



## SOUTH WEST SYDNEY SCREENS BEST OF THE FEST

**Casula Powerhouse Arts Centre** and **Sydney Film Festival** have announced South Western Sydney audiences will have a curated program of eight sessions, including a package of three shorts, at Casula Powerhouse during the 65<sup>th</sup> Sydney Film Festival (6-17 June).

“The Festival will screen an excellent line-up of feature-length films, including a second chance to see the 2018 Opening Night selection, the side-splittingly funny New Zealand film *The Breaker Upperers* directed by Taika Waititi,” said **Casula Powerhouse Arts Centre Director Craig Donarski**.

“You can also experience the award-winning drama *Wajib*, which is also competing in the Festival’s Official Competition; a supernatural Young Adult thriller *The Changeover*, starring Timothy Spall and Lucy Lawless; the powerhouse drama *The Wife* and the charming romantic film *Puzzle*,” he said.

“Two outstanding documentaries will also screen at Casula: *Pick of the Litter*, following the tricky process of training guide dogs for the blind, and *The Poetess*, about the first female finalist to compete in the Arabic equivalent of the *Idol* TV franchise, as well as three great shorts from the Festival’s Screenability program,” he said.

A FREE screening of three short films from the festival’s Screenability program, funded by Create NSW, can be seen on Sunday 17 June at 4:00pm.

For a multisensory experience, all evening screenings will be paired with mouth-watering meals at **Bellbird Dining + Bar**, prepared by Head Chef **Federico Rekowski**. Offering exquisite fine-dining flair at pub prices, the meals will draw inspiration from the program’s incredible films:

- **The Wife** | Saturday 9 June, 6:30pm service | Braised Beef Cheeks, Horseradish, Parsnip & Spinach \$25
  - **The Breaker Upperers** | Sunday 10 June, 6:00pm service | NZ Snapper Fillet, Confit Kiplfer, Braised Fennel & Lemon Sauce \$25
  - **Wajib** | Saturday 16 June, 6:30pm service | Sous Vide Chicken Breast, Cumin Spiced Cauliflower & Smokey Eggplant \$20
  - **The Changeover** | Sunday 17 June, 5:00pm service | Roasted Venison Denver Leg, Sweet Potato, Baby Onions & Port Jus \$25
- Vegetarian options are available upon request for all of the above**

Casula Powerhouse, Liverpool City Council and Sydney Film Festival have partnered for more than three years to bring world class Festival films to screen locally at the Powerhouse in Liverpool, both through a monthly program of Retro Screenings, and during the Sydney Film Festival each June.

The full Sydney Film Festival 2018 program can be found online at [sff.org.au](http://sff.org.au).

For tickets and further information visit [www.casulapowerhouse.com/booknow](http://www.casulapowerhouse.com/booknow). Alternatively, please call 1300 733 733 or visit [sff.org.au](http://sff.org.au) for more information.



## MEDIA ENQUIRIES

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## EDITOR'S NOTES

### **ABOUT CASULA POWERHOUSE ARTS CENTRE**

Located on the banks of the Georges River, the Casula Powerhouse is a multi-disciplinary arts centre. Showcasing six galleries and featuring a range of permanent and temporary exhibitions, the Casula Powerhouse is a premier art space in South West Sydney. Boasting a 321-seat theatre, Casula Powerhouse plays host to a range of theatre and cinematic productions each year.

### **BELLBIRD DINING + BAR**

Bellbird's philosophy is guided by the principles of local, seasonal and accessible, with flavours reflecting a contemporary blend of modern influences ranging from French and Asian through to South American. Led by Cordon Bleu-trained head chef, Federico Rekowski and sous chef, Steven Pham, Bellbird focuses on showcasing locally-sourced, seasonal produce through simple and delicious recipes that often leave people asking for more. The restaurant's chefs and staff pride themselves on creating memorable experiences for every diner.

### **LIVERPOOL CITY COUNCIL**

Located in South West Sydney, Liverpool City Council governs 42 suburbs with residents from a range of different cultures and ethnic backgrounds. The Council is dedicated to supporting the community by providing high levels of facilities and resources and to establish Liverpool as "the vibrant regional city of opportunity, prosperity and diversity."

### **ABOUT SYDNEY FILM FESTIVAL**

From Wednesday 6 June to Sunday 17 June 2018, the 65<sup>th</sup> Sydney Film Festival offers Sydneysiders another exciting season of cinema amidst a whirlwind of premieres, red-carpet openings, in-depth discussions, international guests and more.

Sydney Film Festival also presents an Official Competition of 12 films that vie for the Sydney Film Prize, a highly respected honour that awards a \$60,000 cash prize based on the decision of a jury of international and Australian filmmakers and industry professionals. Previous Sydney Film Prize winners: *On Body and Soul* (2017); *Aquarius* (2016); *Arabian Nights* (2015); *Two Days, One Night* (2014); *Only God Forgives* (2013); *Alps* (2012); *A Separation* (2011); *Heartbeats* (2010); *Bronson* (2009); and *Hunger* (2008).

The Festival is a major event on the New South Wales cultural calendar and is one of the world's longest-running film festivals. For more information visit: [sff.org.au](http://sff.org.au).

The 65th Sydney Film Festival is supported by the NSW Government through Create NSW and Destination NSW, the Federal Government through Screen Australia and the City of Sydney. The Festival's Strategic Partner is the NSW Government via its tourism and major events agency, Destination NSW.