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### SYDNEY FILM FESTIVAL

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Travelling Film Festival acknowledges the financial support of Screen NSW, Screen Australia and GIO.

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## HOW TO BOOK

Tickets available through TFF, online or in person at the cinema. Book now to avoid disappointment.

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# TRAVELLING FILM FESTIVAL

# 29-31 AUG 2025



## WAGGA WAGGA FORUM 6 CINEMAS



**BRINGING THE WORLD'S  
BEST CINEMA TO WAGGA WAGGA**

# SCHEDULE

All films start at the advertised time.

## FRIDAY 29 AUGUST

6:30 PM DJ AHMET (Unclassified 15+)

## SATURDAY 30 AUGUST

10:30 AM AGATHA'S ALMANAC (Unclassified 15+)

1:00 PM THE PRESIDENT'S CAKE (Unclassified 15+)  
Screens with short film MANGO SEED (Unclassified 15+)

3:45 PM SENTIMENTAL VALUE (Unclassified 15+)

7:00 PM THE BALLAD OF WALLIS ISLAND (Unclassified 15+)

## SUNDAY 31 AUGUST

10:30 AM THE GOLDEN SPURTLE (Unclassified 15+)

1:15 PM THE LOVE THAT REMAINS (Unclassified 15+)  
Screens with short film BAGGAGE (Unclassified 15+)

3:45 PM RACEWALKERS (Unclassified 15+)

6:30 PM IT WAS JUST AN ACCIDENT (Unclassified 15+)  
Screens with short film INTERVIEW WITH A HERO (Unclassified 15+)

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## OPENING NIGHT DJ AHMET



### FRIDAY 29 AUGUST | 6:30 PM

*Directed by Georgi M. Unkovski | North Macedonia, Czech Republic, Serbia, Croatia  
In Turkish and Macedonian with English subtitles | 99 mins | Unclassified 15+*

Charming, funny and uplifting, this Sundance Audience Award-winner tells the story of a 15-year-old North Macedonian boy finding refuge in dance music and in first love.

Ahmet and his brother Naim are growing up in a family scarred by grief in a remote village, conservative as it is superstitious. The boys' stern father has no qualms forcing Ahmet to work on the family sheep farm rather than let him go to school, whilst he takes his little brother Naim, silent since his mother's death, to a suspect healer. Into this grim reality enters the beautiful Aya, who has returned from Germany in order to enter an arranged marriage. When Ahmet discovers a secret rave he is immediately transfixed by the music, and by Aya, and sees a path to a more joyous and free life. With a mostly non-professional cast, Unkovski has made an authentic, jubilant feature debut about art's liberating power.

### VARIETY

"DJ Ahmet is a revelation in that it seamlessly straddles the line between laugh-out-loud crowd-pleaser and art-house gem with affecting gravitas."

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## AGATHA'S ALMANAC



**SAT 30 AUG | 10:30 AM**

*Directed by Amalie Atkins | Canada  
In English | 86 mins | Unclassified 15+*

This exquisite and delightful portrait of 90-year-old Agatha, who lives and thrives alone on her farm with quiet joy, was lovingly crafted by her artist niece. Hot Docs 2025.

Untouched by modern life, Agatha Bock tends her Manitoba farm just as she has since the 1950s – by hand, without a car or phone. She preserves seeds, grows everything from beans to watermelons, and shares vivid, humorous memories as she works. Filmed over six years on 16mm by her artist niece Amalie Atkins and an all-female crew, this quietly profound debut is a luminous ode to simplicity and self-sufficiency.

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### HIGH ON FILMS

"Atkins delivers one of the year's most indelible portraits... (the) camera brings a lushness, a vibrance so exquisite and glimmering that it gently soaks us."

## THE GOLDEN SPURTLE



**SUN 31 AUG | 10:30 AM**

*Directed by Constantine Costi  
Australia, UK | In English with English subtitles | 75 mins | All Ages*

A crowd-pleaser set in a picturesque Scottish village where contestants from around the globe have gathered for the annual World Porridge Making Championship. CPH:DOX 2025.

Each year, the sleepy Scottish village of Carrbridge bursts to life for the World Porridge Championships. Locals and eccentric international contestants – including Lisa, a reigning champ, Toby, a taco chef from Australia, and seven-time finalist, Nick – go head-to-head in a spirited oat-off. With warmth and humour, director Constantine Costi captures the charm and spunk of this Highlands competition with warmth, respect, and lashings of humour.

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### SCREEN INTERNATIONAL

"Like a hearty bowl of oat-based breakfast goodness, this is a film that will leave you with a lasting glow."

## THE PRESIDENT'S CAKE



**SAT 30 AUG | 1:00 PM**

*Directed by Hasan Hadi | USA, Iraq, Qatar | In Arabic and English with English subtitles | 103 mins  
Unclassified 15+*

A rare film from Iraq, this Cannes prize winner is a charming and touching debut about a young girl's daring quest to bake a cake in the time of Saddam Hussein.

It's 1990 in Iraq, and under the iron fist of Hussein extreme poverty is on the rise. Despite the circumstances, it's still mandatory that all Iraqis celebrate the president's birthday. An unlucky classroom draw finds nine-year-old Lamia given the unenviable task of baking the birthday cake for her class. Accompanied by her grandmother, Lamia departs for the big city, to procure the ingredients for the dreaded cake. Beautifully shot and acted, this film makes for an exhilarating adventure.

**SFF** FESTIVAL DE CANNES

### THE HOLLYWOOD REPORTER

"An exceptional debut, as perceptive as it is kinetic and, with one eye on the bombers overhead, brimming with life"

## THE LOVE THAT REMAINS



**SUN 31 AUG | 1:15 PM**

*Directed by Hlynur Pálmason  
Iceland, Sweden, Denmark, France  
In Icelandic with English subtitles  
109 mins | Unclassified 15+*

In this tender, poignant, and delightful Cannes selection, is a hilarious portrait of an Icelandic family as the parents navigate their divorce. Winner, Palm Dog, Cannes 2025.

Though in the throes of a separation, Anna and Magnus still spend time together for the sake of their children. Sea worker Magnus unsuccessfully attempts to assert himself as the patriarch. Artist Anna creates artworks that fail to receive suitable recognition. In their interactions, there is the familiarity of a long-held love, but also wit-filled indication of why the split is happening. Deep love is felt, not only for the humans at its heart, but for the sweeping natural Icelandic landscapes decorating this gentle study of a family.

**SFF** FESTIVAL DE CANNES

### THE GUARDIAN

"Pálmason examines a broken marriage through stunning imagery and quirky fantasy visions."

## SENTIMENTAL VALUE



**SAT 30 AUG | 3:45 PM**

*Directed by Joachim Trier | Norway, Germany, Sweden, Denmark, France  
In English, Norwegian and Swedish with English subtitles | 135 mins  
Unclassified 15+*

Winner, Cannes Grand Prix. Joachim Trier and Renate Reinsve reunite following *The Worst Person in the World* in this intimate family drama about the power of art.

Nora (Reinsve), an accomplished stage actress, reunites with her estranged father (Stellan Skarsgård), the once-revered director Gustav (Skarsgård). He asks Nora to take the lead role in a new, deeply personal film. In anger over his past abandonment of her and her sister, Nora declines. He instead casts eager Hollywood star Rachel Kemp (Elle Fanning), and begins work on the ambitious and risky film. But filial connections run deep, and the personal and the artistic intersect.

**SFF** FESTIVAL DE CANNES

### VANITY FAIR

"Yet another rich and humane look at existence from a filmmaker wise to the endless nuance of being a person in the world, far better or worst."

## RACEWALKERS



**SUN 31 AUG | 3:45 PM**

*Directed by Kevin Claydon, Phil Moniz  
Canada | In English | 80 mins  
Unclassified 15+*

This hilarious yet heartfelt comedy pits a struggling racewalking coach and his unlikely protégé, a washed-up pro baseball player, against the himbo champion. Winner, Slamdance Grand Jury Prize.

Being of short stature, Will (Phil Moniz) could never compete in the sport he loved: racewalking. When he sets his sights on channelling his passion into coaching instead, everyone is quick to write him off. Enter Matt (Kevin Claydon), a burnt-out baseball pitcher a perfect stride. He and Will team up to take on all those who would dismiss them. Written and directed by stars Moniz and Claydon, this charming underdog sports comedy – equal parts heart and hilarity – is sure to sweep you off your feet.

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### FILM INQUIRY

"It's a must-watch for anyone in need of a laugh and a little heart."

## THE BALLAD OF WALLIS ISLAND



**SAT 30 AUG | 7:00 PM**

*Directed by James Griffiths | UK  
In English | 100 mins | Unclassified 15+*

Carey Mulligan stars in this charming comedy, in which an eccentric lottery winner bank-rolls an unwitting reunion of his favourite musical duo – who happen to be former lovers.

Musician Herb McGwyer (Tom Basden) travels to Wallis Island, Wales, to play a private gig for a huge fee – courtesy of resident millionaire Charles (Tim Key). Herb isn't too pleased to learn that the gig is actually a reunion show with his former bandmate and lover, Nell Mortimer (Mulligan). As the pair rehearse, old tensions resurface and sparks fly, while the relentlessly positive Charles tries to keep the peace and his dream gig on track. Combining laughs with deep emotion, this beautifully performed ballad is pitch perfect.

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### VARIETY

"...the best kind of crowd -pleaser: disarming, joyful and full of compassion for its oddball characters. This Sundance charmer doesn't hit a false note."

## IT WAS JUST AN ACCIDENT



**SUN 31 AUG | 6:30 PM**

*Directed by Jafar Panahi | Iran, France, Luxembourg | In Farsi with English subtitles | 102 mins | Unclassified 15+*

Winner of the top prize at both Cannes and Sydney Film Festival, Jafar Panahi's road movie thriller melds moral dilemmas, comic moments and shocking revelations to extraordinary, potent effect.

The film begins with a family traveling on an isolated road, where an unfortunate bump in the road leads to their car being damaged. At the repair shop in the middle of the night, a worker observes something that triggers a memory with immense repercussions. From here, Panahi takes the audience on a thrilling emotional roller-coaster involving a great ensemble cast. We follow characters whose circumstances might well be very different from our own, but whose dilemmas, and choices between forgiveness and retribution, immerse us fully.

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### ROGEREBERT.COM

"A drama that left me speechless and wondering if it wasn't the career-best work from Panahi"

## SHORT FILMS

### MANGO SEED



*Directed by Berni Jiang  
Australia | 14 mins*

SCREENS WITH  
**THE PRESIDENT'S CAKE**

### BAGGAGE



*Directed by Lucy Davidson  
Australia, UK | 5 mins*

SCREENS WITH  
**THE LOVE THAT REMAINS**

### INTERVIEW WITH A HERO



*Directed by Andy 'Celeste' Diep  
Australia | 14 mins*

SCREENS WITH  
**IT WAS JUST AN ACCIDENT**

## KEY

**SFF**

Sydney Film Festival

**sundance**  
FILM  
FESTIVAL

Sundance Film Festival



FESTIVAL DE CANNES

Cannes Film Festival