

SYDNEY ARAB FILM FESTIVAL PRESS RELEASE

Families, fast cars, gangsta-rap and rosewater.....

Jammin in the Middle E –under the stars.

The 2nd Sydney Arab Film Festival (SAAF) will present a free outdoor event at the Campbelltown Arts Centre Amphitheatre, featuring open-air film screenings, live physical performances and rap crews, on Saturday 27 November.

Grab your friends and/or family, bring your picnic basket & blanket, stake out your spot and wait for the sun to set. When the stars start to twinkle, sit back and enjoy a night of homebaked, hilarious short films, Rap and other live performances made/created/brought to you by the young and gifted people in your neighbourhood...And it's all free!!

Fresh from a red-carpet premiere, the short film **XROADS**, has gained major release with Hoyts. This clever Road Safety Campaign features Sydney rapper **NOMISE**.

Local boys made good, **9 Lives** bring their truly original physical performance style that blends combat with music in the hi-nrg **La Pakour**. 9 Lives will also perform live..... see them live to believe these urban acrobatic rubbermen.

The final short film is from **Agents of Change**, a drama with a social twist that reflects the paranoid times we live in,

Jammin' in the Middle E is an Arab Australian comedy about Naima and Ishak, the story about a sister and brother from a conservative, middle class Muslim family, in Western Sydney. Ishak is a part time rapper who dreams of being a gangster but fails miserably at every turn while Naima, who usually ends up bailing him out, has the hots for his mate - the cool dude Rafi.

Ishak gets himself into hot water again betting his car and staking a large sum of cash on an illegal street race which he is sure to lose.

Ishak hatches a plot with his sidekicks to steal his own car for the insurance. The plan goes pear-shaped and things look increasingly grim - especially when the rap battle that Ishak organises to raise some cash is double booked with a traditional Lebanese wedding. What next for Naima and Ishak?

Using an intense drama workshop approach in the creation and production of the script, ***Jammin in the Middle E*** drew real life stories from the lives of the young amateur cast as the starting point for the screenplay.

A Viral Films production, ***Jammin' in the Middle E*** is written by Howard Jackson, produced by Enda Murray and directed by Kim Mordaunt after close collaboration and workshoping with the young Bankstown cast/contributors. *Jammin In the Middle E* was supported by Australia Council, NSW Ministry for the Arts, Australian Film Commission, NSW Film and Television Office, SBSindependent.

The 2nd Sydney Arab Film Festival is managed and hosted by Information & Cultural Exchange (ICE) and driven by a volunteer Organising Committee. ICE aims to support the Sydney Arab Film Festival into an independently managed annual event in the coming years.

Jammin' In the Middle E under the Stars.

7.30pm Sun 27 Nov

Campbelltown Arts Centre Amphitheatre

Cnr campbelltown & Appin Roads, Campbelltown

FREE

www.sydneyarabfilmfestival.com

**For Further Sydney Arab Film Festival Media Enquiries please call
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