

HUMAN RIGHTS ARTS & FILM FESTIVAL

STORIES THAT MATTER

MELBOURNE
4 – 18 MAY 2017

HRAFF.ORG.AU

@humanrightsfest #hraff10

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YEARS
CELEBRATING
2007 – 2017





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HRAFF has been exempt from classification by the Classification Board. All screenings are restricted to people over 18 years except for CineSeeds and selected sessions to 15+ audiences. Please see the HRAFF website for more information on individual film sessions.

HRAFF PATRONS

Get the lowdown on our patrons at hraff.org.au/patrons.



Isabel Lucas

Zach's Ceremony tells the story of Aboriginal initiation and finding meaning. It reveals how sacred ritual and initiation creates indigenous leaders and has touched me deeply. Other films I definitely want to see are **Dheepan** and **Spear**.



Margaret Pomeranz

What a wealth of choice at this year's Festival! I couldn't not see Jaques Audiard's **Dheepan**, his filmmaking is sublime. Another pick for me, Shimon Dotan's **The Settlers** and Belinda Mason's **Constance on the Edge**.



Robert Connolly

Congratulations to HRAFF on their 10th Birthday! I'm delighted to be a patron of HRAFF and look forward to the amazing films on offer as part of this year's program. Wishing you all the best for the festival well into the future.



Hon. Michael Kirby AC CMG

Going through the wonderful offerings this year, I would make a quick beeline to **Fallen Flowers Thick Leaves**, **Zach's Ceremony** and **The Freedom to Marry**. I feel sure this would have lessons for us in Australia at this time. Followed by **Nowhere to Hide, Do Not Resist** and **Off the Rails**.

WELCOME



Robert Doyle

LORD MAYOR
OF MELBOURNE

The City of Melbourne is proud to support HRAFF: one of Melbourne's most inspiring cultural events.

For 10 years, HRAFF has selected innovative and entertaining content which encourages the audience to engage with human rights and social justice issues through a dynamic program of film, art, music and forums.

The festival has provided artists with a platform to bring a fresh approach to subjects of fairness, equality and protecting the disadvantaged.

Congratulations on the 10th HRAFF.



Evelyn Tadros

BOARD CHAIR

10 years ago, we founded HRAFF to make human rights relevant, accessible and engaging to all through art and film.

Since then, through over 400 films, 400 speakers, 250 artists, musicians and performers, HRAFF has shared inspiring human stories to over 80,000 attendees nationwide.

Today, HRAFF is more important than ever. In the current climate of fear and insecurity, the Festival reminds us that there is far more that binds us than divides us. That instead of feeling overwhelmed by injustice, we can fight it.

To every single board and staff member, volunteer, donor, sponsor, supporter, filmmaker, artist, creator, speaker, performer and attendee over the past 10 years – THANK YOU! You are the reason that HRAFF has reached this important milestone.

I'm so excited to celebrate our special 10th Anniversary with you!



Lauren Valmadre

PROGRAM DIRECTOR

Welcome to HRAFF's 10th Anniversary Festival. What a remarkable decade it has been.

This year, we're celebrating at HRAFF, and not just our milestone birthday. We are celebrating bold and visionary filmmaking, the astonishing bravery and compassion of everyday people, the creativity of artists who use their talents for positive change and ultimately, unique and diverse perspectives of the human experience.

The arts, and in particular cinema, have a profound effect on the perception of the world around us and encourages conversation and fosters connectivity.

I hope that the films, forums and arts events in this year's program move, challenge and inspire you.

We look forward to your company and I'll see you in the cinema!



OPENING NIGHT THE OPPOSITION

"A superb documentary film. Brave! Fearless! 5 stars."
LET THE MOVIE MOVE US

Steeped in legal disputes designed to block its release, *The Opposition* details the struggle of 3,000 residents of the Paga Hill community in Papua New Guinea who watched helplessly as police bulldozed their homes to make way for a luxury resort. Two community leaders rose to help, but were driven down different paths when faced with a choice – keep fighting for justice or join the enemy. Australian director Hollie Fifer's pursuit of the truth, wherever it led, prompted one subject to file an injunction against the film's release. Right triumphing over might never seemed so daunting.

Australian Premiere

Thursday 4 May
6.30pm
ACMI Cinemas

Hollie Fifer

Australia / 2016 / 76 mins /
English and Tok Pisin
with English subtitles /
Documentary

Festival Selection

Hot Docs 2016
IDFA 2016

Awards

Grand Jury Prize,
International Pacific
Documentary Film Festival

Film introduction by director **Hollie Fifer**
and protagonist **Joe Moses**.

OPENING NIGHT AFTER-PARTY

Join us downstairs at ACMI's Lightwell to kick off our 10th Anniversary celebrations with free drinks, food and entertainment by *Key of Sea* musicians Onur and Emral.

Presented by



HRAFF is excited to collaborate with **Hear My Eyes** for a second year at our 10th Anniversary Festival. The Melbourne-based creative organisation pairs films with an original live score - performed by local musicians - for a unique and immersive experience.



HEAR MY EYES AND HRAFF PRESENT

FIRE AT SEA WITH LIVE SCORE BY EVELYN IDA MORRIS (PIKELET)

"Urgent, imaginative and necessary filmmaking...
a film that commands our attention."

MERYL STREEP, BERLIN FILM FESTIVAL JURY CHAIR

Academy Award nominee and winner of the Berlinale's prestigious Golden Bear, *Fire at Sea* is a poetic and haunting portrait of Lampedusa. This small island just off the Italian coast has become both a refuge and grave for tens of thousands of displaced people trying to reach mainland Europe. Master documentarian Gianfranco Rosi (*Below Sea Level*, HRAFF 2010) observes, with startling beauty, the intimate ordinary lives of the inhabitants of Lampedusa, including perspectives from both the locals and the newly arrived. **Evelyn Ida Morris (Pikelet)** and a selection of musicians will perform a completely original score to accompany the film, playing a variety of instruments from Ethiopia and the Middle East.

Presented by

HEAR MY EYES
HRAFF

HRAFF

Screening

Thursday 11 May
8pm
ACMI Cinemas

Gianfranco Rosi

Italy, France / 2016 / 108 mins /
Italian and English with English
subtitles / Documentary

Festival Selection

New York Film Festival 2016

Awards

Golden Bear for Best Film,
Berlin International Film
Festival 2016



Post-film Q&A with director
Jonathan Olshefski.

CLOSING NIGHT QUEST

"A jarring and gentle testament to the powers of family
and individual kindness."

THE HOLLYWOOD REPORTER

Critics favourite at this year's Sundance Film Festival, *Quest* provides profound illumination into race, class and community through an intimate portrait of the Rainey family in North Philadelphia. Despite their own individual hardships, Christopher 'Quest' Rainey and his wife Christine 'Ma Quest', not only provide support and sanctuary for their family, but also to the greater community within their home music studio. Shot over nearly a decade, we witness the joys and unforeseeable turmoil this family encounters and ultimately overcomes with bravery and humility. Jonathan Olshefski's stunning feature debut shows the simple beauty and necessity of human kindness at a crucial time in a country's history, when it's needed more than ever.

Australian Premiere

Thursday 18 May
7pm
ACMI Cinemas

Jonathan Olshefski

USA / 2017 / 105 mins /
English / Documentary

Festival Selection

Sundance 2017

Presented by



MELBOURNE CINÉMATHÈQUE

WATER RITES

Melbourne Cinémathèque is committed to screening significant films from the complete history of cinema. In the 5th year of this collaboration, this screening profiles cinema as a truly global art form. It features two films restored by **Martin Scorsese's World Cinema Project**, an initiative dedicated to preserving and restoring neglected films from around the world.

Screening
Wednesday 10 May
ACMI Cinemas

Session Times
Redes – 7pm
A River Called Titas – 8.20pm



REDES

Emilio Gómez Muriel and Fred Zinnemann
Mexico / 1936 / 65 mins / Spanish with English subtitles / Narrative

This pearl of concision is one of the great works of galvanising agitprop filmmaking. A swift-paced narrative of the political awakening of a group of poor and disenfranchised Mexican fishermen, the film is the collaborative fruit of Gómez Muriel and Zinnemann (*The Sundowners*, *From Here to Eternity*), the great photographer Paul Strand and composer Silvestre Revueltas (Aaron Copland favourably compared his score to Shostakovich's cinema work). With a non-professional cast, it represents a crucial precursor to neo-realism.

A RIVER CALLED TITAS

Ritwik Ghatak
Bangladesh / 1973 / 159 mins / Bengali with English subtitles / Narrative

This multi-faceted 'network narrative' set in 1930s Bangladesh examines the intertwining lives and fates of people who live amongst the fisheries on the River Titas. Dedicated to 'the myriad of toilers of everlasting Bengal,' Ghatak's critically acclaimed film is a beautifully detailed and epic social melodrama incorporating elements of bildungsroman, synthesised into a restless whole through the bold use of mise en scène and eruptions of tense Soviet-style montage. Based on the autobiographical novel by Adwaita Mallabarman, the film was restored by Scorsese's World Cinema Project in 2010.

HRAFF'S CINESEEDS

SUITABLE FOR CHILDREN

Now in its 5th year, HRAFF's CineSeeds program engages young audiences aged 5-18 with human rights issues through film and live performances.

Screenings
Sunday 7 May
ACMI Cinemas

Session 1
Satellite Boy – 2.45pm
Session 2
Zach's Ceremony – 2.30pm



Session 1

SATELLITE BOY

"Lively, poignant, direct and dreamlike"

THE SYDNEY MORNING HERALD

Catriona McKenzie / Australia / 2012 / 85 mins / English and Yolngu Matha with English subtitles / Narrative

For Pete, a 12-year-old Indigenous Australian boy and his elderly grandfather Old Jagamarra (David Gulpilil), home is an abandoned outdoor cinema in the outback town of Wyndham. That is until a mining company threatens to demolish their home to make way for new developments. Pete and his best friend Kalmain set out across the stunning Kimberley landscape in an effort to reach the city and stop the demolition before it's too late. Lost in the bush, Pete and Kalmain learn to trust one another and the land to help guide them through. An astonishing film about courage, cultural heritage and true friendship, *Satellite Boy* is a captivating film full of meaning and wonder.



Not suitable for children under 5. Not recommended for children aged 5-10. Parental guidance recommended for ages 10-14.



Session 2

ZACH'S CEREMONY

"A perceptive, benevolent documentary"

VARIETY

Aaron Petersen / Australia / 2016 / 92 mins / English and Waanyi, Garawa and Ganalidda with English subtitles / Documentary

"I'm not black. I'm not white. I'm sort of in the middle." Zach Doomadgee is an Indigenous Australian teenager in Sydney torn between two worlds. On the cusp of manhood, Zach tries to navigate his way between urban modernity and ancient cultural heritage, but doesn't feel accepted in either space. As his 16th birthday approaches, his dedicated but domineering father helps him prepare for Ceremony – the ancient initiation rite for men in their family – hoping to provide Zach with the guidance and assurance he is seeking. Shot over the course of 5 years, this coming-of-age film brings to light the issues of identity and belonging felt by many Indigenous adolescents today.

Supported by



Suitable for children aged 15+. Children under the age of 15 must be accompanied by a parent or guardian.

Thank you to our Youth Ambassadors and Thyne Reid Foundation.



Post-film Q&A with director **Marti Salva** and producers **Emily Cheesman** and **Kaff-eine**.

HAPPYLAND

Who lives among the garbage in these notorious slums?

Fuelled by curiosity and the desire to offer practical support, street artist Kaff-eine and her team work with Manila's most impoverished dumpsite slums to make something creative and special. Together with the Happyland and Baseco residents, they install large tarpaulins featuring Kaff-eine's paintings of 10 locals, creating an exhibition in the slums that celebrates these communities while providing them with resources for shelter. Raw, confronting and visually striking, *Happyland* invites the audience to meet these communities with fearsome reputations. Hear their stories and follow how new friends from very different backgrounds collaborate to bring an ambitious project to life in the wastelands of Manila.

World Premiere

Saturday 6 May
6.45pm
ACMI Cinemas

Marti Salva

Australia / 2017 / 60 mins /
Tagalog and English
with English subtitles /
Documentary

The Happyland exhibition at Federation Square (4 - 21 May) includes 10 Kaff-eine portraits, fine-art photography of the tarp installation, and vignettes of daily Happyland life. Further details available on page 48.



RAVING IRAN

"A hypnotic film. An intense and moving journey."

CINEUROPA

Raw and exhilarating, *Raving Iran* follows DJs Anoosh and Arash (aka Blade & Beard) as they try to pursue their musical dreams in a society where techno is strictly forbidden. Regularly dodging the moral police and incarceration, they live in constant fear of serious persecution for following their passion. However, when they receive an invitation to perform at Lethargy Festival in Zurich, an opportunity arises for them to create a new life for themselves in Europe. But are they willing to sacrifice their whole world for creative freedom? Featuring the unique stylings of Persian House and rare footage of underground desert raves, *Raving Iran* captures two artists facing a decision that will change their lives forever.

Screening

Friday 12 May
8.30pm
ACMI Cinemas

Susanne Regina Meures

Switzerland / 2016 / 84 mins /
Farsi, English, German
with English subtitles /
Documentary

Festival Selection

Hot Docs 2016
IDFA 2016



CHECK IT

"Check It is consistently compelling, with a brisk pace and vivid personalities."
VARIETY

Armed with Louis Vuitton bags and pink tasers, a group of black queer youth band together to fight back against the violence and prejudice they experience on the streets of Washington DC. With support from community leaders, flamboyant gang members Tray, Skittles and Day Day attempt to harness their creativity and passion into futures in fashion and professional boxing – a seemingly insurmountable task when prostitution and theft are typical means of survival. Directors Flor and Oppenheimer explore systemic oppression, identity, and self-determination in the colourful and dramatic resistance of these gay and genderqueer teenagers.

Screening

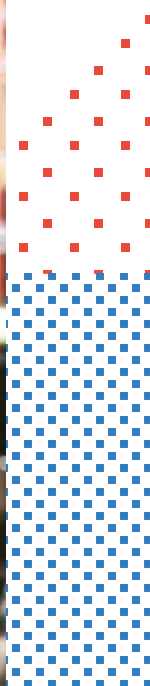
Monday 8 May
6pm
ACMI Cinemas

Dana Flor and Toby Oppenheimer

USA / 2016 / 91 mins /
English / Documentary

Festival Selection

Tribeca 2016
Hot Docs 2016
IDFA 2016



SONITA

"Inspiring...a certified crowdpleaser."
THE HOLLYWOOD REPORTER

Acclaimed documentarian, Rokhsareh Ghaem Maghami, brings us the remarkable and exhilarating story of *Sonita*. This multiple award-winning film (including two major accolades from Sundance) follows Sonita Alizadeh, a young Afghan refugee living in Iran who dreams of becoming a rap superstar. But Sonita's family have other plans – to force her into an arranged marriage. Maghami challenges the idea of a documentary as she is compelled to step in, but it's Sonita's tenacity and talent that see her steer her own life in an unexpected direction.

Screening

Tuesday 16 May
6pm
ACMI Cinemas

Rokhsareh Ghaem Maghami

Iran, Germany, Switzerland /
2015 / 91 minutes / English,
Farsi with English subtitles /
Documentary

Festival Selection

Sundance 2016
IDFA 2016
One World 2016

Presented by





RADIO KOBANÎ

"Dilovan has become the voice of many Kurds and I tried to share the drama of the Kurds with the world - through her."
 DIRECTOR, REBER DOSKY

Winner of the Best Dutch Documentary Award at IDFA 2016, *Radio Kobanî* is a moving documentary about the struggle to rebuild lives after the Syrian border town of Kobanî was captured by IS forces in 2014. Filmed over a three-year period, this intimately rendered film follows 20-year-old Kurdish reporter Dilovan Kiko, who starts a radio station with friends following the liberation of the town. *Radio Kobanî* uses honest interviews with refugees and survivors and often confronting imagery of the carnage wrought by IS forces to weave a compelling portrait of the sense of cautious optimism that can spring from devastation.

Please Note: This film contains short scenes of graphic content.

Australian Premiere

Monday 8 May
 8pm
 ACMI Cinemas

Reber Dosky

The Netherlands / 2016 /
 72 min / Kurdish with English
 subtitles / Documentary

Awards

Best Dutch Documentary,
 IDFA 2016

NOWHERE TO HIDE

"Nowhere to Hide should be required viewing for anyone with an opinion about the refugee crisis."
 SCREEN DAILY

Winner of IDFA's top accolade for Best Feature-Length Documentary, one humble paramedic with a camera shows us his Iraq in *Nowhere to Hide*. An insider's look at a country left in shambles by a power vacuum and an ethnic civil war. It's Nori Sharif's vocation to help the injured, but as Iraq's Diyala Province goes from bad to worse to ISIS in the aftermath of American troop withdrawal, it's his own life and family he must protect. Harrowing images of a land torn asunder mark this dire documentation of a man and country's survival. Hiding may not be an option, but hope is.

Please Note: This film contains short scenes of graphic content.

Australian Premiere

Saturday 13 May
 8.30pm
 ACMI Cinemas

Zaradasht Ahmed

Norway, Sweden, Iraq / 2016 /
 86 mins / Arabic with English
 subtitles / Documentary

Festival Selection

Gothenburg 2017

Awards

Best Documentary, IDFA 2016



DO NOT RESIST

"An eye-opening experience"
THE NEW YORKER

Winner of the Best Documentary Prize at the 2016 Tribeca Film Festival, *Do Not Resist* presents an unsettling examination of the rapid militarisation of the United States police force. Shot over 11 years, this pertinent documentary picks up at the Ferguson, Missouri riots, and travels across America in a thorough exposition of the insidious attitudes and behaviours that have come to define American policing culture. Director Craig Atkinson takes the audience beyond police lines, providing insight into the individuals and institutions embroiled in the issue, and painting an intimate portrait of those affected by the inordinate racism and brutality. Urgent and unsettling, this documentary provides an abrupt reminder of the ongoing challenges facing contemporary society.

Melbourne Premiere

Wednesday 17 May
8.15pm
ACMI Cinemas

Craig Atkinson

USA / 2016 / 73 mins /
English / Documentary

Festival Selection

Hot Docs 2016
Human Rights Watch 2016

Awards

Winner of Best Documentary
and Grand Jury Prize,
Tribeca 2016



THE SETTLERS

"The real achievement here is in going beyond the buzzwords of newscasts and talking points to convey a sense of what's happening on the ground — and to give it a sense of urgency."

VARIETY

Moving beyond what is reported in the news, *The Settlers* offers an intimate compilation of the lives and experiences of the people occupying one of the world's most contested regions: Israel's West Bank territory. Grappling with notions of land occupation and ownership, this provocative documentary impresses the complexity of the region, allowing comprehensive access to the Jewish settlers and their Palestinian counterparts. Presenting a nuanced blend of interviews, historical context and archival footage, this powerful film challenges preconceptions, giving voice to opinions from both sides of a contentious issue.

Screening

Wednesday 10 May
7.45pm
ACMI Cinemas

Shimon Dotan

Israel / 2016 / 110 mins /
Hebrew, Arabic, English
with English subtitles /
Documentary

Festival Selection

Sundance 2016



STRANGER IN PARADISE

*"If Lars Von Trier were to make a documentary about the current immigration crisis in Europe, it might very well turn out like **Stranger in Paradise**."*
VARIETY

A simple classroom is the setting for this complex exploration of the starkly relevant topic of mass global immigration. A wholly unique documentary selected to open IDFA 2016, *Stranger in Paradise* deconstructs the opposing ideologies that have shaped the debate. An actor talks to recently arrived migrants about the gap between their idea of 'better lives' in Europe, and the reality of the red tape they will face in order to make these dreams a reality. In turn, the audience is asked to play devil's advocate and confront their own assumptions about a now familiar narrative. This refreshing and challenging film is not to be missed.

Australian Premiere

Saturday 6 May
2.30pm
ACMI Cinemas

Guido Hendriks

The Netherlands / 2016 /
72 mins / English / Documentary

Festival Selection

True/False Film Fest 2017

Awards

Special Jury Award
for Dutch Documentary,
IDFA 2016

Presented by



Post-film Q&A with
producer **Marguerite Grey**.

CONSTANCE ON THE EDGE

"A heartwarming film and a reminder that welcoming is the most powerful tool we have."
MOHAMMAD AL-KHAFAJI, WELCOME AUSTRALIA

Constance is a strong Acholi woman who was one of the first refugees from South Sudan to settle in Wagga Wagga with her family in 2005. A third-generation refugee, victim of war crimes, single mother, community leader and activist, Constance is charismatic, although troubled. Filmed over ten years, honest interviews are complemented by animated sequences and archive footage that pulls together this family's story of navigating a challenging settlement journey in Australia after fleeing civil war abroad. Hope flourishes for their future in this story about the importance of community and sense of agency for those who must rebuild.

Screening

Friday 5 May
6pm
ACMI Cinemas

Belinda Mason

Australia / 2016 / 77 mins /
English with English subtitles /
Documentary

Festival Selection

Sydney Film Festival 2016
Cinéfest Oz 2016

Presented by

**Dumbo
Feather**





Post-film Q&A with directors **Vinay Shukla** and **Khushboo Ranka** via Skype.

AN INSIGNIFICANT MAN

"A masterful example of the art of documentary."
THE UPCOMING

Commonly referred to as 'the Bernie Sanders of India', former bureaucrat Arvind Kejriwal achieved the impossible in 2013. Placing human rights issues such as corruption, sanitation and electricity prices at the heart of his policy platform, this political nobody was swept to astounding success in his campaign to be Chief Minister of Delhi as head of the Common Man's Party. Filmmakers Ranka and Shukla spent a year with Arvind Kejriwal to produce this incisive documentary that captures the aspiring ascent of this humble figure. *An Insignificant Man* introduces us to a radically different politician, whose victory is all the more significant when set against the backdrop of our contemporary global political climate.

Australian Premiere

Monday 15 May
6pm
ACMI Cinemas

Vinay Shukla and Khushboo Ranka

India / 2016 / 95 minutes /
Hindi with English subtitles /
Documentary

Festival Selection

TIFF 2016
BFI London 2016



THE FREEDOM TO MARRY

"This doc celebrates that momentous day - and with fascinating depth, profiles the LGBT heroes that worked tirelessly for decades to make the dream of marriage equality a reality."
RAY BRADFORD, GLAAD

June 26, 2015, former US President Barack Obama declared, "Our nation was founded on a bedrock principle that we are all created equal". One of the most successful civil rights movements in modern history, the 'Freedom to Marry' campaign was fought over decades. This heart-warming documentary chronicles the historic movement to the US Supreme Court and the landmark ruling for marriage equality. We watch as lawyer Evan Wolfson (leader of the 'Freedom to Marry' movement) and counsel for GLAD (Gay and Lesbian Advocates and Defenders) Mary Bonauto, amongst many dedicated and inexhaustible advocates, turn opponents of same sex marriage into supporters.

Screening

Sunday 14 May
3.15pm
ACMI Cinemas

Eddie Rosenstein

USA / 2016 / 86mins /
English / Documentary

Festival Selection

DOC NYC 2016
Frameline Film Festival 2016
QFest



Post-film Q&A with director
Jonny von Wallström via Skype.

THE PEARL OF AFRICA

"The Pearl of Africa is one of the most moving documentaries of the year."
TORONTO FILM SCENE

An internationally acclaimed story about love, discrimination and being transgender in Uganda. *The Pearl of Africa* tells the radical story of a 28-year-old transgender Ugandan woman, Cleopatra Kambugu, and her quiet but fiercely loyal partner, Nelson. After being outed on the front page of the biggest tabloid in Kampala not long after the country passed anti-homosexuality laws, Cleo and Nelson journey to Kenya and then Thailand so Cleo can undergo gender confirmation surgery, which she hopes may be a final step in her journey towards being married in her home country. A wistful and universal love story, told in the face of exceptional circumstances, this documentary reveals the inexpressible facets of the human heart.

Australian Premiere

Sunday 14 May
5pm
ACMI Cinemas

Jonny von Wallström

Sweden / 2016 / 76 mins /
English / Documentary

Festival Selection

Hot Docs 2016
IDFA 2016



TEMPESTAD

"Cerebral and emotional... a road movie fuelled by the memories of unjust punishment."
SCREEN DAILY

Tempestad is an emotional and contemplative journey told through the voice-over of two women victimised by their country's corruption and injustice. On a quiet morning on a normal day, Miriam is arrested at her workplace and is accused, without proof, of 'people trafficking'. Adela works as a clown in a travelling circus. Ten years ago, her life was irreversibly transformed; every night during the show, she evokes her missing daughter, Monica. It is a highly poetic, yet frightening image of a country that is fighting a constant, barely visible war against institutional corruption and the power of cartels.

Australian Premiere

Sunday 14 May
7pm
ACMI Cinemas

Tatiana Huezo

Mexico / 2016 / 105 mins /
Spanish with English subtitles /
Documentary

Festival Selection

Berlinale 2016
Human Rights Watch 2016

Awards

Best International Feature Film,
Costa Rica Film Festival 2016



OFF THE RAILS

"Adam Irving's first film is an assured and thoughtful debut."
NEW YORK TIMES

Winner of DOC NYC's Metropolis Award, *Off the Rails* follows Darius McCollum, who has spent over half his adult life in prison for impersonating Metro Transit Authority staff and stealing trains. McCollum, who has Asperger's Syndrome, has a consuming obsession for mass transit and yet is provided with no treatment for his condition. This inevitably causes him to reoffend, unable to break out of a cycle of incarceration and recidivism. Through a rich tapestry of family interviews set to an excellent score, *Off the Rails* illustrates the travesty of a wasted, intelligent life needlessly imprisoned and the US Criminal Justice System's failure to accommodate those that suffer from clinical mental conditions.

Australian Premiere

Monday 15 May
8.30pm
ACMI Cinemas

Open Captions Screening

Tuesday 9 May
5.15pm
ACMI Cinemas



Adam Irving

USA / 2016 / 89 mins /
English / Documentary

Festival Selection

Hot Docs 2016

Awards

Metropolis Award,
DOC NYC 2016



CAFÉ WALDLUFT

"A film about human kindness and a different concept of home."
AL JAZEERA

Café Waldluft is not what it used to be. Once a popular tourist destination, nestled in the picturesque mountain town of Berchtesgaden, Flora Kurz's rustic hotel today exclusively welcomes refugees from across the globe. For each inhabitant, her hotel offers the hope of a new beginning, the aspiration of a new home – but with the myriad emotional and bureaucratic obstacles in their way, what does it take for them to arrive for good? This heartfelt and kind documentary takes an intimate look at the intersecting lives of the refugee residents, tourists and locals. *Café Waldluft* offers an important vision of empathy in the ongoing refugee crisis.

Australian Premiere

Saturday 13 May
2.30pm
ACMI Cinemas

Matthias Koßmehl

Germany / 2015 / 79 mins /
English, Arabic and German
with English subtitles /
Documentary

Festival Selection

One World 2016
DOK.fest 2016

Awards

Outstanding Documentary
Film, DOK Leipzig 2015

Presented by





Post-film Q&A with director **Jiu-liang Wang** and producer **Ruby Chen** via Skype.

PLASTIC CHINA

"Plastic China captures a plaintive sense of the human casualties from unfettered global consumerism."
SCREEN DAILY

Yi Jie is eleven years old. She is the eldest daughter of Peng, a worker in Kun's plastic waste household-recycling workshop – one of five thousand in the region. Kun and Peng's families live with each other among mountains of plastic as they sort through it by hand. The toll it takes on their physical health and wellbeing is clear. As the leading importer of plastic waste, China receives ten million tons per year from most of the developed countries around the world, relying on rural workers to process it. The landscapes in this frank, poignant documentary tell a universal story of social inequality.

Australian Premiere

Wednesday 17 May
6pm
ACMI Cinemas

Jiu-liang Wang

China / 2016 / 82 mins /
Mandarin with
English subtitles /
Documentary

Festival Selection

Sundance 2017
IDFA 2016

Presented by



FALLEN FLOWERS THICK LEAVES

"A fascinating portrait of female sexuality in modern China."
SEE NL

Wen Wen, a young outgoing careerist, and Xiao, a shy middle-aged widow, are two very different women, unconnected except for one person: Hongli, their unflinching sex therapist who encourages women in Beijing to explore their sexuality. In her debut feature, Laetitia Schoofs intimately studies the traditional societal expectations of women in China, the impact of the Cultural Revolution on relationships and desire, and the concept of 'leftovers' – single and childless women over the age of 27. Although China seems a world apart from the West, Hongli prompts liberated discussions on topics as broad as feminism, pleasure, and queer identity.

Australian Premiere

Tuesday 9 May
6.45pm
ACMI Cinemas

Laetitia Schoofs

The Netherlands, Germany /
2016 / 86 mins / Mandarin
with English subtitles /
Documentary

Festival Selection

IDFA 2016



WHEN THE EARTH SEEMS TO BE LIGHT

"The film is a rush of colour and movement. Splaying through the city and its outskirts, the sound editing is ripe with texture over a brooding ambient score."
 BERLIN ART LINK

A group of misfit skaters search for their place in Georgian society by roaming the streets on their boards, tired of being judged and misunderstood. A film that uses place as a character, this portrait of a darkly beautiful yet confining city shows how the youth perceive their environment. Surrounded by the religious and Soviet relics of their parents' past, this new generation is more than happy to disregard it and create their own meaningful reality. The impressionistic portraits of these skaters are based on a series of photos by co-director David Meskhi, and is intercut with news footage of demonstrations in Georgia.

Australian Premiere

Wednesday 10 May
 6pm
 ACMI Cinemas

David Meskhi, Salome Machaidze and Tamuna Karumidze

Georgia, Germany / 2015 /
 76 mins / Georgian with
 English subtitles / Documentary

Festival Selection

Hot Docs 2016

Awards

Best First Appearance,
 IDFA 2015



SALERO

"...with the stunningly cinematic Salar as its setting, 'Salero' is an immersive personal encounter with destiny rewritten."
 LATIN TIMES

The extraterrestrial scenery of Bolivia's Salar de Uyuni, the world's largest salt flat, has been the secluded home of Indigenous salt gatherers for generations. When the government comes to mine the valuable lithium reserves beneath the salt crust and connect the remote community to a globalised world, Moises and his family are thrown into a crisis of belonging and identity, as their traditional way of life is thrown off-course and they are forced to meet with progress. Breathtaking cinematography of the pristine landscape accompanied by an evocative score make *Salero* an experience not to be missed on the big screen.

Screening

Sunday 7 May
 7.30pm
 ACMI Cinemas

Mike Plunkett

USA, Bolivia / 2015 / 76 mins /
 Spanish and Quechua with
 English subtitles /
 Documentary

Festival Selection

IDFA 2015

Full Frame Documentary 2016
 San Francisco 2016



WAR BOOK

"A powerful, provocative and essential piece of modern British cinema"
THE LIST

Opening Night film at the International Film Festival Rotterdam, Tom Harper's sharp-tongued political thriller *War Book* is sure to set hearts racing. Over the course of three days, a collection of British civil servants must practice crisis protocol after being given a pretend scenario of a nuclear attack in Mumbai – an actual political exercise that has been practiced within British Parliament since the 1960s. The political quickly becomes personal in this tense single-room setting where moral and humanitarian dilemmas are confronted with surprising results. With undeniable real-world relevance and an impressive ensemble cast lead by Sophie Okonedo (*Hotel Rwanda*) and Ben Chaplin (*Thin Red Line*), *War Book* leaves audiences with the ultimate question: what would you do?

Australian Premiere
 Saturday 13 May
 6.45pm
 ACMI Cinemas

Tom Harper
 UK / 2015 / 92 mins /
 English / Narrative

Festival Selection
 Rotterdam 2015
 Hamburg Film Festival 2015
 Istanbul Film Festival 2015

LES CHEVALIERS BLANCS

"A provocative and probing new drama from Belgian auteur Joachim Lafosse."
THE HOLLYWOOD REPORTER

Winner of Best Director at San Sebastian Film Festival, *Les Chevaliers Blancs* follows a fictional humanitarian organisation that claims to provide better lives for orphans in an unspecified African country. Taking as its starting point the real life 2007 controversy around the 'Zoe's Ark' organisation, the film paints a quietly damning portrait of the moral ambiguity of choices made by foreign aid workers who believe they are working for the greater good. With a cast led by stalwart of French social-realist cinema Vincent Lindon (*The Measure of a Man*, HRAFF 2016), the film takes viewers on an engaging and at times uncomfortable journey towards its thought provoking conclusion.

Screening
 Saturday 13 May
 4.30pm
 ACMI Cinemas

Joachim Lafosse
 France, Belgium / 2015 /
 112 mins / French and Arabic
 with English subtitles /
 Narrative

Festival Selection
 Rotterdam 2016
 TIFF 2015

Awards
 Silver Shell – Best Director,
 San Sebastian 2015



DHEEPAN

"Once again Audiard articulates big themes within a mosaic of everyday struggles. A painful yet rewarding tale of social strife and uplifting resilience."
EMPIRE

Winner of the top prize at Cannes Film Festival 2015, *Dheepan* is the latest critically acclaimed work from French filmmaker Jacques Audiard (*A Prophet*, *Rust and Bone*). In the aftermath of civil war in Sri Lanka, Dheepan flees to make a new life in France, forming an arrangement with two strong women to pose as a family in their Paris apartment. But when they find themselves embroiled in a neighbourhood dispute, the threat of violence once again becomes a constant feature of their lives. This is a searing examination of the immigrant experience in contemporary Europe, with an ending sure to spark heated discussions.

Screening
Saturday 6 May
8.45pm
ACMI Cinemas

Jacques Audiard
France / 2015 / 115 mins /
Tamil, French and English
with English Subtitles /
Documentary

Festival Selection
TIFF 2015
BFI London 2015

Awards
Palme d'Or, Cannes 2015



LAMB

"A delicately satisfying drama... deeply sympathetic to its characters and very much attuned to the landscape around them."
VARIETY

The first Ethiopian film ever in Official Selection at Cannes Film Festival, *Lamb* is a loving tale of a small boy sent with his beloved pet lamb to live with relations in the country – and discovering a culturally inappropriate talent for cooking. Ethiopian filmmaker Yared Zeleke's beautifully crafted debut (shot by Josée Deshaies of *Saint Laurent*) provides an insider view of rural life – portraying a new generation bridling at gender expectations and traditional mores. With the lush backdrop of the fecund Northern Ethiopian hillsides, *Lamb* paints a nuanced portrait of Ethiopia not often seen by the rest of the world.

Screening
Sunday 7 May
8.15pm
ACMI Cinemas

Yared Zeleke
Ethiopia, France, Germany,
Norway / 2015 / 94 mins /
Amharic with English
subtitles / Narrative

Festival Selection
Cannes 2015
TIFF 2015
BFI London 2015



Post-film Q&A with director **Bentley Dean**.

TANNA

"Tanna is a stirring tribute to the power of love, and will likely prompt viewers to shed tears of sadness and tears of joy."
VARIETY

Australia's first-ever Oscar nominee for Best Foreign Language Film, *Tanna* tells the story of young lovers from a tribe in Vanuatu, kept apart when elders arrange for her to marry a man in another tribe. Directors Martin Butler and Bentley Dean collaborate with members of the Yakel tribe to reenact this young couple's challenge of tribal custom, an actual event from their own history. The lush and volcanic environment is captured through award-winning camera work, which also showcases the astonishing performances of the novice actors. It's a poignant perspective on our universal quest to love the person we choose.

Screening

Friday 12 May
 6pm
 ACMI Cinemas

Bentley Dean and Martin Butler

Australia, Vanuatu / 2015 /
 100 mins / Nauvhal with
 English subtitles / Narrative

Festival Selection

Venice 2016
 Rotterdam 2016
 BFI London 2016

Awards

Academy Award Nominee for
 Best Foreign Language Film



2017 HRAFF GALA

HRAFF's annual Gala Film Screening & Cocktail Party will be held on Thursday 11 May from 6.30pm. The evening promises to be a stellar night of entertainment with a selection of short human rights films, silent auction and **special address by Professor Gillian Triggs**, President of the Australian Human Rights Commission.

For tickets go to hraff.org.au/gala

Date

Thursday 11 May

Time

6.30pm - 10.30pm

Location

St Kilda Town Hall

Special address by

Professor Gillian Triggs

AUSTRALIAN SHORTS

Sophisticated, sensitive and surprising. Cinematic gems from Australia's finest short-filmmakers.

Screening Friday 5 May / 8.15pm / ACMI Cinemas



For the Kids

Alejandra Canales / Australia / 2015 / 11 mins / English / Documentary

Rosie and Eddie are parents changing their community by dedicating their lives to foster care.



Under the Sun

Qiu Yang / China and Australia / 2015 / 19 mins / Wu Chinese with English subtitles / Narrative

Two families embroiled in seeking reparation for an incident, unveiling the pressures of class struggle in urban China.



Gambling with Minds

Genevieve Clay-Smith / Australia / 2016 / 10 mins / English / Documentary

A poetic, experimental documentary expressing the lived experience of mental illness through interviews and movement.



Hope City

Thomas Baricevic / Australia / 2015 / 15 mins / English and Dinka with English subtitles / Narrative

Majak, a young refugee set on returning to his mother, finds it difficult to adjust to life in Melbourne after fleeing South Sudan.



Kung-Blue

Joshua Hoareau / Australia / 2016 / 5 mins / English / Narrative

Two detectives seek justice in this comedy of errors with an unusual agent; the stereotype.



Black Chook

Dylan River / Australia / 2015 / 11 mins / 2016 / English / Narrative

"At the home, they told me she was Indian..." A young man's quest to find out about his late Indigenous mother.



Loving my Mum

Jessica O'Meara / Australia / 2016 / 11 mins / English / Documentary

Some bonds can't be broken; a personal documentary exploring the complexities of mental illness with the intimacy of a home movie.



Ari

Alex Murawski / Australia / 2016 / 10 mins / English / Narrative

Being a kid is tough, being yourself is harder. In the face of humiliation, Ari finds courage to do just that.



Love is Love

Logan Mucha and Daniel von Czarnecki / Australia / 2016 / 12 mins / English / Documentary

A look into the lives of four LGBTI families from Australia, demonstrating that regardless of identity, love is all you need.

INTERNATIONAL SHORTS

Provocative cinema from across the globe, these international perspectives explore the astounding complexities of what it is to be human.

Screening Tuesday 9 May / 8.30pm / ACMI Cinemas



How Long Not Long

Michelle Kranot and Uri Kranot / Denmark / 2016 / 5 mins / English / Animation

A visual journey that invokes a sense of universal belonging confined not to one city, region or national boundary.



What Tears Us Apart

Wei Hu / France / 2016 / 18 mins / English, French and Mandarin with English subtitles / Narrative

A mother's plea for forgiveness in this family drama set against the political backdrop of China's one-child policy.



Entrapped

Razan Ghalayini / USA / 2015 / 12 mins / English and with English subtitles / Documentary

The Duka brothers are currently sentenced to life in prison after being caught up in a FBI entrapment operation... but are they really terrorists?



Madre (Mother)

Simón Mesa Soto / Sweden and Colombia / 2016 / 14 mins / Spanish with English subtitles / Narrative

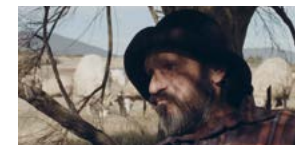
16-year-old Andrea leaves her neighbourhood in Medellin to attend a downtown casting call for a movie.



Law of the Lamb

Lotfi Achour / Tunisia and France / 2016 / 15 mins / Arabic with English subtitles / Narrative

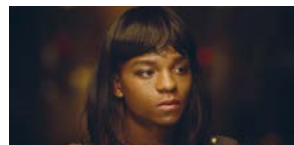
An old man and his grandson are on their way to the market when they are had by two policemen in the Tunisian desert.



The Keeper

Rodrigo Areias / Portugal / 2015 / 17 mins / Portuguese with English subtitles / Narrative

Constantino works as a flock keeper by day and at the museum every night due to homelessness.



Pronouns

Michael Paulucci / USA / 2015 / 9 mins / English / Narrative

A Chicago teen reveals their true self during a spoken word performance.



French

Josza Anjembe / France / 2015 / 21 / French with English subtitles / Narrative

17-year-old Seyna endures bureaucratic microaggressions from a country she defies her Cameroonian descent for.

INTERNATIONAL SHORTS

DEFIANCE

Extraordinary individuals of bravery and integrity, these captivating portraits celebrate those who stand their ground.

Screening

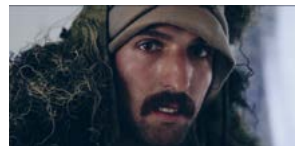
Tuesday 16 May
8pm
ACMI Cinemas



Handsome and Majestic

Nathan Drillot & Jeff Petry / Canada / 2015 / 12 mins / English / Documentary

Milan, a transgender teen, revisits the heartbreak and triumph he and his family faced.



Sniper of Kobani

Reber Dosky / The Netherlands / 2015 / 12 mins / Kurdish with English subtitles / Documentary
A portrait of bravery, lone Kurdish sniper Haron travels to Kobani to defend its inhabitants against Islamic State forces.



Smoke that Travels

Kayla Briët / USA / 2015 / 14 mins / English / Documentary

Through language, music and movement, Kayla Briët artfully shares her cultural heritage and history of the Prairie Band Potowantomi nation.



Beauty, Courage and Strength in the Occupied West Bank

Glorianna Xiemendaz / Costa Rica / 2016 / 25 mins / English and Arabic with English subtitles / Documentary

A panoramic tale of fortitude amidst the daily struggle of life in the West Bank.



Seide

Elnura Osmonalieva / Kyrgyzstan / 2015 / 14 mins / Kirghiz with English subtitles / Narrative

Faced with the unwelcome prospect of an arranged marriage, Seide defies her parents and Kyrgyzstani custom.



Battalion to my Beat

Eimi Imanishi / USA / 2016 / 14 mins / Arabic with English subtitles / Narrative

Tired of the monotony and destruction in her Saharawi refugee camp, 13-year-old Mariam dreams of taking command.



We All We Got

Carlos Javier Ortiz / USA / 2015 / 9 mins / English / Documentary

A compelling affirmation that Black Lives Matter, *We All We Got* is both a protest film and a work of art.

INTERNATIONAL SHORTS

DEPARTURE

Reflections on the global movement of people, these dynamic stories shed light on the issue of our time.

Screening

Thursday 11 May
6pm
ACMI Cinemas



Kwassa Kwassa

Superflex & Tuan Andrew Nguyen / Denmark and Vietnam / 2015 / 17 mins / French with English subtitles / Documentary

Anjouan people smugglers reflect on the poverty and injustice that defines the cycle of boat building and departure.



Miles to go before I Sleep

Hanna Hovitie / Finland / 2015 / 13 mins / English / Documentary

A young Congolese woman recounts her story as a trafficked child and a refugee across Europe and Africa.



Note on Multitude

Ibro Hasanović / Bosnia and Herzegovina / 2015 / 8 mins / No dialogue / Documentary

At a Bosnian transit hub something triggers the waiting crowd to pile onto the buses.



Valparaiso

Carlo Sironi / Italy / 2016 / 20 mins / Italian and Spanish with English subtitles / Narrative

Four months pregnant and released from an Italian refugee camp, Rocio is forced to take drastic steps.



Irregulars

Fabio Palmieri / Italy / 2015 / 9 mins / English / Documentary

An African immigrant recalls his harrowing experiences as a refugee, his testimony set against a backdrop of mannequins.



Estate (Summer)

Ronny Trocker / France and Belgium / 2015 / 7 mins / No dialogue / Narrative

A man crawls out of the water at a crowded beach. He is surprised when no one comes to his aid.



Mare Nostrum

Rana Kazkaz & Anas Khalaf / France, Syria and Jordan / 2016 / 14 mins / English / Narrative

The ocean holds new meaning for a Syrian father and his daughter when they arrive on the Mediterranean coast.



HRAFF TALKS

HRAFF is proud to present our discussion forum series *HRAFF Talks* at ACMI. Four forums over two weekends, featuring a panel of diverse industry experts and academics who will discuss issues that are at the forefront of the human rights debate in Australia.

Forum attendees will also have the option of purchasing a **Film + Forum Pass**, which includes a ticket to a related film session, for \$30 (see page 43). For more information, go to hraff.org.au/pass.

Dates

Saturday 6 May
 Sunday 7 May
 Saturday 13 May
 Sunday 14 May

Time

1pm – 2pm
 Arrive by 12.45pm

Location

Studio 1, ACMI

\$15 entry

Registration essential
 via www.hraff.org.au

FILM INDUSTRY FORUM: CINEMA AND SOCIAL IMPACT

Saturday 6 May

Film has constantly played a major role in foregrounding global human rights issues, but can it inspire tangible social change? Filmmakers and industry professionals will reflect on approaches to subject matter, impact campaigns, and common obstacles to activist films. Central to this panel is the question: how can film stimulate activism and progress beyond its initial exhibition?

Film + Forum Pass Available:

Grab tickets to the *Cinema and Social Impact* forum and *Stranger in Paradise* screening (page 20) for \$30.

PROTEST AND SOLIDARITY: FIRST NATIONS AND INDIGENOUS PEOPLES

Sunday 7 May

HRAFF 2017 continues to feature films highlighting issues confronting Indigenous peoples in various regions. What are the common struggles among First Nations and Indigenous peoples, despite each community's unique and often traumatic experience of the colonised world? The panel speakers are invited to take stock of current affairs across borders, such as land rights, representation, and social equity.

Film + Forum Pass Available:

Grab tickets to the *Protest and Solidarity* forum and *Zach's Ceremony* screening (page 11) for \$30.

BUILDING COMMUNITIES: IMMIGRATION AND INTEGRATION

Saturday 13 May

Australian politics is characterised by heated debates on immigration policy and the scope of the Australian government's obligation to asylum seekers. Many politicians cite the alleged shortcomings of diversity and multiculturalism in Australia and internationally, disregarding the rich contributions of many new Australians. This panel addresses (mis)conceptions of immigration in Australia in relation to the lived realities and successes of immigrant, refugee and marginalised communities.

Film + Forum Pass Available:

Grab tickets to the *Building Communities* forum and *Café Waldluft* screening (page 27) for \$30.

ALL IS LOVE: FAMILIES AND MARRIAGE EQUALITY

Sunday 14 May

In honour of Mother's Day, join us as we discuss and celebrate diverse families and guardians, ruminating on the present-day meaning of 'family'. HRAFF also wishes to acknowledge non-traditional partnerships and family structures, particularly considering Australia's political stance on marriage equality.

Film + Forum Pass Available:

Grab tickets to the *All is Love* forum and *The Freedom to Marry* screening (page 23) for \$30.

First Contact 2 | Tanna | Defiant Lives

FILM VICTORIA

Supporting diverse stories on screen

Festival Sponsor of the 10th Anniversary Human Rights Arts & Film Festival

FILM.VIC.GOV.AU
@FILMVICTORIA

PASSIONATE ABOUT HRAFF?

Our Directors Circle brings together donors who believe in the power of storytelling to inspire and connect people to local and global human rights issues.

Since 2013, the Directors Circle has enabled us to:

- Screen over 200 films exploring human rights
- Profile 230 speakers, including leading activists and thinkers
- Exhibit 60 artists and showcase 115 musicians
- Engaged over 400 CineSeeds Youth Ambassadors with important global issues

Join our Directors Circle today hraff.org.au/donate or email us at info@hraff.org.au.

Human Rights Arts & Film Festival (ABN 41 028 224 880) is endorsed as a Deductible Gift Recipient (DGR) Item 1 of the section 30-15 of the Income Tax Assessment Act 1997. All donations over A\$2 are tax deductible for Australian residents.

HRAFF GOES WEST

HRAFF GOES WEST



MUSIC AND MOVEMENT

As we celebrate HRAFF's 10th Birthday, join us at the **Footscray Community Arts Centre** as we highlight our rich multicultural and Indigenous tapestry and what makes our community so unique and special.

Venue
Footscray Community Arts Centre
45 Moreland Street, Footscray

Celebrations kick off with performances and panel discussion from the musicians and artists involved in the *Key of Sea*. A collaborative music project by some of Australia's best established artists and extraordinary musicians who brought their cultural heritage from across the sea, escaping war, hardship or persecution. This will be followed by a screening of the debut film from Artistic Director of Bangarra Dance Theatre, Stephen Page's *Spear* as part of the FCAC Black Screen program. There will be a post-film Q&A with producer John Harvey from Brown Cab Productions.

Date
Saturday 13 May

Key of Sea
2 - 4pm

Spear
6 - 8pm

Free

Presented in partnership with



CREATE WITH KAFF-EINE

HRAFF is heading to Phoenix Youth Centre for a fun-filled Friday afternoon of sharing stories and street art! We will be joined by one of Melbourne's top street artists Kaff-eine, who will facilitate a collaborative art project featuring colourful characters and sharing her recent experiences working within the Happyland slum communities of the Philippines. Get ready to get creative!

The Happyland exhibition at Federation Square (May 4-21) includes the 10 Kaff-eine portraits, fine-art photography of the tarp installation, and vignettes of daily Happyland life. Further details on page 48.)

Date
Friday 12 May

Time
4 - 6pm

Venue
Phoenix Youth Centre
72 Buckley Street, Footscray

Free

HRAFF Goes West is supported by



IMAGE: LUSH Intergalactic Bath Bomb

HRAFF GOES WEST



HAPPYLAND



Artists: Kaff-eine, with Geric Cruz, Marti Salva and Gelay Concepcion

Australian street artist Kaff-eine and her international team reunited with garbage scavengers living in two of Manila's most notorious, impoverished slums, to create an open-air art exhibition that celebrated the communities, while providing them with resources for shelter.

Kaff-eine's portraits of 10 colourful locals were printed onto tarpaulins, installed for display by Happyland and Baseco residents, then repurposed as housing.

The *Happyland* exhibition invites viewers to enter these vibrant slums through Kaff-eine's striking watercolour portraits, photographs of the tarp installation, and vignettes of daily Happyland life.

The *Happyland* documentary has its world premiere at HRAFF 2017 (see page 12).

Presented by: No Vacancy Gallery Project Space.

Opening Night

Friday 5 May 6 – 9pm

Artist talk featuring

Kaff-eine and the Happyland team (Emily Cheesman (AUS); Geric Cruz, Marti Salva, Gelay Concepcion (PHL) Saturday 13 May 2pm

Exhibition Dates

Thursday 4 – Sunday 21 May

Opening Hours

Tuesday – Saturday 11 – 5pm
Sunday 12 – 5pm

Venue

No Vacancy Project Space
Tenancy 32, The Atrium
Federation Dr
Federation Square

Accessible for all abilities

Free

Presented by



Image credit: Kaff-eine

THEY CANNOT TAKE THE SKY STORIES FROM DETENTION



An exhibition of personal stories from people who have sought asylum in Australia and have been detained by the Australian Government under its mandatory detention policy. *They Cannot Take the Sky: Stories from Detention* was developed by Behind the Wire and a volunteer reference committee of individuals with lived experience of seeking asylum, in collaboration with the Immigration Museum.

Hear about the reasons people flee their homes, their perilous journeys in search of safety, the banality of daily life in detention, and the afterlives – both lived and hoped for – of people resettling in Australia.

Behind the Wire is an award-winning oral history project documenting stories from detention. Their book, *They Cannot Take the Sky*, was launched this year, along with a podcast, *The Messenger*.

Presented by: Behind the Wire and the Immigration Museum

Exhibition Dates

Friday 17 March – Sunday 2 July

Opening Hours

10am – 5pm daily

Venue

The Immigration Museum
400 Flinders Street
Melbourne

Adults \$14

Concession/ Children Free

Accessible for all abilities

Presented by

BEHIND THE WIRE

IMMIGRATION
MUSEUM

BEHIND THE WIRE STORIES FROM DETENTION

Through audio, video and live storytelling, Peter, Lina and Jamila will tell stories of hope, suffering and resilience. Aran, one of the *Behind the Wire* narrators will then be joined in conversation with the project coordinator, Michael Green. These are voices you will not forget.

Presented by

BEHIND THE WIRE

Presented by:
Behind the Wire and
The Melba Spiegelent

Date

Saturday 6 May
2 – 3.30pm

Venue

The Melba Spiegelent
35 Johnston Street
Collingwood

Adult \$25

Concession \$18

Adult and Book
Package \$45

Concession and
Book Package \$38

Accessible for
all abilities

The Melba
SPIEGELTENT

WEAVING THE WATERWAYS WOMEN AND FISHING



Image credit: Glenda Nicholls (Wadi Wadi/Yorta Yorta/Ngarrindgeri) Ochre Net, 2012, string, wood, ochre, 570 x 181cm, Koorie Heritage Trust Collection AH 3891

Artist and Guest Curator: Glenda Nicholls

Accompanying Artists: Clair Bates, Donna Blackall, Deanne Gilson, Georgia Macguire, Bronwyn Razem.

Netmaking came to Glenda Nicholls from her ancestors in a vision and has inspired this exhibition of river-life, featuring woven nets, scoop nets, baskets, fishing lines, hooks and bird nets. This body of work demonstrates a continuous and evolving link with techniques passed down through generations of women living in and around South-East Australian waterways.

Presented by
Koorie Heritage Trust

Opening
Saturday 11 March
2 – 4pm

Exhibition Dates
Saturday 11 March –
Monday 15 May

Opening Hours
Daily 10am – 5pm

Venue
Koorie Heritage Trust
Level 1 Gallery Space
The Yarra Building
Federation Square

Accessible for all abilities
Free

LISTEN TO YOUR ELDERS

This exhibition features recordings from the Koorie Heritage Trust's Oral History Collection. These recordings share the experiences and knowledge of our Koorie Elders, and explore the very significant role Elders hold in the Victorian Koorie community.

These exhibitions are sponsored by Eucalypt Australia and the Department of Health and Human Services. The Koorie Heritage Trust is supported by Creative Victoria, the Australian Government's Indigenous Visual Arts Industry Support, and the City of Melbourne.



Image credit: Uncle Howard Talgium Edwards, filmed by Daniel King 2014. Koorie Heritage Trust Oral History Collection

Presented by
Koorie Heritage Trust

Exhibition Dates
Ongoing – July 2017

Opening Hours
Daily 10am – 5pm

Venue
Koorie Heritage Trust
Levels 2 and 3
The Yarra Building
Federation Square

Accessible for all abilities
Free

Presented by



REFRAME "HOME" WITH PATTERNS OF DISPLACEMENT

Artist: Rushdi Anwar

Reframe "Home" with Patterns of Displacement explores issues of displacement due to socio-political persecution. The exhibition aims to reveal the difficulties and suffering of individuals who have faced displacement and dislocation – manifesting a universal understanding for change, fragility and redemption.

Reframe "Home" with Patterns of Displacement address the catastrophe and the difficult reality of those individuals forced into displacement. It indicates and invokes the idea of the "Home" in fragments. That parts are absent and lost or left behind somewhere, and signifies both loss of home and the triumph of memory. The exhibition not only highlights the desperation and fragility of displaced individuals, but also conveys their courage and compassion. The project explores the human condition, which when under difficult situations requires and seeks hope, renewal and light.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT:

This project has been assisted by the Australian Government through the Australia Council for the Arts, its arts funding and advisory body.

This project is supported by the Victorian Government through Creative Victoria.



Opening Night

Wednesday 10 May 6 – 9pm

Exhibition Dates

Tuesday 9 May – Sunday 14 May

Opening Hours

Tuesday – Saturday 11 – 5pm
Sunday 12 – 5pm

Gallery

No Vacancy/QV
34–40 Jane Bell Lane,
Melbourne

Accessible for all abilities

Free

Image credit: Rushdi Anwar

ROHINGYA: REFUGEE CRISIS IN COLOUR



Artist: Ali MC

The ongoing genocide of Rohingya people in Western Myanmar (formerly Burma) remains almost ignored by world media. Displaced from their homes, attacked by the military, interned in refugee camps and driven across the border into neighbouring Bangladesh, the Rohingya have become known as one of the world's most persecuted people.

In 2016, Ali MC visited Rohingya refugee and internally displaced peoples' camps in both Myanmar and Bangladesh. Ali MC wanted to portray Rohingya as a people with pride and determination, despite their adverse living conditions. The portraits included in *Rohingya: Refugee Crisis in Colour* accomplish just that – strength and resilience captured on camera.

A photo book is also available, with proceeds going towards Rohingya refugee relief. Contact alister.mc@gmail.com

Image credit: Ali MC

Presented by: City of Yarra
and Prism Imaging

Opening

Guided Tour with Ali MC
Saturday 8 April 2 – 4pm

Presentation and Q&A with Ali MC and guests

Sunday 7 May 2pm

Photography Workshop with Ali MC

Sunday 14 May 2pm

Exhibition Dates

Wednesday 5 April –
Friday 26 May

Opening Hours

Monday 10am – 6pm
Tuesday 1 – 8pm
Wednesday 1 – 8pm
Thursday 10am – 6pm
Friday 1 – 6pm
Saturday 10am – 4pm
Sunday 2 – 5pm

Venue

Fitzroy Library
28 Moor Street
Fitzroy

Accessible for all abilities

Free

Presented by



CONFLICTED: WORKS FROM THE VIETNAM ARCHIVE PROJECT



Artist: Phuong Ngo

The Vietnam Archive Project by Phuong Ngo is an ongoing artwork started in 2010. Currently consisting of over 10,000 items, including slides, photos, documents and objects, this ever-growing collection explores histories that have come to define the personal and collective identities of Vietnamese communities, both within and outside of Vietnam.

Conflicted explores the political and social aspects of war through the lens of service men and women. Utilising found images and objects from the Vietnam Archive Project, the exhibition comprises a series of intimate moments and large-scale installations offering a nuanced and alternative reading of the Vietnam War.

Presented by: The SUBSTATION

Opening Night

Friday 12 May 6.30 – 9.30pm

Exhibition Dates

Friday 12 May – Saturday 1 July

Artist talk

with Phuong Ngo
Saturday 13 May 2pm

Opening Hours

Tuesday – Saturday 11am – 5pm

Gallery

The SUBSTATION
1 Market Street
Newport

Accessible for all abilities

Free

Presented by

THE
SUBSTATION

Supported by



CREATIVE VICTORIA



FESTIVAL GUESTS

Check out our special guests at HRAFF 2017.



Benjamin Law

Benjamin Law is a journalist, *Good Weekend* columnist, TV screenwriter and author.



Marti Salva

Marti Salva is a visual FX artist based in Manila and the director of *Happyland* (HRAFF 2017).



Meena Singh

Meena Singh is a Yorta Yorta woman of Indian descent. She is the Associate Director, Aboriginal Services, Victoria Legal Aid.



Idil Ali

Idil Ali is a passionate advocate for the African and Muslim community and a Plan International youth activist.



Santilla Chingaibe

Santilla Chingaibe is a Zambian-born award-winning journalist and documentary filmmaker based in Melbourne.



Amrita Hepi

Amrita Hepi is a Bundjulong and Ngapuhi dancer and choreographer.



Jonathan Olshefski

Jonathan Olshefski is a documentary filmmaker and artist and director of *Quest* (HRAFF 2017).



Tyson Wils

Tyson Wils is a media and communications lecturer and co-editor of *Activist Film Festivals: Towards a Political Subject*.



Hollie Fifer

Hollie Fifer is a documentary filmmaker. *The Opposition* (HRAFF 2017) is her first feature.



Genevieve Clay-Smith

Genevieve Clay-Smith is an award-winning writer/director and the 2015 NSW Young Australian of the Year.



Bobuq Sayed

Bobuq Sayed, co-editor of *Archer Magazine*, is a queer writer and artist of the Afghan diaspora.



Xen Nhà

Xen Nhà, meaning 'stranger at home', is the artist persona of Thanh Hằng Phạm.



Kaff-eine

Kaff-eine is an Australian street/contemporary artist and filmmaker and producer of *Happyland*.



Sally Goldner

Sally Goldner has been involved in Victoria's LGBTIQ communities for eighteen years.



Marion Lau

Marion Lau is the Deputy Chairperson of the Ethnic Communities Council of Victoria.



Bentley Dean

Bentley is a director and cinematographer. His latest film *Tanna* (HRAFF 2017) was nominated for an Academy Award.



Emily Cheesman

Emily Cheesman is an Australian-Filipina filmmaker and producer of *Happyland* (HRAFF 2017).



Dr Shirleene Robinson

Dr Shirleene Robinson is National Spokesperson and Director for Australian Marriage Equality and a historian at Macquarie University.



Felicity Marlowe

Felicity Marlowe is Convenor and Co-founder of Rainbow Families Victoria and a long-term LGBTIQ advocate.

FILM AWARDS JURY

The HRAFF Film Awards recognise exceptional films that connect audiences to human rights stories.

The Awards

HRAFF IMPACT Award for Best Feature Length Film, HRAFF Audience Award, Best International Short Film Award, Best Australian Short Film Award, Australian Short Audience Award

Feature Films Jury



Stuart Richardson teaches at RMIT, and is a research associate at the University of Melbourne. He has previously worked with the Melbourne Queer Film Festival.



Brodie Lancaster is a writer, editor, DJ, podcaster and author.



Nicolette Freeman is Head of the VCA School of Film and Television. She is also a cinematographer, documentary director and producer.



Jonathan Holloway is artistic director of the Melbourne International Arts Festival.



Amiel Courtin-Wilson has directed six feature films, including the critically acclaimed *Hail, Bastardy and Ruin*.



Nikki Lam is a visual artist and independent curator. She is the co-founder of art collective Anonymous Migrant, Artistic Director of Channels and visual arts editor of *Peril Magazine*.

International Shorts Jury



Claire Mallinson has been Amnesty International Australia's National Director since 2007.



Alice Pung is an award-winning author and editor.



Joel Stern is a curator, researcher and artist based in Melbourne. Since 2013 he has been Artistic Director of Liquid Architecture.

Australian Shorts Jury



Benjamin Law is a journalist, columnist, TV screenwriter and author.



Jessie Taylor is an author, film writer and producer, and a lecturer in the Faculty of Law at Monash University.



Atong Atem is a South Sudanese artist and writer.

**NATIONAL TOUR
TELL YOUR
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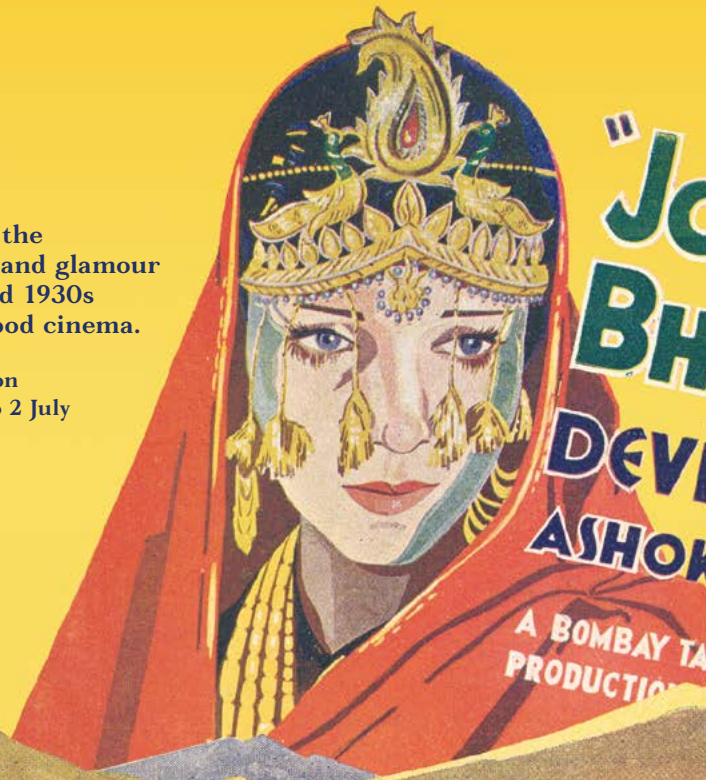
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Asia TOPA is a joint initiative of the Sidney Myer Fund and Arts Centre Melbourne and is supported by the Australian and Victorian Governments.
Image courtesy of the Dietze Family Trust.



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Maureen, 15, at her Plan International-supported school in Eastern Uganda.



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Photo > Harjono Djoyobisario



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SPECIAL THANKS

We would like to thank the many people who contribute their time, energy and resources towards the festival.

Melbourne Cinémathèque is supported by:



Thanks to

Al Cossar, Perpetual, Design by Pidgeon, Tas Tserkezis, Eddie Tamir, Julian Burnside AO QC, Kate Durham, Amy Stephenson, Kaff-eine, Emily Cheesman, Genevieve Clay-Smith, Thyne Reid Foundation, donkey wheel Foundation and Anna Draffin

HRAFF Directors Circle

Our donors have been critical to HRAFF's first 10 years. We are delighted to thank the following donors:

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Mona Isaksen

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Festival Trailer/Animation
Method Studios

Trailer Music
K. Schroeder (The Basics)

Gala Administrator
Gabriella Minutillo

HRAFF wouldn't be possible without the hard work, generosity and dedication of all our volunteers and extended team. We would like to extend our deepest gratitude to everyone who has contributed to the 2017 Festival.

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CineSeeds Partners

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National Tour Partner



TICKETS

Ticket Prices

(Booking fees apply)

Single Tickets at ACMI

Full \$20 / Conc. \$18 /
 Group (7+) \$15 per person

HRAFF Mini-pass

(6 x films excluding Opening and Closing night and special events) Full \$90 / Conc. \$70

HRAFF Full Festival Pass

(All films excluding Opening and Closing night and special events) Full \$340 / Conc. \$280

Highlights and Special Events

Opening Night Film & Party

Full \$75 / Conc. \$65

Closing Night Film & Party

Full \$35 / Conc. \$28

Hear My Eyes

Full \$35 / Conc. \$30

Water Rites: HRAFF and Cinémathèque collaboration

Full \$22 / Conc. \$19

CineSeeds - Satellite Boy and Zach's Ceremony

Full \$25 / Conc. \$15

HRAFF Gala

Full Price \$150 / Early Bird \$130

Forum + Film Package

\$30

Forums

\$15 entry

Art Exhibitions

Free, unless stated otherwise

Classification

HRAFF has been exempt from classification by the Classification Board. The films in the festival are restricted to people over 18 years of age except for the films in our CineSeeds program. It is recommended that children

under 15 are accompanied by an adult.

How to Purchase Tickets

Website

All tickets available through hraff.org.au. Browse the program, select your tickets and they will be emailed to you. Easy!

On the HRAFF iPhone App

Download the free HRAFF application for iPhone to view the program and purchase tickets on your mobile. Bring your phone to be scanned at the door. No paper tickets required.

Use the HRAFF iPhone App to purchase mini-passes, rate the films you've seen, and shortlist films you want to see. Search 'HRAFF' in the app store.



Drop into ACMI

Purchase tickets to all films and events held at ACMI in person at the Tickets and Information Desk, accessible from Federation Square. Available only for the duration of the festival during ACMI opening hours: 10am - late.

ACMI members enjoy \$1 off concession prices to single ticket film sessions excluding Opening and Closing and special events (available to purchase only at the ACMI Tickets and Information Desk).

Telephone

Call the HRAFF Office between 10am - 3pm on 03 9629 9944 to book tickets.

HRAFF Mini-Pass

Want to dig deeper into the HRAFF 2017 program? Pick up a mini-pass and see six films for only \$90 (full) or \$75 (conc). The mini-pass can be redeemed against one ticket per general film session. The mini-pass excludes Highlights and Special Events including (but not limited to) Opening Night, Closing Night, Gala, CineSeeds screenings, Melbourne Cinémathèque, Hear My Eyes, artist workshops and forums.

The mini-pass is available for purchase through our website, at ACMI during the festival, and on the HRAFF app.

For further ticketing enquiries, contact ticketing@hraff.org.au.

Companion Card

HRAFF supports Companion cards. To book tickets using your Companion Card contact ticketing@hraff.org.au or call 03 9629 9944 between the hours of 10 - 3pm.

Concession Tickets

Concession rates apply to students, pensioners, seniors, health care cardholders and companion cardholders. Contact ticketing@hraff.org.au for further information.

Further information on access is available on page 64 or contact access@hraff.org.au.

Follow the buzz

Stay on top of fast-selling screenings, new sessions and giveaways by following us on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram on @humanrightsfest, following #hraff10 and subscribing to our e-news.

ACCESSIBILITY

HRAFF is committed to improving the accessibility of the festival for all festival goers.

Service Animals

Trained guide, hearing and assistance dogs are welcome at all festival venues.

Wheelchair Access

All HRAFF art and film venues are accessible by wheelchair. Accessible toilets are available at ACMI. Please contact HRAFF if you have any questions.

Companion Card

HRAFF supports the companion card. Companion Card complimentary tickets can be booked online when booking all other tickets, however Companion Cards must be presented at the venue when entering the cinema or collecting tickets, otherwise entry will be refused. Please contact HRAFF if you have any questions.

Assistive Listening

For all cinemas at ACMI assistive listening devices are available for collection from ACMI's Ticket and Information Desk.

AUSLAN Interpreters and Caption Screenings

The second screening of *Off the Rails* will be screened with open captions, please refer to page 26 for further details on the film.

Many of HRAFF's films have English subtitles and this information can be found under the title of each film in the session descriptions and online at hraff.org.au/accessibility.

AUSLAN will be available on request for HRAFF films, forums and art exhibition artist talks. Please refer to the website at hraff.org.au/accessibility or contact our Operations Manager, Matilda McKenna, at access@hraff.org.au or (03) 9629 9944.

LARGER TEXT PROGRAM

If you'd like a large text version of this program, please contact us on (03) 9629 9944 or access@hraff.org.au and we will email or post a copy to you.

Different Formats Available

A text version of the program is available for download from the HRAFF website at www.hraff.org.au/accessibility. A plain text version is available on request.

Sight Impairments

Reserved seating is available for patrons with sight impairments. Please call HRAFF at least 48 hours prior to the screening to arrange.

Contacts

For venue-specific enquiries, please contact the venues directly using the numbers listed. For all other access information, please contact HRAFF directly.

HRAFF

(03) 9629 9944
access@hraff.org.au
www.hraff.org.au/accessibility

Australian Centre for the Moving Image (ACMI)

(03) 8663 2583
www.acmi.net.au/visit-us/accessibility

Federation Square

(03) 9655 1900
www.fedsquare.com/accessibility

Footscray Community Arts Centre

(03) 9362 8888
reception@footscrayarts.com
www.footscrayarts.com/visit

The Substation

(03) 9391 1110
info@thesubstation.org.au
www.thesubstation.org.au/about-us/getting-here

Koorie Heritage Trust

(03) 8662 6300
ggradolin@koorieheritagetrust.com
www.koorieheritagetrust.com/support_us/contact_us

Fitzroy Library

1300 695 427
info@yarracity.vic.gov.au
www.yarracity.vic.gov.au/libraries

Phoenix Youth Centre

(03) 9091 4700
phoenix@maribyrnong.vic.gov.au

The Melba Spiegelent

(03) 9676 0300
spiegelent@circusoz.com.au

No Vacancy

(03) 9663 3798

VENUES

Films, Forums and Festival Hub

Australian Centre for the Moving Image (ACMI) Federation Square
Cinema 1, 2, the Cube and Studio 1

Located at Federation Square on the corner of Swanston St and Flinders St in the heart of Melbourne's CBD. Catch the train or tram to Flinders St Station.

HRAFF Hub

ACMI Cafe & Bar,
Federation Square

Footscray Community Arts Centre
45 Moreland St, Footscray

Art Exhibitions and Events

No Vacancy Project Space
Federation Square

The Substation
1 Market St, Newport

Koorie Heritage Trust
Level 1 and 3, The Yarra Building

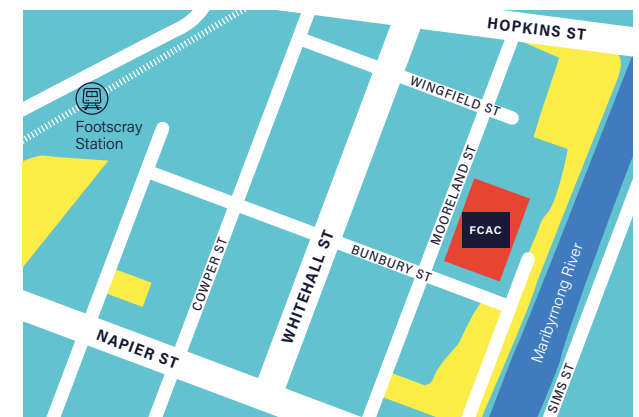
Corner of Flinders St and Swanston St
Federation Square

Phoenix Youth Centre
72 Buckley St, Footscray

The Melba Spiegelent
35 Johnston St, Collingwood

No Vacancy / QV
34-40 Jane Bell Lane,
Melbourne

Fitzroy Library
28 Moor St, Fitzroy



For more information, go to hraff.org.au/venues

HUMAN RIGHTS ARTS & FILM FESTIVAL

HRAFF.ORG.AU

[@humanrightsfest](https://twitter.com/humanrightsfest) [#hraff10](https://twitter.com/hraff10)

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