

Andrea Michaels MP
Minister for Arts

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Curtain up on a better than ever Adelaide Film Festival

A \$2 million investment by the Malinauskas Labor Government will see the internationally renowned Adelaide Film Festival held annually from 2022 and lead to significant program growth.

Annualising the festival will grow its reputation as a destination for international film culture and cement it as a fixture on the global creative calendar.

Arts Minister Andrea Michaels said holding the festival annually has been a long-term ambition of organisers and new government investment means they can capitalise on additional private investment to maintain and grow the event's profile.

Established in 2003 as a biennial event, the festival features on *Variety* Film magazine's 50 Unmissable Film Festivals list. In 2021 it received the *Best Festival* at Arts SA's Ruby Awards.

This year's Adelaide Film Festival will take place from October 19 – 30, at venues across Adelaide. Its opening follows the acclaimed Venice and Toronto Film Festivals, signaling the start of the film awards season.

The 2022 Festival Opening Night Film will be the World Premiere of *The Angels: Kickin' Down The Door*, an intimate look behind the scenes of one of Australia's most iconic rock bands. Opening Night will also feature the World Premiere of the short film *Marungka Tjalantananyi/Dipped in Black*, written by Derik Lynch, who also stars in the film.

This year's Festival will see World Premieres of around 15 Adelaide Film Festival Investment Fund films, including the feature films *Talk to Me*, directed by Adelaide-based Danny and Michael Philippou, and *Monolith* (the inaugural project made under the AFF/SAFC/Mercury CX initiative Film Lab: New Voices) and Soda Jerk's artwork *Hello Dankness*.

Early release tickets are available at adelaidefilmfestival.org

Quotes attributable to Andrea Michaels

Film making has been a feature of the South Australian creative scene, underscored in the early 1970s when Premier Don Dunstan set up the South Australian Film

Corporation which created a suite of iconic Australian films including Storm Boy, Breaker Morant and Picnic at Hanging Rock.

Establishment of the Adelaide Film Festival 30 years later was another significant addition to the local creative sector and it is renowned as a platform for new Australian talent.

The AFF's 2022 iteration has already received a record number of submissions from filmmakers, following the remarkable success of the 2020 event which saw a record box office as the local community and the Australian screen industry came together to celebrate cinema, in spite of COVID-19.

Quotes attributable to Adelaide Film Festival CEO/Creative Director Mathew Kesting

AFF also welcomes increased funding from Screen Australia and the Adelaide Economic Development Agency which will further assist with the Festival's ambition to significantly grow over the next three to four years with an enhanced community engagement strategy and a distinctive curatorial approach.

The Adelaide Film Festival has secured a deserved reputation around the globe as an essential screen culture event – that's something the whole community should be proud of.

In addition to the October flagship event, our year-round activities include AFF Youth, a film festival curated for South Australian students and youth, the AFF Film Club and its new AFF Regional Program Curate Your Own Festival, which will see active engagement of regional communities and screenings at various locations across regional SA.

Quotes attributable to AFF Chair Anton Andreacchio

We are a screen culture, and as the state's premier screen festival, we have an important role to play in both connecting audiences with the latest contemporary cinema and supporting South Australia's new voices.

We are incredibly energised by the additional support from the South Australia Government, Screen Australia, the Adelaide Economic Development Agency and our new philanthropic partnerships. Annualisation has been an important part of the long-term strategy of the organisation and we thank all of our supporters for their confidence in the Film Festival's bright future.