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SF3

"from pocket dreams to the **BIG SCREEN**"

THE 12TH ANNUAL
**SMARTPHONE
FLICKFEST**

SF3 GALA FINALS



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Screen
NSW

...AND
MORE

Welcomes

Angela Blake

CO-FOUNDER & FESTIVAL DIRECTOR SF3

What a privilege I've had this year to sit as the head curator of SF3 and experience the richness and diversity in stories that filmmakers of all ages and abilities entered into our season. We saw films from all corners of the earth - Sudan to Luxembourg, China, Canada, Mexico, South Korea and everywhere in between. We've especially been treated to an incredible array of stories from local filmmakers. Aussies are amazing story-tellers and it's been exciting to see so many - especially kids, first-time and emerging filmmakers - pick up their phones and tablets and share their world, stories, thoughts and creativity with us. We wish we could have screened every film that was entered. Audiences are in for a real treat. I personally guarantee you will leave an SF3 screening feeling completely inspired, moved and a much better person because of the richness of stories and experiences in our line-up.

A very huge thank you to the Sydney Opera House as our returning Venue Partner, to the White Bay Power Station, to Screen NSW for your continued support of SF3 and our filmmakers, to Blackmagic who once again have returned as our Major Sponsor, to Melodie and Try & Byte, our wonderful Silver Sponsors, to Chicken & Chips Casting and Røde, our incredible Bronze Sponsors plus all of our amazing Prize Sponsors who together are helping us award over \$50,000 in prizes across the festival.

We love smartphone filmmaking and the possibilities it opens up and we hope you leave here inspired to pick up your phones and tell those stories in your heart.

Kerry Armstrong

SF3 FESTIVAL AMBASSADOR & AUSTRALIAN ICON

"SF3 is one of our most important cultural and artistic events. I love the idea that all you need is a smartphone and your creativity. There is a great deal of freedom there, especially for young and emerging filmmakers to create now instead of having to wait until film school or wait until they can save enough money to buy a bigger camera. The fact that they can use a professional camera that they already own - their phones - to start making films and exploring their creativity now, is incredible. It means that there's no limits any more; there's no barrier to making a film and the world is a much better place for it, because we're getting to see all these new and diverse stories from typically unheard, remote and young voices - and all because of SF3 and their utilisation and adoption of this new technology and way of making and promoting films."

The Films

1. **Apple Slices** by Daniel Allen for Fallen Horse Productions - NSW, Australia

IPHONE 12 WITH BLACKMAGIC CAMERA

After a bag of cash falls from the sky, a desperate young man is thrust into a relentless chase across the city, forcing him to confront how thin the line between survival and greed truly is.

2. **Happy Little Accidents** by SJ van Breda - South Africa

IPHONE 17 PRO MAX WITH BLACKMAGIC CAMERA

Happy Little Accidents is a short experimental documentary that delves into the inspiration and process of Emily Rice, an artist based in Cape Town, South Africa. Happy Little Accidents experiments with Emily's use of plaster of Paris and distressed textiles, and explores the inspiration behind her work: the extensive memory loss she experiences from past childhood trauma. The film traverses Emily's past, present and future and focuses on the central tenet of her work: strength through fragility.

3. **Lift** by Jessica Joseph-McDermott - NSW, Australia

IPHONE 17 PRO MAX WITH BLACKMAGIC CAMERA

Five women meet in a weights class. They each have a secret. In a world where the system has failed, Lift asks what justice really is.

4. **Genesis 3:19** by Livia Hendricks & Ben Lawford - NSW, Australia

IPHONE 15 PRO WITH BLACKMAGIC CAMERA

After the death of the woman she loves, Fong is forced to confront the inevitability of loss—and the painful truth that sometimes, letting go is the only way to love someone.

Inspired by Genesis 3:19, the film is a quiet meditation on grief, mortality, and surrender.

5. **Prostate Panic** by ButterflyPanther - NSW, Australia

IPHONE 16 PRO MAX

Mr P is racing to a funeral, but his prostate has other plans.

Every red light feels personal, and dignity is rapidly becoming a luxury he can no longer afford.

Prostate Panic is a warm, cheeky comedy about ageing, urgency, terrible timing and the lengths one man will go to when nature simply refuses to wait.

6. **You Will Not Be Left Behind** by Brandon Fairley & Kristina Cetinski - NSW, Australia

IPHONE 12 WITH BLACKMAGIC CAMERA

A set of bereaved siblings must confront their disabled brother about his living situation.

7. **The Hole** by El Ruin and The Remnants - NSW, Australia

IPHONE 15 WITH BLACKMAGIC CAMERA

Somewhere deep underground, in a tiny room at the end of the world, two men sit together for breakfast, until they are interrupted by an unexpected guest.

The Hole is a short film written, directed and produced from the ground on up by El Ruin & The Remnants and stars Albert Mwangi (Primitive War) and Jack Ellis (Mr Inbetween). The film is a homage to classic genre bending and era defining shows like The Twilight Zone inspiring an exploration of isolation, paranoia, and the tension between the world of the analogue and digital at the brink of apocalypse.

8. **No. 08** by Tez Frost - VIC, Australia

SF3 AI FINALIST

An exploration of desire and status, where what we covet is elevated to an icon, only to be consumed and ultimately destroyed.

9. **What Life Can Be** by Dane Noonan - NSW, Australia

IPHONE 14 PRO

A heartfelt short documentary that shares the lived experience of Dane Noonan as he reflects on the unexpected life he has built. Through humour, honesty and heart, What Life Can Be challenges assumptions about disability and celebrates resilience, connection and the possibilities that unfold when we embrace life's unpredictability.

10. **Weight of Mercy** by Nathan Colquhoun & Tatjana Marjanovic - NSW, Australia

IPHONE 17 PRO WITH BLACKMAGIC CAMERA

A grieving mother consumed by revenge crosses paths with a mysterious preacher who challenges her to confront the true weight of mercy.

11. **No Bears Allowed** by Stevie Gannon & Jimmy Gannon - NSW, Australia

GOOGLE PIXEL 9 PRO WITH BLACKMAGIC CAMERA

A young girl plagued by nightmares tries to keep the bad dreams away with a homemade sign, but when her father helps protect her with a dreamcatcher, she discovers that even the scariest dreams can't stop a loving father from making her feel safe.

12. **Team Player** by Jimmy Eaton for WIN WIN Productions - VIC, Australia

IPHONE 17

A routine corporate interview unravels into surreal chaos when a promising pitch triggers an inexplicable chain reaction.

13. **Storyboard: The Musical** by Jordan Gibbs - USA

IPHONE 15 PRO MAX & IPAD WITH BLACKMAGIC CAMERA

After hearing about a local film competition, Everly Easton, fresh out of high school, takes a leap of faith and makes her first animated short film with the help of her friends.

Judging Panel

Our Judges are the best of the best in the film industry and include top writers, filmmakers, directors, cinematographers, producers, casting directors, composers and educators from across Australia, America and Africa including:

Alison Fowler

Casting Director & Owner of Chicken & Chips Casting

Anthony Kierann

Producer

Anthony Montes

Actor, Writer, Producer & Teacher

Bill Kerrigan

Filmmaker & Educator

Fiona Loader

Composer

Holly Lyons

Screenwriter and Script Editor

Jack Brislee

Writer

Jess Milne

Cinematographer

Joe Ochman

Actor

Louis Nowra

Playwright, Screenwriter & Author

Maria Isabel de la Ossa

Director & Cinematographer

Megan Riakos

Screenwriter & Director

Nick Bolton

Producer & Actor

Nick Kapetanios

Video Editor, Writer & Filmmaker

Nick Payne

Cinematographer & Producer

Pieter de Vries

ACS Director of Photography

Renée Broome

Screenwriter

Robert McTague

Filmmaker

Ros Gentle

Actor & Teacher

Serhat Caradee

Filmmaker

Stephanie Pringle

Casting Director & Owner of Chicken & Chips Casting

Thomas Duncan-Watt

Screenwriter & Author

Veronica Wain

Filmmaker & Educator

Yolandi Franken

Producer

Pre-Selection Panel

Adam Creighton

Anna Churven

Ashleigh Murray

Christian Power

Coco Tan

Fai Liang

Fu Liu

Gabriel Bascunan

Gayle Blake

Jane Fullerton-Smith

Jennifer Gray

Jordon Briggs

Lisa Hughes

Marina Zivkovic

Max Cumberworth

Minxuan Chen

William Wang

Ambassadors

Anthony Kierann

Producer

Cassius Rayner

Smartphone Filmmaker

Christopher Stollery

Actor & award winning Writer

Emily Prior

Disability Advocate & Actress

Garry Maddox

Film Journalist & Author

Jason van Genderen

Smartphone Filmmaker

John Batchelor

Actor

Kerry Armstrong

Illustrious Actor

Kriv Stenders

Award winning Director

Luis Fernandez

Venezuelan Actor & Director

Nicole da Silva

Illustrious Actor

Pieter de Vries

ACS, National Geographic & NASA Cinematographer

Phillip Noyce

Celebrated Hollywood/Australian Director

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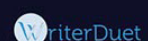
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THANK YOU

SF3 cannot happen without the love, help and support of many many people. We would like to thank our truly wonderful Judges and Ambassadors. We're deeply grateful for all of your time and support throughout our season and for supporting SF3 and our filmmakers throughout the past year. We are soo grateful to you all and how special that many of you have been judges for our whole 12 seasons!

Thanks also to our amazing publicist, Geoff Sirmai. It wows us to see SF3 and our filmmakers making the news everywhere.

Thanks to our graphic designer, Kenney Ogilvie. You make SF3 cool and you do it with so much kindness.

Thank you also to Ben Meisner, Wolfe, Lucette, Flynn and Winnie for your patience, support and hugs.

Thanks to Anthony Kierann. Priceless - that's exactly what you are!

Thank you to Emily James, Andrea Rose Aguirre & Katelyn Ighalo for making SF3 hip and out in the world.

Thank you to our pre-selection panel for your help watching this huge volume of films. Over 400 shorts and 20 features!!!

A big thank you to the Sydney Opera House for this venue partnership. Iconic. A special thanks to Stuart Buchanan & Melinda Dransfield and your team.

Thank you to Stephanie Spudic & Minnie Yao-Konya from White Bay Power Station and Property NSW. What a cool venue!

A HUGE thanks to our brand new AV Partners, Event spec. Nicole O'Reilly and Christopher Condon you have elevated SF3's Mini & Feature Screening to something truly memorable and I honoured that I got to Co-Present this screening with you and your team.

Thanks to SJ van Breda for editing our incredible festival reels. You are a God send.

A huge thank you to all of my SF3 volunteers and staff, especially Bee Louise, Bevan Garozzo, Michael Harris, Hollie Meyer, Julie Ward, Sally Fryer and Anthony Khoury.

Thank you to our festival photographers and videographers, including Christina Mishell, Apoorv Jaiswal & Indy Jo Woodward. SF3 has never looked so good.

Thanks to Nick Bolton for your invaluable support always and the hugest support through Screen Illawarra.

Thank you to Greg Dolgoplov for always being a great friend.

Thank you to Christina Maras and the entire Kino Sydney Team. You put on one of the best film nights in Sydney every month and we value all your support of what we do at SF3 and in getting your community of filmmakers making films with their phones.

And a huge thank you to all of our sponsors and partners, we really couldn't do this without you. You provide us with the most wonderful prizes, venue, support, help, street cred and more. We are able to award over \$50,000 worth of prizes this and past seasons because of you. THANKYOU! SF3 is only possible because of you and your generosity.

A mammoth thanks to Mel Atherton from Blackmagic Design - what you guys are doing at Blackmagic is just out of this world! Evan Buist and Andy Wilson from Melodie, for continuing a wonderful partnership with us and providing a platform for filmmakers to access the best music for their films. Derek Choi from Try&Byte - a local family business doing incredible things for smartphone filmmaking, Stephanie Pringle and Alison Fowler from Chicken & Chips Casting - you two continue to inspire us all.

Thank you also to Danielle McCarthy, Catherine Zealand and your team from Screen NSW. Your continued support of SF3 is why we are still doing this 12 years on. What you do for screen culture in NSW is invaluable to our society.

Thank you to Dov Kornits from Film Ink for loving film and filmmakers as much as us, or even more.

Thank you to Julian Neuhaus and Ironbark Films for not only getting our films on screen this weekend, but for making them look so damn good and being the best DCP technician out there. Seriously, Ironbark Films is where it's at!

Thanks to all of our wonderful educators who have helped us teach smartphone filmmaking throughout Australia and the world this season. We have taught both live and online for AFTRS, The Shepherd Centre, Milk Crate Theatre, Bus Stop Films, the Equity Foundation, the NSW Department of Education, Get Online Week, Bus Stop Films, Midnight Feast and soo many more.

Find out more and keep up to date at www.sf3.com.au

Thanks for being part of SF3.

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