



The **MIFF Premiere Fund** (www.miffpremierfund.com) provides minority co-financing to new Australian quality theatrical films (narrative-drama and documentaries) that then premiere at MIFF. **MIFF Premiere Fund** deepens MIFF's relationship with filmmaking talent and builds a pipeline of quality Australian content for MIFF. Launched at **MIFF 2007**, the **Premiere Fund** has committed to 61 projects. Under the charge of MIFF Chair Claire Dobbin, the **Premiere Fund** Executive Producer is Mark Woods, former CEO of the Irish Film Board and Ausfilm and Showtime Australia Head of Content Investment & International Acquisitions. Woods has co-invested in and Executive Produced many quality films, including *Rabbit Proof Fence*, *Japanese Story*, *Somersault*, *Breakfast on Pluto*, Cannes Palme d'Or winner *Wind that Shakes the Barley*, and Oscar-winning *Six Shooter*.

➤ The **Premiere Fund** slate for **MIFF 2018** so far includes the following:

- **ACUTE MISFORTUNE**: Adaption of the award-winning book about legendary Archibald-winning artist **Adam Cullen** and his biographer **Erik Jensen** from director **Thomas Wright** and producers **Virginia Kay** (*Sugar Mountain*) and **Jamie Houge** (*The Lookalike*) and executive producers **Robert Connolly** (*Paper Planes*) and **Liz Kearney** (*These Final Hours*). (Distributor: **Cinema Plus**; Sales Agent: **Maze**).
- **THE EULOGY**: Tragic story of child prodigy pianist-composer Geoffrey Tozer, inspired by former Prime Minister Paul Keating's searing eulogy for the artist, from director/producer **Janine Hosking** (*My Khmer Heart*) and producers **Trish Lake** (*Early Winter*) & **Katey Grusovin**. (Distributor: **Madman**)
- **UNDERTOW**: A psychological thriller, in which a photo-journalist struggling to cope with the loss of her baby develops an obsession with a pregnant young woman, from director/writer **Miranda Nation**, producer **Lyn Norfor** and Executive Producer **Liz Watts** (*Animal Kingdom*). (Sales Agent: **Mongrel**)
- **SOME SCENES OBJECTIONABLE**: From director/producer **Lawrence Johnston** (*Neon, Eternity*) and producer **Veronica Fury** (*Electric Boogaloo*), comes an examination of the intertwined highs and lows of the Australian film industry and prolific producer **Antony I. Ginnane**.
- **OVER THE RAINBOW**: Through the prism of a 'coming back out ball' featuring Robyn Archer, Deborah Cheetham, Gery Connolly and Carlotta, this feature documentary celebrates the lives and resilience of LGBTQ+ elders. From director/producer **Sue Thomson** (*Tempest at the Drop In*), producers **Adam Farrington-Williams** (*Winter at Westbeth*), **Roger Monk** (*Walking on Water*) and **Tristan Meecham**, and EPs **Michael McMahon** (*The Slap*).

➤ The **Premiere Fund** slate for **MIFF 2019** so far includes the following:

- **BUOYANCY**: Tale of young Cambodian captured into enslavement on Thai fishing trawler from Accelerator Lab alumnus director **Rodd Rathjen** and producers **Kristina Ceyton** (*Babadook*), **Sam Jennings** (*Cargo*) and **Rita Walsh** (*I Used to be Normal*). (Distributor: **Umbrella**; Sales Agent: **Charades**)
- **CRIMINAL SKIN**: A gripping multi-ethnic crime thriller from Accelerator alumnus **Paul Oliver** (*Old School*) and producers **Pip Campey** (*Galore*), **Tait Brady** (*Healing*). (Distributor: **Label**)

MIFF PREMIERE FUND TITLES AT PREVIOUS EDITIONS OF MIFF:

➤ The **Premiere Fund** slate for **MIFF 2017** will include the following:

- **HAVE YOU SEEN THE LISTERS**: Portrait of the artistic and commercial rise of renowned street artist **Anthony Lister**, and the price of fame, from director/producer **Eddie Martin** (*Lionel. All This Mayhem*) and producer **Sarah Shaw** (*Snowtown*). (Distributor: **Transmission**)
- **JUNGLE**: A gloriously tense survival thriller based on the bestselling real-life story of adventurer Yossi Ghinsberg, starring Daniel Radcliffe from director Greg McLean (*Wolf Creek*) and producers Dana Lustig, Gary Hamilton, Mike Gabrawy, Todd Fellman.
- **RABBIT**: A dark fairytale from writer/director **Luke Shanahan** and producer **David Ngo** (*One Eyed Girl*), in which a woman, haunted by visions, hunts for her missing twin sister. Stars **Adelaide Clemens** (*The Great Gatsby*) and **Alex Russell** (*Cut Snake, Jungle*). (Distributor: **Vendetta**; Sales Agent: **Level K**)
- **SACRED SONG**: Central Australia's answer to *The Buena Vista Social Club* tells the story of an Aboriginal Women's Choir bringing back to Germany forgotten Germanic hymns sung in their own indigenous ancient language. Director **Naina Sen**; Producers **Rachel Clements** & **Trisha Morton-Thomas**.
- **THE BUTTERFLY TREE**: A visually sumptuous coming-of-age tale of love and loss, tinged with magical realism, from writer/director **Priscilla Cameron** and producer **Bridget Callow-Wright** with **Melissa George** (*The Good Wife*), **Sophie Lowe** (*The Slap*), **Ewen Leslie** (*The Daughter*), **Ed Oxenbould** (*Paper Planes*). (Distributor: **Vendetta**)
- **WESTWIND**: Internationally-renowned Yolngu didgeridoo maker-player **Djalu Gurruwiwi** enlists the help of Grammy-winning **Gotye** to pass his people's ancient song-lines to the next generation. Director/producer: **Ben Strunin**; Producers: **Kate Pappas**, **Nick Batzias** (*That Sugar Film*), **Ben Pederick**, **Virginia Whitwell**. (Distributor: **Madman**)

➤ The **Premiere Fund** slate for **MIFF 2016** comprised the following world premieres:

- **BAD GIRL**: A thriller, from director/writer **Fin Edquist** and producers **Steve Kearney** (*Oddball*), **Tenille Kennedy** (*The Turning*) and **Bruno Charlesworth** (*Good Vibrations*), in which a teenager fights for her adoptive parents when her new friend tries to supplant her. Stars **Sara West** (*The Daughter*), **Samara Weaving** (*Mystery Road*), **Felicity Price** (*Wish You Were Here*) and **Benjamin Winspear** (*The Babadook*). (Distributor: **Curious**; Sales: **Arclight**)
- **ELLA'S JOURNEY**: A feature documentary, from director/writer **Douglas Watkin**, producers **Veronica Fury** (*Electric Boogaloo*) and **Dena Curtis** and co-producer/consulting director **Lawrence Johnston** (*Neon*), about the Australian Ballet's first indigenous dancer. (Distributor: **Ronin**).
- **EMO (the musical)**: What's an Emo boy to when he secretly falls in love with a happy Christian? From writer/director **Nigel Triffett** with producer **Lee Matthews**, cast includes **Bride Carter** (*800 Words*), **Adam Zwar** (*Wilfred*) & **Dylan Lewis**. Based on an award-winning short. (Distributor: **Bonsai**).
- **THE DEATH & LIFE OF OTTO BLOOM**: A love story in which the end is only the beginning for Otto Bloom who experiences time in reverse and remembers the future. From writer/director **Cris Jones** and producers **Mish Armstrong**, **Alicia Brown** and Oscar-winning **Melanie Coombs** (*Harvie Krumpet*) with **Xavier Samuel** (*Twilight*). (Distributor: **Bonsai**; Sales Agent: **Global Screen**)
- **THE FAMILY**: A feature documentary, from director/writer **Rosie Jones** (*The Triangle Wars*) and producer **Anna Grieve** (*The Prime Minister is Missing*), about the charismatic and delusional **Anne Hamilton-Byrne**'s elusive apocalyptic sect. (Distributor: **Label**)
- **MONSIEUR MAYONNAISE**: Feature documentary from **Trevor Graham** (*Make Hummus Not War*) and producers **Lisa Wang** & **Ned Lander** about Melbourne settlers, art pioneers, Nazis, comics, history, and France's love affair with baguettes and garlic mayonnaise. (Dist: **Antidote**; Sales: **Flame**)

➤ The **Premiere Fund** slate for **MIFF 2015** comprised the following world premieres:

- **DOWNRIVER**: A mystery drama, from director/writer **Grant Scicluna** and producer **Jannine Barnes**, in which a teenage killer returns to uncover dark truths in his quest to find a missing body. Stars **Kerry Fox** (*Intimacy*), Reef Ireland (*Blessed*). (Distributor: **Rialto**; Sales Agent: **Level K**).
- **ECCO HOMO**: A feature documentary, from **Ghost Pictures** (*AutoLuminescent, In Bob We Trust*), about growing-up in a world of incest, prostitution, gender transformation, HIV, art, secrets and lies. Features **Peter Troy Davies**, **Michael Hutcheon** and **Bono**. (Distributor: **Apparition**).
- **NEON**: A feature documentary from director/writer **Lawrence Johnston** (*Night, Eternity*) and producer **Veronica Fury** (*Curse of the Gothic Symphony*), celebrating the invention, design and heritage of neon signage. (Distributor: **Ronin**; Sales: **Mongrel**).
- **PUTUPARRI & THE RAINMAKERS**: A feature documentary from director/writer **Nicole Ma** and producer **John Moore** exploring an Aboriginal man's quest to reconcile his life in the modern world with his destiny as a cultural leader of his Great Sandy Desert people. (Distributor: **Ronin/NITV**)
- **EARLY WINTER**: An evocative meditation on relationships after romance gives way to duty and routine; where the search for respect and care is the currency of commitment. Helmed by Cannes Camera d'Or-winning writer/director Michael Rowe (*Leap Year*), starring **Suzanne Clement** (*Mommy*) and **Roy Dupuis** (*La Femme Nikita*) & produced by **Trish Lake** and **Serge Noel**. (Distributors: **Rialto**, **Mongrel**, **FilmOption**; Sales Agent: **Pyramide**).

➤ The **Premiere Fund** slate for **MIFF 2014** comprised the following world premieres:

- **CUT SNAKE**: A crime thriller, from director **Tony Ayres** (*Home Song Stories*) and producers **Michael McMahon** (*Home Song Stories*) and **Trevor Blainey** (*Noise*), in which a young man's engagement to a beautiful woman is threatened when a menacing ex-con from his past reappears. Stars **Sullivan Stapleton** (*Animal Kingdom*, *300*), **Alex Russell** (*Bait*) and **Jessica De Gouw** (*Dracula, These Final Hours*). (Distributor & sales: **eOne**).
- **ELECTRIC BOOGALOO**: From director/producer **Mark Hartley** (*Not Quite Hollywood*) and producer **Veronica Fury** (*Machete Maidens Unleashed!*) comes the wild untold story of 1980s Hollywood company Canon Films (Distributor: **Umbrella**; Sales Agent: **Mongrel/RatPac**).
- **MY MISTRESS**: A strangely innocent affair between a teenage romantic and a French S&M mistress becomes something more. The film, from debut feature director **Stephen Lance**, writer **Gerard Lee** (*Sweetie*), producer **Leanne Tonkes** & EP **Robyn Kershaw** (*Bran Nue Dae*), stars **Emmanuelle Beart** (*A Heart in Winter*), **Harrison Gilbertson** (*Blessed*), **Rachel Blake** (*Sleeping Beauty*). (Distributor: **Transmission**; Sales: **Level K**).
- **PAPER PLANES**: A children's film about an Australian boy's passion for flight and competing in paper plane championships from writer/director/producer **Robert Connolly** (*Balibo*) and co-producers **Maggie Miles** and **Liz Kearney**. Stars **Sam Worthington** (*Avatar*), **David Wenham** (*300*), **Terry Norris** (*Innocence*) & **Deborah Mailman** (*Sapphires*). (Distributor **Footprint**; Sales **Maze/Arclight**).
- **THE LEGEND MAKER**: A dramatic thriller in which an aging forger needs all his guile and cunning to survive from director/producer **Ian Pringle** and producer **Glenda Hambly** and starring **Tony Nikolakopoulos**, **Jeremy Kewley**, **Steve Mouzakis** and **Sachin Joab**.

○ The 2014 **Premiere Fund** slate also comprised the following Australian premiere at the **MIFF Premiere Regional Showcase**:

- **KILL ME THREE TIMES**: A thriller, from director **Kriv Stenders** (*Red Dog*) and producers **Tania Chambers** & *Death at a Funeral*'s **Laurence Malkin** & **Share Stallings**, in which one woman links murder, blackmail and revenge. Stars **Simon Pegg** (*Shaun of the Dead*), **Sullivan Stapleton** (*Animal Kingdom*), **Alice Braga** (*On the Road*), **Teresa Palmer** (*Warm Bodies*), **Bryan Brown** (*Beautiful Kate*) and **Luke Hemsworth**. (Distributor: **Hopscotch**; Sales Agent: **Cargo**).

- The **Premiere Fund** slate for **MIFF 2013** comprised the following world premieres.
 - **AIM HIGH IN CREATION!** From director/producer **Anna Broinowski** (*Forbidden Lie\$*) and producer **Lizzette Atkins** (*X, Lionel*); a revolutionary comedic documentary about greed, gas and the cinematic genius of late North Korean leader Kim Jong Il. (Distributor: **Antidote**; Sales Agent: **HighPoint**)
 - **IN BOB WE TRUST:** From *AutoLuminescent's* team (writer/director/producer **Lynn-Maree Milburn** and producers **Richard Lowenstein**, **Andrew de Groot** and **Maya Gnypp**) comes a feature documentary story of the controversial forced-retirement of Melbourne identity Father Bob Maguire and his struggles to live without the Church. (Distributor: **Apparition**; Sales Agent: **Odin's Eye**).
 - **PATRICK:** A re-imagining of classic 1970s telekinetic thriller is the narrative feature debut of *Not Quite Hollywood* and *Machete Maidens Unleashed!* director **Mark Hartley**. From producer **Tony Ginnane**, the film stars **Rachel Griffiths** (*Muriel's Wedding*), **Charles Dance** (*Gosford Park*), **Sharni Vinson** (*Bait 3D*) and **Damon Gameau** (*Balibo*). (Distributor: **Umbrella**; Sales Agent: **BankSide**)
 - **THE TURNING:** A range of directors (including established talent **Justin Kurzel** (*Snowtown*), **Jonathan auf der Heide** (*Van Diemen's Land*), **Tony Ayres** (*Home Song Stories*) **Claire McCarthy** (*The Waiting City*), **Warwick Thornton** (*Samson & Delilah*) and **Robert Connolly** (*Balibo*); emerging film directors **Rhys Graham** (*Galore*) and **Ashlee Page**; visual artist **Shaun Gladwell**; theatre directors **Yaron Lifschitz** and **Stephen Page**; plus the film directing debuts of actors **David Wenham**, **Ian Meadows** and **Mia Wasikowska**) respond to Tim Winton's haunting short stories. From producer **Robert Connolly** (*Balibo*), co-producer **Maggie Miles**, the film also stars **Cate Blanchett**, **Rose Byrne**, **Harrison Gilbertson**, **Richard Roxburgh**, **Robyn Nevin**, **Hugo Weaving**, **Miranda Otto**, **Wayne Blair**, **Dan Wylie** and **Susie Porter**. (Distributor: **Footprint/Madman**; Sales Agent: **Maze/LevelK**).
 - **GALORE:** From director/writer **Rhys Graham** (*Murundak: Songs of Freedom*) and producer **Philippa Campey** (*Bastardy*) is the story of two reckless teenage best friends who share everything except for Bille's big secret that she loves Laura's boyfriend. Stars **Ashleigh Cummings** (*Tomorrow When the War Began*), **Toby Wallace** (*Nim's Island 2*), **Lily Sullivan** (*Mental*), **Maya Stange** (*Garage Days*). (Distributor: **HopScotch**; Sales: **eOne**).
 - **THESE FINAL HOURS:** A young man's redemption during the Earth's very last hours from director **Zac Hilditch**, producer **Liz Kearney** and Executive Producer **Robert Connolly** (*Balibo*). The film stars **Nathan Phillips** (*Wolf Creek*), **Dan Hanshall** (*Snowtown*) and **Lynette Curran** (*The Boys*). (Distributor: **Footprint**; Sales Agent: **XYZ/Celluloid**).
 - The **Premiere Fund** slate for **MIFF 2012** comprised the following world premieres:
 - **100 BLOODY ACRES:** A comedy horror showing the lengths small business operators go to from debut feature directors **Colin & Cameron Cairns** and producers **Julie Ryan** (*Red Dog*) and **Kate Crosser** (*My Tehran For Sale*), with Executive Producers **Bryce Menzies** and **Jonathan Page** and starring **Damon Herriman** (*J. Edgar*), **Angus Sampson** (*Where the Wild Things Are*) and **John Jarratt** (*Wolf Creek*). (Distributor **HopScotch**; Sales: **Works**)
 - **FIRST FAGIN:** A feature documentary from Director **Alan Rosenthal** and Producer **Veronica Fury** (*Curse of the Gothic Symphony*) portraying infamous convict Ikey Solomon, who inspired Charles Dickens character Fagin from *Oliver Twist*. (Sales Agent: **Naked Flame**).
 - **MAKE HUMMUS NOT WAR:** A new war rages in the Middle East between the usual suspects – but chick peas, not bullets, are in the front line. From director/producer **Trevor Graham**, with producer **Ned Lander**. (Sales Agent: **Off the Fence**).
 - **SAVE YOUR LEGS:** Australian-Indian cricket comedy inspired by true events from debut feature director **Boyd Hicklin** and producers **Robyn Kershaw** (*Bran Nue Dae*) and **Nick Batzias** with **David Lyons** (*Eat, Pray, Love*), **Brendan Cowell** (*The Slap*), **Stephen Curry** (*The Cup*) and **Damon Gameau** (*Balibo*). (Dist: **Madman**; Sales: **Protagonist**)
 - **THE LAST DANCE:** past and present collide when a holocaust survivor is held hostage by young suicide bomber. Starring **Julia Blake** (*Innocence*) and **Firass Dirani** (TV's *Underbelly*), from director **David Pulbrook** and producer **Tony Ginnane**. (Distributor: **Becker**; Sales Agent: **HighPoint**)
 - The **Premiere Fund** slate for **MIFF 2011** comprised the following world premieres.
 - **AUTOLUMINESCENT: ROWLAND S HOWARD:** Portrait of the turbulent life of influential Australian rock-guitarist and songwriter Rowland S. Howard with directors Richard Lowenstein & Lynn-Maree Milburn, who produce with Andrew de Groot. (Sales agent: **RIGHTS AVAILABLE**).
 - **BEN LEE: CATCH MY DISEASE:** From Director **Amiel Courtin-Wilson** (*Bastardy*) and Producer **Richard Lowenstein** (*Dogs in Space*), this feature documentary about pop music, spirituality, fame, family and celebrity, profiles the Australian star, who recorded his first album at age 14. Features **Ben Lee**, **Winona Ryder**, **Claire Danes**, **Jason Schwartzman**, **Michelle Williams** and others. (Distributor: **Madman**; Sales Agent: **Visit Films**).
 - **THE CURSE OF THE GOTHIC SYMPHONY:** feature documentary charting struggles to overcome an 80-year curse and stage Havergal Brian's never-fully-performed "Gothic Symphony", from Director **Randall Wood** & Producer **Veronica Fury** (*Machete Maidens Unleashed!*). (Sales: **Film Transit**).
 - **FALLING FOR SAHARA:** Former Young Australian of the Year **Khoa Do** directs a story of new lives – and love – in Australia for African refugees in Melbourne's Flemington flats. (Sales Agent: **RIGHTS AVAILABLE**). Voted in MIFF 2011's top 20 most popular films.
 - **SWERVE:** A rural neo-noir thriller starring from Director **Craig Lahiff**, Producer **Helen Leake** and Executive Producer Bryce Menzies. Starring **Jason Clarke**, **Emma Booth**, **David Lyons**, **Travis McMahon**, **Vince Colosimo** and **Roy Billing**. (Distributor: **Jump Street**; Sales Agent: **MovieHouse**).
 - **THE TRIANGLE WARS:** a feature documentary exploring the battle over a massive redevelopment in one of Melbourne's most iconic inner-suburbs between powerful big business and an outraged local community – with local government caught in the middle. (Sales Agent: **MeliMedia**)
 - The **Premiere Fund** slate for **MIFF 2010** comprised the following world premieres.
 - **BLAME:** Psychological thriller from director **Michael Henry** and producers **Michael Robinson**, **Ryan Hodgson** and **Melissa Kelly**, with Executive Producer **David Lightfoot** (*Wolf Creek*). Starring **Kestie Morassi** (*Wolf Creek, Kin*), **Sophie Lowe** (*Beautiful Kate, Blessed*), **Damian de Montemas** (*Somersault*), **Simon Stone** (*Balibo*) and **Mark Leonard Winter** (*Balibo*). (Distributor: **Pack**; Sales Agent: **Highpoint**). Selected for Toronto 2010.
 - **MACHETE MAIDENS UNLEASHED:** From director **Mark Hartley** (*Not Quite Hollywood*) and producer **Veronica Fury**, a documentary on Filipino genre filmmaking – complete with miniature James Bonds, karate kicking soul sisters, anorexic Rambos and gun-toting nuns (Sales Agent: **ABC**). Toronto 2010.
 - **MATCHING JACK:** Family drama from Director **Nadia Tass** and Producer **David Parker**, starring **James Nesbitt**, **Jacinda Barrett**, **Richard Roxburgh** and **Kodi Smit-McPhee** (Australian/NZ distributor: 20th Century Fox; World Sales Agent: **Content**). Selected for Toronto 2010.
 - **MOTHER OF ROCK:** From director **Paul Clarke** and producer **Robert deYoung**, this feature documentary, narrated by **Judy Davis** with voice acting by **Sasha Horler**, is a lively profile into 1960s New York-based Australian rock journalist Lillian Roxon, who authored the *Rock Encyclopedia*, featuring **Germaine Greer**, **Helen Reddy**, **Alice Cooper**, **Iggy Pop**, **Derryn Hinch**, **Molly Meldrum** and **David Malouf**. (Sales: **SBS**). Selected for Toronto 2010.
 - **THE WEDDING PARTY:** Romantic comedy from Director **Amanda Jane** and Producer **Nicole Minchin**. Starring **Isabel Lucas** (*Transformers*), **Kestie Morassi** (*Wolf Creek*), **Essie Davis** (*Australia*), **Steve Bisley**, **Adam Zwar**, **Geoff Paine** and **Rhonda Burchmore**. (Sales: **Arclight**). MIFF 2010 Opening.
 - The **Premiere Fund** slate for **MIFF 2009** comprised the following world premieres:
 - **BALIBO:** Political thriller from Director **Robert Connolly** (*The Bank*) and Producer John Maynard (*The Boys*), starring **Anthony La Paglia** and **Oscar Isaac**, investigating the 1975 murders of Australian journalists during the Indonesian invasion of East Timor. (Distributor: **Footprint**; Sales: **Content**).
 - **BLESSED:** from Director: **Ana Kokkinos** (*Head On*) and Producer **Al Clark** (*Priscilla, Queen of the Desert*), *Blessed*, which stars **Frances O'Connor**, **Miranda Otto**, **Deborra-Lee Furness** and **William McInnes**, is an evocative feature film about mothers and children, love and beauty, being lost and finding your way home. (Australian Distributor: **Icon**; Sales Agent: **Bankside**). Winner of best screenplay at 2009 San Sebastian Film Festival.
 - **BRAN NUE DAE:** from Director **Rachel Perkins** (*First Australians, Radiance*) & Producer **Robyn Kershaw** (*Kath & Kim, Looking for Alibrandi*) and starring **Geoffrey Rush**, **Ernie Dingo**, **Magda Szubanski**, **Missy Higgins**, **Deb Mailman**, **Nigali Lawford**, **Tom Budge**, **Dan Sultan** and **Jessica Mauboy**; an adaptation of a popular Aboriginal musical, the film is an upbeat coming-of-age, romantic musical and 1960s road movie featuring the choreography of Stephen Page. (World Sales Agent: **Bankside**). MIFF 2009 Closing Night; Selected Toronto 2009 & 2010's Sundance & Berlin.
 - **INDONESIA CALLING – JORIS IVENS IN AUSTRALIA:** A signature documentary, from Producer, Director, Writer **John Hughes** (*What I Have Written, After Mabo*), charting a little-told angle on the birth of the Indonesian Republic and the impact of Australian unions and a rogue Film Commissioner and an emerging film industry at a moment of crisis at the end of the age of Empire. (World Sales Agent: **RIGHTS AVAILABLE**).
 - **THE LOVED ONES:** from Producer **Mark Lazarus** (*Australian Rules*) and Director/Writer **Sean Byrne** and starring **Xavier Samuel** and **Victoria Thaine**, tells the story of a young man digging himself out his own grave. You don't have to die to go to hell! (Distributor: **Madman**; Sales Agent: **Arclight**).
 - The **Premiere Fund** slate for **MIFF 2008** included the following world premieres.
 - **ANGEL OF THE WIND:** (Producers: **Matt Crosby**, **Tahir Cambis**; Director, **Tahir Cambis**). An exploration of the world of acting, spirituality, national identity and ghosts of the past through the prism of a surrealist vaudevillian theatrical production about the spirits of dead Kamikaze pilots.
 - **BASTARDY:** Producer **Philippa Campey**; Director/Writer: **Amiel Courtin-Wilson**. An adventurous portrait of **Jack Charles**, a well-known personality on the streets of Melbourne, colourful fringe-dweller and sometime actor, that journeys into a little-seen side of Melbourne.
 - **CELEBRITY: DOMINIC DUNNE:** Executive Producers: **Sue Maslin** (*Japanese Story*) & **Daryl Dellora**; producers/directors/writers: **Tim Jolley** & **Kirsty De Garis**. Set against the backdrop of the Phil Spector trial, *Celebrity* traverses a world of intrigue, showbiz, the US justice system and the cult of celebrity to give the inside scoop on Vanity Fair's celebrated chronicler **Dominick Dunne**. (Sales: **Mercury Media**).
 - **NOT QUITE HOLLYWOOD:** Director/Writer: **Mark Hartley**, Producers: **Michael Lynch** & **Craig Griffin**. A seriously entertaining celebration of 1970s Oz-ploitation cinema featuring **Quentin Tarantino**, **Barry Humphries** and **Jamie Lee Curtis**. (Distributor: **Madman**, Sales: **Magnolia**).
 - **ROCK & ROLL NERD:** Producer/Director/Writer: **Rhian Skiving**. A rags to riches observational documentary following the meteoric rise to international fame of Melbourne musician and performance artist **Tim Minchin**. (Australian Distributor: **Madman**).
 - **WHATEVER HAPPENED TO BRENDA HEAN:** Explores the story of **Brenda Hean**, one of one of the world's first leaders of an environmental party, and her fight to save Tasmania's Lake Pedder, which ends abruptly with her mysterious 1972 disappearance.