

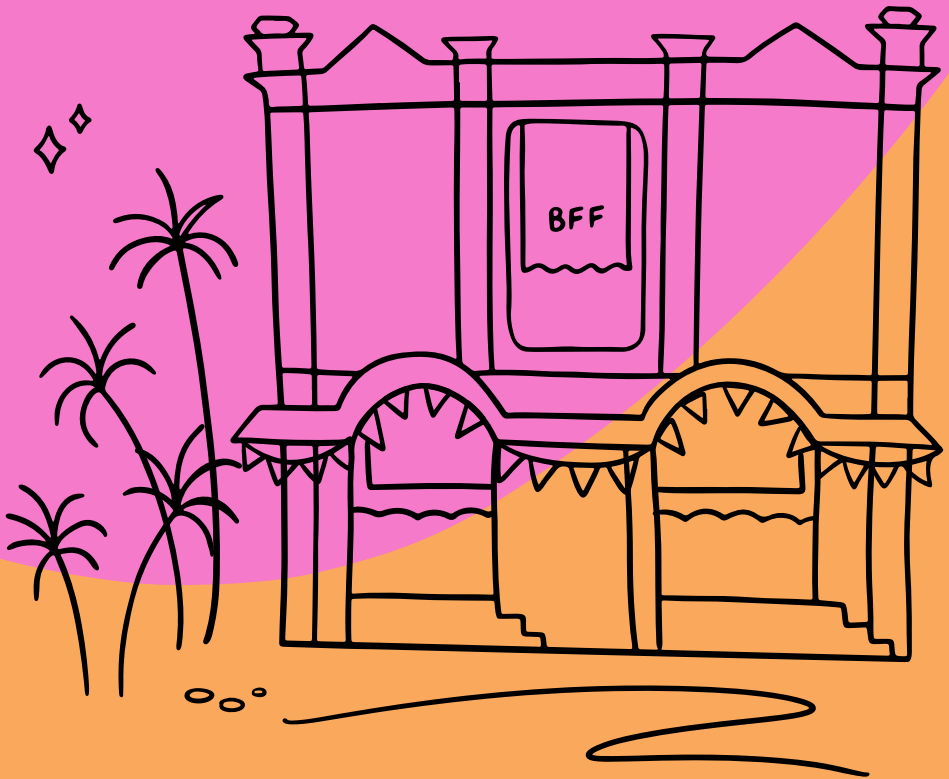
**BFF
2024**

**Bangalow
Film
Festival**

**7-16
MARCH
2024**

FESTIVAL PROGRAM

World Class Films, Small Town Charm



A&I Hall Bangalow

📍 **f** bangalowfilmfestival.com.au



WELCOME TO THE 2024 BANGALOW FILM FESTIVAL

The 2024 program is the biggest, boldest and most kaleidoscopic that we have ever attempted to deliver - with over 20 movies all premiering at the festival, 3 masterclasses and scores of special guests heading to Bangalow for 10 days to remember!

We have a program showcasing the latest movies by some of the most renowned helmers in cinema - Win Wenders, Werner Herzog, Ryusuke Hamaguchi - a well as a line-up of internationally critically acclaimed documentaries portraying visual artists, fashion designers, mycologists and surf stars, and focusing on topical environmental issues.

We're thrilled to be able to open the festival with the premiere of Molly Reynold's heartfelt portrait of the late Craig Ruddy, a much-beloved artist and friend to many in our community.

We will celebrate one of Australia's most iconic modern classics, *The Adventures of Priscilla Queen of the Desert* in true BFF fashion, with a multi-part event bringing to the Bangalow A&I Hall some of the creative minds behind the making of the film! This will be an epic event and we invite you to dress up for it! And we're proud and excited to be able to launch *Made in the Northern Rivers*, a new program of original artistic collaborations with local musicians and creatives.

Check out the program and we hope to see you in Bangalow!

- **Christian Pazzaglia**, *Program Director*



THURS 7TH MARCH | 7:30PM **SOLD OUT**
& SAT 9TH MARCH 1.15PM

A Portrait of Love

Directed by Molly Reynolds | Australia | 2024 | 90 min | M

For over 20 years, Archibald Prize-winning artist Craig Ruddy and his partner Roberto Meza Mont filmed their life together to share with friends, fans and family. To tell their story, their friend, documentary-maker Molly Reynolds, spent months immersed in Roberto's footage and crafted her most intimate film to date. **The screening will be followed by a Q&A with Director Molly Reynolds and Roberto Menza Mont.**



FRI 8TH MARCH | 2:30PM

Anselm

Directed by Wim Wenders | Germany | 2023 | 93 min | M

A stunning visual journey through the art of one of the most extraordinary artists of our time (Anselm Kiefer), created by one of the most influential filmmakers (Wim Wenders).



AUSTRALIAN
PREMIERE

FRI 8TH MARCH | 5:00PM

Patrick And The Whale

Directed by Mark Fletcher | Austria | 2022 | 72 min | PG

For years, marine videographer Patrick Dykstra has dedicated his life to traveling the globe, following and diving with whales. Using stunning underwater footage, this multi award-winning documentary follows his personal journey and the extraordinary connection he developed with a female sperm whale.

Proudly presented by Farmer Jo.



WORLD
PREMIERE

FRI 8TH MARCH | 7:30PM

Follow The Rain

Directed by Catherine Marciniak | Australia | 2023 | 76 min | G

World famous fungi hunters Stephen Axford and Catherine Marciniak invite audiences on a unique expedition into the wilderness of Australia, where the symbiotic dance between fungi, plants and animals, unlocks nature's greatest secrets.

The screening will be followed by a Q&A with the director Catherine Marciniak and Stephen Axford with television presenter Liz Ellis.



ACADEMY
AWARD
NOMINEE

SAT 9TH MARCH | 3:30PM

The Eternal Memory

Directed by Maite Alberdi | Chile | 2023 | 85 min | M

Winner of the Grand Jury Prize (World Cinema Documentary) at the 2023 Sundance Film Festival, *The Eternal Memory* chronicles the lives of Augusto and Paulina, as they navigate the challenges of Alzheimer's disease.

Proudly presented by Honeybee Homes.



30TH
ANNIVERSARY
EVENT

SAT 9TH MARCH | 7:30PM

The Adventures of Priscilla, Queen of the Desert

Directed by Stephan Elliott | Australia | 1993 | 103 min | M

Join us for a very special event celebrating this iconic Australian Film. In addition to the film we are thrilled to bring you an evening of sequins, glitter and fabulous revelations and untold tales that will make you see Priscilla in a whole new light! Join the talented minds who brought this iconic film to life with 'The Untold Story of Priscilla'. Proudly presented by Byron Bay Coffee Company .



AUSTRALIAN
PREMIERE

SAT 9TH MARCH | 9:30PM

Cocoricò Tapes

Directed by Francesco Tavella | Italy | 2023 | 67 min | MA15+

The 90's have been creative and destructive years, in which everything seemed both possible and at the same time, close to collapsing. And there, in the iconic pyramid-shaped nightclub called Cocoricò, a chapter of international clubbing history was written. Cocoricò Tapes tells the story told through the unpublished images of those years and through the words of the people who made those radical nights possible. Proudly presented by the Italian Cultural Institute in Sydney.



SUN 10TH MARCH | 5:30PM

Invisible Beauty

Directed by Bethann Hardison & Frédéric Tcheng
USA | 2023 | 115 min | M

The essential memoir of fashion pioneer Bethann Hardison, *Invisible Beauty* shines a spotlight on one of the fashion industry's most influential icons who, as a pioneering Black model, modeling agent and entrepreneur, has pushed the boundaries of global fashion culture and has been at the forefront of progress throughout her career. *Invisible Beauty* traces Hardison's impact from runway shows in the 1970s to today's corporate board rooms.



SUN 10TH MARCH | 8:15PM

Evil Does Not Exist

Directed by Ryusuke Hamaguchi | Japan | 2023 | 106 min | M

Takumi and his daughter Hana live in Mizubiki Village, close to Tokyo. Like generations before them, they live a modest life according to the cycles and order of nature. A moving eco-fable by the acclaimed Japanese director Ryusuke Hamaguchi (Best International Feature Film Academy Award for *Drive My Car*), winner of four major prizes at the 2023 Venice Film Festival, including a Grand Jury Prize.



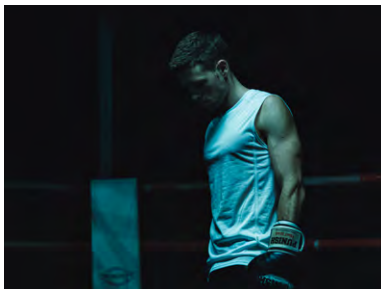
MON 11TH MARCH | 5:00PM

Finding The Money

Directed by Maren Poitras | USA | 2023 | 95 min | PG

Finding the Money follows the economist Stephanie Kelton on a journey through the controversial Modern Money Theory (MMT), the heterodox economic policy model that reframes our understanding of government funding, spending, and national debt.

The screening will be followed by a Q&A with the director Maren Poitras and Stephanie Kelton.



MON 11TH MARCH | 7:30PM

Heart of The Man

Directed by David Cook | Australia | 2024 | 85 min | M

A desperate boxing coach pushes his son to become the champion he could never be - until one fateful night, a gut-wrenching discovery throws his whole world into turmoil - while the truth about his past finally catches up with him. Set in regional Queensland, Heart of the Man is an authentic depiction of the struggle between familial and social expectation and what you really love, and who you are as a human being. **Director David Cook and Actor Parker Little will be in attendance to introduce the film.**



TUES 12TH MARCH | 5:00PM

Theatre of Thought

Directed by Werner Herzog | USA | 2022 | 107 min | PG

Through the lens of legendary filmmaker Werner Herzog, Theatre of Thought takes us on a provocative journey into the study of the mind and consciousness, daring us to question whether we truly have autonomy over our thoughts, or if our brains will inevitably become infused with mind-controlling technology in the not so distant future.

Proudly presented by Tilt Media.



TUES 12TH MARCH | 7:30PM

Afire

Directed by Christian Petzold | Germany | 2023 | 102 min | M

Friends Leon (Thomas Schubert) and Felix (Langston Uibel) head to an idyllic seaside home for the summer. They look forward to relaxation, but also must focus on their creative projects. Gorgeously staged and directed by Christian Petzold (Barbara, Phoenix, Undine), this tragicomic story of friendship, artistic pursuit and the complexity of human interaction was awarded with a Grand Jury Prize at the 2023 Berlin Film Festival.



WED 13TH MARCH | 5:30PM

Eskawatã Kayawai - The Spirit of Transformation

Directed by Lara Jacoski & Patrick Belem | Brazil | 2023 | 72 min | M

In the heart of the Amazon rainforest the First Nation Huni Kuin are experiencing the renaissance of their identity, after decades of slavery and being forbidden to live their culture. The spirit of Transformation shows the profound connection that the Huni Kuin people have with Ayahuasca and how its integration into their rituals led to the rediscovery of their culture.



WED 13TH MARCH | 7:30PM

Freud's Last Session

Directed by Matthew Brown | USA | 2023 | 122 min | M

London, 1939. On the eve of the Second World War the father of psychoanalysis, Sigmund Freud (Anthony Hopkins), host Oxford don and committed Christian C.S. Lewis (Matthew Goode) at his Hampstead home for a debate over the existence of God.



THUR 14TH MARCH | 5:15PM

Big Wave Guardians

Directed by Luke Stirtz | USA | 2022 | 90 min | PG

Hawaii's North Shore is the world's most dangerous seven-mile stretch of beach. Massive swells, life-and-death rescues, and "the best job in the world" - yet often the most hazardous one - is the compelling drama of Hawaii's big wave guardians.



FRI 15TH MARCH | 3:00PM

Smoke Sauna Sisterhood

Directed by Anna Hints
Estonia, France & Iceland | 2023 | 68 min | M

In the darkness of a smoke sauna, women share their innermost secrets and intimate experiences, washing off the shame trapped in their bodies and regaining their strength through communion. The first documentary by an Estonian director to compete and win at Sundance, Smoke Sauna Sisterhood is a deeply moving, intimate and breathtaking approach to issues of trauma, healing, and community.



FRI 15TH MARCH | 7:00PM

Radical

Directed by Christopher Zalla | Mexico | 2023 | 125 min | M

Based on true events, Radical shines a light on the incredible potential children can manifest when an innovative teacher empowers them to think for themselves. Festival Favourite Award at the 2023 Sundance Film Festival.

Co-presented by Byron Writers Festival.



SAT 16TH MARCH | 10:30AM

The Muppets Take Manhattan

Directed by Frank Oz | USA | 1984 | 98 min | G

Kermit the Frog, Miss Piggy and the whole Muppet gang are at it again. This time, the musical menagerie heads for the Big Apple and the bright lights of Broadway, hoping to turn their own musical into a hit show, only to find it's a more difficult task than they anticipated.



AUSTRALIAN
PREMIERE

SAT 16TH MARCH | 12:30PM

Common Ground

Directed by Joshua Tickell & Rebecca Harrell Tickell
USA | 2023 | 105 min | PG

Common Ground is the highly anticipated sequel to the juggernaut success documentary Kiss the Ground, which touched over 1 billion people globally and inspired the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) to put \$20 Billion toward soil health.



SAT 16TH MARCH | 3:00PM

Deep Rising

Directed by Matthieu Rytz | USA | 2023 | 93 min | PG

Jason Momoa narrates this exquisite fly-on-the-wall environmental documentary about one of the earth's least explored and most pristine environments: the deep sea. Demystifying this global crisis with intimate detail, Deep Rising illuminates the vital relationship between the deep ocean and sustaining life on Earth.

Proudly presented by Cybertrace.



AUSTRALIAN
PREMIERE

SAT 16TH MARCH | 5:00PM

Posso Entrare? An Ode to Naples

Directed by Trudie Styler | Italy | 2023 | 103 min | M

Naples, a city of passion, culture and fervid creativity, but also of abandonment and crime. Director Trudie Styler explores the contrasts and complexities of this unique city. Letting the people of Naples tell the story of their city, this heartfelt documentary reveals a unique microcosmos of generosity and cruelty, of lights and shadows.

Proudly presented by The Italian Cultural Institute Sydney.



AUSTRALIAN
PREMIERE

SAT 16TH MARCH | 7:30PM

Trilogy: New Wave

Directed by Andrew Mackenzie | USA | 2024 | 75 min | PG

Elite surfers Ethan Ewing, Griffin Colapinto and Seth Moniz travel to remote destinations searching for pristine waves and an escape from the stress of competition. Trilogy: New Wave follows them as they balance their careers with a desire to rediscover the joy of surfing, free from contest scores. The long awaited follow up to Taylor Steele's epic film, Trilogy.

BECOME A FRIEND OF THE FESTIVAL

Support the Festival you love and the community in which you live by becoming a friend of Bangalow Film Festival. A BFF of BFF! Bangalow Film Festival (BFF) is a not-for-profit organisation presenting an annual program celebrating local and international film and documentaries.

Your 'FOF' Membership includes

- A Double Festival Pass (Valued at over \$1,500)
- Discounts to on-site events held throughout the year
- Bragging rights - tell all your friends!
- A Festival Snack Pack on Opening Weekend

Membership

\$500

Valid for 12 months
from date of
purchase

30TH ANNIVERSARY EVENT

'The Adventures of Priscilla, Queen of the Desert'

Join us for a very special event celebrating this iconic Australian Film.

Event ticket
includes all
3 sessions



SAT 9TH MARCH | 6:00PM

The Untold Story: How we Made 'The Adventures of Priscilla, Queen of the Desert'

A behind the scenes panel including the film's Director **Stephen Elliot**, Production Designer **Owen Paterson**, **Guntis Sics**, and many more special guests! Hosted by Lucy Clark, Senior Editor at Guardian Australia.



SAT 9TH MARCH | 7:00PM

Live Performance by Maude Boate

Queen of Drag Queens! A very special Live Performance from Lismore's Maude Boate, celebrating the music of the film.

SAT 9TH MARCH | 7:30PM

Film Screening

Directed by Stephen Elliott
Australia | 1993 | 103 min | M

MASTERCLASSES

NEW TO
BFF24

SUN 10TH MARCH | 7:30PM

Working With Archive

An Aquarius Festival Film Event, Presented by Tilt Media

Accompanied by other industry professionals on stage, respected local director Wendy Champagne addresses how to integrate historical material into factual filmmaking. Using the making of her forthcoming documentary about the Aquarius festival as a case study, she will share invaluable insights on working with archival material.

WED 13TH MARCH | 3:00PM

Composing for Screen

with Guy Gross, Presented by SAE Institute

Join multi-award-winning Australian film and television composer Guy Gross for an inside look at how a film score is developed. Be inspired and walk away appreciating music in film and television with a whole new perspective.

THURS 14TH MARCH | 3:00PM

Recording Sound

with Guntis Sics, Presented by SAE Institute

Have you ever wondered how sound is captured for those crucial movie scenes? Join Academy Award Nominated, Australian Sound Engineer Guntis Sics as he reveals the tricks of the trade. A behind the scenes understanding of how sounds are created, captured, and used to bring your favourite movies scenes to life.

MADE IN THE NORTHERN RIVERS

Music
& Film
Events



SUN 10TH MARCH | 3:00PM | A&I HALL

The Mushroom Whisperers

The Mushroom Whisperers is an audio-visual concert featuring Romano Crivici and Carla Thackrah, the composers behind the magnificent score of *Follow The Rain*. They are joined by one of Australia's finest didgeridoo players Mark Atkins, and multi-instrumentalist Jess Ciampa with the quartet bringing you an intimate, immersive live music event, set to the backdrop of stunning timelapse footage from *Follow the Rain*.



THUR 14TH MARCH | 7:30PM | A&I HALL

Dustyesky Meet Aleksandr Dovzhenko's Earth

The much beloved choir Dustyesky return to the stage with their very first film concert! *Earth* is celebrated by film critics as one of cinema's supreme visual masterpieces. Commissioned to make propaganda for Stalin's farm collectivization, the acclaimed Ukrainian filmmaker Alexander Dovzhenko instead delivered an impassioned hymn to nature, following the farmer Vassily as he opposed the coming of collective farming.



FRI 15TH MARCH | 6:30PM | A&I HALL

A Love Letter to Musicals with Shire Choir

An ode to the magic of musicals and to singing your heart out. A feature-length sing-along mash-up made of some of the most famous and beloved songs from iconic musicals with each song sung live by a chorus. This is a one-of-a-kind emphatic love letter to musicals and to singing, created by the Shire Choir for the Bangalow Film Festival.



FRI 15TH MARCH | 9:30PM | A&I HALL

Nosferatu (A)Live

Screening of F.W. Murnau's *Nosferatu: A Symphony of Horror* with a LIVE score performance by Jai Piccone. This special live music-and-film event brings together the multitalented Jai Piccone and F.W. Murnau's iconic 1922 silent film '*Nosferatu: A Symphony of Horror*'.

With live performance by Jai Piccone.

SESSION TIMES



Documentary



Feature Film



Includes Live Performance



Masterclass

THURSDAY 7TH MARCH

7:30PM **A Portrait of Love**

FRIDAY 8TH MARCH

2:30PM **Anselm**

5:00PM **Patrick and the Whale**

AUSTRALIAN
PREMIERE

7:30PM **Follow The Rain**

WORLD
PREMIERE

SATURDAY 9TH MARCH

1:15PM **A Portrait of Love**

3:30PM **The Eternal Memory**

7:30PM **The Adventures of Priscilla, Queen of the Desert**

30TH
ANNIVERSARY

9:30PM **Cocoricò Tapes**

AUSTRALIAN
PREMIERE

SUNDAY 10TH MARCH

11:00AM **Masterclass: Aquarius Festival**

3:00PM **The Mushroom Whisperers**

5:30PM **Invisible Beauty**

8:15PM **Evil Does Not Exist**

MONDAY 11TH MARCH

5:00PM **Finding the Money**

7:30PM **Heart of The Man**

TUESDAY 12TH MARCH

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SESSION TIMES



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Masterclass

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AUSTRALIAN
PREMIERE

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40TH
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AUSTRALIAN
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AUSTRALIAN
PREMIERE

Learn More

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about each film or session here**



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