

2021 AACTA AWARDS

Short Form/Online Guide





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HEADLESS CHOOKS

Black Cockatoo Films

Run Time

approx. 16 minutes

Candidates

Sean Clancy Donovan
Jay Grant

BRAHM and TEX are on the run from the law of the land, THE CRONE. They have been driving through the harsh country starting fires, robbing and getting drunk. THE CRONE has caught up with them, and they're to be held to account.

Notes

Your Rating



THE BUTTER SCENE

Staple Fiction

Run Time

approx. 7 minutes

Candidates

Kate Blackmore
Bethany Bruce

An actor reveals the devastating impact a sexual assault scene had on her life while the film's director justifies his manipulative approach. Based on interviews given by actor Maria Schneider and director Bernardo Bertolucci about Last Tango in Paris (1972).

Notes

Your Rating



THE BENDS

Run Time

approx. 14 minutes

Candidates

Tom Campbell
Alexandra George
Adam Spellicy
Annie Thatcher

A mixed martial arts fighter discovers she's pregnant in the lead-up to the most important fight of her career. A docu-drama hybrid propelled by a nuanced first-time performance from pro-amateur MMA fighter Annie Thatcher, The Bends is an elevated, empathetic portrait of a person accustomed to pushing their body to its limit, but who now must choose between conquering it or keeping it safe for another.

Notes

Your Rating



GRACE

Disturbing Notions

Run Time

approx. 11 minutes

Candidates

Darren McFarlane
Aaron Farrugia
Brian Patto
Christopher Gillingham

Inspired by actual events from war-torn Mosul, Iraq, GRACE tells the story of a father living in fear who protects his daughter from violent fanatics using the innocent game of hide-and-seek.

Notes

Your Rating



LIBERTY STREET

The Corinthian Food Store

Run Time

approx. 62 minutes

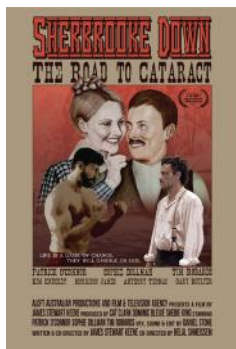
Candidates

Katherine Shearer

Set in a Sydney apartment complex scheduled for destruction in the height of the 2020 lockdown, Liberty Street delves into the lives of its disparate occupants, all reaching out for love, community, and connection in isolation. Eight interweaving episodes explore what isolation teaches us about ourselves and what it is we truly need from others. Liberty Street is a hilarious, haunting and tender reflection of our times.

Notes

Your Rating



SHERBROOKE DOWN: THE ROAD TO CATARACT

Aloft Australian Productions | Film And Television Agency

Run Time

approx. 23 minutes

Candidates

James Stewart Keene
Helal Shmeissem
Shebie King
Daniel Stone

1901, New South Wales. When independent brickmaker and family man Matthew Keene gets bad news about a desperately needed contract, he is oblivious of those who want worse for him.

Notes

Your Rating



SUNBURN

AFTRS

Run Time

approx. 13 minutes

Candidates

Lev Jutsen
Claudia Bailey
Jaslyn Mairs

In the wake of a tragedy, Charlie takes her best friend Em on a road trip in the hope that it will help them heal. Along the way, they find their friendship is tested like never before. Zoe Terakes (Wentworth, Ellie & Abbie (& Ellie's Dead Aunt))) and Brenna Harding (Puberty Blues, Black Mirror) star as best friends mutually overcoming a tragedy. Jaslyn Mairs' debut offers a naturalistic depiction of a layered friendship filled with desire and longing in the context of grief.

Notes

Your Rating



WILL YOU FIND ME?

Golden Pineapple Productions

Run Time

approx. 13 minutes

Candidates

William Atkinson

Ellie and Jesse haven't seen each other in nearly twenty years. We follow their morning on the day that they meet again at the art gallery that they unknowingly are both connected to. The film shows that no matter how far away we may seem to be from our loved-ones, we can always find our way home again.

Notes

Your Rating



THE STORY OF LEE PING

Pure Pictures Pty Ltd | Renegade Films

Run Time

approx. 14 minutes

Candidates

Jasmin Tarasin
Katie Milwright
Lucy Maclaren
John Collee

Set in the rural backlot of 1920s Australia - no place for a woman - The Story of Lee Ping is a tale of a young Chinese immigrant, an imprisoned exotic dancer who plots her freedom. Lee meets Jack, an Aboriginal farm hand who changes the way she sees herself forever.

Notes

Your Rating



REPTILE

Jordan Giusti

Run Time

approx. 6 minutes

Candidates

Jordan Giusti
Chris Luscri
Hayley Surgenor

Schoolboys eat lunch and hang out like any other day, until a violent game begins to elicit more primal behaviour.

Notes

Your Rating



SOULMATE

Smoketale Films

Run Time

approx. 16 minutes

Candidates

Nik Kacevski
Holly May Lewis
Christopher Seeto

Set in the near future, a thirteen-year-old girl plays a deadly game of cat and mouse in a world where overpopulation has caused for a desperate law that forces citizens to kill their designated 'Soulmate'.

Notes

Your Rating



YOU AND ME, BEFORE AND AFTER

Mad Ones Films

Run Time

approx. 11 minutes

Candidates

Madeleine Gottlieb
Cyna Strachan
Liam Heyen

Two adult sisters who love each other learn to like each other while getting their first tattoos. Stuck side by side in the chairs with nothing to do but talk, Hannah (Yael Stone) and Rachel (Emily Barclay) are forced to confront a shared history that's as painful as it is hilarious.

Notes

Your Rating



GOD GRANT ME

Rich River Productions

Run Time

approx. 16 minutes

Candidates

Mark Davis

When younger brother Danny returns from a ruined attempt as a professional boxer, Sean, a local boxing trainer is hesitant to drop his guard and open his life and gym to his brothers destructive habits.

Notes

Your Rating



IN THE WAKE

Get Back Jojo Productions | Like a Girl Pictures

Run Time

approx. 12 minutes

Candidates

Stephanie Jaclyn
Jodie Kirkbride

After a devastating car crash involving her sister, Alice is left with only her grieving mother and buried memories of the event Loosely drawn from personal experience, In the Wake is a grounded drama that examines the forming and fracturing of relationships through two stories told as one – the bonding between sisters and the disconnection between mother and daughter. Alice, a reserved teenager who lived in the social shadow of her vivacious, thrill seeking sister, Jessica - that was until a tragic car crash claimed Jessica's life. Now, in the aftermath of the accident, Alice tries to remember the true cause of the crash that will appease their grief stricken mother.

Notes

Your Rating



KILTER

Collider Films

Run Time

approx. 12 minutes

Candidates

Olivia Hantken
Rob Stanton-Cook

Kilter explores the wreckage left in the wake of generational toxic masculinity. Following a violent crime of passion, a gentle young man descends into a tormented reality as he struggles to reconcile who he is and what he has become.

Notes

Your Rating



REMEMBER WHEN

Run Time

approx. 10 minutes

Candidates

Molly Moloney

Awkward small talk and lost love: Niamh meets up with her ex-boyfriend to give his belongings back, only to realise some things mean more to her than they do to him.

Notes

Your Rating



THE BETTER ANGELS

Anifex

Run Time

approx. 13 minutes

Candidates

Michael Cusack
Marty Pepper
Richard Chataway
Justin Astbury

A young soldier seeks shelter in an abandoned house and within its walls, the stories of what might have been.

Notes

Your Rating



AFTER SATURN

The Physical TV Company | NIDA

Run Time

approx. 10 minutes

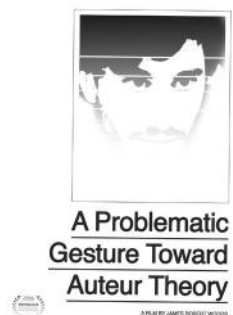
Candidates

Samuel Lucas Allen
Karen Pearlman
Richard James Allen
Pru Montin

An estranged brother and sister are forced to clean up their childhood home after their grandfather's sudden passing.

Notes

Your Rating



A PROBLEMATIC GESTURE TOWARD AUTEUR THEORY

BADLANDS

Run Time

approx. 7 minutes

Candidates

James Woods
Stephanie Day

An egomaniacal Auteur has a moment of Anagnorisis when he learns about the concept of Anagnorisis. From emerging Sydney writer/director and AFTRS MA grad James Robert Woods comes the acerbic, satirical 'A Problematic Gesture Toward Auteur Theory'. Co-produced by fellow AFTRS grad Stephanie Jane Day, the film is a step-printed love/hate letter to filmmaking that sees a self-proclaimed Auteur (George H. Xanthis) realise that there are more important things in life than making movies.

Notes

Your Rating



WEATHERMAN

Milk Films

Run Time

approx. 6 minutes

Candidates

Max Miller

Annabelle watches her mother flirt with the weatherman on the television, not realising her innocent suburban lounge room is no longer a safe haven. She tries to grasp the horizon of her childhood while being caught in the middle of the corrosive malaise that is destroying her parents' marriage.

Notes

Your Rating



ANTECEDENTS

Somedae Pictures

Run Time

approx. 11 minutes

Candidates

Emma Vickery

Christine is met with violent resistance when she tries to move her dementia suffering mother from her ageing home and in to care. Forced to stay the night, she is treated as a stranger and a thief but when she feels responsible for her mother's fall, Christine suppresses her frustration in order to give her the care she needs. When Julie is finally ready to go, Christine finds herself reluctant to leave; reluctant to be the parent and acknowledge the loss of the mother she once knew.

Notes

Your Rating



BEAUTIFUL THEY

Boobook Media

Run Time

approx. 10 minutes

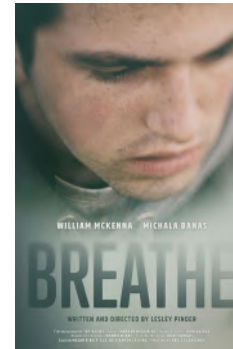
Candidates

Cloudy Rhodes
Ella Millard

Blue, young and gender-queer, awakens through a dusty morning, binding their breasts, and smoking a joint as they watch the world from their window. A chance encounter with party girl Violet leads the pair to the ocean, where Blue watches her take to the waves in a daringly beautiful exhibition of soul-surfing, and the possibility of connection stirs. BEAUTIFUL THEY is a youthful, visually charged, uplifting non-binary love story; a queer surf-romance about the nuance of gender, and the refuge found in being truly seen.

Notes

Your Rating



BREATHE

self-produced

Run Time

approx. 15 minutes

Candidates

Lesley Pinder
Hayley Surgenor

Tormented by the noises in his head, a troubled young man decides to face up to his recent past, against the wishes of those around him.

Notes

Your Rating



DEAD CENTRE

Run Time

approx. 7 minutes

Candidates

Benno Thiel
Kurt Roberts

When Mel's parents begin to worry about her missing sibling, Mel reluctantly makes the decision to find him. It's been two years since she last saw him. Two years since he cut ties and moved to the small town of Dead Centre in rural Australia. As Mel searches the town for Paul, a series of roadblocks test her mental and physical strength. As Mel begins to unravel the towns secrets, it soon becomes clear that finding her brother won't be as easy as she first thought.

Notes

Your Rating



ERWIN

AFTRS

Run Time

approx. 13 minutes

Candidates

Nic Parker
Ollie Ritchie
Lev Jutsen

A lonely, intellectual Jewish grandfather prepares his home for the shabbat dinner alongside his caretaker, Bineta. Although having come from radically different backgrounds, Bineta and Erwin discover deep commonalities in the story of Erwin's immigration to Australia. Throughout the course of the day, we begin to discover a traumatic history that Erwin has kept hidden away for many years. Exacerbated by his worsening dementia, this trauma finally comes to a head as a night of old wounds, re-opened, return to haunt him. Erwin is a two-fold look at trauma, and the shared experiences inherent to the immigrant story. Their discovery of a deeper understanding equips Bineta with the best tool to deal with someone suffering from trauma. Empathy.

Notes

Your Rating



WHILE THE CAT'S AWAY...

Aaron Carroll

Run Time

approx. 11 minutes

Candidates

Aaron Carroll
Cameron Zayec
Cecilia Low

Sarah receives a message that her beloved will be late home tonight. What will she do to pass the time? Whatever she wants...

Notes

Your Rating



WHERE ROSEMARY GOES

NIL

Run Time

approx. 13 minutes

Candidates

Kathleen Hrayssi
Chris Ras
Tom Harwood
Kern Sharma

An elderly woman turns to a killer to save her daughter from an abusive husband. Is this desperation, or is she hiding something?

Notes

Your Rating



TWO SANDS

SAME DRUM

Run Time

approx. 7 minutes

Candidates

Poppy van Oorde-Grainger

As Garang struggles on his first day at high school in Australia, memories of being lost in South Sudan are triggered. When past and present collide, Garang must find a way to bridge the gap between where he is and where he's come from.

Notes

Your Rating



ALL THE LIGHT THAT NEVER FADES

Run Time
approx. 16 minutes

Candidates
Jason Hooker

A young photographer must leave behind family, friends and everything he calls home for a career opportunity overseas, and in his final week before departure, navigate the inner turmoil of the act of letting go.

Notes

Your Rating



INFERNO

Sway Film

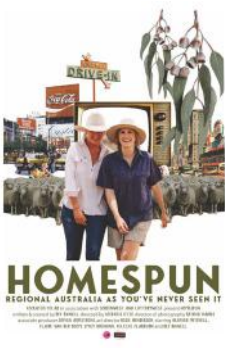
Run Time
approx. 15 minutes

Candidates
Katherine Putnam

Twenty years ago, Raymond Wyatt’s mentally ill father burned their family home down with himself and Raymond’s mother trapped inside, believing an evil entity had taken up residence within. Now a struggling family man haunted by his the actions of his father, Ray returns to tear down the burned out remains of his childhood home, face his demons, and bury his family’s tragic past once and for all. However, when the dust settles, Ray finds himself being tormented by something sinister uncovered in the demolition. As those around him fear he too has gone mad, Ray must grapple with the legacy of his father and his own mental health as he desperately tries to save his family from an entity hell-bent on repeating the tragedies of the past.

Notes

Your Rating



HOMESPUN

Cockatoo Colab

Run Time
approx. 82 minutes

Candidates
Bec Bignell

In a thirsty regional town, dynamic duo Georgina (George) McPherson and her best friend Pauline (Paul) Nicholls get their big break in a new show about life in the bush. Tired of having to subscribe to an old school vibe, George and Paul propose a refreshed angle about life on the land that relies less on the despair and more on the magic. When their vibrant version is thrown out by a broadcast exec in the big smoke, they decide to take the matter into their own hands and stage a shed show that puts the spotlight on stories from the sticks. Their grand plan to take their rustic variety format from the corrugated iron walls to the world, nearly comes unstuck when George loses her nerve in the face of some parochial tall poppy pruning. But when the spirit of the bush sweeps across the Great Southern dirt the real story comes to the surface and makes it out into the world... Homespun invites people back to the boundless beauty of the bush and celebrates the people in it, to rejuvenate and re-connect.

Notes

Your Rating



ISHMAEL

Longneck Films

Run Time
approx. 9 minutes

Candidates
Toby Morris
Jo-Anne Brechin

Filmed primarily at sea onboard a real fishing trawler, Ishmael is a short-form blending of Herman Melville’s Moby Dick with a personal story of terminal illness. It stars Jack Finsterer (Kokoda) and Blazey Best (Ten Empty).

Notes

Your Rating



JEAN

Run Time

approx. 11 minutes

Candidates

Alisha Hnatjuk
Ashlee Lukas
Josh Stafield
Chris Clarke

A woman's crumbling relationship bleeds into her work day.

Notes

Your Rating



A GODLESS COUNTRY

JPR Productions

Run Time

approx. 20 minutes

Candidates

Jesse Richardson
Nerida Tyson-Chew
Dave Redman
Aaron Singfield

Moreton Bay Penal Settlement. 1832. Finn and Mary O'shea, two Irish convicts, labour under the evils of colonial Australia - a place liberty does not yet exist. But when fate takes their beloved daughter, Annie, they abscond to the bush in a desperate attempt to find a way back to Ireland - to return 'home'. Forsaken in a heartless, unforgiving land and relentlessly hunted by the convict over-seer, they must find a way back to their faith, each other and their daughter or become victims of A Godless Country.

Notes

Your Rating



THEY CALLED ME KEITH

Lady Of The Light

Run Time

approx. 14 minutes

Candidates

Kristy Wordsworth
Hafedh Dakhlaoui

They Called Me Keith is a psychological thriller about past life regression, new age beliefs and emotional trauma. Following the death of his girlfriend, Ryan embarks on a spiritual journey to reconnect with his beloved Simone.

Notes

Your Rating



THE TAILINGS

Good Lark Pty Ltd | The Two Jons & Roar Film

Run Time

approx. 58 minutes

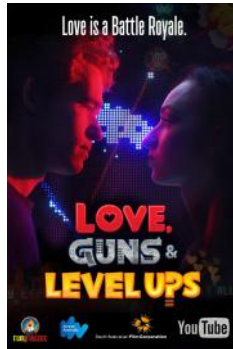
Candidates

Liz Doran
Stephen Thomas
Richard Kelly

When a man, BRENDAN, is found dead near a river outside a remote, tight-knit mining town in the heartland of Tasmania's west coast wilderness, an inquest finds that his death was an accident. But his teenage daughter JAS, struggling with her own feelings of guilt and grief, refuses to accept the verdict and starts her own investigation.

Notes

Your Rating



LOVE, GUNS & LEVEL UPS

Fury Fingers Films

Run Time

approx. 10 minutes

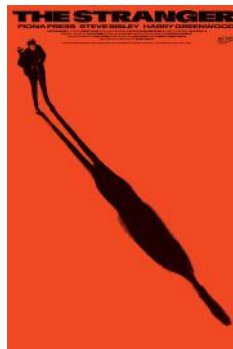
Candidates

Jodie Kirkbride
Nicholas Cleary
Andrew Shanks
Daniel Vink

When an international cosplayer and an introverted game developer connect online, they discover the challenges of a real-world relationship. An action rom-com about video games and modern dating.

Notes

Your Rating



THE STRANGER

AFTRS

Run Time

approx. 19 minutes

Candidates

Jenny Hicks
Nate Heinz
Harriet Dixon-Smith
Samuel Steinle

When a stranger arrives at an isolated farmhouse in the middle of the night, the farmer's wife is convinced he is a murderer. In the light of day, she is forced to confront her prejudices.

Notes

Your Rating



MARS

Kaiserin Films

Run Time

approx. 8 minutes

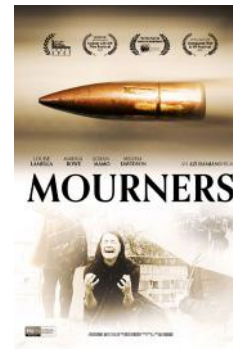
Candidates

Raymond J Evans
Janine Kaiser

Mars is a drama/sci-fi short film based in a not too distant future. Ethan and Violet are standing on opposite train platforms. They are set to travel in different directions yet a common interest undeniably entwines their destinies. Without speaking a word they must find a means of connection before their trains arrive to whisk them away.

Notes

Your Rating



MOURNERS

Red Geranium Production

Run Time

approx. 17 minutes

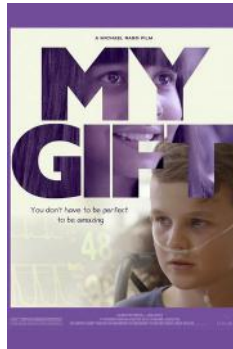
Candidates

Azita Damandan

A young boy is killed in a peaceful protest in Iran. His family can't afford to pay for the bullet (as the government asks families for) to get his body and bury him. Other mums with the common issue join and...

Notes

Your Rating



MY GIFT

Solomon Pictures Pty Ltd

Run Time

approx. 15 minutes

Candidates

Michael Raso
Ridhi Prasad
Jon Cohen
Luke Hoogendyk

My Gift is a short drama centred around two children named Josh and Alia, who meet in a rather unusual place, a children's hospital. Josh suffers an unexpected heart attack while playing a game of Australian Rules football. He's admitted to hospital where across the room from him is Alia, a young girl of Indian decent. She loves to draw and is an aspiring doctor. She's concerned for Josh, and develops a close friendship with him. She reveals that she suffers from bad headaches and often has dizzy spells. Unfortunately her condition worsens, and her dying wish is that Josh will be okay. Her wish is granted when a cure is found for Josh, but what is it?

Notes

Your Rating



DWARF PLANET

Brick Road

Run Time

approx. 8 minutes

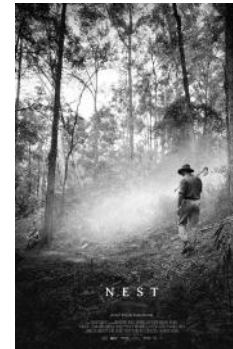
Candidates

Adrian Chiarella
Bec Janek

An awkward teenager uses the last of his birthday money to hire a sex worker on a gentle, summer morning. But things don't go as planned as these two lost souls contemplate their place in the universe...

Notes

Your Rating



NEST

Lost Sunshine Productions

Run Time

approx. 9 minutes

Candidates

Faith Guoga

An isolated father haunted by his child's cries of hunger takes up work as a timber feller only to be stopped by a mysterious alarm coming from deep in the woods.

Notes

Your Rating



TRAVELLER

Wavelength Films

Run Time

approx. 11 minutes

Candidates

Michael McLennan
John Hresc
Rasmus Callmer
Jesse Watt

The City is all encompassing. There is no limit to it. Sara tells us of her lover, Pranay. Pranay said there was no way to leave the City. Yet one day he was gone. She searches for him. She tells of a man called Traveller, who they say knows a way to go other worlds. She follows him one night, and confronts him in a rainstorm. Where is Pranay? He gives her nothing. She begs him. He seems unmoved. Some time later that evening, Traveller offers her an explanation. He did see her lover, but the man's current whereabouts are unknown to him. Sara begins to see glimpses of other worlds herself. Traveller encourages her to let go of her partner, and leave him behind the way Pranay left her. She contemplates it for a moment, but leaves. She is not ready to let go.

Notes

Your Rating



MATE

October Media | Ten Alphas

Run Time

approx. 34 minutes

Candidates

Ben Tarwin
Nick Bolton
George-Alex Nagle
Jessica Milne

John is a man stuck in the past. His fear of maturity, avoidance of responsibility, and his desperate clutching to a redundant dream hasn't been liberating but instead lead him to festering stagnation. If 'live fast, die young was his motto' then he missed the chance to die when he had it, and has now become his worst fear, 'an old loser'. Jack is a boy at of his journey to manhood. But, as a thirteen-year-old going through changes, he's feeling pushed away from his mother, isolated and alone. He comes to his birth father looking to re-establish their relationship, perhaps for unrealised personal validation, perhaps just because. But the John he meets is far from the man he remembers. Over the weekend as this 'child in a man's body' brings this this awkward and reserved adolescent into his insular world, they learn that although they might not be 'father and son' anymore, maybe he could be 'mates'. But John's emerging compulsion to push Jack away could lead to dire consequences. Mate is an uncompromising examination of masculinity, maturity and explores the challenges of personal growth within a changing social landscape.

Notes

Your Rating



THE NINTH TOWER

Blacksand Pictures

Run Time

approx. 14 minutes

Candidates

Kauthar Abdulalim

When the Victorian Government locks down his public-housing building, a teenager responsible for his mother's welfare is pushed to the brink.

Notes

Your Rating



INCOMING: WORDS OF WAR

Little Red Fox Productions

Run Time

approx. 11 minutes

Candidates

Kerry Drumm
Emma Hunt

Seven Australian soldiers take part in 'My Voice', a social experiment to document and share their experience of being at war. Visiting the 'My Voice' booth to answer pre-recorded questions by Q, the soldiers reveal personal stories, the impact of PTSD and reasons for joining the military.

Notes

Your Rating



THE RECORDIST

Stakeout Films

Run Time

approx. 18 minutes

Candidates

Indianna Bell
Josiah Allen
Ashleigh Knott

Sound recordist Andrew operates from the fringes of film sets, unseen and often forgotten. Using his sound equipment, he regularly listens to and records private conversations between crew and cast members. When Andrew tunes into a young actress having an affair with a film director, he uses the recording to blackmail her into submitting to his perverted desires.

Notes

Your Rating



THE PROSELYTE

Sydney Film School

Run Time

approx. 20 minutes

Candidates

Vir Srinivas
Yasmen Odisho

A Catholic priest with a dark past wrestles with his faith after he hears a confession from an active serial killer.

Notes

Your Rating



THE MOST WONDERFUL DAY OF THE YEAR

Goose Bridle Productions

Run Time

approx. 9 minutes

Candidates

Harry Windsor
Grégoire Lière
Andrew Cutcliffe
Octavia Spartels

A woman drives into a carpark, exits her vehicle and walks to another car. She opens the passenger door, sits, and exchanges Christmas presents with the man behind the wheel. He's slightly older, sweet as well as a little nervous. But the two are clearly close, almost intimate. Is he a lover, a friend, or something in between? Later, the woman returns home to her husband and eight-year-old son. And what follows—over the course of one hot summer's night in Sydney—will feel, in retrospect, like a tear in the fabric...

Notes

Your Rating



PINCH ME

Wavelength Films | Excelsia College

Run Time

approx. 20 minutes

Candidates

Michael McLennan
Jesse Watt
Rasmus Callmer
John Hresc

In a library, on the night before a university student leaves for a new life, her friends share their dreams. As each tale emerges, her premonition grows that something is not right. Amanda is a student who cannot be at rest. Her friends gather around her as she studies on the night before she leaves for a new life overseas. She is the first to pick up a job overseas post-graduation, while her fellow classmates aren't even sure if they'll go to their graduation. But Amanda never feels ready, even if she always is. Even now she can't be at ease in their company. As the library closes, and the gang settle in for a night of reflection, one of them - Melanie - begins to recount a dream she was reminded of. This dream triggers memories within the others, and other stories ensue. Each dream leads to a growing fear that all is not what it seems tonight. The walls of the world are about to fall away, and the future will be a lonely one.

Notes

Your Rating



FALL FROM A HEIGHT

RedLighthouse Productions

Run Time

approx. 13 minutes

Candidates

David Bensen

"Some choices we make, do not reflect who we truly are". A powerful drama about Damian, a man out of work approaching middle age and under pressure to find money who questions himself as to life and the decisions he's made that have led him to where he is. An impulsive decision to rob a petrol station brings Damian the unexpected life change and insight he needs. The film is beautifully poetic contrasting its cinematography with a deeply touching narration that offers a strong message for anyone feeling overwhelmed, to think differently about themselves and what the purpose of life might be.

Notes

Your Rating



THE STRAWMAN

On The Brink Pictures

Run Time

approx. 17 minutes

Candidates

Tarni Brinkmann
Jamie Zin

Whilst taking care of her vegetative father, Ada and her half-sister Fay will find themselves in a fight for survival when their dad unwillingly transforms into a horrifying scarecrow.

Notes

Your Rating



RESPECT THE KINK

Run Time

approx. 15 minutes

Candidates

Shadi Soheili

Besties Ada, Carmen and Taylor keep each other's sanity in check whilst risking their livelihood through part-time pet play. On a planned visit to a client's home, Ada's out of character behavior causes suspicion between the friends.

Notes

Your Rating



RUN SOUTH

Frank Magree, Paul Henri

Run Time

approx. 29 minutes

Candidates

Frank Magree

An Australian soldier is held captive during the Vietnam war. A young marine enters his world presenting him with a harrowing choice.

Notes

Your Rating



LIFE BLOOD

Ample Projects Pty Ltd

Run Time

approx. 20 minutes

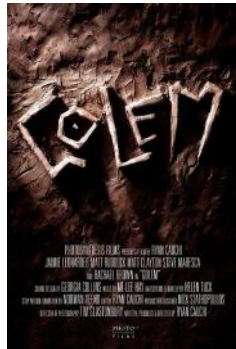
Candidates

Nicholas Tory
Jonathan Nix

Lifeblood is a film about the intersection of place, history, and our identity. Who are we as Australians? We are disconnected from our true cultural identity. We don't understand our environment, and therefore we don't know how to protect the delicate equilibriums that have existed for millions of years on our planet. We ignore the truth, and an entire culture that flourished for hundreds of thousands of years slowly dies. Why do we ignore these truths? Where are we rushing to? Stop and look. Stay a while, and you will see.

Notes

Your Rating



GOLEM

Photosynthesis Films

Run Time

approx. 5 minutes

Candidates

Ryan Cauchi

Nazi-occupied Prague, 1939. A group of German soldiers search for a fugitive Rabbi in the basement of an abandoned synagogue - unaware of the horror awaiting them.

Notes

Your Rating



TRAPPED

Azure Productions Pty Ltd

Run Time

approx. 13 minutes

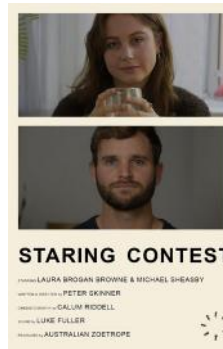
Candidates

Tony Bosch
Annmaree Bell

In the midst of war torn New Guinea, the destinies of two enemy soldiers become intertwined as they are compelled to join forces to defeat their one common enemy; Death! Confronted by their own mortality, they unwittingly create a union that will change them forever. From the insanity of war emerges a bond that will send one man on a lifelong quest to repay a debt to another, whose faith in humanity would follow him throughout life and beyond death itself. For men are not born soldiers nor enemies.

Notes

Your Rating



STARING CONTEST

Australian Zoetrope

Run Time

approx. 11 minutes

Candidates

Peter Skinner

Ex lovers meet for tea that spans their entire relationship.

Notes

Your Rating



SPARK

Run Time

approx. 9 minutes

Candidates

Sophie Hawkshaw
Matthew Wykinet
Kent Marcus
Madeleine & Tanna Jurd & Nankivell

After catching a glimpse of life away from her family farm Jean, an adventurous teen decides whether to continue coming back or forge a new path for herself.

Notes

Your Rating



STANDBY

Wavelength Films | Excelsia College

Run Time

approx. 12 minutes

Candidates

Michael McLennan
John Hresc
Rasmus Callmer
Emily Kemp

Two young actresses - Ria and Tash - test for the role of Viola in a production of Twelfth Night. Tash freezes up at the audition, and the role goes to Ria. Ria overhears the reservations of the panel that votes in her favour, opting to keep Tash as a standby. In the lead-up to performance, Tash is visited by a friend - Alice - from her past. Ria detects that Tash has misled Alice, and by extension, her own mother, into thinking that she won the role instead of Ria. This revelation puts Ria in doubt as to whether she should perform a role she feels increasingly ambivalent about.

Notes

Your Rating



THE DEVIL AND I

Williams Film Productions

Run Time

approx. 17 minutes

Candidates

Charles Williams

Jessica and Eleanor have known each other for a long time and have shared a common tragedy. For Jessica, this has created a stronger bond between them. She has complete trust in Eleanor and is loyal to a fault. However, this loyalty is only one-sided as Eleanor instead waits for the perfect opportunity to seek revenge.

Notes

Your Rating



SCATTERED

Passionfruit Bites

Run Time

N/A

Candidates

Hayley Adams
Logan Mucha
Michelle Melky
Kate Darrigan

Jules, Sami and Bo have just attended the painfully drab funeral of their best friend Wil. Wanting to honour him in the way he truly deserves, they take his urn for one final night out to all his favourite haunts before his parents scatter him the next day. There's just one problem: they wake up the morning after without Wil's ashes. Through flashback we learn about their friendship and the unique relationship each had with Wil as they revisit the stops on the previous night's farewell tour. From late night kebabs to spectacular drag king shows, we follow their exploits as they race against the clock to find what's left of their friend.

Notes

Your Rating



THE IMMORTAL

Run Time

approx. 15 minutes

Candidates

Carl Firth
Augusta Miller
Guy Edmonds

A man who fears death discovers the secret of immortality, but learns that eventually, everything dies - everything except him.

Notes

Your Rating



THE HANDYMAN

Truce Films

Run Time

approx. 15 minutes

Candidates

Nicholas Clifford

Elise Trenorden

Alone at her country estate, Evelyn attempts to end her life but is interrupted by the arrival of an awkward but endearing handyman. Evelyn's desire to make him leave collides with his need of a job and Evelyn discovers the Handyman has problems of his own.

Notes

Your Rating



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