

7-10 SEPT 2007

# SYDNEY UNDERGROUND

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Media Release JUNE 07

### **Spotlight on new Australian and International underground film talent**

Promising four whole nights of subversive, experimental, visual and aural pleasure, the first annual Sydney Underground Film Festival is taking place from the 7th to the 10th of September at the Factory Theatre, a stylish new venue in Sydney's Inner West.

The festival is showcasing a high calibre of artistic shorts and features from Australia and around the world, providing a platform for exhibition, exposure and critical discussion, however controversial or challenging the content. The aim of the festival is to renew local interest in independent and alternative film as part of an international underground film culture.

The Sydney Underground Film Festival is the brainchild of experimental filmmaking team, Stefan Popescu and Katherine Berger. The festival is focusing on rekindling Sydney's love affair with experimentation in film. To achieve this, they felt it right to firstly involve and secure the support of members of the original underground film cooperative UBU Films/ Sydney Filmmakers cooperative, UBU Films / Sydney Filmmaker's Co-op, including Albie Thoms, Paul Winkler and David Perry. This highly active film co-operative acted as the creative force behind the establishment of subversive film culture in Australia and gave rise to the careers of other successful filmmakers including Phillip Noyce, Gillian Armstrong, Peter Weir, and Bruce Beresford. Paul Winkler will also be premiering his new film "Pop Kitsch" and Albie Thoms will take part in introducing the festival on the opening night.

Special music guests are also taking part in this exciting event including Sydney's CODA, a 6 piece band that have mastered a perfect balance between the powers of sight and sound.

Film entries close on the 29th of June and festival passes and tickets are on sale now. The event is held over four nights, which includes nine screenings of Australian and International films.

#### **Early Bird Passes:**

\$55 / \$50 (concession) and are available until the 29th of June.

#### **Regular Passes:**

\$65 / \$60 (concession)

For more information visit [www.sydneyundergroundfilmfestival.com](http://www.sydneyundergroundfilmfestival.com)

Media Contact:

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media kit JUNE 07

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### **Mission**

The Sydney Underground Film Festival is dedicated to nurturing an alternative film culture through the promotion of independent and experimental films. The festival seeks to support filmmakers who operate outside established film industry infrastructures, by providing a platform for exhibition, exposure and critical discussion.

### **Our Philosophy**

Our philosophy is formed from an understanding that every established film industry thrives against a subversive force. Historically, it has always been the marginal movements in film culture, which eventually influences mainstream film production. Opposition is a necessary tension that promotes growth and artistic diversity in all film cultures and subcultures. Sadly, the Australian film industry has very little resistance against established commercial and regulated film production. So in stating this, our intention is to promote a culture of resistance, simply by nurturing artistic diversity and experimentation in film, rather than maintaining an adversarial position against established infrastructures. We believe that discussion, dialectic and diversity is the means by which the Australian film industry can be strengthened and sustained.

### **Festival Team**

Festival Team includes Stefan Popescu, Katherine Berger, Siouxzi Connor, Samantha Findley, Liz Berger, Pamelah Otto, Michelle Berger, and Rachael Brown.

### **Entering a film**

- Entries for features and shorts (including music videos) accepted
- National and international entries accepted
- There are no production date restrictions
- 3 simple categories: SHORTS (including music videos) / FEATURES / STUDENT FILMS
- 'Festival Rejects' get a \$5 discount off the entry fee if application is sent with a rejection letter from another film festival
- There are four ways to enter a film:
  - i) Via the online entry form on the festival website and pay via PAYPAL.
  - ii) Via the online entry form on the Festival website and pay via direct deposit.
  - iii) Via withoutabox.com
  - iv) By downloading an application from the website and mailing it to the festival with an Australia Post money order or an Australian-issued cheque.

### **Regular deadline = 29th June 2007. Regular entry fees:**

- Standard features (over 30 mins): \$40 (include rejection letter \$35)
- Standard shorts (under 30 mins): \$30 (include rejection letter \$25)
- Student entry: \$25 (include rejection letter \$20)

### **Festival Information**

- The Sydney Underground Film Festival is held from Friday 7th – Monday 10th September 2007 at The Factory Theatre - 105 Victoria Rd, Enmore.
- There will be nine sessions (including opening & closing screenings) held over four nights
- Earlybird festival passes cost \$55 and \$50 (concession) and will be available through the festival website until the 29th June 2007.
- Regular festival passes cost \$65 and \$60 (concession).
- Festival pass will get you entry into all nine screenings including opening & closing nights.
- A full colour festival program will be available from early August 2007.

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## FILM FESTIVAL

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### Festival Images & Logos

To obtain a hi res version of any of these images,  
please contact Samantha Findley (Media Co-ordinator) on [media@suff.com.au](mailto:media@suff.com.au)

**SYDNEY UNDERGROUND**  
FILM FESTIVAL

**THE FACTORY**  
THEATRE

Sydney Underground Film Festival & Factory Theatre Logos available in standard (as shown) or reverse.



Factory Theatre Day



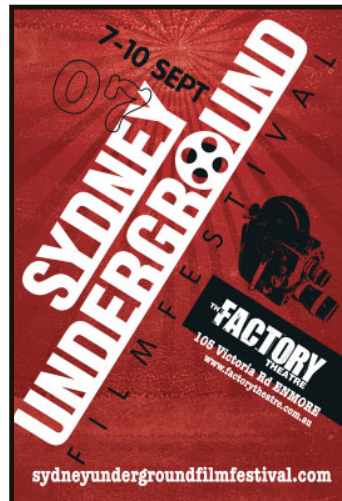
Factory Theatre Night



Festival Team



CODA



Festival Postcard



Directors: Katherine Berger & Stefan Popescu

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### Contact Us

Our Media team is available to provide assistance in all areas of media and public relations.

If you would like to arrange an interview or require more info, hi res images or logos, festival team bios, or are interested in attending the festival, then please contact:

#### Samantha Findley

MEDIA CO-ORDINATOR

Mob: +61 405 567 906

Email: [media@suff.com.au](mailto:media@suff.com.au)

PO Box 202 Summer Hill, NSW 2130 Australia

Please visit [www.sydneyundergroundfilmfestival.com/media](http://www.sydneyundergroundfilmfestival.com/media)  
(Images, logos and PDFs online)

#### Festival Contact Details

Sydney Underground Film Festival

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URL: [www.sydneyundergroundfilmfestival.com](http://www.sydneyundergroundfilmfestival.com)

Myspace: [www.myspace.com/sydneyundergroundfilmfest](http://www.myspace.com/sydneyundergroundfilmfest)



SYDNEY FILM SCHOOL

SCA

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FUJIFILM



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