1pm, **D.O.A.** (1949) PLUS **SORRY WRONG NUMBER** (1948) Murderous premonitions coming true! For more information: 0422 984 673, email: [bighousefilm@yahoo.com](mailto:bighousefilm@yahoo.com); web: [www.bighousefilm.com](http://www.bighousefilm.com)

## REEL McCOY FILM GROUP

National Film and Sound Archive, Screenings every second Wednesday, Members Only: 12 months \$45, 6 months \$30 or 3 months \$15.

The Reel McCoy Film Group are on break. Information on 2007 screenings on their webpage soon.

Enquires: Brian Dunne Tel: (02) 6207 0133 (BH) e-mail: [reelmccoyact@yahoo.com](mailto:reelmccoyact@yahoo.com) Web:

<http://www.nfsa.afc.gov.au/screensound/screenso.nsf> click on 'What's On' to follow the link to Reel McCoy

# WORKSHOPS, SEMINARS & TRAINING

## STUNT TRAINING

Clear Vision Fighters Club

Stunt training available with Canberra's only international action crew. Limited positions available. Contact Warren: [wcouton@clearvisionfilms.com](mailto:wcouton@clearvisionfilms.com) or by phone on 0438 647 281. Clear Vision Fighters Club:

For all your action and stunt needs - Bringing action to the ACT

## ACTING SCHOOL

The National Capital Acting School

Term 1 classes begin week commencing Monday 5 February 2007

Monday nights for 10 weeks 6pm to 8pm: **Acting and Auditioning for Television**. This is an advanced course for adult actors.

Wednesday nights for 10 weeks 5pm to 7pm: **Acting for Teens - Shakespeare**. This course for young people 13 to 16 years will explore the use of emotion as the engine to acting through fun and games, improvisation and script. A show will be performed at the end of term.

Friday nights for 10 weeks 6pm to 8pm: **Monologue for beginner adults**. This course for people 16 years and over will explore the use of emotion as the engine to acting through the development and performance of a monologue using improvisation and script to introduce students to the world of acting for stage, film and TV. It is also helpful to people who may only be seeking to develop self esteem and confidence as an element of life skills.

Cost \$440 per class per term. To enrol, contact Bobby Farquhar: [bobbyfarquhar@optusnet.com.au](mailto:bobbyfarquhar@optusnet.com.au) or Office: (02) 6248 6788 Mobile: 0414 505 257. More information: <http://www.thenationalactingschool.com/>

## ADULT ACTING CLASSES

Narrabundah College Theatre Arts

Acting for the fun of it! is a six week course for adults in acting techniques and approaches. Build confidence. Learn skills. Meet new friends. Have fun! No previous experience necessary. Classes commence Monday February 12th

and continue on Mondays from 7-9.30pm for six weeks. Cost \$130. For further enquiries and enrolment forms contact Course Leader Peter Wilkins at [peter.wilkins@narrabundahc.act.edu.au](mailto:peter.wilkins@narrabundahc.act.edu.au) or phone 6205 6979

## **YOUTH DRAMA WORKSHOPS**

### *Canberra Youth Theatre*

Canberra Youth Theatre is firing right back up with an awesome range of drama workshops and productions for young people ages 8 to 25! ENROL NOW IN: Big Dramas-Little Actors; Actors Basics: Acting Technique; Stand Alone; Acting For Camera: Moving Beyond or The Ensemble.

This year CYT is launching its Ensemble for those aged over 18 who want to further develop their core skills in an atmosphere of creative discipline. We are also engaging in a collaborative project entitled On-Line Soap with Sydney-based youth theatre PYT and working in a partnership with the ACT Mental Health Foundation on a hybrid performance at the Tuggeranong Arts Centre, Moving Beyond.

Enrolments for all out workshops and productions close on the 9th of February. Applications for the Ensemble close on the 19th of February. Contact: 6248 5057 or fire an email off to [pip@cytc.net](mailto:pip@cytc.net)

## **COMPETITIONS & OPPORTUNITIES**

### **OPPORTUNITIES**

#### **CAST & CREW SOUGHT**

Cast and crew members needed for a slate of shorts planned for this year.

CREW: Editor & Sound designer/editor. If interested please email : [aredpicture@yahoo.com.au](mailto:aredpicture@yahoo.com.au)

CAST: Males between the age of 18 - 30 & Females between the age of 18 - 30. Please forward headshots and interest to : [aredpicture@yahoo.com.au](mailto:aredpicture@yahoo.com.au)

#### **TWO FEMALE ACTORS REQUIRED**

Short film, project part of Screen Metro-Raw Nerve Film Initiative - to be screened in Sydney in April. (Roles part paid)

1. 30/35 y/old - Character is a mother with two kids. Must be able to communicate everyday warmth and humour, be happy to work closely with children & dog and able to convey a real sense of family relationships. Shooting in Canberra early March. Three days plus rehearsal time.

2. Over 40 y/old - Character runs a Psychic Readings business. One day plus rehearsal

Please contact Carol Williamson for more info: [shinyshoes@optusnet.com.au](mailto:shinyshoes@optusnet.com.au) or 0423 119 411

## **FESTIVALS: CALLING FOR ENTRIES**

### **YOUNG AT HEART: SYDNEY SENIORS FILM FESTIVAL**

*Deadline: Monday 12th February*

The Young at Heart, 2nd Sydney Seniors Film festival (March 11th -18th) is taking place at Dendy Opera Quays and the Ritz Cinema in Randwick as part of Seniors Week 2007.

Young at Heart 2007 sees the launch of its Short Film Awards, a competition for new Australian short films which feature a director, screenwriter or lead actor above the age of 55. The finalists will be screened as part of the festival March 17th (5pm) at the Ritz Cinema. Two awards will be given on Closing Night: the Audience Award for Best Film, voted for by the public, and the Young at Heart Award for Best Film, chosen by a jury of professionals. Submission forms can be downloaded from: <http://www.youngatheart.net.au/awards.htm>

### **SHEPPARTON SHORTS FILM FESTIVAL**

*Deadline: Friday 16th February*

As part of the SheppARTon Festival of 2007, entries are invited to show original short films in the annual 'Shepparton Shorts' Short Film Festival. A total prize pool of over \$3000 will be offered for the best films including the Law Reform Commission Prize of \$500. Entries must arrive by 5.00pm Friday 16th February 2007. Finalists notified by March 9th. Winners announced Friday 16th March 2006. More information and an entry form, check out:

[www.sheppartonfestival.net.au](http://www.sheppartonfestival.net.au)

### **SYDNEY FILM FESTIVAL**

*Deadline: Monday 19th February*

The Sydney Film Festival is now accepting submissions for its 53rd event. With over 235 screenings of features, documentaries and shorts, attracting over 130,000 film-goers a year, the Sydney Film Festival is a great way to get your film seen by a large, film-loving, film-literate audience. They are seeking features, documentaries, short films and

animation for the 53rd annual festival. Films over 30 minutes in length must be NSW premieres, films under 30 minutes in length must be Sydney metropolitan premieres. *If you submit your film to the Dendy Awards, your film is automatically considered for the Sydney Film Festival.* Entry forms, rules and regulations are available from the website [www.sydneyfilmfestival.org](http://www.sydneyfilmfestival.org)

## **DENDY AWARDS**

*Deadline: Monday 19th February*

Australia's longest running short film awards is again seeking the best in local short film-making. The 2007 Dendy Awards for Australian Short Films, proudly supported by Dendy Cinemas and Dendy Films, are open to all Australian productions under 60 minutes completed in the last year. Winners in each of the 6 categories will receive a cash prize: Best Fiction Short (\$3,000); Most Innovative Short (\$3,000); Best Documentary (\$3,000), Best Experimental (\$3,000); The Yoram Gross Animation Award (\$3,000); the Rouben Mamoulian Award (\$3,000); and the Multicultural (CRC) Award (\$4,000).

Entries must be received by the festival office no later than 5pm on the 19th of February 2007. Entry forms and information is available from the Sydney Film Festival website: [www.sydneyfilmfestival.org](http://www.sydneyfilmfestival.org)

## **FUNDING**

### **NSW FTO YOUNG FILMMAKERS FUND: NSW ONLY**

*Deadline: 5th March*

Through the YFF, grants of up to \$30,000 are provided to NSW filmmakers, aged 18-35, to produce short dramas, documentaries, animation, and experimental/cross platform projects. To date, the 99 projects selected for funding have collectively screened at more than 650 film festivals both locally and internationally, and received over 100 awards and nominations. The deadline for submissions to be received by the FTO for Round 21 is Monday, 5 March 2007. For more information about the FTO's YFF program: Contact: Valerie Allerton, Coordinator YFF & Digital FX, PH: 02-9264-6400 Email: [allertonv@fto.nsw.gov.au](mailto:allertonv@fto.nsw.gov.au)

Guidelines and application forms are available at <http://www.fto.nsw.gov.au/fund.asp?id=48>

### **AUSTRALIAN FILM COMMISSION**

Upcoming Film Development Deadlines:

02 Feb 2007 Strand D - Draft Funding for Features

02 Feb 2007 Strand V - Interactive Digital Media - Early Development

02 Feb 2007 Strand W - Interactive Digital Media Matched Investment

09 Feb 2007 Internships/Fellowships

09 Feb 2007 Strand I: IndiVision Low-budget Feature Production

16 Feb 2007 Strand L - Shooting Time-Critical Material for Documentary, Documentary Series. Generally only one project per round is funded.

16 Feb 2007 Strand S - Animation Development for Animation and Animation Series

23 Feb 2007 Strand N - Documentary Production for Documentary and Documentary Series

02 Mar 2007 Writer Fellowships for Features

09 Mar 2007 Strand H - Shorts Production Short (under 25 mins)

23 Mar 2007 Strand L - Shooting Time-Critical Material for Documentary & Documentary Series. Generally only one project per round is funded.

23 Mar 2007 Strand X - Experimental Digital Production for Digital Media

<http://www.afc.gov.au/funding/deadlines/>

Marisa Martin

EoR Media

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[www.eormedia.com.au](http://www.eormedia.com.au)

Production - Events - Creative

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We will not pass our email list on to any third party - but if you have some news or event you'd like to share with the Canberra film community, write us a blurb and we'll probably put it in the next Film Files. Canberra Film Files come out monthly (or twice monthly if there's heaps going on!).

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