

W.A.F.F

WELLINGTON ANIMATION FILM FESTIVAL

2026

19-22 March
At the Roxy

Book online at : roxycinema.co.nz



Infos and bookings: www.wellingtonanimationfilmfestival.com



Dandelion's Odyssey

March 19th - 18:30 - Roxy Cinema 1

Adventure, ecology, fantasy — France — 75 min
Dandelion, Baraban, Léonto and Taraxa, four dandelion achenes rescued from a succession of nuclear explosions destroying the Earth, find themselves hurled into the cosmos, stranded on an unknown planet, in search of a soil suitable for the survival of their species.

Teens, young adult, family

NZ Premiere — Winner of Ancey Paul Grimault Award and FIPRESCI Prize at Cannes 2025



Stitch Head

March 20th - 16:00 - Roxy Cinema 1

Monster, fantasy, comedy — 92 min
Follows Stitch Head, a small creature awoken by a Mad Professor in the castle Grotteskew. Stitch head must protect the professor's other creations from the townspeople of Grubbers Nubbin.

Kids, teens, family

NZ Premiere – International co-production



The Square

March 20th - 19:45 - Roxy Cinema 2

Drama — South Korea — 73 min
This acclaimed South Korean independent animation takes us in North Korea, where we will discover a tormented triangle story of love, spying and friendship. Beautifully animated and visually enticing, this film is a must see!

Teens, young adult, adults.

NZ Premiere — Winner of Ancey 2025 Contrechamp Award

UNESCO Cities of Film:

Potsdam, Łódź, Vicente López, Valladolid, Wellington



Female Landscape: Animation

March 21st - 10:00 - Roxy Cinema 1

Animation — International — 60 min
Screen Wellington presents an exclusive collection of animated shorts by female filmmakers from UNESCO Creative Cities of Film around the world. Stay on after the screening for an inspiring talk with the featured filmmakers.

Young adults, adults

NZ Premiere — Discussion after screening



Space Cadet

March 21st - 12:30 - Roxy Cinema 1

Musical — Canada — 86 min
A silent animated musical on an astronaut girl and her robot. The story embark us in the journey of a young girl and her goal to become an astronaut, nurtured and supported by a caring robot. An international festival favourite!

Kids, family

NZ Premiere — Directed by multidisciplinary Canadian artist Kid Koala.



Mosley

March 21st - 14:30 - Roxy Cinema 2

Fantasy adventure - New Zealand/China — 97 min
In ancient times, part of the Thoriphants nation migrated north to escape humans. Today, Mosley, a young Thoriphant, rebels against this life of servitude and embark on a treacherous journey to find the fabled city of Uprights, where the ancestors live in peace.

Kids, teens, family

The first NZ-China animated co-production (2019)



Students short films

March 21st - 15:00 - Roxy Cinema 1

French Students Short Films Collection — 67 mn (Out of competition selection)

Break

NZ Students Short Films Competition — 48 mn
Following the Student Short Films screenings, a Ceremony will honour the winners of this first edition, presenting the laureates of the Screen Wellington Unesco City of Film Supreme Award and the laureates of the Jury Prize.

NZ Premiere NZ Premiere NZ Premiere NZ Premiere



The Most Precious of Cargoes

March 21st - 19:00 - Roxy Cinema 2

Drama — France/Belgium — 81 min
The story centers on a Holocaust-surviving Jewish girl whose father throws her from a moving train heading to Auschwitz and ultimately found by a woodcutter and his family.

Teens, young adults, adults

NZ theatrical Premiere
First animated feature in Cannes Main Competition since 2008. Opening film of Ancey 2024



ChaO

March 21st - 21:00 - Roxy Cinema 1

Fantasy — Japan — 90 min
In a future society where humans and mermaids coexist, Stephan, a regular office worker at a shipbuilding company, is suddenly proposed to by Chao – a princess from the mermaid kingdom!
A fantasy story in the tradition of Studio Ghibli.

Family, teens, young adults

NZ Premiere — Winner Ancey 2025 Jury Award



Little Amelie and the Character of Rain

March 22nd - 13:45 - Roxy Cinema 1

Adventure, comedy — France — 77 min
Adapted from Amélie Nothomb's novel, depicting her early years in Japan. Discover Amelie and her special vision of the world.



NZ Premiere — Winner of the Ancey 2025 Audience Award



Into the Mortal World

March 22nd - 16:30 - Roxy Cinema 2

Adventure, drama, fantasy — China — 118 min
The Weaving Maiden's son, Jin Feng, went down to the world for his mother, and teamed up with a young girl, Xiaofan, to subdue the Starry Nights. People and gods together, all the way to the thrills and dangers, the mystery of Xiaofan's life, the truth of the Weaving Maiden's crime also gradually surfaced.

Teens, young adults



Ancey Best of Kids

March 22nd-10:00 -Roxy Cinema 1

Ancey Best of

March 22nd-20:15 -Roxy Cinema 1

Collections of Shorts - International - 65 min - 85mn
"Ancey Best Of Kids 2025" brings together a selection of funny, moving and poetic short films that will delight young audiences.

Kids, family

"Ancey Best of 2025" is a selection of short films from the most recent edition, including a majority of award-winning films.

Young adults, adults

NZ Premiere - Awarded International Shorts

WAFF 2026 programme

19th March-Thursday

18:30  **Dandelion's Odyssey** *Roxy cinema 1*
Adventure-Ecology-Fantastic
No dialog - 75mn
NZ premiere
Winner of Annecy 2025 Paul Grimault Award
Winner of the FIPRESCI Prize at Cannes 2025 - France

21st March-Saturday

10:00  **Female Landscape: Animation** *Roxy cinema 1*
Screen Wellington collection of animated shorts by female filmmakers from UNESCO Creative Cities of Film. English - 60 mn
NZ premiere
Followed by a discussion with filmmakers.

12:30  **Space Cadet** *Roxy cinema 1*
Musical-Fantasy
No dialog - 86 mn
NZ premiere
Directed by Kid Koala
Canada

20th March-Friday

16:00  **Stitch Head** *Roxy cinema 1*
Monster-Fantasy-Comedy
English - 92 mn
NZ premiere
International co-production (Germany, Luxembourg, India, UK)

19:45  **The Square** *Roxy cinema 2*
Drama
OV with subtitles - 73 mn
NZ premiere
Winner of Annecy 2025 Contrechamp Award
South Korea

22nd March-Sunday

10:00  **Annecy Shorts Best of Collection-Kids** *Roxy cinema 1*
Short films that children will adore!
OV with subtitles - 75mn
NZ premiere
International Best of Kids 2025 Animated Shorts

13:45  **Little Amelie and the Character of Rain** *Roxy cinema 1*
Adventure-Comedy
OV with subtitles - 77 mn
NZ premiere
Winner of the Annecy Audience Award, Golden Globe nomination for Best Animated Motion Picture - France

16:30  **Into the Mortal World** *Roxy cinema 2*
Adventure-Fantasy-Epic
OV with subtitles - 118 mn
China

20:15  **Annecy Shorts Best of Collection Adults** *Roxy cinema 1*
Awarded International Shorts Collection
OV with subtitles
International Best of Animated Shorts

19:00  **The Most Precious of Cargoes** *Roxy cinema 2*
Drama
OV with subtitles - 81 mn
NZ theatrical premiere
First animated feature in Cannes Main Competition since 2008 - Opening film at Annecy 2024.
France-Belgium

21:00  **Chao** *Roxy cinema 1*
Fantasy
OV with subtitles - 90 mn
NZ premiere
Winner of Annecy 2025 Jury Award
Japan



Infos and booking

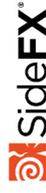
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A week of screenings, industry talks and student competition
WAFF Industry Dayz Online: 11th March to 2nd April
WAFF Industry Dayz Wellington: 20th March to 21st of March

