

Sydney Travelling Film Festival

Laurieton Plaza Theatre
20th - 23rd May 2005

On the road with the best on screen



“ *Agatha and the Storm* is beautifully shot and features a kind of heroine rarely seen in cinema: 40-something strong, independent and single. ”

Dov Kornits
Publishing Director
Filmink Magazine

Opening Night

Agatha and the Storm

Italy/Dir: Silvio Soldini/2004/123mins/Italian language with English subtitle (M)

“If you don’t venture into the tiger’s den, you’ll never achieve anything.” One of the potent lines that drives this highly anticipated film from the director of the smash hit ‘Bread and Tulips’. Starring Licia Maglietta as the mature Agatha, a popular bookshop proprietor whose life takes a fresh turn when a man nearly half her age declares his love for her. At first taken aback and a little shy, Agatha soon revels in the passions the affair unleashes.

Meanwhile Agatha’s self-centred and pampered brother Gustavo is not only having an identity crisis but his life is turned upside down when he learns that his parents bought him as a young child from a

poor 16 year old. His new identity sets up an emotional merry-go-round which strains, creates and sustains a series of relationships and reveals secrets and motivations. “Director Silvio Soldini wanted to make a comedy, something that would treat substantial themes in a light, ironical way. He wanted to make a story that would deal with a lot of characters “in a choral way” rather than follow the arc of a single hero. And he wanted, as far as possible, to work with the actors with whom he made his award-sweeping Bread and Tulips (2000)The Age ●●●●

The Projectionist

Australia/Dir: Michael Bates/2002/14mins/English language (M)

WINNER

Grand Prix
Tampere Film
Festival 2003

The multi award winning Australian short film, ‘The Projectionist’, inspired by Rachmaninov’s composition ‘The Isle of the Dead’, threads together a story about an old cinema projectionist and an elaborate series of huge projected images which represent his memories. He is a 21st century ‘everyman’ whose complex mind is burdened with too many overlapping memories. His individual suffering resonates, ironically because it is invisible to everyone but himself. The ghostly visions which appear in ‘The Projectionist’ reflect his personal history and private pain.

Opening Night: multi-award winning Australian short & the latest Italian hit!



The Illustrated Family Doctor

Australia/Dir: Kriv Stenders /2005/100mins/English language (MA)

The latest Australian feature film from Kriv Stenders.

Gary Kelp (Samuel Johnson) is losing the plot. As he edits a medical journal called 'The Illustrated Family Doctor' his life and body seem to be falling apart. A black comedy about life, death, relationships and the office hours in-between with Colin Friels, Jessica Napier and Sacha Horler.

"Director Kriv Stenders so deftly captures the permeating discomfort, disease and horror of being enslaved by a horrible job in a depressing suburban slump. This is pure black comedy, punctuated with moments so dank they're hilarious. It's not for everyone, but this is an arresting, moving and original glimpse into life's cruel absurdities." *Marta Jay - Filmink*

Join special guest Kriv Stenders talking about the influences that contributed to the look, mood and drive of this new Australian work.



Above: The Projectionist

which somehow manages also to be a musical, a comedy and a gentle exploration of the countryside. Set in the 19th century, the film has Kitano as a Japanese blind masseur and itinerant wiseguy-warrior Zatoichi, a legendary character familiar in Japan. Zatoichi walks the earth with his preternaturally enhanced hearing and reflexes, invariably encountering bullies who think they can take advantage of his vulnerability. It's at this point Zatoichi's sword is unsheathed from his blind-man's cane and he wreaks mayhem in sizzling fight scenes where crimson spouts of blood are stylised, indirect, almost abstract. It's simply a very entertaining film. – *The Guardian*

The Year My Voice Broke

Australia/Dir: John Duigan/1987/105mins/English language (M)

A beautiful coming-of-age drama set in country New South Wales in 1962. Danny (Noah Taylor) an awkward fifteen year-old, watches painfully as his best friend and first love, the slightly older Freya (Loene Carmen), blossoms into womanhood and falls for trouble maker Trevor (Ben Mendelsohn). As the relationship between Freya and Trevor deepens and Danny is left further behind, a series of events unfold which will irreversibly change the lives of everyone involved forever. Courtesy of The National Film and Sound Archive, this brand new print is part of the Kodak/Atlab Cinema Collection:committed to developing a major collection of new prints for screening.

Après Vous (After You)

France/Dir: Pierre Salvadori/2004/110mins/French language with English subtitles (M)

Anton (Daniel Auteuil) suffers the disease to please. Running late for a dinner engagement his world collides with that of Louis (José Garcia) as he's attempting suicide. Anton saves Louis's life and then attempts to straighten him out. A hilarious comedy of errors ensues, as an awkward friendship develops and both men realize they are as troubled as each other. Director Pierre Salvadori is back doing what he does best, making richly observed character-

Zelary

Czechoslovakia/Dir: Ondrej Trojan/2003/142mins/Czech language with English subtitles (M)



Zelary tells the story of a clash between two different worlds and two different people. It is the story of an extraordinary relationship, of fear, misgivings, suspicion and love: a love born of the common will to survive.

It is the 1940's and the Czech lands have been occupied by the Nazis. Eliska is a young woman unable to complete medical school because the Germans closed the universities and now works as a nurse in a city hospital. She is also involved in the resistance movement along with her lover. One night a man comes into the hospital with serious injuries and desperately needs a blood transfusion. Eliska is the only person with the same blood type. Her blood saves his life and a connection is formed.

Ray

Australia/Dir: Ray Mahony/2005/9mins/English language

A little kid stranded, growing up in a country town he hates. The locals reckon it's a paradise, but as far as he can see, the only interesting stuff happens to a guy the whole town dismisses as an idiot...., Ray.

The Hunting of the President

USA/Dir: Harry Thomason & Nickolas Perry 2004/93mins/English language (M)

The Hunting Of The President focuses on the long running smear campaign designed to oust Clinton from the White House. A chilling glimpse into the lengths some people will go to in order to overthrow a powerful political figure. Based on the book by Joe Conason and Gene Lyons and narrated by Morgan Freeman.

There can be no doubt that we live in one of the most tumultuous political climates in history, a climate where politicians can be toppled on a whim, election results disputed in the country's highest courts, and governors unceremoniously recalled. It's enough to leave even the most cynical voter asking, how did this happen? – *Margaret Pomeranz, At the Movies, ABC TV*

Zatoichi

Japan/Dir: Takeshi Kitano/2004/115mins/Japanese language with English subtitles (MA)

Action stations!! That incredible Japanese institution, Takeshi Kitano - action maestro, art-house auteur, slapstick comic and kids' television favourite - has made a film which combines all of his talents. Kitano is ideally placed for his thrilling new samurai picture,

“ Zatoichi is a hugely entertaining movie from one of Japan's most talented filmmakers ★★★★★ ”

– David Stratton, At The Movies. ABC TV★★★★★





Clockwise from top left: Guerilla: The Taking of Patty Hearst; Ray; Apres Vous; Good Morning, Night and Exiles.

based dramatic comedies. A critical and box office hit in France, 'Apres Vous' boasts an expertly constructed (and remake-friendly) script, an hilarious odd couple in Daniel Auteuil and comic phenomenon Jose Garcia, and pitch-perfect direction. - *Benny Crick, ScreenDaily.com*

Guerilla: The Taking of Patty Hearst

USA/Dir: Robert Stone/2004/90mins/English language (M)

The Symbionese Liberation Army were radical San Francisco lefties incensed by the war in Vietnam, and the first domestic terrorist cell to stop the USA dead in its tracks in the early 1970's. They demoralised the West Coast when they kidnapped the 19-year-old newspaper heiress Patricia Hearst and demanded a \$300,000,000 ransom to be allocated to the feeding of the poor and homeless. But the kink in the story is the sort of plot twist that fiction cannot hold a candle to. - *Julian Shaw, Filmink*

Good Morning, Night

Italy/Dir: Marco Bellocchio/2003/105mins/Italian language with English subtitles (M)



A drama based on the true story of the kidnapping of Italy's former Prime Minister Aldo Moro in 1978, a crime which stunned the nation. Told from the perspective of Chiara (Maya Sansa), one of four members of the Red Brigade, a radical terrorist organisation, who orchestrated the crime under a screen of quiet bourgeois domesticity. Chiara, however, finds herself drawn to the image of Moro as a paternal figure, associated with her own father. The film develops an increasingly disturbed, hallucinatory atmosphere as her fantasies and associations start to define what she sees and what we see. An engrossing and intelligent exploration of the nature of imprisonment and the failure of radical ideology. Won Best Supporting Actor at the Italian Academy Awards.

Marco Solo

Australian/Dir: Adrian Bosich/2004/10mins/English language
Poor Marco. Accidentally born into an overcrowded Australian-Italian household, he is relegated to his parents' bedroom. Nine years later, armed with a vivid imagination, an obsession with Dame Edna Everage, and a warped sense of Catholicism, Marco fights for a space of his own.

Exiles

France/Dir: Tony Gatlif/2004/103mins/French and Arab languages with English subtitles (M)



Propelled by a rousing percussive score, Zano and Naima leave contemporary France and travel to Algeria, the country their parents had to flee years before. Intoxicated with freedom, they cross the Mediterranean going backwards on the path to exile, the pair hope to claim their identities at their destination. From the director of 'Latcho Drom' and 'Gadjo Dilo', Tony Gatlif's 'Exiles' is an exuberant and heartfelt journey. - *The Guardian*

Screening Times 20 - 23 May 2005

Friday 20th

7.00pm The Projectionist (M)
(short) followed by Agatha and the Storm (M)

Saturday 21st

1.00pm The Hunting of the President (M)
3.00pm The Illustrated Family Doctor (MA) **SPECIAL GUEST SPEAKER**
6.00pm Marco Solo (short) followed by Apres Vous (M)
8.30pm Exiles (M)

Sunday 22nd

1.00pm The Year My Voice Broke (M)
3.30pm Guerilla: The Taking of Patty Hearst (M)
6.00pm Ray (short) followed by Zatoichi (MA)
8.30pm Good Morning, Night (M)

Monday 23rd

1.00pm Good Morning, Night (M)
(Repeat screening)
3.30pm Exiles (M)
(Repeat screening)
6.00pm Zelary (M)

Tickets

SINGLE SESSIONS

\$11.50 full price
\$9.50 concession

SUBSCRIPTIONS

FULL SUBSCRIPTION

10 x film pass \$82.00 full price
10 x film pass \$77.00 concession

HALF SUBSCRIPTION

5 x film pass \$49.00 full price
5 x film pass \$45.00 concession

Full subscriptions admit you to one screening each of the Subscriptions are transferable but cannot be shared for the same session.

Concessions are available to full-time students, unemployed, pensioners, members of Films in the Southern Highlands (FISH), members of NSW film societies and Friends of the Festival. Bona Fide ID must be presented.

Please note. Admission to all unclassified films is restricted to people 18 years and over.



Above: Takeshi Kitano as Zatoichi



Above: Marco Solo

How to book

SINGLE SESSION TICKETS

On sale at the Box Office
30 minutes before each
session.

VENUE / BOX OFFICE

Plaza Theatre
47 Bold Street
Laurieton 2443
Ph: (02) 6559 8755

SUBSCRIPTIONS

On sale in advance from
Venue Box Office or from
the Sydney Film Festival.

Book by FAX:

Credit Cards only
(BCARD/MCARD/VISA/AMEX)
to the Travelling Film Festival
(02) 9280 1520

Book by mail:

Cheque/Credit Cards to TFF
P.O.Box 96
Strawberry Hills
NSW 2012

Please make cheques payable
to the Sydney Film Festival

Book by email:

info@sydneyfilmfestival.org

The Travelling Film Festival visits...

NT: Alice Springs, Katherine, Darwin

QLD: Bundaberg, Mackay, Cairns, Townsville

NSW: Dubbo, Wagga Wagga, Wollongong, Laurieton, Huskisson, Bowralville

Sponsors

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