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DOWN UNDER STAR TO GIVE INSIGHT INTO CRONULLA RIOTS FILM

Turning the 2005 Cronulla riots into a comedy was always going to be a controversial move, but lead actor, Lincoln Younes, says that's exactly the point.

Lincoln stars in *Down Under*, a black comedy set during the aftermath of the Cronulla riots. Newcastle audiences will get a first-look at the provocative and polarizing film as part of the **Real Film Festival (RFF)** that runs in Newcastle **October 28-30**. The young star will introduce the film and talk about his filming experience when it screens at Newcastle Tower Cinemas on **Saturday, October 29 at 8.30pm**.

Down Under is the story of two carloads of hotheads from both sides of the fight, destined to collide. A humorous take on the racially-fueled brawl, the film is designed to get people talking about the racism still prevalent in Australia.

The former *Home and Away* and *Love Child* star plays Hassim, a young Lebanese Australian who is caught up in the riots. Lincoln, who says he used his half-Lebanese heritage as inspiration for the role, called the character a "privilege" to play.

Down Under is directed by Abe Forsythe and stars David Field, Damon Herriman, Rahel Romahn, Fayssal Bazzi and Josh McConville. It premiered at the Sydney Film Festival and has received rave reviews.

Media contact:

For further information contact **Annette Hubber** on <mailto:annette@realfilmfestival.com.au> or **0423020191**.

Interviews and photos with Lincoln can also be arranged by contacting **Tess Campbell** on **0439 624 521**.

Real Film Festival Website: www.realfilmfestival.com.au