

Media release

## Five years of Down Under Film Festival in Berlin: A call for mates

**The *Down Under Berlin – Australian Film Festival* turns five years old and launches a crowd funding campaign to make this one count. As one of the most vital platforms for Australian and New Zealand culture in Europe, the non-profit festival is looking for support from festival mates to carry out its anniversary edition.**

*Berlin, 22 June 2015* - With less than 100 days on the festival countdown, Berlin's Australian film festival is calling mates around the world for support. Down Under Berlin has been acting as a platform for Australian and New Zealand film and culture in Europe, having realised four film festivals as well as several film events and concerts to spread Down Under flair in Berlin's notorious culture scene. 2015's festival edition marks the fifth Down Under Berlin anniversary and will take place **20 – 16 September** at one of Germany's oldest independent cinemas, Kino Moviemento.

This year, the festival's growing ambitions call for further financial support. Over the last five years Down Under Berlin has been acting as an important cultural hub for filmmakers, moviephiles, expats and locals alike: *"Sadly very few Down Under productions actually make it to Europe, albeit having such a fantastic community here"*, explains Australian festival founder Frances Hill. *"It is our vision to continue giving Down Under filmmakers the opportunity to showcase their work away from home and enthral international audiences here in Berlin with Down Under's visual culture and storytelling."*

The **crowd funding campaign** runs from 22 June to 20 July 2015 and is aiming for a minimum of 3500 Euros to cover festival expenses and allow Down Under Berlin a worthy fifth birthday edition: [startnext.de/downunderberlin](http://startnext.de/downunderberlin).

**Web:** [downunderberlin.de](http://downunderberlin.de)

**Festival Impressions:** [on.fb.me/1bm7Hem](https://on.fb.me/1bm7Hem)



DownUnderBerlin



@DownUnderFest

**Anniversary Social Media Hashtag:** #highfive

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### **About Down Under Berlin – Australian Film Festival**

Down Under Berlin was established in 2011 and is a project of the not-for-profit association Down Under Berlin – Australian Film Festival e.V. Now in its fifth year, it has developed into the largest film festival in Europe dedicated to Australian film. As such it provides not only a window to the unique storytelling and cinematography from Down Under but also a platform for filmmakers, who want to present their work to German audiences. The festival showcases a wide range of films including Indigenous cinema, short films, documentaries, experimental and feature films. The fifth festival edition also marks the beginning of an official shift towards a stronger representation of New Zealand film at the festival.

