

**ADELAIDE  
FILM  
FESTIVAL**



**GOES TO CANNES**  
MARCHÉ DU FILM





**South Australian  
Film Corporation**

## Powering South Australia on screen

Established in 1972, the South Australian Film Corporation (SAFC) is the South Australian Government screen authority and investment body, powering the development, growth and promotion of the state's screen production sector.

For more than 50 years the SAFC has funded the development and production of South Australian made feature films and series, including such iconic titles as *Talk to Me*, *The Babadook*, *Wolf Creek*, *Breaker Morant*, *Picnic at Hanging Rock* and recent Cannes selections *The New Boy* and *The Stranger*, as well as Cannes prize winners *Charlie's Country*, *Snowtown*, *Ten Canoes* and *Australian Rules*.

The SAFC provides a range of innovative screen production funding incentives:

- 10% Production grant;
- 10% SA Post Production, Digital and Visual Effects rebate; and a
- Payroll Tax Exemption for feature films.

Combined with South Australia's diverse and convenient filming locations, experienced and dedicated crews, and flexible, purpose-built Adelaide Studios production facilities, South Australia is the perfect location for screen productions of all scales.

**Find out more at [safilm.com.au](http://safilm.com.au)**



ADELAIDE STUDIOS



SOPHIE WILDE IN *TALK TO ME*.  
PHOTO BY MATTHEW THORNE



CATE BLANCHETT IN *THE NEW BOY*.  
PHOTO BY BEN KING



ADELAIDE STUDIOS – SOUND STAGE.  
[SAFILM.COM.AU/ADELAIDE-STUDIOS](http://SAFILM.COM.AU/ADELAIDE-STUDIOS)

## ADELAIDE FILM FESTIVAL

### South Australia's premier screen event and investment fund

Dear colleagues,

For the first time, Adelaide Film Festival is partnering with the Marché du Film, Festival de Cannes, to present five new projects from South Australia as part of the *Goes to Cannes* showcase. Representatives from each project, in addition to five other exciting filmmakers from South Australia, are here in Cannes as part of our inaugural delegation.

Adelaide Film Festival is South Australia's premier screen event, presented each October. The festival focuses on Australian cinema, presented within an international program of more than 130 films. It boasts juried competitions for international fiction and documentary feature films, plus a suite of awards and an ongoing commitment to moving image art.

Adelaide Film Festival is distinguished through its equity investment in new screen production through the Adelaide Film Festival Investment Fund. To date, we have supported over 150 projects, including titles such as *Talk To Me*, *Housekeeping for Beginners*, *Sweet Country*, *Hotel Mumbai*, *Charlie's Country* and *Samson & Delilah*, among other culturally significant titles.

Thank you for your interest — we are proud to present these near-complete films and connect this new talent with the international market.

**Mat Kesting**  
CEO & Creative Director  
Adelaide Film Festival  
South Australia

**Adelaide Film Festival  
Goes to Cannes  
showcase**

Time: **14:00–15:50**  
Date: **Friday 17 May 2024**  
Venue: **Palais K**



ADELAIDE FILM FESTIVAL 2023.  
PHOTO BY SAIGE PRIME



ADELAIDE FILM FESTIVAL 2023.  
PHOTO BY MORGAN SETTE



MAT KESTING



MEET SOUTH AUSTRALIA'S  
PRODUCERS, WRITERS,  
DIRECTORS AND POST-  
PRODUCTION PROVIDERS.  
DOWNLOAD OUR TALENT  
HANDBOOKS.



[adelaidefilmfestival.org](http://adelaidefilmfestival.org)

# Kangaroo Island

Director:  
**Timothy David**

Australia  
Feature Fiction  
110 mins  
English  
Work in post-production  
Release year 2024

Lou Wells has hit rock bottom after a promising start to a career in Hollywood. Her ex needs her to move out, her friends are distancing themselves from her and her talent agency "just isn't excited by her anymore." Truth is, Lou Wells isn't excited about Lou Wells either. Broke and aimless, she reluctantly accepts a ticket from her estranged father, Rory, to go home to Kangaroo Island, Australia. But what begins as a reunion to foster reconciliation turns complicated when Lou and her sister learn their father's secret. Years of tension come to the surface, and Lou must decide whether she will continue to run away from her problems or confront the traumatic events that tore her family apart.



Representative:  
**Timothy David**, Director

Timothy David is the producer and director of a feature film in post-production, *Kangaroo Island* set in South Australia. As the producer, he developed the material over two years, raised the financing, then attached the star talent, before attaching local South Australian producers and crew to make the film alongside his role as director. South Australia is a place Timothy now calls home after 20 years abroad. *Kangaroo Island* is a film that can and should promote Adelaide, South Australia and Australia as a film destination. It has an Australian theatrical distributor attached and will shortly be seeking an international sales agent. Timothy produced and executive produced and directed in the US (New York) for over 15 years, winning the highest awards for films in advertising, including a Cannes Lions Grand Prix (x2).

Contact: [tim@wearepiro.com](mailto:tim@wearepiro.com)

Production company:  
Pouch Potato Productions Pty Ltd



# Lesbian Space Princess

Directors:  
**Emma Hough-Hobbs & Leela Varghese**

Australia  
Feature Animation  
84 mins  
English  
Work in post-production  
Release year 2024

A space princess is thrust out of her sheltered life and into a galactic quest to save her bounty hunter ex-girlfriend from the Straight White Malians. Introverted space princess Saira is devastated when she is unexpectedly dumped by her girlfriend Kiki for being needy. Deep in the depths of despair, Saira is thrown a lifeline when Kiki abruptly calls for help. Kiki has been kidnapped by forgotten incels known as the Straight White Malians. Problem is, they're

holding her ransom for the one thing Saira doesn't have: one of the most powerful weapons known to lesbian kind - her royal Labrys! Panicked and with just 24 hours on the clock, Saira sets out to save her ex in the hopes of winning her back. Join Saira's hazardous encounters with gloom goo, blade-wielding maniacs, dangerous dick turrets and the scariest thing of all: her own self-doubt.



Representative:  
**Leela Varghese**, Writer & Director

Leela Varghese (she/her) is a writer/director and musical comedian with a passion for joyful, diverse and impactful stories. Her queer comedy short, *Crush*, was a 2019 multi award-winning Tropfest film. She directed the Screen Australia short, *Science+* with over 100,000 views on Dust. Her award-winning comedy short *Furbulous*, was selected for Flickerfest 2023. Leela also directed the award-winning short, *The Normals*, currently in development with Stan for TV adaptation. Leela has an accomplished career in television, working as a presenter/segment producer for *Totally Wild* and *Behind The News*. She is co-director/writer for the feature film, *Lesbian Space Princess*, currently in production after being developed through the Film Lab: New Voices.

Contact: [Leela.varghese2@gmail.com](mailto:Leela.varghese2@gmail.com)

Production company:  
We Made A Thing Studios



# Mockbuster

Director:  
**Anthony Frith**

Australia, USA  
Feature Documentary  
90 mins  
English

Scheduled for delivery late 2024. Seeking international pre-sales and representation for world rights excluding Australia/New Zealand and North America.

Release year 2025

We all know *The Da Vinci Code*, *Pacific Rim* and *Tomb Raider*, but have you heard of *The Da Vinci Treasure*, *Atlantic Rim* or *Tomb Invader*? The Asylum, a US-based production house, is responsible for these so-called "mockbusters", low budget feature films created with the intent of exploiting the publicity of upcoming major releases. Best known for cult hit *Sharknado*, The Asylum have commissioned Anthony, a once promising but now struggling filmmaker,

to direct a mockbuster in Australia. With a tiny budget and a crippling schedule, Anthony and his ragtag crew are engulfed in chaos and compromise. Can Anthony achieve his dreams or will he destroy them? *Mockbuster* is a comedic, behind-the-scenes documentary of the making of a b-grade smash, that is both an unashamed celebration of trash cinema and a forensic look at the collision between art and commerce.



Representative:  
**Sandy Cameron**, Writer & Producer

Sandy Cameron is an Australian Writers' Guild award winning screenwriter and feature film producer. His work has screened at Sundance, Toronto, Venice and South by Southwest film festivals, streamed on Netflix, Stan and Bing and been remade in foreign languages. He has been nominated for an Australian Academy of Cinema and Television Arts Award and a company he co-founded has been nominated for Production Company of the Year by Screen Producers Australia. He has also worked extensively in screen funding agency and screen education roles and is currently a Lecturer at UniSA. His notable credits include *The Infinite Man* (as producer, SXSW 2014), Sam Klemke's *Time Machine* (as writer, Sundance 2015), and *Boys In The Trees* (as co-producer, Venice 2016).

Contact: [sandy.cameron@gmail.com](mailto:sandy.cameron@gmail.com)

Production companies:  
Walking Fish Productions  
& Mostly True Media



# The Iron Winter

Director:  
**Kasimir Burgess**

Australia, Mongolia  
Feature Documentary  
90 mins  
Mongolian  
Work in post-production  
Release year 2024

In Mongolia's coldest valley, horses mean life. But in the iron winter, nothing can survive alone. For countless generations, the herders of the Tsakhir Valley have protected their horses from ferocious arctic storms by amassing a giant winter herd, nominating their bravest young men to protect it. The daring tradition served as a brutal coming of age ritual, until five years ago, when under increasing environmental pressure,

it abruptly ended. Fearful about the loss of culture, elders soon vowed to revive it. And two young friends were handed the daunting responsibility to not only protect the valley's herd — but to save its most sacred practice. For four months, the boys battle Mongolia's deadliest winter on record, testing friendship and faith in a fight to keep 2000 horses alive, and preserve an ancient way of life.



Representative:  
**Ben Golotta**, Producer

Ben Golotta is a prominent figure in Adelaide's film industry, known for his work as a Producer/Director and as co-founder of Repeater Productions alongside Morgan Wright. With a strong portfolio comprising of award-winning short films, TVCs, and documentaries, Ben has earned recognition as a leading talent in South Australia. *The Iron Winter* marks his venture into feature film production, representing a significant milestone in his career and positioning Repeater Productions as a key player in the industry. Ben's commitment to excellence in storytelling is evident in every project he undertakes, resonating with audiences and contributing to the advancement of cinematic standards.

Contact: [ben@repeaterproductions.com](mailto:ben@repeaterproductions.com)

Production company:  
Repeater Productions



# With or Without You

Director:  
**Kelly Schilling**

Australia  
Feature Fiction  
113 mins  
English  
Work in post-production  
Release year 2024

Chloe, 26, sets out to remove her entertaining but alcoholic mother Sharon from the claws of temptation, with plans to take them both to start new lives in idyllic Byron Bay. But when Chloe's ex-boyfriend torches her caravan and everything in it, including her life savings, they find themselves on an unexpected road trip with a mysterious West African, Dalu, who's also determined to make a better life for himself.

Passions between Chloe and Dalu ignite, but Chloe resists. The last thing she wants is to follow in her mother's footsteps by making repeated wrong choices in love. As the three embark on the road trip in Chloe's rundown wagon, misconceptions, misunderstandings, and miscommunications along with humour, detours and wrong turns, lead to the realisation that facing your fears is the first step to freedom.



Representative:  
**Kelly Schilling**, Director

Kelly Schilling is an Australian screenwriter and director who works across film, television and online series. In 2023, Kelly finished production on her debut feature film, *With or Without You*, with producers Su Armstrong and Carolyn Johnson attached. Starring Marta Dusseldorp, Melina Vidler and Albert Mwangi, *With or Without You* will premiere at the Adelaide Film Festival in October, 2024. Kelly has directed and written on two Netflix series in Australia, and was a writer and director on Network Nine's *Two Twisted* series, produced by Aussie film icon Bryan Brown, starring Sam Worthington and Susie Porter. She was attached to director Phillip Noyce on his feature production *Catch a Fire*, and has won and been nominated for a mix of awards for her short films and her screenplays. Kelly's goal is to find the extraordinary within the ordinary and to bring universal, authentic stories to the screen that give audiences hope.

Contact: [kellyschilling@hotmail.com](mailto:kellyschilling@hotmail.com)

Production company:  
SixtyFourSixty Pty Ltd  
& Carolyn Johnson Films Pty Ltd



## Other Talent to Watch: South Australian Delegates at Cannes

**Travis Akbar** is a Wongutha man based on Peramangk country in the Adelaide Hills. He was mentored in screenwriting by Hollywood-credited writer, Steph Lady and selected for AFTRS State and National Talent Camps. In 2022–23, he was awarded a place in AiF's Untapped, Film Lab: New Voices program, awarded Documentary Australia's Centralized Fellowship and completed a Director's Attachment on feature film *The Red*. He made several documentaries along with the award-winning short film *Tambo*, which premiered at the inaugural SXSW Sydney and played at the Adelaide Film Festival. He has been awarded development funds from several agencies across Australia to develop projects such as *The Mish*, *Revelations*, *The Forgotten* and *Manhunt* and has worked independently across five countries, working alongside names such as Stuart Beattie and Victoria Hill. In 2024 he directed the award-winning music video for Eskatology's *I'm Sorry*, Travis attended Screen Forever as part of Broad Horizons, a Netflix x Screen Producers Australia Initiative.

Contact: [travis@darkbeforedawn.com.au](mailto:travis@darkbeforedawn.com.au)



**Josh Trevorrow** is a proud Ngarrindjeri man. His father was a survivor of the stolen generation. His mandate is to champion First Nations talent. Josh was attached to feature film *Mortal Kombat* and has produced and co-directed short documentary films *Keep Yarning Strong* and *Kondoli*. His project *Blak Coffee* was selected for Screen Australia/SBS Digital Originals development initiative in November 2024. Josh has a slate of scripted and non-scripted projects in development for Untold Productions. He has recently commenced early development on a multi-year feature-length factual project of significant historical and cultural importance for the Ngarrindjeri people. He participated in the most recent Adelaide Film Festival, South Australian Film Corporation and Screen Australia's *Film Lab: New Voices* initiative, as a producer. Josh has also worked as a short film programmer, including for the Art Gallery of South Australia and for Country Arts SA/Nunga Screen.

Contact: [josh@untoldproductions.com.au](mailto:josh@untoldproductions.com.au)

**Matt Vesely** is a South Australian writer and director, working across TV & Film. Matt works as a story producer, writer and development executive with award-winning South Australian collective Closer Productions. Matt's latest short, *System Error* (AFF Investment Fund 2020), was selected for the 2020 Tribeca Film Festival and opened the 2021 St Kilda Film Festival. His directorial feature debut, the science fiction thriller *Monolith* (AFF Investment Fund 2022), was selected to have its international premiere at South by Southwest in 2023. He is represented by XYZ Films in the US and HLA Management Australia.

Contact: [matt@mattvesely.com](mailto:matt@mattvesely.com)



**Lisa Scott** is one of Australia's leading producers and founder of Highview Productions. A multi-award winning producer, her recent productions include the hybrid feature documentary *Speedway*, which previewed at Adelaide Film Festival 2023, along with the short film *Blame The Rabbit* which premiered on opening night and shared the audience award for Best Short Film, the hit series *The Tourist* (Stan, BBC1 and HBO Max) smashing ratings records on BBC in 2022 and winning 3 awards at the Monte Carlo Television Festival, including Best Series, and *A Sunburnt Christmas* for Stan. Other award nominated productions include *The Hunting* (SBS), *Pine Gap* (Netflix/ABC), *ANZAC Girls* (ABC) and three seasons of *Janet King* (ABC). Lisa has two features in development: *Desert Fish* to be directed by Wayne Blair, currently in script development funded by Screen Australia, and *Dearly Departed* to be directed by Luke Rynderman based on an original concept written by Luke and Michael Mackenzie. Lisa was recently selected to be part of the AiF/Screen Australia initiative Global Producers Exchange.

Contact: [lisa@highviewproductions.com.au](mailto:lisa@highviewproductions.com.au)



**Nara Wilson** is a proud Wirangu, Kokatha and Larrakia woman who lives and works on Peramangk country in beautiful Mount Barker, South Australia. From 2018 – 2022 Nara implemented South Australia's first and second First Nations Screen Strategy at the South Australian Film Corporation she then in 2022 – 2023 implemented the state's inaugural First Nations Arts Strategy at Arts South Australia. In July 2023, Nara returned to being an emerging Creative Producer and is currently an Associate Producer at Vishus Productions working across their slate of TV and feature animation projects. Nara is also the Company Director of BiRiny where her passion lies and is focused on producing First Nations animation and documentary stories for the screen.

Contact: [narawils@vishusproductions.com](mailto:narawils@vishusproductions.com)

# Adelaide Film Festival

23 Oct—03 Nov 2024



**Adelaide Film Festival**  
Adelaide Studios  
1 Mulberry Road, Glenside  
South Australia 5065

[adelaidefilmfestival.org](http://adelaidefilmfestival.org)

***Adelaide Film Festival  
Goes to Cannes***  
showcase

Time: **14:00–15:50**  
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