

13TH BRISBANE INTERNATIONAL
FILM FESTIVAL

27 JULY - 8 AUGUST 2004 WWW.BIFF.COM.AU

July 27, 2004

60s chic takes over The Regent

Brisbane International Film Festival's Opening Night Celebrations

The 13th Brisbane International Film Festival (BIFF) will kick off tonight with its annual opening night celebration, featuring a special screening of the sensational new film and hit of the Cannes Film Festival, *The Life and Death of Peter Sellers*. Tickets for BIFF's opening night sold out in record time this year.

Acting Minister for the Arts Rod Welford will officially open the festival at tonight's VIP screening.

He said the city's cinephiles will get the chance to share the red carpet and party afterwards with the star of *The Life and Death of Peter Sellers*, Academy Award® winner Geoffrey Rush, as well as Paul McDermott, better known as the host of the ABC's *Strictly Dancing* program, who will introduce his short film *The Scree*.

Other guests include members of the international film community and local industry representatives.

"BIFF's opening night is a great party and one of the premier networking events for Queensland's film industry that will also give audience members the chance to watch a film with an Oscar-winning star in their presence," Mr Welford said.

"Opening night will also be the only opportunity for BIFF audiences to see *The Life and Death of Peter Sellers* before its theatrical release."

The dress code for this year's opening night party is strictly 60s chic.

The Life and Death of Peter Sellers traces the British comic's turbulent rise from popular BBC radio performer to one of the world's most gifted comedic actors. Propelled by an overly possessive mother, Sellers struggled to reconcile his relationship with women, celebrity and his many selves. *The Life and Death of Peter Sellers* also stars Academy Award® winner Charlize Theron as Britt Eckland, John Lithgow as filmmaker Blake Edwards and Emily Watson as Seller's first wife, Anne Howe. The film received an overwhelming response at Cannes with a 20-minute standing ovation.

Tickets for Opening Night are now totally sold out. To book tickets for other BIFF events and screenings, call the BIFF hotline on 07 3007 3007, or visit www.biff.com.au.

Date: Tues 27 July

Time: 7:30pm

Venue: Greater Union Hoyts Regent

Tickets: SOLD OUT

Film lovers are encouraged to subscribe to the Festival newsletter via the website for up-to-the-minute information on guests and programming.

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