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

- **LISTER: ADVENTURE PAINTER**: Portrait of the artistic and commercial rise of renowned street artist Anthony Lister as he battles his personal demons from director/producer Eddie Martin (Lionel. All This Mayhem) and producer Sarah Shaw (Snowtown). (Distributor: Transmission)

- **THE BUTTERFLY TREE**: A grieving single dad and his teenage competitive for the affections of an ageing butesque queen in this tale of love and reconciliation 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)

- **SACRED SONG**: Central Australia’s answer to The Bueno Vista Social Club tells the story of an Aboriginal Women’s Chair bringing back to Germany forgotten Germanic hymns sung in their own indigenous ancient language. Director Naina Sen; Producers Rachel Clements & Trisha Morton-Thomas.

- **WESTWIND**: Internationally-renowned Yolngu didgeridoo maker-player Djaku Gurrwiwi 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 Batizas (That Sugar Film), Ben Pederick, Virginia Whitwell. (Distributor: Madman)

- **RABBIT**: A thriller from writer/director Luke Shanahan and producer David Ngo (One Eyed Girl), 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)

- **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)

- **THE EULOGY**: Tragic story of child prodigy pianist-composer Geoffrey Tazer, 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) & Kaeley Grusovin. (Distributor: Madman)

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**MIFF PREMIERE FUND TITLES AT PREVIOUS EDITIONS OF MIFF**

- **BAD GIRL**: A feature documentary from director/writer Rosie Jones (The Triangle Wars) and producer Anna Griewe (The Prime Minister is Missing), about the charismatic and delusional Anne Hamilton-Byrne’s elusive apocalyptic sect. (Distributor: Label)

- **MONSIEUR MAYONNAISE**: A 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 FAMILY**: A feature documentary, from writer/producer Finn Edwards and producers Keenan Johnson and Alex Russell (Cut Snake, Jungle). (Distributor: Vendetta; Sales Agent: Level K)

- **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, Michael Hutchence and Bon Scott. (Distributor: Apparition)

- **NEON**: A feature documentary from director/writer Lawrence Johnston (Night, Eternity) and producer Veronica Fury (Cursed of the Gothic Symphony), celebrating the invention, design and heritage of neon signage. (Distributor: Ronin; Sales: Mongrel)

- **PUTTAPURI & 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/NTV)

- **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 (Mommym) and Roy Dupuis (La Femme Nikita) and produced by Trish Lake and Serge Noel. (Distributors: Rialto, Mongrel, FilmOption; Sales Agent: Pyramide)

- **LONG WAY DOWN**: A comic 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 (Baft) 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 (Matchete Maidens Unleashed) comes the wild untold story of 1980s Hollywood company Canon Films. (Distributor: Umbrella; Sales Agent: Mongrel/R困Foc)

- **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 (Bun Nue Doe), 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 Kenny. 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 ageing novelist needs all his guile and cunning to survive from director/producer Ian Pringle and producer Glenda Hambly and starring Tony Nikolopoulos, Jeremy Keewley, Steve Moulakis 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 Tanja 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), Luke Hemsworth. (Distributor: Mopscotch; Sales Agent: Cargo)

  - **AIM HIGH IN CREATION!** From director/producer Anna Broniwski (Forbidden Lie$) and writer/director Lizette Alkins (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 Millburn and producers Richard Lowenstein, Andrew de Groot and Maya Gryn) comes a feature documentary story of the controversial farcical retirement of Melbourne identity Father Bob Maguire and his struggles to live without the Church. (Distributor: Apparition; Sales Agent: Odin’s Eye)
**PATRICK GALORE**

**FALLING FOR SAHARA**

**100 BLOODY ACRES**

**BLAME**

**BEN LEE: CATCH ME AUTOLUMINESCENT**

**ROWLAND**

- backdrop of the Phil Spector trial,
- told angle on the birth of the Indonesian Republic and the impact of Australian unions and a rogue Film Commi

Selected Toronto

Davis

Pop, Derryn Hinch, Molly Meldrum

music, spirituality, fame, family and celebrity, profiles the Australian star, who recorded his first album at age

Soloman, who inspired Charles Dicke

Tasmania's Lake Pedder, which ends abruptly with her mysterious

Quentin Tarantino, Barry Humphries

- a well

**ORIS IVENS IN AUSTRALIA**

-A new war rages in the Middle East between the usual suspects

- an Australian

**THE CURSE OF THE GOTHIC SYMPHONY**

- feature documentary charting

**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

- and producer

**THE LAST DANCE**

- past and present collide when a holocaust survivor is held hostage by young suicide bomber. Starring Julia Blake (Innocence) and Frass Dirani (TV’s Underbury), from director David Pulbrook and producer Tony Ginnyne.

**THE PREMIERE FLY**

- The Premiere Flye slate for **MFF 2012** comprised the following world premiers:

- **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 ME AUTOLUMINESCENT**: From Director: Amiel Courtin-Wilson (Bastardy) and Producer: Richard Lowenstein (Dogs in Space), this feature documentary about pop music, spirituality, fame and family, 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. [Director: Madman; Sales Agent: Visit Films].


- **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 Landor. [Sales Agent: Off the Fence].

- **SAVE YOUR LEGS**: An Australian-Indian cricket comedy inspired by true events from debut feature director Boyd Hicklin and producers Robyn Kershaw (Bran Nue Dae) and Nick Batiaz with David Lyons (Eat, Pray, Love), Brendan Cowell (TV’s The Slap), Stephen Curry (The Cup) and Damon Gameau (Balibo). [Director: Madman; Sales Agent: Protagonist].

- **THE LAST DANCE**: past and present collide when a holocaust survivor is held hostage by young suicide bomber. Starring Julia Blake (Innocence) and Frass Dirani (TV’s Underbury), from director David Pulbrook and producer Tony Ginnyne. [Director: Becker; Sales Agent: HighPoint].

**The Premiere Flye slate for **MFF 2011** comprised the following world premiers:

- **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) and Damon Gameau (Bran Nue Dae). [Director: Footprint; Sales Agent: Content].

- **MACHETE MAIDENS UNLEASHED**: From director Mark Hartley (No 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 2011].

- **MATCHING JACK**: Family drama from Director Nadia Tass and Producer David Parker, starring James Nesbitt, Jacinda Barrett, Richard Roxburgh and Koi Smit-McPhee (Australian/NZ distributor: 20th Century Fox; World Sales Agent: Content). [Sales Agent: Content].

- **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 re-telling of a 1940s American rock'n'roll legend. (Distributor: 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 Nicolle Minchin. Starring Isabel Lucas (Transformers), Kestie Morassi (Wolf Creek), Essie Davis (Australia), Steve Bisley, Adam Zwar, Geoff Paine and Rhonda Burchmore. [Sales: ArcLight]. MFF 2010 Opening.

**The Premiere Flye slat for **MFF 2009** comprised the following world premiers:

- **BALIBO**: Political thriller from Director Robert Connolly (The Thin Red Line) and Producer John Maynard (Beautiful Kate, Blessed), with Executive Producer Geoffrey Rush, Ernie Dingo, Magda Szubanski, Missy Higgins, Debi Mailman, Nigella 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). MFF 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-known tale on the birth of the Indonesian Republic and the impact of Australia unions and a rogue Film Commissioner and an emerging film industry at a moment of crisis at the end of the New Order in the 1980s-90s. [World Sales Agent: RIGHTS AVAILABLE.

- **THE LOVED ONES**: from Director 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 can’t have to die to go to hell! [Director: Madman; Sales Agent: ArcLight].

**The Premiere Flye slate for **MFF 2008** included the following world premiers:

- **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 voodoo theatrical production about the spirits of dead Kamikaze pilots.

- **BASTARDY**: Producer: Philkina Campney. The true story of Australia’s most infamous serial killer, Burke & Wills killer, Robert ‘Butto’ Alexander, a young man whose sodomy and theft led to a life of murder and mayhem, culminating in the brutal deaths of two men. [Director: Writer, Mark Hartery; Producer: Michael Lynch & Craig Griffin. A seriously entertaining celebration of 1970s Oz-ploitation cinema featuring Quentin Tarantino, Barry Humphries and Jamie Lee Curtis.] [Director: 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 Minič. [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.