

12TH INTERNATIONAL

MOBILE INNOVATION SCREENING AND SMARTPHONE FILM FESTIVAL

NOVEMBER 24TH 2023



- بيد Australian
- **₹** Environments
- on Screen























MINA INTERNATIONAL MOBILE INNOVATION SCREENING

12th MINA Smartphone Film Festival

We are excited to be back at ACMI. Next to the screening in Cinema 2 with our friends and partner festival SF3, the SmartFone Flick Fest. We also collaborated this year and presented Australia's first national program of smartphone filmmaking. Our joint venture was premiered at ACMI, disseminated to the wider public via ACMI's Cinema 3 streaming platform and is now online at https://vimeo.com/827159878

The films have been selected to speak to diverse approaches of smartphone filmmaking featuring narrative, non-fiction, and non-narrative approaches. Particular attention was paid to establishing an alternative discourse to bring stories and non-conventional filmmaking approaches to the big screen.

This year MINA presented a *Special Issue: Mobile and Smartphone Filmmaking – Past, Present & Future* in *Sightlines: Filmmaking in the Academy* in *Sightlines Journal.* This audio-visual publication is designed to showcase films made in a research context within the Higher Education sector. The filmmakers are usually academics or HDR students, often but not always based in the screen production discipline https://www.aspera.org.au/issue-5.

Alongside the 12th International Mobile Innovation Screening, we are presenting six commissioned mobile films. Swinburne University of Technology and Australian Environments on Screen provided six grants at \$2500 for mobile screen productions that interact with the environment to produce novel and challenging perspectives on Australian environments. This commission is part of a larger project exploring the affordances of mobile media for shaping our understanding of the Australian environment at a time of climate crisis, and how it might forge new relationships between people and the environment.

The *EcoSmartphoneFilm* program was introduced in 2021 and showcases mobile films about environmental issues, protection and ecology in all of its aspects. By using a variety of creative solutions that illustrate the power of mobile films, they help to raise awareness about the climate crises.

Smartphones provide opportunities to see the world in a new perspective and change the viewpoints of representation. With the rise of smartphone filmmaking and transmedia storytelling filmmakers, artists, activists and designers establish new forms of connectivity and sociability. Collaborative and co-creative filmmaking practices empower communities around the world to express themselves. With the constant innovation of camera technology and image/video processing applications, mobile and smartphones aesthetics are shaping new experiences and enable storytellers to cover new ground. In order to make the screening reels more accessible we will present the *MINA Creative Category, New Voices, MINA International Mobile Innovation Online Screening* and #EcosmartphoneFilms via UTV, Urban Screen TV and MINAVault, a new online platform https://www.sightvault.xyz/minavault

MINA INTERNATIONAL MOBILE INNOVATION SCREENING

Together with SightVault, we are building an independent video streaming platform. We bridge the gap between filmmakers, digital artists, and their audiences. MINAVault is a space for all artists and fans participating in the MINA Smartphone Film Festival to take the first step on our journey.

We are creating a decentralized, safe space where creators showcase videos directly to true aficionados, never surrendering their art's rights. Unlike traditional platforms, there's no central authority that restricts content rights or garners the major share of profits. This ensures that creators retain full ownership and control over their content.

Through this commitment, we believe that the community will thrive and loyalties intertwine — fan to filmmaker and creator to craft.

We're turning smartphone films and videos into unique collectible items using blockchain technology (particularly one named Polygon). This enables us to convert the video into a file called an NFT, which lets you easily find out where the video comes from, who else owns it, how many copies of the video have been created, and where the money goes when it's bought or sold.

MINA is the longest-running film festival dedicated to celebrating mobile and smartphone filmmaking internationally. MINA creates connections between filmmakers, communities, and the creative industries. The #MINA2023 International Mobile Innovation Screening will also be showcased at the Mobile Studies Congress at Zhejiang University in Hangzhou, China. Watch this space for updated infos and an inspiring program: https://mina.pro/msc2023/

A special thanks to our judges that reviewed hundreds of submissions from around the world. It would not have been possible to make the 12th edition a great success without the dedication, inspiration and great work of the MINA co-producers Adrian Jeffs, Estee Tze Xuan Ho, Chris Nuttall and William Dishon. Adrian has not only been the good soul in smartphone filmmaking, supporting us and other smartphone filmmakers and festivals, he also designed this amazing program. His dedication and benevolent approach is an inspiration for the smartphone filmmaking community.

We would like to our sponsors FiLMiC Pro, FilmConvert and Moondog Labs for the ongoing support. A special thanks also to Swinburne University of Technology for enabling a culture of creative innovation.

We are excited about bringing smartphone films to the world via our screening partners UTV – Urban Screen TV and the new collaboration with our friends at SightVault, who are launching MINAVault after the MINA screening this year. The MINA and Australian Environments on Screen is part of Ramiakingerthe Thankanghlib ocumentary Film and Television, which is supported by the Australian Government through the Australian Research Council's Discovery Projects funding scheme.

MINA INTERNATIONAL MOBILE INNOVATION SCREENING

The 12th edition of the *International Mobile Innovation Screening* celebrates smartphone filmmaking presenting engaging stories and experiences from a range of diverse backgrounds and perspectives. This year has brought us insightful smartphone films dealing with the growing impacts of climate change through works such as Forever Home and Invasion. We have seen powerful implementation of smartphone technology to craft moral explorations around the influence of technology over our lives with works such as Invasion, Cyberorganism and Scene Through our Phone. Concepts surrounding isolation have been thoughtfully explored from a distinct range of creative viewpoints through works such as *Forlorn Hope*, (*PAUSE*), *Time*, and *Cyberorganism*.

Additionally, this year has brought a broad creative spectrum of narrative explorations in *Sophia's Dream*, Time and non-narrative forms such as *Nine Herb Charm*. The smartphone aesthetic is continuously refining itself with a number of distinctive approaches as seen in *Time*, *Invasion*, *Sunlight* and *Cat Melt*. The accessibility of this digital filmmaking tool and mobile media's portability allows marginalized and alternative perspectives as seen in *Syron*, *Utopia* of the *Outraged* and *Forever Home* to surface. There is virtually no limit for smartphone filmmaking *Birds Eye View* and *Beneath the Lonesome Skye* demonstrate with their marine explorations. We hope that you enjoy the smartphone films on the big screen at ACMI, online via MINAVault and the Mobile Cinematic VR projects in this progam.



MINA INTERNATIONAL MOBILE INNOVATION SCREENING

4PM-5:30PM ACMI SWINBURNE STUDIO DISCUSSION

Presenters

Professor Therese Davis
Associate Professor Max Schleser

6PM-8:30PM ACMI CINEMA TWO SCREENING

Presenters

Professor Therese Davis
Associate Professor Max Schleser
Angela Blake

8:30PM-9:15PM NETWORKING IN SWINBURNE STUDIO DISCUSSION

MINA is the longest-running film festival dedicated to celebrating mobile and smartphone filmmaking internationally. MINA creates connections between filmmakers, communities, and the creative industries.

The **Australian Environments on Screen** and **MINA** commissioned six mobile films that interact with the environment to produce novel and challenging perspectives on Australian environments. These works will be presented in a Q&A with filmmakers in **ACMI's Swinburne Studio** on the 24th of November from 4 pm to 5.30 pm.

In its 12th edition MINA, the Mobile Innovation Network and Association, will present the Mobile Innovation Screening a 60min screening program curated by Max Schleser and a 60 min screening program by MINA's Australian partner Smartphone Film Festival SF3 in ACMI's Cinema 2 on the 24th of November from 6 pm to 8.30 pm.

From 8.30 pm to 9.15 pm we invite all smartphone filmmakers and cinephiles to join us for a **networking function** in ACMI's Swinburne Studio and the launch of the online screening platform MINA Vault. In December we are going to launch a new project with our friends from **SightVault**: Together we want to build a decentralized video platform that allows film & video community to keep ownership and revenues from quality video content.





MINA INTERNATIONAL MOBILE INNOVATION SCREENING



BIRD'S EYE VIEW

Created by: Sven Dreesbach

Country: **USA**

Device: iPhone 13 Pro Max

Where do we all come from? The online commercial centers around a single dive on a single breath. Taking the viewer onto a journey back to a time when our lives had just begun. Told with ethereally beautiful underwater photography of a freediver exploring a kelp forest in the depths of the ocean. Bird's Eye View explores the primal relationship between man and the sea. It dares to shine a light on what viscerally attracts us to it by drawing a direct connection to instincts long lost along our path to becoming human.

SOPHIA'S DREAM

Created by: Namo Safideen

Country: Sweden

Device: iPhone 8

Sophia's Dream provides a short, artfully crafted snapshot depicting the moments during a near death experience. In this brief instance, Sophia, experiences mystical images of nature appear in front of her. Through this process, she begins to reflect on the relationship between nature and paradise. This narrative short offers thoughtful contemplation of the afterlife with a visually poetic mode of expression.

SYRON

Created by: Jenny Fraser

Country: Australia

Device: iPhone 6

In light of turning 80 in December 2021, Syron takes a personal journey into the life and perspective of Gordon Syron, known by many as the God Father of Comtemporary Aboriginal Art in Australia. Through a visit to meet the man himself, this documentry offers a mix of interviews, personal tours, and discussions around a range of his acclaimed works. Shot on iPhone 6, Syron captures an insightful and eye-opening snapshot into the mind of one of Australia's great contemporary artists.

MINA INTERNATIONAL MOBILE INNOVATION SCREENING



UTOPIA OF THE OUTRAGED

Created by: Marcelo Lagreze

Country: ARGENTINA

Device: iPhone 7

FOREVER HOME

Created by: Artsy Solomon

Country: KENYA

Device: Samsung A30

BENEATH THE LONESOME SKYE

Created by: Rob Layton

Country: AUSTRALIA

Device: iPhone 13 Pro Max

Set during the wake of protests against social inequality thoughout Chile, Utopia of the Outraged documents the esculating conditions on October 18th, 2019. The streets are flooded with people demanding to be heard, the main demand is "until dignity becomes a habit." While some people demonstrate peacefully, others: "the first line", confronts the police to guarantee the safety of the protesters. All this is represented in a metaphorical and poetic way through the reading of Eduardo Galeano's poem "the right of delirium".

Forever Home provides an eye opening look into a group of nomadic pastoralists in Northwestern Kenya who decide to settle in a barren patch of land at the edge of Lodwar Town. Through a range of interviews conducted throughout the community, this documentry provides a snapshot around the constant struggle for water that Turkana nomadic pastoralists face throughout their daily lives. Additionally it brings light to the intertwined economic and social restrictions this constant search for water has on the local communities daily routine in order to survive.

On the Isle of Skye, north-west of Scotland, an underwater photographer provides a crucial snapshot into the island's fragile marine ecology by focussing on the small creatures essential to the bottom of the food chain. Through raising arwareness of the often uncrecognised part of our ecosystem, this documentry provides an educational and eye opening look into the additional importance of preservation in this this area of our ecosystem. It additionally discusses the positive changes begginning to be made and what is still to be done to ensure survival for future generations.

MINA INTERNATIONAL MOBILE INNOVATION SCREENING



FORLORN HOPE

Created by: Nathan Martin

Country: AUSTRALIA

Device: iPhone XS

Forlorn Hope explores the sensation of living a monotonous and cyclical life, where the surrounding monolithic city only emphasises the isolation and loneliness felt by one man.

Featuring shots from across both Melbourne and Tokyo, the cityscape around him is both still and domineering. This is contrasted against the quiet suburban home of the protagonist, where he continues this docile surrender to the endless bright lights around him through mindless servility to social media.

(PAUSE)

Created by: Marcelo Ignacio Lagreze

Country: ARGENTINA

Device: iPhone XR

(PAUSE) provides glimpse of the unusually empty spaces that were once crowded thoughout Chile during the peak of COVID-19 pandemic. After an accident caused Marcelo to leave confinement for medical treatment, he traveled by subway to different stations in the city. Through this process, he couldn't help but have a strange feeling of being by himself in a place that used to be synonymous of crowding. At that moment Marcelo decided to capture images of the lonely people in the subway. These images and the voices in the film, invite us to rethink and reflect on important aspects of living that under normal circumstances, we forget or overlook.

TIME

Created by: Elizabeth Marlo

Country: UNKNOWN

Device: Xiaomi 10

Christina wakes up in a place that's completely foreign to her, a place where she will have a defiant encounter with Time.

MINA INTERNATIONAL MOBILE INNOVATION SCREENING



INVASION

Created by: Claire Riverland

Country: AUSTRALIA

Device: iPhone 7

Capturing an ecological rebellion against techridden consumerist society, "Invasion" prompts pondering of whether nature or technology is the true intruder. Through the imagery of weeds and overgrowth, "Invasion" explores nature's coexistence with, commodification of, and ultimate retaking of Melbourne's cityscape. The film indulges in a surrealist, dreamlike revenge fantasy from nature's perspective where vines retake domestic, screen-centred spaces, evoking uncomfortable yet engaging discussion about technology's intrusion in day-to-day life.

CYBERORGANISM

Created by: Grace Malloy

Country: AUSTRALIA

Device: iPhone X

Cyberorganism conveys a stylistically dazzling depiction of a girl falling victim to the alluring nature of technology, becoming trapped within the neverending abyss of information and connectivity that is provided to consumers. Packed with a strong stylistic flair influenced by the glitchy and saturated aesthetic of the Spider-Verse films, Cyberorganism offers a distinctly experimental take on technologies unhealthy prevelence throughout our lives. This science fiction concept provides a symbolically packed exploration around technologies exploitation of humanities need for social connectivity and the availability of information.

NINE HERB CHARM

Created by: Riley Jeffs

Country: AUSTRALIA

Device: Samsung Galaxy S22

Inspired by the Old-English poem "Nine Herbs Charm", chronicling a real ointment from the middles ages. This film explores how far we go to maximise our lives and how vulnerable we can become in our pursuit of happiness. While the charm during this period was simply a paste that helped with cuts and wounds, the poem has this subtext of the charm itself invoking the gods to protect you from evil.

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SUNLIGHT

Created by: Laurence Rosier Staines

Country: AUSTRALIA

Device: iPhone 6s

Sunlight is a visceral, surreal account of a nightmare and an unknown stranger who pervades it, inspired by the director's own dreams wherein an apparition would only become visible from some angles and gradually cause the people interacting with it to disappear. With thematic qualities reminiscent of Picnic at Hanging Rock (Weir, 1975), Blow Up (Antonioni, 1966) and the work of David Lynch, the film presents this mysterious presence in a dreamlike daze, with the uncanny backdrop of a mid-century garden party and narrated by a young woman (the dreamer)

CAT MELT

Created by: Ted Mills

Country: NEW ZEALAND

Device: iPhone 8

Set in the year 2032, Cat Melt depicts the comedically surreal unraveling of a cat sitting technology going awry as the process takes a turn for the unexpected. The story presents itself through the backdrop of a dystopian society where a concerned married couple express concerns around the state of their cat. Shot with the use of stop motion filmmaking techiques on an 8mm camera app, Cat Melt delivers an aesthetically rich science fiction scenario packed with personality.

SCENE THROUGH OUR PHONE

Created by: Ted Mills

Country: NEW ZEALAND

Device: Samsung Galaxy Z Flip 3

This film deals with this derealisation, exploring a city through two lenses: the primary smartphone camera that acts as our eyes, and a second phone filming directly in front. This second phone governs what we see, preventing the audience from making meaningful connections with reality and materialising themselves and their role in the space of the film. This loss of control and depersonalisation strives to place the audience in an uncomfortable position, whereby they are positioned to confront their role as a viewer. In this way, the viewers become the protagonist of my film, and the camera lens becomes their eyes.

SWART FONE FLICK FEST MELBOURNE SCREENING ACMI CINEMA TWO



TOAST BY ROY BAKER

AWE & DECADENCE BY CARLY SOL KURRAJONG

ARRRGHHHHH!!! BY FELIX WILKINS

HEAVY RAIN IN 96 SCENES BY BO ZHANG

MEL 23.55 BY MAX SCHLESER

THINK TOO MUCH BY PAPERFACE

DON'T GO THERE BY KERRY PETER

THE PIECES OF OTHER PEOPLE BY ROSIE KING

JUST LIKE YOU WEREN'T THERE BY RACHAEL PHILLIPS

EVERY THREE DAYS BY MARK PETRASSO

CONTEXT IS KING BY NATSHA NAGLE

CHIP BY ALYSSA DE LEO

SCOUT BY ADAM LAWES

MOBILECINEMATICVRE



HELP

Created by: Eoin Cleland

Device: Insta360 One R

Kyle is an amputee having a hard time adjusting to his new life when a visit to a drug dealer takes an unexpected turn.



JECO

Created by: Holger Mohaupt

Device: Insta360

Having a pet bird is quite common in Indonesia. Training a colourful parrot is still an unusual sight.



MAGENTA

Created by: Elizeta Pylioti

Device: GoPro MAX 360

Magenta is a 360 VR & Binaural Dance video that is created so that you experience time and feelings differently. What colour do you look at more? What do you feel when looking at it? How does your body react? Allow yourself to feel. Release your trapped emotions. Feel the Magenta.



https://youtu.be/KCw5U55Evx4



https://youtu.be/pFSWz6qyeWY



https://youtu.be/UddwiDdlrB4

mиRVault

MINA online screening via https://www.sightvault.xyz/minavault

Together, we build an independent video streaming platform. We bridge the gap between filmmakers, digital artists, and their audiences.

MINAVault is a space for all artists and fans participating in the MINA Smartphone Film Festival to take the first step on our journey.

List your film, get featured on MINAVault, and become a part of future independent video streaming platform.

Why are we doing this?

We are creating a decentralized, safe space where creators showcase videos directly to true aficionados, never surrendering their art's rights. Unlike traditional platforms, there's no central authority that restricts content rights or garners the major share of profits. This ensures that creators retain full ownership and control over their content.

Through this commitment, we believe that the community will thrive and loyalties intertwine — fan to filmmaker and creator to craft.







ONEIROS BY ALEXEY BELOV
DEREALITY BY LOUIS PRANDOLINI
IN MY HEAD BY PHOENIX SHERMAN
INSOMNIA BY ISAAC BAKER
DETACHED. BY ISABELLE BROADBENT
INSOMNOLENCE BY JOHN ROSS
REFLECTOR BY DECLAN SCOTT
THE PIECES OF OTHER PEOPLE BY ROSIE KING
IF I KNEW THIS WAS THE LAST TIME I'D SEE YOU BY LILY NEWCOMBE
FLICKER BY JODHI RAMSON MAVRIC

MINH Vault





#ECOSMARTPHONEFILMS



Sophia's Dream BY NAMO SAFIDEEN

Green BY HOLGER MOHAUPT

Afternoon with Ants BY IAN MCDONALD

Cockroach BY CLAIRE FORD

Back of my Shed BY DAVID EGARR
Spin Cycle BY CLANCY TATE

Round and Round BY CAEL MACLEOD-SMITH

Neighborhood BY JACK COCHRAN & PAMELA FALKENBERG

NarroWing BY POPPY ADAMS

Reductio BY MATTHEW FOSTER

FORKS BY ALEXANDRA GUILLOSSOU

CORONA DIARIES: FLOWERS BY SUSAN DETROY

FRAGRANCE BY PANNATEE CHITWISES

SYRON BY JENNY FRASER







"We launched FilmicFest four years ago as a way to inspire a whole new generation of filmmakers to create and share their vision. This year, we want to make an even bigger impact, especially now, with Hollywood in lockdown, there has never been a better opportunity to empower the voices of emerging and established indie filmmakers.

Submissions for Filmic Pro's FilmicFest close at 11:59 PM PDT on December 15, 2023."

MINAJUDGES

Patrick Kelly

Gerda Cammaer

Daniel Cermak-Sassenrath

Gavin Wilson

Adrian Jeffs

Kerreen Ely-Harper

Vanessa Vox

Bernhard Grosz

Felix Gyebi Amofa

Shuai Li

Daniel Wagner

David Cowlard

Miriam Ross

Michael Osheku

Thomas Insole

Anandana Kapur

Daniel Schultheis

Stefano Odorico

Huy Tam Dang
Loyd Doron
Markuza Maric
emma shearman
Marsalis Lam
Tiffany Tan
Naomi Lamb
Connor Barker
Augustus Raymond Segar
Estee Ho

Delwyn Remedios Darcy Yuille Dafydd Sills-Jones Therese Davis Thomas Bundi

Chris Nuttall

William Dishon Max Schleser

Adrian Jeffs – Designer & co-producer Estee Tze Xuan Ho – Social Media & Co-producer Chris Nuttall – Editor & Creative Co-producer William Dishon – Creative Co-producer

Animator

Felix Gyebi – Creative Co-producer Shuai Li – Creative Co-producer

Music for MINA trailers - Martin Koszolko

Logo Design – Thomas Le Bas

MINA Screening & Festival Director: Max Schleser

Australian Environment on Screen and MINA films are curated by Therese Davis and Max Schleser

The #EcoSmartphoneFilm program is curated by Gerda Cammaer and Max Schleser

SF3, SmartFone Flick Fest, is curated by Angela Blake.

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SOCIAL MEDIA LINKS

www.twitter.com/MINAmobile www.facebook.com/MobileInnovationNetwork





WE ARE MOBILE

















