



MEDIA RELEASE

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15 years, 15 centres - Flickerfest 2006, driven by MINI, prepares for a bumper year

Outstanding short films from more than 20 countries – among them Iceland, Singapore, Ireland, and Mexico – have made the cut for the 15th annual Flickerfest International Short Film Festival, Australia's premier international short film event.

Sixty films have been selected from more than 900 entries that poured into Flickerfest's offices from around the globe.

Selected films include the award-winning *The Big Empty*, which stars Selma Blair, had George Clooney as executive producer and won the USA Film Festival Grand Prize 2005, and *We Have Decided Not to Die*, the Australian film that took out the prestigious Jameson Award at Flickerfest 2005.

Festival director Bronwyn Kidd said: "We've always been determined to offer the best short film program in the country, and 2006 is shaping up as just that."

"There's a diversity in short films that isn't seen in their feature-length counterparts. Our special programs, along with the world-class Australian and international programs, span topics and styles that will appeal to even the most jaded film buff."

The festival will include four international categories – Best Film, Best Animation, Best Documentary and the Special Jury Prize. An additional 10 awards will be made in Australian categories.

Flickerfest is Australia's only Academy-accredited short film festival, making the winners of its Best Film and Best Animation awards eligible for Oscar consideration, and in 2006 it will award the prestigious Jameson Short Film Award, worth \$AU10,000, for the second time.

In 2006, MINI has come on board as Flickerfest's official naming rights partner for both the Sydney festival and national tour.

Araluen Centre – Outside on the Circus Lawns
(in the Araluen Theatre if raining)
Thu 26, Fri 27, Sat 28 & Sun 29 January 7.30 pm
Festival Tickets: \$36 / \$30 Reelpix Members: \$30 / \$24
Session Tickets: \$12 / \$10 Reelpix Members: \$10 / \$8



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