# Bendigo GUEET Film Festival





MARCH 24 - 26 2006

Presented in partnership with the Melbourne Queer Film Festival

# welcome

The Bendigo Queer Film Festival (BQFF) has become a recognised 'event' on the GLBTI calendar. Now in its third year, it plays an important role in acknowledging and celebrating the diverse community in which we live. It has provided entertainment and a sense of solidarity amongst the GBLTI community, as well as enhancing the cultural diversity of Central Victoria in an open and supportive environment.

This year's BQFF offers a wonderful opportunity for patrons to explore the various activities. It kicks off with the opening of the "Kings and Queens" - Gay Your Art Out Exhibition, appropriately named to coincide with the festivities of the Commonwealth Games, being held at Dudley House on Friday 24 March at 6.30pm. This free Exhibition will be open to the public all weekend and I encourage patrons to view the artists' interpretations of the theme "Kings and Queens".

This year BQFF has seven film sessions and once again we would like to thank Lisa Daniel and the Melbourne Queer Film Festival for their tremendous support and assistance in making these quality films available to us. This will be the last opportunity to view the films before they head up to Brisbane, then on to London. They are not likely to be released in commercial cinemas, particularly in regional Victoria.

The Friends Alike Bendigo Central Victoria (FABCV) has once again found some fantastic entertainment for the FAB After-Party on the Saturday night. Kaye Sera and Luke Gallagher will be one of the wonderful acts and if you thought the art exhibition had kings and queens, just wait to you see this line up! Our Patron this year is the irrepressible

Sue-Ann Post, who describes herself as the six-foot-one, ex-Mormon lesbian. A breakfast with Sue-Ann will be held on the Sunday morning at 10.00am at the Shamrock Hotel. There's nothing like a sumptuous breakfast, good company and a laugh to ease your way into the morning after the night before. But be quick, tickets are limited!

This years BQFF also coincides with the Commonwealth Games Cultural Festival being held in Bendigo and I would encourage people to look out for the many free events during the weekend, and to remind people there may be limited car parking around the Campbell Theatrette. For this reason we have included a map to indicate parking areas at the back of this program.

This years BQFF is the biggest to date and is not possible without a dedicated organising committee who volunteer their time to ensure the festival is a success. I extend a special thank you to committee members Mark Dean, Raph Beh, Robyn Bull, Greg Rogers and Daniel Borton. It is great to work with supportive people who have a shared vision.

The community and businesses of Bendigo and surrounds can also be congratulated for their support and generosity - it is appreciated and is a reflection of the inclusiveness of many in the community.

So come along and enjoy the feast of activities on offer. Festivals such as this stay alive by your presence and it keeps the committee motivated to do it all again in 2007.

Enjoy!

Chris Walters BQFF Coordinator

### **BOFF PARTNER**

The Melbourne Queer Film Festival (MQFF) is proud to sponsor and curate the 3rd Annual Bendigo Queer Film Festival. Whilst Melbourne film audiences have been lucky enough to have had a queer film festival for 16 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 world wide, but possibly more so in areas away from the cities. For this reason, and because going to the movies is great fun, we trust that with support from the GLBTI 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/Director Melbourne Queer Film Festival



### **FESTIVAL OFFICE**

Bendigo Queer Film Festival C/O: Women's Health Loddon Mallee 47 Myers Street, Bendigo 3550

IT

Email: contact@bendigoqueerfilmfestival.info Website: www.bendigoqueerfilmfestival.info

#### PHONE CONTACTS

Chris Walters

For General Information 0400 918 759

Raph Beh

Gay Your Art Out Exhibition 0448 913 242

Robyn Bull

Patrons Breakfast

0407 221 03

#### DISABILITY SUPPORTS



The Campbell Theatrette, Dudley House and the Shamrock Hotel are wheelchair accessible.

The Campbell Theatrette has a hearing loop and a sign interpreter is available upon request for the Patrons Breakfast. Please call Chris on 0400 918 759 or email chrisandruth@bendigos.net.



The Companion Card is recognised for film sessions only.

### MAJOR SPONSOR

The City of Greater Bendigo actively supports culture and the arts. Council has three art units with dedicated staff and numerous volunteers working together to develop Greater Bendigo as a major regional arts and



culture centre. The Cultural Development and Events Unit (CD&E) aims to foster a sense of place through the development and delivery of arts and cultural programs, and events which assist in long term cultural, social, environmental and economic benefits to our residents.

Resources available include Festival and Event Planning Guide, funding and scholarships, local music CD collection, arts register, resource library, community development programs, numerous free publications and a full Event Calendar published on Council's web site. CD&E opening hours are 9.00am-5.00pm Monday to Friday, 259 Hargreaves Street, Bendigo.

Telephone 5434 6464, Fax 5434 6473 or visit www.bendigo.vic.gov.au

# festival information

FRIDAY 24 6.30pm 8.00pm	Opening of Kings & Queens Gay Your Art Out Exhibitionpage Opening Film Session "50 Ways Of Saying Fabulous"page	5 8
1.00pm 3.30pm 6.00pm 8.30pm 9.30pm	25 MARCH  SESSION 2 - Boys Shorts	10 11 12
SUNDAY 26 10.00am 12.30pm 2.30pm		7

TICKET PRICES		
Single Session	\$14	\$11
Bronze Bullet (3 Session Pass)	\$37	\$31
Silver Screen (5 Session Pass)	\$61	\$52
Gold Nugget **	\$110	\$100

\*\*denotes 7 Session Pass, plus Patrons Breakfast Ticket and FAB After Party Ticket

- · A valid pass will be required for each session.
- No refunds or exchanges given unless due to session cancellation or time changes.
- · Concession available with valid Health Care Card or Student photo ID card.
- · Concession Cards must be presented to receive concession rate.

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

#### PICKET OUT ETS

Patrons are advised to pre-purchase tickets to avoid disappointment! Tickets are 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.

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### FRIDAY 24 MARCH

Official Opening 6.30pm Celebratory drinks and finger food available

### FREE ENTRY

Dudley House, View Street Bendigo (next to the old Fire Station)

### **EXHIBITION HOURS**

Friday 24 March 6.00pm to 9.00pm

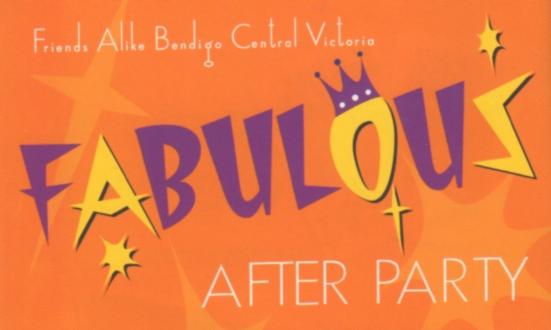
Saturday 25 March 10.00am to 6.00pm

**Sunday 26 March** 10.00am to 4.00pm

For further information regarding the Art Exhibition contact Raph on 0448 913 242



Photo courtesy of City of Greater Bendigo



## JOIN IN THE CELEBRATIONS

This year's entertainment includes a cabaret show with Kaye Sera and Luke Gallagher. Saturday 25 March 9.30pm till late

ICON (Above Bazzani's Restaurant)

Howard Place, Bendigo \$10 entry

Brought to you by FABCV in partnership with BQFF 2005

# CHILLOUT FESTIVAL

## SUNDAY IZTH MARCH

Look for the BQFF stall at Chillout on Carnival Day. Secure your BQFF film tickets, Patrons Breakfast ticket, raffle tickets and purchase a bright BQFF t-shirt.



# PATRONS BREAKFAST

Festival participants are invited to a fundraiser breakfast where you can enjoy a sumptuous breakfast, good company and have a great belly laugh with the 2006 Festival Patron

## SUE-ANN POST

Comedian and Author

Sunday 26 March at 10.00am
Federation Room
at the Shamrock Hotel
Cost \$25.00
Corner of Pall Mall &
Williamson Street, Bendigo
Limited Seating, Bookings Essential!!
Phone Robyn on 0407 221 035

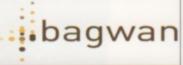


Sue-Ann Post is Australia's only six foot, lesbian, ex-Mormon, diabetic, comedian and author.

Since Sue-Ann launched onto the scene in 1991 with her multi award winning solo show, A Bit of a Postscript, she has been creating her own brand of information charged comedy that has both shocked and delighted audiences around Australia, New Zealand, the UK and the USA.

For more information about Sue-Ann Post visit: www.sue-annpost.com.au





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SESSION 1 Opening Night

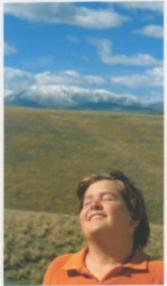
## 50 Ways of Saying Fabulous

Dir: Stewart Main, New Zealand, 2005, 35mm, 90 mins

Chubby 12-year-old Billy has a penchant for dress-up and a loathing of sports that make it achingly clear to all he's a budding 'friend of Dorothy'. But with his small-country-town naiveté, doesn't even know what slurs like 'poofter' mean. Best friend and fellow misfit Lou is a tomboy who loves roughing it with the boys in rugby, while dodging her mother's attempts to get her into a bra. When new nerd in town Roy becomes the school's next whipping boy, Billy and Roy team up and are soon enmeshed in a series of lusty encounters. But it's the arrival of hunky young farmhand Jamie (Michael Dorman, Secret Life of Us) that throws the real sizzler in the pot of sexual tensions, personal rivalries and highschool hierarchies. With its retro camera zooms, sci-fi fantasy sequences and over-the-top music, 50 Ways neatly twists the action into a surreal, occasionally macabre, thoroughly original rites-of-passage drama. A subversive comedy-drama, sure to leave audiences talking. (Ben Zipper)

After the film join the organising committee and sponsors for light refreshments.













### SESSION 2 Boys Shorts

## Build

Dir: Greg Atkins, Canada, 2004, video, 23 mins

A young man works to support his mother, but avoids telling her the truth about his chosen career.

## Nightswimming

Dir: Daniel Falcone, USA, 2005, video, 19 mins

A teenage punker named Otter sets out on a mission with his best friend to see a beloved band perform in NYC. Once their road trip ends, the real adventure begins!

### Postmortem

Dir: Eldar Rapaport, USA, 2004, video 16 mins

Things aren't as over as they seem when two exes get together for a catch up.

## No Ordinary Joe

Dir: Jules Nurrish, UK, 2005, video, 12 mins

Teenage Matthew feels his way towards happiness via the soccer field and the wise words of Joe Orton.

## What Grown Ups Know

Dir: Jonathan Wald, Australia/USA, 2004, 35mm 31 mins

Despairing of life on the run with his ailing and flamboyant mother, teenage Roy seeks solace in seducing the lonely manager of a desolate caravan park.

SESSION 3
Girls Shorts

## Hold Up

Dir: Madeleine Olnek, USA, 2005, video, 8 mins

A thief has more than money on her mind during this corner store hold up.

## Lauover

Dir: Ashlee Page, Australia, 2004, video, 7 mins

Sexy flight attendant Kate has been looking forward to a night of passion with her girlfriend. An overnight stay goes horribly wrong when Grandma turns up on the doorstep after leaving Grandpa, Hilarious!

## Gillery's Little Secret

Dir: Tina Scorzafava, USA, 2005, video 25 mins

On the occasion of her 20th High School reunion, Gillery returns to the small country town where she grew up. During her trip a deep secret unfolds about her high school lesbian romance many years ago. A young girl looks to Gillery for some answers and revelations.

## Such Great Joy

Dir: Michelle Kramer, USA, 2005, 35mm, 15 mins

Megan comes home to join her Jewish family for Shabbat with an important announcement. She's a lesbian and recently engaged to her girlfriend. But who knew telling the truth could be so complicated?

## Come on Raby (Hvem de End er)

Dir: Martin Strange Hansen, Denmark, 2004, video, 24 mins

Lisbeth and Rosa toy with the idea of having a family, but it's a long way from thought to action. It's not always easy, and they struggle to find a way through turbulent times.







### SESSION 4

## Good Boys (Yeladim Tovim)

Dir: Yair Hochner, Israel, 2005, video, 75 mins

Hebrew with English subtitles

Meni is a 17 year old hustler living in Tel Aviv who has already fathered a child, and earned a strong enough client base that he doesn't need to trawl his wares on the street. Fellow rent boy Tal earns his money the hard way, living from trick to trick, always on the lookout for a quick buck, either from hustling or stealing. The two meet when they are hired to have sex for a voyeuristic client. Sitting in a café afterwards they quickly bond and spend the night together. Meni, trying to be cool, doesn't want to rush things and proposes that they meet that night at a local club. When Tal turns up eager to see his new flame he is disappointed to find Meni absent. Not wanting to go home empty-handed Tal picks up a hot guy cruising him and they head off into the night. However, his conquest is not what he seems, and the night ahead holds numerous twists and shocks for both him and Meni. Sexually charged and often harsh in its depiction of its socially marginalized characters, Good Boys is a gripping look at 24 hours in the lives of 2 boys desperate to make a meaningful, and redemptive. connection in their chaotic lives. (PT)





SESSION 5

## Loving Annabelle

Dir: Katherine Brooks, USA, 2006, video, 76 mins

In the 1931 lesbian movie Maedchen in Uniform, screening at this year's MQFF, a young girl is sent off to a boarding school for girls, where she soon develops a crush on everyone's favourite female teacher. This now-classic tale of forbidden love gets a sexy and modern retelling in Katherine Brooks' latest film, Loving Annabelle. 74 years after Uniform shocked in Maedchen audiences, social contempt for intergenerational love persists. While the love affair in Maedchen in Uniform remains unrequited, Brooks' film delves into deeper terrain, exploring the sexual and emotional relationship between the teacher and student. What is depicted as a schoolgirl crush in Maedchen in Uniform becomes a full-bodied steamy affair in Loving Annabelle. Annabelle is the daughter of a famous senator, and a rebel who refuses to accept the school's rules and discipline. Simone is a gifted and devoted young poetry teacher who falls in love with Annabelle despite her efforts to ignore the obvious attraction between the two, and she finds that Annabelle quickly unlocks the passion that has lay dormant within her since her teenage years. Loving Annabelle is an intense and tight retelling of the taboo of student teacher love, and is made all the more pleasing with a cast that is extremely easy on the eye. (LD)

oving Annabelle











### SESSION 6

## About Personality

Dirs: Scott Malcolm & Matt Wright, Australia, 2005, dvd, 30 mins

An engaging and informative documentary which takes a look into what it might mean to be young and queer. Relaxing and intimate portraits spoken with candour, explore the diverse questions of queer life and challenge the diverse assumptions perpetuated by Australian society.

## Camp Out

Dir: Pascal-Alex Vincent, USA, 2005, video, 78mins

Camp Out follows ten Mid-Western teenagers as they attend the first overnight camp for gay Christian youths. For these six boys and four girls, it's just as hard to come out as Christian as it is to come out as gay. They're caught in the battle between religion, politics and sexuality that's raging in the Western world today.

SESSION 7 Oz Shorts

Teen Christian Beach Party

Dir: Richard Vette, Australia, 2004, video, 4 mins

In these times of immorality and debauchery, Layman John and his friends seek to educate the teenage masses.

Bous Grammar

Dir: Dean Francis, Australia, 2006, video, 8 mins

High School student Gareth endures a horrifying rites of passage in the rarefied atmosphere of a private school. (PA)

The Bridge

Dir: George Barbakadze, Australia, 2005, dvd, 8 mins

Life is good for jubilant lovers Luka and Niko. Niko's Australian citizenship application has finally been approved. However, Niko's new found freedom changes both their fortunes. (PA)

Luna and the Moon

Dir: Katie O'Neill, Australia, 2005, video, 7 mins

Luna is a quiet transgendered woman, but tonight she heads out on the town. Quite accidentally, Luna meets James, a good-looking single guy. Romance beckons and Luna reveals her past. (PA)

Mona Lisa

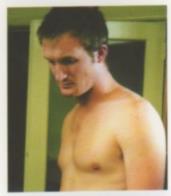
Dir: Sotiris Dounoukos, Australia, 2003, 35mm, 15 mins

George receives an anxious phone call from his boyfriend John about a much awaited meet-the-parents family dinner. George is running very late and is waylaid by his diabetic and overbearing Greek mother. George conquers his fears and confronts her about their codependent relationship. (PA)

One N Stands

Dir: Maiara Skarheim, Australia, 2005, video, 11 mins

It's not easy being a lesbian. One girl overcomes shyness and learns the rules about picking up chicks, dancing, what can go wrong when you go down on a girl and why Coco is a starfish. (PA)







### Crash

Dir: David Moore, Australia, 2004, video, 5 mins

Two old school friends, one a dab hand with a video camera and one a legend on the football field have a beer after a great game. While they replay the highlights of the day, the footy hero reveals his true feelings. (PA)

### Forced Entry

Dir: B.P. Anderson, Australia, 2005, dvd, 6 mins

A couple are confronted with their greatest fears when they wake to find a recently released prisoner in their bedroom.

## Lauover

Dir: Ashlee Page, Australia, 2004, video, 7 mins

Sexy flight attendant Kate has been looking forward to a night of passion with her girlfriend. An overnight stay goes horribly wrong when Grandma turns up on the doorstep after leaving Grandpa. Hilarious! (PA)

## YOUR feedback IS VITAL TO US

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You may like to meet others in a similar situation. If you are a little hesitant, why not give me a call.

Ada Milley (AH) 5439 6451 or email — millduck@impulse.net.au



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### Women's Health Loddon Mallee

Women's Health Loddon Mallee is a non-government, not for profit organisation providing inclusive health services, information and support for all women living in the Loddon Mallee Region. Our inclusive approach to health services ensures that we celebrate diversity and promote acceptance, belonging and participation. We recognise women's different needs and the inequalities in women's level of power and their control over resources. We attempt to counteract these inequalities by acting as agents for social change, working to overcome deprivation and disadvantage experienced by some women and to promote social inclusion.

In partnership with women, the community and health service providers, our focus and commitment is to improve the health and wellbeing of rural women.

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Contact Chris on **0400 918 759** 

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# How to find your way around



## Appreciation and thanks to

Lisa Daniel and the Board of the Melbourne Queer Film Festival; the team in COGB Cultural Development and Events; FABCV; Women's Health Loddon Mallee; Alan and the Bendigo Film Society, and the projectionist David Thomas; Patron Sue-Ann Post; Rainbow Radio and the Management of The Fresh 895 FM; City of Greater Bendigo Mayor David Jones.

## Sponsors and supporters of the BQFF:

Ezywiz Biz, Balloon Flights of Bendigo, Balgownie Estate, the Official BQFF printers bARt'n'PRINt, Bagwan Fashion for Men, Hares & Hyenas, Typhoon, Sandhurst Fire Protection, Bendigo Psychotheraphy and Healing Centre, Book Now Book Store, Ubiquity, Bold Garden and Velvet Tipt.

## Acknowledgment goes to the people who have provided us with the program notes:

Ben Zipper (BZ) Paul Tonta (PT) Lisa Daniel (LD) Paul Andrew (PA)

Many thanks go to the dedicated volunteers of the 2006 BQFF Committee who through their enthusiasm and giving of their time have made this festival the biggest yet:

Mark Dean Raph Beh
Greg Rodgers Daniel Borton
Robyn Bull

And for the third consecutive year my very understanding partner Ruth Reading for continually being there and supporting me at every hurdle.

### Chris Walters

Co-ordinator Bendigo Queer Film Festival



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## Major Sponsors





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