Film festival fun in Midland

ON the opening night of the Swan Film Festival, Thursday September 22, there will be a series of short films shown as well as previews of the upcoming films and documentaries.

Shorts include *Tell Me What You Really Think?*, *Abbie*, *The Crocodile's Wife* and more.

The five-minute short film *Tell Me What You Really Think?* was written by Steven Bisset and Steven Hopley, produced by Paul Mailath and directed by Jacquie Gill.

It is about the caring and mature relationship that relies on communication – being able to 'say what you think'.

The Australian short *Life After You*, which is produced, written and directed by Jennifer Ta and runs for 10 minutes, focuses on Lauren and Michelle who have been together for over two years.

Michelle breaks up with Lauren and tells her that she needs to go and explore the world.

Confused and heartbroken, Lauren tries to move on but when she thinks she sees Michelle on the street, she discovers the truth why Michelle really left.

The seven-minute film *The Crocodile's Wife* is written and animated by Jody Cleaver.

It is produced by Robert Stephenson, directed by Jody Cleaver and uses cinematography by Juliet Hill.

It is a film that was printed by hand using the printmaking technique of etching.

Over 900 prints were created for this film and many were additionally painted in coloured inks.

The Crocodile's Wife grows resentful of an ever-cheerful monkey.

Her husband arranges a meeting between them, confident she will see the error of her judgment - but will she like him?

There are a number of films showing on Friday night including *I am Bish, Minor Head Injury* and more.

Perth film *I am Bish* will be shown at 7pm.

The production was written and produced by WAAPA trained actor David Bishop and made for only $10,000.

It is about a final year film student who is shooting a documentary for his graduating project when an unspecified "incident" wipes out WA, leaving Bish as the sole survivor.

At first he enjoys it but starts to become lonely when the green zombies arrive and he finds a new

lease of life in the challenge of survival.

Bishop has won many awards for previous shows and this should to be a good watch.

The sci-fi horror *Minor Head Injury*, written by Adam Harvey and Evangeline Than, is about an insecure junior doctor and an arrogant surgeon clash over the treatment of a mystery crash patient.

Harvey, a doctor turned film maker, has written and directed a string of successful short films including the 2009 hit *Bootless*.

Kittens of Woodlake was written, directed and produced by Lynnette Morley.

Ms Morley shot her film in seven days at various locations around Perth including The Midland Town Hall, Jane Brook Winery and Midland Junction Arts Centre, and made it into a 127-minute feature.

It was then reduced into a 32-minute short film for the festival.

Kittens of Woodlake tells the story of the nine cabaret girls who work at a late night jazz lounge - the Kittens Club.

It will be on Saturday September 24 at 8pm.

The silent film *Joie De Vivre* was made in Canada by Perth actress Emma Raine Walker, who directed and produced the film.

It is the story of how two different people from different backgrounds meet each other for the first time and instinctively know that moment - they share together at the park - was destiny.

For more information on films and ticket prices go to www.swanfilmfestival.com

EAT... RELAX... ENJOY...

Film festival hits town

THE inaugural City of Swan Film Festival will hit Midland screens this month.

The festival, which is set to become an annual event, will showcase international and national films.

The film festival will run from September 21 to 25 and full-length features, as well as shorts and documentaries, will be screened.

In this year's program there is a focus on local Perth films, with at least one per night, including *Kittens of Woodlake,* which was filmed in Midland, *I Am Bish, Minor Head Injury* and silent film *Joie de Vivre*.

Festival director Lynette Morley said Midland was a great place to hold the film festival and she expected the 107 seats would fill up quickly

"There is an art hub happening here."

"We have art shows, WAAPA performs at Midland Junction Art Centre and we have photography competitions so why not have a film festival?

"I think with having Perth-made movies on every night will really draw people in."

The film festival will feature 27 national and international films ranging from three minutes to 111 minutes in length.

Audience members will be given the opportunity to vote on their favourite films by filling out voting forms each night, with the overall winner declared at the festivals closing party award ceremony.

For more information on the films screening on Friday 21, festival head to page 21.

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