

MEDIA RELEASE: 25 October 2023

SUMMER'S STARS SET TO SHINE UNDER THE PINES

Monday 20 November 2023 – Sunday 31 March 2024

Lotterywest Films returns to Perth's favourite outdoor cinema – UWA Somerville



Copa 71

One of the world's best outdoor cinemas – **UWA Somerville** right here in Perth – is the place to be for another dazzling international summer feast of **Lotterywest Films** at **Perth Festival 2024**.

Wander through Somerville's famous pines, nestled by the Swan River, and re-discover this glorious setting for a sunset date night, picnic with friends or family get-together. It's no surprise this beautiful venue was ranked among the world's top 20 outdoor cinemas by *Time Out*, who noted Somerville's founder's 'genius-level foresight' to be 'matched by an expertly curated festival program'.

Screening from 20 November to the end of March, this season's carefully selected line-up of 18 films is better than ever. It's packed with big names, intriguing off-piste picks and stunning films selected to delight regular and first-time Somerville patrons. These include **Justine Triet's** thriller ***Anatomy of a Fall***, the profound and unnerving ***The Zone of Interest*** from **Jonathan Glazer**, Oscar-winning director **Hamaguchi Ryusuke's** gorgeous eco-fable ***Evil Does Not Exist*** and **Wim Wenders'** outstanding return to feature filmmaking with ***Perfect Days***.

Catch familiar faces – **Julianne Moore, Natalie Portman, Isabelle Huppert, Michelle Williams, Juliette Binoche** and **Mads Mikkelsen** – starring in films by masterly directors such as **Jerzy Skolimowski, Todd Haynes, Aki Kaurismäki, Kore-eda Hirokazu** and **Alice Rohrwacher**.

We're also bringing special **Encore Screenings** of some of the favourite films you might have missed throughout the season, alongside rare gems that can only be seen during the Festival. It's set to be a summer feast for all movie lovers.

Perth Festival Film Programmer Tom Vincent says: 'It's been a delight to see Somerville's audience grow and change over the years. I love to respond to Perth, to the wider Festival, to audiences and to each year's slate of new films from across the world.'

'With this program I've aimed to find a "sweet spot" that charts a course between the known and the unknown, the future and the past, the calm and the crazed. And my survey of this year's new films has found international filmmaking to be in dynamic and engaging shape.'

The season opens with the Australian premiere of the untold story of the first women's World Cup in **Copa 71**. As we bask in the recent success of the Matildas, be prepared for another emotional ride through the world of soccer. This is the incredible story of the 1971 Women's Soccer World Cup, a tournament witnessed by record crowds in Mexico City that has been written out of sporting history – until now. Filmmakers **Rachel Ramsay** and **James Erskine** use archival footage and new interviews to bring this crowd-pleasing investigative documentary to life with a narrative flair that matches the dazzling action on the field.

As has come to be expected at UWA Somerville, audiences can discover the most highly anticipated films of the season. Hollywood heavyweights **Julianne Moore** and **Natalie Portman** team up in **May December** – an exquisite psychodrama about a notorious tabloid sex scandal. **Todd Haynes'** unnerving yet playful character study was hailed by *Variety* as 'endlessly fascinating'. Later in the season, fans of **Mads Mikkelsen** will be thrilled to see his return, as conflicted and charismatic as ever, in the epic 18th-century Nordic Western, **The Promised Land**. This rich historical drama will give audiences a savage showdown of good vs. evil, with Mikkelsen once again deploying one of cinema's greatest faces.

Japanese cinema takes centre stage this year with four entries, including three fictions films and an intimate 'one-night-only' concert documentary. Oscar-winning Japanese director **Hamaguchi Ryusuke** weaves a captivating cautionary tale in his ecopolitical thriller **Evil Does Not Exist**, while **Perfect Days** from **Wim Wenders** is a deeply moving and poetic reflection on the beauty to be found in the everyday.

Winner of Best Screenplay at the 2023 Cannes Film Festival – **Monster** – sees a mother confront a teacher after noticing disturbing changes in her son's behaviour. Legendary director **Kore-eda Hirokazu's** tenderly answers the question 'Who is the monster?'. Rounding out a lineup of beautiful

clear-sighted Japanese films is the moving concert documentary screening exclusively for one night only on **Monday 19 February**, celebrating the final performance of **Ryuichi Sakamoto: OPUS**. The film (directed by his son **Neo Sora**) is an emotional swan song of the beloved maestro who passed away earlier this year.

This year's Palme d'Or from Cannes is the highly anticipated thriller **Anatomy of a Fall** – a sharply delivered Hitchcockian showstopper that follows a wife on trial for the death of her husband. Director **Justine Triet** is quickly cementing herself as one of the great filmmakers of our time, complimented by an electrifying lead performance from the mesmerising **Sandra Hüller** (also in **The Zone of Interest**). This film is not to be missed.

Other festival award winners include the aesthetically nostalgic and romantic **Fallen Leaves** from Finland's **Aki Kaurismäki** (Jury Prize Cannes 2023), **Jonathan Glazer's** chilling Martin Amis adaptation **The Zone of Interest** (Grand Prix Cannes 2023), and **Trần Anh Hùng's** sensual drama **The Taste of Things** (Best Director Cannes 2023). In this French feast for the senses, stars **Juliette Binoche** and **Benoît Magimel** find their common pleasure in cooking alongside their restrained passion for one another.

Lovers of French cinema can also spot Magimel in the period romance **Rosalie**, starring **Nadia Tereszkiewicz** as the titular feminist heroine. Fans of last season's film **Corsage** will enjoy this melodrama exploring a delicate yet rebellious spirit who redefines what is 'normal' in society.

The romance continues with young lovers **Banel & Adama** in this richly colourful and evocative debut film from Senegalese writer-director **Ramata-Toulaye Sy**, the winner of Melbourne International Film Festival's inaugural Bright Horizons award. Defying traditions and yearning for independence, the two title characters are blissfully in love. But when their all-consuming passion creates conflict in the village, they are confronted with the consequences of folklore, fate and obsession.

Audiences will be captivated by films of self-discovery this season, with several stories following characters who find themselves in new places and on unexpected paths. The enchanting **La Chimera** stars **Josh O'Connor** as a lovelorn Englishman who teams with an eccentric gang of tomb robbers to plunder ancient artefacts. **Radical** is the feel-good true story of an inspiring teacher in Mexico who tries new methods to unlock the potential in his students. Whilst **EO** is the wildly inventive story of a circus donkey who is liberated by activists and sets off to encounter humanity at its best and worst – one of the most acclaimed films from the past year, from legendary Polish filmmaker **Jerzy Skolimowski**.

Celebrated filmmaker **Kelly Reichardt** continues to collaborate with actress **Michelle Williams** in the wry and deadpan comedy **Showing Up** – an ode to the freelance and creative grind that so many in the arts can relate to. Whilst the wonderfully adapted animation **Robot Dreams** will steal the hearts

of audiences. Delightfully light, joyous and dialogue-free, this beautifully bittersweet jewel of a film reminds us of the good fortune of having a caring pal, even if it's only for a brief time.

Lotterywest and Healthway Acting CEO Jeremy Hubble says: 'Thanks to our players and retailers across the State, the WA community has the opportunity to enjoy excellent local and international films as part of Lotterywest Films for Perth Festival.'

'We are proud to support what truly is a cornerstone of the festival calendar and to share diverse stories from across the world in a picturesque outdoor setting.'

Lotterywest Films runs from Monday 20 November 2023 – Sunday 31 March 2024 as part of Perth Festival 2023. Tickets available online now.

Perth Festival runs Friday 9 February – Sunday 3 March 2024. Full program available at perthfestival.com.au.

EPKS and images will be made available at perthfestival.com.au/media.

[Read our Guide](#) on how to have the best Somerville experience.

For further information, interview requests or [images](#) please contact:

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Perth Festival acknowledges the Noongar people who continue to practise their values, language, beliefs, and knowledge on their kwobidak boodjar. They remain the spiritual and cultural birdiyangara of this place and we honour and respect their caretakers and custodians and the vital role Noongar people play for our community and our Festival to flourish.

Perth Festival

Founded in 1953 by The University of Western Australia, Perth Festival is the longest running international arts festival in Australia and Western Australia's premier cultural event. The Festival has developed a worldwide reputation for excellence in its international program, the presentation of

**PERTH
FESTIVAL**
9 February – 3 March

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2024
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new works and the highest quality artistic experiences for its audience. For 70 years, the Festival has welcomed to Perth some of the world's greatest living artists and now connects with hundreds of thousands of people each year.

Iain Grandage is the Artistic Director 2020 – 24.

MEDIA KIT

WHERE: UWA Somerville, Stirling Hwy, Crawley / Godroo

WHEN: 20 Nov 2023 – 31 Mar 2024

Gates open 6pm

Film times vary week to week

HOW MUCH: Tickets \$20

6-Ticket Film Pack \$108

2 for 1 Tuesdays \$20 for 2 tickets*

Film pack vouchers are available for any session in the entire Lotterywest Films program. They can be redeemed for a specific session in advance.

*2 for 1 Tuesday tickets only available for purchase at the venue.

COPA 71

The Women's World Cup was first sanctioned by FIFA in 1991. For most lovers of the sport, that year marks the first chapter of a new era. But there is an important precursor that's gone largely forgotten. Told by the pioneering women who participated in it and built from archive unseen for 50 years, *Copa 71* is the extraordinary story of the 1971 Women's Soccer World Cup, a tournament witnessed by record crowds that has been written out of sporting history — until now. Filmmakers Rachel Ramsay and James Erskine use archival footage and new interviews to bring this crowd-pleasing investigative documentary to life with a narrative flair that matches the dazzling action on the field.

Mon 20 – Sun 26 Nov, 8pm

EO

Liberated from the traveling circus after protests by animal activists, EO, a grey donkey with melancholic eyes, begins a trek across the Polish and Italian countryside. Along the way he experiences cruelty and kindness in equal measure, all the while observing the follies and triumphs of humankind. We see the world through EO's eyes and it includes its fair share of harsh encounters with beastly humans. Yet there are also moments of heart-stopping tenderness and beauty. Simultaneously down to earth and out of this world, this Cannes Jury Prize-winning and Oscar-nominated feature demands to be seen on the big screen.

Mon 27 Nov – Sun 3 Dec, 8pm

SHOWING UP

Talented Portland sculptor Lizzy has a show opening in a week, but life keeps getting in the way of her work. Her divorced parents are dismissive but demanding; her brother is literally digging himself into a hole; her day job at the local arts college (where she reports to her mother) takes up too much time and her cat has just mauled a pigeon. Worst of all Lizzy needs a shower, but her nonchalant landlord (and fellow artist) Jo is too busy preparing for her two upcoming shows to fix the hot water! *Showing Up* is the fourth collaboration from director Kelly Reichardt and actor Michelle Williams and

this portrait of the artist as a working woman is as much an ode to the daily creative grind as it is to their creative partnership. A superb performance by Williams as the perpetually vexed Lizzy is matched by an equally sterling cast that includes Hong Chau (*The Whale*), Judd Hirsch (*The Fabelmans*), Broadway favourite Maryann Plunkett and Outkast's André 3000. Working again with long-time writing partner Jonathan Raymond, Reichardt has crafted a film with wry, deadpan humour that is always warm, never mocking and grounded in her signature realism.

Mon 4 – Sun 10 Dec, 8pm

ROSALIE

In 1870s rural France Rosalie is a young woman unlike any other, she hides a secret. Abel is a bar owner drowning in debt and desperate for the dowry his marriage to Rosalie will bring. Rosalie's only wish is to be truly seen as the woman she is despite a difference she no longer wishes to hide. But will Abel be able to love her once he finds out the truth? French director Stéphanie Di Giusto (*The Dancer*, Perth Festival 2017) brings us her second feature that champions a woman who refuses to conform to society's restrictive beauty standards. An eminently feminist melodrama and a huge hit at Cannes, *Rosalie* explores with sensitivity the values and outlooks that determine what is 'normal' in society. With brilliant performances by actors Nadia Terezkiewicz and Benoît Magimel this delicate romantic period drama is the story of a rebellious spirit in a conformist society.

Mon 11 – Sun 17 Dec, 8pm

ROBOT DREAMS

In an animated alternate-reality 1980s New York City, lonely but enterprising Dog decides to build himself a companion via mail order. In no time Dog and his new pal Robot become inseparable, strolling around Manhattan and rollerblading in Central Park. One day, an unforeseen incident sees Robot rusted and abandoned in the sand. Will the pair find their way back to each other? Based on the popular graphic novel by North American writer Sara Varon, *Robot Dreams* is the first animation film by award-winning director Spanish Pablo Berger. Delightfully light, joyous and dialogue-free it is hand-drawn and rich with colour and detail. Suitable for the whole family, this beautifully bittersweet jewel of a film reminds us of the good fortune of having a caring pal, even if it's only for a brief time.

Mon 18 – Sat 23 Dec, 8pm

MAY DECEMBER

Twenty years ago Grace (Julianne Moore) and Joe (Charles Melton) were the subject of a notorious tabloid relationship – he was 13 and she 23 years his senior. Grace served a prison sentence for her crime. Now, with the couple seemingly happily married and still in love, their story is about to become a film. When Hollywood actress Elizabeth Berry (Natalie Portman), who will portray Grace, arrives on the scene to conduct research, complexities resurface and boundaries are crossed. As Elizabeth digs for inspiration, the past begins to invade the present and long-forgotten feelings take centre stage. Natalie Portman and Julianne Moore are customarily brilliant, and biting, in Todd Haynes' unnerving yet playful exploration of an American scandal.

Tue 26 Dec – Sun 31 Dec, 8pm

ANATOMY OF A FALL

The much-lauded winner of this year's Palme d'Or is a riveting and sharply intelligent portrait of a woman on trial for husband's murder. Sandra Hüller (*Toni Erdmann*, Perth Festival 2017) plays Sandra, a successful German writer who has spent the last year living with her French husband Samuel (Samuel Theis) and 11-year-old son Daniel (Milo Machado Graner) in a chalet in the idyllic French Alps. When Samuel is found dead by young Daniel, lying in the snow with a severe head injury, the police begin investigations that gradually reveal a fractious relationship. A year later, Sandra is on trial for murder, with her son's testimony crucial to the outcome. Director Justine Triet's fourth feature has cemented her status as one of today's great filmmaking talents. Unfolding over two-and-a-half hours like a compulsively readable novel, *Anatomy of a Fall* is both a dissection of an intimate relationship and of the judiciary process. Featuring an electrifying lead performance from the mesmerising Sandra Hüller this gripping courtroom drama is a bracing, Hitchcockian showstopper. Taut, suspenseful and thrilling until the final moment, it will linger in the mind long after the closing credits.

Mon 1 – Sun 7 Jan, 8pm

FALLEN LEAVES

Hailed as the best-reviewed film of Cannes 2023 - where it topped *Screen International's* prestigious critics' poll – the beguiling new comedy romance from celebrated auteur Aki Kaurismäki (*The Other Side Of Hope*, Perth Festival 2018) follows two lost souls who meet by chance in the Helsinki night and then try, in turbulent times, to find companionship. Ansa (Alma Pöysti) works at an unpleasant supermarket where the job is so badly paid that she takes home expired sandwiches to eat. Holappa (Jussi Vatanen) is a metalworker, labouring each day in a hazardous job that he is sure will kill him. He drinks through the working day, and then drinks again at night. Meanwhile, on the radio there are constant announcements about the Russian attacks on Ukraine, and on the streets, there are posters about climate protests. Against his will, Holappa is dragged to a karaoke night by a friend. There he meets Ansa and there's a spark. Lost phone numbers, Holappa's alcoholism and a variety of obstacles get in their way but still these two remain hopeful. With his trademark deadpan style, minimalist dialogue and retro aesthetic (and a scene-stealing dog), Kaurismäki's latest delight showcases his unrivalled mastery for depicting down-on-their-luck characters in all their complexity, finding humour and optimism in the most unlikely of circumstances.

Mon 8 – Sun 14 Jan, 8pm

PERFECT DAYS

After several years away from the silver screen, Wim Wenders (*The Salt of the Earth*, Perth Festival 2015) is back with a poignant character study and a deeply moving, poetic reflection on finding beauty in the everyday world around us. Set in Tokyo, *Perfect Days* follows Hirayama (Kôji Yakusho in a Cannes Best Actor Award-winning role), a meticulous man of routine who seems to find joy in his job as a toilet cleaner. He speaks very little but has a great passion for music, books and the trees he loves to photograph. He drives to work in his minivan, fully equipped with his cleaning gear, while The Rolling Stones, Patti Smith or Lou Reed ring in ageless, husky hums from a tape player. As if in

search of a new cinema on the road, Wenders follows his protagonist and instead discovers new places of the heart. Through Yakusho/Hirayama, Wenders captures the poetry of the everyday with intimacy and stunning simplicity. Filled with surprising delight, and with a soaring lead performance by Yakusho, *Perfect Days* is a gentle, inspirational ode to simple but profound pleasures.

Mon 15 – Sun 21 Jan, 8pm

THE TASTE OF THINGS

Director Trần Anh Hùng's sumptuous, exceptionally well-crafted film stars Juliette Binoche and Benoît Magimel. Eugenie, an esteemed cook, has been working for over the last 20 years for Dodin, a wealthy connoisseur of the finer things in life. As they grow fonder of one another their bond turns into a romance, giving rise to delicious dishes that impress even the world's most illustrious chefs. When Dodin is faced with Eugenie's reluctance to commit to him, he decides to start cooking for her. Set in late 19th century France *The Taste of Things* (also known as *The Pot-au-Feu*) is a movie that combines the actors' chemistry with immersive cinematography to capture mouthwatering dishes and tell a moving tale of middle-age love. This sensual homage to French gastronomy and restrained romance won Best Director at Cannes in 2023 and is a true feast for the senses.

Mon 22 – Sun 28 Jan, 8pm

THE ZONE OF INTEREST

Jonathan Glazer (*Sexy Beast*, *Under the Skin*) won the Grand Prix at Cannes this year for this hunting movie about Nazi commandant Rudolf Höss and his wife, who strive to build a dream life for their family in a house and garden next to Auschwitz concentration camp. Based on the novel by Martin Amis, *The Zone of Interest* weds banal and overt acts of evil with unforgettable reminders of resistance. We reside inside the family's encampment, with background voices of ghost-like prisoners muffled by the perpetrator's quotidian musings. At one point, Höss' wife Hedwig and her atrocious friends joke about their new luxury goods, received from Canada — the nickname of the storage facilities where such items, after being confiscated, were stored — at the demise of their former neighbours. Hauntingly scored by Mica Levi and shot by Łukasz Żal (*Cold War*, Perth Festival 2019), this chilling contemplation on the everyday face of evil will stay with you for a lifetime.

Mon 29 Jan – Sun 4 Feb, 8pm

MONSTER

Acclaimed Japanese auteur Kore-eda Hirokazu (*Broker*, Perth Festival 2023 and *Shoplifters*, Perth Festival 2019) has built up a fascinating, prolific career exploring universal human impulses through the lens of fractured and makeshift families. In his latest lauded film, 11-year-old Minato has been acting strangely since his dad's death: drastically cutting his hair, leaping from a moving car, claiming his brain has been replaced with a pig's. When he comes home from school injured, his mum Saori is convinced something more sinister is at play and sets out on a relentless campaign to expose Minato's teacher, Hori, as the culprit victimising her son. In turn, Hori claims Minato is a bully. But Minato has his own perspective, focused on his new friend, with troubles of his own. Looking at the story from various points of view, reality changes and the actual subject becomes the hidden friendship between Minato and his schoolmates, often bullied by other kids. A great storyteller of

family dynamics, Kore-eda shows once again his unique ability to depict the inner world of children, unveiling uncomfortable realities with a natural and necessary tenderness. A milestone in his impressive body of work, *Monster* is marked by two major collaborations – one with co-screenwriter Sakamoto Yûji, and the other with the legendary musician Sakamoto Ryuichi, who died last March, *Monster* being his last soundtrack. Awarded Best Screenplay and the Queer Palm at Cannes, Hirokazu Kore-eda's tender answer to the question 'Who's the monster?' will melt your heart.

Mon 5 – Sun 11 Feb, 8pm

BANEL & ADAMA

A breathtaking debut feature from Senegalese writer-director Ramata-Toulaye Sy. Shot with an evocative beauty in a remote village in Senegal and featuring a local cast of non-professional actors, this richly colourful film is a romance following two young lovers as they strive for independence and self-possession in the face of domineering tradition. Banel and Adama are blissfully in love. Their marriage comes after the death of Banel's first husband – Adama's brother, Yero – a union community elders initially saw as an act of honour. But suspicions about the couple's all-consuming passion grow when Adama refuses to assume Yero's role as chief and Banel scorns her domestic duties. When drought besets the region, villagers fear the disobedient lovers have incited a curse. Premiering in competition at this year's Cannes Film Festival — the sole debut film granted that honour — *Banel & Adama* is a lyrical odyssey that takes a hypnotic descent into a world of folklore, fate, madness and obsession. Sy delivers a lesson in craft, building lush, inspired, and strong-willed characters who command perspective, seeking to carve out a future for themselves in a narrative atmosphere hauntingly alive from sand to sky and the ever-present, baking sun.

Mon 12 – Sun 18 Feb, 8pm

RYUICHI SAKAMOTO | OPUS

On the eve of his 2023 death, composer and performer Ryuichi Sakamoto performed 20 selections from his vast body of work. In the years he suffered with cancer, Sakamoto could no longer perform live, but he mustered all of his energy to leave the world with one final performance – a concert film, featuring just him and his piano. Curated by Sakamoto himself and presented in his chosen order, the 20 pieces performed in the film wordlessly narrate his life through his music. The selection spans his entire career, from his popstar *Yellow Magic Orchestra* period, to his magnificent Bertolucci film scores, to music from his meditative final album, *12*. Captured with precision and poetry by his son, director Neo Sora, Sakamoto bares his soul through his music, knowing this may be the last time that he can present his art. Sora has constructed a gorgeous elegy, a celebration of an artist's life in the purest sense. *Ryuichi Sakamoto | Opus* is an intimate, melancholy and achingly beautiful one-man show and the definitive swan song of a beloved maestro.

Mon 19 Feb, 8pm

LA CHIMERA

Set in 1980s Tuscany the enchanting new film from Italian director Alice Rohrwacher (*Happy as Lazzaro*, Perth Festival 2019) follows a lovelorn Englishman who teams with an eccentric gang of tomb robbers to plunder ancient Etruscan artefacts. Led by a revelatory Josh O'Connor (star of *The*

Crown but also seen in *God's Own Country*, Perth Festival 2018) and supported by Isabella Rossellini and Alba Rohrwacher, *La Chimera* is a dream-like romp through Italy's archaeological and cinematic past. Rohrwacher's captivating storytelling is made magical by H el ene Louvart's exquisite cinematography, which uses richly textured analogue film to lead us through a mind palace teeming with ghosts and treasures. Enchanting, funny, lush and poetic, *La Chimera* is a modern myth in the making, destined to genuinely transform the way we look at the world.

Mon 26 Feb – Sun 3 Mar, 8pm

THE PROMISED LAND

In 1755 the impoverished Captain Ludvig Kahlen sets out to conquer the uninhabitable Danish heath with a seemingly impossible goal – to build a colony in the name of the King. In exchange, he'll receive a desperately desired Royal name for himself. But the sole ruler of the area, the merciless Frederik de Schinkel, arrogantly believes this land belongs to him. When de Schinkel learns that the maid Ann Barbara and her husband have escaped for refuge with Kahlen, the privileged and spiteful ruler swears revenge, doing everything in his power to drive the captain away. Mads Mikkelsen is at his staunch, heroic, conflicted and deeply flawed best as Captain Kahlen in this tale of a proud and uncompromising man, and the woman who becomes his ally in the fight against evil, death and the conquest of a harsh land. This gripping, at times savage story, told with a sense of sweep and swagger that evokes a classic western, is a profound character study on how dreams and ambitions can become dangerous obsessions.

Mon 4 – Sun 10 Mar, 7.30pm

EVIL DOES NOT EXIST

Takumi and his eight-year-old daughter Hana reside in a forested region of Japan that's remained largely unsullied by large-scale development. Until now. The village inhabitants become aware of a plan to build a glamping site near Takumi's house offering city residents a comfortable 'escape' to nature and the urban developers are determined to move forward regardless of whether locals approve. Oscar-winning Japanese director Hamaguchi Ry usuke's potent and foreboding new film is a haunting, entirely unexpected ecpolitical thriller. Intensified by a rapturous, ominous score by Eiko Ishibashi, this mesmeric tale of an idyllic area in the countryside being threatened by development unfolds at first at the deliberately serene pace of the village itself. As this gripping, mysterious film unwraps, with more than a few surprises, it weaves a captivating cautionary tale about the price of disrespecting nature. Winner Silver Lion, 2023 Venice International Film Festival and winner Best Film, 2023 London Film Festival.

Mon 11 – Sun 17 Mar, 7.30pm

RADICAL

In a Mexican border town plagued by neglect, corruption and violence, a frustrated teacher (Mexican superstar Eugenio Derbez) tries a radical new method to break through his students' apathy and unlock their curiosity and potential – and maybe even their genius. Christopher Zalla brings to life this playful and powerfully inspiring true story that will tug at the heartstrings. A feel-good Sundance Festival Favorite Award winner, *Radical* is based on Sergio Juarez Correa's real-world

story and follows in the footsteps of classics of the genre, including *To Sir With Love*, *Dead Poets Society* and *Dangerous Minds*. But Zalla's sincere direction and Derbez's impeccable performance create an unforgettable tale all its own. A tearjerker that does not deny the difficult realities at play, *Radical* brims with faith in the new generation – and in the adults who must fight for their futures.

Mon 18 – Sun 24 Mar, 7.30pm