



MIFF LAUNCHES INTO ITS FINAL WEEK WELCOMING ALEX ROSS PERRY, JONATHAN GOLD, DU HAIBIN AND PLENTY MORE GUESTS

EXTRA SCREENINGS ANNOUNCED INCLUDING JUSTIN KURZEL'S MACBETH

MELBOURNE, 10 AUGUST 2015 – The **2015 Melbourne International Film Festival (MIFF)** is entering its final week with a inviting line-up of films, events and festival guests, including a surprise screening of Justin Kurzel's highly anticipated new feature, *Macbeth*, starring Marion Cotillard and Michael Fassbender.

This week MIFF welcomes **Alex Ross Perry** (*Listen Up Philip*, MIFF 14) to present *Queen of Earth*, a psychological drama about an unravelling friendship between two women, starring *Mad Men*'s Elisabeth Moss; Chinese director **Du Haibin** (*1428*, MIFF 2009) is in town to promote his ideological existentialist *A Young Patriot*; and Filipino filmmaker **Khavn de la Cruz**, with his dialogue-free, most ambitious film to date, *Ruined Heart: Another Love Story Between a Criminal and a Whore*.

MIFF also welcomes the world's only Pulitzer prize-winning food writer, **Jonathan Gold**, who stars in the culinary tour across Los Angeles, *City of Gold*; Iranian director **Nima Javidi** with his feature film, *Melbourne*, a psychological drama in which good people are forced to confront troubling circumstances; and Australian war correspondent **Michael Ware** delivers a gripping, sometimes brutal document of the past in *Only the Dead*.

Two films supported by the **MIFF Premiere Fund** will receive their world premieres at the festival this week: **Lawrence Johnston's** (*Fallout*, MIFF 2013) *Neon*, a documentary celebrating the beauty, romance and art of neon lighting; and **Richard Lowenstein and Lynn-Marie Milburn's** (*Autoluminescent*, MIFF 2013) *Ecco Homo*, a portrait of provocateur, artist and performer Troy Davies. MIFF welcomes the directors to the festival.

Marking 17 days of film, MIFF's **Closing Night** celebrations will include a screening of *Mistress America*, the irresistible new feature from director **Noah Baumbach** and actor **Greta Gerwig**. Spinning from idiosyncratic buddy flick to all-out screwball farce, the film sees Baumbach and Gerwig working together again following the success of *Frances Ha* (MIFF 2013).

MIFF is thrilled to present the Australian premiere and a surprise screening of *Macbeth*, following its world premiere at the Cannes Film Festival. *Macbeth* screens 4pm Sunday 16 August at Hoyts.

Directed by MIFF Accelerator alumnus **Justin Kurzel** (*Tim Winton's The Turning*, MIFF 2013 and *Snowtown*), *Macbeth* stars a brilliantly imposing **Michael Fassbender** in the title role, with **Marion Cotillard** extraordinary as Lady Macbeth. A radical adaptation of the Scottish play, it transforms the Bard's bloody tale of unchecked ambition into a brutal psychological study of grief and trauma. Shot on location in Scotland, the film's ominously purgatorial atmosphere is rendered exquisite by *Snowtown* cinematographer and MIFF Accelerator alumnus **Adam Arkapaw** (who also lensed *Animal Kingdom* and *True Detective*), while The Mess Hall's **Jed Kurzel** re-joins his brother to provide the evocatively moody score.

By popular demand, several encore screenings have also been added to the MIFF line-up:

Putuparri and the Rainmakers, 4pm Friday 14 August at The Comedy Theatre

Tehran Taxi, 4pm Friday 14 August at ACMI

My Love, Don't Cross That River, 1.30pm Saturday 15 August at Hoyts

Racing Extinction, 1.30pm Saturday 15 August at The Forum Theatre

Charlie's Country, 4pm Sunday 16 August at The Comedy Theatre

Another Country, 6.30pm Sunday 16 August at The Comedy Theatre

She's Beautiful When She's Angry, 6.30pm Sunday 16 August at ACMI

Prophet's Prey, 6.45pm Sunday 16 August at ACMI

Sherpa, 6.45pm Sunday 16 August at Kino

Salad Days: A Decade of Punk in Washington, DC 1980-1990, 6.30pm Sunday 16 August at Treasury



Tickets are now on sale for these sessions with further tickets also being released for *Peggy Guggenheim - Art Addict*, screening Friday 14 August at 6.30pm.

The festival's **Talking Pictures** program continues to encourage discussion, debate and questioning with filmmakers and personalities. This week's Talking Pictures highlights include **Paul Cox in Conversation with David Stratton** as they discuss the director's MIFF 2015 Opening Night film, *Force of Destiny*; and **Foodie-ism: Are We Full Up?** as MIFF guest and food critic Jonathan Gold, along with celebrated chefs and food writers, discuss the trend of foodie-ism and the obsession with documenting our food.

The magnificent Forum Theatre transforms once again into the **Mandala Festival Lounge and Wine Bar** for the duration of MIFF. A one-stop destination for unique film-related events, late-night dancing, DJs and live music, as well as tasty food, wine and beer, the Festival Lounge is a must for every MIFF goer.

Metro Trains Melbourne is the Principal Partner of the 2015 Melbourne International Film Festival.

Melbourne International Film Festival runs until Sunday 16 August.

Full list of all MIFF guests: www.miff.com.au/guests

Full details of Festival Lounge offerings and events: www.miff.com.au/lounge

Full details of the program: miff.com.au

Image credit: *Macbeth*, courtesy of Transmission Films

For all media enquiries contact Asha Holmes Publicity:

Asha Holmes | 0403 274 299 | asha@ashaholmespublicity.com.au

Frances Mariani | 0416 069 778 | frances@ashaholmespublicity.com.au

Stephanie Payne | 0409 010 441 | stephanie@ashaholmespublicity.com.au

Rachel Cassar | 0431 606 005 | rachel@ashaholmespublicity.com.au

Office number: + 61 (0) 3 8660 4823