

# MEDIA RELEASE



## MIFF PREMIERE FUND STARTS 2011 SLATE WITH TEENS, CURSES & ZOMBIES!

MELBOURNE: 27 April 2010 – *The 24 Hour Window*, *The Curse of the Gothic Symphony* and *Dead Cool* are latest feature film productions to receive co-financing offers from the **Melbourne International Film Festival MIFF Premiere Fund** and are the first **MIFF Premiere Fund** titles for **MIFF 2011**.

Directed by Nicholas Verso, from a script by Verso and Gareth Wills, and produced by Ann Darrouzet, ***The 24 Hour Window*** is a teen Brom-Rom-Com reminiscent of the seminal 1980s films of John Hughes celebrating the chaos of modern teen life. Directed by Martin Wilson, from a script by Adam Isitt, and produced by John Tatoulis and Angie Smith, ***Dead Cool*** is a Zom-Rom-Com which will do for zombies what ***Twilight*** and ***True Blood*** have done for vampires. ***The Curse of the Gothic Symphony***, directed by Randall Wood and produced by Veronica Fury with associate producer Sara Edwards, is a feature documentary charting the struggle to overcome an 80-year curse and stage Havergal Brian's never-before fully-performed "Gothic Symphony".

The three new films will premiere at **MIFF 2011**. The **MIFF 2010 Premiere Fund** slate comprises:

- > ***Kin***: a romantic comedy from director Amanda Jane and producer Nicole Minchin, starring **Isabel Lucas** (*Transformers*, *Daybreakers*), **Kestie Morassi** (*Wolf Creek*, *Blame*), **Essie Davis** (*Australia*), **Steve Bisley**, **Adam Zwar**, **Geoff Paine**, **Nadine Garner**, **Josh Lawson** and musicals veteran **Rhonda Burchmore**
- > ***Blame***: a psychological thriller from director Michael Henry and producers Michael Robinson, Ryan Hodgson and Melissa Kelly starring **Kestie Morassi** (*Wolf Creek*, *Kin*), **Sophie Lowe** (*Beautiful Kate*, *Blessed*), **Damian de Montemas** (*Somersault*), **Simon Stone** (*Balibo*) and **Mark Leonard Winter** (*Balibo*)
- > ***Matching Jack***: a romantic family drama from director Nadia Tass and producers David Parker and Richard Keddie, starring **James Nesbitt**, **Richard Roxburgh**, **Kodi Smit McPhee** and **Jacinda Barrett**
- > ***Ben Lee: Catch My Disease***: a feature documentary by Amiel Courtin-Wilson (2003 **MIFF Accelerator** alumni) about pop music, spirituality, fame, family and celebrity which profiles the 29 year-old star and includes interviews with **Winona Ryder**, **Claire Danes**, **Jason Schwartzman** and **Michelle Williams**.
- > ***Machete Maidens Unleashed***: from director Mark Hartley (*Not Quite Hollywood*) and producer Veronica Fury, this feature documentary is a fast-moving odyssey into the Filipino genre filmmaking – complete with miniature James Bonds, karate kicking soul sisters, and gun-toting nuns
- > ***Mother of Rock***: a feature documentary directed by Paul Clarke and produced by Robert de Young, which profiles pioneering Australian-born 1960s New York-based rock journalist Lillian Roxon and features interviews with **Germaine Greer**, **Helen Reddy**, **Alice Cooper**, **Iggy Pop** and **David Malouf**.

The three new investment offers bring to 20 the number of feature films supported by the **MIFF Premiere Fund**. **MIFF 2009** included the world premieres of the following **MIFF Premiere Fund** titles: ***Balibo***, ***Blessed***, ***Bran Nue Dae*** and ***The Loved Ones*** (all of which went on to screen at the 2009 Toronto International Film Festival) as well as feature documentary ***Indonesia Calling***. The **MIFF Premiere Fund**, which commenced in September 2007, provides strategic minority financial supports to a range of local theatrical documentaries and narrative feature films that will have their premieres at **MIFF**.

The next round of the **MIFF Premiere Fund** opens in July 2010. See [www.miffpremierfund.com](http://www.miffpremierfund.com) for more information on the **MIFF Premiere Fund**. See [www.melbournefilmfestival.com.au](http://www.melbournefilmfestival.com.au) for **MIFF 2010** details.

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