

14TH BRISBANE INTERNATIONAL

27 JUL - 8 AUG 2005 WWW.BIFF.COM.AU

film festival
presented by VISION

27 July 2005

Film Fans Immerse Themselves in Festival

The 14th Brisbane International Film Festival (BIFF) presented by Vision opens tonight (July 27) offering audiences the opportunity to immerse themselves in film and other exciting activities for the next 13 days.

Minister for the Arts Anna Bligh said BIFF was one of the country's premiere film festivals, showcasing the best in world cinema and this year would certainly live up to this reputation.

Ms Bligh said about 300 films from more than 50 countries around the world would be shown at this year's festival, promising something for everyone.

"There are feature films, documentaries, shorts, retrospectives and much more and I guarantee everyone will find a film of interest in the program," she said.

"Where else do people get the opportunity to see such a diverse and rich array of films from all over the world? I encourage everyone to join in and come and see at least one film."

Ms Bligh said festivals meant more than just watching films and provided an important forum to discuss and debate new ideas.

"Film festivals are communal events. They engage, inform and offer fresh perspectives, bringing people together to discuss the films they have just seen," she said.

Ms Bligh said the Queensland Government through the Pacific Film and Television Commission was proud to support and promote a dynamic screen culture through events such as BIFF.

The Minister said the expansion of Cine Sparks, the Australian Film Festival for Young People, and the free program at the Suncorp Piazza ensured everyone including families could take part in the festival.

"What's special about this year's festival is there are plenty of opportunities for the whole family to enjoy a film as well as take part in other activities such as learning how to dance Bollywood-style," she said.

"The move to the Southbank Cinemas will also help to make the festival more accessible for everyone to enjoy."

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The 14th Brisbane International Film Festival is an initiative of the Pacific Film and Television Commission
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