

INTRODUCTION & CONTENTS



Martin Foley
Minister for Creative Industries

Winter in Melbourne welcomes film's latest gems, curated spotlights, documentaries and rarities from local and international makers as part of the Melbourne International Film Festival.

MIFF's status has become iconic – a reflection of Victoria's robust screen industry and eager audiences, the quality and longevity of the festival, and the hardworking volunteers who make the event possible each year.

The Victorian Government is proud to be MIFF's Principal Government Partner and to provide direct support to Australian titles, through the MIFF Premiere Fund. Look out for these local films that will premiere at this year's festival: *Have You Seen the Listers?*, *The Butterfly Tree*, *The Song Keepers*, *Westwind: Djalus Legacy*, *Rabbit* and the 2017 Opening Night film, *Jungle*.

We are also proud to support MIFF's suite of career and industry development opportunities: from the 37th South Market that draws the global film financing marketplace to our state, to the Accelerator Lab, a career-making opportunity for emerging directors.

MIFF plays an important role in our creative state and this was acknowledged in the 2017-18 Victorian Budget through new support for the festival, its industry programs and regional roadshow over the next four years.

Congratulations to the MIFF team and thank you for bringing us the best of world cinema for 66 years. I hope you enjoy the premiere releases and diverse cinematic tales that make up the 2017 program.



Geoffrey Rush
Festival Patron

Dear MIFF buffs and mavens,

Who remembers Alice Guy-Blaché? Non? The first woman who made a film – in 1896! Running the production company, experimenting with Sound, hand-tinting, double-exposing, and running film backwards – trippy, inventive stuff. Ten prolific years. Yet we only remember Les frères Lumière and Méliès.

How 'bout Lois Weber? *The Merchant of Venice* (1914)? Nope? The first American film by a woman – a household name alongside D W Griffith and Cecil B DeMille.

Australia, already ignited, adventurously, was pursuing that Other voice. Kate Howarde directed our first female feature, *Possum Paddock* (1921). Many "lost" names – Mary Mallon, Juliette De La Ruze, the McDonagh sisters and Lottie Lyell – compounded our local equation, working as producers, writers and directors, claiming an historic crown.

Nitrate filmstock was toxic, with a limited life, prone to disintegration by Heat and Time. Meaningful works decomposed – with artistry destroyed by decay. Laws of chemistry and cultural amnesia have eaten away crucial Silent voices. But a slow fuse was lit, for others decades later.

I applaud Michelle and the MIFF team re-examining our bountiful female oeuvre from the 80s and 90s.

As the men say, "lest we forget".

You, the audience, are the guardians of memory. We sit in the dark. We debate afterwards in moody bars, striving to absorb the lightning in the bottle of the creative process. We blog opinions. Trashy and valid. Is the Artist a vanity to be maligned, wounded or dismissed? Does analysis even matter?

So I'm honoured that MIFF has programmed within this shebang: *The Final Portrait*, in which I play Giacometti – a curmudgeonly, famous, despairing Artist who subjects a guarded and mercurial Analyst to a sitting. Does the Artist indulge while the Analyst contextualises?

Or is it an irresolvable argument? And might camaraderie and pleasure still emerge?

Let's discuss.

That's the joy of MIFF.



MIFF screenings are strictly 18+ except where indicated. Screenings that are Unclassified 15+ require an adult to attend with anyone under 15 years of age. See MIFF Kids (p7) for children's programming.

GALAS	4
SPECIAL EVENTS	6
HEADLINERS	8
AUSTRALIAN FILMS	10
PIONEERING WOMEN	12
INTERNATIONAL	14
EXPERIMENTATIONS	21
SALLY POTTER RETROSPECTIVE	22
DOCUMENTARIES	24
TRUE CRIME	27
MUSIC ON FILM	28
NIGHT SHIFT	30
SCI-FI RETROSPECTIVE	31
ANIMATION	32
VR	33
MIFF SHORTS	34
TALKS	36
INDUSTRY PUBLIC EVENTS	37
TICKETS & VENUES	39
SCREENING SCHEDULE	40
FILM INDEX	46
CREDITS	47

This guide is designed to complement the online experience. Keep track of your film selections in the screening schedule. Films are colour coded according to their program section.

Explore More Online

For full details, extended film descriptions and multiple ways to search, filter and view the films, talks, classes and special events on offer, and to book tickets or buy passes, go to **miff.com.au**.

Look for the handy toolbar icons to jump to:

-  Films A-Z
-  Calendar
-  Recommendations
-  Special Events
-  Festival Info
-  Access

See the **Full Program**, or just the **Films A to Z**, arranged by title or date, and view in a simple list or as image tiles. **Filter**