

MEDIA RELEASE



MIFF PREMIERE FUND ROUND SIX CALLS FOR SUBMISSIONS

MELBOURNE: 23 July 2009 – The **Melbourne International Film Festival MIFF Premiere Fund** has opened its application process for Round Six with a call for submissions that closes on 17 August 2009.

The **MIFF Premiere Fund** commenced operations in September 2007 with a A\$1.6 million grant over two years from the Victorian State Government. At MIFF 2008, Victorian State Premier John Brumby and Innovation Minister Gavin Jennings announced that the **MIFF Premiere Fund** would continue with a further A\$1.6 million grant over two years from July 2009. The Fund provides strategic minority financial supports to a range of local theatrical documentaries and narrative feature films that will have their premieres at **MIFF**.

Thus far, the **MIFF Premiere Fund** has offered co-financing to 14 films, including **MIFF 2009** opening night film **BALIBO** and closing night film **BRAN NUE DAE**, as well as **BLESSED**, **THE LOVED ONES** and feature documentary **INDONESIA CALLING**. Premiere Fund titles in **MIFF 2008** included opening night film **NOT QUITE HOLLYWOOD** as well as sell-out premieres of **ROCK N ROLL NERD**, **BASTARDY** and **CELEBRITY: DOMINICK DUNNE**

Thus far, **MIFF Premiere Fund** films for **MIFF 2010** include **LOVE & MORTAR**, **KIN** and feature documentary **BEN LEE: CATCH MY DISEASE**. Round Six of the **MIFF Premiere Fund** seeks applications from projects that can premiere at **MIFF 2010** and funding decisions will be announced on 15 September 2009. Round Seven of the **MIFF Premiere Fund** (which opens 22 September 2009) will consider applications from films to premiere at **MIFF 2011**.

MIFF Premiere Fund production financing supports can include completion/enhancement loans, mini-gap equity investments and matching marketing/distribution advances. The Fund accepts applications from Victorian producers with market-ready feature documentary and feature drama projects in advanced stages of financing. Submissions must demonstrate that they: have strength of connection to Victoria; can premiere at **MIFF**; have viable co-financing to enable them to go into production in time for a **MIFF** premiere; and will benefit in creative, industrial and/or distribution terms from MIFF's financial backing.

For guidelines and application forms, go to <http://www.miffpremierfund.com>

In addition to being offered production co-financing, successful applicants to the **MIFF Premiere Fund** also receive complimentary registration to **MIFF 37°South Market**, MIFF's film co-financing market that occurs in the opening weekend of **MIFF**. **MIFF Premiere Fund** co-financed titles also receive priority for **37°South: Breakthru Screenings**, showcasing films requiring sales and/or distribution to the market's invited buyers. For more information on **MIFF 37°South Market**, go to <http://www.miff37degreesSouth.com>

For more details on the **Melbourne International Film Festival**, including ticket purchases for **MIFF 2009**, go to <http://www.melbournefilmfestival.com.au>

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