



MEDIA RELEASE

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Watch, Learn, Create and Connect at the Real Film Festival

The Real Film Festival (RFF) returns to Newcastle screens for its 6th year and promises to be bigger and better than ever and inject an estimated \$2million into the Hunter's economy.

Held October 27-29, the festival focuses on real people and real stories. The art of storytelling through film is celebrated over three exciting days, providing emerging filmmakers an opportunity to screen their work to audiences ranging from local enthusiasts right through to industry heavyweights.

"The festival weekend puts Newcastle up in lights, whilst highlighting the pool of creative talent that flows through the city," Festival Director Annette Hubber said.

"We are very excited to announce, this year we have secured a number of Advance Screenings of major films, that will premiere alongside local filmmakers films," she said.

"Each of the films have been chosen because they are either produced locally or their subject would resonate with the local audience.

The program is brimming with a variety of entertainment, including our official festival launch at the White Room, above Endota Spa, King Street Newcastle, opening night after party at Silo, a free family outdoor cinema screening, industry workshop and masterclasses, plus feature and short film screenings, so there is sure to be something for everyone.

"We have been lucky enough to secure a Q&A session after most of the films to give audiences unrepresented access to the filmmakers and subjects."

For those who want to be hands on, organisers have pulled together industry workshops and Q&A events to inspire and motivate young or emerging talent. The RFF workshops are run at various CBD locations and feature some of Australia's leading talent behind and in front of the camera.

The **RFF** commences on **Friday, October 27** with a full day of industry workshops – 12 in total - on topics ranging from filming and editing skills, special effects, how to be a hit on Youtube, game designing, the truth in storytelling, acting, the art of interviewing and many more.

On Saturday it's Masterclass day! The first of two sessions is called Commercialising your Film in an Online World. This masterclass will explore the burgeoning world of

online film distribution, and how filmmakers can work within it to ensure their film reaches a receptive audience.

The second masterclass - Camera Obscura - will be hosted by Jason van Genderen who will reveal what it's like to step inside and living, breathing camera. Jason will transform a room into a live camera without the use of electronics, lenses or recording mediums- one not to be missed!

This year's program contains a series of thought-provoking feature and short films, and documentaries that will play all weekend at Tower Cinemas. A highlight is the advanced screening of *Jungle* ahead of its Australian premiere next month, plus a Q&A session with the filmmakers.

Jungle tells the remarkable real story of a young Israeli backpacker, Yossi Ghinsberg (Daniel Radcliffe), who left a safe future behind at just 22 years of age to chase an improbable dream in the mysterious depths of the Amazon jungle.

"Jungle is a story of such resilience it's inspiring, motivating and makes you really question how is it that this man even survived – compelling viewing!," Annette said.

"*Only the Brave* is another incredible film on the billing. It is based on the true story of a heroic group of firefighters who fought one of America's most deadly wildfires. The film highlights the amazing role our own firefighters do and we have been lucky enough to have our local firefighters appear for a Q&A after the film."

There will also be fun for the whole family with a free outdoor cinema screening on Saturday at Speers Point Park from 5.30pm.

The festival will culminate on Sunday night with the announcement of the short film competition winners, ahead of the screening of local filmmaker Ian Hamilton's story *Angels Gather Here*. This film symbolises the strength, dignity and resilience of many Aboriginal people in the face of adversity.

"We are promoting local stories with a focus on real people and real stories highlighting the mass of talent that call this region home," she said.

Media contact:

For further information contact **Annette Hubber** on **0423020191**.

Interviews and photos with industry professionals can also be arranged by contacting Annette.

A full program list is available via Real Film Festival Website:

www.realfilmfestival.com.au

Check out the trailer for the 2017 Real Film Festival: <https://vimeo.com/233756554>