



Sat
14 Aug

Penguin Bloom

AUSTRALIA – Drama – 95 min – PG

You may have read the book. Now this inspirational true story comes to the big screen. On a family holiday Sam Bloom, active mother of three boys, is left paraplegic by an awful accident. She struggles with anger, frustration and despair. Then one of her sons adopts an injured fledgling magpie, naming it 'Penguin' for its black-and-white appearance. This newcomer brings change to the household that is profound as it is unexpected. Naomi Watts turns in a brilliant performance as Sam; Andrew Lincoln sensitively plays her husband Cameron and Jackie Weaver is her fussing mother. The Bloom's actual house was used for filming. An unpretentious, heart-warming account of a journey of healing that will appeal to all ages. The avian actors (a number of magpies were trained) are irresistible.



Sat
28 Aug

Minari

USA – Drama – 115 min – PG

Minari invites viewers into the experience of a 1980s Korean-American family attempting to create their own version of the American Dream in rural Arkansas. At the heart of that dream is the father's brainchild of producing Korean vegetables for other immigrant families. The film's title is the name of one such vegetable. It serves as a metaphor for the family's struggle to survive and thrive. Nominated for six academy awards including Best Picture and Best Actor, *Minari* is a semi-autobiographical narrative based on director Lee Isaac Chung's childhood experience. It is a delicately told tale, one which quietly draws us into the day-to-day details of the family's life, without the need for a more traditional dramatic structure, and slowly builds to a masterfully structured ending.

Beverages & Food

Coffee, tea and slices for all regular screenings. Please feel free to bring your own evening dinner, nibbles, or a takeaway from a local business. Tables will be available at evening screening. Licenced cash bar service available at evening & members-only screenings.

All Program Movie Times

3 pm [doors open 2:30 pm]

7 pm [doors open 6pm]

Venue:

Maleny Community Centre, 23 Maple Street, Maleny

Ticket Costs for Members:

\$8 for Regular members, FREE for Gold members.

Tickets are available online, at Maleny Info Centre or at the door.

Members-Only Screenings are FREE for all members [see separate members-only program online].

Please show membership card on entry.

Ticket Costs for Non-Members:

Adults-\$13, Students-\$8, Child under 16-\$5

Tickets are available at the door if not sold out.

Membership

See online for details of benefits, costs and membership types.

Maleny Film Society...

- screens the best of **world cinema**
- promotes **social interaction & film appreciation**
- **collaborates with community groups**

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Bringing you the best of world cinema

8 May - 28 Aug 2021



Sat
8 May

French Exit

USA – Drama/Comedy – 113min – M

Michelle Pfeiffer gives an outstanding performance in this quirky tale of a rich Manhattan widow running out of money and escaping to Paris with her twenty-something son to enjoy the last of her funds before meeting death. Her plan, she says, was 'to die before the money ran out'. Frances is distinctly weird – she sharpens knives in the dark for the sound it makes, she believes her cat carries her husband's soul, she torches a flower arrangement in a café because she doesn't like the waiter's attitude. But Pfeiffer manages to rise above caricature and plays this complex and not entirely likeable character to perfection. A touch of the supernatural permeates this bittersweet droll comedy, with a screenplay by Patrick de Witt based on his novel of the same name.

All Movie Times

3 pm [doors open 2:30 pm]

7 pm [doors open 6pm]

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Sat
22 May

Supernova

UK – Drama – 94 min – M



Sat
5 Jun

The Dry

Australia – Drama – 117 min – MA15+



Sat
26 Jun

Nomadland

USA – Drama – 108 min – M

A supernova is the explosion of a star, and also an oddly-apt title for this film in which one of the two leading characters, stargazer and respected novelist Tusker, has been diagnosed with early-onset dementia. In lovely, heartfelt performances from Stanley Tucci and Colin Firth as his devoted decades-long partner Sam (a classical pianist), the pair take their camper van for a trip north through glorious UK countryside en route to a special family celebration. Writer-director Harry Macqueen treats his characters with the same dignity that they're looking for from life. Both have lived full lives and are natural with each other, lightly jabbing at one another but always doing so out of love. *Supernova* is a restrained but touching portrait of two people stoically facing their mortality.

Eric Bana stars in this compelling crime mystery adapted from Jane Harper's 2017 best-seller. After twenty years' absence, federal agent Aaron Falk returns to his home town for the funeral of his childhood friend Luke, who allegedly committed suicide after killing his wife and young son. Luke's parents persuade him to reopen the investigation. Helped by the local policeman, after some false leads Falk eventually pieces together the evidence to solve the case, delivering an unexpected climax. Whilst doing so, he must contend with the suspicion that he was involved in the death of his girlfriend, the cause of his departure twenty years earlier. A romantic interest provides some complications but also leads to a revelation about the cause of his girlfriend's death.

Frances McDormand shines in this heart-warming but heart-wrenching look at America's growing population of ageing people who find themselves obligatory nomads. Fern's life is turned upside down when, middle aged, she must become an itinerant in order to support herself. Driving her small campervan, she criss-crosses the country seeking short term employment to supplement seasonal work. Staying in trailer parks, she finds whole communities nearing retirement age, unable to afford homes of their own, and obliged to live like nomads, chasing jobs just to survive. Tender and touching, this highly acclaimed film portrays poignantly the humanity Fern finds among these nomad communities, their resilience in the face of adversity, and the support they offer one another.



Sat
3 Jul

High Ground

Australia – Drama – 104 min – MA15+



Sat
17 Jul

The Truffle Hunters

Italy – Documentary – 84 min – M



Sat
31 Jul

The Father

UK – Drama – 97 min – M

Masterful performances by Simon Baker and Jack Thompson and a brilliant debut by young Indigenous actor Jacob Jr Nayinggul, deliver a confronting drama set in the Northern Territory of a century ago. After surviving the massacre of his clan, young Gutjuk is brought into the care of a mission by Travis (Simon Baker) a police officer involved in, but disgusted by, the attack. Years later, Travis – now a bounty hunter – persuades Gutjuk to help track down his uncle, the leader of an outlaw mob. Filmed in the magnificent landscape of Kakadu, this tense and often brutal drama portrays vividly the harshness of frontier life and the injustices suffered by Indigenous people, whilst offering cultural insights. Unexpected twists and turns ensure continuing suspense and tension interspersed with moments of violent action.

This is a charming observation of the tradition-steeped and largely unknown world of the old Italian truffle hunters as that world bumps up against the pressures of crime, greed, climate change, and the different value system of the younger generations. However, *The Truffle Hunters* 'doubles as a sweet study of the relationship between old men and their [truffle-detecting] dogs' (*Guardian*). Co-directed by Americans Michael Dweck and Gregory Kershaw (award-winning directors of doco *The Last Race*), it will appeal to those who are interested in fine food and care about its provenance (represented here by the prized quarry of the Alba truffle), those who appreciate the connection between humans and their animals, and those who love the insights and revelations about our world that great documentary films can provide.

Anthony Hopkins delivers a devastating lead performance in this very different film about dementia. He's a cantankerous old devil determined that he can manage on his own despite pressure from his daughter (Olivia Colman) to accept help. That scenario might be familiar to many of us, but what is different about this film is that most of the time we view the world through Anthony's experience. What is real and what is not? It is at once both an unsettlingly accurate simulation of what it's like to love someone with dementia, and also a strikingly believable conception of what it's like to live as someone with dementia. We always know what's happening, and – with the exception of a few moments that don't involve Anthony – we *never* know what's happening.