

CHILDREN'S INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL

FESTIVAL PROGRAM

2025

THE BEST
NEW KIDS'
FILMS FROM
AROUND THE
WORLD!

RETURNS
FOR THE WINTER
SCHOOL HOLIDAYS!

SYDNEY &
MELBOURNE

ONLY IN CINEMAS
7 JUNE – 20 JULY

ACTIVITIES &
PRIZES!

CLASSIC
CINEMAS

CAMEO

CHIFF.COM.AU

LIDO
CINEMAS

RITZ
CINEMAS

Welcome

Welcome to the 2025 edition of the Children's International Film Festival!

Last year, I had the great honour of being invited to sit on one of the juries at the SCHLINGEL International Film Festival, a children's film festival held annually in the German city of Chemnitz. While some of the films showing had previously screened here in Australia at CHIFF 2024, I also made plenty of new discoveries that I am excited to present to you this year. SCHLINGEL is not the only festival I look to for inspiration. Giffoni in Italy, Amsterdam in the Netherlands and New York City are just some of the places where festivals dedicated to programming films for young children are held. However, here in Australia there is only one such festival, and it's CHIFF!

This year, we welcome festival favourites the Moomins and Ernest & Celestine back for more heartwarming tales. The Elfkins of Cologne and the pirates from the long-running Norwegian franchise *Captain Sabertooth* also return for more exciting adventures, as well as a whole host of new stories about cats, monkeys, penguins, bats, goats, tooth fairies and mutant zombie zoo animals, plus a new retelling of the classic Bambi story.

I am particularly excited about our 40th anniversary screenings of Joe Dante's *Explorers* and Tim Burton's *Pee-wee's Big Adventure*. Both Dante and Burton are distinctive for being maverick directors who found success within the studio system, and both films are examples of how films made specifically with children in mind do not need to pander to adult audiences – films that are sincerely for children have universal appeal.

—Thomas Caldwell, Artistic Director

Festival Team

Artistic Director Thomas Caldwell

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Produced by MOVINGSTORY

A special thank you to the dedicated teams at Classic, Lido, Cameo and Ritz Cinemas, and to our film-loving community for their ongoing support and enthusiasm.

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FESTIVAL SPONSORS



CULTURAL PARTNERS



FESTIVAL PARTNERS



Melbourne **7 June - 20 July**
Classic Cinemas, Elsternwick
Lido Cinemas, Hawthorn
Cameo Cinemas, Belgrave

Sydney **7 June - 20 July**
Ritz Cinemas, Randwick

Book now at chiff.com.au





Elio

Director: Madeline Sharafian, Domee Shi, Adrian Molina • USA • Language: English
2025 • 98 mins

**FAMILY
FUN DAY**

CHIFF presents a special Family Fun Day screening of the much-anticipated new feature film by Disney and Pixar studios.

For centuries, people have called out to the universe looking for answers—in Disney and Pixar's all-new movie *Elio*, the universe calls back! The cosmic misadventure introduces Elio, a space fanatic with an active imagination and a huge alien obsession. So, when he's beamed up to the Communiverse, an interplanetary organization with representatives from galaxies far and wide, Elio's all in for the epic undertaking. Mistakenly identified as Earth's leader, Elio must form new bonds with eccentric alien lifeforms, navigate a crisis of intergalactic proportions, and somehow discover who and where he is truly meant to be.

Directed by Madeline Sharafian (*Burrow*, *SparkShorts*), Domee Shi (*Bao* short, *Turning Red*) and Adrian Molina (co-screenwriter/co-director of *Coco*)

Check the Classification



Tickets include popcorn on arrival courtesy of Pop Lab!

SESSIONS

MELB – CLASSIC CINEMAS **SYD – RITZ CINEMAS**
Sun 22 June ★ 12:30pm Sun 22 June ★ 12:30pm

MELB – LIDO CINEMAS
Sun 22 June ★ 12:30pm

MELB – CAMEO CINEMAS
Sun 22 June ★ 12:30pm

★ Special event. See page 28 for details.



Explorers (1985)

Director: Joe Dante • USA • Language: English
1985 • 109 mins • Rated G. Recommended for ages 8+

RETRO

A boy obsessed with 1950s science-fiction movies about aliens has a recurring dream about a blueprint, which he draws for his inventor friend. With the help of their friend, they follow it and build themselves a spaceship. Now what?

Celebrating its 40th anniversary, CHIFF is thrilled to present *Explorers*, the 1985 kids film by Joe Dante, the maverick American filmmaker who began making B-grade movies before moving into the Hollywood studio system. While not enjoying the same levels of success as his 1984 hit film *Gremlins*, *Explorers* is now a cult classic and recognised for how playfully it meshes Dante's background making B-grade films, with his love of 1950s and 1960s pop culture, with a child's perspective.

Explorers was also the film debut of Ethan Hawke and an early role for River Phoenix, playing completely against type.

PARENTAL GUIDANCE

Contains underage drinking, some low-level coarse language.

SESSIONS

MELB – CLASSIC CINEMAS		SYD – RITZ CINEMAS	
Sat 21 June	2:00pm	Sat 21 June	2:00pm
Thu 17 July	12:20pm	Thu 17 July	12:10pm
Sun 20 July	12:00am	Sun 20 July	12:20pm

MELB – LIDO CINEMAS
Mon 9 June 1:50pm
Sun 13 July 11:50am
Tue 15 July 12:10pm

MELB – CAMEO CINEMAS
Sat 14 June 1:50pm
Wed 16 July 12:20pm
Sat 19 July 11:50am



Pee-wee's Big Adventure (1985) **RETRO**

Director: Tim Burton • USA • Language: English
1985 • 91 mins • Rated PG. Recommended for ages 8+

Before *Beetlejuice*, *Batman* and *Edward Scissorhands*, Tim Burton was a relatively unknown director with a background in animation, which included working at Disney. Paul Reubens was a comedian whose childlike character Pee-wee Herman had appeared in a popular HBO special, and would go on to have his own TV show. Together, Burton and Reubens created this funny, anarchic and sweetly innocent cross-country adventure film that at times feels more like a live action cartoon.

When Pee-wee Herman's idyllic world falls apart after the theft of his red bicycle, the childlike adult sets out on a manic odyssey to recover his most valued possession.

Director Tim Burton, one of Hollywood's most eccentric filmmakers, makes his feature-film debut with this comic masterpiece. CHIFF is excited to present his singular vision for our 2025 edition, 40 years after it first premiered in cinemas.

PARENTAL GUIDANCE

Some scary moments for sensitive viewers.

SESSIONS

MELB - CLASSIC CINEMAS		SYD - RITZ CINEMAS	
Sun 15 June	2:15pm	Sun 15 June	1:50pm
Sun 22 June	2:30pm	Sun 22 June	2:30pm
Fri 18 July	12:15pm	Fri 18 July	12:00pm

MELB - LIDO CINEMAS

Sat 14 June	2:00pm
Sun 22 June	2:30pm
Wed 16 July	12:00pm

MELB - CAMEO CINEMAS

Sun 15 June	2:00pm
Sun 22 June	2:30pm
Thu 17 July	12:00pm



A Tooth Fairy Tale

Director: Michael Johnson • USA • Language: English
2025 • 85 mins • Recommended for ages 8+

Hidden away from the human world is a kingdom of magic and mystery where the Tooth Fairies live. Van is the rebellious teenage son of the kingdom's mighty leader, but rather than fulfilling his destiny of collecting the teeth of children in return for gold coins, he wishes to explore life beyond the boundaries of his secluded civilization and rigid traditions.

On the night of his very first mission, where he is supposed to prove himself, Van meets Rupee, a teenage goblin girl who shares his defiant attitude. As fairies and goblins are supposed to be enemies, Van and Rupee's special friendship is not accepted by their families. When both the fairy and goblin kingdoms are threatened by the cruel spider queen, uniting the rival families becomes more important than ever.

AWARDS / FESTIVALS / PREMIERES

Australian Premiere
SCHLINGEL International Film Festival 2024

SESSIONS

MELB - CLASSIC CINEMAS		SYD - RITZ CINEMAS	
Mon 9 June	2:00pm	Mon 9 June	1:50pm
Sat 12 July	2:00pm	Sat 12 July	1:40pm
Tue 15 July	12:00pm	Tue 15 July	12:00pm

MELB - LIDO CINEMAS

Sat 7 June	1:50pm
Sat 5 July	1:30pm
Fri 11 July	12:00pm

MELB - CAMEO CINEMAS

Sun 8 June	1:50pm
Sun 6 July	1:30pm
Mon 14 July	12:00pm



Akiko, the Flying Monkey

Director: Veit Helmer • Germany • Language: English
2024 • 70 mins • Recommended for ages 4+

“[Director Veit] Helmer is a hugely accomplished filmmaker with a diverse body of work dating back 35 years.”
— *Variety*

When young monkey Akiko escapes from the zoo, he embarks on an adventurous and joyful journey, forming an unlikely alliance with an eagle, a raccoon and a chameleon. Together, Akiko's new animal friends will help him achieve his goals of reuniting with his family and freeing all the animals in the city.

At first glance, this funny and exciting adventure for the whole family is a film that takes place in the world we know. But we soon realise there is a fantastic parallel world, all around us, where many different animals live hidden in letterboxes, bottle banks and traffic lights, offering us a new perspective on the cities we live in.

AWARDS / FESTIVALS / PREMIERES

Australian Premiere

Locarno Film Festival 2024
SCHLiNGEL International Film Festival 2024

SESSIONS

MELB – CLASSIC CINEMAS		SYD – RITZ CINEMAS	
Sun 8 June	10:15am	Sun 8 June	10:15am
Sun 6 July	12:20pm	Sun 6 July	12:00pm
Tue 8 July	10:15am	Tue 8 July	10:15am

MELB – LIDO CINEMAS	
Sun 29 June	12:00pm
Fri 18 July	10:15am
Sun 20 July	10:15am

MELB – CAMEO CINEMAS	
Sat 7 June	10:15am
Sat 5 July	12:00pm
Mon 7 July	10:15am



Bambi, a Tale of Life in the Woods

Director: Michel Fessler • France • Language: English
2024 • 85 mins • Recommended for ages 6+

‘A refreshingly different and ideal film for introducing Bambi’s story to even the youngest viewers.’
— *OutNow.ch*

Adapted from Felix Salten’s 1923 novel *Bambi, a Tale of Life in the Woods*, this new telling of Bambi’s story retraces the first years of a fawn’s life, and the trials he must face in the woods.

From the very first days of his life as a young fawn, Bambi marvels at everything that surrounds him. His tender and loving mother teaches him the key things he needs to know to survive, and he makes many friends among the forest animals as he grows. When autumn arrives and Bambi is suddenly orphaned, he must continue learning how to protect himself from the many dangers of the wild.

Made with real animals, which were treated with compassion and care, this classic tale is a hymn to nature, teaching us that we must always remain hopeful in the face of life’s challenges.

AWARDS / FESTIVALS / PREMIERES

Australian Premiere

SESSIONS

MELB – CLASSIC CINEMAS		SYD – RITZ CINEMAS	
Sat 14 June	12:00pm	Sat 14 June	12:00pm
Sun 6 July	10:30am	Sun 6 July	10:00am
Fri 18 July	10:15am	Fri 18 July	10:00am

MELB – LIDO CINEMAS	
Sun 8 June	12:15pm
Sun 29 June	10:20am
Wed 16 July	10:00am

MELB – CAMEO CINEMAS	
Mon 9 June	12:00pm
Sat 5 July	10:00am
Thu 17 July	10:00am





Bartali's Bicycle

Director: Enrico Paolantonio • Italy • Language: English
2024 • 80 mins • Recommended for ages 8+

Set across two different time periods, these stories about cycling teach important lessons about moral courage and challenging prejudices

Gino Bartali was a real-life legendary Italian cycling champion who won the Tour de France twice and the Giro d'Italia three times. Bartali used his talent and fame as the 'King of Cycling' during World War II to act as a courier for the Italian Resistance, and hid a Jewish family in his cellar.

Closer to the present day, two young rival road cyclists living in Jerusalem confront the impact of their divided society by forming a friendship and ultimately becoming teammates.

A story of friendship and sports told in two distinctive timelines, *Bartali's Bicycle* is a sensitive film aimed at older children about mutual respect and overcoming divisions.

PARENTAL GUIDANCE

References to Nazism and the Holocaust.

AWARDS / FESTIVALS / PREMIERES

Australian Premiere

Giffoni Film Festival 2024 – Winner, Lete Special Award; SCHLINGEL International Film Festival 2024

SESSIONS

MELB – CLASSIC CINEMAS		SYD – RITZ CINEMAS	
Sat 14 June	2:00pm	Sat 14 June	1:50pm
Sun 13 July	2:15pm	Sun 13 July	1:40pm

MELB – LIDO CINEMAS	
Sun 8 June	2:10pm
Sun 6 July	1:40pm

MELB – CAMEO CINEMAS	
Mon 9 June	1:50pm
Sat 12 July	1:40pm

Co-Presented by  ISTITUTO
italiano
di CULTURA
SYDNEY



Benjamin Bat

Director: Patrick Raats, Sarah Sutter • Netherlands, Luxembourg • Language: English
2024 • 80 mins • Recommended for ages 6+

A beautifully animated coming-of-age story about a sensitive bat who is afraid of the dark and must learn to overcome his fears.

Benjamin Bat is small and not very brave. His family doesn't think very much of him, he prefers singing over hunting, and he just does not feel like he belongs anywhere. Everything changes when he meets a tropical songbird named Sherida and falls in love. Birds and bats are supposed to be arch enemies, not friends or romantic interests! Benjamin finally discovers he is brave after all when he is compelled to stand up for himself, challenge his family's prejudices, and win Sherida's love.

AWARDS / FESTIVALS / PREMIERES

Australian Premiere

Cinekid Festival Amsterdam 2024 – Opening Night Film

SESSIONS

MELB – CLASSIC CINEMAS		SYD – RITZ CINEMAS	
Mon 9 June	12:00pm	Mon 9 June	12:00pm
Sat 5 July	10:00am	Sat 5 July	10:00am

MELB – LIDO CINEMAS	
Sat 7 June	12:00pm
Sat 28 June	10:00am

MELB – CAMEO CINEMAS	
Sun 8 June	12:00pm
Sun 29 June	10:00am



Captain Sabertooth and the Countess of Grel

Director: Rasmus A Sivertsen, Yaprak Morali, Are Austnes • Norway • Language: English
2025 • 76 mins • Recommended for ages 7+

After battling vampires in *Captain Sabertooth and the Magic Diamond* (CHIFF 2020) the pirates from the popular Norwegian adventure franchise return to the big screen.

Captain Sabertooth's marvellous ship, The Black Lady, is boarded one night by rival pirates with evil intentions. They steal one of the Captain's most valuable treasures: The Black Lady's figurehead, a gold gilded Sabertooth tiger. This is part of a cunning plan by Sibylla, the Countess of Grel. She wants to defeat the pirate captain, take control over The Invisible Land, and become sovereign of the seven seas...and Captain Sabertooth and his crew fall right into Sibylla's trap.

In the battle for dominion of the seven seas, The Black Lady's crew have to endure spectacular sword fights, drink horrible rat soup and conquer a dragon. Even the youngest members are in peril, but they might also be the ones who can save the day.

AWARDS / FESTIVALS / PREMIERES

Australian Premiere

Giffoni Film Festival 2024 – Winner, Lete Special Award; SCHLINGEL International Film Festival 2024

SESSIONS

MELB – CLASSIC CINEMAS		SYD – RITZ CINEMAS	
Sun 29 June	12:00pm	Sun 29 June	12:00pm
Thu 10 July	12:00pm	Thu 10 July	12:00pm
Sun 20 July	10:15am	Sun 20 July	10:30am

MELB – LIDO CINEMAS

Sat 21 June	12:00pm
Tue 8 July	12:00pm
Sun 13 July	10:00am

MELB – CAMEO CINEMAS

Sat 28 June	12:00pm
Wed 9 July	12:00pm
Sat 19 July	10:00am



Elli and Her Monster Team

Director: Jesper Møller, Piet de Rycker • Germany, Canada • Language: English
2024 • 85 mins • Recommended for ages 7+

“Elli takes the children by the hand and offers them a sweet introduction to the world of film.” – *OutNow.ch*

In the future, all monsters and spooky creatures have been outlawed, and Elli the little ghost and her uncle have to stay hidden. When her uncle is rounded up and imprisoned by robots, Elli must find somewhere new to live. Stumbling amongst the eccentric and supernatural residents of the Ghost Train, Elli finds a new place to belong. When Elli accidentally attracts the attention from the Outsideworld, putting everyone at risk, she and the motley crew of monsters must embark on a crazy quest to not only save the Ghost Train, but also her only chance to finally have a family of her own.

Can Elli and her new family defeat the city's central computer, free her uncle, and convince the humans that they are not a threat?

AWARDS / FESTIVALS / PREMIERES

Australian Premiere

SCHLINGEL International Film Festival 2024

SESSIONS

MELB – CLASSIC CINEMAS		SYD – RITZ CINEMAS	
Sat 7 June	1:50pm	Sat 7 June	1:50pm
Sat 5 July ★	1:45pm	Sat 5 July ★	1:40pm
Fri 11 July	12:00pm	Fri 11 July	12:00pm

MELB – LIDO CINEMAS

Sat 28 June	1:40pm
Wed 9 July ★	12:00pm
Sat 19 July	1:50pm

MELB – CAMEO CINEMAS

Sun 29 June	1:40pm
Thu 10 July ★	12:00pm
Sun 20 July	1:50pm

★ Special event. See page 28 for details.





Empire Waist

Director: Claire Ayoub • USA • Language: English
2024 • 97 mins • Recommended for ages 12+

A sweet coming-of-age film that tackles harmful misconceptions about body sizes and body types with humour and heart, to celebrate self-expression and the pricelessness of finding a good group of friends who will be your champions.

Lenore is a teen deeply insecure about her weight. Hiding her passion for fashion design, she tries to make herself invisible in her day-to-day life to avoid being bullied by her classmates and image-conscious mother. Lenore's father Mark is her biggest cheerleader and her best friend Kayla is confident, funny, outgoing, and proud of her plus-sized body. Through their support along with teacher Ms Hall Lenore is encouraged to step outside her comfort zone and embrace her talent.

The film co-stars Rainn Wilson (*The Office US*) as Mark, Lenore's unconditionally supportive father, plus a diverse cast of young new talent.

PARENTAL GUIDANCE

Contains references to sex, underage drinking, and body shaming.

AWARDS / FESTIVALS / PREMIERES

Australian Premiere

Seattle International Film Festival 2024,
SCHLINGEL International Film Festival 2024

SESSIONS

MELB – CLASSIC CINEMAS		SYD – RITZ CINEMAS	
Sun 29 June	1:50pm	Sun 29 June	1:50pm
Sun 20 July	2:20pm	Sun 20 July	2:45pm

MELB – LIDO CINEMAS	
Sat 21 June	1:50pm
Sun 13 July	2:10pm

MELB – CAMEO CINEMAS	
Sat 28 June	1:50pm
Sat 19 July	2:10pm



Ernest and Celestine: Spring Tales + The Mouse Club

Director: Aurélie Raphaël • France • Language: English
2022 • 65 mins • Recommended for ages 4+

After delighting CHIFF audiences in 2024 in the feature film *Ernest and Celestine: A Trip to Gibberitia*, CHIFF is thrilled to present more adventures about the unlikely best friends Ernest the grizzly bear and Celestine the mouse.

Spring Tales is a new collection of four charming stories from the most recent series of the French television series *Ernest and Célestine*, which capture the beauty of spring. Ernest and Celestine enter each other into talent contests without telling the other; Celestine attempts to recreate a scent that Ernest remembers from his childhood when the seasons changed; there is a mystery about who is doing spring-themed drawing all over town; and Ernest is upset when Celestine is invited to a mouse-only flower festival.

These sessions include the bonus episode *The Mouse Club*, where Celestine convinces a reluctant Ernest to go to the beach.

Screens as 5x 13-minute episodes.

AWARDS / FESTIVALS / PREMIERES

Australian Premiere

SESSIONS

MELB – CLASSIC CINEMAS		SYD – RITZ CINEMAS	
Mon 9 June	10:15am	Mon 9 June	10:15am
Wed 9 July	10:30am	Wed 9 July	10:30am
Sat 12 July	12:30pm	Sat 12 July	12:00pm

MELB – LIDO CINEMAS	
Sat 7 June	10:30am
Sat 5 July	12:00pm
Mon 7 July	10:30am

MELB – CAMEO CINEMAS	
Sun 8 June	10:15am
Sun 6 July	12:00pm
Tue 8 July	10:30am





Fleak

Director: Jens Møller • Finland, France, Poland • Language: English
202 • 84 mins • Recommended for ages 7+

All 12-year-old Thomas wants is to hang out with his older siblings, who both would prefer not to deal with their over-eager younger brother. One day, when attempting to prove himself, Thomas is injured and loses the ability to walk, but his adventures are only just beginning! He is about to be visited by a small furry creature from another dimension who allows him to visit a magical fantasy world where he might find the ability to heal himself. However, like many things in life, there are consequences for his actions, and Thomas must face an all-consuming monster created from his own shadow, which threatens to eat everything.

Told from a child's perspective, this is a powerful story that shows how imagination and a kind heart can help overcome resentment. Fun, moving and bursting with creativity, *Fleak* contains terrific themes about peer pressure and living with disability.

AWARDS / FESTIVALS / PREMIERES

Australian Premiere

SESSIONS

MELB - CLASSIC CINEMAS		SYD - RITZ CINEMAS	
Sun 22 June	10:30am	Sun 22 June	10:30am
Sat 28 June	12:00pm	Sat 28 June	12:00pm
Sat 19 July	10:30am	Sat 19 July	10:00am

MELB - LIDO CINEMAS	
Sun 15 June	12:00pm
Sun 22 June	10:30am
Sat 12 July	10:00am

MELB - CAMEO CINEMAS	
Sat 21 June	12:00pm
Sun 22 June	10:30am
Sun 13 July	10:00am



Fox and Hare Save the Forest

Director: Mascha Halberstad • Netherlands, Luxemburg, Belgium • Language: English
2024 • 70 mins • Recommended for ages 5+

"The child-friendly story, with its colourful, clear stop-motion animation, features fresh, cheerful dialogue and witty song and dance interludes."
— **SPIELFILM.de**

Strange things are happening in the forest! Owl has disappeared, mischievous rats are terrorising the neighbourhood, and the lake is overflowing and threatening the home of our forest friends. Could this be the work of a megalomaniac beaver? Fox and Hare are determined to find out. They must first find their best friend Owl and then find a way to save their homes, but it will push their friendship to the limit!

The latest film by Mascha Halberstad, whose previous feature *Oink!* screened at CHIFF in 2020, is based on a much-loved series of children's books and a popular television series. Brought to life with a hybrid of stop-motion techniques and digital 3D animation, *Fox and Hare Save the Forest* is full of humour and heart.

AWARDS / FESTIVALS / PREMIERES

Australian Premiere

Berlinale 2024, Annecy International Animation Film Festival 2024, Giffoni Film Festival 2024, SCHLINGEL International Film Festival 2024, Cinekid Festival Amsterdam 2024

SESSIONS

MELB - CLASSIC CINEMAS		SYD - RITZ CINEMAS	
Sat 21 June	10:15am	Sat 21 June	10:15am
Wed 9 July	12:00pm	Wed 9 July	12:00pm
Mon 14 July	10:15am	Mon 14 July	10:15am

MELB - LIDO CINEMAS	
Sat 14 June	10:15am
Mon 7 July	12:00pm
Thu 10 July	10:15am

MELB - CAMEO CINEMAS	
Sun 15 June	10:15am
Tue 8 July	12:00pm
Fri 11 July	10:15am





Hola Frida!

Director: Karine Vézina, André Kadi • France, Canada • Language: English
2024 • 82 mins • Recommended for ages 7+

“Introduces a new generation to an iconic Mexican artist” – *Cartoon Brew*

This traditionally animated film brings the vibrant world of Mexican artist Frida Kahlo to life for a whole new generation of children. Focusing on Frida’s childhood growing up in Coyoacán, Mexico City at the start of the last century, it is the story of a little girl who viewed the world around her in a way that would inspire her to become one of the most distinctive and important painters in the world.

Sparkling and bursting with life, everything interests young Frida. When difficulties arise, she faces them with an overflowing imagination. She adapts to living with disability, discovers her artistic style, learns about politics and begins to explore her identity. Throughout the film Frida discovers and is inspired by the culture and traditions of her ancestors while also learning about the power of forgiveness, acceptance and resilience.

AWARDS / FESTIVALS / PREMIERES

Australian Premiere

Annecy International Animation Film Festival 2024, New York International Children’s Film Festival – Opening Night Film

SESSIONS

MELB – CLASSIC CINEMAS

Sun 8 June 1:50pm
Sun 6 July 2:00pm
Mon 14 July 12:00pm

SYD – RITZ CINEMAS

Sun 8 June 1:50pm
Sun 6 July ★ 1:50pm
Mon 14 July 12:00pm

MELB – LIDO CINEMAS

Sun 29 June 1:50pm
Thu 10 July 12:00pm
Sun 20 July ★ 1:50pm

MELB – CAMEO CINEMAS

Sat 7 June 1:50pm
Sat 5 July 1:50pm
Fri 11 July 12:00pm

★ Special event. See page 28 for details.



Moominvalley: Moominpappa The Great Explorer

Director: Nigel Davies • Finland, UK • Language: English
2024 • 66 mins • Recommended for ages 5+

CHIFF has been proud to premiere new episodes of *Moominvalley* since 2020, and this year is no different, with three new episodes from the fourth and possibly final season.

In *Moominpappa The Great Explorer*, Moominpappa goes on a heroic adventure to rescue his best friend Joxter, with a less enthusiastic Moomintroll in tow. But mishaps and misunderstandings allow Moomintroll to see Moominpappa in a new light.

A mysterious flying creature is terrorising the residents of Moominvalley in *Song of the Groke*. While Little My and Snorkmaiden head out to confront the mysterious and reclusive Groke, whom they assume is responsible, the other residents start to believe that the culprit is actually a vampire.

It is book launch day in *Moominpappa and Aunt Jane* and Moominpappa is excited to celebrate publishing his memoir, but an unexpected visit from the fearsome Aunt Jane threatens to ruin everything.

AWARDS / FESTIVALS / PREMIERES

Australian Premiere

British Animation Awards 2020 – Winner, Best Children’s Series

SESSIONS

MELB – CLASSIC CINEMAS

Sat 14 June 10:15am
Thu 10 July 10:20am
Sun 13 July 12:30pm

SYD – RITZ CINEMAS

Sat 14 June 10:15am
Thu 10 July 10:20am
Sun 13 July 12:00pm

MELB – LIDO CINEMAS

Sun 8 June 10:30am
Sun 6 July 12:00pm
Tue 8 July 10:20am

MELB – CAMEO CINEMAS

Mon 9 June 10:15am
Wed 9 July 10:20am
Sat 12 July 12:00pm

Screens as 3x 22-minute episodes.



Norbert

Director: José Corral Llorente • Spain • Language: English
2024 • 75 mins • Recommended for ages 6+

“A fun film with a very clear message: you shouldn’t stop growing, but you shouldn’t stop being happy either.”

— *Moviementarios*

Norbert is an incompetent spy from the sad, bureaucratic and dreary nation of Graylandia. Its rulers dream of conquering neighbouring Colourlandia, a small and happy country where everything works backwards and nothing is what it seems, which is precisely what makes its inhabitants so happy all the time.

Despite being totally useless, Norbert goes on an exciting adventure into the colourful enemy territory where he makes new friends with whom to share many strange, wonderful and silly experiences, and inadvertently thwarts the plans of his own government. With new companions and a new outlook on life, it is up to Norbert to save Colorlandia and find happiness.

AWARDS / FESTIVALS / PREMIERES

Australian Premiere

SESSIONS (ENGLISH DUBBED)

MELB – CLASSIC CINEMAS		MELB – CAMEO CINEMAS	
Sun 8 June	12:00pm	Sat 7 June	12:00pm
Sun 29 June	10:30am	Sat 28 June	10:15am
Wed 16 July	10:10am	Tue 15 July	10:10am
MELB – LIDO CINEMAS		SYD – RITZ CINEMAS	
Mon 14 July	10:10am	Sun 8 June	12:00pm
Sun 20 July	12:00pm	Wed 16 July	10:10am

The Embassy of Spain in Canberra and Instituto Cervantes Sydney-Melbourne proudly present two screenings of *Norbert* in Spanish. ¡No te las pierdas!

SESSIONS (IN SPANISH LANGUAGE)

MELB – LIDO CINEMAS		SYD – RITZ CINEMAS	
Sat 21 June	2:15pm	Sat 21 June	2:15pm



Out of the Nest

Director: Arturo A Hernandez, Andrew Gordon • Thailand, China • Language: English
2024 • 85 mins • Recommended for ages 7+

In the kingdom of Castilia, dark forces have kidnapped the royal heirs in an attempt to force the prince to abdicate his throne to an evil wizard. To the rescue comes...a goat?

Young, immature, and overly ambitious, Arthur the goat will have some growing up to do. An apprentice barber who has had greatness thrust upon him, Arthur finds himself having to become a foster parent and protector to seven young, rambunctious, royal hatchlings. The newly hatched chicks, each with their own distinct personality, are quite a handful. With help from unexpected supporters, they will have to work together to defeat the dark wizard, save the kingdom, and learn the true meaning of family.

A touching and fun tale of self-discovery and heroism, *Out of the Nest* is the debut feature film of Pixar mainstay Andrew Gordon and Disney alumnus Arturo A Hernandez.

AWARDS / FESTIVALS / PREMIERES

Australian Premiere

Annecy International Animation Film Festival 2024

SESSIONS

MELB – CLASSIC CINEMAS		SYD – RITZ CINEMAS	
Sat 21 June	12:00pm	Sat 21 June	12:00pm
Tue 8 July	12:00pm	Tue 8 July	12:00pm
Sun 13 July	10:30am	Sun 13 July	10:00am
MELB – LIDO CINEMAS			
Sat 14 June	12:00pm		
Sun 6 July	10:00am		
Fri 18 July	12:00pm		
MELB – CAMEO CINEMAS			
Sun 15 June	12:00pm		
Mon 7 July	12:00pm		
Sat 12 July	10:00am		

Co-Presented by **CHINESE INDEPENDENT FILM FOUNDATION** 華人獨立電影基金会



The Proud Princess

Director: Radek Beran, David Lisý • Czech Republic, Poland • Language: English
2024 • 85 mins • Recommended for ages 6+

The time has come for young and handsome King Benjamin to find a wife. When presented with the portrait of the beautiful princess Carolina, he is so enchanted that he sends his own portrait back to her, but the spoiled and proud princess turns him down.

Sensing that something is not right, Benjamin disguises himself as a gardener and gets a job at Carolina's castle. There he finds out that the princess was once happy and kind, but since losing her parents she has been manipulated and exploited by her devious counsellors. With a little magic and the power of music, Benjamin and Carolina soon realise that they must leave the castle in order to be truly free.

The Proud Princess is a new retelling of a classic 1952 Czech film that has been updated and for a new generation.

AWARDS / FESTIVALS / PREMIERES

Victorian Premiere

SESSIONS

MELB – CLASSIC CINEMAS		SYD – RITZ CINEMAS	
Sun 15 June	12:15pm	Sun 15 June	12:00pm
Mon 7 July	12:10pm	Mon 7 July	12:00pm
Sat 12 July	10:30am	Sat 12 July	10:00am

MELB – LIDO CINEMAS	
Mon 9 June	12:00pm
Sat 5 July	10:00am
Thu 17 July	12:00pm

MELB – CAMEO CINEMAS	
Sat 14 June	12:00pm
Sun 6 July	10:00am
Fri 18 July	12:00pm

Co-Presented by **CZECH & SLOVAK FILM FESTIVAL**



Robin and the Hoods

Director: Phil Hawkins • UK, Switzerland • Language: English
2024 • 96 mins • Recommended for ages 12+

“An entertaining feature film focusing on the importance of a child’s imagination.”
– *The Guardian*

For the tenacious 11-year-old Robin and her loyal band of friends ‘The Hoods’, the patch of overgrown scrubland at the end of their cul-de-sac is a magical kingdom. Sticks and bin lids have become swords and shields, drones have become majestic eagles and the hippy lady in the forest (Gwendoline Christie) is a terrifying witch. The only thing limiting their colourful imagination is the prospect of losing their kingdom forever.

When a slippery property developer, Clipboard (Naomie Harris), turns up and dazzles the parents of the area with promises of health spas and day-care facilities, Robin and The Hoods’ world comes under threat. Despite the children’s best efforts, their protests fall on deaf ears. When their parents can’t see the wood for the trees, Robin and her friends take matters into their own hands to defend their kingdom.

PARENTAL GUIDANCE

Drug references, some scenes may be too intense for sensitive viewers.

AWARDS / FESTIVALS / PREMIERES

Australian Premiere

SCHLiNGEL International Film Festival 2024, Tallinn Black Nights Film Festival 2024

SESSIONS

MELB – CLASSIC CINEMAS		SYD – RITZ CINEMAS	
Sat 28 June	2:00pm	Sat 28 June	2:00pm
Sat 19 July	2:10pm	Sat 19 July	1:50pm

MELB – LIDO CINEMAS	
Sun 15 June	2:00pm
Sat 12 July	1:50pm

MELB – CAMEO CINEMAS	
Sat 21 June	2:00pm
Sun 13 July	1:50pm



The Super Elfkins

Director: Ute von Münchow-Pohl • Germany • Language: English
2024 • 76 mins • Recommended for ages 5+

“With an even more elaborate visual implementation, witty new characters, and an extra dose of originality in the storytelling, they manage to surpass the successful first film.”

– **FILMSTARTS.de**

After delighting CHIFF audiences in 2020 in *Elfkins: Baking a Difference*, the legendary Elfkins of Cologne return to the big screen with an all-new adventure.

Adventurous Elfie longs for something more out from life, where she can combine her helpful Elfkin ways with fun and excitement. When Elfie meets Bo, her life is turned upside down, as Bo belongs to an Elfkin clan that is all about having fun, which includes using high-tech gadgets to do daring and cheeky things. Can Elfie's friendship with Bo reconcile the two Elfkin clans after more than 250 years of feuding and make her dream of all Elfkins living together come true?

AWARDS / FESTIVALS / PREMIERES

Australian Premiere

SCHLiNGEL International Film Festival 2024, Zurich Film Festival 2024 – Winner, ZFF Audience Award for Children

SESSIONS

MELB – CLASSIC CINEMAS

Sat 7 June	12:00pm	Sat 7 June	12:00pm
Sat 28 June	10:10am	Sat 28 June	10:00am
Tue 15 July	10:10am	Tue 15 July	10:10am

SYD – RITZ CINEMAS

MELB – LIDO CINEMAS

Sun 15 June	10:15am
Fri 11 July	10:10am
Sat 19 July	12:00pm

MELB – CAMEO CINEMAS

Sat 21 June	10:00am
Mon 14 July	10:10am
Sun 20 July	12:00pm



Thelma's Perfect Birthday

Director: Reinis Kalnaellis • Latvia, Luxembourg • Language: English
2024 • 72 mins • Recommended for ages 5+

Thelma the little penguin lives with her parents in a cold world of ice. She dreams of having a great big fifth birthday party with family and friends, but her parents don't understand. So Thelma takes matters into her own hands, setting off on an adventurous journey into the Great Forest where she encounters a life full of colour, warmth and acceptance.

With her companions Vilhelm the cat and Sofia the mouse, Thelma learns confidence, individuality and the importance of friendship. By the time she returns home, Thelma has discovered that she can make her dreams come true without losing her roots. Not only does the world around her change, but she changes too.

AWARDS / FESTIVALS / PREMIERES

Australian Premiere

SCHLiNGEL International Film Festival 2024 – Winner, European Children's Film Association Jury Award, Just Film Tallinn 2024

SESSIONS

MELB – CLASSIC CINEMAS

Sun 15 June	10:30am	Sun 15 June	10:15am
Fri 11 July	10:15am	Fri 11 July	10:15am
Sat 19 July	12:30pm	Sat 19 July	12:00pm

SYD – RITZ CINEMAS

MELB – LIDO CINEMAS

Mon 9 June	10:15am
Wed 9 July	10:15am
Sat 12 July	12:00pm

MELB – CAMEO CINEMAS

Sat 14 June	10:15am
Thu 10 July	10:15am
Sun 13 July	12:00pm



Tummy Tom and the Lost Teddy Bear

Director: Joost van den Bosch, Erik Verkerk • Netherlands, Belgium • Language: English
2024 • 62 mins • Recommended for ages 3+

“Classic Dutch character Tummy Tom becomes a theatrical star in a new hand-drawn feature”

— *Cartoon Brew*

Tummy Tom is a young, orange cat who is curious, cheerful, and a bit impulsive. He loves to play but can also be a little bit impatient and gets easily carried away. Bear, his favourite cuddle toy, is his most cherished possession.

When Bear goes missing and is nowhere to be found, Tummy Tom cannot sleep. Luckily, his friend Cat Mouse is there to help, and they set off to find Bear, having many exciting adventures, discovering new places, and meeting new animals along the way.

Based on a picture book created for the Dutch version of *Sesame Street* 45-years ago, Tummy Tom has since become a beloved character for toddlers, preschoolers, and their parents.

AWARDS / FESTIVALS / PREMIERES

Australian Premiere

Giffoni Film Festival 2024, Cinekid Festival
Amsterdam 2024, Just Film Tallinn 2024

SESSIONS

MELB – CLASSIC CINEMAS

Sat 7 June 10:15am
Sat 5 July 12:00pm
Mon 7 July 10:30am

SYD – RITZ CINEMAS

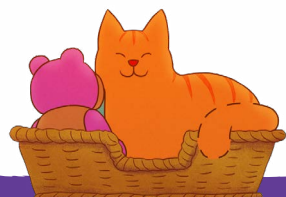
Sat 7 June 10:15am
Sat 5 July 12:00pm
Mon 7 July 10:20am

MELB – LIDO CINEMAS

Sat 28 June 12:00pm
Thu 17 July 10:20am
Sat 19 July 10:15am

MELB – CAMEO CINEMAS

Sun 29 June 12:00pm
Fri 18 July 10:20am
Sun 20 July 10:15am



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Under
no one's
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but yours.

We're funded by readers, not billionaires

The Guardian is fiercely independent, which means we can report on fact, not fiction, at a time when powerful people are getting away with more and more.

The
Guardian

Festival Events★

Family Fun Day

Film: Elio (p.4)



Join us for this special screening of Disney and Pixar's *Elio*. Tickets include popcorn on arrival courtesy of Pop Lab.

MELBOURNE

Classic, Lido and Cameo Cinemas
Sun 22 June, 12:30pm

SYDNEY

Ritz Cinemas
Sun 22 June, 12:30pm

Mexican Art and Crafts



Film: Hola Frida! (p. 18)

Join us for an afternoon of Mexican themed arts and crafts to celebrate the art of Frida Kahlo

SYDNEY

Ritz Cinemas
Sun 6 July, 1pm workshops for 1:50pm film

MELBOURNE

Lido Cinemas
Sun 20 July, 1pm workshops for 1:50pm film

Movies in PJs! FUNDAY[®]

NATURAL SWEETS

Fri 11th July at all venues. All day.

July 11th is Pyjama Day at CHIFF. Everyone in PJs will receive Funday Sweets treats!

Who Wants to Hear a Joke?

Film: Elli and Her Monster Team (p. 13)

Join us at this open mic session to tell a joke and win a prize courtesy of Funday Sweets!

MELBOURNE

Classic Cinemas Sat 5 July, 1:45pm
Lido Cinemas Wed 9 July, 12:00pm
Cameo Cinemas Thurs 10 July, 12:00pm

SYDNEY

Ritz Cinemas Sat 5 July, 1:40pm

Colouring in competition!



Look out for the activities station every day of the festival in the cinema foyer and hand your masterpieces to our staff for your chance to win family movie tickets.

Book Launch - The Silken Thread

Co-Presented by Readings Hawthorn

Join us to celebrate the launch of Gabrielle Wang's new book: *The Silken Thread*

The Silken Thread is a magical story of friendship between two children from very different worlds, who share a common experience of loss and a passion for a life where dreams can come true.

Award winning author, Alice Pung, will do the launching honours.

Bookings are essential for this free event, recommended for ages 8-12. See website for details.

MELBOURNE

Lido Cinemas
Sat 5 July, 2pm book launch followed by book signing

Readings
MELBOURNE'S OWN SINCE 1969

CHIFF events are subject to change. See chiff.com.au for up-to-date event listings and information.

BOOK YOUR NEXT BIRTHDAY PARTY WITH US!

Contact info@movingstory.com.au for more information.

CLASSIC CAMEO LIDO RITZ



Family Fiesta

Antarctica

9—12 July



Book tickets monash.edu/mpac
Monash Performing Arts Centres

Classic Cinemas, Elsternwick

SAT 7 JUNE

10:15AM Tummy Tom and the Lost Teddy Bear
12:00PM The Super Elfkins
1:50PM Elli and Her Monster Team

SUN 8 JUNE

10:15AM Akiko, the Flying Monkey
12:00PM Norbert
1:50PM Hola Frida!

MON 9 JUNE

10:15AM Ernest and Celestine: Spring Tales
12:00PM Benjamin Bat
2:00PM A Tooth Fairy Tale

SAT 14 JUNE

10:15AM Moominvalley: Moominpappa The Great Explorer
12:00PM Bambi, a Tale of Life in the Woods
2:00PM Bartali's Bicycle

SUN 15 JUNE

10:30AM Thelma's Perfect Birthday
12:15PM The Proud Princess
2:15PM Pee-wee's Big Adventure

SAT 21 JUNE

10:15AM Fox and Hare Save the Forest
12:00PM Out of the Nest
2:00PM Explorers

SUN 22 JUNE

10:30AM Fleak
12:30PM Elio ★
2:30PM Pee-wee's Big Adventure

SAT 28 JUNE

10:10AM The Super Elfkins
12:00PM Fleak
2:00PM Robin and the Hoods

SUN 29 JUNE

10:30AM Norbert
12:00PM Captain Sabertooth and the Countess of Grel
1:50PM Empire Waist

SAT 5 JULY

10:00AM Benjamin Bat
12:00PM Tummy Tom and the Lost Teddy Bear
1:45PM Elli and Her Monster Team ★

SUN 6 JULY

10:30AM Bambi, a Tale of Life in the Woods
12:20PM Akiko, the Flying Monkey
2:00PM Hola Frida!

MON 7 JULY

10:30AM Tummy Tom and the Lost Teddy Bear
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FRI 11 JULY ★ PYJAMA DAY!

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10:15AM Captain Sabertooth and the Countess of Grel
12:00AM Explorers
2:20PM Empire Waist

Lido Cinemas, Hawthorn

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10:30AM Ernest and Celestine: Spring Tales
12:00PM Benjamin Bat
1:50PM A Tooth Fairy Tale

SUN 8 JUNE

10:30AM Moominvalley: Moominpappa The Great Explorer
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10:15AM The Super Elfkins
12:00PM Fleak
2:00PM Robin and the Hoods

SAT 21 JUNE

12:00PM Captain Sabertooth and the Countess of Grel
1:50PM Empire Waist
2:15PM Norbert (In Spanish)

SUN 22 JUNE

10:30AM Fleak
12:30PM Elio ★
2:30PM Pee-wee's Big Adventure

SAT 28 JUNE

10:00AM Benjamin Bat
12:00PM Tummy Tom and the Lost Teddy Bear
1:40PM Elli and Her Monster Team

Screening Schedule

SUN 29 JUNE

10:20AM Bambi, a Tale of Life in the Woods
12:00PM Akiko, the Flying Monkey
1:50PM Hola Frida!

SAT 5 JULY

10:00AM The Proud Princess
12:00PM Ernest and Celestine: Spring Tales
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2:00PM Book Launch: The Silken Thread ★

SUN 6 JULY

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FRI 11 JULY ★ PYJAMA DAY!

10:10AM The Super Elfkings
12:00PM A Tooth Fairy Tale

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10:00AM Fleak
12:00PM Thelma's Perfect Birthday
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SUN 13 JULY

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2:10PM Empire Waist

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10:10AM Norbert

TUE 15 JULY

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1:50PM Elli and Her Monster Team

SUN 20 JULY

10:15AM Akiko, the Flying Monkey
12:00PM Norbert
1:50PM Hola Frida! ★

Cameo Cinemas, Belgrave

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Ritz Cinemas, Randwick

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10:30AM Captain Sabertooth and the Countess of Grel
12:20PM Explorers
2:45PM Empire Waist

★ Special event screening. See pages 28-29

Ticketing & Venues

Tickets are available online at **chiff.com.au**, through any of our cinema partner websites, and at the cinemas' box office.

TICKET PRICES

Single Admission \$16.50

Valid for adult, child, senior, and concession admission.

Member Tickets \$14.50

Max two discounted tickets per member. Valid all types of memberships.

Family Pass \$56

Two adults and two children or one adult and three children.

Discounted tickets are available for groups of 20 or more (\$13 per ticket)

Make an enquiry by emailing info@movingstory.com.au

VENUE DETAILS

Classic Cinemas

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B	I	C	Y	C	L	E	N	F	T
O	M	Q	O	A	R	H	Q	A	D
K	Y	R	O	F	I	T	B	I	D
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