

MEDIA RELEASE

AQUALAND ANNOUNCES EXCLUSIVE MAJOR PARTNERSHIP WITH 2017 SYDNEY FILM FESTIVAL

Sydney, 18 April 2017 - Australian property development and investment company, Aqualand, is excited to announce it is the exclusive major partner of the 2017 Sydney Film Festival, continuing its commitment to the Australian arts and culture scene.

Now in its 64th year, the renowned festival will bring over 250 of the world's most talked about films to 11 venues across Sydney, including flagship cinema the State Theatre. The Festival is a hub for industry and film fans alike, with a 12 day program of inspiring and entertaining premieres, talks, parties and international industry guests.

"It is a great privilege to be involved with such an inspiring, challenging and talent-rich festival, and one that is enjoyed by so many Sydneysiders and visitors to the city," said Mr Jin Lin, managing director of Aqualand.

"We think differently at Aqualand and strive to deliver more than what is expected. We have a firm belief that there's a strong connection between creativity and engaged, vibrant communities, so supporting and celebrating the Australian arts scene and its awe-inspiring talent is really important to us."

"The Festival is delighted to have the support of Aqualand," said Sydney Film Festival Director Nashen Moodley. "Aqualand's partnership shows a very real investment in the Festival, assisting us to further deliver on our program of showing world-class cinema in Sydney, supporting local filmmakers, and on creating a space for the community and industry to share important stories," he said.

The 2017 Sydney Film Festival is taking place across Greater Sydney from Wednesday 7 June to Sunday 18 June 2017.

About Sydney Film Festival

From **Wednesday 7 June** to **Sunday 18 June 2017**, the 64th Sydney Film Festival offers Sydneysiders another exciting season of cinema amidst a whirlwind of premieres, red-carpet openings, in-depth discussions, international guests and more.

Sydney Film Festival also presents an Official Competition of 12 films that vie for the Sydney Film Prize, a highly respected honour that awards a \$60,000 cash prize based on the decision of a jury of international and Australian filmmakers and industry professionals. Previous Sydney Film Prize winners: *Aquarius* (2016); *Arabian Nights* (2015); *Two Days, One Night* (2014); *Only*

God Forgives (2013); *Alps* (2012); *A Separation* (2011); *Heartbeats* (2010); *Bronson* (2009); and *Hunger* (2008).

The Festival takes place across Greater Sydney: at the State Theatre, Event Cinemas George Street, Dendy Opera Quays, Dendy Newtown, Skyline Drive-In Blacktown, Art Gallery of NSW, Hayden Orpheum Picture Palace Cremorne, Randwick Ritz, Casula Powerhouse, the Festival Hub at Sydney Town Hall and SFF Outdoor Screen in Pitt Street Mall.

The Festival is a major event on the New South Wales cultural calendar and is one of the world's longest-running film festivals. For more information visit: www.sff.org.au.

The 64th Sydney Film Festival is supported by the NSW Government through Screen NSW and Destination NSW, the Federal Government through Screen Australia and the City of Sydney. The Festival's Strategic Partner is the NSW Government through Destination NSW.