

SYDNEY FILM FESTIVAL

4 – 15 JUNE 2025

AUSTRALIAN PREMIERE OF *TOGETHER* TO OPEN 72ND SYDNEY FILM FESTIVAL

Sydney Film Festival today announces the Australian Premiere of the most talked about Australian film of the year, *Together*. Written and directed by Australian filmmaker Michael Shanks and starring Alison Brie and Dave Franco, his debut feature will open the 72nd edition of the Festival on Wednesday 4 June at the State Theatre, followed by a post-screening celebration at Sydney Town Hall.

Fresh from becoming the breakout-hit at Sundance, *Together* is a bold new Australian feature that blends domestic drama with a devilishly supernatural twist. Real-life couple Brie and Franco star as Millie and Tim, who relocate to the country in search of a quieter life. While Millie adjusts with ease, Tim finds the transition harder - and begins to lean heavily on her support. A series of strange events, an unnervingly friendly neighbour (played by Damon Herriman), and a supernatural encounter in a nearby cave send the couple on a ride that will bring them closer “together” than ever. The film will be released in Australia by Kismet Films.

“We are thrilled to open the 2025 Festival with *Together*, a fiercely original work that showcases the creative ambition of a new voice in Australian cinema,” said **Sydney Film Festival Director Nashen Moodley**. “Michael Shanks has crafted a bold and inventive debut that shifts seamlessly between tones, anchored by fully committed performances from Alison Brie and Dave Franco.”

“Having *Together* open Sydney Film Festival is a huge honour,” said **Writer and Director Michael Shanks**. “Despite our US leads, this is an Australian film through and through and I’m so proud to showcase what amazing crew and cast we have in our local industry. I got altitude sickness in Utah when the film premiered in Sundance, and thankfully that’s far less likely to happen when it premieres in Sydney.”

The full Sydney Film Festival program is announced on Wednesday 7 May 2025. The first titles from Sydney Film Festival’s 2025 program alongside the Jafar Panahi Retrospective strand can be found online at sff.org.au.

Sydney Film Festival runs from 4-15 June 2025. Opening Night Gala tickets, Flexipasses and Subscriptions to Sydney Film Festival 2025 are on sale now. Call 1300 733 733 or visit sff.org.au for more information.

MEDIA ENQUIRIES

Matt Fraser, Director of Communications

E: matt@originalspin.com.au | M: 0401 326 007

Timothee Luong, Communications Advisor

E: timothee@originalspin.com.au | M: 0435 715 017



Amber Forrest-Bisley, Publicity Manager
E: amber@originalspin.com.au | P: 8065 7363 | M: 0405 363 817

Sydney Film Festival Press Pack and Images Available [HERE](#)

EDITOR'S NOTES

ABOUT SYDNEY FILM FESTIVAL

The Sydney Film Festival is one of the world's longest-running and most prestigious film festivals. The 72nd edition, taking place from 4 to 15 June 2025, will showcase the very best in contemporary cinema and offer audiences the chance to experience premieres, red carpet events, and exciting special programs across Sydney.

The Festival is supported by the NSW Government through Screen NSW and Destination NSW, the Federal Government through Screen Australia, and the City of Sydney.

Stay up to date with Sydney Film Festival:
[eNews](#), [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#) and [YouTube](#).

FILM INFORMATION

TOGETHER

Codependency takes on a twisted new meaning in the most anticipated Australian film of the year. Michael Shanks's off-the-wall debut features "transformative" performances from Dave Franco and Alison Brie.

Long-term loves Tim and Millie (real-life couple Franco and Brie) move to the country, leaving behind their city lives and close circle of friends. While teacher Millie settles in smoothly, musician Tim has a tougher time adjusting, and increasingly leans on Millie for support. Add in some strange occurrences in their new home and a suspiciously friendly neighbour (an excellently creepy Damon Herriman), and tensions quickly rise. Then comes a freak supernatural encounter in a cave, which sends the pair on a devilishly unexpected ride that will bring them closer "together" than ever.

Australian writer-director Michael Shanks's debut pulls off dizzying feats of tonal wizardry, expertly balancing a carefully calibrated relationship drama with wildly escalating body horror. A hit at Sundance, *Together* heralds the arrival of a bold new talent and stakes its claim in the growing wave of contemporary body horror. Simultaneously wildly funny, unhinged and profound, it's an exceptional achievement elevated by spectacular turns from its fearless leads.

