



SEPTEMBER

Sunday 18 Sep
14:30

Performance
Space
at The Dock,
107 Victoria Har-
bour Promenade,
Docklands

EAST OF BUCHAREST

Romania (2006) Comedy 99 min

Director: Corneliu Porumboiu Awards: Camera D'Or at Cannes 2006, Best Film/ Screenplay at Copenhagen Film Festival 2006, Best Directing/ Screenplay/ Actor/ Feature at Gopo Film Awards 2007

Porumboiu's acutely funny satirical comedy is set sixteen years after the Romanian revolution that overturned communism. Three characters in the small town of Vaslui come together to find an answer to the question: was there or wasn't it there a revolution in Vaslui?

We meet the three main characters: a widower, a history professor and a television show host, and follow them to the local television studio, where they enter a live debate about the role the town played in the revolution. What were the people of Vaslui doing while Ceausescu was being thrown out in a violent revolt? Were there heroes, dissenters and change makers in Vaslui?

The carefully calibrated writing and the underplayed performances make for a very exciting film, which put Porumboiu on the international map and led the charge of recent Romanian cinema.



OCTOBER

Sunday 16 Oct
14:30

Performance
Space
at The Dock,
107 Victoria Har-
bour Promenade,
Docklands

IDA

Poland (2014) Drama 82 min

Director: Pawel Pawlikowski Awards: Oscar for Best Foreign Film at The Academy Awards 2015, Best Foreign Film at BAFTA 2015, Fipresci Award at Toronto Film festival 2013 and other 64 wins and 80 nominations

This is a moving and intimate drama about a young orphan about to become a nun in 1960s Poland. On the verge of taking her vows, young Ida discovers her family was Jewish and had been killed by the Nazis.

The personal story and the historic events intersect in this powerfully written and eloquently shot film. Ida discovers she has a new identity she has to understand and accept.

A powerful and affecting film.



NOVEMBER

Sunday 13 Nov
14:30

Performance Space
at The Dock,
107 Victoria Harbour
Promenade,
Docklands

RODICAS

Australia/Germany/Romania (2012) Documentary 53 min

Director: Alice Gruia Awards: screened at Berlinale (2012), Krakow, Rome, Medias.

Filmmaker Alice Gruia brings to the screen the extraordinary in the ordinariness of life in this documentary about Rodica Gruia and Rodica Grill, two women of Romanian-Jewish descent who made Sydney their home for the past 30 years and became best friends.

Close to 90 years old, the two friends couldn't be more different and yet very similar. One Rodica is childish, playful, enjoys lengthy philosophical discussions on anything over a gin and tonic. The other Rodica is more practical, strict about what topics she likes to discuss, disciplined in her routines. Together they become like two teenagers: they giggle incessantly, they go shopping, they try cafes, they are adventurous. Like an old couple comfortable with their differences who learned how to make it work.

The vitality, the curiosity and humour of the heroines will keep you immersed in their stories.



DECEMBER

Saturday 3 Dec
14:30

Performance Space
at The Dock,
107 Victoria Harbour
Promenade,
Docklands

NIGHT WATCH

Russia (2004) Fantasy 114 min

Director: Timur Bekmambetov Awards: Silver at Brussels International Festival of Fantasy Film 2005

Modern day Moscow is governed by the forces of Light and Dark. The two supernatural armies have signed a truce dictating that neither side interfere with humans, unless humans freely choose to join them.

Both group members are known as The Others, humans with special powers. During a visit to a fortune teller, the main character, Anton discovers he is also one of The Others. The story continues several years later, when he is a member of the Night Watch and discovers a prophecy that could change everything.

2016 PROGRAM

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EuRaw Stories

Cinema from Eastern Europe & the Balkans

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3 month pass \$21 1 year pass \$45 (no individual tickets sold)

EuRaw Stories screens once a month except in January and August. Please check our website or Facebook page for exact dates and screening venues.

All movies have English subtitles.

EuRaw Stories is brought to you by **EuRaw Inc**, a non profit organisation who aims to support, promote and showcase arts projects inspired by the culture of Central, Eastern Europe and the Balkans to Australia.

We appreciate suggestions for partnerships with other Eastern European influenced businesses and communities, so we could all benefit from mutual exposure to a larger community.

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FEBRUARY

Saturday 27 Feb
19:00

Bella Union,
54 Lygon St,
Carlton

LOST AND FOUND

Bosnia/Bulgaria/Estonia/Hungary/Romania/Serbia (2005) Short films 100 min

Directors: Mait Laas (Estonia), Cristian Mungiu (Romania), Nadejda Koseva (Bulgaria), Jasmina Zbanic (Bosnia), Kornel Mundruczo (Hungary), Stefan Arsenijevic (Serbia)

Some of the most talented directors in Central and Eastern Europe come together to bring you six stories of utter tenderness and complexity. Each of the short films (four features, a documentary and an animation framing the whole film) challenges your idea of the post-communist generation in that part of the world. You will find gentle humour, drama, turmoil, nostalgia and resilience in this cinematic journey to the other Europe.

There is the touching clumsiness and attachment of a young girl for her unlikely pet turkey, a major life event celebrated across continents, cultures and generations, and two Hungarian siblings confronting their past after their mother dies.

The perfect showcase of vibrant new wave cinema from Eastern Europe.

We're launching EuRaw Stories with this screening of Lost And Found, followed by a Party on Eastern European tunes. Get ready for a night like no other!



MARCH

Saturday 19 Mar
18:00

Performance Space
at The Dock,
107 Victoria Harbour
Promenade,
Docklands

DOMESTIC

Romania (2013) Comedy 85 min

Director: Adrian Sitaru Awards: Nominations at Gopo Awards, Chicago International Festival

Director Adrian Sitaru puts an absurdist spin on a relationship we take for granted: people and the animals they love, they eat, they ignore, they worry about.

A rabbit, a hen, a cat, a dog and a dove come into the lives of three characters in an apartment building to illustrate the interdependency between children, animals and adults.

Sitaru masterfully reveals with humour the sometimes cruel, sometimes tender, mysterious and often insane ways of human nature.



APRIL

Saturday 16 Apr
18:00

Performance Space
at The Dock,
107 Victoria Harbour
Promenade,
Docklands

LIFE IS A MIRACLE

Serbia (2004) Comedy 155 min

Director: Emir Kusturica Awards: Palme D'Or nomination at Cannes 2004

Director Emir Kusturica depicts the life affirming craziness and effervescence of a community trying to stay sane through the tragedy of war.

In 1992, war is brewing in Bosnia, but the men in the town of Golobuci are going ahead with their plans of building a railroad line in the hope it will bring more visitors into the city. Engineer Luka loves his high-strung wife, Jadranka, and is proud of his son, Milos, an aspiring soccer star. But chaos strikes when his wife runs off with a cymbal player, the Balkan conflict breaks out and Milos becomes a soldier and then a POW. A plan by officials to free Milos by trading him for a captive Muslim woman is complicated when Luka and the captive fall in love.

The unmissable Gypsy band, the infectious music, dogs, donkeys, geese, and humans alike all play their part in Kusturica's exuberant landscape.



MAY

Sunday 22 May
14:30

Performance Space
at The Dock,
107 Victoria Harbour
Promenade,
Docklands

ELENA

Russia (2011) Thriller 109 min

Director: Andrey Zvyagintsev Awards: Cannes Film Festival 2011: Un Certain Regard - Special Jury Prize (Zvyagintsev) Asia Pacific Screen Awards 2011: Best Actress (Markina) Sundance Film Festival: Spotlight Official Selection

Filmmaker Andrey Zvyagintsev delves into the vulnerabilities of human nature with middleaged Elena and Vladimir, an unlikely couple coming from entirely different social settings.

Vladimir is a well-off businessman; Elena a former medical worker, now a housewife. Having met later in life, they each have children from previous marriages. A heart attack puts Vladimir in hospital where he makes a significant decision: his daughter will be the only heiress to his wealth. The shy and submissive Elena feels betrayed and her hopes of helping her son and grandchildren secure a better life are crushed.

Beautifully shot, this is a raw and gripping story of humanity.



JUNE

Sunday 26 June
14:30

Performance Space
at The Dock,
107 Victoria Harbour
Promenade,
Docklands

THE THIRD HALF

Macedonia (2012) Drama 113 min

Director: Darko Mitrevski Awards: Official submission to Oscars 2012

Director Darko Mitrevski brings to the screens one of Macedonia's most treasured soccer stories, with a good dose of love during wartime.

In the turbulent times of the second World War, a soccer team from the unrecognized nation of Macedonia, led by a Jewish coach whose kinsmen were being exterminated by the Nazis, is in the running for the champion title. The star player falls for rich Jewish beauty Rebeka and their elopement is what saves Rebeka's life when all Macedonian Jews are deported to Treblinka unexpectedly.

Always a source of drama and great stories, here soccer becomes more than a game, it becomes the battlefield between good and evil.



JULY

Sunday 24 July
14:30

Performance Space
at The Dock,
107 Victoria Harbour
Promenade,
Docklands

SINCE OTAR LEFT

Georgia/France (2005) Drama 103 min

Director: Julie Bertuccelli Awards: Critics Week at Cannes 2003, Best 1st fiction at Cesars, Best Actress (Drukarova) at Acteurs A l'Ecran 2003

Filmmaker Julie Bertuccelli brings to the screen a deceptively simple story, with exquisitely drawn characters that will stay with you long after the film ends.

Otar leaves his home town of Tbilisi in search of a better life in Paris. His mother, sister and niece are left behind, their hopes kept alive by his occasional letters and phone calls. The absent Otar is a constant presence in the plot, and his mother displays a fierce pride and confidence in him. But his sister receive news that Otar was killed in Paris and is distraught at the thought of her mother finding out the devastating news.

The wonderful performances make this film stand out, particularly the 90-year old Esther Gorintin (Eka in the film), who started her acting career at 85.