

## FEATURES

### Clay - *Argilla*

Dir: Giorgio Mangiamele, 1964, b/w, 84 mins

First Australian film in competition at 1965 Cannes Film Festival.

A rainy day in rural Victoria. A criminal (George Dixon) is on the run from the police. Mud turns into clay on his way. He is saved by a girl (Janine Lebedew) and her father. The man falls in love with the girl who shelters him but he cannot escape his past.

### They're a weird mob - *Tipi strani gli Australiani*

Dir: Michael Powell, 1966, 112 mins

Mr. Culotta (Walter Chiari), an Italian journalist, comes to Australia to find that the job he had been promised has vanished. He eventually finds one as a builder's laborer and he is quickly introduced by his new mates to the social rituals of their country.

### A girl in Australia - *Bello, onesto, emigrato in Australia sposerebbe compaesana illibata*

Dir: Luigi Zampa, 1971, 115 mins

First subtitled screening in Australia.

Amedeo (Alberto Sordi), an Italian migrant, dreams of an arranged marriage by mail with an Italian woman: Carmela (Claudia Cardinale). Fearing rejection he sends her a photo of handsome Giuseppe. The beautiful Carmela arrives to get married carrying her own secret...

### Hungry heart - *La rabbia dentro*

Dir: Luigi Acquisto, 1987, 105 mins

Salvatore returns to live with his parents in Melbourne. He meets Kate but she has difficulty rationalising her feelings for Sal because of the closeness she has with her flatmate Jane. A push and pull which can't be easily recognised or defined.

### Captain Johnno - *Johnno e l'uomo venuto da lontano*

Dir: Mario Andreacchio, 1988, 95 mins

Johnno is ten, deaf, and always in strife. He lives in a small fishing town in South Australia and he has an affinity with the sea that he shares with Tony, an Italian fisherman. Johnno and Tony have something in common, they both cannot be understood.

### Fistful of flies - *Un pugno di mosche*

Dir: Monica Pellizzari, 1996, 82 mins

Stifled and dominated by her family, Mars just wants to be free. Denied relationships with anyone who truly understands her, Mars battles to be treated as an adult, giving her mother the courage to act and forcing her father to make the choice of his life.

### Napoleon - *Napoleone*

Dir: Mario Andreacchio, 1997, 78 mins



Clay



They're a weird mob

Napoleon is a ten weeks old puppy that lives in the city and dreaming of being a brave explorer, embarks on an incredible journey across the wild Australian outback.

### Looking for Alibrandi - *Terza generazione*

Dir: Kate Woods, 2000, 105 mins

Seventeen year old Josie Alibrandi (Pia Miranda) lives with her mum (Greta Scacchi) in the protective shadow of her nonna Katia and in ignorance of the identity of her father (Anthony LaPaglia), but she is approaching a life-changing experience.

### La Spagnola

Dir: Steve Jacobs, 2001, 87 mins

The husband has run off with his blonde Australian mistress and Lola (Lola Marceli), driven by revenge, plots the return of a brand new car bought with her family savings. Meanwhile Lucia, Lola's daughter, hatches an alternative plan. The two strategies collide with disastrous and comical results.

## SHORTS

### The spag - *Spaghetti*

Dir: Giorgio Mangiamele, 1962, 36 mins

Three boddies persecute an Italian paperboy with regular taunts, attacks and chasing, until one day Tony is hit by a speeding van, his papers scatter and blow away. His mother sees newspapers flying in the air outside her window and has a premonition of tragedy.

### Ninety-nine percent - *Novantanove per cento*

Dir: Giorgio Mangiamele, 1963, 40 mins

The tragedy of loneliness becomes a bittersweet comedy when an Italian migrant widower goes to a marriage agency to find a wife for himself and a mother for his young son.

### The scarecrow - *Lo spaventapasseri*

Dir: Luigi Acquisto, 1986, 32 mins

The experience of two Italian families sharing a house seen through the eyes of a child. Sense of loss and cultural alienation; disappointment against a subtly hostile Australian society.

### Hey sista! - *Hey sorelle!*

Dir: Jan Cattoni, 1993, 27 mins

Lisa is fourteen and her hair has gone curly after her father barely survives a plane crash. Dreaming to be like Roberta, with her long straight hair, Lisa finds friendship where she least expects it.

### The vegetable mob - *L'implacabile banda degli ortaggi*

Dir: Carla Drago, 1993, 7 mins

First generation Sicilian immigrants have carried on the tradition of their rural forefathers: cultivate the superior tomato.



A girl in Australia



Looking for Alibrandi

### Dessert: an end in three parts - *Quello che voglio, quello che sono*

Dir: Sandra Lepore, 1994, 5 mins

Rosa is about to embark on a life with Manfred. A luscious look at the rich layers of fantasy, pleasure and guilt.

### Love from Guy - *L'amore di Gaetano*

Dir: Sandra Lepore, 1997, 24 mins

Guy is a lad raised in a traditional patriarchal family where the woman fulfills every need of the husband and children. Vita, Guy's new wife, has other ideas about relationships and life.

### Acquiring a taste for Raffaella - *Per innamorarsi di Raffaella*

Dir: Sandra Lepore, 1997, 14 mins

Raffaella, an Italian-Australian girl, falls in love for the first time.

The Italian aunt gives her an advice, but the traditional recipe for the "love biscuits" provides few surprises and Raffaella agrees to add an unusual ingredient to the mix.

### The gardener - *Il giardiniere*

Dir: Damien Cassar, 2000, 9 mins

A young man recounts his time as a thirteen-year-old observing his elderly gardener, an Italian immigrant, and attempts to piece together the unknown past of the old man.

### Speak to me of love - *Parlami d'amore*

Dir: Glen Eaves, 2000, 22 mins

Nonno Baldo thinks the time has come for his youngest grandson to know the secrets of the universe of love. On a starry night, he takes the boy back into his memories of falling in love.

### Score! - *A segno!*

Dir: Damien Cassar, 2002, 13 mins

One fateful day, a man returns to his home in the Kingdom of Sydney. Burdened by his regal predicament, he is led on a bizarre journey by seven predatory Soccer Boys.

### Claudia's shadow - *Claudia delle favole*

Dir: Ruth Borgobello, 2002, 16 mins

A young Italian girl, finding herself in the strange and foreign land of Australia, uses her talent for storytelling to transcend all cultural and linguistic barriers, with a little help from her shadow.

### Stray heart - *Un'anima smarrita*

Dir: Jason Di Rosso, 2002, 12 mins

After his local priest died, a lonely church caretaker starts visiting a nearby shopping mall. He loves the lights and the people, but soon finds himself in a vicious cycle of shoplifting, lies and self-hate.

### Desolato - *Desolate*

Dir: Thomas Scire, 2003, 8 mins



La Spagnola



Ninety-nine per cent

A mother obsessed with her son's personal life insists he finds an Italian partner. Eventually Dan meets his 'Italian Fish', with a twist..

### Marco solo - *Marco by himself*

Dir: Adrian Bosich, 2004, 10 mins

Poor nine year old Marco still shares his parents' bedroom. Using a vivid imagination, an obsession with Dame Edna and warped Catholicism he seeks his own space.

### The garden of passion - *Il giardino, una passione*

Dir: Linda Mirabilio, 2004, 4 mins

Tomatoes, grapes and chicory all grow in abundance in Enrico's garden. Exploring migration and cultivation across borders, the director invites us to get to know Enrico, a passionate and wise man who likes to use what he grows.

## DOCUMENTARIES

### Thar she blows - *Caccia alle balene*

Dir: Thomas Marinato, 1937, 8 mins

An old man recounts whale hunting experiences during the 1930s. An historic account of the cruelty of man towards nature.

### The other side of the coin - *Il rovescio della medaglia*

Dir: Fabio Cavadini and Suzi Walker, 1979, 38 mins

The point of view of migrants on social integration: the difficulties of everyday life and the deep personal consequences of alienation among the Italian community.

### The joys of the women - *La gioia delle donne*

Dir: Franco Di Chiera, 1992, 57 mins

An uplifting musical documentary tracing the search by singer/songwriter Kavisha Mazzella for the lost songs of a generation.

### They came, they saw, they concreted - *Vennero, videro e...colarono cemento*

Dir: Andrea Del Bosco, 2002, 50 mins

The film uses concrete and associated concrete industries as a window into the Italian community. Italian immigration during the 40s and 50s introduced a concrete skill set that laid the foundation for the Australian building industry.

The new print of *They're a Weird Mob* is from the Kodak/Atlab Cinema Collection courtesy of the National Film and Sound Archive, a division of the Australian Film Commission.

The prints *Clay*, *Spag*, *Ninety-Nine*, and the brand new print of *A girl in Australia*, courtesy of the National Film and Sound Archive, a division of the Australian Film Commission.



Marco solo



Claudia's shadow