



2026
Season



BETTER
ON THE
BIG SCREEN

Films screen Sundays at the Gala Twin Cinema, Warrawong. Screening begins 7pm (sharp), with short films showing before some features. Entry by membership only—join here.



No IFS screenings due to school/public holidays or events: 5, 12, 19 April; 7 June; 5, 12 July; 16 Aug; 27 Sep; 4 Oct

Community partnerships



The Illawarra's only independent, locally-owned cinema



Enjoy a meal on IFS nights at the Open Hearth Hotel and get 10% off—just show your ticket.



Front: Franka Potente as Lola in Run Lola Run. Image: Bernd Spauke. Courtesy of Sony Pictures Classics. Back: Photo by Luke Braswell on Unsplash

8 February HOLY COW Dir. Louise Courvoisier (France, 2024) French. 92 min. Rated M Carefree 18-year-old Totone is suddenly left alone to look after his younger sister and their struggling family farm. He sets out to make the best comté cheese in the Jura region, the one that would win him a gold medal and 30,000 euros. Set in the picturesque French Alps, it is a charming coming-of-age story and an ode to cheese.	15 March DEAD DON'T HURT Dir. Viggo Mortensen (USA, 2022) English, French. 129 min. Rated M Vivienne (Vicky Krieps) is a fiercely independent woman who starts a new life in Nevada with Danish immigrant Holger Olsen (Viggo Mortensen). When the Civil War separates them, Vivienne has to fend for herself in a place controlled by ruthless men.
15 February AMA GLORIA Dir. Marie Amachoukeli (France, 2023) French, Creole. 84 min. Rated PG A vibrant drama that explores the precious bond between a six-year-old French girl Cléo and her beloved Cape Verdean carer, Gloria, and what happens when it is unexpectedly placed in jeopardy.	22 March RUN LOLA RUN Dir. Tom Tykwer (Germany, 1998) German, English. 216 min. Rated M A woman races through Berlin to secure a large sum of money and save her boyfriend's life. Each attempt unfolds differently, revealing how split-second decisions and chance encounters can alter destiny in profound, unpredictable ways. Fast, tense, and visually striking, it's a meditation on choice and consequence.
22 February ALL THE PRESIDENT'S MEN Dir. Alan J Pakula (USA, 1976) English. 138 min. Rated PG Washington Post reporters Bob Woodward (Robert Redford) and Carl Bernstein (Dustin Hoffman) research the botched 1972 burglary of the Democratic Party Headquarters at the Watergate apartments. With the help of a mysterious source, code-named Deep Throat, the reporters follow the money all the way to the top.	29 March PORCELAIN WAR Dir. Brendan Bellomo & Slava Leontyev (USA, 2024) Ukrainian. 88 min. Rated M Amidst the Russian invasion of Ukraine, three artists find inspiration and beauty as they defend their culture and their country. In a war waged by professional soldiers against ordinary civilians, Slava, Anya and Andrey choose to stay behind, armed with their art, their cameras, and, for the first time in their lives, their guns.
1 March THE GOLDEN SPURTLE Dir. Constantine Costi (Australia, 2025) English. 76 min. Rated PG Every October, contestants from around the globe converge on the tiny Scottish Highlands village of Carrbridge for the World Porridge Making Championship. A heartwarming meditation on tradition, community, and the rituals that bind us together.	26 April CROSSING Dir. Levan Akin (Sweden/Denmark/France/Turkey/Georgia, 2024) Georgian, Turkish, English. 106 min. Rated M Lia, a retired teacher living in Georgia, made a promise to find her long lost niece Tekla. The search takes her to Istanbul, a beautiful city that seems full of connections and possibilities. There she meets Evrim, a lawyer fighting for trans rights, and Tekla starts to feel closer than ever.
8 March BLACKBIRD BLACKBIRD BLACKBERRY Dir. Elene Naveriani (Switzerland/Georgia 2023) Georgian. 110 min. Unclassified A near-death experience sparks an existential and sexual awakening for taciturn shop owner Etero in this charming character study about love, liberty and the pursuit of forbidden fruit, set in the Georgian countryside.	3 May WE WERE DANGEROUS Dir. Josephine Stewart-Te Whiu (USA/New Zealand, 2024) English. 83 min. Rated M In 1954 New Zealand, Nellie and Daisy attempt to escape an institution for delinquent girls and are sent to a remote island facility under the command of a devout Matron. There they rebel against the system and take refuge in their blossoming friendship.

10 May MR. NOBODY AGAINST PUTIN Dir. David Borenstein (Czech Republic/Denmark, 2024) English, Russian. 91 min. Rated M This urgent, Sundance prize-winning documentary follows a brave and charismatic Russian teacher as he exposes shocking new propaganda at his school amid the invasion of Ukraine.
17 May MEMOIR OF A SNAIL Dir. Adam Elliot (Australia, 2024) English. 95 min. Rated M Grace is a lonely misfit with an affinity for collecting ornamental snails and an intense love for books. After she is separated from her twin brother Gilbert, Grace strikes up an friendship with eccentric Pinky, who is full of grit and lust for life.
24 May CHILDREN OF MEN Dir. Alfonso Cuarón (USA, 2006) English. 109 min. Rated MA15+ In a grim future in which decades of human infertility have pushed civilisation to the brink of collapse, one woman mysteriously becomes pregnant, and a former activist turned bureaucrat (Clive Owen) fights to protect her. Based on the novel by P.D. James.
31 May THE LAST DAUGHTER Dir. Brenda Matthews & Nathaniel Schmidt (Australia, 2022) English. 87 min. Rated PG After being raised by a white family, a young girl is taken away and returned to the Aboriginal family she didn't know. Decades later, she's on a journey to discover where she truly belongs.
14 June LOLLIPOP Dir. Daisy-May Hudson (UK, 2024) English. 100 min. Rated MA15+ On her release from prison Molly is determined to reunite with her children, while battling an inhumane system. Molly's childhood friend Amina become an ally in reimagining what survival and motherhood can look like when society closes its doors.

JUNE/JULY	21 June Drama GOODBYE JULIA Dir. Mohamed Kordofani (Sudan, 2023) Arabic. 120 min. Rated M Wracked with guilt after her involvement in the tragic death of a man, Mona, a retired singer from northern Sudan, tries to make amends by taking the deceased’s southern Sudanese widow, Julia, and her son into her Khartoum home.	AUGUST/SEPTEMBER	9 August Comedy/Crime THE LADYKILLERS Dir. Alexander Mackendrick (UK, 1955) English. 90 min. Rated PG In this classic black comedy, five oddball criminals planning a bank robbery rent rooms from an octogenarian widow under the pretext that they are classical musicians.	OCTOBER/NOVEMBER	13 September Documentary DAHOMEY Dir. Mati Diop (Senegal/Benin/France, 2024) English, French. 68 min. Rated G This lyrical hybrid documentary charts 26 stolen artefacts as they make their way from Paris to the Republic of Benin. Using multiple perspectives Diop questions how these artefacts should be received in a country that has reinvented itself in their absence. Winner of the Golden Bear at the 2024 Berlinale.	25 October Documentary ICE MAIDEN Dir. Nathaniel C.T. Jackson & James Blannin-Ferguson (Australia, 2024) English. 101 min. Rated M Courageous Australian adventurer and sailor Lisa Blair set out to become the first woman to sail solo and non-stop around Antarctica. Featuring Blair’s own raw footage of her journey, <i>Ice Maiden</i> takes you on the ride of a lifetime.
	28 June Sci-fi/Thriller MONOLITH Dir. Matt Vesely (Australia, 2022) English. 93 min. Rated M In this compelling micro sci-fi, a disgraced journalist trying to salvage her career begins investigating a strange conspiracy theory. As the trail leads uncomfortably close to home, she is left to grapple with the lies at the heart of her own story.		20 September Melodrama ALL THAT HEAVEN ALLOWS Dir. Douglas Sirk (USA, 1955) English. 88 min. Rated G This heartbreakingly beautiful indictment of 1950s American mores by Douglas Sirk follows the blossoming love between a well-off widow (Jane Wyman) and her handsome and earthy younger gardener (Rock Hudson).		1 November Thriller JAWS Dir. Steven Spielberg (USA, 1975) English. 124 min. Rated M Fifty years ago, Steven Spielberg’s groundbreaking thriller took audiences on a heart-pounding ride of suspense, fear, and sheer cinematic brilliance. When a gigantic great white shark begins to menace the seaside town of Amity, a police chief, an oceanologist, and a veteran fisherman set out to stop it.	
	19 July Sci-fi/Drama/Comedy U ARE THE UNIVERSE Dir. Pavlo Ostrikov (Ukraine, 2024) Ukrainian, French, English. 101 min. Unclassified After Earth explodes, Ukrainian space trucker Andriy Melnyk becomes the last person in the universe, until he receives a call from Catherine, a French woman on a distant space station. An affecting exploration of the human need for connection.		23 August Drama THE PRESIDENT’S CAKE Dir. Hasan Hadi (Iraq/USA/Qatar, 2025) Arabic. 105 min. Rated M While people across 1990’s Iraq struggle to survive, nine-year old Lamia has been selected to prepare a cake to celebrate the President’s birthday. Beautifully shot and acted, and with a keen sense of time and place, it is an exhilarating and humorous adventure.		11 October Action/Adventure THE HIDDEN FORTRESS Dir. Akira Kurosawa (Japan, 1958) Japanese. 139 min. Rated PG In this thrilling and entertaining epic adventure, Toshiro Mifune is a general charged with guarding his defeated clan’s princess as the two smuggle royal treasure across hostile territory. Accompanying them are two conniving peasants who may or may not be their friends.	8 November Drama FIRST LIGHT Dir. James Robinson (Philippines/Australia, 2024) Filipino. 112 min. Rated M In the remote mountains of the Philippines, a young construction worker dies in unusual circumstances. An elderly nun, Sister Yolanda, is forced to reckon with his death and face questions about the religious order she’s dedicated her life to.
	26 July Documentary UNION Dir. Stephen Maing & Brett Story (USA, 2024) English. 102 min. Unclassified Up against one of the most powerful companies on the planet, a group of Amazon workers embarks on a campaign to unionise their warehouse in Staten Island. A gripping human drama about the fight for power and dignity in today’s globalised economic landscape.		30 August Thriller THE STORY OF SOULEYMANE Dir. Boris Lojkine (France, 2024) French. 93 min. Rated M In this social-realist thriller, young food delivery courier Souleymane, who is working in France without permission, races across Paris to meet his delivery platform’s demands, while anxiously preparing for a life-changing residency interview.		18 October Drama/Comedy HOW TO MAKE MILLIONS BEFORE GRANDMA DIES Dir. Pat Boonnitipat (Thailand, 2024) Thai. 126 min. Rated PG A university dropout low on money volunteers to take care of his terminally ill grandmother hoping to secure her fortune. An endearing portrait of a family grappling with clashing values as they face the impending loss of their matriarch.	15 November Drama/Comedy PASA FAHO Dir. Kalu Oji (Australia, 2025) Igbo, English. 86 min. Rated M A shoe salesman struggles to save his small business and pass on his values to his son in this quintessentially Melbourne tale of life in a migrant community.
2 August Drama/Comedy THE STOLEN PAINTING Dir. Pascal Bonitzer (France, 2024) French. 91 min. Rated M Inspired by remarkable true events, this sharp and engrossing dramedy follows a self-assured auctioneer whose professional and personal integrity is challenged by the discovery of a long-lost masterpiece.	6 September Comedy/Drama UNIVERSAL LANGUAGE Dir. Matthew Rankin (Canada, 2024) Persian, French, English. 89 min. Rated G In a surreal interzone somewhere between Tehran and Winnipeg, the lives of multiple characters are interwoven in surprising and mysterious ways.					