

The **Melbourne Women in Film Festival** is a key event on the festival calendar, playing an important role in addressing issues around gender and diversity in the screen industry. Film Victoria's support of the festival aligns with our commitment to increasing the representation of women in the Victorian screen industry, and to celebrating the contributions of women behind and on the screen. Along with our suite of initiatives – such as our industry placement programs, which saw 13 women awarded opportunities in the last six months alone – we proudly support this festival to ensure that more women's stories are seen, more women are inspired to become industry leaders, and more emerging women filmmakers reach greater audiences.

With a program brimming with screenings, forums, panels, workshops and networking events, 2019 is set to be another fantastic festival that Film Victoria is proud to be part of.

Film Victoria CEO, Caroline Pitcher



**GOVERNMENT PARTNERS**



**VENUE PARTNERS**



**EDUCATION PARTNERS**



**LIFESTYLE MEDIA PARTNER**



**THURSDAY 21 FEB 3PM**

**PUBLIC FORUM**  
**ACMI**

To register for this thought provoking forum, head to [mwff.org.au](http://mwff.org.au) for more details.

**LEADING THE WAY:  
EMPOWERING WOMEN'S LEADERSHIP  
IN THE SCREEN INDUSTRIES**

Partnering with Film Victoria and Monash University, *Leading the Way: Empowering Women's Leadership in the Screen Industries* engages with the Melbourne Women in Film Festival 2019's theme of empowerment through storytelling, career building and ... leading the way. Research has suggested that women in positions of leadership in the screen industry not only redresses the current gender imbalance, but also broadens the diversity of screen stories.

Yet, why is the industry not seeing a significant advancement of women in these positions?

This free public forum brings together screen experts and industry leaders for a timely discussion of this complex issue. What are the broad issues concerning leadership development for women across different areas of the industry? What are the development pathways for women towards positions of leadership?

This forum aims to consider these questions and more. Registration required.

**SATURDAY 23 FEB 10AM**

**CLOSED WORKSHOP**  
**ACMI**

An exclusive opportunity to learn from industry specialists.

**THE CRITICS LAB**

The **MWFF Critics Lab** is an initiative to support the next generation of Australian women-identified critics and to help them develop their skills in a festival setting. The **MWFF Critics Lab** aims to facilitate critical discussion, celebrate established critics and mentor emerging talent.

As part of the **MWFF Critics Lab**, participants will be involved in mentoring sessions with established Australian critics and will produce a range of content for publication before, during and after the festival. **MWFF Critics Lab** participants will be granted access to films, publicity materials, guests and networking opportunities throughout the festival.

**SATURDAY 23 FEB 12:30PM**

**PANEL**  
**ACMI**

A delicious discussion dancing with the dark, dangerous and macabre

**DELIGHTFULLY DARK**

The world can be a dangerous place, yet women filmmakers rarely shy away from dark themes. From fantasy to realism, women have a long tradition of weird, transgressive and powerful cinema. Following the **Melbourne Women in Film Festival's** "Dark Delights" program, this panel will explore how women filmmakers engage with darkness—from horror and fantasy to explorations of real-life.

Featuring a panel of esteemed filmmakers and critics, we ask: what does the dark side look like for women creatives? And can it be empowering to depict darkness onscreen?

**SATURDAY 23 FEB 2:30PM**

**PANEL**  
**ACMI**

An insight into the journey of feature length film-making

**TAKING THE LEAP:  
FROM SHORTS TO FEATURES**

Women are great at making short films, but what happens when they want to make a feature? Success in shorts does not always translate to a career in full-length cinema...

Run free of charge, this panel offers **MWFF** audiences some practical advice on taking the leap towards feature filmmaking. Featuring filmmakers and industry workers, our panel asks: what are the barriers in transitioning from shorts to features? And how can women channel their hard earned skills toward larger projects?

**SUNDAY 24 FEB 10AM**

**CLOSED WORKSHOP**

Finding the next up and coming screenwriter.

**FUTURE CREATIVES INITIATIVE  
PITCHING DAY**

**SATURDAY 23 FEB 11AM**

**WORKSHOP**

For more details, head to [mwff.org.au](http://mwff.org.au)

**VISUALISE YOUR VOICE**

*Visualise Your Voice* is a practical workshop aimed at culturally and linguistically diverse young women who aspire to create their own films.

This day long workshop focuses on building knowledge of the different pathways for working as a screen practitioner through the creation of self-devised short films.

Participants will be mentored by professional screen industry practitioners and educators, having the opportunity to experience different creative roles on a film shoot, using industry-standard equipment to translate their stories to the screen.

**SATURDAY 23 FEB 11AM**

**WORKSHOP**

For more details, head to [mwff.org.au](http://mwff.org.au)

**BUILDING YOUR CREATIVE TOOLKIT**

There are some essential skills that help you get films made, like being able to network, pitch, collaborate, and generate ideas. In this hands-on workshop you'll practice these skills with a small group of fellow filmmakers, learning ways to get early feedback, quickly redraft ideas, embrace constraints, be more confident and experience the creative benefits of starting before you're ready. Open to all screen creatives. Spaces are limited so book now.



**FILM VICTORIA**  
Festival Sponsor  
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Women in  
Film Festival



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On the set of *Sunshine*

**THURSDAY 21 FEB 6:30PM**

**OPENING NIGHT  
ACMI**

The opening night screenings will be followed by an after party at the ACMI Café.

**FREAKY, FANTASTIC AND FEMINIST**



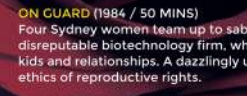
**STORYTIME (2009 / 9 MINS)**  
Two adventurous Kimberley kids wander deep into the mangroves at sunset, only to find that the terrifying campfire stories of the Goonyboyn Woman may not be a myth after all. An award-winning indigenous horror film.

**DIRECTOR - JUB CLERC**  
**WRITERS - SYLVIA CLARKE, JUB CLERC**  
**PRODUCER - BELINDA KELSALI**



**THIS WOMAN IS NOT A CAR (1979 / 23 MINS)**  
When a woman pulls her station wagon over at a rural service station, fear and fantasy collide through a nightmarish assault by car fetishists. An audacious commentary on masculinity, violence and the objectification of women in Australian life.

**WRITER / DIRECTOR - MARGARET DODD**  
**PRODUCERS - JENNY JACOBS, VYNER GILLESPIE**



**ON GUARD (1984 / 50 MINS)**  
Four Sydney women team up to sabotage a supercomputer belonging to a disreputable biotechnology firm, while juggling the pressures of work, home, kids and relationships. A dazzlingly unconventional film with a bold focus on the ethics of reproductive rights.

**DIRECTOR - SUSAN LAMBERT**  
**WRITER - SARAH GIBSON, SUSAN LAMBERT**  
**PRODUCER - DIGBY DUNCAN**

**FRIDAY 22 FEB 6:30PM**

**SCREENINGS / PANEL  
PALACE KINO CINEMAS**

Monster is the short film by Jennifer Kent that led to The Babadook.

**THE WELL:  
Q&A WITH SAMANTHA LANG**



**THE WELL (1997 / 101 min) FEATURE**  
A girl with a mysterious past finds work on an isolated farm run by an older woman - but a tragic accident shifts the balance of power as the woman goes to extreme measures to maintain control over her employee. A new digital restoration of a classic Australian psychological drama.

**DIRECTOR - SAMANTHA LANG**  
**WRITER - ELIZABETH JOLLEY (NOVEL), LAURA JONES**  
**PRODUCER - SANDRA LEVY**



**MONSTER (2005 / 10 mins) SHORT**  
An exhausted single mother battles her son's terror of a monster in the house, and soon discovers that the sinister presence he fears is real. A breakout success for director Jennifer Kent, who later developed this award-winning short into horror hit The Babadook.

**WRITER / DIRECTOR - JENNIFER KENT**  
**PRODUCER - ISABEL PEREZ**

**FRIDAY 22 FEB 10:30PM**

**SCREENINGS  
PALACE KINO CINEMAS**

INNER DEMON is screening with BLOOD SISTERS.

**LATE NIGHT SCREAMING**



**INNER DEMON (2014 / 84 MINS) FEATURE**  
A teenage girl Sam is abducted by a deranged serial killer couple in rural South Australia. After escaping, she seeks refuge in an isolated farmhouse - only to discover that the cabin in the woods is home to even greater horrors.

**WRITER / DIRECTOR - URSULA DABROWSKY**  
**PRODUCER - SUE BROWN**

**BLOOD SISTERS (2017 / 10 MINS)**

When two friends attempt to dabble in amateur witchcraft, they're not prepared for the hilarious unintended consequences. Things quickly go from bad to bloody, putting their courage and their friendship to the test.

**DIRECTORS / PRODUCERS - CAITLIN KOLLER, LACHLAN SMITH**  
**WRITER - HANNAH WHITE**

**SATURDAY 23 FEB 1PM**

**SCREENINGS  
RMIT CINEMA**

A series of documentary short films. Read the full synopses on [mwff.org.au](http://mwff.org.au)

**STRANGER THAN FICTION**



Blazers, MICHELLE VUAILLAT

**HEAVY HAULAGE GIRLS (2016 / 18 MINS)**  
**DIRECTOR / PRODUCER - KRISTINA KRASKOV**

**UNASHAMED (2016 / 6 MINS)**  
**WRITER / DIRECTOR - ANA CAROLINA LIMA**  
**PRODUCER - ANNEMAREE KRANE, BROOKE ANDREWS**

**BLAZERS (2017 / 13 MINS)**  
**DIRECTOR / PRODUCER - MICHELLE VUAILLAT**

Proving that real life is often stranger than fiction, these documentaries dig deep beneath the surface of Australian society, bringing to light the issues that often remain buried.

**HEARING SILENT SURVIVORS (2017 / 8 MINS)**  
**WRITER / DIRECTOR / PRODUCER - SOLVEIG HOZVIC FRANCO**

**THE CLADSOME CENTAUR (2018 / 13 MINS)**  
**WRITER / DIRECTOR - MADELINE WILMOT**  
**PRODUCERS - ANNA CHARALAMBOUS, PIA HARRINGTON**

**THE CLAMS (2018 / 14 MINS)**  
**WRITER / DIRECTOR - ABBIE POBJOY**  
**PRODUCER - HAZAL ALAKUS**

**MAMA'S BOY (2018 / 20 MINS)**  
**DIRECTOR - JAY JAY WALSH**  
**PRODUCERS - AVEN YAP, JOSEPH WILKIE**

**SATURDAY 23 FEB 4:30PM**

**SCREENINGS  
RMIT CINEMA**

A session of weird, dark and quirky short films. Read the full synopses on [mwff.org.au](http://mwff.org.au)

**SINISTER SHORTS**



Dolls, CLARE SLADDEN

**ROOM 264 (2018 / 5 MINS)**  
**WRITER / DIRECTOR - BRODIE MAY ROWLANDS**

**DOLLS (2018 / 6 MINS)**  
**DIRECTOR / PRODUCER - CLARE SLADDEN**

**THE WALLPAPER (2018 / 7 MINS)**  
**DIRECTORS / PRODUCERS - SUSIE CONTE, JENNY CRABB**  
**WRITER - DAWN FARNHAM**

**THE BODY CORPORATE (2018 / 7 MINS)**  
**DIRECTOR - STEPANKA CERVINKOVA**  
**WRITERS - STEPANKA CERVINKOVA, NATHANIEL MONCRIEFF**  
**PRODUCERS - STEPANKA CERVINKOVA, DENISA PODRASKA, MICHAEL DEURWAARDER, LEAH HENTRY, KELLY BARRETT, YOLANTHA MORRIGAN, DUNJA VOJNOVIC**

From the twisted to the truly bizarre, these wonderfully weird, dark and quirky short films will take you on a journey to the outer limits of the human imagination.

**THE BIG APPEAL (2017 / 9 MINS)**  
**WRITER / DIRECTOR / PRODUCER - HANA TOW**

**CONSENT (2017 / 13 MINS)**  
**DIRECTORS - CLARE SLADDEN, JASMINE SLADDEN**  
**WRITER / PRODUCER - CLARE SLADDEN**

**COLONY (2018 / 15 MINS)**  
**WRITER / DIRECTOR - CATHERINE BONNY**  
**PRODUCERS - CATHERINE BONNY, RYAN O'GORMAN**

**THEODORE'S GIFT (2016 / 15 MINS)**  
**WRITER / DIRECTOR / PRODUCER - ELLI ILIADES**

**THE ISLAND (2018 / 20 MINS)**  
**WRITER / DIRECTOR - GABRIELLE BRADY**  
**PRODUCER - ALEX KELLY**

**SATURDAY 23 FEB 7PM**

**SCREENINGS / PANEL  
PALACE KINO CINEMAS**

Q&A with director Angie Black.

**THE FIVE PROVOCATIONS + Q&A**



The Five Provocations, ANGIE BLACK

**THE FIVE PROVOCATIONS + Q&A (2018 / 94 MINS)**  
The lives of four very different people intertwine in a thought-provoking ensemble drama about dealing with loss. An immersive cinema experience that merges performance art with fictional narrative to explore the different ways that people connect through grief.

**WRITER / DIRECTOR - ANGIE BLACK**  
**PRODUCERS - ANGIE BLACK, ATALANTI DIONYSOS, KELLY DINGELDEI, KRIS DARMODY**

**SUNDAY 24 FEB 1PM**

**SCREENINGS  
RMIT CINEMA**

A mix of genres and styles from all over Australia. Read the full synopses on [mwff.org.au](http://mwff.org.au)

**FRESHLY SQUEEZED SHORTS**



Salt In Wounds, ALISON ADRIANO

**DOCKED (2018 / 20 MINS)**  
**WRITER / DIRECTOR - AMIE BATALIBASI**

**PENNY, YOU DID JUST FINE (2018 / 3 MINS)**  
**DIRECTOR / PRODUCER - MADELEINE MYTKOWSKI**  
**WRITER - ZACHARY MCDONALD**

**SINK (2018 / 7 MINS)**  
**DIRECTOR - CLOUDY RHODES**  
**WRITER / PRODUCER - ROGER JOYCE**

**LADIES' LOUNGE (2018 / 8 MINS)**  
**WRITER / DIRECTOR - MONIQUE BETTELLO**  
**PRODUCER - GOKCE SEL**

**SINGLE MAN'S HUT (2018 / 9 MINS)**  
**DIRECTORS - PIPPA SAMAYA, TARA JADE SAMAYA**

An eclectic mix of short films in different genres and styles that push boundaries of gender, sexuality, culture, and identity - exploring the many facets of Australian life and society.

**SALT IN WOUNDS (2018 / 10 MINS)**  
**WRITER / DIRECTOR - ALISON ADRIANO**  
**PRODUCERS - ELISE TYSON, HARRISON LEECH**

**YOU, ME & KAREN (2017 / 11 MINS)**  
**DIRECTOR - KARINA CASTAN**  
**WRITER - CLARE TOONEN**  
**PRODUCER - JAMIE ROSS-BROWN**

**RIFT (2017 / 11 MINS)**  
**DIRECTOR - QUENTIN CURZON**  
**WRITER - CLARE TOONEN**  
**PRODUCER - HANNAH NGO**

**WATERFALL (2018 / 15 MINS)**  
**WRITER / DIRECTOR - NORA NIASARI**  
**PRODUCER - MARY MINAS**

**SUNDAY 24 FEB 4PM**

**SCREENINGS  
RMIT CINEMA**

A series of Tertiary student films. Read the full synopses on [mwff.org.au](http://mwff.org.au)

**NEXT GEN SHORTS**

**READY FOR A BABY (2017 / 5 MINS)**

**WRITER / DIRECTOR / PRODUCER - ANASTASIA DYAKOVA**

**FEAST ON THE YOUNG (2017 / 13 MINS)**  
**WRITER / DIRECTOR - KATIA MANCUSO**  
**PRODUCERS - LUCY CLAIRE, CJ WELSH**

**AMBULANCE (2018 / 4 MINS)**  
**WRITER / DIRECTOR / PRODUCER - LYLEAH D'SOUZA**

**CHERRY (2018 / 10 MINS)**  
**DIRECTORS - CLAUDIA BAILEY, EVIE FRIEDRICH, VANESSA BRAY**  
**WRITERS - CLAUDIA BAILEY, EVIE FRIEDRICH**  
**PRODUCERS - CLAUDIA BAILEY, TEGAN WICK**

**CLOUDY WITH A CHANCE OF RAIN (2017 / 7 MINS)**  
**WRITER / DIRECTOR - MIEKA THOROGOOD**  
**PRODUCER - MATT KEEN**

**HOW TO WRITE A SCREENPLAY (2018 / 7 MINS)**



An Act Of Love, LUCY KNOX

**AN ACT OF LOVE (2018 / 12 MINS)**  
**WRITER / DIRECTOR - LUCY KNOX**

**THE STARE (2018 / 8 MINS)**  
**DIRECTOR - LOUISA WEICHMANN**  
**WRITERS - LOUISA WEICHMANN, KELLY WEBSTER**  
**PRODUCER - ORIT NOVAK**

**WE VANISH (2018 / 23 MINS)**  
**DIRECTOR - ASTRID DOMINGUEZ**

**SUNDAY 24 FEB 2:30PM**

**SCREENINGS/PANEL  
LIDO CINEMAS**

THE SECOND will be followed by a Q&A with the cast and film-makers.

**THE SECOND + Q&A**



**THE SECOND + Q&A (2018 / 94 MINS) FEATURE**  
The successful author of an erotic autobiography watches the façade of her seemingly-perfect life crumble when the surprise appearance of a childhood friend forces her to confront her dark past. A sexy thriller starring Rachael Blake, Susie Porter, and Vince Colosimo.

**DIRECTOR - MAIRI CAMERON**  
**WRITER - STEPHEN LANCE**



**JADE OF DEATH (2018 / 10 MINS) SHORT**  
Jade is a small-town girl with a powerful ability: she can hear when and how people are going to die. The pilot episode of this award-winning supernatural web series sees Jade fleeing from home to join a circus as a fortune-teller - when she discovers that people are after her.

**WRITER / DIRECTOR - ERIN GOOD**  
**PRODUCER - TAYLOR LITTON-STRAIN**

**SUNDAY 24 FEB 7PM**

**CLOSING NIGHT  
SCREENING  
PALACE KINO CINEMAS**

Includes closing night party.

**CLOSING NIGHT &  
SHORTS AWARDS**



Black Panther Woman, MARLENE CUMMINS

**BLACK PANTHER WOMAN (2014 / 52 MINS)**  
In 1972, Marlene Cummins joined the Australian Black Panther Party before spiralling into a cycle of addiction that left her on the streets. An unflinching documentary that follows Marlene as she faces her demons 40 years later to expose the abuse within the protest movement.

**DIRECTOR - RACHEL PERKINS**  
**WRITER - ROCHELLE OSHLACK**  
**PRODUCERS - ROCHELLE OSHLACK**