



YOU SHOULD HAVE BEEN HERE YESTERDAY

Surfing, Surf Films
and an Australia
Just Gone By.

PRESS KIT
19/09/24



THE ADELAIDE FILM FESTIVAL presents with SCREEN NSW and THE SOUTH AUSTRALIAN FILM CORPORATION in association with THE SURF FILM ARCHIVE and ELEVEN POST
'YOU SHOULD HAVE BEEN HERE YESTERDAY' a LIGHT SOUND ART FILM production featuring PAUL WITZIG, DICK HOOLE, EVELYN RICH, STEVE OTTON, CHRIS BROCK, ALBE PALZON, MONTY WEBBER,
WAYNE LYNCH, MAURICE COLE, PALLINE MENCZER, JODIE HARRISON, CONNIE NIXON, TONI SAWYER, BOB McTAVISH, FRANK PITHERS, ANDREW McKINNON, TIM BAKER, JOHN WITZIG,
VAUGHAN BLAKEY, MICK SOWRY, TIM WINTON, MURRAY PATERSON, BADDY TRELOR, MAJORIE 'MA' BENDALL, JOE LARKIN and BERNARD 'MIDGET' FARRELLY
music by MURRAY PATERSON & HEADLAND edited by ERNEST HARIYANTO & NICK MEYERS sound design and mix MARIO GABRIELLI 16mm cinematographer URSULA WOODS colourist BILLY WYCHGEL
film scanning KADE BUCHELL executive producer GABRIELLE JOOSTEN produced by JOLYON HOFF, CRAIG GRIFFIN & HAMISH GIBBS LUDBROOK written by JOLYON HOFF & ERNEST HARIYANTO
directed by JOLYON HOFF

Check the Classification



South Australian Film Corporation



The Surf Film Archive



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“This is a crucial project for Australian surfing history and culture. Our collective surf film archive is a precious treasure of our shared cultural memory. It’s brilliant, brave and slightly mad that someone is actually game to take this herculean task on. They deserve all of our gratitude and support.”

- Tim Baker, Author

“This is one of the most important projects in Australian surfing history.”

- Rob Layton, Journalist

“What you guys are doing shows us who we are and where we came from, and what an insanely fun ride it has been.”

- Ben Brown, Artist

“The next best thing to a time machine. The scans are amazing, stoked our surf history is in caring and capable hands.”

- Alan White, Filmmaker

“If we don’t know where we come from and what we belong to, we will experience a superficial understanding that will invoke confusion and chaos.”

- Wayne Lynch, Surfer and Shaper

Logline

Stunningly restored film footage takes you inside the birth of Australian surfing.

Synopsis (51 words)

You Should Have Been Here Yesterday combines hundreds of hours of lovingly-restored 16mm surf film footage with a salt-infused soundscape and wisdoms from Australia’s Gurus, Outsider Artists and Intuitives to tell the story of a wild community who took off up the coast and discovered a whole new way to live.

Long Synopsis (95 words)

A poetic homage to Australia’s early surf-culture with unearthed footage set to an original soundtrack. *You Should Have Been Here Yesterday* combines hundreds of hours of lovingly restored 16mm footage with a downright killer score by salty legends Headland. This totally radical documentary tells the story of a wild community who took off up the coast and discovered a whole new way to live. Come on a cinematic trip down the Aussie coast of years gone by.

Featuring Albe Falzon, Wayne Lynch, Bob McTavish, Maurice Cole, Pauline Menczer, Ma Bendall, Tim Winton and many more.

Director's Statement (413 words)

My childhood impression of surfing was that it was almost an entirely new way of living. It seemed to be wrapped around a collection of progressive and, at the time, alternative ideas; connecting to nature, engaging with eastern philosophies, practising healthy living, eating different foods, not working 9-5 and more. My hero was my uncle, who had moved to Lennox Head to surf, building his own shack out of wood salvaged from falling-down farmhouses. Surfing was beautiful, exhilarating and dangerous and felt 'real' when compared to my suburban Sydney upbringing.

As I grew older I watched as surfing became more commercial, aggressive and competitive. The beautiful ideas I had related to surfing were sidelined as it was packaged and sold all around the world. One day I was standing on an underground train station in Washington DC, 6 hours drive from any ocean, and was surrounded by Billabong and Rip Curl t-shirts. One of surfing's original gurus, Alby Falzon, says "First they owned the companies, and then the companies owned them". Those original beautiful ideas seemed to be lost. I still saw them in the surf and on the beaches, but the perception of surfing had become something very different. For a long time I've imagined making a film about the 'true' culture of surfing, about those beautiful dreamy progressive ideas which had first attracted me.

In 2008 I was in Dick Hoole's garage looking for footage of famously reclusive schizophrenic surfing legend Michael Peterson for a film *Searching for Michael Peterson*. I found some beautiful shots of 'MP', but there were piles of other film reels. I wondered - what gold must be hiding in those other film cans? And what about the other filmmakers, what happened to their footage? During the pandemic these two ideas came together and I decided to use this 'lost' film footage to make a film about the side of surfing which didn't fit the commercial mould. I think surfing culture can be seen as an analogy for the wider Australian colonial culture and, as Australia moves forward, grows up and becomes more multicultural and globally connected, we need to decide what we want to leave behind and what we want to keep.

You Should Have Been Here Yesterday will start conversations. What mistakes did we make? And what beautiful new ideas did we help usher into mainstream Australia? There is a conversation taking place, and it has only just begun.

Featuring

| | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------|
| Albe Falzon | Tim Winton | Pauline Menczer |
| Chris Brock | Bob McTavish | Joe Larkin |
| Wayne Lynch | Marjorie 'Ma' Bendall | John Witzig |
| David 'Baddy' Treloar | Evelyn Rich | Murray Paterson |
| Maurice Cole | Dick Hoole | Monty Webber |
| Paul Witzig | Steve Otton | Bernard 'Midget' Farrelly |

Light Sound Art Film

Light Sound Art Film is a creative arts production company established by Jolyon Hoff based on Kaurna Yerta/Adelaide, South Australia. Our goal is to tell stories which bring the developing and developed worlds closer together.

Previous projects include *Watandar; My Countryman* (Adelaide Film Festival 2022, Finalist Screen Producers Australia Feature Documentary Of The Year), *The Staging Post* (Highly Commended for 'Best Stand-Alone Documentary' the Australian Directors' Guild 2018), *Searching For Michael Peterson* (Finalist Best Feature Documentary IF Awards & St Kilda Film Festival 2009) and *Aceh - Ten Years After the Tsunami* for USAID, now on permanent display at the Aceh Tsunami Museum.

Previous Press

[Pacific Longboarder Magazine – “You Should Have Been Here Yesterday” – news on the new movie and premiere](#)

04/10/23

[Noosa Today – View from the Headland](#)

24/02/23

[Swellnet – SFA x Headland at Noosa](#)

10/02/23

[Swellnet – 'A Winter's Tale' In The Arvo, Headland At Night](#)

14/07/22

[Swellnet – The Surf Film Archive x Headland](#)

20/04/22

[FilmInk – Jolyon Hoff: Capturing the Spirit of Australian Surf Culture](#)

16/04/22

[Pacific Longboarder Magazine – Finding, restoring and sharing Australia's lost surf films](#)

28/07/21

[Surflife – The Past Is Another Country](#)

20/08/21

[Swellnet – The Surf Film Archive](#)

25/08/21

Social Media



facebook.com/thesurffilmarchive



[@surffilmarchive](#)
[@headlandsoundtrack](#)



[@jolyonhoff](#)



www.thesurffilmarchive.com.au

Press Materials

Artwork, Poster, Stills

[Google Drive Link](#)

Tech Specs

| <i>Runtime</i> | <i>Language</i> | <i>Format</i> |
|----------------|-----------------|---------------|
| 80 mins | English | 24fps 4K 16:9 |

Contact

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Team

Jolyon Hoff

Writer / Director / Producer

Filmmaker Jolyon Hoff returned to Australia in 2020 after spending the last 15 years living and working in Nigeria, Indonesia, Nepal, and Washington DC. His latest feature documentary, *Watandar, My Countryman*, premiered at the Adelaide Film Festival 2022 and was nominated for a Screen Producers Australia award for Feature Documentary Of The Year. Previous projects include *The Staging Post*, following a refugee community in Indonesia (Highly Commended for 'Best Stand-Alone Documentary' by the Australian Directors' Guild), *Searching For Michael Peterson*, about a 70s schizophrenic surfing legend, *Morrowind Babies*, inside revered computer game company Bethesda Softworks, and *Aceh - Ten Years After the Tsunami* for USAID, now on permanent display at the Aceh Tsunami Museum. Jolyon is committed to telling stories which bring the developing and developed worlds together.



Ernest Hariyanto & Nick Meyers

Editors

Ernest Hariyanto is an award-winning documentary filmmaker, producer, writer and editor. His credits include *Laya Project* (Best Film Byron Bay Film Festival 2008), *Streetside* (Best Doc Busan International Film Festival 2013, Best Doc Melbourne International Film Festival 2014) and *Ininnaawa: An Island Calling* (Cinefest Oz Film Festival 2023).

Nick Meyers started out shooting his own films on a cheap super-8 camera. In the 80s, between working in the editing department of the ABC and performing in various bedroom bands, he was also part of the film-making group "The Marine Biologists". In 1998 he edited *The Boys* and has become one of Australia's most highly regarded editors. Recent films include *The New Boy*, *Nude Tuesday* and *The Dry*.



Murray Paterson

Composer

Murray Paterson is an Australian songwriter and musician. His band, Headland, compose soundtracks for films. In 2009 he co-scored the *Beautiful Kate* with Tex Perkins and received an ARIA nomination for Best Original Soundtrack. You can usually find him in the ocean with his kids or strumming guitars with his wife.



Kade Bucheli

Film Archivist

Ever since trying to fix his dad's old 35mm camera six years ago, Kade's been fascinated with the inner-workings of film equipment. He's become an avid collector of film gear (including the St Kilda Cinema's old 16mm projector), and has been learning the craft of film-restoration with The Surf Film Archive and Billy Wychgel.



Ursula Woods

16mm Cinematographer

Ursula Woods is a video artist and filmmaker with a visual art and music background based in southern lutruwita/Tasmania. She is currently developing experimental 16mm techniques under the mentorship of Julie Murray (CalArts) and recently premiered work at Mona Foma 2023.



Billy Wychgel

Colourist

Billy Wychgel began his career as a Colourist in the late 90s in Germany and has since worked across Europe, New Zealand and Australia on renowned films such as *The Lord of the Rings*, *Sherpa* and *Babyteeth*. His full list of credits can be found at www.billywychgel.com/features



Gabrielle Joosten

Executive Producer / Post-Producer

Gabrielle Joosten is a Producer with over 25 years experience in VFX, Animation, Post Production & Design for Film, TV Series, Advertising and Broadcast industry. She is Founder and Producer at Elements Post-Production and former Head of Production at Cumulus VFX.



Craig Griffin

Producer

Craig Griffin began his film career directing and producing music videos for leading Australian artists. His credits include *Not Quite Hollywood* (AFI Award Best Feature Documentary 2008, MIFF 2008), *Such Is Life: The Troubled Times of Ben Cousins* (7 Network 2010) *First Love* (2010) and *Uncharted Waters* (2013).



Hamish Gibbs Ludbrook

Producer

Hamish Gibbs Ludbrook is a filmmaker based in Adelaide, South Australia. His debut feature documentary, *No Distinguishing Features*, following the stories of six Australasians with disabilities, premiered on SBS in 2021. He's currently producing for Light Sound Art Film.

