



Film Synopsis & Discussion Questions

Australian Stories 2019 is Colourfest's sixth short film collection.

The short films celebrate Australia's ever-evolving identity as a nation of diverse faces

Films

Our stories, our voices - A newly arrived group of young people from Iraq, Syria, and Ethiopia find out what Australians know about their home countries, and talk to immigrants who have been here for many years, before sharing their food, music, and culture.

Director: Fahmi Seid, Nadeen Habboo, Dima Zeidan, Marah Zeidan (*from left to right in photo*)

Duration: 10 minutes

Eve - A teenager comes of age through the most unlikely of friendships in working class, multicultural, Western Sydney.

Director: Zayaan Jappie

Duration: 15 minutes

Mother, Child - Having suffered a recent Stroke, a mother and her adult son are reacquainted and forced to live together. As they face the physical and psychological challenges head on, they're placed on an emotional collision course, leading them to question whether their close proximity is such a good idea.

Director: Tin Pang

Duration: 15 minutes

Panguna - Panguna is the name of a mine deep in the islands of Papua New Guinea. This tiny cluster of islands in the Pacific is rich in natural resources such as gold, silver and copper. For seventeen years the mine functioned peacefully until 1989 when the local villagers rebelled against the government and targeted the mine. We follow the story of Veronica who was a villager from the area. She fell in love with one of the Australian workers. This documentary will show how she navigated through the conflict



with a husband on one side and her family on the other. As their love story unfolded the world around them was at war.

Director: Carmen Smith

Duration: 7 minutes

My New Life - What is it like to leave your family, your friends and your country behind to start a new life in a new country? Four young people, in the process of making Melbourne their new home, speak about the difficulties they have faced and the opportunities ahead for them as they make new lives for themselves.

Director: Ali Al-Zajrawee, Kejvin Dajti, Muhammad Dulull, Raniah Alhumaidat, Faiqa Ejaz (*from left to right in photo*)

Duration: 10 minutes

Talent Show - *Talent Show* follows the life of a hardworking young man who works as a cleaner to make ends meet and provide for his partner and baby daughter. He finds a flyer for a talent show at work one day and sees the opportunity for his dream of becoming a rapper and performing come alive. How will he balance his daily chores and responsibilities with the pursuit of becoming a rapper? The film includes spoken word and rap, and explores themes of sacrifice, determination, and migration.

Director: Mark Hellinger

Duration: 6 minutes

Total run time is 65 minutes



Discussion Questions

Our stories, our voices

1. In this film we learn about the cultures from three different countries, what traditions or cultural heritage can you share from your own experience? How have they influenced you growing up?

Eve

1. Eve shares a lovely childhood moment with her father, what is your most treasured childhood memory?

Mother, Child

1. There are many families where a child or young people becomes the carer of a parent, what do you think are the challenges Alex and others face and how could they overcome them?
2. How can we as a society and individuals better support families like Alex's?

Panguna

1. In recent years many new migrants come from countries in conflict. Can you think of some challenges young people in these families go through when arriving to a new country?
2. As a community how can we better support families coming from these countries in conflict?

My New Life

1. Knowing your neighbour, shops closing late and being able to go out until the early mornings are some of the cultural differences between Australia and other countries. Would you want to adopt some of these differences from other countries? If yes, which one's?
2. What advice would you give newly arrived young migrants?

Talent Show

1. Can you share one of your dreams and what you are doing to achieve it?
2. If you had the power to grant one wish to someone else, who would this person be and what wish would you grant them?