

Tales of the Night

France (84 mins, dir. Michel Ocelot)

GENRE: Comedy

KEY THEMES: Fantasy, imagination, adventure

SUITABLE AGES: 8+

LANGUAGE: French with English subtitles



French master of animation Michel Ocelot presents a fantastical and entrancing series of six fairy tales, lovingly animated in silhouetted 3D.

Every night a young actor and actress meet at a local theatre and, with the aid of an elderly projectionist, craft magical tales of love and redemption.

From this basic premise filmmaker Michel Ocelot (*Azur et Asmar*, MIFF 2007) weaves a series of simple but stunningly imaginative stories, rendered by the characters as shadow plays against magnificently coloured backdrops. From the plains of West Africa to the mountains of Tibet, from princesses and werewolves to the Aztec City of Gold, these six tales move effortlessly through time and place, constructing worlds of dazzling complexity and easy charm.

The themes are eternal and the design unquestionably astonishing, but, above all, *Tales of the Night* simply stands as a stirring tribute to the many joys and endless potential of our imaginations.

SCREENINGS Screening times will be announced in the full MIFF program on 5 July



Africa United

Falling for Sahara



On the Sly

Tales of the Night



The Liverpool Goalie

Norway (90 mins, dir. Arild Andresen)

GENRE: Comedy

KEY THEMES: Coming-of-age, bullying, overcoming fears, friendship, love, soccer

SUITABLE AGES: 10+

LANGUAGE: Norwegian with English subtitles

A Scandinavian coming-of-age comedy about the hardest lesson of high school – learning to take a risk.

Twelve-year-old Jo is terrified of all the usual stuff: bullies, soccer practice, girls, crossing the street... Some might call him a little anxious, but he's just doing his best to survive the perils of high school life. Having a neurotic single mum and a lunatic football coach doesn't make things any easier, but worst of all is Tom, the bully who keeps making Jo do his homework for him.

Jo is doing his best to play it safe – he'd rather just keep his head down and expand his soccer card collection. But the arrival of a new girl at school is about to change everything.

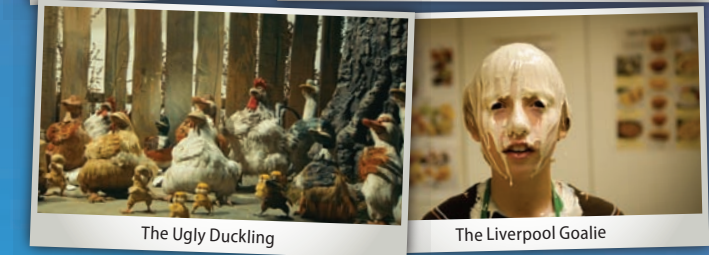
The debut feature from Norwegian filmmaker Arild Andresen, *The Liverpool Goalie* won the Crystal Bear Award at this year's Berlin Film Festival.

SCREENINGS Screening times will be announced in the full MIFF program on 5 July



Under the Hawthorn Tree

My Wedding and Other Secrets



The Ugly Duckling

The Liverpool Goalie

How to Book Before July 4

Go to metromagazine.com.au/nextgen

How to Book After July 4

Contact the festival office on 03 8660 4888

More detailed booking instructions visit miff.com.au/nextgen

Ticket Prices

MLTAV, SEV, VATE and ATOM member schools: \$8 per student (GST free)

Non-member schools: \$11 per student (GST free)

Study Guides

Study guides are available free for download from metromagazine.com.au and from miff.com.au/nextgen

Venue Information

ACMI Cinemas, Australian Centre for the Moving Image
Federation Square, Melbourne

Next Gen School Screening Schedule

Wednesday 27 July	The Matchmaker	1.30pm
Thursday 28 July	The Ugly Duckling Winter's Daughter	11am 2.30pm
Friday 29 July	On the Sly Under the Hawthorn Tree	11am 1.30pm
Tuesday 2 August	Falling for Sahara Under the Hawthorn Tree	11am 1.30pm
Wednesday 3 August	Winter's Daughter Africa United	11am 1.30pm
Thursday 4 August	The Matchmaker Falling for Sahara	11am 1.30pm
Friday 5 August	The Ugly Duckling My Wedding and Other Secrets	11am 1.30pm

Classification of Films

All films features as part of the Next Gen program are approved for screening by the Attorney General's Department, Classification Branch.

In order to assist parents, guardians and teachers in making informed decisions about children's viewing, when films have not yet been classified MIFF has provided suitability recommendations according to age group. Under 'suitable year levels' you will find the year level or age range we believe to be best suited to the film, according to the official guidelines of the Attorney General's Department, Classification Branch – www.classification.gov.au

This content advice is designed as a guide only. If you would like more information about individual films, please don't hesitate to contact the Festival office on 03 8660 4888.

Next Gen is proudly supported by Australian Teachers of Media Inc. (ATOM)

ATOM is an independent, non-profit, professional association promoting the study of media. ATOM publishes *Metro* magazine, *Screen Education* magazine, study guides and education kits and organises screenings throughout Australia. It also publishes the *Moving Image* series of monographs and runs The Education Shop (theeducationshop.com.au) and the ATOM awards for film, television and new media.

MIFF thanks the supporters of the Next Gen program



MELBOURNE INTERNATIONAL
FILM FESTIVAL



A program of intelligent and stimulating cinema for students

Cinema for Young People!

Welcome to Next Gen

Next Gen is a program of the latest world-class cinema catering to students from upper primary to upper secondary year levels.

These films are a great resource to support the teaching of English and Literacy, LOTE, the Humanities, the Arts, Ethics, Philosophy, Study of Society and Environment, Media and Communication, and Civics and Citizenship. They can be used to achieve learning outcomes across these disciplines.

All films are accompanied by free study guides written by Australian Teachers Of Media Inc. (ATOM).



On the Sly

Tales of the Night

Next Gen – an initiative of the Melbourne International Film Festival

At MIFF, we believe films provide pleasure and enrich life. Learning to interpret, appreciate and evaluate them provides invaluable keys for young people to become successful learners, confident and creative individuals, and active, informed citizens.

The Next Gen film program was created in 2007 to provide opportunities for students to explore other representations of the world. Film helps viewers make connections across social, cultural and geographic divides; by watching them we get perspective on the values of others, and gain insight into our own.

Cinema is a powerful tool for learning about the world around us – it fires our imaginations and, when at its best, brings us greater understanding of the human condition.

Senior Primary, Junior & Middle Secondary



The Ugly Duckling

Russia (75 mins, dir. Garri Bardine)

GENRE: Animation/drama

KEY THEMES: Fables, bullying, kindness, fairness and acceptance

SUITABLE YEAR LEVELS: Senior primary, junior and middle secondary

LANGUAGE: Russian with English subtitles

The classic Hans Christian Andersen tale gets a glorious stop-motion makeover at the hands of legendary Russian animator Garri Bardin.

In a farmyard populated with roosters, hens, ducks and geese, a strange-looking duckling is born. Shunned by the others for looking different, our plucky avian protagonist must persevere until he can find a place where he belongs.

The feature debut from 69-year-old Bardin, who made his name with four decades' worth of satirical animated shorts, *The Ugly Duckling* took six painstaking years to complete.

The results speak for themselves: Bardin's handmade animation has infused this timeless story of non-conformity with poignancy, charm and humour.

CURRICULUM LINKS: English and Literature, Film/Media, Visual Arts, Music, History, Politics

SCHOOL SCREENINGS Thursday 28 July, 11am at ACMI
Friday 5 August, 11am at ACMI



On the Sly

Belgium/France (77 mins, dir. Olivier Ringer)

GENRE: Drama/adventure

KEY THEMES: Fantasy, adventure and adult/child relationships

SUITABLE YEAR LEVELS: Senior primary, junior and middle secondary

LANGUAGE: French with English subtitles

In a not-so far away land, not-so long ago, lived an ordinary little girl called Cathy...

Suspecting she is invisible to her parents, six-year-old Cathy decides to test the theory by disappearing into the forest. And so begins an extraordinary adventure – with a little help from Cathy's overactive imagination.

Director and cinematographer Olivier Ringer brings a wonderful naturalistic visual aesthetic to his contemporary fable, capturing the magical nature of the forest journey without the need for animation or computer effects.

Narrated entirely by Cathy's creative inner dialogue, *On the Sly* is a Girl's Own Robinson Crusoe escapade – a fairytale without the make-believe.

Winner of the Children's Jury Award at the Montreal International Children's Film Festival.

CURRICULUM LINKS: English, French, Film/Media, The Humanities

SCHOOL SCREENING Friday 29 July, 11am at ACMI

Junior & Middle Secondary



Winter's Daughter

Germany/Poland (90 mins, dir. Johannes Schmid)

GENRE: Drama

KEY THEMES: Family bonds, coming-of-age, European history

SUITABLE YEAR LEVELS: Senior junior and middle secondary

LANGUAGE: German with English subtitles

A touching story about a young girl determined to track down her biological father.

Eleven-year-old Kattaka is celebrating Christmas with her parents when an unexpected phone call turns her world upside down. The shocking news: her dad isn't really her dad. Her biological father is a stranger, a Russian sailor named Alexi.

Fighting through her initial anger and disappointment, she resolves to track down her real father. Accompanied by her elderly neighbour and her best friend, Kattaka leaves Berlin to travel east, toward the Polish seaport where Alexi's ship is docked.

By turns inspiring and moving, *Winter's Daughter* takes us on an eccentric road trip into Eastern Europe, as a girl faces her fears to find out where she belongs.

CURRICULUM LINKS: English, German, Film/Media, History and Politics, The Humanities

SCHOOL SCREENINGS Thursday 28 July, 2.30pm at ACMI
Wednesday 3 August, 11am at ACMI



Africa United

UK (90 mins, dir. Debs Gardner-Paterson)

GENRE: Comedy

KEY THEMES: African culture and geography, sport, friendship, HIV

SUITABLE YEAR LEVELS: Junior and middle secondary

LANGUAGE: English

A story of joy, laughter, hope and generosity, as a ragtag group of African youths set out on the journey of a lifetime.

When Fabrice, a young Rwandan with dreams of being a football star, is given the chance to audition for the 2010 World Cup, he sets off on a ramshackle journey across Africa, his self-appointed 'manager' Dudu and his sister Beatrice in tow. Their haphazard expedition sees them encounter former child soldiers, slave owners and others determined to help them on their way to Johannesburg.

The realities of modern day Africa – including the prevalent HIV epidemic – are neither ignored nor sugarcoated in this uplifting road movie about the uncrushable spirit and determination of three friends.

CURRICULUM LINKS: English, Film/Media, Geography and Politics, Ethics, Health and Human Development

SCHOOL SCREENING Wednesday 3 August, 1.30pm at ACMI

Middle & Senior Secondary



The Matchmaker

Israel (112 mins, dir. Avi Nesher)

GENRE: Drama

KEY THEMES: Coming-of-age, friendship, love

SUITABLE YEAR LEVELS: Middle and senior secondary

LANGUAGE: Hebrew with English subtitles

A lively coming-of-age story set in 1968, when the West's 'summer of love' finally spilled into a socially conservative Israel.

An avid reader of crime fiction, 16-year-old Arik can't believe his luck when he lands a summer job doing detective work for Yankele, a Holocaust survivor who makes his living as a matchmaker. Brushing shoulders with the strange residents of the seedy port district of Haifa, Arik quickly realised he has a lot to learn about love – especially when he meets Tamara, his rebellious cousin visiting from America.

Veteran director Avi Nesher takes us back to an Israel on the cusp of change, giving us a coming-of-age story with a difference – one that touches on the personal struggles privately endured by a generation of Holocaust survivors.

CURRICULUM LINKS: English, Hebrew, Film/Media, History and Politics, Ethics, The Humanities

SCHOOL SCREENINGS Wednesday 27 July, 1.30pm at ACMI
Thursday 4 August, 11am at ACMI



Under the Hawthorn Tree

China/Hong Kong (115 mins, Zhang Yimou)

GENRE: Drama

KEY THEMES: Asian culture, family bonds, coming-of-age, love

SUITABLE YEAR LEVELS: Middle and senior secondary

LANGUAGE: Mandarin with English subtitles

Veteran director Zhang Yimou (*Raise the Red Lantern*) brings us a story of youthful passion amid the turmoil of the Cultural Revolution of 70s China.

With her father a political prisoner, trainee teacher Jing is sent to a provincial village as part of her 're-education'. There she meets Sun, a smart, handsome geology student – the attraction between them is immediate and unmistakable.

But their budding romance is dangerously at odds with the social mores and political paranoia of the world around them, and Jing is faced with an impossible choice between love and duty.

Based on a best-selling novel by Chinese author Aimi, who adapted the tale from a true story, *Under the Hawthorn Tree* is a moving tale of star-crossed romance against a backdrop of social upheaval and political turmoil.

CURRICULUM LINKS: English, Literature, Mandarin, Media, History

SCHOOL SCREENINGS Friday 29 July, 1.30pm at ACMI
Tuesday 2 August, 1.30pm at ACMI

Falling for Sahara

Australia (81 mins, dir. Khoa Do)

GENRE: Drama

KEY THEMES: Australian culture, refugees and asylum seekers, sport, friendship, love

SUITABLE YEAR LEVELS: Senior secondary

LANGUAGE: English, Amharic and Arabic with English subtitles



Three young African refugees in Melbourne's inner-west find that love is never simple – especially when they all have eyes for the same girl.

Beniam, Ramsy and MJ are best friends. Hanging out at the Flemington housing commission flats they call home, the three Africans share a tight bond and a love of footy. But with the arrival of Sahara – smart, beautiful and AFL-mad – the three friends suddenly find themselves competing for the same girl.

Director Khoa Do co-wrote *Falling for Sahara* with his cast of African-Australian actors, refugees from Ethiopia, Eritrea and Sudan. A tireless advocate for refugees and at-risk youth in Australia, Do was awarded Young Australian of the Year in 2005.

A Q&A with the director and cast of the film will follow both screenings.

CURRICULUM LINKS: English, Media, The Humanities, Civics and Citizenship, Ethics, Politics

SCHOOL SCREENINGS Tuesday 2 August, 11am at ACMI
Thursday 4 August, 1.30pm at ACMI



My Wedding and Other Secrets

New Zealand (88 mins, dir. Roseanne Liang)

GENRE: Romantic Comedy

KEY THEMES: Links with Asia, family bonds, identity and belonging, love

SUITABLE YEAR LEVELS: Senior secondary

LANGUAGE: English, some Mandarin and Cantonese with English subtitles

New Zealand audiences have embraced this charming, oddball comedy about the challenges of cross-cultural love.

When Chinese-New Zealand film student Emily meets the daggy-but-adorable James, they fall for each other almost instantly. Everything seems perfect, but there's just one little problem: Emily's traditional parents will never accept her dating – much less marrying – a non-Chinese. Still, what they don't know won't hurt them, right?

Director Roseanne Liang drew on her own cross-cultural relationship experience (chronicled in her 2005 diary-documentary *Banana in a Nutshell*) to co-write an unaffected romantic comedy about family, cultural collisions and charming, geeky love.

"A charming romantic comedy based on emotionally wrenching real life events... this is a story being played out in homes all around New Zealand." – *OnFilm*

CURRICULUM LINKS: English, Media, The Humanities, Mandarin, Civics and Citizenship, Ethics, Politics

SCHOOL SCREENING Friday 5 August, 1.30pm at ACMI