



# SEE. CHANGE.

[effa.org.au](http://effa.org.au)

24 OCT – 1 NOV 2019



# WELCOME

## Message from the Director



Buoyed by this growing awareness, concern and desire to do more, we're proud to announce that 2019 marks the Environmental Film Festival Australia's biggest festival to date, showcasing 44 local and international feature, short, experimental and, for the first time, even kids' films!

The past 12 months have seen unprecedented rallying by people around the world demanding urgent action on climate change, including the largest global climate protest in history, held just last month.

You can also hear firsthand from the award-winning filmmakers capturing the best and worst of the natural world around us – sharing an insider perspective on how impact

filmmaking is sparking positive environmental action.

EFFA's call to action this year is **SEE. CHANGE.** 'See' films which will empower you with the perspectives, facts and tools needed to help you enact 'Change', the change we all need to make to protect our precious planet.

We look forward to seeing you at EFFA 2019!

**Brooke Daly**  
*Director,  
Environmental Film  
Festival Australia*

## Message from EFFA's Major Partner, Bank Australia



care deeply about the planet. This is why, for the third year, I'm proud that we can collaborate with EFFA to support conversations and action for our environment, climate change and sustainability.

The EFFA 2019 program is diverse, bold and thought-provoking. I hope you enjoy it.

I look forward to joining you in taking action to protect our environment.

**Damien Walsh**  
*Managing Director,  
Bank Australia*

We need innovative ways to tackle the environmental issues facing the world today. EFFA harnessing the power of cinema is a great example.

Like the EFFA team, you, and EFFA's many other dedicated supporters, Bank Australia and our customers

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# OPENING NIGHT

Hot Docs 2019  
Audience Award  
for a Feature Film

## Máxima

An unassuming grandma from the Peruvian Andes may be an unlikely candidate for an internationally-renowned political activist. Yet when the world's largest gold producer claims her land as their own, Máxima Acuña finds herself fighting all the way to Washington DC to protect her land, water supply and people.

Spanning seven years, this inspirational portrait of a reluctant hero offers a unique insight into a David and Goliath struggle, as Máxima fights for her rights,

and the American Newmont Mining Corporation wagers an unrelenting and brutal campaign against Máxima, her family and her community.

By the makers of *An Inconvenient Truth*, Director Claudia Sparrow and Executive Producer Lesley Chilcott, this gripping documentary illustrates that with willpower and courage, one person truly can make a huge difference.



### 6.30pm Cinema Nova Thursday 24 Oct

Claudia Sparrow  
USA | 2019 | 88min

#### AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE

#### EFFA OPENING NIGHT PARTY

Join us for a great night of drinks, canapés (V, VG) and dancing! The post-screening party will be held at The Shaw Davey Slum, 171-175 Elgin St, Carlton – just a four minute walk from Cinema Nova.

# CLOSING NIGHT

This screening was  
made possible with the  
support of City of Darebin

## Into the Jungle

### 6.45pm Palace Westgarth Cinema Friday 1 Nov

Mark Hanlin  
Australia, Papua New Guinea, UK  
2018 | 92min



Join us for a very special closing night event, including a Q&A with Jim and Jean Thomas, the conservation couple behind *Into the Jungle*, followed by drinks and canapés (VG) in the cinema courtyard!



When newlywed Australian zookeepers Jim and Jean Thomas leave Melbourne for remote Papua New Guinea to save one of the world's rarest animals – the Tenkile tree kangaroo – they quickly realise that improving human welfare is key to achieving animal conservation.

Over eight years, Jim and Jean live with the people of the Torricelli Mountains, discovering that the local reliance on hunting the Tenkile is based on survival, and isolation from essential resources.

As the couple introduces alternative food sources and works with the community to provide clean water and sanitation, remarkable progress is made – but not without challenges!




Featuring tributes from Sir David Attenborough and Jane Goodall, *Into the Jungle* reminds us what is possible in the fight to save threatened species, and why this has never been more important.

*Into the Jungle* will also screen with Australian short film, *Maybe Just a Fairytale*.



Canada is a strong environmental champion and remains committed to keeping our oceans and lands clean for generations to come

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Be part of the conversation.

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# INDUSTRY INSIDER SESSION

## Shoot, Edit and Score with Impact

In Conversation with Canadian Filmmaker Grant Baldwin

### Special Event

2.30pm State Library of Victoria, Village Roadshow Theatrette  
**Sunday 27 Oct**



**About the Session**

Grant Baldwin is not afraid to tackle the big issues, whether through his insightful environmental documentaries, such as *The Clean Bin Project*, or by reminding us of what we stand to lose if we don't enact change, by capturing stunning cinematography as seen on BBC's *Planet Earth*, and in his latest film, *This Mountain Life*, which is also screening at EFFA.

**As an award-winning cinematographer, writer, director, editor and composer, Canadian filmmaker, Grant Baldwin, covers a lot of ground in his multidisciplinary approach to filmmaking.**

In this special one-hour session, learn more about Grant's multidisciplinary approach, as he presents examples of his work, then delves into a range of topics in a Q&A session, including how to put your budget to screen, how to generate environmental awareness and behavioural change via impact-focused documentaries, and even the secrets behind capturing aerial cinematography in gruelling terrain.

Whether you're an established or emerging screen practitioner, or love documentaries and want an insider perspective, this is a unique opportunity to learn more from an award-winning international filmmaker.

You can also see Grant's latest feature film, *This Mountain Life*, at 6.15pm Tuesday 29 October at Cinema Nova.

**This session, and Grant's attendance at EFFA, was made possible with the support of the High Commission of Canada.**

**About Grant**

First producing music for film and television, Grant gradually moved behind the camera, working with documentaries, sports films and narratives, and developing a specialisation in aerial filming.

His first documentary, *The Clean Bin Project*, won 10 festival awards and ignited hundreds of activists at screenings around the world. Described as *An Inconvenient Truth* meets *Super Size Me*, *The Clean Bin Project* saw Grant and his partner Jen compete to swear off consumerism and produce the least garbage.

Grant's second feature film, *Just Eat It: A Food Waste Story*, saw Grant and Jen dive into the issue of food waste, resulting in a campaign to rescue food and reduce waste. This film saw Grant awarded emerging Canadian filmmaker of the year at the Hot Docs Film Festival. The film was listed in the New York Times 'Top 10 TV Shows of 2015', and hit #2 on the US iTunes documentary charts.

# ENVIRONMENT AND MEDIA RESEARCH PROGRAM

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## INDUSTRY INSIDER SESSION

### Women with Impact

Sparking Environmental Action Via Documentaries

#### Special Event

4.00pm State Library  
of Victoria, Village  
Roadshow Theatrette  
**Sunday 27 Oct**

**Can documentaries really  
change our attitudes, thinking  
and behaviour concerning  
the environmental challenges  
we face?**

We ask three women producers, writers  
and directors behind some of Australia's  
most iconic environmental, nature  
and impact-driven documentaries and  
campaigns.

Once commissioned to capture the  
beauty of the natural world around us,  
these leading women will discuss the  
shift towards filming environmental  
change and destruction.

They will also share insights into the  
impact campaigns they are creating to  
spark the conversations and actions  
needed to address one of the biggest  
threats humanity has ever faced.

Whether you're an established or  
emerging screen practitioner, or love  
documentaries and want an insider  
perspective, this is a unique opportunity  
to learn more about environmental  
filmmaking, commissioning, funding  
models and creating social media  
campaigns which pack a punch in  
driving change.

**This session was made possible with the  
support of the Environment and Media  
Research Program, Monash University  
School of Media, Film and Journalism.**



**Belinda Smaill**  
*Associate Professor in  
Film and Screen Studies  
at Monash University*

Internationally recognised  
for rethinking documentary  
tradition in the history of  
the moving image, Belinda  
is currently researching  
issues concerning wildlife,  
environmental crisis and  
fact-based storytelling in  
screen media.



**Anna Kaplan**  
*Producer, Impact Producer*

Anna specialises in  
producing linear and  
interactive content,  
including via social media,  
which tackles social issues  
and inspires positive action.  
Anna's work on *That Sugar  
Film* and *2040* has positively  
influenced audience  
attitudes and behaviours  
towards sugar and the  
environment respectively.



**Sally Ingleton**  
*Writer, Producer, Director*

Sally has been creating award-  
winning environmental and  
natural history documentaries  
for more than 30 years,  
including *Acid Ocean* and  
*Muddy Waters: Life and Death  
on the Great Barrier Reef*.  
Sally is currently producing  
and directing her first  
feature documentary about  
environmental activism in a  
time of crisis, *Wild Things*.



**Tosca Looby**  
*Director, Writer, Producer*

With more than 20 years'  
experience in factual  
television in Australia and  
the UK, Tosca began her  
career with Partridge Films  
in Bristol, then joined the  
ABC Natural History Unit.  
Tosca's most recent project  
was blue chip natural  
history series, *Magical Land  
of Oz*, commissioned by  
ABC, BBC and PBS.

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**EFFA**  
Environmental  
Film Festival  
Australia

"The film effectively draws parallels between urban life and the women's movement to encourage audiences to expand their way of thinking outside of restrictive and outdated definitions. It's 2019: our ways need to change."

- *POV Magazine*



## City Dreamers

*City Dreamers* celebrates the impact of four groundbreaking women architects - Phyllis Lambert, Blanche Lemco van Ginkel, Denise Scott Brown, and Cornelia Oberlander - and highlights their innovative thinking towards urban development, long before this was popular.

With careers spanning 70 years, these women have a shared vision to create socially-just cities, making great advancements in green spaces, heritage conservation and pedestrian friendly design - which continues to inspire city-planning today.

However, while an important tribute to the impact of their work, *City Dreamers* also charts the fight by these women to be recognised, despite working alongside the biggest names in 20th Century architecture.

Featuring intimate interviews, captivating archival footage and elegant modernist architecture, *City Dreamers* rejoices in the careers of these pioneering women, offering an intelligent film which is sure to inspire.

6.15pm Cinema Nova  
**Friday 25 Oct**

Joseph Hillel  
Canada | 2018 | 81min

**AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE**



Includes a panel discussion featuring preeminent women architects and city planners, and a short film by 3000acres. More at: [effa.org.au](http://effa.org.au)



"This impressionistic documentary is a heavenly and entrancing look at the end of the world. It's an intensely well-made film, finding something truly moving in between the worlds of NASA and indigenous cosmology."

- *Criterioncast*

## Swarm Season

8.45pm Cinema Nova  
**Friday 25 Oct**

Sarah J. Christman  
USA | 2019 | 86min

**AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE**

As artful as it is expansive, the atmospheric and enigmatic *Swarm Season* haunts, provokes and illuminates in equal measures.

Offering a series of unique considerations - from a mother and daughter breeding a bee colony, to inspections of humanity's transcendent connection to land, to thinking about the possibility of interplanetary expansion - *Swarm Season* gestures towards the realm of science-fiction, while remaining anchored in the human and ecological concerns of reality.

With entrancing intensity and a razor-sharp eye for dream-like visuals, this documentary delicately blends craft and contemplation into a rich, spellbinding artwork, probing our understanding of nature and compelling us to ponder what lies ahead for the planet.

# International Shorts

12.00pm Cinema Nova  
Saturday 26 Oct



## Bare Existence

Max Lowe | USA | 2019 | 19min

For the last 15 years, Polar Bears International have worked tirelessly to protect polar bears, whose sea ice habitat is declining due to climate change. Both devastating and hopeful, *Bare Existence* is an urgent call to action.



## Bayandalai: Lord of the Taiga

Aner Etxebarria & Pablo Vidal | Spain, Mongolia | 2018 | 11min

In the remote Taiga of northern Mongolia, we meet Bayandalai, his family and their reindeer herd. With heart and grace, Bayandalai narrates his spiritual connections to land and wildlife, and rues their endangerment by the lures of urban life.



## Lotus

Mohammadreza Vatandoust | Iran | 2018 | 13min

With patient stoicism, a mother grieves her son across a government-imposed divide, following the disastrous impacts of creating a man-made damn. A moving exploration of grief amidst exile.



## Or Else Everybody Dies

David Nast Cole | USA | 2018 | 1min

Hell hath no fury like a glacier scorned.



## Sides Of A Horn

Toby Woskwo | USA, South Africa | 2018 | 17min

*Sides of a Horn* explores the human and ecological costs of poaching in the South African townships and game reserves most directly impacted, and examines the paradoxical relationship poaching has on threatening and helping survival.



## The Flood Is Coming

Gabriel Böhmer | UK | 2018 | 9min

Fearful of an impending flood, a woodsman blindly seeks vengeance. Instead he generates destruction on a disproportionately exponential scale in this oblique exploration of climate anxiety and the unintended consequences of misguided fear.



## Uniontown

Fraser Jones | USA | 2018 | 16min

The citizens of Uniontown, Alabama, are uniting and rising to reclaim their town from inept politicians and corporate polluters.



"A beautiful film about the slow catastrophe."  
- *Aftenposten*

# Queen Without Land

2.15pm Cinema Nova  
Saturday 26 Oct

Asgeir Helgestad  
Norway | 2018 | 70min

**AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE**

**Wildlife Film Festival  
Rotterdam 2018  
Best Film**

**International Wildlife Film  
Festival Missoula USA 2018  
Best Environmental Film**

Immerse yourself in Arctic life with acclaimed wildlife filmmaker, Asgeir Helgestad, as he captures the triumphs and traumas of life as a polar bear in the age of human-inflicted climate change.

Following a polar bear, Frost, and her cubs over four years, this film revels in the beauty of Svalbard, a glacier-covered archipelago between Norway and the North Pole, while also highlighting the devastation caused by climate change, which is forcing polar bears to search further afield

for food, with disastrous consequences.

*Queen without Land* is at once a celebration of the Arctic's ecosystem, and a confrontation of its fight for survival as climate change brutalises the region.







"Striking and urgent, this harrowing account of environmental racism follows Stacey Ryan, one of the last remaining residents of a historically African American community, as he fights an influx of petrochemical plants into his town."  
- IndieWire

## Mossville: When Great Trees Fall

When your home is poisoned – do you stay, or do you go?

In a small Louisiana town, petrochemical industries purchase cheap surrounding real estate,

contaminating the land of the once thriving, centuries-old black community.

Mossville's citizens abandon their ancestral home as it becomes uninhabitable. Everyone except for Stacey Ryan. Surrounded by a toxic wasteland and isolated from resources and community, Stacey practices sheer resilience against oppressive industry forces, and refuses to let the deadly link between racial and environmental injustice prevail – despite the devastating toll this has taken on his health, his family and his community.



### 5.15pm Cinema Nova Saturday 26 Oct

Alexander John Glustrom  
USA, South Africa | 2019 | 76min

**AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE**



Includes a panel discussion on protecting your health and rights in relation to environmental and climate change. More at: [effa.org.au](http://effa.org.au)



"Even face to face with a bleak future, *The Hottest August* is steeped in delight, the kind that reminds us that there's beauty in the world, and a future that's worth fighting for."  
- Slate

## The Hottest August

### 8.30pm Cinema Nova Saturday 26 Oct

Brett Story  
USA, Canada | 2019 | 94min

**AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE**



Includes a panel discussion on how culture influences the way people understand and attempt to manage environmental change, and how we can encourage others to take action. More at: [effa.org.au](http://effa.org.au)

How do we respond to the age of climate anxiety, confronted by an endless stream of dire statistics, terrifying images and a ticking clock?

Billed as the 'Humans of New York' approach to climate change documentary-making, *The Hottest August* asks, 'what were you doing while the planet was burning?', capturing fascinating perspectives from a broad range of everyday New Yorkers, from the optimists to the deniers, to the futurists.

Filmed each day for a month, we witness job insecurity, racialised violence, gentrification and fears of technology – all interspersed with, and impacting how we deal with, the changing world around us.

Presented as a poetic artefact, *The Hottest August* offers a refreshingly lucid look at the backdrop to our ecological crisis – a film about our future from the perspective of the present.

# SPECIAL DOUBLE SCREENING

## Werner Herzog Then and Now

In celebration of Werner Herzog's body of work, EFFA is screening the pre-eminent filmmaker's 2007 Academy Award-nominated *Encounters at the End of the World*, followed by his new film, *Nomad: In the Footsteps of Bruce Chatwin*.

Join us for one or both films at this special back-to-back screening - **each session is offered at a special price - see page 36 for details.**



## Encounters at the End of the World

In this special retrospective screening, cinema's most intrepid anthropologist Werner Herzog heads to McMurdo Station, the headquarters of the US National Science Foundation in Antarctica.

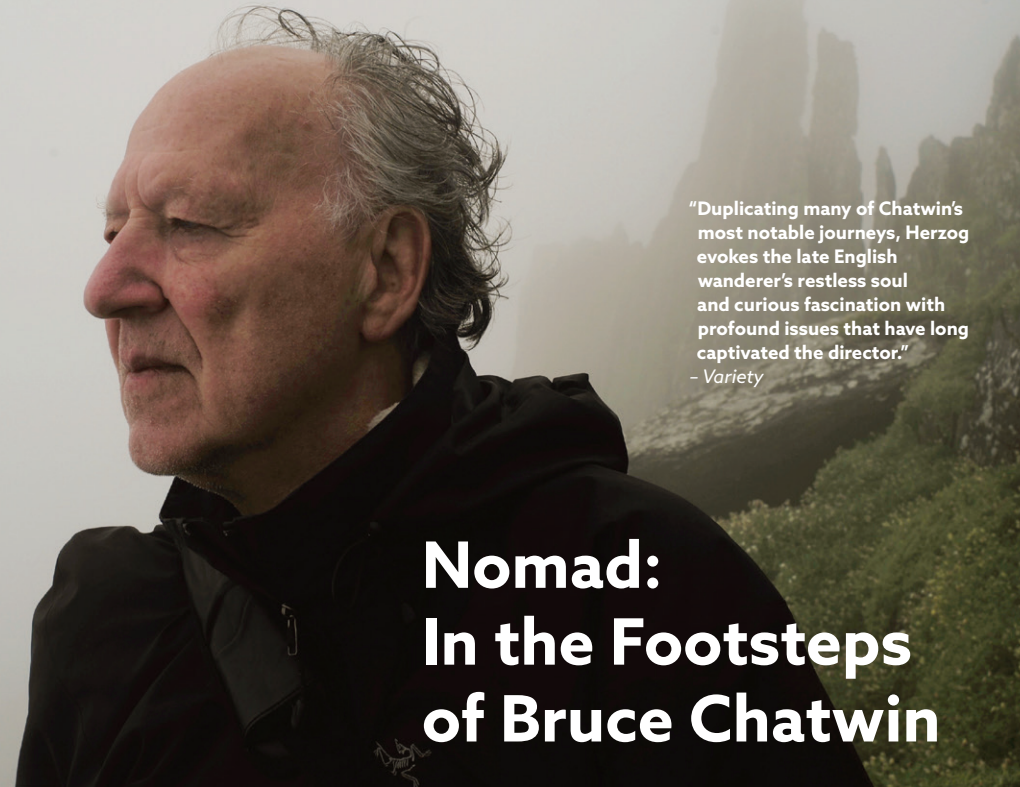
Here, Herzog encounters an eccentric gallery of volcanologists, ecologists and glaciologists who have fled modern life to study our planet and the possibility of its forthcoming extinction.

Combining breathtaking photography and candid interviews, Herzog achieves an unparalleled view of human endeavour, manifest in one of the most inaccessible regions on Earth. Like so many of Herzog's films, *Encounters* finds familiarity in the absurd, with McMurdo Station a power symbol for the many quirks of the natural world, the people in it and the fragility of our shared existence.

12.00pm Cinema Nova  
**Sunday 27 Oct**

Werner Herzog  
Germany, USA | 2007 | 99min

**"Offers one arresting visual marvel after another and should render contrite all who say there is nothing left for movies to show us that we haven't seen before."** - *Variety*



**"Duplicating many of Chatwin's most notable journeys, Herzog evokes the late English wanderer's restless soul and curious fascination with profound issues that have long captivated the director."**  
- *Variety*

## Nomad: In the Footsteps of Bruce Chatwin

2.15pm Cinema Nova  
**Sunday 27 Oct**

Werner Herzog  
UK | 2019 | 89min

**VICTORIAN PREMIERE**

Hovering between a love letter and celebration of the nomadic lifestyle, this latest documentary from revered filmmaker Werner Herzog doubles as a personal exploration of the junction between the spiritual and the natural, and a warming tribute to a friend.

Traversing Patagonia, Wales and the Australian Outback, Herzog leads us through a diverse collection of spaces through which the significance of tradition, storytelling and the enigmatic connection humans share with landscapes intersect.

Gifted with the rucksack of wandering adventurer and writer Bruce Chatwin upon his passing in 1989, *Nomad* follows Herzog as he sets upon his own nomadic journey, carried out in Chatwin's spirit.

Sharing captivating voices, this sprawling work is woven together by Herzog's glowing affection for a man he considered a kindred spirit, and the director's typically impassioned style.



# 24 OCT – 1 NOV 2019

Thursday 24	Friday 25	Saturday 26	Sunday 27	Monday 28	Tuesday 29	Wednesday 30	Thursday 31	Friday 1
<p><b>Opening Night: Máxima</b> 6.30pm Cinema Nova</p>	<p><b>City Dreamers</b> 6.15pm Cinema Nova</p> <p><b>Swarm Season</b> 8.45pm Cinema Nova</p>	<p><b>Backyard Wilderness 3D + Wildlife Talk</b> 10.00am IMAX</p> <p><b>International Shorts</b> 12.00pm Cinema Nova</p> <p><b>Queen Without Land</b> 2.15pm Cinema Nova</p> <p><b>Mossville: When Great Trees Fall</b> 5.15pm Cinema Nova</p> <p><b>The Hottest August</b> 8.30pm Cinema Nova</p>	<p><b>Kids' Shorts + Seed Planting</b> 10.30am Palace Westgarth</p> <p><b>Youth Unstoppable</b> 1.00pm Palace Westgarth</p> <p><b>Encounters at the End of the World</b> 12.00pm Cinema Nova</p> <p><b>Nomad: In the Footsteps of Bruce Chatwin</b> 2.15pm Cinema Nova</p> <p><b>Industry Insider: Grant Baldwin</b> 2.30pm State Library</p> <p><b>Industry Insider: Women with Impact</b> 4.00pm State Library</p> <p><b>The Time of Forests</b> 5.15pm Cinema Nova</p> <p><b>Ma'ohi Nui, in the heart of the ocean my country lies</b> 8.15pm Cinema Nova</p>	<p><b>Experimental Shorts</b> 6.30pm Kaleide Theatre</p> <p><b>Extra-Terrestrial Ecologies</b> 8.30pm Kaleide Theatre</p>	<p><b>This Mountain Life</b> 6.15pm Cinema Nova</p> <p><b>Grit</b> 8.45pm Cinema Nova</p>	<p><b>Titixe</b> 6.45pm Palace Westgarth</p>	<p><b>Australasian Shorts</b> 6.45pm Palace Westgarth</p>	<p><b>Closing Night: Into The Jungle</b> 6.45pm Palace Westgarth</p>

Image:  
*The River is Me*, see  
Australasian Shorts



## The Time of Forests (*Le Temps des forêts*)

With commercial priorities threatening forests the world over, *Le Temps des forêts* (*The Time of Forests*) takes us deep into the once-idyllic forests of rural France, where up to 80% of forests are now maintained more as factories than countryside, with very few species of trees, no birds and no other plants protected to survive.

This award-winning film provides an honest and beautifully filmed exposé into the heart of industrial forestry, providing an authentic study of the destructive exploitation

that capitalism and rapid advancements in technology have on both nature and modern-day human labour.

Dedicated to the foresters and scientists who resist, *Le Temps des forêts* artfully illustrates that the current danger is not deforestation, but bad-forestation, with industry putting profit and mechanisation before workers and the environment.

5.15pm Cinema Nova  
**Sunday 27 Oct**

François-Xavier Drouot  
France | 2018 | 103min

**AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE**



Includes a panel discussion.  
More at: [effa.org.au](http://effa.org.au)



## Ma'ohi Nui, in the heart of the ocean my country lies

8.15pm Cinema Nova  
**Sunday 27 Oct**

Annick Ghijzelings  
Belgium, Tahiti | 2018 | 113min

**AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE**



Part-documentary, part-visual poetry, *Ma'ohi Nui* offers a dream-like exploration of the impacts of colonisation, three decades of nuclear testing on the Indigenous Ma'ohi people, and the community's commitment to rebuild.

Hauntingly beautiful, this film draws us into the myths, culture and reality of a people left reeling from the initial prosperity and ultimate devastation of French atomic bomb testing in the atolls of the Polynesian archipelago.

Director Annick Ghijzelings collaborates with Tahitian poet Flora Devatine to interweave ancestral voices with historical eye-witness accounts and ethereal images of Ma'ohi contemporary life, providing an enchanting yet contemplative account of a disempowered people quietly trying to recover their history, their independence and, most importantly, their identity.

# Experimental Shorts

6.30pm Kaleide Theatre **Monday 28 Oct**

This screening was made possible with the support of RMIT



## Eroded Pyramid (Note: This film has strobe effects)

Colectivo Los Ingrávidos | Mexico | 2019 | 9min

A deconstruction of form and content. Single frame 16mm footage and a wild free jazz score combine to create a punk kinetic viewing experience – the most frenetic, hypnotising, technicolour landscape documentary you'll ever see.



## Leaf Cutters

Catherine Chalmers | USA | 2018 | 19min

Through four chapters fusing language, carnival, combat, and art, human / ant parallels unfold in this playful, camp absurdity.



## Resistance

Laurence Favre | Switzerland | 2019 | 11min

A minimalist, textured glimpse of a receding glacier, where creaks, bubbles and subterranean groans sculpt an ominous soundscape of decay. A delicate meditation on majesty and fragility.



## Tåke

Inger-Lise Hansen | Norway | 2018 | 15min

A formally rich exploration of perception, clarity and obfuscation, told through the texture of fog and its capacity to subtly alter the appearance of rural and urban landscapes.



## The Tasmanian Tiger

Vergine Keaton | France | 2018 | Animation | 14min

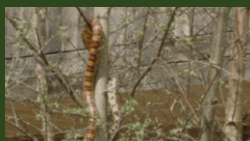
Propelled by a pulsing soundtrack, this animation about climate disaster and rebirth sees the intersection of nostalgia for the extinct, and anxiety for future destruction.



## To Get In Touch With Crows

Rhona Mühlebach | Switzerland | 2019 | 7min

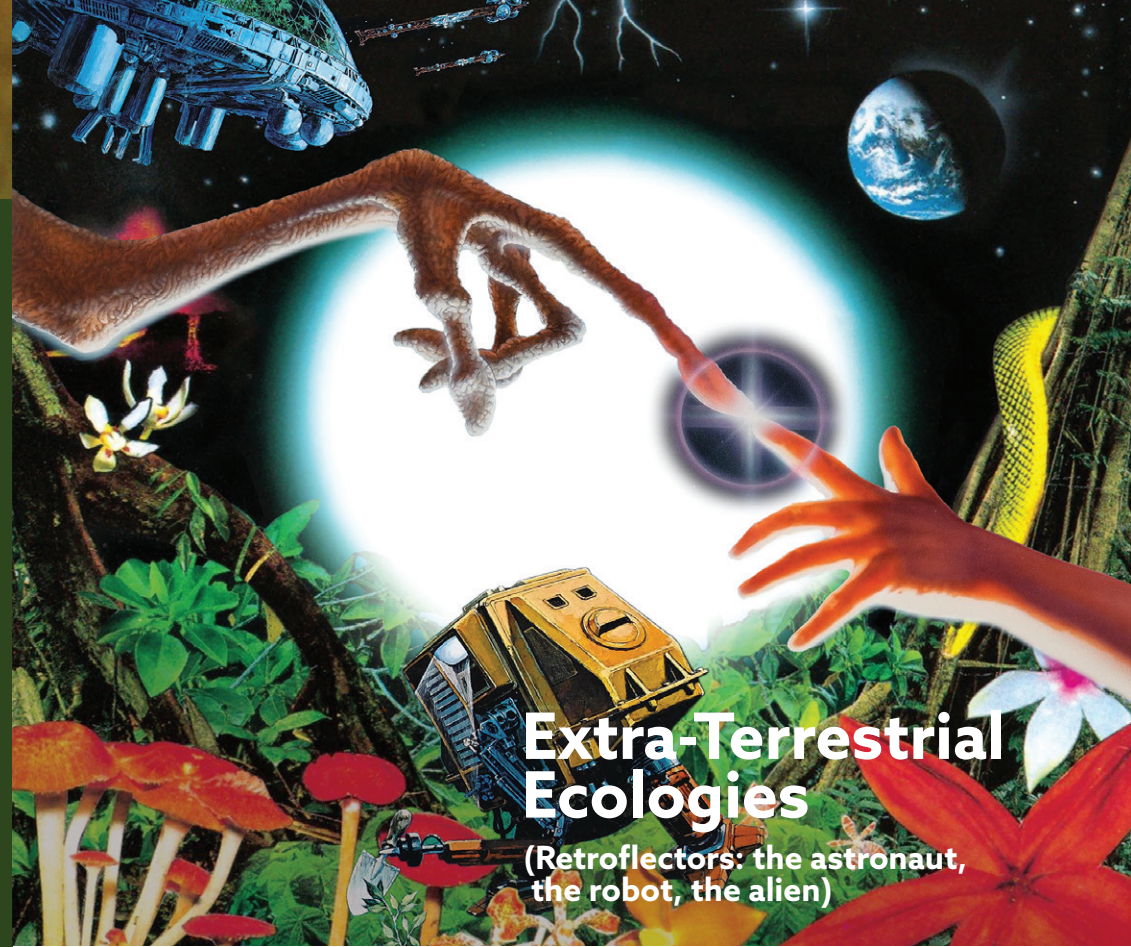
A parkland encounter with crows sparks an anthropomorphic identity crisis in this self-deprecating oddity. Oscillating between satire, poetry and fantasy, it reveals the uneasy relationship between humans and animals.



## Trees Down Here

Ben Rivers | USA | 2018 | 14min

Divides between architecture and nature are minimised in this playful exploration of design and environmental complementarity.



# Extra-Terrestrial Ecologies

(Retroreflectors: the astronaut, the robot, the alien)

8.30pm Kaleide Theatre  
**Monday 28 Oct**

Ralo Mayer  
Austria | 2018 | 43min

**VICTORIAN PREMIERE**

**Note:** Includes short film *The Mirrored Message*. This follows the Experimental Shorts which may also interest you.



Following the success of 2017's *Donna Haraway: Storytelling for Earthly Survival*, EFFA gets philosophical again with Ralo Mayer's *Extra-Terrestrial Ecologies*.

A film essay told in vignettes both irreverent and unsettling, *ETE* is an epistemological dissertation on the intersections of technology, space, ecology and the mediating role of cinema.

*ET*, *Blade Runner* and *The Martian* – along with other pop culture exemplars

of space iconography – are deployed to explore our complex cultural engagements with environments near, far and imagined, and the limits of perception.

**"A considered and engaging film that makes unexpected connections and draws unexpected answers as it shifts between ecology, speculation, science fiction, and space exploration. An endlessly fascinating work."**  
– Screenhub

This screening was made possible with the support of RMIT



**Nordic Adventure Film Festival**  
Best Mountain Culture Film

**Available Light Film Festival**  
Audience Choice Award

**Torello Mountain Film Festival**  
Best Photography  
& Best Mountain Film

**Banff Film Festival**  
Best Snow Sports Film

This screening, and the filmmaker's attendance, was made possible with the support of the High Commission of Canada

# This Mountain Life

*This Mountain Life* delves into the spiritual connection between human and mountain. Martina Halik and her 60-year-old mother Tania are the first female duo to trek 2,300-kilometres through the Coast Mountains in British Columbia, Canada, to Alaska.

Taking on a trek which has only been completed once before, the pair immerse themselves in their passion for the sometimes wild but always enchanting mountainous terrain. Their journey is intercepted by

various people – a retreat of nuns seeking to be closer to God, a snow artist, an alpinist and a couple living off the grid – who all share the same enamour for inhabiting the peaks.

 **Join us for a post-film Q&A with the filmmaker, Grant Baldwin.**

An award-winning Canadian director, cinematographer, editor and music composer, Grant's first documentary *The Clean Bin Project* won 10 international festival awards. Most recently, Grant has been filming with BBC's *Planet Earth* team.

6.15pm Cinema Nova  
**Tuesday 29 Oct**

Grant Baldwin  
Canada | 2018 | 76min

**VICTORIAN PREMIERE**



**Ecozine International Film & Environment Festival**  
Best International Documentary 2019

**Colorado International Activism Film Festival**  
Award Winner 2019

# Grit

8.45pm Cinema Nova  
**Tuesday 29 Oct**

Cynthia Wade & Sasha Friedlander  
Indonesia, USA | 2018 | 80min

**AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE**



Includes a panel discussion.  
More at: [effa.org.au](http://effa.org.au)

**This screening was made possible with the support of the Environment and Media Research Program, Monash University School of Media, Film and Journalism**

In 2006, a toxic mud tsunami erupted in East Java, believed to be caused by drilling for natural gas, burying dozens of villages and displacing 60,000 people, including 6-year-old Dian.

Some 13 years later, the mud tsunami continues to flow, and the fight for compensation for all affected – and for answers – continues.

*Grit* centres its narrative on Dian – now a teenager – and her formidable political activism. Lobbying on

behalf of her family and her local village, Dian fights to hold government and industry responsible for the mudflow, which is expected to continue until 2030.

*Grit* is an impactful rendition of civic political uprising against corporate power in the thick of extreme environmental exploitation.



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"A film that lifts from the ruins a lost language that smells of damp earth, ancestral times and also hardships."  
- Butaca Ancha

This screening was made possible with the support of City of Darebin

**Titixe**

6.45pm Palace Westgarth  
**Wednesday 30 Oct**

Tania Hernandez Velasco  
Mexico | 2018 | 63min

**AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE**



Titixe will screen with Australian short film *Firekeepers of Kakadu*, and will be followed by a discussion about local Indigenous connections to country.

What do we all stand to lose when connection to land and agricultural techniques handed down by our Elders and Indigenous communities over many decades disappear?

In this intimate film, we follow the last attempt of a Mexican family to cultivate their land following the death of a beloved patriarch, in a country which has forsaken its rural origins.

A rich portrait of the impacts of 'progress', *Titixe* explores the impacts of

climate change on ancient agricultural techniques, and the tragic loss of embodied knowledge and what that means for those left behind. The impacts of hope and grief ripple throughout, highlighting the deep interconnections between people and place.





A lot can change in eight years.

Bush Heritage protects Australia's irreplaceable landscapes. We're returning the bush to good health. Join us.

Bush Heritage's Ethabuka Reserve, on Wangkamada country in western Qld, in 2003 and 2011.



# Australasian Shorts

6.45pm Palace Westgarth Thursday 31 Oct

Includes a panel discussion with Bush Heritage Australia and land conservation panellists.



This screening was made possible with the support of City of Darebin and Bush Heritage Australia



## .TV

G. Anthony Svatek | USA, Tuvalu | 2017 | 22min

The popular web domain suffix ".TV" is both a form of capital and an emblem of a country on the brink of climate catastrophe.



## Firekeepers of Kakadu

Della Golding | Australia | 2018 | 15min

Follow the oldest surviving culture on Earth, the Bininj people of Kakadu, as they work to maintain a 65,000-year-old culture, playing a vital role in saving biodiversity in a rapidly changing world.



## Lifetime Guarantee

Sophia Armstrong | Australia | 2019 | 12min

These passionate and determined environmentalists held up a train in order to save their beloved endemic South West forests in the '90s, but now they're back, and they need your help.



## Mycelium Made

Emily Medbury | Australia | 2019 | 5mins

As the fashion industry desperately searches for sustainable practices, Melbourne's Amanda Morglund is working with a game-changing invention, creating clothing from mushrooms.



## The Divers

Angela How | Australia | 2019 | 10min

Ever imagined eating food from bins? Meet Talitha who works in the non-profit sector, and who has found a way to make her dollar stretch by dumpster diving - rescuing and reclaiming unused food.



## The River is Me

David Freid | New Zealand | 2019 | 17min

Thanks to environmental campaigning, New Zealand's Whanganui River is now legally recognised as a person, but where the river ends is up for debate.



## Without Water

Rachel Chen | Australia | 2019 | 11min

A resilient crop-farmer endeavours to preserve his land, legacy and way of life in the face of Australia's ongoing 'big dry'.

PALACE CINEMAS

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**EFFA KIDS**

International Wildlife Film Festival 2019  
Winner Best Children's Film

**Backyard Wilderness 3D + Wildlife Talk**

**EFFA KIDS**  
**Kids' Shorts**  
**+ Seed Planting**

10.30am Palace Westgarth  
Sunday 27 Oct

Environmental short films and seed planting collide at this special session created specifically for kids.

Sensitively exploring environmental topics with the help of a trained CERES educator, children will watch six carefully curated short films, then enjoy seed planting in the cinema courtyard, taking their seeds home with them!

Suitable for primary school aged children.

Tickets: [palacecinemas.com.au](http://palacecinemas.com.au)



10.00am IMAX Melbourne  
**Saturday 26 Oct**

Susan Todd, Andrew Young  
USA | 2018 | 42min



Hear from wildlife educator **Mike Alexander** as he introduces this session with a very special furry friend, and shares information about local wildlife!

**This screening was made possible with the support of IMAX Melbourne, home of the world's largest screen**

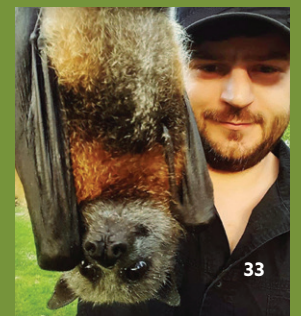
Children will watch in awe, as wildlife commonly found in backyards comes to life in 3D magic via the family film, *Backyard Wilderness 3D*.

Following a young girl, Katie, as she embraces the world around her, *Backyard Wilderness 3D* is a reminder to switch off our iPads, and explore our natural environments.

From the eyes of the creatures themselves, this beautiful film captures the seasonal changes experienced in nests, forest floors and ponds over the course of a year.

It also delicately explores life and death of wildlife, showing the relationship between different species sharing habitats.

**This film is suitable for children of primary school age.**



# EFFA KIDS

## Kids' Shorts + Seed Planting

10.30am Palace Westgarth  
Sunday 27 Oct

Children can explore environmental topics through these carefully curated short films, then enjoy a hands-on seed planting workshop led by CERES in the cinema courtyard!

Made possible with the support of City of Darebin

Suitable for primary school age children.



### Baked Fish

Guillem Miró | Spain | 2018 | 4min

Exploring the theme of plastic pollution, fish dishes are served after fishing in the ocean – only it's a 'different type of fish'.



### Birthplace

Sil van der Woerd & Jorik Dozy | The Netherlands | 2018 | 6min

Children will be mesmerised by a man walking on the ocean floor and deep water swimming. He discovers beautiful marine life, when he is also confronted by a 'whale', but something's not quite right.



### Kuap

Nils Hedinger | Switzerland | 2018 | 8min

A tadpole somehow misses out on becoming a frog and is left behind, alone. But there is much to discover in the pond and spring is sure to come again next year. A little story about the big things you learn growing up.



### Maybe Just a Fairytale

Geoff Spanner | Australia | 2018 | 6min

This whimsical short film features Australian wildlife coming to a free concert – with a sting in the tail!



### Saccage

Alexandre Boesch-Brassens, Jonathan Breuer, Julie Mansuy, Nicolas Ocipski, Paul Gaulier, Samuel Ramamisoa, Sylvain Masson & William Rima  
France | 2017 | 3min

Set in a futuristic Paris, a garbage collector robot is determined to capture a plastic bag as it floats across the city.



### The Guardian Elephant Warriors of Reteti

Ami Vitale | USA | 2018 | 4min

Reteti Elephant Sanctuary is the first community-owned and run elephant sanctuary in Africa. It provides a safe space for baby orphan elephants to grow up and learn how to survive, so they can one day rejoin their herds.

# EFFA YOUTH



This session was made possible with the support of City of Darebin

## Youth Unstoppable

### 1.00pm Palace Westgarth Sunday 27 Oct

Slater Jewell-Kemker  
Canada | 2018 | 91min



#### YOUTH FORUM - HAVE YOUR SAY!

*Youth Unstoppable* presents a hopeful vision for the future led by inspiring young people – like you!

Hear from a panel of youth activists – including the organisers behind the Melbourne branch of the School Strike for Climate global movement – and have your say about the future!

At just 15 years-of-age, filmmaker Slater Jewell-Kemker began attending environmental summits, camera in hand and ready to make a difference.

Just 10 years later, she's presenting on international climate panels with Greta Thunberg, and encouraging young people around the world to share their stories and campaign for action.

Slater takes us behind the scene of the global youth movement, sharing the highs and lows of climate activism, and sharing the

inspiring voices and fierce determination of those who are too young to vote, but whose futures are being shaped by decisions made by those in power today.

*Youth Unstoppable* reinforces that it's not too late to save our planet, but we must all act and push for bold decisions from those in power.

**This session is open to students of secondary school age.**

# TICKETING

## Regular Screenings

### CINEMA NOVA AND PALACE WESTGARTH CINEMA

All regular screenings held at Cinema Nova and Palace Westgarth Cinema.

Full \$20.50  
Concession \$17.50  
+ booking fee

Regular screenings do not include Opening Night at Cinema Nova, Closing Night at Palace Westgarth, other special screenings and the EFFA Kids and Youth sessions (see below for more information)

## Special Screenings

### OPENING NIGHT AT CINEMA NOVA + THE SHAW DAVEY SLUM

\$45 + booking fee

Includes party, drinks and canapés (V, VG)

### CLOSING NIGHT AT PALACE WESTGARTH CINEMA

Full \$25  
Concession \$22  
+ booking fee

Includes post-screening drinks and canapés (VG)

### EXPERIMENTAL FILMS AT RMIT

\$15 + booking fee for each session

### HERZOG THEN AND NOW AT CINEMA NOVA

\$15 + booking fee for each session

## EFFA Industry Insider Panel Sessions

\$12.50 each + booking fee

## EFFA Kids

### EFFA KIDS' 3D SCREENING AT IMAX

Full \$18  
Concession \$15  
Children \$12  
+ booking fee  
(Family packages available)

### EFFA KIDS' SHORT FILMS + SEED PLANTING

Full & Concession \$15  
Children \$12  
+ booking fee

## EFFA Youth

### EFFA YOUTH SCREENING + YOUTH FORUM

Students \$14 + booking fee  
(Secondary school students only)

Concession is full-time students, pensioners, seniors, unwaged and holders of health care or carer cards.

Conditions: Under the Classification Board's rules EFFA has self-determined the classification for all films. For all classification details, booking terms and conditions visit [effa.org.au](http://effa.org.au)

# PURCHASING TICKETS, VENUES + EFFA INFO

## Venues

### Cinema Nova

380 Lygon Street, Carlton

Tickets for events at Cinema Nova can be purchased via the Cinema Nova website or at the Cinema Nova Box Office.

### Palace Westgarth Cinema

89 High Street, Northcote

Tickets for events at Palace Westgarth Cinema can be purchased via the Palace Cinemas website or at the Palace Westgarth Cinema Box Office.

### Kaleide Theatre

360 Swanston Street, Melbourne

Tickets for events at Kaleide Theatre can be purchased via the EFFA website.

### IMAX Melbourne Museum

Carlton Gardens

Tickets for events at IMAX Cinema can be purchased via the IMAX Melbourne website or at the IMAX Cinema Box Office.

### State Library Victoria

Village Roadshow Theatre

328 Swanston Street, Melbourne

Tickets for events at State Library Victoria can be purchased via the EFFA website.

## Accessibility

All venues are wheelchair accessible. Please call venues directly to discuss access requirements:

Cinema Nova (03) 9347 5331

Palace Westgarth Cinema (03) 9482 2001

IMAX Melbourne (03) 9663 5454

State Library Victoria (03) 8664 7005

## The EFFA Team

EFFA is 100% volunteer run – a remarkable achievement thanks to a remarkable group of people. We thank our team for their dedication, creativity, sleepless nights and unwavering enthusiasm.

**Director:** Brooke Daly

**Deputy Director:** Cat Black-Dinham

**Programming Manager:** Nathan Senn

**Programming Team:**

Sophie Booth, Ben Buckingham, Luke Forsyth, Tahney Fosdike, Freyja Gillard, Jennifer McAuliffe, Betty Milonas, Mark Newbound, Carolin Saan, Bridie Shepherd, Bek Spies, Sam Thorn

**Impact Manager:** Alex Stott

**Impact Team:**

Beau Deurwaarder, Carolin Saan

**Marketing & Communications:** Ruby Brown

**Events and Operations:**

Nadia Macaulay, Freyja Gillard, Tess Macrae

**Finance:** Adam Kinross

**Special thanks also go to:** Chris Gerbing, Kim Ingles, Bessie Byrne, Tom Overton-Skinner and Caroline Lipinski

**And a sincere thank you to our partners** – those joining the EFFA journey in 2019, and those who continue to support our cause. Without our generous partners and faithful audiences, EFFA would not be possible.

## Sustainable Printing

Our print partner Fishprint is accredited as one of the most environmentally conscious printers in Australia, using waterless offset technology, soy inks and recycling 98.8% of their waste. This program is FSC certified.

The Forest Stewardship Council® (FSC®) is the world's largest and most trusted certification for sustainable forest management. Choose products with the FSC label and help protect the world's forests, and the workers, local communities, and wildlife that rely on them. [au.fsc.org](http://au.fsc.org)

Cover image: Laura Vinck on Unsplash

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