



Revelation International Film Festival Launch with preview of documentary feature The Art of the Prank

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By Sarah Stopforth

The energy was undeniable standing in the buzzing foyer of Luna Leederville, which was filled to the brim with excited film buffs for the launch of the Revelation International Film Festival 2016.

Once seated, with lovely churros provided by Guzman Y Gomez, we heard from Festival Director Richard Sowada and Program Director Jack Sargeant as they introduced what we can expect from the festival this year.

Don't know what the Revelation Film Festival is about? As described so poignantly on their website:

"The festival was designed to showcase ideas "at point" in contemporary independent film and find a place for them in a conservative cinema and social environment."

The festival has been running since 1997, and 2016 is their biggest year yet with over 120 international films presented at cinemas, galleries, cafes and bars in Perth for the two weeks the festival is running.

Film and Video lecturer at ECU, Keith Smith, has been encouraging his students to go, volunteer and simply get involved since I started my degree. So finally going, and seeing him there, among other students and like-minded people, everything came full circle. Not by just *being there*, but enjoying the hell out of it.

As a special treat, the team at Revelation screened one of the many documentary features in the festival program, *The Art of the Prank* (Director Andrea Marini, USA, ITALY, UK). The film follows the clever and hilarious pranks of "the Godfather of the media hoax" Joey Skaggs and his career, past and present.

He began his work in the late '60s, using the medium of performance to challenge and subvert the American media. From large and small scale performance pranks from the ridiculous likes of "The Fat Squad," "Brothel for Dogs," posing as a pastor riding his bike around NYC with a portable confession booth on the back of his bike, and "Hippie Bus Tour to Queens" – the list goes on! All of these pranks garnered massive media attention, therefore successfully achieving what Skaggs wanted – for people to critically assess what they're watching, and a "f*** you" to the very manipulative media world.

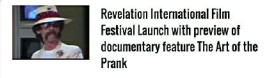
The Art of the Prank was hysterical, sometimes shocking and ridiculous, but mostly inspiring and thought provoking. The media influences us daily and Joey, through his art, reminds us: Don't believe everything you're told.

Revelation International Film Festival commences on July 7 until July 17. Check out the program of films here!

THE ART OF THE PRANK is showing at selected Luna Palace Cinemas, beginning on July 10. You can watch the trailer below.



Art of the Prank – Teaser Trailer from Relight Films on Vimeo.



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Moving Out



Review: Chasing Asylum



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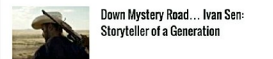
Perth International Jazz Festival: Day 3



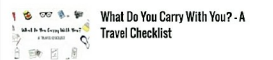
Review: Fag/Stag



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