



MEDIA RELEASE

Tuesday, 27 OCTOBER 2015

SFF 2016 SUBMISSIONS NOW OPEN!

Entries are now open for the 63rd Sydney Film Festival, returning to light up the city from 8 – 19 June 2016.

Each year, the Sydney Film Festival presents a diverse slate of films from Australia and around the world. In 2015 over 250 films were screened to an audience of 176,000.

Don't miss your chance to be part of the 2016 Sydney Film Festival. Entries are open to features, documentaries and short films (under 40 minutes). Get to it!

Submissions for the Festival are being accepted through FilmFestivalLife and will close on Friday February 26, 2016.

2016 will mark the 46th year of the Festival presenting its Australian short film competition, making it the oldest short film competition in Australia. Since 1970, the competition has served as launch pad for emerging Australian film talent, spring-boarding countless directors, producers and actors down a path towards international success.

Past winners have included film luminaries from across Australia's creative landscape including Chris Noonan, who went on to write and direct international cinema smash *Babe*; Don McAlpine, who received an Academy Award nomination for *Moulin Rouge*; and Jack Thompson, who has starred in numerous Australian classics including *Sunday Too Far Away*, *The Man From Snowy River* and *Breaker Morant*.

Other past winners Phil Noyce, Jane Campion, Rolf de Heer, Alex Proyas, and George Miller, have managed to carve acclaimed careers for themselves within the film industry, both domestically and abroad.

Entries are open to features, documentaries and short films (under 40 minutes) in all categories of the Festival program, including:

- The Documentary Australia Foundation (DAF) Award for Australian Documentary (cash prize \$15,000). The prize is supported by Documentary Australia Foundation with a \$10,000 cash partnership and an additional donation of \$5,000 from a Sydney Film Festival Director's Cut Patron.
- The Dendy Awards for Australian Short Films Live Action Award and Best Director (the Rouben Mamoulian Award) – both winners receive cash prizes of \$5000 sponsored by Dendy Cinemas, who have supported the Awards for 27 years. The winner of the Live Action Award is eligible for Academy Award consideration.

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- The Yoram Gross Animation Award, named in memory of the Australian animation producer and director Yoram Gross, provides a \$5000 cash prize to the best Australian animated short film. Winners are Academy Award-eligible.
- The Event Cinemas Australian Short Screenplay Award (cash prize \$5,000).

Both the Dendy Awards for Australian Short Films and the DAF Australian Documentary competition are open exclusively to Australian films.

Whether it be a feature film debut, the latest short or an immersive documentary, Sydney Film Festival invites filmmakers to submit their films now for the 2016 event.

A small fee applies, and before entering, Festival organisers urge all entrants to read the submission requirements closely to ensure that all entries meet premiere status and broader eligibility requirements.

Head to: <http://www.sff.org.au/submissions> for full eligibility criteria and submission details. FilmFestivallife makes everything you have seen so far in online submissions look like it was conceived in the 90s. HD secure screeners, festival and film rating tools, social features and the fastest growing community of film professionals online to share with. Be in the place where festivals are now discovering the next generation.

DEADLINE: Friday 26 February 2016

SUBMISSIONS: <http://www.filmfestivallife.com/Sydney-Film-Festival>

MEDIA ENQUIRIES

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