



**MEDIA RELEASE – 5 SEPTEMBER 2017**

## **Australia vs. New Zealand – SHORT FILM BATTLE**

Due to the vast amount of short film submissions for 2017, Down Under Berlin has decided to take matters into their own hands. As well as three individual short film sessions in the week, they have created the ultimate short film marathon; with a bit of friendly competition to make it an event you won't want to miss.

**On Thursday 14 September, Down Under Berlin will host the first ever Australia vs. New Zealand - Short Film Battle.**

Over two rounds, 6 Australian and 6 New Zealand films will be shown on the big screen at Movimiento Kino. The audience votes after each session for their favourite film and the winning films are announced! The two winning filmmakers will receive a yearlong membership to the international film community platform FilmUp, which could help to further the careers of these filmmakers, both professional filmmakers and film school graduates alike.

Films include NZ beauties such as *The World In Your Window*, *The Couple*, *Maria*, *Tree*, *Possum* and *Madam Black*. Australia brings *The Aquarium*, *Etch*, *Waltzing Tilda*, *The Fox*, *The Kite* and *Walter* to Berlin. The director of *Waltzing Tilda*, Jonathan Wilhelmsson, will be attending to give a short Q&A after session 1. Carita Boronska the films composer, and producer Raquel Linde join him at Down Under Berlin 2017!

**Not to be outdone by this event, Down Under Berlin is showing three other short film slots celebrating the diversity of Australian and New Zealand short film.**

This year's program is perfect for short film lovers of Berlin. 16 fabulous short films will be spread across three sessions at Movimiento Kino. The sessions are titled: **Discover Your Self**, **Late Night Special**, and **Sunday Selection**. See one, or see them all, the audience get to vote on their favourite for the audience prize of Best Short Film at this year's festival. Local Australian filmmaker Mala Ghedia from *No Monsters in Berlin* will be in attendance and is available for interviews in the lead up to the festival, as well as the films co-star Samir Al Hajjar and composer Milad Khawam. Jess Newman, the director of *The Cycle* and Susan Earl, the director of *Deep Storage*, will also be attending.

**Battle of the Shorts -AUS vs. NZ  
ROUND 1**

**DATE:** Thursday, 14 September 2017

**TIME:** 7:30pm – 9.00pm

**LOCATION:** Movimiento Kino,  
Kottbusser Damm 22, 10967 Berlin

**TICKETS:** 8 Euro

**Battle of the Shorts -AUS vs. NZ  
ROUND 2**

**DATE:** Thursday, 14 September 2017

**TIME:** 9:30pm – 11.00pm

**LOCATION:** Movimiento Kino,  
Kottbusser Damm 22, 10967 Berlin

**TICKETS:** 8 Euro

For information on dates and times of **Discover Your Self**, **Late Night Special**, and **Sunday Selection** please go to

<http://downunderberlin.de/calendar>

---

**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 5 September 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"

**Milad Khawam** | Composer "No Monsters In Berlin"

**Samir Al Hajjar** | Actor "No Monsters In Berlin"

**Florian Habicht** | Director "Spookers"

**Jonathan Wilhelmsson** | Director "Waltzing Tilda"

**Carita Boronska** | Composer "Waltzing Tilda"

**Jess Newman** | Director "The Cycle"

**Susan Earl** | Director "Deep Storage"

**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)