



**MEDIA RELEASE – 17 AUGUST 2017**

## **FESTIVAL OPENING NIGHT: JASPER JONES & FEATURE SCREENING OF OTHERLIFE**

Join us in celebrating the festival opening of Down Under Berlin 2017!

The highly anticipated opening night of Down Under Berlin on 13 September 2017, 20:00h, at Movimiento Kino will be introduced by the Australian Embassy in Berlin.

This year's program takes the audience on a journey, looking beyond that which seems to be true. The festival looks towards new futures and healing broken pasts with two fantastic Australian feature films this year in the modern classic "**Jasper Jones**" (2017) on the festival opening night, and the thrilling sci-fi feature "**OtherLife**" (2017), screening on Friday, 15 September.

Adapted from Craig Silvey's bestselling Australian novel, "**Jasper Jones**" (2017) by renowned director Rachel Perkins ("Bran Nue Dae"), features a stellar cast including Toni Collette, Hugo Weaving, and Levi Miller. It is a beautiful coming-of-age story about Charlie Bucktin, a bookish boy of 14 living in a small town in Western Australia in 1965. Charlie embarks on a journey to prove the town's mixed-race outcast, Jasper Jones, is innocent in the murder of a young girl's death in the community. While defeating the local racists, he faces the breakup of his parents and falls head over heels in love as he discovers what it means to be truly courageous.

In Ben C. Lucas' thrilling Australian sci-fi feature "**OtherLife**" (2017), starring Jessica de Gouw and Thomas Cocquerel, Ren Amari is the driven inventor of a revolutionary new drug OtherLife that creates virtual reality directly in the user's mind by expanding the brain's sense of time to make mere seconds in real life feel like hours or days of exciting adventure. As Ren and her colleagues race around the clock to launch OtherLife, the government muscled in to use the drug as a radical solution to prison overcrowding. When Ren resists, the fight for control of OtherLife begins.

**“JASPER JONES” SCREENING****DATE:** Wednesday, 13 September 2017**TIME:** 20:00**LOCATION:** Movimiento Kino,  
Kottbusser Damm 22, 10967 Berlin**TICKETS:** 8 Euro**“OTHERLIFE” SCREENING****DATE:** Friday, 15 September 2017**TIME:** 21:45**LOCATION:** Movimiento Kino,  
Kottbusser Damm 22, 10967 Berlin**TICKETS:** 8 Euro

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**FESTIVAL WEBSITE:** [www.downunderberlin.de](http://www.downunderberlin.de)**FESTIVAL PROGRAM:** [www.downunderberlin.de/calendar](http://www.downunderberlin.de/calendar)**DOWNLOAD PROGRAM:** [Click here](#)**MEDIA AREA:** [www.downunderberlin.de/press](http://www.downunderberlin.de/press)**FILM STILLs:** [presse@downunderberlin.de](mailto:presse@downunderberlin.de)**MEDIA ACCREDITATION:** [presse@downunderberlin.de](mailto:presse@downunderberlin.de)**TICKETS:** 8 Euro (5-Ticket-Pass for 35 Euro only available at the cinema)**RESERVATION:** [www.movimiento.de](http://www.movimiento.de) | phone: +49 (0) 30 6924 785**VENUE:** Movimiento Kino, Kottbusser Damm 22, 10967 Berlin**ATTENDING FILMMAKERS (as of 17 August 2017):**

Down Under Berlin is delighted to announce that several filmmakers will participate in the festival, being available for Q&As as well as media requests or giving introductions to films:

**Sotiris Dounoukos** | Director “Joe Cinque’s Consolation”**Mala Ghedia** | Writer/Producer/Actress “No Monsters In Berlin”**Florian Habicht** | Director “Spookers”**Jonathan Wilhelmsson** | Director “Waltzing Tilda”**Raquel Linde** | Producer “Waltzing Tilda”**Carita Boronska** | Composer “Waltzing Tilda”**CONTACT****Frances Hill** | **MARKETING & MEDIA COOPERATIONS**[frances.hill@downunderberlin.de](mailto:frances.hill@downunderberlin.de) | +49 (0) 157 72748284**Charmaine Gorman** | **CONTENT MANAGER**[charmaine.gorman@downunderberlin.de](mailto:charmaine.gorman@downunderberlin.de)