

## MUSIC DOCS rock the 2009 BigPond® Adelaide Film Festival

The 2009 BigPond® Adelaide Film Festival gets into the groove with **MUSIC DOCS**, a program featuring documentaries on everything from metal and mash-up, to soul, Australian rock, free jazz, and traditional Javanese music.

BAFF is proud to present the world premiere of one of the exciting films on the program, *IT'S RAINING PLEASURE*, a rockumentary on iconic Australian band, The Triffids, filmed around the 2008 reunion tribute concert which was staged at the Sydney Festival. Triffids member, Graham Lee will be a guest of the festival.

A must movie for all music fans is the wonderful and often hilarious *ANVIL! THE STORY OF ANVIL* by Sacha Gervasi. The film tells the story of Toronto school friends Steve 'Lips' Kudlow and Robb Reiner who, at 14, made a pact to rock together forever. Their band, Anvil, went on to become the 'demigods of Canadian metal,' releasing one of the heaviest albums in metal history, 1982's *Metal on Metal*. The album influenced a musical generation, including Metallica, Slayer, and Anthrax, that went on to sell millions of records. But Anvil's career took a different path—straight to obscurity. Director Sacha Gervasi documents Anvil's last-ditch quest for elusive fame and fortune. His ingenious filmmaking may first lead you to think this a mockumentary, but it isn't... At its core, *ANVIL! THE STORY OF ANVIL* is a timeless tale of survival and the unadulterated passion it takes to follow your dream, year after year.

*SOUL POWER* (dir: Jeffrey Levy-Hinte) offers a front row ticket to some of the best soul, roots, and rhythm & blues you're ever likely to hear: B.B. King, Hugh Masekela, Bill Withers, The Spinners, Miriam Makeba, and to top it all off, the Sex Machine himself, The Godfather of Soul, Mr James Brown. Many people are familiar with Muhammad Ali's 'Rumble in the Jungle' with George Foreman in Kinshasa in 1974, but may not know there was also a music festival associated with the fight. The aim was to showcase the best of African-American music alongside the emerging African music scene to celebrate black pride. The footage was then tied up in litigation for thirty years, but in the wake of *When We Were Kings* (which director Levy-Hinte edited) it has now resurfaced sounding fresher than ever. *SOUL POWER* will have its Australian premiere at the BAFF.

Anyone who saw Garin Nugroho's *Opera Jawa* at AFF07 can be in doubt that he is a major creative presence in the cinema of our region. Like that film, *TEAK LEAVES AT THE TEMPLES* insists that cultures are not fixed bodies of tradition, but that they show their health through the ability to absorb new influences and build bridges to other forms. In 2006, a European jazz combo consisting of Guerino Mozzola (Swiss, piano), Heinz Geisser (Swiss, percussion), and Sirona (Norris Jones, American, bass) set up an ambitious program of collaborations with Indonesian fusion group the Sono Seni Ensemble and a host of other artists, musicians and dancers. The resultant improvisations mix contemporary free jazz with the traditions of Javanese music and dance. Their performances are staged for the camera at the famed 8th century Buddhist temple Borobudur and the nearby Hindu temple Prambanan. A local sculptor—who takes on the role of Superman in the film—underlines the point that cultural traditions are as modern as today.

*YOUSSOU NDOUR: I BRING WHAT I LOVE*, written, produced and directed by Elizabeth Chai Vasarhelyi centres on the release of Senegalese superstar, Youssou Ndur's 2004 *Egypt* album in which he turns to his religion, Sufism, the ecstatic form of Islam which is prevalent in Senegal. The album is an attempt to form a synthesis between North African and West African religious and musical traditions, although it sparks a firestorm of controversy in his homeland where Ndur is denounced by conservatives. This is an inspiring assertion of the way that music can change the world, can move religion in new directions and ally it with a new politic. *YOUSSOU NDOUR: I BRING WHAT I LOVE* will have its Australian premiere at the festival.

*RIP: A REMIX MANIFESTO* (dir: Brett Gaylor) is not only a guide through the musical phenomenon of the remixed mash-up, this provocative Canadian doco takes on media corporations and their attempts to turn ideas into intellectual property, which they can control through copyright. Brett Gaylor puts forward this manifesto on behalf of the copyleft, asserting that all new culture stems from the culture of the past, and that to broaden the private ownership of cultural goods is to stop the future from evolving freely. The spread of digital technologies, whose very nature is to make it easier to copy, re-combine and re-

distribute, ups the ante. Dance sampler *Girl Talk*, *Negativland*, the *Mouse Liberation Front* and sundry other mixers, mashers, culture jammers, and copyright thieves turn up to demonstrate their aim to 'put Elton John in a headlock, put a beat behind him and pour a beer on his head.' *RIP: A REMIX MANIFESTO* will have its Australian premiere at BAFF.

In 1985 English music magazine *NME* declared it to be the year of *The Triffids*. *IT'S RAINING PLEASURE* by Steven Levett takes a close look at the Perth based band that was built around superb and versatile musicianship, but also around great songs. Now, performing in Australia for the first time in almost 19 years, the five remaining members of *The Triffids* and a select group of their friends (including Mick Harvey from *the Bad Seeds*, and *The Church's* Steve Kilby) celebrate the music and the memory of founding Triffid and chief songwriter, David McComb, who died at age 37 in 1999. This world premiere rockumentary covers the reunion-tribute concerts which were staged as a highlight of the 2008 Sydney Festival. The film includes the best of the performances along with interviews with members of *The Triffids* and their guest performers. It showcases McComb's songwriting genius, from early gems such as 'Thanks For Everything', recognised classics 'Wide Open Road', 'Trick Of The Light' and 'Bury Me Deep In Love,' through to exclusive renditions of unreleased works from McComb's later years. It truly is raining pleasure, so come on out—you won't need an umbrella.

Other music documentaries screening at the festival but not in the MUSIC DOCS program are the world premiere of *RAMONES ARE NOT DEAD*, a short film by Andrew Bunney and Suzy Ramone, about local band *Ramones* who set out on a campaign of world domination, seeking to unite all the *Ramones* fans in the world, and the Australian premiere of *WE ARE WIZARDS* (dir: Josh Koury), a film examining the Harry Potter inspired 'Wizard Rock' phenomenon.

**ANVIL! THE STORY OF ANVIL**

10:30PM	FRIDAY 20 FEBRUARY	PALACE 6
9:50 PM	MONDAY 23 FEBRUARY	PALACE 1
9:15 PM	SUNDAY 1 MARCH	PALACE 7

WORLD PREMIERE

**IT'S RAINING PLEASURE**

9:00 PM	WEDNESDAY 25 FEBRUARY	PALACE 6
8:30 PM	FRIDAY 27 FEBRUARY	PALACE 3

AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE

**RIP: A REMIX MANIFESTO**

9:50 PM	SATURDAY 21 FEBRUARY	PALACE 6
10:15 PM	SATURDAY 28 FEBRUARY	PALACE 6

AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE

**SOUL POWER**

9:45 PM	THURSDAY 19 FEBRUARY	PALACE 7
8:30PM	SATURDAY 21 FEBRUARY	HENLEY SQUARE
2:45 PM	THURSDAY 26 FEBRUARY	PALACE 1
8:30 PM	SATURDAY 28 FEBRUARY	ALDINGA
7:20 PM	SUNDAY 1 MARCH	PALACE 7

**TEAK LEAVES AT THE TEMPLES**

**BABI BUTA YANG INGINTERBANG**

5:30 PM	FRIDAY 20 FEBRUARY	PALACE 3
4:00 PM	THURSDAY 26 FEBRUARY	PALACE 3

AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE

**YOUSSOU NDOUR: BRING WHAT LOVE**

4:45 PM	MONDAY 23 FEBRUARY	PALACE 6
1:00 PM	SATURDAY 28 FEBRUARY	PALACE 7

For more information please contact Miranda Brown Publicity on 03 9419 0931 or [Miranda@mbpublicity.com.au](mailto:Miranda@mbpublicity.com.au)  
 For bookings and more info visit [www.adelaidefilmfestival.org](http://www.adelaidefilmfestival.org) or phone the BAFF Ticket Hotline on 1300 727 432  
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