

2013 NEW ZEALAND INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL

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FIRST 3D MAORI ANIMATION SHORT TO PREMIERE AT NZIFF NEW PLYMOUTH

The New Zealand International Film Festival returns to New Plymouth in late October with the world premiere of a local short film.

The Rangimoekaus, from local director Helene Bethune, will screen with comic mockumentary hit *The Deadly Ponies Gang* at NZIFF 2013.

The short film about three Maori girls has been made in collaboration with Wellington Yoobee School of Design. The film will premiere on Friday 25 October at 8.30pm and will be introduced by the filmmaker.

Another local story, *Don Driver: Magician*, will also screen in the programme. Director Paul Judge will introduce his project which documents the life and work of the Taranaki artist. *Don Driver: Magician* will screen on Sunday 3 November 1.30pm at Event Cinemas.

"We're excited to be screening local stories for Taranaki audiences. We're thrilled that the Event Cinemas have the state-of-the-art projection required to present the festival programme and are eager to host us again this year. NZIFF provides the opportunity to see the latest and most acclaimed New Zealand and international films first," says NZIFF Director Bill Gosden.

The New Plymouth programme will feature titles straight from Cannes, including Italian feature *The Great Beauty* (centrepiece screening) and Jim Jarmush's vampire film *Only Lovers Left Alive* (closing night film).

New Zealand filmmakers are strongly represented with NZIFF audience favourites including *Gardening with Soul*, the documentary about Sister Loyola from the Home of Compassion in Island Bay; Anthony Powell's visually stunning *Antarctica: A Year on Ice*, and Zoe McIntosh's film about two best friends who bling-out their horses and 'cruise' to find girls in *The Deadly Ponies Gang*.

"It is great to be screening another strong NZIFF line-up again this year. We know our audience is eager to see the latest independent and world class films, and hosting two filmmakers for their New Plymouth screenings makes this a very special year," says Karina Penfold, Event Cinemas New Plymouth Cinema Manager.

NZIFF will screen from Thursday 24 October to 6 November at Event Cinemas. The full NZIFF programme is available now online. Copies of the brochures are available from the cinema, and cafes around New Plymouth. Tickets are on sale from the venue now.

For Festival updates visit www.nziff.co.nz and register to receive e-newsletters.

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<http://www.nziff.co.nz/new-plymouth>

For further information about the NZ International Film Festival or to arrange an interview with Director Bill Gosden:

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