

SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA – Harmony International Short Film Festival Showcases Films about “Courage”.

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The opening and awards ceremony for the 6th Harmony International Short Film Festival is less than 2 weeks away.

This year’s theme was “Courage” and an impressive array of films submitted from around the world has been whittled back to 8 finalists.

The finalist films will be screened and awards presented at the historic Chauvel Cinema in Paddington on Saturday October 24th from 5.00pm to 7.00pm.

This year’s selection of films includes:

Diagnosis by: John Pace (Australia), ***Armed*** by: Justin Baldoni (USA) ***Bottom Dollar*** by: Tim Duncan (Australia), ***Relevé*** (risen again) by: Bastian Caspar, Sebastian Natto, and Denis Trümbach (Germany), ***Bikini*** by: Tine Thomasen (Denmark), ***Oh, the places you’ll go!*** by: Ben Claremont (Australia), ***Orgesticularismus*** by: Mathieu Labaye (Belgium) and ***Made in Japan*** by: Ciro Altabas (Spain)

Festival Director Mehrzad Mumtahan has described the films as entertaining and thought-provoking. “We feel privileged to have a truly impressive selection of films in the competition this year. The standard is really high. A number of the finalists have already won awards at other festivals”, he said.

“It’s been an amazing process of discovery – of discovering new films and filmmakers”.

The Sydney based Harmony Film Festival encourages creativity, diversity, quality and innovation in filmmaking. The Festival works closely with the education sector to create a platform for young and emerging filmmakers. Each year there are many entries from Australian and overseas film schools and universities. This year there are five in the finals, two of those are from The Victorian College of Arts.

Festival Director, Mehrzad Mumtahan, is optimistic that the festival will continue to grow. “We were very pleased with the outcome of last year’s event and this year with the new venue and high standard of entrants we are expecting great things to happen”.

For more information on the 2009 finalist films and the program visit www.harmonyfilmfest.com