

The Hon Louise Asher MP

Minister for Innovation Minister for Tourism and Major Events Minister for Employment and Trade

Wednesday 9 July 2014

Melbourne International Film Festival to spread its wings

- Melbourne International Film Festival to visit Mildura, Bendigo, Geelong and Sorrento
- Funding of \$5.6 million committed to support prestigious film event
- Victorian Coalition Government providing more benefits for regional Victoria

Minister for Innovation, Louise Asher today announced that cinema lovers in regional Victoria will have the opportunity to experience Australia's leading celebration of film, when the Melbourne International Film Festival (MIFF) travels to Mildura, Bendigo, Geelong and Sorrento this year.

Funded in last year's State Budget, the new *MIFF Premiere Showcase* will run over four weekends from 29 August to 21 September 2014 and each location will feature a selection of *MIFF Premiere Fund* films, including the Australian premiere of *Kill Me Three Times* in Geelong.

"The Victorian Coalition Government has committed \$5.6 million over four years to ensure MIFF remains the southern hemisphere's most prestigious film event, and enable the festival to travel to regional Victoria," Ms Asher said.

"This ensures that Victorians in regional areas can experience this wonderful cultural event and enjoy films that may otherwise not be screened outside of Melbourne.

"The Victorian Coalition Government has funded a program through the State Budget that will deliver four stand-alone regional weekends and the screening of high-profile MIFF Premiere Fund films."

Established in 1952, MIFF is Australia's largest film event and a major winter drawcard in Melbourne's annual events calendar.

MIFF's screening program of more than 300 films from more than 50 countries is complemented by its industry programs – an investment fund (*MIFF Premiere Fund*) and a film co-financing market (*MIFF 37*° *South Market*). MIFF will run from 31 July to 17 August 2014.

State Government Victoria

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The MIFF Premiere Showcase will run in:

- Mildura from Friday 29 to Sunday 31 August 2014 at the Mildura Arts Centre and Deakin Cinemas featuring Cut Snake, The Legend Maker, My Mistress, Paper Planes and Electric Boogaloo;
- **Bendigo** from Friday 5 to Sunday 7 September 2014 at Star Cinemas Eaglehawk featuring Cut Snake, The Legend Maker, My Mistress, Galore and Electric Boogaloo;
- **Geelong** from Friday 12 to Sunday 14 September at the Geelong Performing Arts Centre featuring the Australian premiere of *Kill Me Three Times, Cut Snake, My Mistress, Paper Planes* and *The Legend Maker*, and
- **Sorrento** from Friday 19 to Sunday 21 September at Peninsula Cinemas featuring *Cut Snake, The Legend Maker, My Mistress, Electric Boogaloo* and *Kill Me Three Times*.

For further details on the films screening at the *MIFF Premiere Showcase* visit www.miff.com.au/premiereshowcase

Media Contact: Russ Street 0498 220 005 russ.street@minstaff.vic.gov.au

