

The background of the poster is a vibrant lime green. Overlaid on this are several large, dark grey or black, stylized shapes that resemble speech bubbles or abstract, elongated letters. These shapes are arranged in a grid-like pattern, with some overlapping. The shapes have pointed ends, giving them a dynamic, organic feel. The overall aesthetic is modern and graphic.

YOUNG BLOOD

TILDE FILM FESTIVAL PROGRAM 2026

2 WEEKENDS OF TRANS-AUTHORED CINEMA

MAY 1 - 9, 2026

WE ACKNOWLEDGE THAT WE ARE ON TRADITIONAL LANDS OF THE WURUNDJERI WOI WURRUNG PEOPLE OF THE KULIN NATION. WE OFFER OUR RESPECT TO THE ELDERS OF THESE TRADITIONAL LANDS AND, THROUGH THEM, TO ALL ABORIGINAL AND TORRES STRAIT ISLANDER PEOPLE. WE ACKNOWLEDGE AND OFFER OUR RESPECT TO ALL SISTERGIRLS AND BROTHERBOYS. ALWAYS WAS, ALWAYS WILL BE, ABORIGINAL LAND.

SYMBOLISM

TIL•DE (NOUN\TIL-D \): A SYMBOL (~) INDICATING EQUIVALENCY OR SIMILARITY BETWEEN TWO VALUES/APPROXIMATIONS.

Fa'afafine & Fa'atama/Fa'afatama (Samoa), **Mahu** (Tahiti/Hawaii), **Māhūkāne** (Hawai'i), **Vaka se lewa lewa** (Fiji), **Palopa** (Papua New Guinea), **Akava'ine** (Cook Islands), **Fakaleiti/leiti** (Tonga), **Fakafifine** (Niue), **Pinapinaaine/Binapinaaine** (Tuvalu & Kiribati), **Rae rae** (Tahiti), **Haka huahine** (Tokelau), **Binabinamane** (Kiribati), **Takatāpui** (Aotearoa), **Las Traviesas** (Columbia) **Two-spirit** (USA), **Hijra** (India), **Khawaja sira** (Pakistan), **Waria** (Indonesia).

FESTIVAL THEME: YOUNG BLOOD

This year's theme is "Young Blood", because our blood carries our stories. In 2026, we're getting out and about. We're bringing TILDE closer to you, with screenings across Naarm, partnering with our favourite community spaces, venues and cinemas. Our festival this year was named by our portrait artist Ash Spittal. We've been inspired by Ash, by our young radical filmmakers, those crafting deep-cut trans narratives, and the powerful collective artistry of FAMILI, whose lyrics speak truth to power: "My blood is a river that carries a song. My blood are the people, that lifted me all the way up."

Explore hope in queer nature, DIY trans horror auteurs, and slices of the everyday with us, as we give back to our little trans selves.

FESTIVAL AUNTIE: LILLY WACHOWSKI

Writer, director, mentor, and Executive Director, Lilly Wachowski is spearheading a powerful wave of trans-authored storytelling. More than an icon, she has revolutionized pop culture through films that reflect trans experiences. We celebrate Lilly as our Festival Aunty, recognising her lasting impact on film, culture, and the broader community.

We love you, Aunty!

PLANNER

KEY: **FREE** = Free Event,  = Mask Encouraged,
 = Captions,  = Auslan, **OC** = Open Captions

DAY	10	11	12	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
DAY 1 FRIDAY 1ST										6:30pm - 9:00pm FOOTSCRAY COMMUNITY ARTS OPENING NIGHT				
DAY 2 SATURDAY 2ND								5:00pm - 6:30pm FED SQ. INFLUX  		7:00pm - 9:00pm FED SQ. OUR FUTURE FREE  				
DAY 3 SUNDAY 3RD					2:00pm - 3:20pm ECLIPSE CINEMA 					7:00pm - 9:00pm PONY CLUB GYM  				
DAY 4 WEDNESDAY 6TH										6:30pm-8:00pm ECLIPSE  				
DAY 5 FRIDAY 8TH										9:00pm - 11:00pm COBURG VILLAGE CINEMA DRIVE-IN				
DAY 6 SATURDAY 9TH	10:00AM - FOOTSCRAY DRILL HALL ALICE MAIO MACKAY MOVIE MARATHON													

DAY 1: OPENING NIGHT FRIDAY MAY 1

GET TICKETS

SAPPHIC FLICKS PRESENTS: OPENING NIGHT

Guest Curated by Merryn Trescott & Jamie Connor

MAY 1ST, 6:30PM - 9:00PM
FOOTSCRAY COMMUNITY ARTS

A critical conversation between Sistergirls, Brotherboys, trans and gender expansive First Nations creatives in response to 'Trans Day of Vanishing' by Lily Alexandre.

A night for trans truth telling,
led by the First Storytellers.

Notes on Vanishing

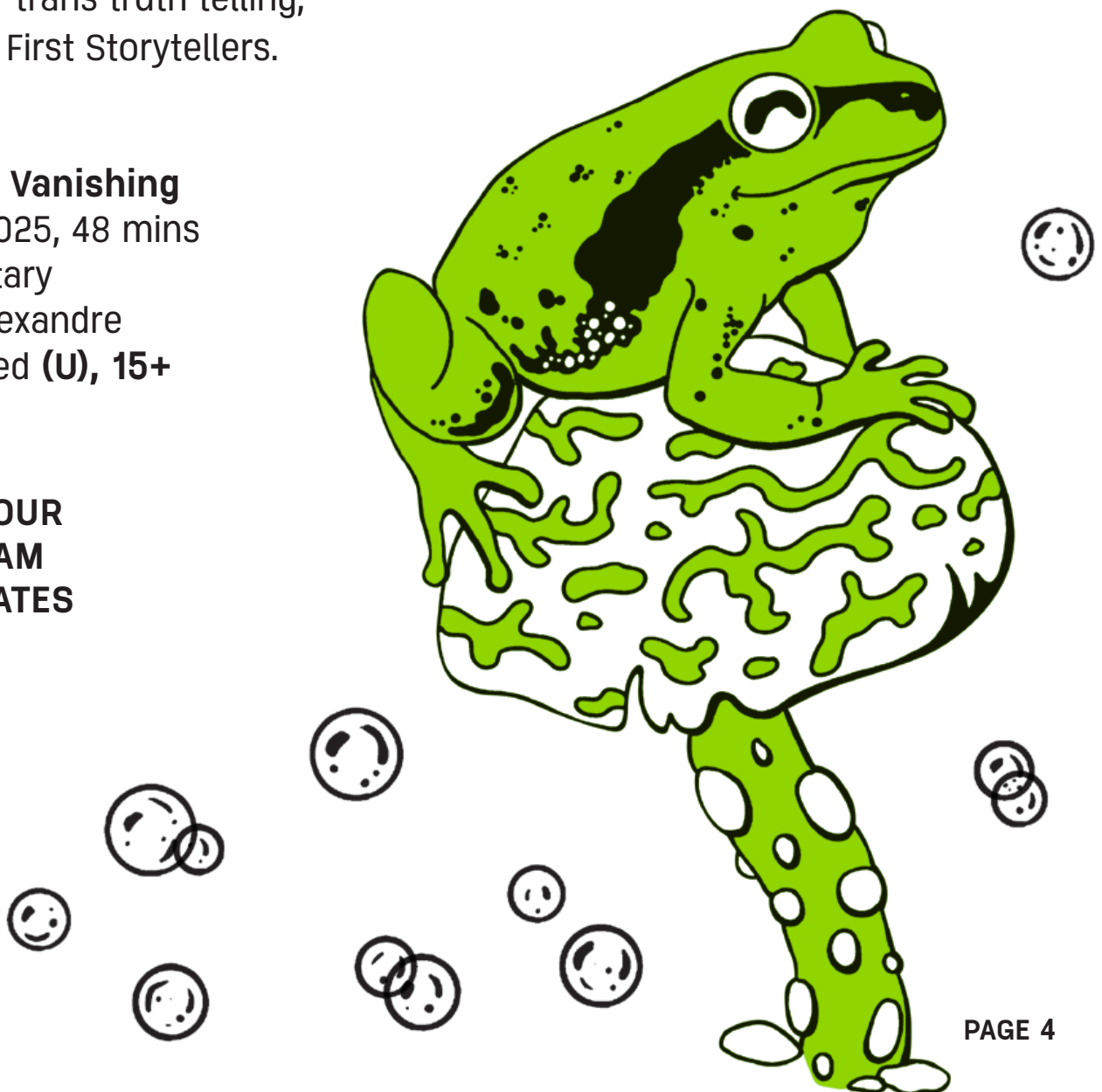
Canada, 2025, 48 mins

Documentary

Dir. Lily Alexandre

Unclassified (U), 15+

**FOLLOW OUR
INSTAGRAM
FOR UPDATES**





GET TICKETS

DAY 2: SATURDAY MAY 2

SESSION 1:

INFLUX - INTERNATIONAL SHORTS

A Mask Encouraged Screening 

MAY 2ND, 5:00 PM - 6:30 PM
THE EDGE, FED SQUARE
80 MINS, UNCLASSIFIED 18+

A cinematic exploration of liminal space and self-construction, spanning a vampiric trio, a defense-tech romance, and a transmasculine journey toward receiving a pūhoro (Māori tā moko). We aim to keep this TILDE screening accessible for our immunocompromised and disabled audiences. Please consider testing beforehand and wearing a mask (P2 or N95 preferred); masks will be available at the door.

While construction is in progress, shops will remain open

Dir. Mordred Guadagno (France) 

Takapapa Dir. Briar Rose, Jordan Walker (Aotearoa, NZ) 

Still Life Dir. Diran Serafim (Brazil) 

How to Find a Career That Loves You Back Dir. Ethernet Wang (USA) 

Resurrect Me as a Parasite
Dir. Lou Lou Sainsbury, Gabi Dao
(Canada, Netherlands, UK) 

Purebred Dir. Caleb J. Roberts
(Northern Ireland) 

CONTAINS: DEPICTIONS OF GENDER AFFIRMING TREATMENT, BLOOD, AS WELL AS DISCUSSIONS OF SUICIDE.



DAY 2: SATURDAY MAY 2

GET TICKETS

SESSION 2:

AFTRS PRESENTS: OUR FUTURE -
THIRD EDITION 

MAY 2ND, 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM
THE EDGE, FED SQUARE
UNCLASSIFIED 18+

FREE EVENT

OUR FUTURE is TILDE's third edition spotlighting visionary gender-diverse filmmakers from across the country. Featuring award-winning shorts and world premières, these are the voices shaping the future of cinema. Expect fruity-ness, satanic rituals, pregnancy tests, and our filmmakers in-person, with a TILDE Q&A.

Presented in partnership with AFTRS and MAPCO.

Bloodfire

Dir. Sione Teumohenga, Bella Waru 

Flight Risk Dir. Mohammad Awad 

Hope Dir. Izzi Harris, Ada Tzinis 

They Persist Dir. Lachlan Salvestro 

Soyboy Dir. Moo Renzaho 

The Museum of Lost Things

Dir. Polly Garrett 

The Dysphoria Dir. Kylie Aoibheann 

CONTAINS: GORE, HOMOPHOBIC AND
TRANSPHOBIC SLURS, NUDITY AND
DRUG USE.



DAY 3: SUNDAY MAY 3

SESSION 1: UNDERSTANDING MYSELF AS AN AMPHIBIAN

MAY 3RD, 2:00 PM - 3:20 PM
ECLIPSE CINEMA
UNCLASSIFIED 15+

Join us and the Melbourne Queer Birders Collective for the world première of Canadian filmmaker May Matchim's hopeful documentary **Understanding Myself as an Amphibian**. Celebrate how transness connects with Country, queerness, and the joy of nature, featuring giant squids, lesbian albatrosses, and green frogs. Bird with us, then head to Eclipse Cinema for the film and two shorts on whenua: **Herekore** (Hariata Wilson's poetry) and **Foreign Bodies** (animation by UK director Lysander Wong).

KEEP AN EYE ON OUR INSTAGRAM
FOR MORE DETAILS.

Herekore Dir. Melissa Spratt, Gabe Bertogg (Aotearoa)

Foreign Bodies
Dir. Lysander Wong (UK)

Understanding Myself as an Amphibian, Dir. May Caroline Matchim. (Canda)

GET TICKETS





DAY 3: SUNDAY MAY 3

GET TICKETS

SESSION 2:

TILDE @ PONY CLUB GYM 

MAY 3RD, 7:00PM - 9:00PM

PONY CLUB GYM

UNCLASSIFIED 15+

We're hanging out at the gym - the Pony Club Gym - to watch the hilarious coming-of-age hit of the decade, **She's the He**. We promise you, this movie made us trans. Siobhan McCarthy's trans-filled teen comedy not only delivers everything we love about '90s high school cult classics (like **She's the Man**), it also hits you right in the face like a game of trans-joy-dodgeball. Chill out this Sunday with DJs and a pre-feature short: the World Premiere of local filmmaker Josie Buden's **Under the Clocks**. Limited tickets, so get in quick!

Under the Clocks

Dir. Josie Buden (so called Australia)

She's The He

Dir. Siobhan McCarthy (USA)

CONTAINS: TRANSPHOBIC LANGUAGE, MISGENDERING, AND DISCUSSIONS SURROUNDING TRANSPHOBIA.



DAY 4: WEDNESDAY MAY 6

GET TICKETS

SESSION 1: DESIRE TO LIVE

MAY 6TH, 6:30 PM - 8:00 PM
ECLIPSE CINEMA 

Bárbara is a fortune teller preparing to become a priestess in Candomblé. Heitor is a psychologist with a passion for horses. Aylla loves makeup and partying at techno nights. Anita is a performer living in a shelter. Kalú is a photographer who helps his partner raise her stepson. These five individuals lead different lives, yet share one thing in common: they are trans and disabled. Giorgia Narciso's stunning vision captures Brazil's trans-disabled community, including their desires, their art, and the rhythms that give meaning to their lives, and offers a beautiful expression of how filmmakers can connect with their communities.

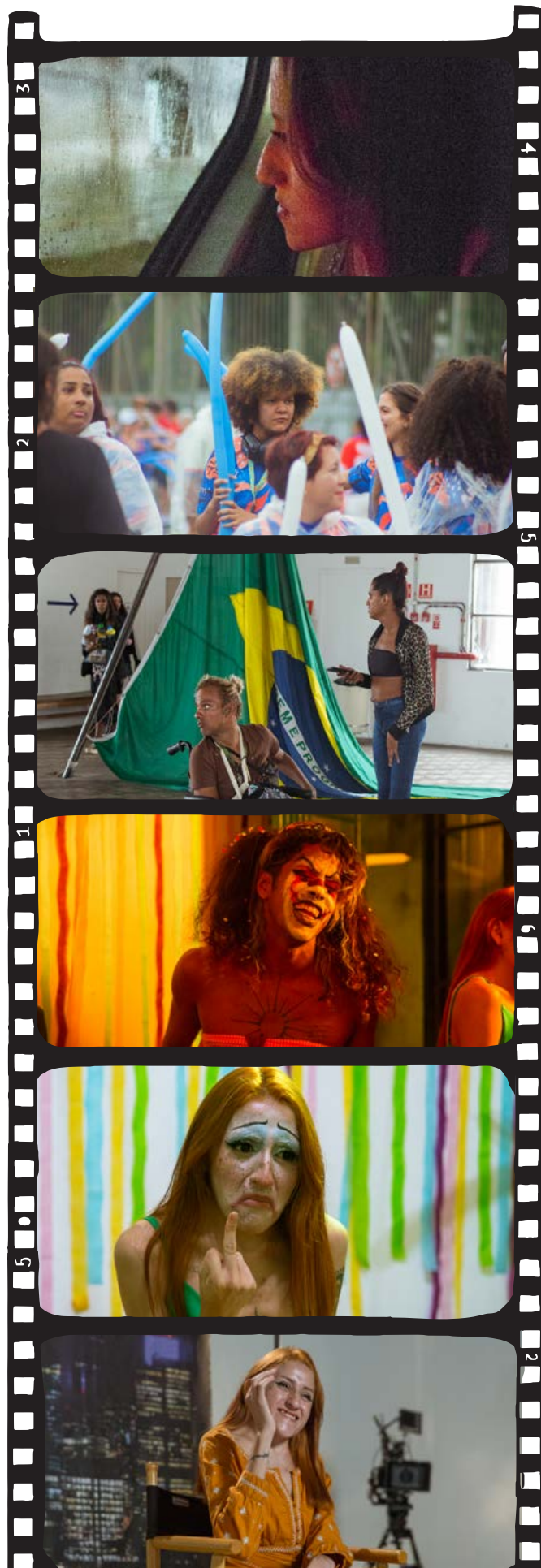
Desire to Live (mutatis mutandis)

Brazil, 2025, 83 mins

Dir. Giorgia Narciso

Unclassified (U), 15+

CONTAINS: DISCUSSIONS
SURROUNDING TRANSPHOBIA,
MISGENDERING AND VIOLENCE.



DAY 5: FRIDAY MAY 8

SPECIAL EVENT: GAY24 PRESENTS

Guest Curated by Jini Maxwell &
Samantha Eckhardt

MAY 8TH, 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM

VILLAGE CINEMAS COBURG DRIVE-IN, 18+ EVENT

GAY24, BUFF & TILDE TAKE OVER THE COBURG DRIVE-IN: DISPATCHES FROM THE GROTTY TRANS UNDERGROUND

Following hot on the heels of last year's sold-out trans softcore TILDE session, GAY24 Film Club team up with the Brunswick Underground Film Festival to once again draw us into their squalid web with a selection of brand new voices from the international trans underground; presented on the big screen at the Coburg Drive-In Cinema!

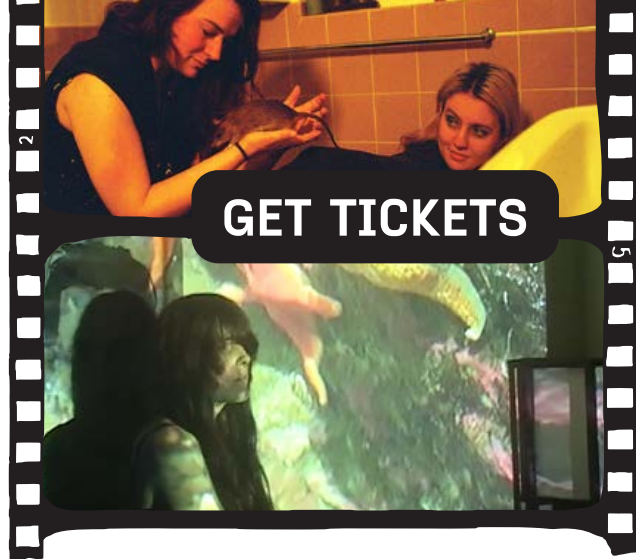
Following a string of sold-out international screenings, the M. Sisters' debut feature **DIVINE HAMMER** makes its much requested Australian première. In **DIVINE HAMMER**, two maladapted young women, both part of the same internet gore enthusiast community, formulate a plan to meet in person with the intent that one will kill the other, film the killing, and then sell the cameras that "watched" to unsuspecting customers online in the hopes of spurring on a "new era of death." What happens when they meet up spirals out to become something beyond either of their cruellest expectations.

Preceding **DIVINE HAMMER** will be the Naarm première of Aubrey Winslow's short **GUTTERCAT**, in which a punk sapphic couple attempt to wipe away their drug debt in Adelaide's seedy southern suburbs.

Guttercat Dir. Aubrey Winslow, So called Australia, Horror. 2025

Divine Hammer Dir. Mae M. Hazel M. USA, Horror. 2025

CONTAINS: GORE, DEPICTIONS OF SUICIDE AND DRUG USE.



DAY 6: SATURDAY MAY 9

GET TICKETS

CLOSING EVENT: ALICE MAIO
MACKAY MOVIE MARATHON

MAY 9TH, 10:00AM
FOOTSCRAY DRILL HALL
HOME OF SNUFF PUPPETS
18+ EVENT

RETROSPECTIVE + FOOD + DJS +
IN-CONVERSATION

From DIY punk horror to dreamy, hypnotic trans fairytales, Alice Maio Mackay is a fearless filmmaker taking on the world. Making her first feature at 16, she's since collaborated with trans icons like Louise Weard (**Castration Movie**), Vera Drew (**The People's Joker**), and Jane Schoenbrun (**I Saw the TV Glow**).

This is the first-ever retrospective of Alice's work. Grab a wristband, settle into comfy bean bags, and catch a single film or lose yourself in the full marathon. We've got free food, DJs, and more to be announced.

**CHECK OUR INSTAGRAM FOR THE
LINE-UP AND SCHEDULE.**
DON'T MISS THE EVOLUTION.

CONTAINS: GORE, DEPICTIONS OF
SELF-HARM, GRAPHIC VIOLENCE, AND
SEXUAL CONTENT.



TICKETS

Tickets are available from tilde.org.au & footscrayarts.com

Single Session: Full \$15 / Con \$10 / Blaktix \$5/\$0
No one turned away for lack of funds.

COBURG DRIVE-IN:

Car (up to 5 people) \$30. Single Full tickets \$15/
Concession \$10 / Blaktix \$5

GET TICKETS

Doors open half an hour before each session.

ACCESS



At our festival, you're welcome to wheel in, stretch out on a beanbag, move when you need to, rest in the quiet room, and take up the space you need.

There will be plenty of friendly people around, including TILDE guides for anyone who needs assistance.

We're proud to be working with Break A Finger to centre Deaf-led Auslan access and Deaf cultural safety. Session info on our website will highlight where Auslan and captions are included. You'll find detailed, screen-reader-friendly access info here: tilde.org.au/access

You are warmly invited to speak with us about what we can do to welcome you to our events. Email: access@tilde.org.au



CLASSIFICATION OF FILMS

Except where indicated, our films are exempt from classification.

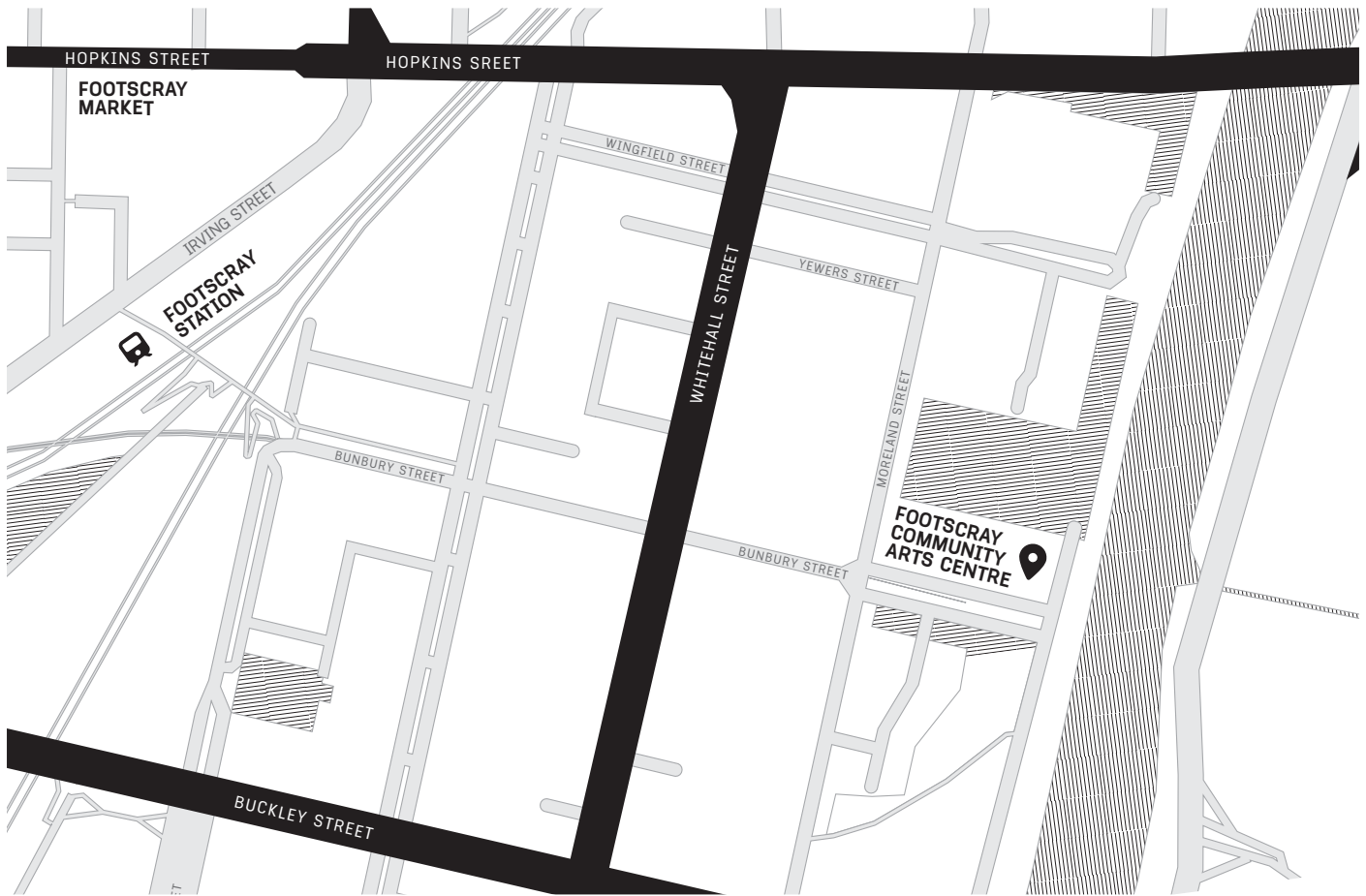
Anyone under 18 (including infants) is forbidden from attending 18+ sessions.

ABOUT THE FESTIVAL

Our story began in 2014 with a core group of trans volunteers believing strongly in trans and gender diverse representation on screen. 2024 saw the festival return to mark a decade of TILDE. We are leading this festival with humility and vulnerability fostering an environment of curiosity for the many varied lived experiences of our community. We have curated a program alongside our team of brilliant programmers that hopes to have captured the richness of these many lived lives through the lens of trans and gender expansive storytellers.

We at TILDE aim to serve our trans and gender diverse (TGD) community and their loved ones. Our focus is on the margins: those who live, work, and create on the periphery of dominant cultures. Our vision is to lead in TGD screen experience and practice.

VENUE A



FOOTSCRAY COMMUNITY ARTS

Address - 45 Moreland St, Footscray VIC 3011

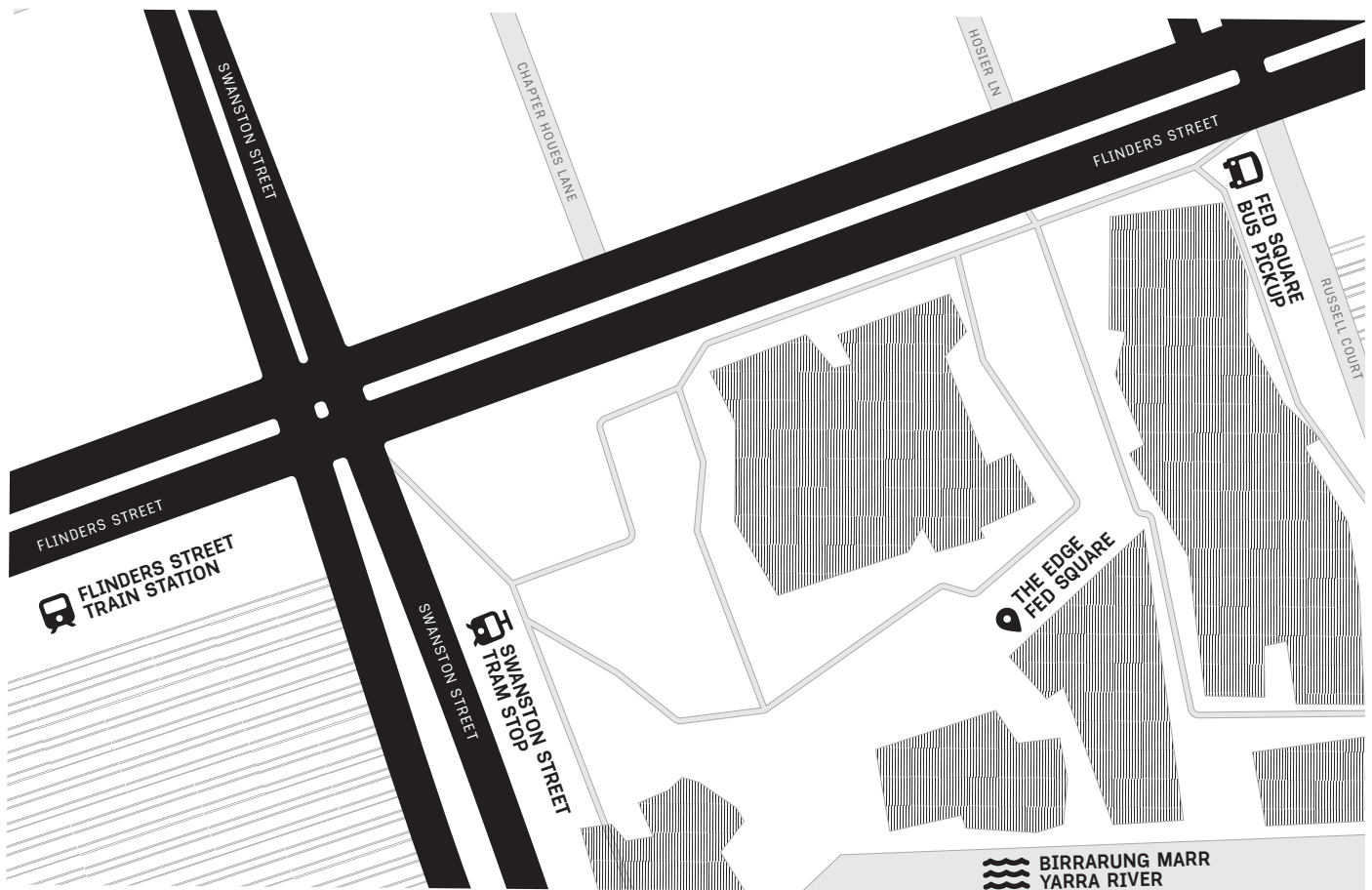
PUBLIC TRANSPORT

- A. Catch a train to Footscray Station and take a 5 minute walk down Bunbury Street.
- B. Take the 402 bus to the corner of Moreland Street and Dynon Road, then a 5 minute walk down Moreland Street.

PARKING

- C. Taxis can stop directly in front or in the west side car park
- D. There are two-hour unmetered car parks in FCAC's front car park and metered parking on Moreland Street.

VENUE B



THE EDGE, FED SQUARE

Address - Swanston St & Flinders St, Melbourne

PUBLIC TRANSPORT

A. Train or tram to Flinders Street Station (Free Tram Zone).

PARKING

B. Parking at Fed Square Car Park (Russell St Extension or Batman Ave; pre-book available).

C. Bicycle parking available.

VENUE C



ECLIPSE CINEMA

Address - 32 Wellington St, Collingwood

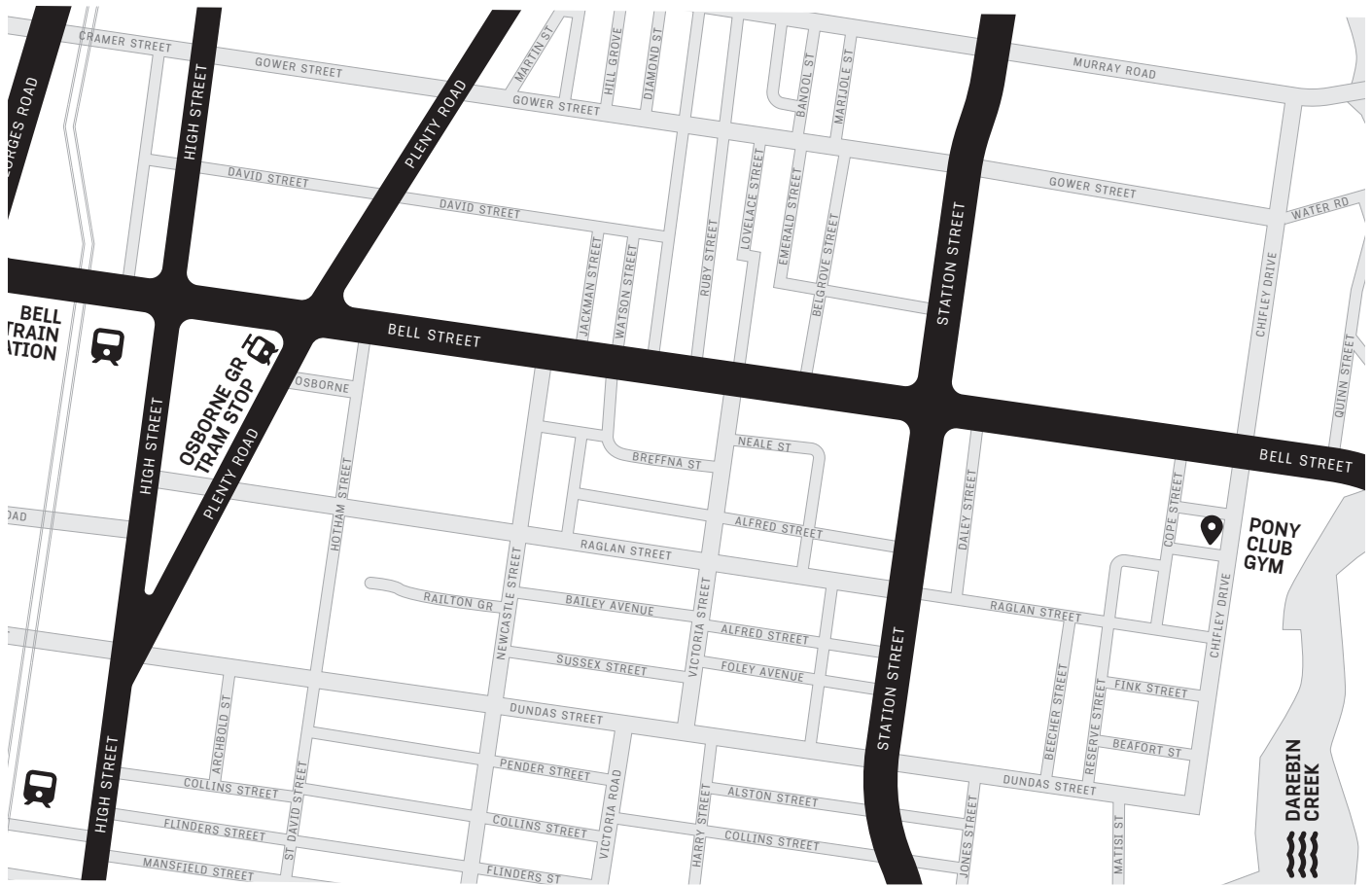
PUBLIC TRANSPORT

- A. Tram 86 (Bundoora – Waterfront City) to Smith St (Stop 18), then 7-minute walk.
- B. Tram 12 to Wellington St/Victoria Pde, then 2-minute walk.
- C. Buses 302, 305, 309, 318, 350, 905, 906, 907, 908 to Smith St/Victoria Pde, then 7-minute walk.

PARKING

- D. Street parking is available.

VENUE D



PONY CLUB GYM

Address - 69 Chifley Dr, Preston

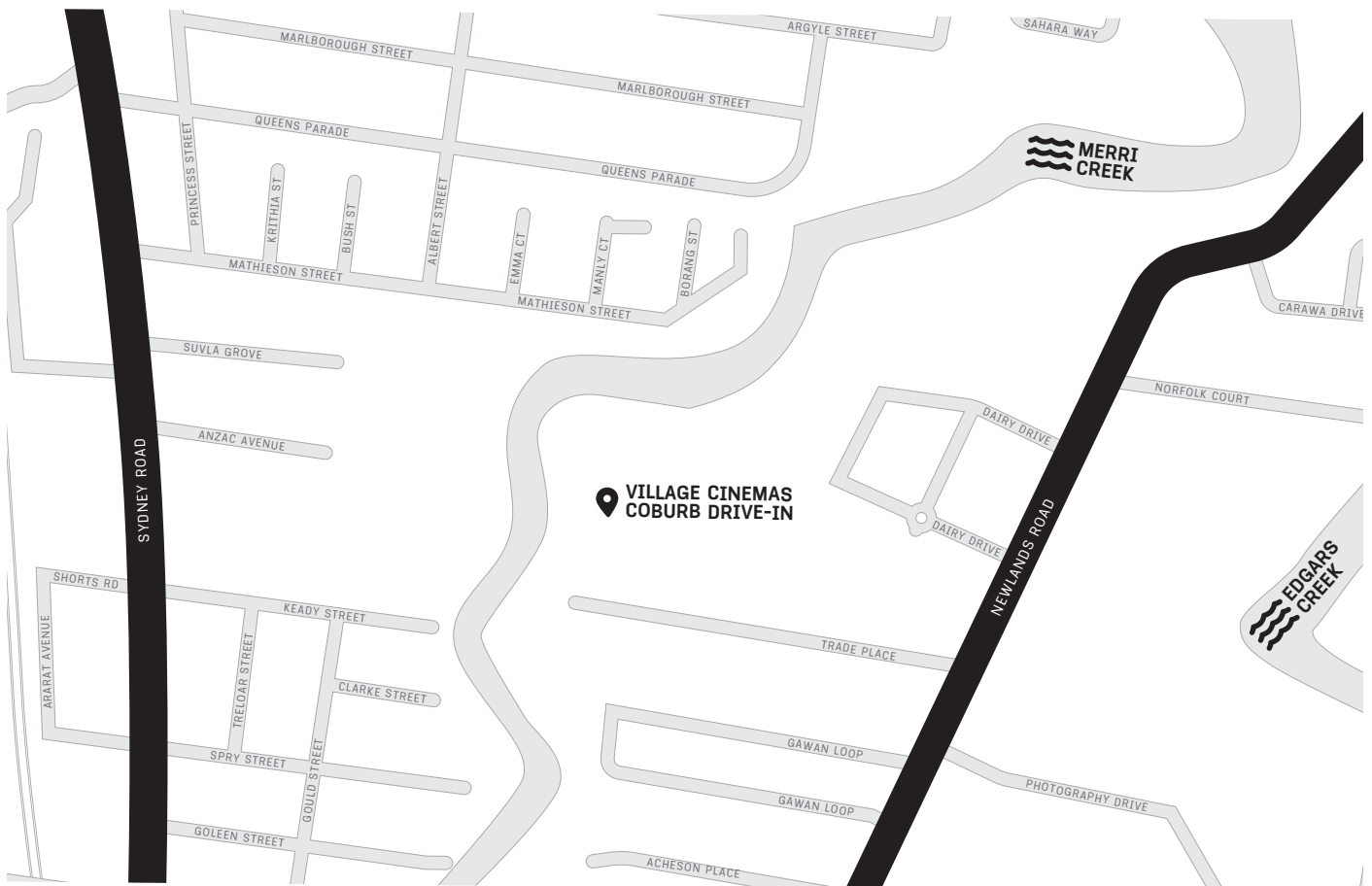
PUBLIC TRANSPORT

- A. Buses 250 & 251 to Bell St/Chifley Dr, then 4-minute walk.
- B. Tram 86 to Osborne Gr/Plenty Rd, then 34-minute walk

PARKING

- C. Street parking is available.

VENUE E



COBURG DRIVE-IN

Address - 155 Newlands Rd, Coburg North

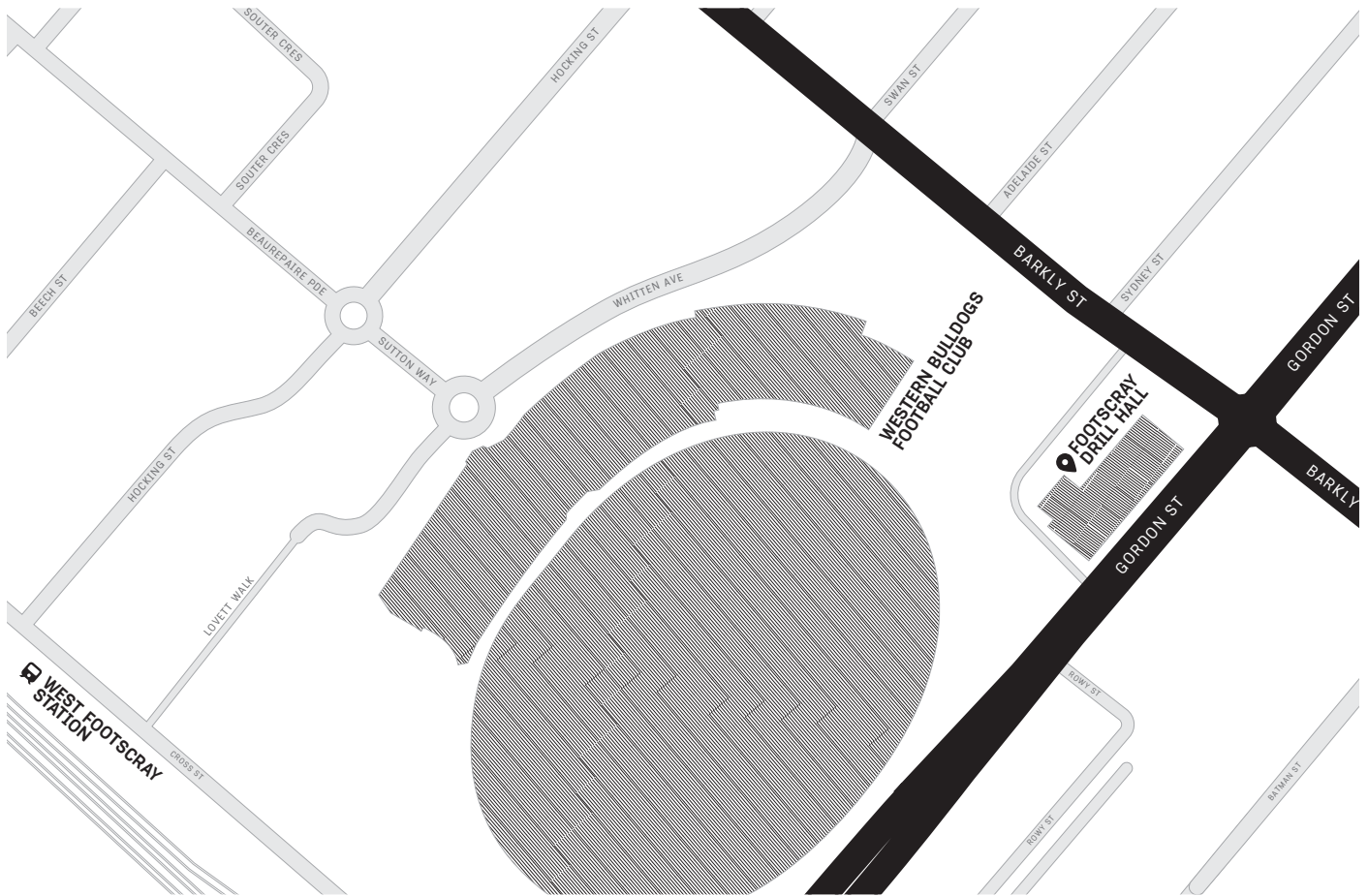
PARKING

- A. Parking: marked spaces available; arrive early for best spots
(front for small cars, back for larger vehicles/utes).

PUBLIC TRANSPORT

- B. Bus 561 to Photography Dr/Newlands Rd, then 4-minute walk.
- C. Tram 19 to North Coburg Terminus/Bakers Rd, then 19-minute walk.

VENUE F



FOOTSCRAY DRILL HALL

Address - 395 Barkly St, Footscray, VIC, 3011

PUBLIC TRANSPORT

- A. Bike parking next to car park outside hall
- B. Catch a train to West Footscray station (550 meter walk) or to Footscray station (1.4km walk)
- C. Bus 220: Stops directly next door (15m)
- D. Bus 216 & 410 : Stop on nearby Gordon St (75m).

PARKING

- E. Taxis can stop directly in front of the Drill Hall.
- F. Limited car parking, please contact us to reserve an access spot

2026 TEAM

BOARD

Rach Chapman, Julie Peters, Lucy Pitt, Zakaria Shahrudin,
Audrey Thomas-Hayes, Chloe Turner, Taz Ziard

FESTIVAL STAFF

Ro Bright (CEO), Oliver Ross (Technical Producer),
Elyssia Wilson-Heti (Associate Producer), Jeremy Scerri (Access Co-ordinator),
Tallulah McKenzie (Stage Manager)

GUEST CURATORS

Merryn Trescott, Jamie Connor, Jini Maxwell, Samantha Eckhardt

DESIGN

Rory Walker

PROGRAMMING

Xander Dobbyn, Leon Rice-Whetton

FESTIVAL ANTHEM

Sign After Sign by BB Sway

ILLUSTRATION

Germ Flack

PHOTOGRAPHY

Beau

TILDE PORTRAITS

Ash Spittal

TRAILER

Jude Ella, Josh Devine

DOCUMENTATION

Jac Fitzgerald

AUSLAN PARTNER

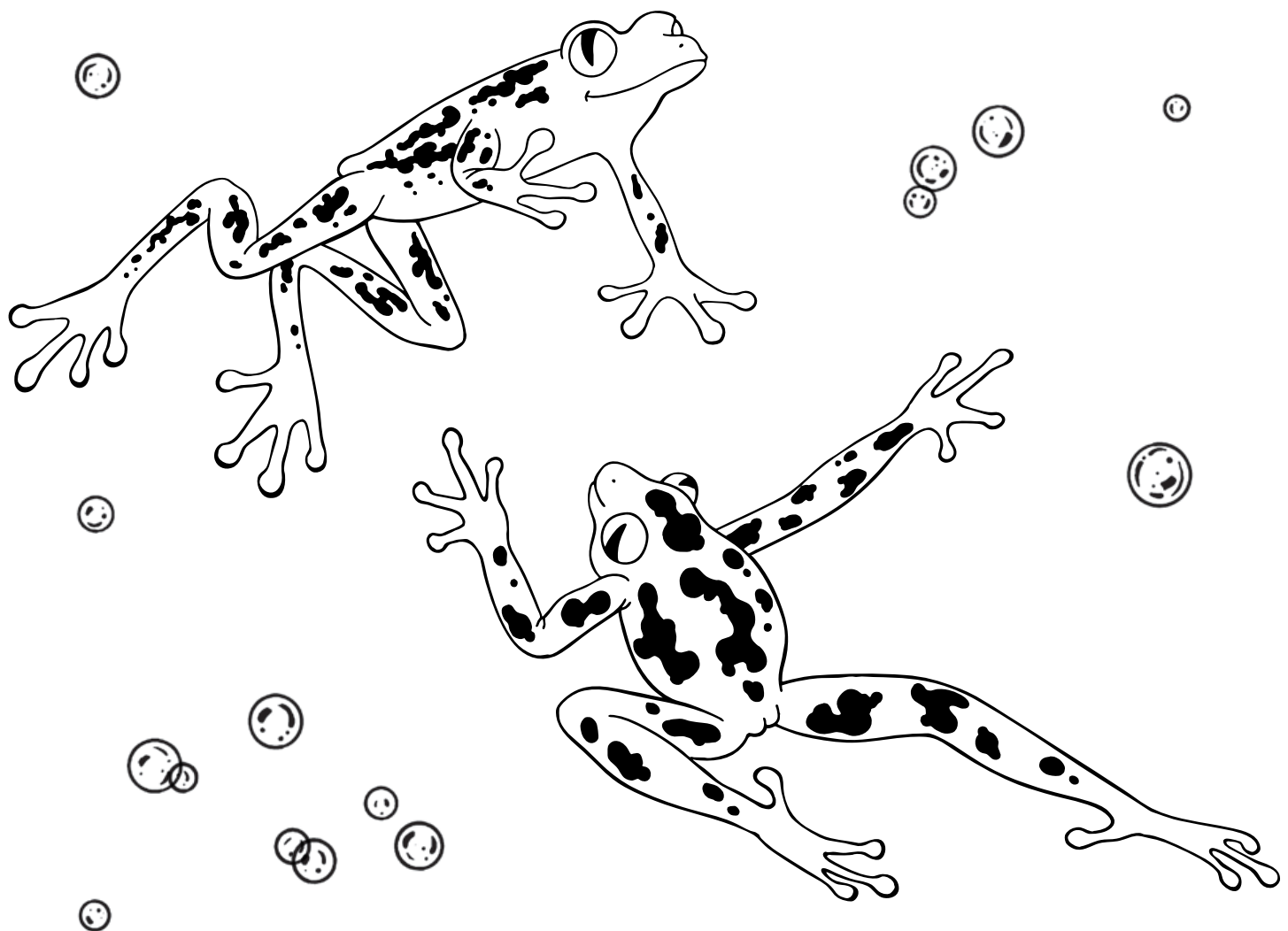
Break A Finger



THANK YOU

To everyone who has contributed their time & passion. Our community, filmmakers, founders, alumni, funders & sponsors. Thank you, Phoebe Horton Andrews, Jane Crawley, Emily Hoe, Daniel Santangeli, Bernadette Fitzgerald, the team at Footscray Community Arts, Benjamin McCarthy, Shona Johnson & Mainey Beezley at MAPCO, Andy Freer, Nick Wilson, Daniel Flood, & Annalee Koernig at Snuff Puppets, Ella Mason & the team at Pony Club, Mark Walker at Eclipse Cinema, Maxine Buxton, Teresa Paulet & the Break A Finger team, Jon Tjhia & Fayen d'Evie at Access Lab, Felix Hubble at BUFF, Anton Astudillo & Nick McCarthy at Newfest, and Siobhan McCarthy, Halley Albert & Vic Brandt, you guys are absolute legends!!! And a very special thank you to Jac Fitzgerald - always!

We are truly grateful.



SPONSORS AND SUPPORTERS

CURATION PARTNERS

Sapphic Flicks

Gay24



CORE PARTNER

Footscray Community Arts



COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Pony Club Gym

Queer Move

Melbourne Queer Birders Collective



VENUE PARTNERS

FED SQ.

Village Cinema's Coburg Drive-in

Eclipse Cinema

Snuff Puppets



EVENT FUNDERS

Maribyrnong City Council

Victoria State Government

VicHealth



PROGRAM PARTNERS

AFTRS

Bendigo Bank - Seddon

Crumpler

BUFF



Presented in Partnership with Footscray Community Arts



TILDE TRANS AND GENDER DIVERSE FILM FESTIVAL 2026 MAY 1-9

**FOOTSCRAY COMMUNITY ARTS | THE EDGE, FED SQUARE | ECLIPSE CINEMA | PONY CLUB
GYM | ECLIPSE CINEMA | VILLAGE CINEMAS COBURG DRIVE-IN | FOOTSCRAY DRILL HALL**

FOR TICKETS AND PROGRAM INFORMATION VISIT [TILDEMELBOURNE.COM](https://tildemelbourne.com) | COLOUR-ME-IN ILLUSTRATION BY GERM, 2026