



MELBOURNE INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL TO SCREEN 26 FEATURES FROM CANNES

MELBOURNE, 18 JUNE 2015 – The 64th Melbourne International Film Festival (MIFF) will screen plenty of cinematic gems from this year’s Cannes Film Festival with MIFF audiences among the first in the world to see these films following their premiere in France last month.

“MIFF can’t wait to unleash onto Melbourne 26 titles from Cannes this year – among them are some of the most anticipated, acclaimed and unique cinematic experiences of 2015,” said Artistic Director Michelle Carey.

Highlights include several award-winners: ***The Lobster*** (UK), Yorgos Lanthimos’ (*Alps*, MIFF 2012) Jury Prize-winning absurdist satire of modern romance, starring Colin Farrell, Rachel Weisz, John C. Reilly and Léa Seydoux; ***The Assassin*** (Taiwan/China/Hong Kong/France), a spectacular take on the martial arts epic starring Shu Qi, which won the Best Director Award for Hou Hsiao-hsien (*Millenium Mambo*, MIFF 2001); ***Chronic*** (Mexico), the Best Screenplay award-winner and the English language debut for Mexican-born director Michel Franco, starring Tim Roth; César Augusto Acevado’s exploration of the human cost of industrialisation, ***Land and Shade*** (Colombia), the winner of the Camera d’Or for best first film; the measured, melancholy ghost story ***Journey to the Shore*** (Japan), winner of the Un Certain Regard Best Director award, from horror master Kiyoshi Kurosawa (*Loft*, MIFF 2005); and ***The Treasure*** (Romania), Corneliu Porumboiu’s (*12:08 East of Bucharest*, MIFF 2008) Un Certain Talent Prize-winning black comedy about Romanian bureaucracy.

Audiences can also catch ***Love*** (France), one of the most explicit and talked-about films from Cannes, in which master provocateur Gasper Noé (*Enter the Void*, MIFF 09) takes on love, sex and money shots in 3D; the new film from Hirokazu Kore-eda, ***Our Little Sister*** (Japan), a gentle, domestic drama that follows the director’s Cannes Jury Prize-winning *Like Father, Like Son* (MIFF 2013); and ***Don’t Tell Me the Boy Was Mad*** (France), a film wrestling with the troubled consequences of Armenia’s 20th-century genocide, from director Robert Guédiguan (*My Father is an Engineer*, MIFF 2005).

Also screening is ***Mountains May Depart*** (China), a moving story of family and migration partly filmed in Australia from that great chronicler of modern China, Jia Zhang-ke (*A Touch of Sin*, MIFF 2013); and ***Louder than Bombs*** (Norway/France/Denmark), the English-language debut for Norway’s Joachim Trier (*Oslo, 31 August*, MIFF 2012), starring Gabriel Byrne, Jesse Eisenberg, and Isabelle Huppert.

From Cannes’ Un Certain Regard category, MIFF will screen prolific Japanese director Naomi Kawase’s (*Still the Water*, MIFF 2014) ***An*** (Japan/France/Germany), a bittersweet tale of old wounds and new beginnings; ***Cemetery of Splendour*** (Thailand/UK/Germany/France/Malaysia), Apichatong Weerasethakul’s first full-length feature since his Palme d’Or-winning *Uncle Boonmee Who Can Recall His Past Lives* (MIFF 2010); writer/director Radu Muntean’s (*Tuesday, After Christmas*, MIFF 2011) latest addition to Romania’s New Wave of social realist filmmaking in ***One Floor Below*** (Romania); ***The Chosen Ones*** (Mexico), David Pablos’ uncompromising second feature highlighting the violence of human trafficking in Mexico; and ***The High Sun*** (Croatia/Slovenia/Serbia), writer/director Dalibor Matanić’s heart-wrenching film about three different couples thrown together by war.



Films from Cannes Directors' Fortnight include ***Mustang*** (France), Deniz Gamze Ergüven's debut feature about five orphaned sisters living in a remote Turkish village, awarded the Cannes Directors' Fortnight Europa Cinemas Prize; ***In the Shadow of Women*** (France), an examination on the vagaries of modern relationships from legendary French auteur Philippe Garrel (*Jealousy*, MIFF 2014); Miguel Gomes' ambitious and multi-faceted critique of modern-day Portugal in his trilogy ***Arabian Nights*** comprising ***Volume 1, The Restless One, Volume 2, The Desolate One*** and ***Volume 3, The Enchanted One*** (Portugal/France/Germany/Switzerland); and Takashi Miike's ***Yakuza Apocalypse: The Great War of the Underworld*** (Japan), filled with rampaging violence, slapstick, volcanoes, animation, giant monsters and vampire gangsters.

Also from Directors' Fortnight: ***My Golden Days*** (France), a stunning coming-of-age tale featuring Mathieu Amalric, from feted French filmmaker Arnaud Desplechin (*A Christmas Tale*, MIFF 2008); Rick Famuyiwa's ***Dope***, about a self-confessed geek living in one of LA's roughest hoods, narrated by Forest Whitaker, starring A\$AP Rocky and featuring new music by Pharrell; and ***A Perfect Day*** (Spain), starring Benicio del Toro and Tim Robbins, an authentic and humanist take on the Bosnian conflict from director Fernando León de Aranoa.

Films from Cannes Critics' Week are: ***Krishna*** (USA), Trey Edwards' intensely personal film shot over nine days in his parents' house – starring his aunt in the lead role – and winner of the SXSW Grand Jury and Audience Awards for narrative features; the South Korean box-office hit and gangster genre film ***Coin Locker Girl***, from first-time director Han Jun-hee; and ***Meditarranea*** (Italy), Jonas Carpignano's feature debut inspired by real events, including the 2010 Rosarno race riots in Southern Italy.

MIFF will also screen 10 short films direct from Cannes, including the Short Film Palme d'Or winner ***Waves '98*** and the Cinéfondation First Prize winner ***Share***.

For synopses of the Cannes titles visit miff.com.au/first-glance/cannes

MIFF's full program will be launched 7 July 2015 with public tickets on sale 10 July 2015.

The Centrepiece Gala screening of *Holding the Man* is now on sale. Tickets selling fast!

The 2015 Melbourne International Film Festival runs 30 July–16 August.

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