

CALENDAR

SYDNEY

THURSDAY 17 AUG	8pm	Mahbas + Opening Night Party
FRIDAY 18 AUG	8pm	Ali's Wedding + Train to Peace
SATURDAY 19 AUG	5pm	A Maid for Each + Five Boys and a Wheel
	8pm	I Still Hide to Smoke + We are Just Fine Like This
SUNDAY 20 AUG	5pm	Gaza Surf Club + Wintry Spring
	8pm	Ali, the Goat and Ibrahim + Ayny

MELBOURNE

FRIDAY 25 AUG	8.30pm	Mahbas + Wintry Spring
SATURDAY 26 AUG	6.30pm	Ali, the Goat and Ibrahim + Ayny
SUNDAY 27 AUG	3pm	Gaza Surf Club + Five Boys and a Wheel
	6.30pm	I Still Hide to Smoke + We are Just Fine Like This

CANBERRA

FRIDAY 1 SEPT	6pm	Mahbas
	8.30pm	Gaza Surf Club
SATURDAY 2 SEPT	4pm	Ali, the Goat and Ibrahim + Ayny
	6.30pm	I Still Hide to Smoke + Wintry Spring

PERTH

SATURDAY 9 SEPT	2pm	Mahbas + Train to Peace
	6pm	Gaza Surf Club + Wintry Spring

All films have been exempt from classification and are restricted to persons aged 15 and over unless accompanied by an adult. All films have English subtitles.

VENUES AND TICKETS

SYDNEY

RIVERSIDE THEATRES PARRAMATTA
Cnr Church and Market Streets, Parramatta
☎ 02 8839 3399 | riversideparramatta.com.au
\$42* Opening Night + Film + Sweets + Party
\$22* Full / \$18* Conc. (excludes opening night)
\$88* Full / \$72* Conc. Marathon Package (excludes opening night)
*Transaction fee applies.

MELBOURNE

CINEMA NOVA, CARLTON
380 Lygon Street, Carlton
☎ 03 9347 5331 | cinemanova.com.au
\$19.50 Full / \$15.50 Conc. / \$12.50 Pensioners and children

CANBERRA

NATIONAL FILM AND SOUND ARCHIVE OF AUSTRALIA
McCoy Circuit, Acton
☎ 02 6248 2000 | nfsa.gov.au
\$14 Full / \$12 Conc. Max pass eligible.

PERTH

CURTIN UNIVERSITY
New Hayman Theatre, Bentley
curtin.edu.au
Entry by donation, bookings essential:
info@arabfilmfestival.com.au



OPENING NIGHT FILM

MAHBAS

Lebanon | 92 min | Dir: Sophie Boutros
A romantic comedy about love and marriage amongst our Arab neighbours... and enemies. It's been more than 20 years since the Lebanese-Syrian war, yet Therese is still not over the death of her brother, killed by a Syrian bomb. Today her only daughter is getting engaged. Only when the suitor and his parents are at her doorstep, she discovers they are Syrian.

SYDNEY THURS 17 AUGUST | 8PM
MELBOURNE FRI 25 AUGUST | 8.30PM

CANBERRA FRI 1 SEPTEMBER | 6PM
PERTH SAT 9 SEPTEMBER | 2PM



The Bearded Bakers will be at Riverside Theatres serving complimentary knafeh to every ticket holder on Opening Night.



ALI'S WEDDING

Australia | 110 min | Dir: Jeffrey Walker | Co-Writer: Osamah Sami
After a "white lie" which spirals out of control, a neurotic, naive and musically gifted Muslim cleric's eldest son must follow through with an arranged marriage, except he is madly in love with an Australian born-Lebanese girl. Based on a true story.
Starring: Osamah Sami, Don Hany, Helen Sawires, Robert Rabiah, Khaled Khalafalla, Asal Shenavehzadeh, Rodney Afif, Ghazi Alkinani, Majid Shokor, Shayan Salehian, Rahel Romahn, Frances Duca, Maha Wilson.

SYDNEY FRI 18 AUGUST | 8PM



A MAID FOR EACH

Lebanon | 67 min | Dir: Maher Abi Samra
In Lebanon, domestic workers are classified by nationality and ethnicity and their wages vary depending on this. In this complex industry, the relationship is quite simple: the Lebanese employer is the master and the domestic worker is a commodity. Zein owns an agency that recruits Asian and African women to work in Lebanese households and assists his clients to choose "mail-order" workers that suit their needs. With the justice, police and marketing systems on his side, Zein decides to open his agency to us in this revealing documentary.

SYDNEY SAT 19 AUGUST | 5PM



I STILL HIDE TO SMOKE

Algeria | 90 min | Dir: Rayhana Obermeyer
Starring Hiam Abbas this tragi-comedy is about nine very different women of varying ages and backgrounds that gather at the local Hammam - mingling and at times confronting one another, lashing out, raging, crying, fighting and seeking comfort in one another. Outside the hammam, fury is in the air. Something is brewing among the men. The women take aim, they are ready to deal with what is to come.

SYDNEY SAT 19 AUGUST | 8PM
MELBOURNE SUN 27 AUGUST | 6.30PM
CANBERRA SAT 2 SEPTEMBER | 6.30PM



GAZA SURF CLUB

Palestine | 62 min | Dir: Mickey Yamine & Philip Gnad
This heartfelt documentary takes us into the world of the Gaza Strip's surfing enthusiasts and reveals a formidable resilience pulsing within a beleaguered population - locked in between Egypt and Israel. The youth are constantly weary of the daily 'state of emergency', yet they seek and find meaning and perspective to their lives through surfing on the beaches of Gaza.

SYDNEY SUN 20 AUGUST | 5PM
MELBOURNE SUN 27 AUGUST | 3PM
CANBERRA FRI 1 SEPTEMBER | 8.30PM
PERTH SAT 9 SEPTEMBER | 6PM



ALI, THE GOAT AND IBRAHIM

Egypt | 92 min | Dir: Sherif El Bendary
Ali believes his late girlfriend Nada's soul has been reincarnated in a goat. Ali seeks the advice of a spiritual healer. They are diagnosed as 'cursed' and prescribed a solution to break the spell. Ali, his goat and friend Ibrahim embark on an adventure that takes them to the Mediterranean, the Red Sea and the Nile. A comedy and a touching tale of friendship, reconciliation, self-discovery and self acceptance.

SYDNEY SUN 20 AUGUST | 8PM
MELBOURNE SAT 26 AUGUST | 6.30PM
CANBERRA SAT 2 SEPTEMBER | 4PM

PLUS A SELECTION OF SHORTS...



WINTRY SPRING

Egypt | 16 min | Dir: Mohamed Kamel
Nour is a schoolgirl who lives alone with her loving father. She is going through a very critical period in her life which she struggles to reveal to her father.



FIVE BOYS AND A WHEEL

Jordan | 20 min | Dir: Said Zahga
A school teacher has to regain his young son's confidence and admiration through an act of violence.

PRODUCED BY



Information
+ Cultural
Exchange

HOST CITY



PARRAMATTA
VISIT - DISCOVER - EXPLORE
AUSTRALIA'S NEXT GREAT CITY

MAJOR PARTNERS



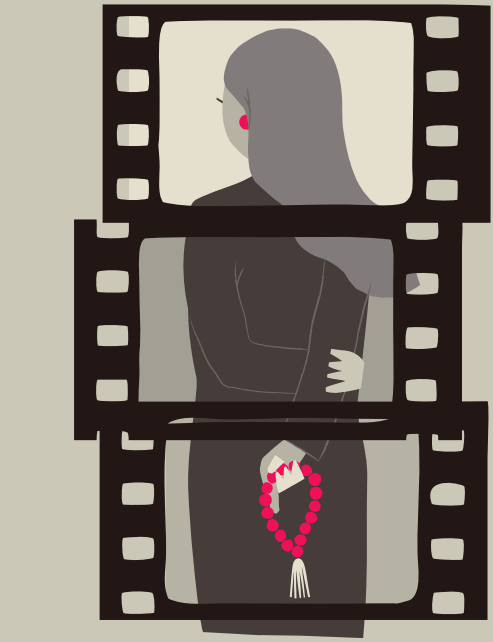
Create NSW
Arts, Screen & Culture



PROUD SUPPORTERS



Arab Film Festival Australia is supported by the Commonwealth through the Council for Australian-Arab Relations, which is part of the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade.



عربيا في قلب العربيه
ARAB FILM FESTIVAL AUSTRALIA

SYDNEY 17-20 AUG MELBOURNE 25-27 AUG CANBERRA 1-2 SEP PERTH 9 SEP

arabfilmfestival.com.au

For more information visit arabfilmfestival.com.au