

Rainbow Connection  
in partnership with  
Melbourne Queer Film Festival  
proudly presents the inaugural



March 26th - 28th 2004



Bendigo Queer Film Festival

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## WELCOME to the inaugural Bendigo Queer Film Festival

This is an exciting time for the City of Greater Bendigo and central Victoria and a landmark for a regional city to host a queer film festival.

As a newcomer to the district I felt there were limited social opportunities for the GLBTI (gay, lesbian, bi-sexual, transgender and intersex) community living in the Bendigo and surrounding areas, so I proposed the Bendigo Queer Film Festival (BQFF) to the Rainbow Connection committee who supported the idea wholeheartedly.

Assistance was sought from the Melbourne Queer Film Festival (MQFF), who has successfully presented their festival in Melbourne for the past 13 years. The MQFF committee was able to provide the films which will be screened at our festival in Bendigo. With MQFF support and the Loddon Mallee Women's Health as the auspice organization, the BQFF was able to proceed.

One of the aims of the BQFF is to provide the GLBTI community with an opportunity to celebrate the diversity of experiences through a shared social event in a public arena. Although this event is very specific in its film content we welcome the general public to come along and enjoy the occasion with us.

The BQFF committee is looking forward to bringing this festival to you as part of the central Victorian and City of Greater Bendigo annual calendar. It also proposes to become a non-profit incorporated body in time for the 2005 BQFF season.

If you are interested in becoming a member of the BQFF organizing committee please contact a committee member (refer page 3).

A special thank you goes to Lisa Daniel, Festival Director MQFF, whose knowledge and assistance has been invaluable in enabling the BQFF committee to understand the processes involved in putting together a festival. Thanks also to the BQFF committee members, in particular Jill Gibson, for the support and effort in this endeavour.

On a final note, the films featured at the BQFF are unlikely to be released to commercial cinemas, especially in regional Australia. They therefore have been secured not only for their entertainment value and quality, but because of their exclusiveness.

I look forward to seeing you at the BQFF.

Chris Walters  
BQFF Coordinator

# Festival Info

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Bendigo Queer Film Festival

## Festival Office

For all correspondence post to  
BQFF  
C/o: Loddon Mallee Women's Health  
47 Myers Street, Bendigo. Victoria. 3550

### I.T.

bendigoqueerfilmfestival@hotmail.com  
www.bendigoqueerfilmfestival.com  
http://www.tourismvictoria.com.au/

## Phone Contacts

03 5441.3119 or 03 5472.3098

## Disability Supports



All venues are wheelchair accessible.



The Campbell Theatrette has a hearing loop.

## Festival Program

### Friday 26th March

"Gay Your Art Out" art exhibition page 6

### Saturday 27th March

Official Opening Ceremony followed by page 5

The Bendigo Queer Film Festival

Ticket information page 4

Film session times page 5

Film reviews pages 9/10

The FABulous After Party page 8

### Sunday 28th March

The Patrons Breakfast page 7

## BQFF FUNDRAISER RAFFLE

# \$2.00 each

Drawn Saturday 27th March at the FABulous After Party.

Tickets available from:  
BQFF committee members,  
ChillOut festival, by phone and some ticket outlets.

Many great prizes to be won

## Principle Sponsor



The Melbourne Queer Film Festival (MQFF) is proud to sponsor and curate the inaugural Bendigo Queer Film Festival. Whilst Melbourne film audiences have been lucky enough to have had a queer film festival for 14 years, it is the rural areas of Australia which often need such a Festival the most. Marginalisation of queer people is still very much a problem worldwide, but possibly more so in areas away from our cities. For this reason, (and because going to the movies is great fun!), we trust that with support from the GLBTI (queer) and wider community, that the MQFF can continue to support and sponsor the BQFF for many years to come. Enjoy the films!

Lisa Daniel

Curator: Bendigo Queer Film Festival / Director: Melbourne Queer Film Festival



Bendigo Queer Film Festival

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Laws governing film festivals means that all audience members must be 18 years of age or over

Ticket Info

### TICKET PRICES

Single ticket – for one session only

Full price \$14.00 Concession \$11.00

Gold Nugget pass – for all three sessions

Full price \$37.00 Concession \$31.00

A valid ticket will be required for each session.

No refunds or exchanges given unless due to session cancellation or time changes.

Concessions available with valid Health Care Card, or students photo ID. No card, No concession.

### TICKET OUTLETS

Film goers are advised to pre-purchase tickets to avoid disappointment! Tickets are for unreserved seating. The proprietors from whom you have bought your tickets have agreed to be a ticket outlet for no charge to BQFF. Please treat them kindly and generously.

#### ● BOOK NOW BOOKSTORE

Behind Bazzani's Resturant

1 Farmers Lane, Bendigo.

03 5443 8587

Cash and collect ticket sales only

#### ● STONEMAN'S BOOKROOM

Cnr Hargreaves and Mostyn st, Castlemaine.

03 5470 5134

Cash, credit card, phone bookings with a 5% booking fee

#### ● AESOPS ATTIC

24a High street, Kyneton.

03 5422 6059

Cash and collect ticket sales only

#### ● HARES AND HYENAS

135 Commercial Rd, Prahran.

03 9824 0110

Cash and collect ticket sales only

Please Note: Tickets will only be available at the Campbell Theatre if unsold at above outlets.

### CHILLOUT FESTIVAL – March 8th

Look for the BQFF stall at ChillOut on Carnival Day where you can secure your BQFF film tickets, raffle tickets and book your place at the Patrons Breakfast.

### BQFF T-Shirts

Also available will be BQFF 2004 T-Shirts.

### Principle Sponsor

The City of Greater Bendigo actively supports culture and the arts.

Council has three arts units with dedicated staff, and numerous volunteers, working to further develop Greater Bendigo as a major regional arts and cultural centre. The Cultural Development & Events Unit (CD&E) aims to foster a sense of place through the development and delivery of arts & cultural programs, and events which assist in long term cultural, social, environmental and economic benefits to our residents.



Resources available include Festival & Event Planning Guide, Funding and Scholarships, Local Music CD Collection, 'Arts Register', Resource Library, Community Development programs, numerous free publications including 'Arzneuwz', and a full Events Calendar published on Council's web site. CD&E opening hours are 9.00am-5.00pm.

259 Hargreaves Street, Bendigo. Tel 5434 6464 Fax 5434 6473. or visit [www.bendigo.vic.gov.au](http://www.bendigo.vic.gov.au)



Bendigo Queer Film Festival

## Bendigo Queer Film Festival OPENING CEREMONY

1pm. Saturday 27th March

at the Campbell Theatre, Hargreaves Street, Bendigo (next to Bendigo library)

### WELCOME

By Chris Walters-BQFF Committee

### ACKNOWLEDGMENT

Traditional "Acknowledgment to Country" by Aunty Lynn Warren, Indigenous Elder of the Yorta Yorta people.

### GUEST SPEAKERS

Sgt. Alan Walker-GLLO; Lisa Daniel-Director MQFF;  
Mayor Rod Fyffe-COGB; Judy Small-Festival Patron

Celebratory drinks and fine foods will be served

## Session Times

### First session - 2pm

A Wonderful Day  
Merci Docteur Rey (feature film)

### Middle session - 5.00pm

Coming Out at Work is Hard to do  
Goldfish Memory (feature film)

### Final session - 7.30pm

Homophobia Exposed  
Party Monster (feature film)

## YOUR FEEDBACK IS VITAL TO US!

complete a  
questionnaire  
and you'll be  
eligible to  
WIN a prize.

**Principle Partner** Loddon Mallee Women's Health is a non-government, non-profit organisation providing health services, information and support for all women living in the Loddon Mallee region.

In partnership with women, the community and health service providers, our focus and commitment is to improve the health and wellbeing of rural women, with an emphasis on identified priority areas of need.

We accept, respect & celebrate the diversity of age, race, culture, ability, sexuality, geography, religion/faith, politics, class, education, and image among others.

We work towards and advocate for, progressive change in women's lives, based on a social model of health. That is, recognising that social, economic, cultural and environmental factors all have an impact on women and their health.

Phone: 5443.0233 or visit Myer St, Bendigo





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'GAY YOUR ART OUT'

# "GAY YOUR ART OUT"

*visual and word*

## ART EXHIBITION

at Dudley House, View St, Bendigo

(up the hill past Bendigo Art Gallery, Capital Theatre and next to historic fire station)

*Welcome to the world of fine arts  
created by a diverse range of GLBTI artists*

**Official Opening**

**Friday 26th at 7pm**

*All welcome*

**Open Daily**

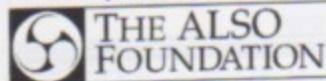
**10.00 to 5pm**

**Sat 27th - Sun 28th March**

*Gold coin donation entry fee*

Artists on site. Catalogue of works available.  
Works for sale as indicated including pieces by local poets.

### **Principle Sponsor**



ALSO (Alternative Life Styles Organisation) formed in 1981 as an outcome to many years of planning, lobbying and research resulting in the decriminalisation of sexual activity between consenting adults of the same sex in Victoria. As an outcome to this law reform objective being realised, a new vision of an organisation that would provide leadership, support and assistance to the GLBTI community was born and ALSO was formed.

Our mission is to provide leadership in support services and programs that positively enhance and contribute to the lives of the GLBTI community both in Victoria and beyond. This is achieved through our ongoing position as one of the leading umbrella organisations within the GLBTI community, working in partnership to achieve positive outcomes.

We provide a range of services and programs including; information, contact and referrals, a yearly community directory, ALSORTS-A Sexuality Awareness Resource, older persons support project, rural network committee, auspice of Minus 18 (SSAY group) and the national GLBTI multicultural conference. For information call (03) 9827 4999 or go to [www.also.org.au](http://www.also.org.au).

# PATRONS BREAKFAST

Festival participants are invited to a fundraiser breakfast where you'll be feasted, informed and entertained.

In the delightful  
Gallery Café at the Bendigo Art Gallery  
10am Sunday 28th March  
\$25.00 pp.



with Festival Patron  
*Judy Small*

Limited seating...  
Bookings are essential.  
Phone 03/54723098

After breakfast it's a short walk up the road to view the "Gay Your Art Out" art exhibition at Dudley House, View St.

## Partnership Sponsor



Rainbow connection is a friendly and supportive lesbian social group for women of all ages. We provide a safe and confidential environment for women who may be questioning their sexuality, as well as for those who simply want to mix with other "like minded" women.

Our monthly get togethers include such things as dining out, coffee nights, guest speakers, BBQs, film nights, camping weekends, etc.

The group, which is auspiced by Loddon Mallee Women's Health, is run by an elected committee. A bi-monthly newsletter informs members of activities & other events of interest. Members are encouraged to take an active role in the running of the group.

For Enquiries, call Ada at Loddon Mallee Women's Health 5443 0233



Bendigo Queer Film Festival

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FABulous After Party

# FABulous After Party

Saturday 27th March

9.30pm til finish

Join in the Celebrations for the inaugural  
**BENDIGO QUEER FILM FESTIVAL**

AT THE ROYAL MAIL HOTEL (RMH)

264 Hargreaves St, BENDIGO

**\$10.00** door entry

- DRAG KINGS & QUEENS
- MUSIC & DANCING
- BQFF RAFFLE DRAW

Brought to you by FAB

*Supporter*

## FAB

**Friends Alike Bendigo  
- Central Victoria**

A social group for GLBTI living and working in Central Victoria offering fortnightly coffee nights, monthly pub nights, picnics and dances to provide a safe environment for alternative people of all ages and genders to meet, network and enjoy!

Contacts: Adam 5439 6505 (pres)  
David 5442 3870 (sec)

*Supporters*

**Justina Chee**

Remedial Massage Therapist  
Enterprise Centre, Castlemaine  
5472.3123

**Bold Garden**

Duke St, Castlemaine  
5470.6028

**Globe Café**

Forest St, Castlemaine  
5470.5055



The feature films and a couple of the shorts are direct from the 14th Melbourne Queer Film Festival (MQFF) and have had rave reviews around the world at other Gay and Lesbian film festivals.

## A Wonderful Day – Short Film

Dir: Robbie Baldwin, Australia, 2003, 35mm, 13 mins, 25 September 2000.

As a nation prepares to witness Cathy Freeman capture Olympic glory, Stephen is informed during his drag act that his mother is dying. Jumping into a cab, he rushes off to the Hospital, recalling a cherished childhood memory on the way. With the unexpected help of a taxi driver, and two diva friends hot on his trail, all Stephen needs is a little confidence to help him through. (Paul Tonta)

## Merci Docteur Rey (Thank You Doctor Rey)- Feature Film



Dir: Andrew Litvack, USA, 2002, 35mm, 92 mins  
With a stellar cast that includes Dianne Wiest (*The Birdcage*), Simon Callow (*Bedrooms and Hallways*), Vanessa Redgrave (*Wilde*) and sexy newcomer Stanislas Merhar. *Merci Docteur Rey* is a fun romp, equal parts Agatha Christie mystery and traditional French farce, that gives true meaning to 'Gay Paris'!

French and English with English sub-titles

## Coming Out at Work is Hard to Do – Short Film

Dir: Kylie Eddy, Australia, 2004, video, 4 mins. So, how did you come out to your workmates? Chances are it wasn't as jaw-dropping as the experience recounted in this short, sharp and funny tale based on a true story! (Paul Tonta)

## Goldfish Memory – Feature Film



Dir: Liz Gill, Ireland, 2003, 35mm, 85 mins  
All aboard the relationship roundabout. Walking in the same shoes as Rose Troche's *Bedrooms and Hallways*, *Goldfish Memory* is a saucy, sassy romantic comedy crammed with bed hopping, lonely hearts and pretty young things. Each character hoping to solve the question of how to attain a perfect relationship. The only thing they all agree on is that love is the one thing we can't live without. Won the Audience Award for Outstanding Narrative Feature at 2003 L.A. Outfest. (Ben Zipper)



# 10 Film reviews (continued)

## Homophobia Exposed – Short Film

Produced by Way Out Group, Central Victorian Youth & Sexual Diversity Project, 2003, 10 minutes.

This short produced by young people in Central Victorian, The Way Out group, which delves into the history of homophobia. It is an excellent insight how homophobia works its evil ways in our society. A timely reminder that we still have to come together to fight the fear instilled within and outside our communities.

## Party Monster – Feature Film



Dirs: Fenton Bailey & Randy Barbato, USA, 2003, 35mm, 97 mins.

The final feature film follows the true story of Micheal Alig about his rise and fall as a Manhattan '80s "star" called "Party Monster". Alig goes to New York dreaming of becoming a star, what actually happens is mind blowing. This film has been featured around the world to fantastic reviews at many festivals including the Sundance Film Festival.

## Sponsors

# Typhoon Restaurant

95 Mitchell St, Bendigo. 03 5443.3111

**H&H**  
HARES & HYENAS

*MillDuck*  
Strawbale Bed & Breakfast

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- Fully Self Contained
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Website: [www.millduck.com.au](http://www.millduck.com.au)  
Email: [millduck@impulse.net.au](mailto:millduck@impulse.net.au)



**Festival Patron**  
Judy Small

**Festival Committee**  
Chris Walters-Coordinator  
Jill Gibson  
Helen Rosa  
Julie Gray  
Margaret Vanderlaan  
Ada Milley  
Pam Oakley  
Wendy Suiter  
David Brown

**Festival Curator**  
Lisa Daniel

**Financial Record Management**  
Ada Milley  
Pam Oakley

**Fundraising, Supporter and Sponsors organisers**  
BQFF Committee

**Graphic Design, Promotional Material**  
Meralyn Christmas  
Jill Gibson

**Printing**  
Bart 'N Print - Bendigo

**Program Notes**  
Chris Walters  
Jill Gibson

**Media & Promotion**  
COGB-especially Lizzie  
ALSO Foundation  
Helen Rosa  
Rainbow Radio-3TripleC fm  
3BO  
FAB  
www.visitvictoria.  
Lesbiana  
All individuals and groups who helped to disperse our festival information.

**Program & Poster Distribution**  
BQFF Committee

**Web Designers**  
Jillaine Lloyd  
Jill Gibson

**Gay Your Art Out**  
Jill Gibson  
Wendy Suiter

**Opening Ceremony**  
Chris Walters

**Patrons Breakfast**  
Jill Gibson

**After Party**  
FAB-CV Committee  
Royal Mail Hotel (RMH)

## 2005 COMMITTEE

The Bendigo Queer Film Festival committee is seeking to expand its current committee membership and general committee membership from those in the GLBTI community who have skills, interest, drive, enthusiasm and commitment in presenting this festival as an annual event. If you are interested or would like to make enquiries, see Festival Info (pg3) for contact details.

### Sponsors

#### Graphic Designer

Meralyn Christmas  
mikhala@ozemail.com.au.  
ph:02/4788.1118

#### Festival Printer

Bart 'N Print  
Deborah St, Bendigo.  
ph:03/5441.6600



## Appreciation and Thanks to...

Lisa and the board at **Melbourne Queer Film Festival**; Linda, Max, Zoe, Fiona and especially Lizzie in **COGB Cultural Development and Events unit**; Julie, Margaret, Helen, Ada, Wendy, Beth, Jillaine, Pamela, Sharon and Vikki from **Rainbow Connection**; Adam and David from **FAB**; big thanks to **Loddon Mallee Women's Health** for being our auspicing organisation; **Bendigo Film Society**-Kevin and Allan; festival graphics and all round designer-woman **Meralyn Christmas**; the **Yorta Yorta** people; **Judy Small** for being our guest and patron; the ever sweet Ken & John at **Typhoon Restaurant**-Bendigo; **ChillOut**-Jennie; **C.A.N**; Helen, Ric and Lopan-**Rainbow Radio** and management of **3TripleC 895fm**; **Lesbiana**; **Royal Mail Hotel**; Alan Walker (**Gay and Lesbian Liaison Officer**)-Bendigo Police; **Mayor of City of Greater Bendigo**; **Maxi IGA**-Castlemaine; **Safeway**-Lansell Plaza; **Bunnings** for crazed sausage sizzle moments; **Way Out youth group** CV-Kyneton; **MillDuck StrawBale B&B**-Harcourt North; **Stoneman's Book Room**-Castlemaine; **Aesops Attic**- Kyneton; **Book Now Bookshop**- Bendigo; **Bart 'N Print**-Bendigo; **Hares and Hyenas**-Pahran; **Globe Cafe**-Castlemaine; **Bold Garden**-Castlemaine; masseuse **Justina Chee**-Castlemaine; Shane of **Macedon Ranges Signs** for being so enthusiastic and keen on our t-shirt logo; to all the **fabulous volunteers**; to those who fed us enthusiasm and good wishes on the journey; finally a big thanks to **Jill** and **Chris** without whom this festival would not have reached the proverbial heights of Central Victoria!

"Queen B" and the blokes,  
with guests..... guess who!

895FM **RAINBOW RADIO** 895FM

Friday's 10pm to 1am

3tripleC FM

ph:5442 7895 requests