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CITY OF GREATER
BENDIGO

April 17 - 19 2015

www.bendigoqueerfilmfestival.com.au





The Bendigo Queer Film Festival was founded in 2004 by Chris Walters in collaboration with the Melbourne Queer Film Festival.

The BQFF has screened a total of 204 films in the twelve years from inception and is one of the few film festivals of its type in Australia.

The Bendigo Queer Film Festival provides a space for rural lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, intersex people, their families and friends, to connect with and support each other through common stories and lessen the feeling of isolation. We trust you will enjoy this years event.



PRESENTING PARTNER

The Bendigo Queer Film Festival is forever indebted to the Melbourne Queer Film Festival for their ongoing curatorial and in-kind support since our inception.

Without the generous support of the
Melbourne Queer Film Festival,
we simply would not exist.

We would also like to pay homage to Lisa Daniel,
who has provided ongoing guidance and
in-kind support over the many years
we have been in operation.

It's rare people like Lisa who give so much to ensure
events like ours are a success and make the world a
better place for all of us.

Gay and Lesbian Switchboard Victoria
Tel. (03) 9663 2939, 1800 184 527
Hours 6–10pm every day except Wednesday
2–10pm Wednesday
Website <http://www.switchboard.org.au/>

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Parents and friends of lesbians and gays
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Website <http://www.pflagvictoria.org.au/contact.php>

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Women's Information Referral Exchange (WIRE)
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Website <http://www.wire.org.au>

Beyond Blue
Tel. 1300 224 636
Hours 24 hours, 7 days a week
Website <http://www.beyondblue.org.au>

BQFF Committee

Convenor - George Filev
Treasurer - Suellen Pepperell
Secretary - Wayne Murdoch
Film Curator- Lisa Daniel of MQFF
Queer Country Coordinator - Noel Hourigan
Sponsorship Coordinator - Julian Regan
Volunteer Coordinator- Gayle Freemantle
Event Coordinator Assistant - Ashley Beames
Patrons Breakfast Coordinator - Chris Walters
Graphic Designer - Mark Wiseman
Community Committee Member- Maxwell Clarke
Website designer - George Filev

Special thanks to our treasured volunteers.

queer COUNTRY

art exhibition

www.bendigoqueerfilmfestival.com.au



Image by Tashara Roberts



10th -19th April

Dudley House - 60 View Street Bendigo

This exhibition is a platform for GLBTI artists to express themselves, showcase their creativity, offer another perspective and educate the boarder community about gay and lesbian arts and culture.

Opening Times

Fri 10th April LAUNCH - 6pm-8pm
 Sat 11th April - 10am-5pm
 Sun 12th April - 10am-5pm
 Mon 13th April - CLOSED
 Tue 14th April - CLOSED
 Wed 15th April - 10am-5pm
 Thu 16th April - 10am-5pm
 Fri 17th April - 10am-5pm
 Sat 18th April - 10am-5pm
 Sun 19th April - 10am-5pm

Friday 17th April

Opening Night Film & Party @ the Star Cinema

1 Peg Leg Road Eaglehawk

Opening Night of the Bendigo Queer Film Festival will be spectacular as the facade of the historic Eaglehawk Town Hall, now the Star Cinema, turns PINK. The joint will be jumping with 70's DJ, surprise entertainment and a glass of complementary bubbly on arrival. Dress in your best 70's threads for a fun night. Dancing is encouraged. Drinks at bar prices after the film.

6.30pm

I FEEL LIKE DISCO (ICH FÜHL MICH DISCO)

Dir: Axel Ranisch, Germany, 2013
 Running time: 98 min
 Genre: Comedy
 German with English subtitles



Opening night sponsors



Music turns out to be the real savior in this heartwarming and goofy coming-of-age comedy drama: sometimes sad, sometimes absurd, often funny, and always fabulous. (Lisa Daniel)

Only child Florian is an awkward, pudgy teen with unkempt hair, braces, zero interest in sport, an obsession with disco music, and a decent amount of confusion about his sexuality.

He's a bit of a mummy's boy who is happiest when his judgemental diving coach father Hanno isn't home. When his dad isn't around Florian gets to don his favourite white leisure suit disco outfits and dance under the mirror ball with his mum.

When the structure of their family suddenly changes, Florian and his father seek to find some common ground so that they can muddle on together amidst Florian's crush on one of his father's teen diving proteges.

Balgownie Estate



Balgownie Estate was established by the now legendary winemaker Stuart Anderson in 1969.

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2002 Small Vineyard Awards

OSCE - 2008 Black Label Cabernet Merlot

OSCE - 2008 Black Label Shiraz

OSCE - 2007 Estate Shiraz

OSCE - 2002 Estate Cabernet Sauvignon

Saturday 18th April

10.00am

STATES OF GRACE

Director: Helen S. Cohen & Mark Lipman, USA, 2014

Running time: 74min

Genre: Documentary



Sponsored by



Dr. Grace Dammann, whose heroic service to others was once honored by the Dalai Lama, co-founded the first HIV/AIDS clinic for people in need in San Francisco and signed over 1,000 death certificates. Later, an horrific accident befell her on the Golden Gate Bridge and changed her life forever. This riveting and inspiring documentary follows Grace, her partner Fu, and their daughter, as she struggles to regain her life after a 48-day coma resulted in numerous surgeries and significant ongoing injuries to her shattered body. Facing considerable disability whilst retaining all of her cognitive skills, Grace tries her best to remain positive throughout her recovery, but the physical limitations wear her patience thin, despite her Buddhism. Grace is convinced she will overcome and one day resume her work in the medical field.

11.30am

Eat With Me

Director: David Au, USA, 2013

Running time: 100min

Genre: Comedy



Sponsored by



You can't start over on an empty stomach!

Tired of being invisible in a bland marriage, Emma moves in with her son Elliot, in his downtown LA loft. Elliot is a chef at a lackluster Chinese restaurant facing foreclosure. Also he's gay – and Emma's distaste and denial over this has made strangers of mother and son.

But the two need each other now more than ever, and as Emma indulges herself with the encouragement of a saucy new friend, and Elliot confronts his fears of intimacy, the pair find ways to communicate with food where words fail.

This auspicious directorial debut from David Au offers a fresh take on life, love and food in the heart of Los Angeles through a deliciously emotional and redemptive story supported by a wonderful cast led by Sharon Omi, Teddy Chen Culver, Nicole Sullivan (MADtv) and a surprise moment with George Takei.

2.00pm

Anatomy Of A Love Seen

Director: Marina Rice Bader, USA, 2014

Running time: 86min

Genre: Drama



This film within a film explores love, in all it's painful and messy glory. Six months ago actresses Zoe and Mal fell for each other at exactly the same moment in time while filming a love scene. After five blissful months together Zoe was decimated when Mal walked away. Three miserable weeks later a very lucrative network broadcast deal was in the works. They only had one request....re-shoot the love scene. Welcome to the set.

3.45pm

BFFs

Director: Andrew Putschoegl, USA, 2014

Running time: 95min

Genre: Comedy



Sponsored by



Kat and Samantha have been best friends for years. When Samantha convinces a reluctant Kat to take advantage of a couple's weekend retreat by pretending to be lovers, they're hoping for some time by the pool and maybe a few good stories. How hard could it be? Instead, they find themselves immersed in an intensive workshop with real couples who are fighting to save their relationships. As the "Closer to Closeness" weekend progresses, Kat and Samantha are made to face their own shortcomings and, by default, begin to believe their own cover story. When the lines of friendship begin to blur, they are faced with asking themselves: could it actually be there is something there or has this weekend just worked a Jedi mind trick on them?

Starring Tara Karsian (Sassy Pants, Terri), Andrea Grano (No God, No Master), Sean Maher (Serenity, Joss Whedon's Much Ado About Nothing), Larisa Oleyunik (10 Things I Hate About You), Pat Carroll (The Little Mermaid), Molly Hagan (Election), Sigrid Thornton (The Man from Snowy River), Richard Moll (Night Court, But I'm a Cheerleader), Eric Lively (American Pie), and Jenny O'Hara (Mystic River).

Saturday 18th April

**5.30pm
10 Year Plan**

Director: J.C. Calcianno, USA, 2014

Running time: 90min

Genre: Comedy



Sponsored by



Ten years. That's how long best friends Brody and Myles have before they throw in the towel and settle down together. And while they've never even reached first base, Brody's habit of skyping Miles in during his hook-ups means the two have shared more than just fluids. But with their tenuous promise ready to collapse like a pile of neatly folded Abercrombie and Fitch polos, Myles is now scared of being rejected by his closest friend. From the director of the genre-defining Mission Impossible comes the multi award-winning suspense-fully hilarious rom-com of two gay best friends navigating relationships, grindr and sketchy men.

(Ben Gielewski)

BQFF - Festival Bar



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Quick Reference Guide

10th - 19th April

10am-5pm Queer Country Art Exhibition
Excluding Mon 13 & Tue 14 - CLOSED

17th April - Opening Night Film

6:30pm I Feel Like Disco

18th April

10:00am States Of Grace
11:30am Eat With Me
2:00pm Anatomy Of A Love Seen
3:45pm BFFs
5:30pm The 10 Year Plan

19th April

9:30am BQFF Patrons Breakfast
12:00pm To Be Takei
2:30pm Oz Shorts
4:30pm Violette

Venues

Queer Country Art Exhibition

Dudley House, 60 View Street Bendigo

Opening Bendigo Queer Film Festival

Star Cinema Eaglehawk 1 Peg Leg Rd
Eaglehawk

Film Screenings 18th & 19th April

La Trobe Visual Arts Centre
121 View Street Bendigo

BQFF Patrons Breakfast

Capital Theatre, Banquet room.
50 View Street Bendigo



Women's Health Loddon Mallee is a specialist health service, working to support the goal of optimal health and well being for all women in the Loddon Mallee region.

Contact us at 47 Myers Street, Bendigo 3550

1800 350 233 whlm@whlm.org.au or <http://www.whlm.org.au>

LODDON MALLEE

Buying tickets

Tickets to the 2015 festival are available online at www.bendigoqueerfilmfestival.com.au. Remaining tickets, if available, will be for sale at the box office.

Tickets purchased online will be e-mailed to you for printing at home.

Please present your printed ticket for scanning at the door.

Alternatively, to save resources, you can download your tickets to your smart device and bring them up on your screen for scanning at the door.

IMPORTANT:

Online ticket sales for specific films will close

30 minutes prior to the film starting.

Online ticket sales for Festival Passes will close

30 minutes prior to the first film of the festival starting.

Opening Night Film & Party

\$30 full price

\$27 concession

Single film sessions

Film only (excluding opening night film)

\$18 full price

\$15 concession

Three film pass

Any three films, (excluding opening night)

\$45 full price, \$40 concession

BQFF Patrons Breakfast - Christine Nixon

\$35 full price

\$30 concession

Festival Pass

All films plus Opening Night Film & Party

\$125 full price

\$110 concession



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Sunday 19th April

9.30am

BQFF Patrons Breakfast

@ the Capital Theatre - 50 View St Bendigo

This relaxed morning soirée offers the chance to meet influential supporters, gay icons or celebrities and converse in an intimate setting over breakfast.



Guest Patron - Christine Nixon

****Ticket Sales for this event will
close at end of business on
Monday 13th April 2015****

Christine really needs no introduction. As the first woman Chief Commissioner of Victoria Police she was also the first Chief Commissioner to show outward support in our community when she march alongside the Victorian Police Force members at the 2009 Midsumma festival.

Although she herself is heterosexual, she has demonstrated her support to the gay and lesbian community by stating, “What I’m doing is supporting decent and reasonable people who want to get on with their lives, and they have been treated appallingly previously by the Police, and I’m prepared to do something about it. And if it’s a small symbol of marching with them, then that would be a reasonable thing to do.”

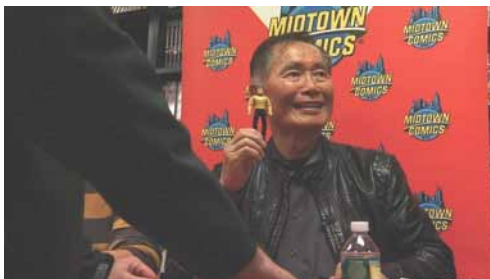
Christine Nixon has appeared on television many times over the years. Programmes have included Australian Story, One on One, Q&A and Compass. Recently Christine was interviewed for Bottom Line, a series of interviews with prominent people.

Christine will be speaking about her role in changing the culture of the Victorian Police force to become more accepting and supportive of the LGBTI community.

Sunday 19th April

12.00pm
TO BE TAKEI

Director: Jennifer M. Kroot, USA, 2014
Running time: 90min
Genre: Documentary



This fascinating documentary provides a window into the life of the George Takei, Star Trek star Sulu, unofficial king of Facebook and now a strong LGBTIQ advocate. Takei, 76, and his husband of 25 years Brad Takei, are preparing for Takei's dream project, *Allegiance*, a musical based on his harrowing childhood experience inside a Japanese-American internment camp during World War II. This documentary smoothly moves forward and backwards in time allowing Takei's eclectic personality and wildly different achievements to shine. Oh My! (Kate Lefoe)

2.30pm
City of Melbourne OZ Shorts

In partnership with the City of Melbourne, the MQFF is proud to present this year's package of Australian shorts to the Bendigo Queer Film Festival. Total running time for all 7 films is 88 min

ALL GOD'S CREATURES

Director: Brendon McDonall, Australia, 2014
Running time: 19 min
Genre: Drama, Youth



Brothers Asher and Charlie have just lost their father, and their already fragile relationship undergoes a test of almost mythic proportions when one of them commits an act of mindless cruelty against an eel as retribution in this multi-award winning short.

HOLE

Director: Tony Radevski, Australia, 2014
Running time: 5 min
Genre: Drama, Sex



Two men share an unlikely encounter in a bathroom cubicle

LIKE BREATHING

Director: Elizabeth Cooper, Australia, 2013

Running time: 13 min

Genre: Drama, Sexuality



Max lives in the country and works for her father as a mechanic in his workshop, and helps her mother take care of her disabled sister. Max feels like she will never be able to find the courage to voice what she really wants - but then she meets Bel.

MYMY

Director: Anna Helme, Australia, 2013

Running time: 14 min

Genre: Experimental, Gender



In a mythic cyberfeminist universe, a frustrated young man yearns for affinity and connection in this experimental hybrid of documentary, fiction and performance art.

PLUNGE

Director: Kate Lefoe, Australia, 2014

Running time: 6 min

Genre: Drama, Relationship



A relaxing day trip soon turns into something far more mysterious for two young lovers.

RIGOR MORTIS

Director: Eddie Diamandi, Australia, 2013

Running time: 15 min

Genre: Comedy, Sexuality



Chris' family unit is threatened with the arrival of an unhinged lover at his workplace.

SHOWBOY

Director: Samuel Leighton-Dore, Australia, 2013

Running time: 15 min

Genre: Drama, Sexuality



After the unexpected death of his mother, a young football player, finds himself struggling to support his depressed, unemployed father while fighting to keep safe the secret he once shared with his mother.

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4.30pm
Closing Night Film
Violette



Art Series Hotel Group corner of Lucan and Bayne St Bendigo (03) 4433 6100

Director: Martin Provost, France/Belgium, 2013
Running time: 139 min
Genre: Drama
French with English subtitles



Film Supplied By



Born in 1907 French writer Violette Leduc is best known for her lesbian classic *Therese and Isabelle*, but possibly just as well known for her long and complicated friendship with her famous writing mentor, feminist pioneer Simone de Beauvoir (*The Second Sex*). Feeling ugly and unloved next to the assured and attractive de Beauvoir, Leduc punishes herself, as her love for de Beauvoir is central to her life, and her feelings both sexual and intellectual. De Beauvoir's contrariness both infuriates and attracts Leduc and highlights the complexity of feelings from both women. This is a breathtaking piece and a sympathetic view of an artist whose sexuality was at the core of her being. (Lisa Daniel)



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