



PASIFIKA
FILM FEST

2015

NEW YEAR, NIU STORIES



Welcome to the 2015 Pasifika Film Fest!



Kalo Fainu
Festival Director



Nigel Vagana
Festival Director

In 2013, Pasifika was born on a wing and a prayer, resource-poor but large in its imagination, propelled by a passion to connect to cultural heritage and a determination to announce its inclusion into the Australian cinematic landscape.

In two short years, those wings have grown and taken flight in ways that have stretched and challenged our small team of volunteers who have worked tirelessly together in true Pasifika spirit to get this show on the road. Our deepest gratitude to all of you and also to our loyal supporters and sponsors who continue to keep us airborne. Tenkyu tru olgeta!

It is with genuine delight and an acknowledged sigh of relief that we welcome you, the audience, to the 2nd Pasifika Film Fest 2015!

What can you expect? An exciting mix of features that include a number of new releases, a treasure chest of shorts and documentaries, Q&A's, entertainment, awards and a line up of special guests. Expect also gentleness, strength, humour and deep sorrow. Expect to appreciate the affinity to land and water as well as to ancestry, myth and magic. Expect to be moved and delighted. Expect to discover a new understanding and appreciation of your neighbours, the peoples of the vast Pacific.



Enjoy the show!



OPENING NIGHT Event Details

6.30pm Pre-Screening Events begin

Includes: Outdoor entertainment by The Pioneers Mega Crew
Pasifika Taste Testers

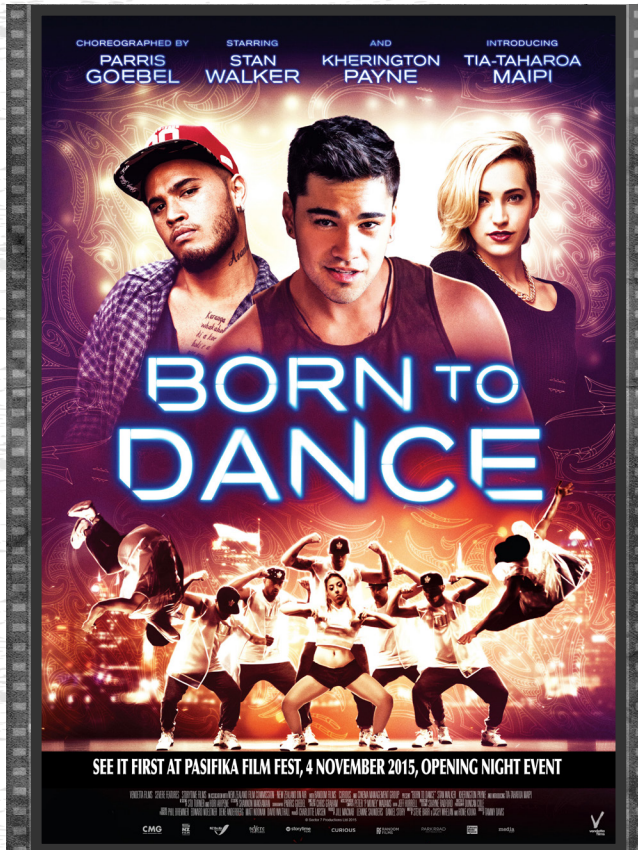
Red Carpet, Meet the Directors, Rub shoulders with Filmmakers & Actors, VIP guests from Sydney Film Industry, NRL players, Entertainers and Pacific Community leaders & representatives.

7.30pm sharp - Official welcome to PFF

7.40pm sharp - Born to Dance screening

Digicel
top up

FILM SCREENINGS



FILM: BORN TO DANCE

Year: 2015

Country: New Zealand

Director: Tammy Davis

Key Cast: Tia Maipi, Stank Walker, Kherington Payne, John Tui, Parria Goebel, Nathan Kara, Micheal Metuakore, Alexandra Carson

Synopsis: Tu Kaea, a young man from Papakura, New Zealand will do whatever it takes to realise his dream of becoming a professional dancer.

Date: Wednesday 4 November

Time: 6:30pm

Location: Hoyts Entertainment Quarter Hoyts Cinema's 14-17, Theatres 14-17, Bent Street, Moore Park.



FILM: THE LAST SAINT

Year: 2014

Country: New Zealand

Director: Rene Naufahu

Key Cast: Beulah Koale, Calvin Tuteao, Joseph Naufahu

Synopsis: Minka is a teenage Polynesian boy living in the heart of the city. With his meth-addicted Mum well on the way to going completely off the rails, three people enter his life - each with a promise, each with the power to destroy.

Date: Thurs 5 Nov

Time: 7.30pm

Location: Hoyts Entertainment Quarter, Theatres 14-17, Bent Street, Moore Park.



FILM: TEP TOK

Year: 2015

Country: Australia

Director:

Key Cast: Nata Richards Paia Ingram Ranu
James Julia Mage'au Gray

Synopsis: Tep Tok follows four women of PNG and Australian descent as they explore tattooing traditions which take them on a journey from Australia and across the Pacific. This life changing journey for the four filmmakers takes the viewer through Pasifika cultures with the hope of breathing life back into the dying art practised by their grandmothers.

SUMMER SESSIONS – COMING SOON



FILM: JILEL: THE CALLING OF THE SHELL

Year: 2014

Country: Marshall Islands

Director: Suzanne Chutaro, Jack Niedenthal

Key Cast: Niten Anni, Tolfina Fakatou,
Netha Gideon

Synopsis: Jilel is the story of Molina, a young Marshallese girl who is confronted for the first time with the idea that her island - her beloved homeland - is vanishing because of the rising seas caused by worldwide global warming and how she turns the tides of doom.

SUMMER SESSIONS – COMING SOON



FILM: IN FOOTBALL WE TRUST

Year: 2015

Country: USA

Director: Tony Vainuku, Erika Cohn

Key Cast:

Synopsis: N FOOTBALL WE TRUST intimately portrays four young Polynesian football players struggling to overcome gang violence, family pressures and near poverty as they enter the high stakes world of college recruiting and the promise of a new life accessed through professional sports.

Date: 6 Nov

Time: 8.30pm

Location: Blacktown Hoyts, Westpoint Shopping Centre, 4 Patrick St, Blacktown

SOLE MIO ON ANOTHER NOTE



MEET AND GREET SOL3 MIO



NRL player Suaia Matagi will be speaking at our FRIDAY NIGHT FOOTBALL - ISLAND STYLE event to share his personal journey from Prison to the NRL with the audience



FILM: THE SPIRIT OF THE ANCESTORS

Year: 2015

Country: Rapa Nui

Director: Leo Pakarati

Key Cast:

Synopsis: This documentary film is a journey in search of the lost Mana, an Easter Island statue of significant

cultural importance. It explores the social and political landscape of the island of Rapanui as the people attempt to claim back what is rightfully theirs: Their land and a lava-rock image of tremendous presence, representing one of the world's most extraordinary cosmological views.

SUMMER SESSIONS – COMING SOON



FILM: GROOVE CITY

Year: 2015

Country: New Zealand

Director: Leo Pakarati

Key Cast:

Synopsis: Groove City is a musical set against the life of Solmon Tumau, a reformed bad boy who is on a mission to steer his younger brothers and the youth in his community away from the path that he has walked; and towards their

limitless potential.

Date: Sat 7 Nov - **Time:** 4.30pm

Location: Hoyts Blacktown,
Westpoint Shopping Centre, 4 Patrick St, Blacktown

**SPECIAL LIVE PERFORMANCE
BY GIANT KILLA**



Tales from Oceania (Short Films Session)

Sat Nov 7th 5.00pm 7.00pm

A diverse selection of short films & documentaries celebrating the unique and wonderful people, places and culture of the Pacific region.

Films included in Tales from Oceania are:

- Ike: Wisdom to Whisper
- In Language
- Falls
- Ma
- Keeping up with the Kau Haa
- Aho'eitu
- Gambler
- Pawa Meri Never Give Up

FILM: IKE: WISDOM TO WHISPER



Year: 2015

Country: TAHITI

Director : Clifford Kapono

Synopsis: I ke is an adventure documentary film that highlights and contrasts both western and Indigenous perspectives on scientific research in local communities. Shot on location in Tahiti, this film looks to raise awareness about resource reciprocity for native and visiting peoples.

FILM: IN LANGUAGE



Year: 2015

Country: Australia

Director : Alana Hicks

Synopsis: In Language is a poetic film based on the Motu language of the coastal people of Papua New Guinea. The stories and anecdotes are related through the voices of three PNG women, mostly in their mother tongue.

FILM: FALLS



Year: 2015

Country: Australia

Director : Mohamad Mustapha

Key Cast : Raquel Vaivao, Diamond Langi, Scarlett Gago, Asia Fagalilo

Synopsis: A woman traumatised by the loss of a friend contemplates the concept of loss as she sets out on a hike that the departed used to take as an annual birthday activity.

FILM: MA



Year: 2014

Country: New Zealand

Director : Nikki Si'ulepa

Key Cast : Leiataua Afega 'Ma' Si'ulepa

Synopsis: Ma is a story about a Samoan grandmother trying to survive being alone. She is strongwilled and tough but under the rock hard exterior is an old woman trying to endure what's left of her existence. Ma is about a woman's strength, weakness, love and humanity in a world that has almost forgotten her.

FILM: KEEPING UP WITH THE KAU HAUA



Year: 2015

Country: Tonga

Director : Sisi'uno Helu

Key Cast :

Synopsis: Keeping up with the Kau Haua is a short film about the homeless alcoholics roaming the streets of Nuku'alofa. The term 'Haua' or 'Ha'u a' means, come back or come back home, it is enough roaming the streets.

It's not that they are homeless, they choose to live on the streets and beg.

FILM: GAMBLER



Year: 2015

Country: Australia

Director : Andrew Scarano

Key Cast : Patrick Chongnee, Marie Chanel, Michael Kotsihilis

Synopsis: Ray a retired Rugby League Star, turned gambling addict, must learn that life after the game is not all about winning.

FILM: PAWA MERI



Year: 2015

Country: PNG

Director : Ruth Ketau

Key Cast : Gina Baidam

Synopsis: *Pawa Meri: Nevere Give Up* is the moving story of community worker Gina Baidam from Serimambu village, 3 hours by boat from Daru in the Western Province of Papua New Guinea. We learn about the difficulties that pregnant women in this remote village face and Gina's ambition to change the situation for women and families in Serimambu.

FILM: AHO'EITU



Year: 2015

Country: Tonga

Director : Jeremiah Tau'amiti

Key Cast : Noga Pulu, Sisi'uno Helu, Latu Va'eno, Sione Pia Fatai

Synopsis: Based on the Tongan legend, Aho'eitu leaves his mother to find his father Tagaloa in the heavens. On his quest he finds out that he also has brothers, but will they accept him as their own? And will Tagaloa acknowledge his son, and who will take his place as his heir, the first king, the Tu'i Tonga.

Little Coconuts Short Films sessions - Hoyts Cinemas Blacktown

Sat Nov 7th 2.30pm - 4.00pm

Little Coconuts is a series of short films for kids, a great selection of stories selected especially for the younger generations and the perfect event for the whole family.

Films included in Little Coconuts are (please include pic for each from media folder):

- The Tale of the Coconut
- Islet
- Dog Save the Queen
- Ow What

FILM: THE TALE OF THE COCONUT



Year: 2015

Country: PNG

Director: Mark Thummler

Key Cast: Wesley Aldan, Cecilia Benson, Judas Tobing, Ron Aldan

Synopsis: The children of the South Sea Island Karawara in Papua New Guinea, tell us an old legend from their home: *The Tale of the Coconut* recounts how the hunter Kenken-Ebe is left behind on a remote island. When he swims home by himself, a shark suddenly appears!

FILM: ISLET



Year: 2015

Country: TUVALU

Director: Andrew John Fakaua Ponton

Key Cast: Tui Pasuna

Synopsis: Caught looking at naughty magazines, a thirteen year old boy must now navigate his way through the outrage of his ultra conservative South Pacific Island community.

FILM: DOG SAVE THE QUEEN



Year: 2015

Country: COOK ISLANDS

Director: Marcus Hammill

Key Cast: Teio Mariri, Rereao Vano, Tim Sosene

Synopsis: Back in 1972, when the queen visited the Cook Islands aboard Royal Britannia, one of her corgis got loose and busy with some of the local mutts. With the royal corgi bloodline facing certain extinction, the palace is seeking a descendant from that '72 romp. Nuka's world is turned upside down when his dog, Cyclone, is announced the winner of the 'Million Dollar Corgi Contest'. Torn between his dreams and family duty, Nuka must face the heartwrenching choice between cold hard cash and mans best friend.

FILM: OW WHAT



Year: 2015

Country: New Zealand

Director: Mike Johnathan

Key Cast: Timoti Tiakiwai, Hinteariki McCorkindale, Te Kaikino Hampton, Tame Iti, Ed Harawira

Synopsis: Te Mauri is an old soul. Rather than joining his mates on the field after school, he sets about ensuring his brother and sister are fed, clean and up to date with their home work. Te Mauri's world is transformed when he makes a discovery one fateful night that will change his life forever.



FILM: ONE MORE WIN

Year: 2015

Country: Cook Island

Director: Scott Kelso

Key Cast: Barry George, Cam Kilgour, Stan Wright

Synopsis: The Cook Islands team are thrown together with only two weeks

to train to do the impossible: qualify for the 2015 Rugby World Cup. This is the story of the team's mission to write Pacific rugby history. Ranked 46th in the world, they need to beat Fiji, ranked 11th. Journey through the highs & the lows and get to know the people that make this team tick. With only 3 professional players, very few resources, a few Cook Island donuts and some hard working volunteers, this team needs just "One More Win".

SUMMER SESSIONS – COMING SOON



FILM: VANUATU WOMEN'S WATER MUSIC

Year: 2015

Country: Vanuatu

Director:

Key Cast:

Synopsis: The performers of the Vanuatu Women's Water Music group

hail from the remote northern tropical islands of Vanuatu. They travel the world performing the Na Mag and Ne Leang dances as a prelude to the mystical water music, dressed in their traditional costumes of Gaua and Mere Lava made from flowers and leaves, coconuts and pandanus. Their performance is truly mesmerizing as they reimagine the old with contemporary expressions of Matto - bringing together traditional beats and rhythms with ukulele-led melodies and soaring vocal harmonies. The Women's Water Music of Vanuatu is a performance that needs to be seen (and heard) to be believed.

SUMMER SESSIONS – COMING SOON



FILM: TANNA

Year: 2015

Country: Vanuatu

Director: Martin Butler, Bentley Dean

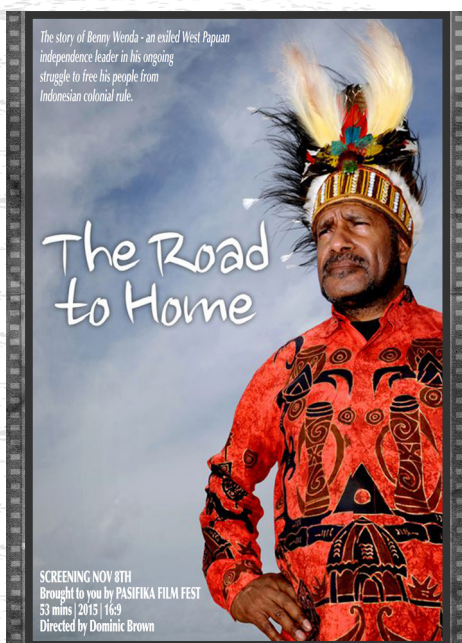
Key Cast:

Synopsis: In one of the last traditional tribes of the Pacific, a young girl falls in love with her chief's grandson. When an inter-tribal war escalates, the girl is unknowingly betrothed as part of a peace deal. The young lovers run away, but are pursued by enemy warriors intent on killing them. They must choose between their hearts and the future of the tribe, while the villagers must wrestle with preserving their traditional culture and adapting it to increasing outside demands for individual freedom. Based on a true story performed by the people of Yakel.

Date: Sat 7 Nov

Time: 7.30pm

Location: Hoyts Entertainment Quarter, Theatres 14-17, Bent Street, Moore Park



FILM: THE ROAD TO HOME

Year: 2015

Country: WEST PAPUA

Director: Dominic Brown

Key Cast: Benny Wenda

Synopsis: The Road to Home, tells the story of Benny Wenda, the Nobel Peace Prize nominated Papuan Independence leader. From his humble upbringing in the remote highlands of New Guinea, through to his life in political exile in the UK, Benny Wenda's story is one that has inspired many.

Date: Sun 8 Nov

Time: 1.00pm

Location: Hoyts Entertainment Quarter, Theatres 14-17, Bent Street, Moore Park



FILM: KUMU HINA

Year: 2014

Country: HI/USA

Director/s: Dean Hamer, Joe Wilson

Key Cast: Leo Anderson Akana, Haemaccelo Kalu, Ho'Onani Kamai

Synopsis:

KUMU HINA is a powerful film about the struggle to maintain Pacific Islander culture and values, told through the lens of a Native Hawaiian teacher who is both a proud and confident m h , or transgender woman, and an admired kumu, or cultural practitioner

Date: Sun 8 Nov

Time: 3.30pm

Location: Hoyts Entertainment Quarter, Theatres 14-17, Bent Street, Moore Park



CLOSING NIGHT Event Details

3.30pm Pre-Screening Events begin

Includes: Fashion Show by Lavashe Couture

Hawaiian dance performance by MATAVAI Cultural Arts (Live music)

Pacific Taste Testers

Meet the Directors, Rub shoulders with Filmmakers & Actors, VIP guests from Sydney Film Industry, NRL players, Entertainers and Pacific Community leaders & representatives.

4.30pm - Kumu Hina Screening

Location: Hoyts Entertainment Quarter, Theatres 14-17, Bent Street, Moore Park

5.50pm - Post Screening Awards

Location: Mi Piaci Pizza Bar & Restaurant @ The EQ

Performance by Cydel & Giant Killer



MEET OUR JUDGES



Jessica Khoury

Co-Director, Lebanese Film Festival



Jay Lagaia

Actor



Camille Lattouf

Director, Lebanese Film Festival



Makerita Urale

Filmmaker/Creative NZ



Misa Sione

Aotearoa Maori Film Festival (Hawaii)



Nakkiah Lui

Actor/Playwrite



Brent Reihana

Aotearoa Maori Film Festival



Aaron Faoso

Actor



Karin Williams

NZ Film Commission



Pauline Clague

Filmmaker, AFTRS



Roannie Ng Shiu

ANU Researcher



Te Awanui Reeder

Nesian Mystik

PASIFIKA FILM FESTIVAL TEAM

Kalo Fainu

FESTIVAL DIRECTOR

Nigel Vagana

FESTIVAL DIRECTOR

Eliorah Malifa

OPERATIONS & LOGISTICS MANAGER

Paul Tu'ivai

V.P. BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT & SPONSORSHIPS

Arieta Tora

SOCIAL MEDIA AND MARKETING ADVISOR

With special thanks to all our volunteers:

Dominic Nimo - Social Media Manager

Natasha Westropp - Blog Writer

Jannike Seiuli - Event Management

Terri Smith - Event Management

Elisabeth Tuilekutu - Research & Event Coordinator

Danny Aumua - Video Promotions

Mereani Qalovakawasa - Media & Communications

Byron Watson - Website Developer

Tusi Faasootau - Admin Assistant

Josephine Kilititi - Program design Assistant

Gwen Tau - Event Coordinator

Sheryl Fenn - PR

Florence Tupuola - Research

Linda Pham - Program designer

Josephine Kilititi - Program design Assistant

Bobby Romia - SBS

PASIFIKA FILM FESTIVAL VISION

Our mission is to encourage both established as well as aspiring Pasifika writers, directors and actors to explore, record and give expression to their cultural origins by providing a festival that showcases their work.

PROGRAM 5 DAY

FILM	DATE	TIME	LOCATION
Born to Dance	Wednesday 4 November	6:30pm	Hoyts EQ
The Last Saint	Thursday 5 November	7:30pm	Hoyts EQ
In Football we Trust	Friday 6 November	8:30pm	Hoyts Blacktown
Little Coconuts	Sat 7 November	2:30pm	Hoyts Blacktown
Groove City	Sat 7 November	4:30pm	Hoyts Blacktown
Tales from Oceania	Sat 7 November	5:00pm	Hoyts EQ
Tanna	Sat 7 November	7:30pm	Hoyts EQ
The Road to Home	Sunday 8 November	1:00pm	Hoyts EQ
Kumu Hina	Sunday 8 November	3:30pm	Hoyts EQ

PASIFIKA FILM FESTIVAL SUMMER SESSIONS COMING SOON....	
Tep Tek	
Jilel	
The Spirit of the Ancestors	
One More Win	
Vanuatu Women's Water Music	



Contact details

- ✉ (General) info@pasifikafilmfest.com
- ✉ (Filmmakers) pasifikafilmandarts@gmail.com

- 📘 [facebook.com/PasifikaFest](https://www.facebook.com/PasifikaFest)
- 📷 [@pasifikafilmfest](https://www.instagram.com/pasifikafilmfest)
- 📺 [@pasifikafilms](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC...)

Thank you to our Partners & Sponsors

Digicel
top up



MI PIACE
PIZZA E BAR



Tāki Mai



G CORPORATE CHOBANI

lenovo

