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## SHINING INTERNATIONAL STARS RETURN TO UWA SOMERVILLE

### LOTTERYWEST FILMS SEASON

Fill your summer nights with cinematic delights

Mon 30 Nov 2020 – Sun 28 Mar 2021



*Supernova* cr. Madman Entertainment

As we welcome back summer, we present the much-anticipated return of **Lotterywest Films** – 17 weeks of exceptional cinema to be enjoyed under the stars and amongst the magnificent pines at **UWA Somerville**.

At a time where international travel is scarce, guests will be transported to over 15 countries and across the Western Australian outback during the season, kicking off on Monday 30 November.

The warm and welcoming atmosphere patrons have come to know and love of UWA's Somerville returns, beanbags, cushions, picnics and all. Spend long summer nights in the company of loved ones while being dazzled by the likes of **Colin Firth, Olivia Colman, Anthony Hopkins, Stanley Tucci, Gael García Bernal, Mads Mikkelsen, David Wenham, Bruce Lee**, surf champ **Jodie Cooper** and more. With films spanning drama, comedy, action and documentary, there is the perfect film for a light-hearted sunset catch up with friends to something thought provoking for even the most discerning film connoisseur.

Perth Festival Film Program Associate **Tom Vincent** has hand-picked 17 distinctive and diverse films from around the world and without compromise, almost a quarter of the line-up is Australian, emphasising the immense talent here in our backyard. Perth Festival's commission of **Fist of Fury Noongar Daa** is a special addition to the season as a bonus 18th film.

'In light of everything else over the past nine months, it has been fantastic to see the independent film industry shine and thrive,' explains Vincent. 'With the hiatus of blockbusters, independent cinema has come to the forefront to showcase fresh and alternative takes on shared life experiences, under-represented communities, and at the end of it, the joy and intrigue of pure imagination.'

WA-made film **The Furnace** is set to open the Lotterywest Films season after its debut at the **Venice Film Festival** earlier this year, alongside other Australian productions including the badass surfing documentary **Girls Can't Surf**, frontier action thriller **High Ground** and unique world-first re-dub **Fist of Fury Noongar Daa**.

The boozy Mads Mikkelsen tragi-comedy **Another Round**, French rural romp **Antoinette in the Cévennes** (both Cannes Film Festival 2020 selections) and the doco-drama **The Mole Agent** (Sundance 2020) will delight and entertain, while Icelandic underdog tale **The County** and Polish Oscar-nominee **Corpus Christi** will leave audiences feeling empowered and resilient.

**The Father** and **Supernova** will tug at your heartstrings with incredible performances by **Olivia Colman** and **Anthony Hopkins**, and **Stanley Tucci** and **Colin Firth**, respectively, appearing in two profoundly beautiful and moving stories of love in the time of dementia.

The Lotterywest Film Festival 2020/21 will present a world premiere and six Australian premieres, with films coming direct from the 2020 Cannes, Sundance, Berlin, Venice, Toronto, and San Sebastian Film Festivals.

This, as well as regular cleaning and rotating of shared equipment is just one of the many ways Perth Festival is ensuring patron safety.



*High Ground* cr. Madman Entertainment

In another first, as part of Perth Festival's sustainability initiative, we'll be planting approximately 4,500 trees and shrubs (via [Carbon Neutral](#)) to offset the 700,000+ km we expect Lotterywest Films patrons to travel to and from UWA Somerville this season, which roughly equates to the distance between the moon and back.

Lotterywest CEO Susan Hunt PSM said Lotterywest Films is a unique cinematic experience that Western Australians looked forward to every year.

'We are extremely proud to once again be supporting this year's Perth Festival, which hosts Lotterywest Films at one of Perth's most loved outdoor venues, with a program of stunning homegrown and international films,' she said.

The Lotterywest Films Festival runs from Monday 30 November 2020 – Sunday 28 March 2021 as part of Perth Festival 2021. Perth Festival runs 5 – 28 February 2021, full program available at [perthfestival.com.au](http://perthfestival.com.au)

Tickets available to the general public from 25 Nov.

[Media kits](#) and [images](#) are available.



*Another Round* cr. Henrik Ohsten

## LOTTERYWEST FILMS

DATES & TIMES	UWA SOMERVILLE
Mon 30 Nov – Sun 6 Dec 8pm	<i>The Furnace</i> °
Mon 7 – Sun 13 Dec 8pm	<i>The County</i> °
14 – 20 Dec 8pm* (*Fri 18 Dec 8.30pm)	<i>The Father</i> °
Mon 21 – Thu 24 & Sat 26 – Sun 27 Dec 8pm	<i>Antoinette in the Cévennes</i> °
Mon 28 Dec – Sun 3 Jan 8pm	<i>Another Round</i>
Mon 4 – Sun 10 Jan 8pm	<i>High Ground</i>
Mon 11 – Sun 17 Jan 8pm	<i>Girls Can't Surf</i>
Mon 18 – Sun 24 Jan 8pm	<i>Corpus Christi</i>
Mon 25 – Sun 31 Jan 8pm* (*Tue 26 Jan 8.30pm)	<i>Supernova</i>
Mon 1 – Sun 7 Feb 8pm	<i>The Mole Agent</i>
Mon 8 – Sun 14 Feb 8pm	<i>Dating Amber</i>
Mon 15 – Fri 19 & Sun 21 Feb 8pm	<i>Assassins</i>
Sat 20 Feb only 8pm	<i>Fist of Fury Noongar Daa</i> ° (world premiere)
Mon 22 – Sun 28 Feb 8pm	<i>Sun Children</i> °
Mon 1 – Sun 7 Mar 7.30pm	<i>Ema</i>
Mon 8 – Sun 14 Mar 7.30pm	<i>Sweat</i> °
Mon 15 – Sun 21 Mar 7.30pm	<i>Gagarine</i>
Mon 22 – Sun 28 Mar 7.30pm	<i>Apples</i>

° Australian Premiere

## THE SEASON AHEAD

### THE FURNACE (Australia) | [Trailer](#)

A powerful and significant debut feature from Roderick MacKay, this dramatic and culturally unique Western has it all – thrilling action and adventure, stunning WA vistas, brilliant performances and the uncovering of a forgotten history.

**'An engrossing story ... unfolding across the ruggedly beautiful desert landscapes of Western Australia.'**  
**THE HOLLYWOOD REPORTER**

### THE COUNTY (Iceland) | [Trailer](#)

A middle-aged widow in rural Iceland takes on the corruption of her local co-op and the outdated, exploitative, male-run system that supports it, in the latest dramedy from acclaimed filmmaker Grímur Hákonarson (*Rams*, Perth Festival 2016). Masterfully blending humour, injustice and that trademark Icelandic gruffness together with the lightest of touches, *The County* is a stirring and heart-warming cinema experience.

**'Rousing and naturalistic underdog tale.'** THE ARTS DESK

### THE FATHER (UK) | [Trailer](#)

Almost 80, mischievous, caustic and defiantly living alone, Anthony (Anthony Hopkins) rejects each of the nurses his daughter, Anne (Olivia Colman), lovingly introduces. However, the onset of dementia frequently leaves Anthony wandering a disorienting labyrinth in which past and present entangle and vaguely familiar strangers taunt him. With practically every scene providing a churning cauldron of emotion, Hopkins and Colman are both wondrous to behold in this deeply compassionate, undeniably gripping chamber drama. At once comedic and profound, *The Father* is a moving story of our human condition.

**'The Father is a head-trip of its own ... an absorbing and upsetting simulation of dementia.'** SCREEN DAILY

## ANTOINETTE IN THE CÉVENNES (France) | Trailer

Primary school teacher Antoinette is involved with the (married) father of one of her students. Their plan is for a romantic tryst, so Antoinette is furious when her lover cancels, in favour of a multi-day hike with his wife, daughter, and a pack-carrying donkey. Laure Calamy is charming and Patrick the donkey steals the show in Caroline Vignal's delightfully funny and original comedy that blends life lessons, romance, insight and stunning scenery.

**'A hilarious comedy led by an irresistible actress. Need a breath of fresh air? Run to see Antoinette.' LE FIGARO**

## ANOTHER ROUND (Denmark) | Trailer

Mads Mikkelsen is at his best, giving a fierce and unsettling performance in Thomas Vinterberg's boisterous and absorbing dark comedy. At a drunken dinner party, four middle aged teacher friends embark on an experiment to maintain a constant level of intoxication throughout the workday.

At first life gets better for the group but as they push their experiment further things spiral out of control. Directed with insight and energy and driven by a great ensemble cast, *Another Round* is a sobering comedy about aging, alcoholism and friendship between men.

**'[A] tragicomedy of booze and midlife defiance.' THE GUARDIAN**

## HIGH GROUND (Australia) | Trailer

In remote Yolngu County, Arnhem Land, independent-minded ex-cop turned bounty hunter (Simon Baker) has recruited Aboriginal tracker and massacre survivor (Jacob Junior Nayinggul) to reluctantly hunt down Baywarra (Sean Mununggurr), the leader of a defiant mob, in this clear-eyed, vivid revenge drama. Partly inspired by real events, this tense action thriller highlights all the breathtaking and savage beauty of this country.

**'A gripping, visually spectacular revenge thriller.' THE HOLLYWOOD REPORTER**

## GIRLS CAN'T SURF (Australia) | Trailer

In the 1980s surf culture was the hottest thing on the planet – a circus of fluoro colours, peroxide hair and radical male egos. This is the untold story of how a band of renegade surfer girls fought to create their own professional sport, changing surf culture forever. Featuring a line-up of Australian, US and South African surfing greats, *Girls Can't Surf* (Tribeca Film Festival 2020) is a wild ride of clashing personalities, sexism, adventure and heartbreak, an untold story of a fight against the odds to make their dreams of competing a reality.

**'An empowering history of badass women.' STEPHANIE GILMORE, Australian World Champion Surfer**



*Girls Can't Surf* cr. Don King

## CORPUS CHRISTI (Poland) | Trailer

Astutely navigating ideas of faith, virtue and forgiveness, Jan Komasa's disciplined and unflinching direction is enhanced by the simply jaw-dropping lead performance from young star Bartosz Bieleni in this surprising and wholly distinctive drama. Inspired by true events, Academy Award-nominated *Corpus Christi* is a remarkable tale of morality and redemption.

**'A blistering drama, intense (and) inescapably thought-provoking ... a knock out.' LA TIMES**



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# PERTH FESTIVAL

5 – 28 February

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[perthfestival.com.au](http://perthfestival.com.au)

## SUPERNOVA (UK) | Trailer

Superstars Colin Firth and Stanley Tucci shine in this heartfelt, intimate love story from young British writer-director Harry Macqueen. Travelling across England in an old campervan, the pair are forced to confront the grave reality of early onset dementia and look at what the future may hold. With beautiful restraint and outstanding performances, *Supernova* is a tender story of love.

**'A poetic script, gorgeous landscapes and two fine lead performances.' DEADLINE**

## THE MOLE AGENT (Chile) | Trailer

Meet 83-year-old Sergio. The most unlikely spy in the most unlikely documentary. His mission – to go undercover and infiltrate a retirement home to investigate claims of elder abuse. If he could just work out how to use his iPhone! Maite Alberdi's *The Mole Agent* is a stylish combination of observational documentary and spy movie, with sleek camerawork and wonderfully watchable characters. Quirky and full of fun it also takes a serious look at old age, compassion and loneliness.

**'The most heart-warming spy movie ever made.' INDIEWIRE**



*The Mole Agent* cr. Madman Entertainment

## DATING AMBER (Ireland) | Trailer

In a small country town in 1990's Ireland anxious Eddie and his more assured schoolmate Amber decide to stage a relationship to stop everyone speculating about their sexuality. Crafted with style, salty, laugh-out-loud wit and emotional honesty, *Dating Amber* is both a coming out and coming-of-age comedy and a love letter to the highs and lows of teenage life and trying to fit in.

**'One of the most touching and hilarious Irish films.' IRISH INDEPENDENT**

## ASSASSINS (USA, Malaysia, Indonesia, Vietnam) | Trailer

In 2017 North Korean leader Kim Jong-un's half-brother was assassinated in a brazen attack at Malaysia's international airport. The two young women caught on security cameras rubbing deadly chemicals into their victim's face were charged with murder. Were they ruthless assassins, or pawns in a deadly political plot? Documentary filmmaker Ryan White travels from the sanctums of and across Asia to tell a truly extraordinary tale of manipulation and subterfuge that was only possible in this strange age of social media.

**'Your jaw will drop.' VARIETY**

## FIST OF FURY NOONGAR DAA (Western Australia, Hong Kong)

Bruce Lee's kung fu classic from 1972 becomes the first feature film ever to be re-voiced in an Australian language. Thanks to an all-Noongar language voice cast, this undying classic film is now reshaped and adapted in a 'moorditj' new form.

A Perth Festival commission and world premiere.

## SUN CHILDREN (Iran) | Trailer

When 12-year old Ali learns of a hidden treasure buried beneath the neighbourhood school, he and his gang enrol for the first time so they can dig for it. Iranian filmmaker Majid Majidi and his cast of mostly non-actors take you on a thrilling ride in a film that has elements of prison-break drama, knockabout school comedy and far-fetched heist. Ultimately, *Sun Children* is a unique story of courage and survival.

**'It has guts and heart and a grubby, street-smart charisma.'**

**THE GUARDIAN**



*Sun Children* cr. Madman Entertainment

## EMA (Chile) | Trailer

Award-winning director Pablo Larraín unites Gael García Bernal with newcomer Mariana Di Girolamo in an incendiary new drama set in the vibrant dance world of Valparaíso, Chile. Passionate young dancer Ema and her choreographer husband have given up their adopted son and their marriage is in chaos. Now Ema embarks on an odyssey of passionate freedom. Interspersing sequences of jaw-dropping choreography with a gripping and ingeniously structured narrative of seduction and manipulation, and fuelled by a pulsating score, *EMA* is electrifying.

**'One of the year's most dynamic and electrifying films – anarchic, liberated and contagiously alive.'**

INDIEWIRE

## SWEAT (Poland) | Trailer

*Sweat* follows three days in the life of fitness motivator Sylwia. Her social media presence has made her a celebrity, but for all her hundreds of thousands of followers and admirers, she feels she is starting to miss true intimacy. As Sylwia wrestles with her popularity, she's forced to confront the disconnect between her public and personal existence in vivid detail. More than just another send-up of social media madness, *Sweat* is a taut and emotional character study.

**'A rivetingly sober, incisive investigation of loneliness and intimacy in the Instagram era.'** AWARDS DAILY

## GAGARINE (France) | Trailer

From the heights of his apartment in Gagarine Cité, Yuri dreams of becoming an astronaut. But when this vast housing project on the outskirts of Paris is set for demolition he embarks on a mission to save his home and his community, transforming the estate into his own 'starship'. Shot on the cusp of the real-life demolition of the Cité Gagarine, this stellar debut, direct from Cannes Film Festival 2020 selection moves beautifully between the gritty realism of urban life and the dreamlike sequences animating Yuri's hopes, backed by a moody, atmospheric score.

**'A touching tribute to stratospheric aspirations thriving against the odds.'** VARIETY

## APPLES (Greece) | Trailer

Amidst a worldwide pandemic that causes sudden amnesia, a man finds himself enrolled in a recovery program designed to help him build a new life. His treatment: performing daily tasks prescribed by his doctors on cassette tape and capturing these new memories with a Polaroid camera. With its deadpan style, laced with surreal flourishes and dry, absurdist humour, Greek writer-director Christos Nikou's allegorical comedy-drama is a beguiling reflection on memory, identity, and loss.

**'A quirky, funny, melancholic delight.'** AWARDS DAILY

## Principal Partner



UWA  
PERTH AUSTRALIA



Click here for [media kits](#) and [images](#). For further information, interviews or images please contact:

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*Perth Festival acknowledges the Noongar people who continue to practise their values, language, beliefs and knowledge on their kwobidak boodjar. They remain the spiritual and cultural birdiyangara of this place and we honour and respect their caretakers and custodians and the vital role Noongar people play for our community and our Festival to flourish.*

## **Perth Festival**

*Founded in 1953 by The University of Western Australia, Perth Festival is the longest running international arts festival in Australia and Western Australia's premier cultural event. The Festival has developed a worldwide reputation for excellence in its international program, the presentation of new works and the highest quality artistic experiences for its audience. For 67 years, the Festival has welcomed to Perth some of the world's greatest living artists and now connects with hundreds of thousands of people each year.*

*Iain Grandage is the Artistic Director 2020 – 23.*