

PALACE
PRESENTS

SCANDINAVIAN

FILM FESTIVAL 2016

SYDNEY | JULY 5 TO JULY 27

BOOK
NOW!

CHAUVEL CINEMA | PALACE VERONA | PALACE NORTON STREET



OPENING NIGHT | WELCOME TO NORWAY

Rune Denstad Langlo brings humour to a topical subject in this black comedy about aspiring hotel owner Primus (Anders Baasmo Christiansen, *In Order of Disappearance*) who decides to turn his half-built alpine hotel near the Norwegian-Swedish border into a state-funded refugee asylum center in order to cash in on government funds. Winner - Best Nordic Film (Audience Award), Göteborg Film Festival 2016.



SPECIAL PRESENTATION | THE FENCER

Named "The best Finnish film in a decade" by Finland Today, this inspirational story is a fictionalized biopic based on the life of legendary fencer Endel Nelis who hid from Stalin's secret police in a remote Estonian village, trying to keep a low profile as the local school's sports instructor. 2016 Golden Globe Nominee - Best Foreign Language Film.



CENTREPIECE | LAND OF MINE

Based on extraordinary true events, writer/director Martin Zandvliet's stunning, multi award-winning new film is a gripping thriller about a group of young German POW soldiers in Denmark in the immediate aftermath of World War II. Echoing Peter Weir's *Gallipoli* and Kathryn Bigelow's *The Hurt Locker* but an impact truly of its own, this demands to be experienced on the big screen.



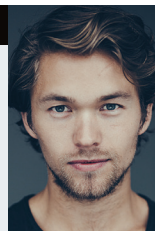
NORDIC NOIR: REFN'S THE PUSHER TRILOGY

Hitting the scene at 26 years-old, Nicolas Winding Refn made his directorial debut with 1996's *Pusher*. Despite the ten year gap between the first and last films, the trilogy showcases a cohesive and kinetic visual style and recurring themes of honour, family, and the cruel twists of fate that haunt the central characters forcing them into dreadful corners. Nordic Noir at its finest, this is a synapse-splitting series not for the faint hearted. Screening exclusively at Chauvel Cinema.



MEET THE FILMMAKER | JANET MEREWETHER

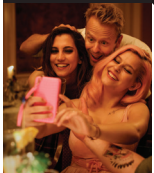
Inghilda Tapio is an inspirational writer and performer and one of the last generation of Saami reindeer herders born to nomadic parents in Saapmi, Sweden's Arctic Circle. This latest documentary *Reindeer in My Saami Heart* by award-winning Australian director Janet Merewether is an inspiring tale of indigenous cultural survival. The July 14 screening with the cast and crew will be followed by a Q&A with Janet Merewether.



FESTIVAL GUEST | JAKOB OFTEBRO

Norwegian star Jakob Oftebro is one of Scandinavia's most talented and charismatic actors. He has appeared in more than twenty films including Academy Award nominated *KON-TIKI* (2012) and *IN ORDER OF DISAPPEARANCE* (2014); and BAFTA nominated Danish/Swedish TV series, *THE BRIDGE*. Jakob will be in town to promote his new films: the Danish epic *GOLD COAST* set in 1836, and the highly anticipated Swedish sequel *AS IT IS IN HEAVEN 2: HEAVEN ON EARTH*.

DENMARK



COMEBACK

Natasha Arthy (*The Killing*) returns to feature films with this black comedy about Thomas, a former successful stand up comedian, who will do anything to get back on top. Unfortunately, while he is planning his comeback his estranged teenage daughter (Sarah-Sophie Bousnina, *The Bridge*) turns up wanting to get to know him and threatening to derail his plans.



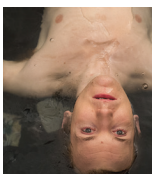
GOLD COAST

Rising star Jakob Oftebro (*Kon-Tiki*) stars as Danish romantic visionary Wulff Joseph Wulff who travels to Africa in 1836 to establish coffee plantations on the Gold Coast (today's southeast Ghana), but he is soon confronted with the harsh reality of colonialism, the slave trade and the corrupt Danes that rule the colony.



THE IDEALIST

In this political thriller based on true events, a whistleblower attempts to reveal the secret behind a nuclear disaster that occurred during the height of the Cold War. A visual mix of fictional and archival footage, this is intelligent and thought-provoking viewing.



PARENTS

Kjeld and Vibeke, a middle-aged Danish couple, are left at a loss after their son, Esben, moves out. Attempting to recapture the vigor and magic of their youth, they move into the old apartment where they first fell in love. *Parents* interweaves surrealism with deadpan Nordic humor to tell a story about rediscovering love and letting go of the past.

SWEDEN



A MAN CALLED OVE

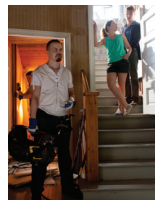
Fans of *The 100 Year-Old Man* and *Here is Harold* will love 59 year-old Ove, the block's grumpy man who has been relieved of his responsibility as president of the residents association, though you wouldn't know it as he continues to monitor the neighborhood with an iron fist! When pregnant Parvaneh and her family move into the house opposite an unexpected friendship is formed.

FINLAND



ABSOLUTION

A hit-and-run accident triggers a nightmarish spiral of guilt and revenge in this tense domestic drama from Finnish writer-director Petri Kotwica. Laura Birn (2014 Festival guest for *August Fools*) delivers a phenomenal performance in this chilly edge-of-your-seat festival highlight.



HOMECOMING

Tiina and Tomi decide to leave the hectic city life behind and move back to Tiina's small native coastal hometown. She wants to revive her relationship with her impossible father Urho and, through the familiar landscape of her childhood environment, find her real self again. Tomi, a former Nokia engineer, is also eagerly looking forward to downshifting to a peaceful life with his new step-family and punkish teenage daughter Emilia. The grand plan seems perfect - until life hits the fan.



THE MINE

One of Finland's most recent environmental scandals is dissected in this probing industrial drama about young civil servant Jussi, who is charged with overseeing the environmental permit for a large nickel mine. When he is exposed to a world of closed meetings and backhanded deals, Jussi is forced to decide if he will be an accomplice or whistle-blower.



OTHER GIRLS

Based on the actual video diaries of teenage girls in Finland, this charming and energetic delight introduces four high-school girlfriends coping with romance, independence, trust, and self-acceptance as they near graduation and adulthood.

NORWAY



THE WAVE

This thrilling, action-packed Norwegian box office hit tells the story of a dedicated geologist (Kristoffer Joner) who foresees that an eroding mountain will collapse into the fjord below prompting a tsunami in the spectacularly scenic tourist hot spot of Geiranger fjord. The human scale of this story based on a real-life disaster makes this well-crafted suspense drama even more chilling.

SWEDEN



A HOLY MESS

Swedish actress-writer-director Helena Bergström's hit comedy starring Robert Gustafsson (*The 100 Year-Old Man*) tells the hilarious story of modern couple Simon and Oscar, and their pregnant friend Sissi, who all decide to host Christmas dinner to announce to their families that the three of them are expecting a baby!



LOVE IS THE DRUG

Set in the gorgeous Swedish archipelago, Staffan Lindberg's new romantic comedy stars former Bond girl Izabella Sorupco (*Golden Eye*, 2009) as Veronica, who falls for the man she has hired to renovate her apartment. However their children and their parents conspire to ensure their romantic summer is anything but! Winner of the Audience Award at Sweden's Academy Awards.



THE YARD

This contemporary minimalist gem tells the story of a poet and writer who is fired from his job at a local newspaper after writing a negative review of his own work. He finds a job at the shipyard, a world completely different from the one he is used to. Winner of the Lorens Award at the 2016 Göteborg Film Festival.



AS IT IS IN HEAVEN 2: HEAVEN ON EARTH

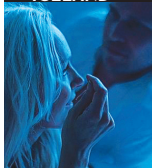
The highly anticipated sequel to Academy Award-nominated hit *As It Is In Heaven* (also screening in the Festival) reunites the cast in northern Sweden. World-renowned conductor, Daniel Dareus, has passed away leaving behind both his beloved choir and the love of his life, the beautiful soprano Lena, who is expecting their child. A moving tale about the redemptive power of music.



NICE PEOPLE

This real-life "Cool Runnings" follows the first ever Somali ice-hockey team in their struggle to reach the World Championship in Siberia in 2014. The team lives and trains in Borlänge, Sweden and is coached by legendary former bandy players Per Fosshaug and Cia Embretsen. Winner of the Audience Award at the 2015 Hamburg Film Festival, this is a touching festival highlight.

ICELAND



REYKJAVIK

A contemporary relationship drama in which thirty-something couple, Hringur and Elsa, are about to buy their dream house in downtown Reykjavik. However, when the video store that Hringur owns faces foreclosure, the crisis threatens to split the couple apart. Hringur must resolve things before it's too late.



SPARROWS

A multi award-winning and sophisticated coming-of-age story about 16-year old Ari who has been living with his mother in Reykjavik, when he is suddenly sent back to the remote Westfjords to live with his father Gunnar. Ari has to learn to navigate a difficult relationship with his father and the changed dynamics with his childhood friends he was once close with.



THE TOGETHER PROJECT

The late France-based, Iceland-born writer-director Solveig Anspach pays tribute to her Northern roots in this affably oddball romcom with a unique sensibility. Centering on the story of a man pretending he can't swim in order to get closer to the lifeguard he loves, this oddball indie delight won the SACD Prize in Directors' Fortnight in Cannes 2016.

SPECIAL SCREENING



REINDEER IN MY SAAMI HEART

Born into a nomadic Saami reindeer herding family in the Arctic Circle after WWII, Inghilda Tapio is a member of Sweden's own 'stolen generation,' forced by the Swedish government to attend residential boarding schools in the early 1950s. This innovative documentary presents the life of a woman who is passionate about preserving her language and culture for future generations.

SYDNEY SESSION TIMES

PALACE NORTON STREET

Tue 5 July
6:00 PM Pre-Film Party before 7:00PM film
Welcome to Norway

Wed 6 July
6:30 PM The Yard
8:30 PM A Holy Mess

Thu 7 July
6:30 PM Homecoming
8:45 PM Gold Coast

Fri 8 July
6:30 PM Nice People
8:45 PM Sparrows

Sat 9 July
1:45 PM Love is the Drug
4:00 PM The Idealist
6:30 PM Land of Mine
8:45 PM A Man Called Ove

Sun 10 July
1:30 PM As it is in Heaven
4:15 PM The Fencer
6:30 PM A Holy Mess

Mon 11 July
1:30 PM Other Girls
6:30 PM The Together Project
8:30 PM Parents

Tue 12 July
1:30 PM The Fencer
6:30 PM Welcome to Norway
8:45 PM Land of Mine

Wed 13 July
1:30 PM A Holy Mess
6:30 PM Reykjavik
8:30 PM Comeback

Thu 14 July
1:30 PM Welcome to Norway
6:30 PM Reindeer in My Saami Heart Followed by Q&A with Director Janet Merewether
8:45 PM A Man Called Ove

Fri 15 July
1:30 PM As it is in Heaven
6:30 PM Land of Mine
8:45 PM Absolution

Sat 16 July
1:15 PM The Wave
3:30 PM A Holy Mess
6:00 PM As it is in Heaven 2: Heaven on Earth + Q&A with Jakob Oftebro
8:30 PM Gold Coast preceded by intro by Jakob Oftebro

Sun 17 July
2:15 PM Welcome to Norway
4:15 PM Land of Mine
6:30 PM The Fencer

Mon 18 July
1:30 PM The Fencer
6:30 PM Other Girls
8:30 PM Sparrows

Tue 19 July
1:30 PM The Mine
6:30 PM Reindeer in My Saami Heart
8:15 PM The Yard

Wed 20 July
1:30 PM Land of Mine
6:30 PM The Idealist
9:00 PM Parents

Thu 21 July
1:30 PM A Holy Mess
6:30 PM Reykjavik
8:30 PM Homecoming

Fri 22 July
1:30 PM Reindeer in My Saami Heart
6:30 PM Welcome to Norway
8:30 PM The Together Project

Sat 23 July
1:15 PM Nice People
3:30 PM As it is in Heaven 2: Heaven on Earth
6:30 PM The Fencer
8:45 PM Love is the Drug

Sun 24 July
2:00 PM Absolution
4:15 PM Land of Mine
6:30 PM The Wave

Mon 25 July
6:30 PM Parents
8:30 PM The Fencer

Tue 26 July
6:30 PM Comeback
8:30 PM Welcome to Norway

Wed 27 July
By popular demand sessions. See website for details.

PALACE VERONA

Wed 6 July
6:30 PM The Idealist
9:00 PM Reykjavik

Thu 7 July
6:30 PM The Wave
8:45 PM The Mine

Fri 8 July
6:30 PM Absolution
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Wed 27 July
By popular demand sessions. See website for details.

CHAUVEL CINEMA

Sat 9 July
9:00 PM Pusher

Sat 16 July
9:00 PM Pusher 2

Sat 23 July
9:00 PM Pusher 3

TICKETS ON SALE TUESDAY 7TH JUNE!

- IN CINEMAS at box offices daily until sold out
- ONLINE at www.scandinavianfilmfestival.com.au, and
- BY PHONE, call the cinema directly during box office hours.

*Program subject to changes. Please check website for the most up to date details.

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