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# memory film a filmmaker's diary

In association with Melbourne International Film Festival Premiere Fund



A film by Jeni Thornley

memory film: a filmmaker's diary  
An immersive, poetic documentary about transformation

PRODUCERS Tom Zubrycki & Jeni Thornley | EDITOR Lindi Harrison ASE | EXECUTIVE PRODUCER Sue Maslin | ORIGINAL MUSIC Joseph Tawadros  
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MEMORY FILM was made on Garigal country (NSW) Australia. Always was, always will be Aboriginal land.



# Memory Film: a filmmaker's diary

An immersive, poetic documentary about transformation  
by Jeni Thornley

Produced by JOTZ Productions with Anandi Films  
In association with Melbourne International Film Festival Premiere Fund

Australian Innovation Award MIFF (Black Magic) Nomination 2023  
Top 10 Australian films of 2023 [The State of Australia Cinema](#)  
Best Documentary Australian Film Critics Association Nomination 2023  
Best Sound in a Documentary (Tristan Meredith) AACTA Nomination 2024  
Honourable Mention USA Super 8 Film and Digital Video Festival 2025  
Honourable Mention Experimental Forum 2025  
Silver Award Spotlight Documentary Awards 2025  
Cinematography & Photography Awards London Nomination 2025



**Jeni Thornley at mangana lieta (The Gorge)  
Launceston, Tasmania**

1974. I started filming on Super 8. I took my camera everywhere – around the city streets, on film sets, with my family, in the communes, with lovers and in the women's liberation movement – filming fragments, random moments.



**Joseph Tawadros - Original Music**

My oud is my refuge, my comfort and true friend. And, although it is already a very big part of my everyday life, it is also a metaphysical outlet and healer, a link between my reality and my aspirations... how it moves us as humans and can be shared together regardless of our background.

**Writer & Director** Jeni Thornley

**Producers** Tom Zubrycki & Jeni Thornley

**Editor** Lindi Harrison (ASE)

**Original Music** Joseph Tawadros

**Sound Design** Tristan Meredith

**Executive Producer** Sue Maslin

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## Synopsis

*Memory Film* is a poetic documentary by Jeni Thornley based on her Super 8 archive (1974-2003), filmed during the decades of her personal and political filmmaking producing [\*Maidens\*](#), [\*To the Other Shore\*](#), [\*Island Home Country\*](#) and the collaborative feature [\*For Love or Money\*](#). Documenting the activism of three decades, amidst the intense sexual politics of radical feminism and social change, *Memory Film* is a road movie of an inner journey of liberation – gender fluidity, utopian feminism, love and its tribulations, the pleasure and pain of motherhood, violence against women and the desire for a world free of war and colonizing – accompanied by a sweeping score by Egyptian-Australian Joseph Tawadros.



The Women Against Rape in War Collective, Anzac Day, Sydney 1983

### A space of possibility

*Memory Film* offers an immersive experience of personal and political change. In its documentation of 1974-2003, the film reveals ongoing journeys towards gender equity, diversity, human rights and First Nations sovereignty. *Memory Film* brings to light an intense and dynamic era of Australian history. Rare Super 8 footage documents inspiring movements by activists to transform their lives, giving visibility to hidden stories. The parallel story of a filmmaker's inner journey suggests *a space of possibility*, providing insights into the process of transformation. Quotes by poets and writers infuse the film, including Kate Jennings, Monique Wittig, The Three Marias, Sylvia Plath, Ann Sexton, Karla Dickens, Jim Everett and Svetlana Alexievich. Other texts suggest psychotherapy and Eastern spirituality as pathways for self-understanding.

## Farewell film poem to life

Guiding the filmmaking is the tradition of 'Japanese death poetry'. In Japan elders and Buddhists write poems to express their feelings about the transience of life and the inevitable passing of all things – a 'farewell poem to life' (jisei). Householders write poems as a gift to their children – a legacy of beauty and insight gathered over years. This contemplation of ageing and approaching death, yet also brimming with life, offers a poetic impulse to the film. *Memory Film* evolves into a meditation text, with quotes by poets Basho, Tagore and Dogen, interwoven with psychoanalytic extracts from Freud, Irigaray and Bion. Their pathways of liberation complement the emancipatory journey of feminism. It's uplifting, too, when Rumi's poem, *Dance*, accompanies the Super 8 dance sequence with Tawadros' ecstatic music of the oud.



## Fire Ceremony

And then we return full circle to the sacred Fire Ceremony of the [Doonooch Dancers](#), to First Nations and their continuing custodianship of country.



Just like the rivers run this fire's memory burns... *Discovery* 2008

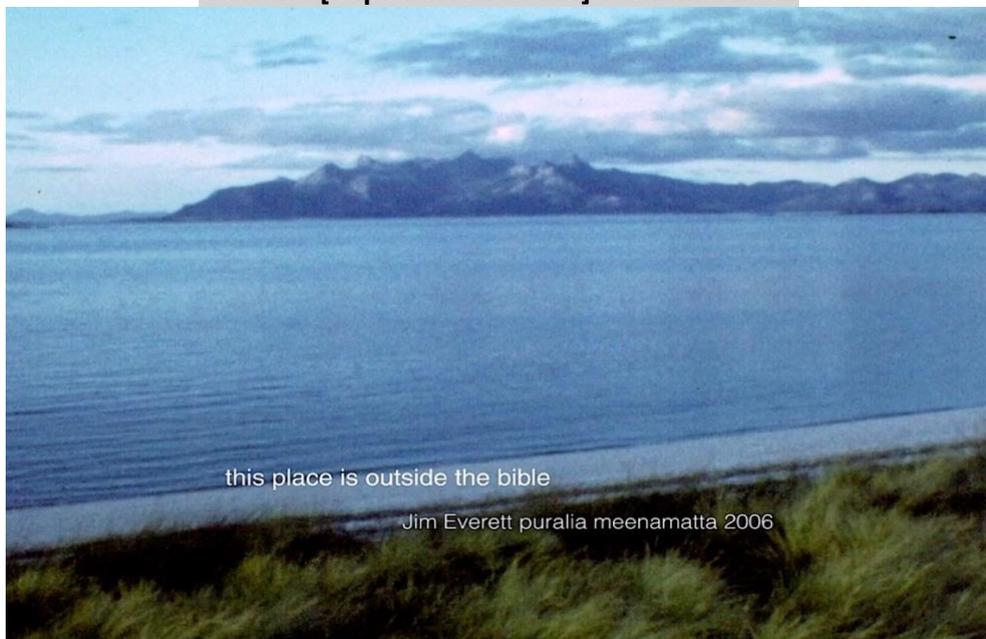
Bobby McLeod, Doonooch Dance Company Founder

## First Nations and Protocols

Pulsing through *Memory Film* is the impact of colonizing and First Nations cultural survival, represented by Palawa poet Jim Everett, Wiradjuri artist Karla Dickens and Super 8 footage of the 'Tubowgule Welcoming Ceremonies', Sydney 2000 Olympic Arts Festival with Doonooch Dance Co & guest performers (Artistic Director & Choreographer Stephen Page, Bangarra). The 'Welcoming Ceremonies' open and close the film as an 'Acknowledgement of Country', paying tribute to cultural survival and communicating 'quiet country' and 'deep time'. Politics around conflicting notions of 'Australia Day' is also documented, with Karla Dickens' writing on the pain of 'Australia Day' for First Nations people.

The militaristic British colonizing of Tasmania and the 'Black War' of 1830 is documented. Quotes by Palawa activist and writer, Jim Everett (puralia meenamatta), focus the Tasmanian episode on the continuing post-colonizing journey. The Super 8 images reverberate with affect and a palpable sense of historical place – especially the reality of invasion and the convict site, Port Arthur. Yet, the powerful affect of image and sound also conveys a deep sense of 'quiet country' in the bush, in the blue waters of Cape Barren Island – country that sustains life, country that has never been ceded.

### truwana [Cape Barren Island] Tasmania 1982



First Nations themes are only included when they intersect with my own experiences in Aboriginal country, such as growing up in 1950s Tasmania amidst 'The Great Australia Silence'. Later, learning of the powerful Aboriginal resistance to the colonizers, near my Auntie and Uncle's sheep farm in Big River country, led me to make my documentary *Island Home Country*. Also, filming 'Tubowgule' in 2000 created heightened awareness of the 'deep history' of ceremony and culture. Later, filming a white 'Australia Day' ceremony on a local NSW beach in 2003, also developed my understanding of the crisis represented by the date of 26<sup>th</sup> January and First Nations resistance to it.

I have worked closely with the protocols developed for Screen Australia's *Pathways & Protocols* and with the Tasmanian version, *Respecting Cultures: Working with the Tasmanian Aboriginal Community and Aboriginal Artists*. Communication, consultation and consent is intrinsic to protocols practice and is an ongoing journey. This process, in Tasmania for *Island Home Country*, and with Doonooch Dance Co, Bangarra, Jim Everett and Karla Dickens for *Memory Film*, has been a humbling, learning experience. It paved the way for an ethical consultative permissions process with everyone filmed in the Super 8.

## A silent film with music

*Memory Film* is an experiential, lyrical documentary expressing cinema's power, not via 'issues', but with a poetic sensibility blending images, music and sound. The superb soundtrack counterpoints the grainy textural quality of the Super 8. Original music by oud maestro Joseph Tawadros and creative sound design by Tristan Meredith interweaves with the images. As there are no speaking voices, narration or interviews, the film offers an immersive experience of the interplay between public and private – transforming lives. *Memory Film* is unique as its legacy harks back to the silent movie era. Tawadros' expressive music score and Meredith's sensitive use of sound offers viewers a meditative, inner experience of social change. As editor Lindi Harrison layered guide track music into the rough cut, the 'affect' was compelling, confirming Thornley's instinct that the 'silent film' conventions of image and music with no speaking voices was the perfect mode for Super 8 film in the digital era.

### My oud is my refuge



***Memory Film* composer Joseph Tawadros**

Photo Daniel Sponiar

"My oud is my refuge, my comfort and true friend. And, although it is already a very big part of my everyday life, it is also a metaphysical outlet and healer, a link between my reality and my aspirations. Its charismatic sound reminds me of my parents: my father's voice in the bass and my mother's in the treble...The music covers a range of diverse voices, compounding all that I've learnt in my decades on this planet and converting those experiences to sound – a compositional diary, if you will... It's not about placing it in any genre, culture or time, but how it moves us as humans and can be shared together regardless of our background."

In 2024 Joseph Tawadros released his new album [The Virtue of Signals on Spotify](#), featuring original music composed for *Memory Film*

## How a story is told

By 2020, I had shot-listed the Super footage, organizing the rushes chronologically. Then I catalogued them by themes. I was influenced by filmmaker Chris Marker's reference to Japanese court poet Sei Shōnagon (11<sup>th</sup> century), affectionately acknowledged in his essay film *Sunless*. Her random lists also offered *Memory Film* an episodic, list-based structure for the film:

*"Shōnagon had a passion for lists...One day she got the idea of drawing up 'a list of things that quicken the heart.' Not a bad criterion I realize when I'm filming."*



**Temple of the Emerald Buddha, Bangkok, Thailand 1994**

As I edited the first assembly, clear narrative strategies emerged: the Super 8 archive would provide the only images; there would be no narration, interviews or speaking voices. Chapter headings and quotes would provide the narrative arc that voiceover may have offered, providing analysis and a space to think, a counterpoint to the film's mesmeric strategies. These approaches, their origins linked to silent movie conventions, would create strong visual and emotive storytelling.

### Evolution of 'a mind' across time

*Memory Film's* editor Lindi Harrison asked probing questions which further clarified the film's structure, meaning and rhythm: 'Why is that shot there? What is it doing? Is there a story? Where is it going?' Specific questions too, 'Why did you follow the women after working on the film *Journey Among Women*. What was the motivation and where is the footage to show it?' In due course, the central question emerged – 'what is this film really about?' Once again, the images and their historical movement across time answered the question. Gradually the film evolved into 'a document of a mind' – sifting and sorting across years, developing insight out of chaos. Collaborating with Harrison in the intense edit phase, this 'journey of a mind' evolved into five distinct chapters that documented decades of activism and interiority."

**Acknowledgement of Country**

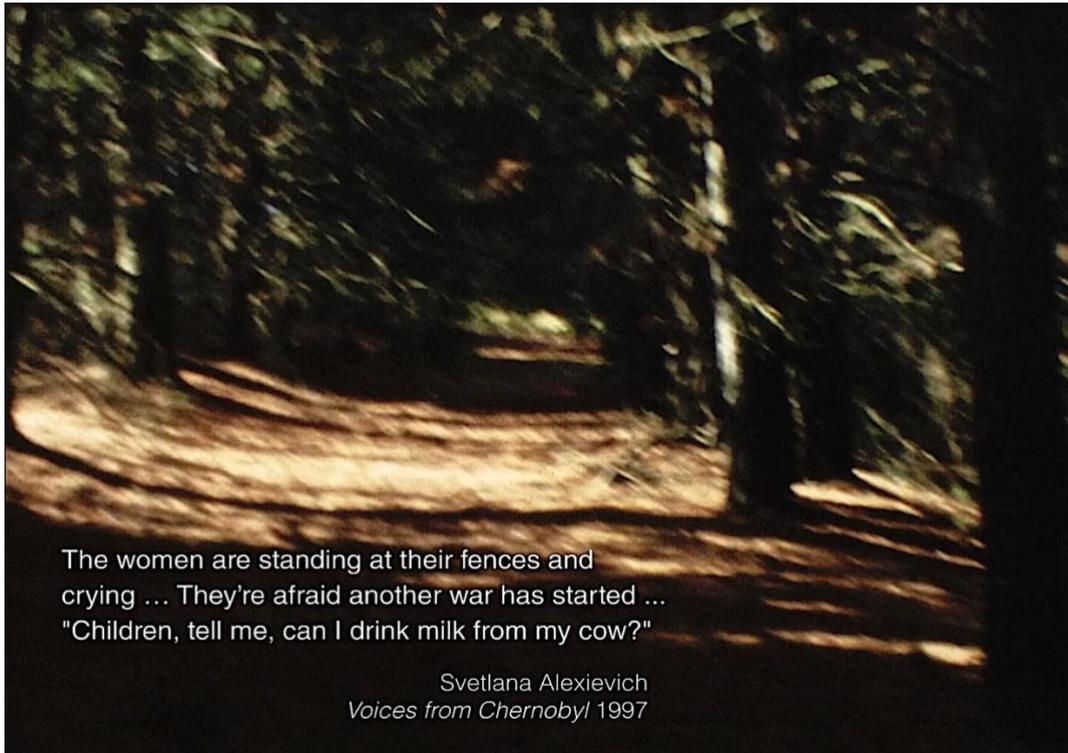
**Impermanence**

**Things that Quicken the Heart**

**The Ferment/The Fissure**

**Interior/Integration/Spirit**

## Text quotes in *Memory Film* provide a narrative arc



The women are standing at their fences and crying ... They're afraid another war has started ...  
"Children, tell me, can I drink milk from my cow?"

Svetlana Alexievich  
*Voices from Chernobyl* 1997

### Quotes in *Memory Film*

- Chögyal Namkhai Norbu Rinpoche** *My Reincarnation* 2011  
**Chris Marker** *Sunless* 1983  
**Sheila Rowbotham** *Woman's Consciousness, Man's World* 1973  
**Kate Jennings** *Just the Two of Us* 1975  
**Basho** *The Narrow Road to the Deep North* 1694  
**Daly Pulkara** *Quiet Country* 2004  
**Jim Everett** Interview 2008 & *Meenamatta Discussion* 2006  
**Jane Mills** *Journey Among Women* DVD Essay 2009  
**Monique Wittig** *Les Guérillères* 1969  
**The Three Marias** *New Portuguese Letters* 1971  
**Sylvia Plath** *Elm* 1962  
**Ann Sexton** *The Abortion* 1962  
**Sigmund Freud** *Remembering, Repeating, Working Through* 1914  
**CP Cavafy** *Ithaka* 1911  
**John McGahern** *The Barracks* 1963  
**Rumi** *Poems* 1207-73  
**Karla Dickens** *On Australia Day* 2013  
**Kozan Ichikyo** *My coming, my going* 1390  
**Rinki Bhattacharya** *Behind Closed Doors* 2004  
**Deena Metzger** *Something in the Belly* 2009  
**Luce Irigaray** *When Our Lips Speak Together* 1980  
**Lisa Baraitser** *Maternal Time* 2009  
**Wilfred Bion** *The Thinking Breast* 1962  
**Svetlana Alexievich** *Voices from Chernobyl* 1997  
**Gautama Buddha** *The Great Departure* 563-483BC  
**Rabindranath Tagore** *On the Seashore* 1936  
**Robert Gray** *To the Master Dogen Zenji (1200-1253)* 1983  
**Shitou Xiqian** *Song of the Grass Roof Hermitage (700-790)*  
**Rumi** *Dance* c1244  
**Bobby McLeod** *Discovery* 2008

## Memory Film Screenings



*Memory Film* at MWFF with Sian Mitchell (MWFF Director) and Jeni Thornley ACMI 2024

- World Premiere Melbourne International Film Festival (MIFF) 2023
- *Memory Film*: The art of sound design, MIFF Accelerator Lab- Director Jeni Thornley, Sound Designer Tristan Meredith, Editor Lindi Harrison (ASE), ACMI August 2023
- Conversations & Connections Documentary Festival Storytelling on the Ground Macquarie University SLNSW Dec 2023
- Sydney Premiere, Antenna Documentary Film Festival 2024
- Melbourne Women in Film Festival (MWFF) Official Selection, March 2024
- “Remembering, Repeating, Working-Through” Jeni Thornley & Felicity Collins, Melbourne Women in Film Festival ACMI March 2024
- Hazelhurst Arts Centre, Sydney May 2024
- Madrid Arthouse Film Festival Semi Finalist June 2024
- Sacramento Independent Film Festival Semi Finalist Summer 2024
- Revelation Perth International Film Festival Official Selection July 2024
- ARC Cinema NFSA Canberra August 2024
- New York International Women’s Film Festival Semi Finalist Sept 2024
- Edinburgh Film Awards Semi Finalist 2024
- Paris Women CineFest Semi Finalist 2024
- Melbourne Cinematheque [\*‘Contested Histories: The Documentaries of Jeni Thornley’\*](#) Retrospective ACMI October 30 2024
- Visible Evidence Conference XXX, Monash University Dec 2024
- Spotlight Documentary Awards Winner Silver Award Atlanta USA 2024
- Adelaide Premiere & Q&A Palace Nova East End Cinema 3 15 Feb 2025
- United States Super 8 Film & Video Festival Honourable Mention New Jersey FF Feb 2025
- Blow-up Arthouse Filmfest Chicago Semi Finalist 2025
- Experimental Forum Los Angeles USA Honourable Mention 2025
- Orion International Film Festival Best Feature Documentary Finalist 2025
- Experimental Forum Honourable Mention Los Angeles USA 2025
- Tokyo Women Film Festival Semi Finalist 2025
- Cinematography & Photography Awards London Nomination 2025

## Reviews Interviews Book Chapter



[Must-see films at the Melbourne International Film Festival](#), *The Age*, July 29 2023

[Memory Film Alexandra Slater, Cutting Room \(RMIT\) Jeni Thornley interview](#)  
*CTV+ Australia*, 9 July 2023

[Interview: Memory Film Director Jeni Thornley](#)  
The Evolution of the Mind with Andrew Peirce. *The Curb*, August 16, 2023

[Jason di Rosso Interviews Jeni Thornley about Memory Film](#)  
*The Screen Show*, ABC Radio 10.8.2023

[Documentary filmmaker Jeni Thornley & Flick Forward discuss her immersive cine-poem Memory Film](#)  
*Primal Screen*, 3RRR Digital, 14 August 23

Jeni Thornley 'The enigma of film: *Memory Film*' in [Constructions of The Real: Intersections of Practice and Theory in Documentary-Based Filmmaking](#), (eds.) K. Munro et al., Intellect Books Artwork Scholarship: International Perspectives in Education, 2023

[Memory Film: a Filmmaker's Diary: In Conversation with Jeni Thornley](#),  
Grace Boschetti, MWFF Critics Lab, 5<sup>th</sup> April 2024.

[Feminist filmmaker's gift to her children](#), Irene Diakanastasis, Central News , Apr 5, 2024

[Contested Histories: The Documentaries of Jeni Thornley](#),  
Retrospective Melbourne Cinematheque, October 2024.

[Memory Film: A Filmmaker's Diary](#), Janice Loreck  
CTEQ Annotations on Film, *Senses of Cinema* Issue 111 Oct 2024.

[2025 United States Super 8 Film +DV Festival Q+A with Jeni Thornley, Al Nigrin](#), *YouTube*, Jan 2025

## The Archive

Super 8 has a physicality that suggests a tangible sense of historical place, alongside a sense of impermanence. Despite its grain, soft focus and defects, Super 8 captures a vigorous sense of inner and outer history. It is gritty and textured, evoking memory and time passing in a way that the sharp, high-definition digital image doesn't. Thornley's previous documentaries recycled her Super 8 – hijacked it out of context, offering the possibility to see the images anew. By 2016 this Super 8 collection was degrading, growing mould and needing care. These 137 x 3 min rolls and 9 composite reels were like 'gold'; they had served Thornley's filmmaking well, but they needed to be archived properly and digitized. A proposal to the National Film and Sound Archive of Australia (NFSA), secured its survival; and NFSA acquired and digitized the collection in 2016-17.

**Preparing the Super 8 for donation to the NFSA 2015**



'What image do you choose to represent or communicate an idea, or a feeling; how do you work with your own subjective memory...and how might your own personal archive link to public history – the historical record of a nation? And where does your intention and ethics play out in all of this? Consider the difference between approaching the archive as a source of shots for a film, in contrast to thinking about the archive as metaphor – reading the grain of the archive to hear the whispers in the archive, to see the problem of the archive and what's not there; and to think about the nature of power in the production of the archive itself.' Jeni Thornley, 'Maestros of the Archive', OzDox, AFTRS Sydney.

**Digitising & grading the Super 8, Christina Sparrow NFSA 2016**



**"Does it feel strange to see your memories become archive?"**

Michael Loebenstein CEO National Film & Sound Archive 2016

## Memory Film Review Quotes



The Austrian Film Museum would be delighted to program *Memory Film: a filmmaker's diary* as part of our ongoing curated seasons of films in Vienna. Your film, which in a fascinating and engaging way reconciles biography and the personal with a wider history of women's independent and political filmmaking in Australia is an important contribution, and we believe audiences here in Europe should be able to appreciate it on the big screen.

**Michael Loebenstein Director Austrian Film Museum 2022**

Congratulations on a superb film! I loved it. From the opening sequence I settled immediately into the world of the film and was blown away by the music score as well as the quality, editing and sheer audaciousness of the images and the way it is woven all together. Part poetics, part social history, home movie and documentation of currents of change. It felt like full circle for Jeni's feminist film journey over nearly 50 years! The 'personal is political' made manifest. I laughed, felt teary and was utterly absorbed by this meditation, reflection and above all celebration of moments that continue to resonate!

**Sue Maslin AO *Memory Film* Executive Producer May 2023**

Your film was lyrical and mythopoetic, making its meaning from such beautiful Super 8 images, soundscape and music. I loved the poetry/texts. I heard your 'voice' through it all and the history of your filmmaking as well as your many selves. You offer us a spacious opportunity for reverie. So many images and ideas resonated afterwards. I dreamed in Super 8 last night.

*Memory Film* is such a rich and important film.

**Sarah Gibson Jungian Analyst Artist and Filmmaker June 2023**

Congratulations on the film; I found it a very meditative and deeply personal film essay full of delightful eloquent references, 'memories dreams and reflections' and the rich evocative textures and flow of your beautifully calibrated Super-8 archive was a treat to share. Your imagery and its staging is evocative of historical moments familiar well beyond the specific events depicted and the texts led us further into your ideas and preoccupations. Wonderful!

**John Hughes Filmmaker Producer Writer August 2023**

Jeni Thornley's extraordinary legacy *Memory Film* is a haunted but also ebullient time-capsule documentary, where the fleeting Super 8 images have captured Thornley's life and time in a tender and beautiful way. Formally daring and expressive, this is a biography like no other, silent but musical, quotidian but transcendental, a reflection but also a farewell.

**Bill Mousoulis Filmmaker Producer Writer February 2025**

## Memory Film Program Notes MIFF



### [Memory Film: A Filmmaker's Diary](#)

Director: Jeni Thornley: Australia (2023)

“Revered filmmaker Jeni Thornley (*Maidens*, MIFF 1979) composes an immersive cine-poem from her extensive super-8 archive spanning three decades.”

“Set against the backdrop of radical feminism, Aboriginal land rights and widespread social upheaval, *Memory Film: A Filmmaker's Diary* is a ‘road movie’ of sorts, tracing its maker’s inner journey towards liberation. Adopting the lenses of psychotherapy and Eastern spirituality, and incorporating footage from Thornley’s earlier works *Maidens*, the collaborative feature *For Love or Money, To the Other Shore* and *Island Home Country*, this hyper-intimate opus contemplates gender fluidity, sexual politics, the pleasure and pain of motherhood, and the desire for a world free of war and colonisation. With a sweeping score by Egyptian-Australian multi-instrumentalist Joseph Tawadros and inspired by the minimalist sensibility of silent cinema as a dialogue-free piece, Thornley’s “farewell film poem to life” unfolds with a haunting tactility: along with the celluloid’s visible grain, there are shots of foliage, forests, fronds of hair, fingers on skin. Thornley allows the personal to intrude on the societal, revealing cracks in institutionalised accounts of events and foregrounding both impermanence and the inexorable passage of time. Supported by the [MIFF Premiere Fund](#) and produced by Tom Zubrycki (*Senses of Cinema*, MIFF Premiere Fund 2022; *Ablaze*, MIFF Premiere Fund 2021), *Memory Film: A Filmmaker's Diary* is a lovingly crafted, lucid meditation on resistance, legacy and carving out one’s place amid constant transformation.” *Melbourne International Film Festival 2023*

### Contextual Quotes

Thornley’s rising sense of awareness constantly reframes previous films within new contexts, communicating a restlessness that highlights the evolving nature and power of the archive as well as the stories it can tell.

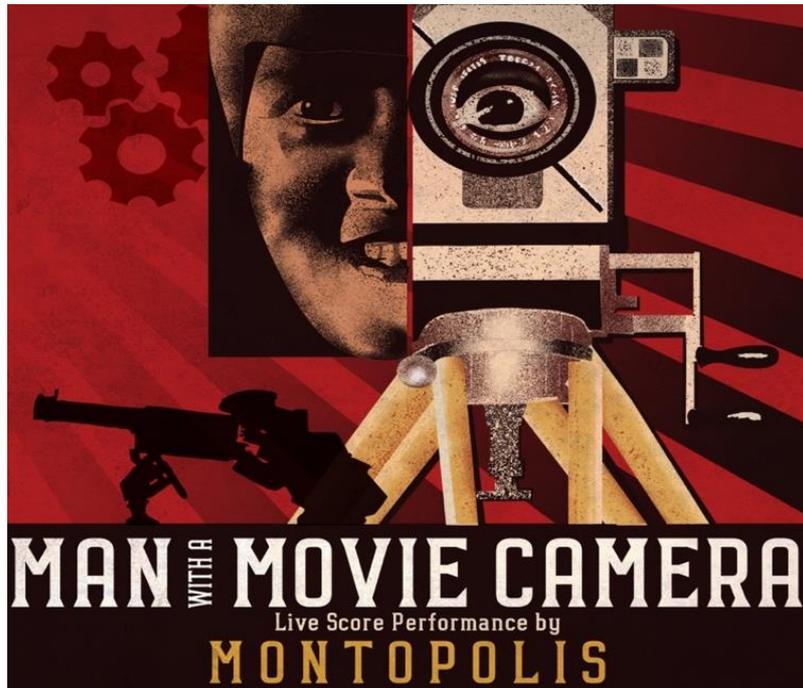
**Adrian Danks, [Senses of Cinema, 99](#) July 2021**

In Australian independent cinema over the last three decades, Jeni Thornley is the filmmaker whose autobiographical project has been to articulate feminism as a historical crisis of female subjectivity. As a founding member of the Sydney Women’s Film Group and Feminist Film Workers, and as the daughter of a failed film exhibitor, Thornley’s exploration of this crisis has been intimately bound up with cinema and the problems that the cinematic apparatus poses for women as spectators and as filmmakers.

**Felicity Collins, [Screening the Past](#), 2001**

# Poetic documentaries that have influenced *Memory Film*

(silent and-or with music score)



***Man with a Movie Camera*** (1929) Dziga Vertov

<https://mubi.com/films/man-with-a-movie-camera/trailer>

***Rain*** (1929). Dutch filmmaker Joris Ivens classic city symphony uses disconnected shots to evoke how it feels to experience a rainstorm in Amsterdam.

<https://archive.org/details/pioggia-1929-joris-ivens>

***Swastika*** (1973) Philippe Mora. The Nazification of Germany from 1933 to 1945 told through a compilation of Nazi footage, newsreels, propaganda films and Eva Braun's home movies.

<https://mubi.com/films/swastika>

***Koyaanisqatsi*** (1982). Godfrey Reggio's wordless poetic documentary with a haunting score by Phillip Glass to show the effects that cities and modern technology have on human life.

<https://www.criterion.com/films/28034-koyaanisqatsi>

***Baraka*** (1992). Ron Fricke. *Baraka* is a Sufi word meaning 'blessing'. The non-verbal film shows images of religion, nature, war and city life and its oppressions.

<https://vimeo.com/73539438>

***Mother Dao the Turtlelike*** (1995). Vincent Monnikendam. A compilation of clips from documentaries filmed by Dutch cameramen (1912 -1932) in their former colony of Indonesia; with a soundtrack of Indonesian music and recited poetry - a sharp counterpoint to the images.

<https://mubi.com/films/mother-dao-the-turtlelike>

***Dogora*** (2004) Patrice Leconte. A history without words- filmed in Cambodia, focuses on everyday life.

[https://www.allocine.fr/film/fichefilm\\_gen\\_cfilm=108101.html](https://www.allocine.fr/film/fichefilm_gen_cfilm=108101.html)

# *Memory Film*

FILM FESTIVAL SELECTIONS AND AWARDS

World Premiere, Melbourne Int Film Festival (Premiere Fund) 2023



Best Sound in a Documentary (Tristan Meredith) AACTA Nomination 2024



Sydney Premiere, Antenna Documentary Film Festival, Feb 2024



Melbourne Women in Film Festival, ACMI March 2024



Perth Premiere, Revelation Perth International Film Festival 2024



Spotlight Documentary Awards Atlanta 2024



New York International Women Festival 2024



Sacramento Independent Film Festival 2024



**Madrid Arthouse Film Festival 2024**



**Paris Women Cinefest 2024**



**Edinburgh Film Awards 2024**



**United States Super8 Film & Digital Video Festival 2025**



**Blow-up Arthouse Film Fest 2025**



**Orion International Film Festival 2025**



**Experimental Forum 2025**



**Tokyo Women Film Festival**



**Cinematography & Photography Awards London**



## BIOs

**Director Producer Jeni Thornley** is a documentary filmmaker, writer and film valuer. Her award-winning documentaries *Maidens*, the collaborative feature *For Love or Money, To the Other Shore* and *Island Home Country* are landmark films in Australian independent and feminist cinema, widely distributed and screened on ABC TV and SBS. Jeni was active in distribution and exhibition at Sydney Filmmakers Co-op, worked on many independent films, wrote for *Filmnews*, was Manager of the Women's Film Fund and Project Coordinator in Documentary (AFC). Jeni lectured in documentary at UTS from 2002-2013 and completed her doctorate. She traces her passion in film to her father's family, who exhibited films in cinemas across Australia during the silent period and the 'talkies' and TV era. She is currently a visiting scholar in the School of Communication UTS, writes about film regularly and is distributing *Memory Film* with Antidote Films. <https://jenithornley.com/>

**Producer Tom Zubrycki** has been making documentaries for over 45 years. He has won many awards for his work and his mentorship on behalf of the industry. As director Tom's documentaries have a distinctive observational story-telling style, and have focused around a personal response to the issues of the day. Films like *The Diplomat*, *Molly & Mobarak*, *The Hungry Tide* and *Hope Road*. As producer and EP Tom has worked with both experienced and new and emerging directors. His films include *Gulpilil - One Red Blood*, *The Weather Diaries*, *Teach a Man to Fish*, *Undermined-Tales of the Kimberley*. Recent films are *Ablaze*, *Senses of Cinema*, *Kindred*, *The Carnival* and *Memory Film*. Tom is a recipient of the prestigious Stanley Hawes Award and has dynamically championed the cause of the documentary sector. He is actively involved in several industry organisations including the Australian Directors Guild and OZDOX, the Australian Documentary Forum. [www.tomzubrycki.com](http://www.tomzubrycki.com)

**Editor Lindi Harrison (ASE)** is a highly acclaimed editor of award-winning documentary, drama and arts programs for local and international broadcast, public exhibition and cinema release. Feature length documentaries include: *4*, which won a HUGO Award in Chicago; *The Snowman*, selected for Competition at IDFA, and won the Foxtel Australian Feature Documentary Prize; *Virtuosi*, screened in 35 cities and international festivals, and won the Outstanding Achievement for Dance on Film, Australian Dance Award. *SALT* received 16 national and international awards. *The Leadership* won the Ellie for Best Documentary Feature 2020 - Australian Screen Editor's Guild; Other titles include, *I am a Girl*, *Sherpa*, *Embrace*, *Salt*, *Wik vs Queensland*, *Incarceration Nation*- 2022 winner Logie Awards - Most Outstanding Documentary. Lindi's 2023 editing credits include, *Kindred*, *The Carnival* and *Memory Film*. <https://www.imdb.com/name/nm0365710/>

**Composer Joseph Tawadros (AM)**, maestro oud player, is one of Australian music's most impressive and charismatic figures. He is a composer, improviser, storyteller as well as a brilliant exponent of the oud, the Egyptian lute. Tawadros's virtuoso technique and adventurous curiosity blends world music, jazz and classical seamlessly and shows his skills in contemporary genres as well as traditional Arabic inspired pieces. Joseph creates music that transcends labels and crosses borders. Joseph has recorded 14 albums of original music, with 14 ARIA nominations and 4 ARIA Awards and is known for his brilliant technique, deep musicianship and joyous style of performance as well as his solid repertoire of innovative, original music. Joseph tours extensively across Europe, America, Asia and the Middle East. [www.josephawadros.com](http://www.josephawadros.com) | [Spotify](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Facebook](#)

**Sound Designer Tristan Meredith** Sound Designer/Mixer/Post Production Audio. ASSG award winner. Sound designer for Oscar, Emmy and AACTA award winning films. Work has screened at Melbourne, Sydney, Adelaide Film Festivals, Venice Film Festival, Sundance Film Festival, Toronto Film Festival, LA Shorts, Antenna Film Festival, Montreal Film Festival, St Kilda Film Festival. Work has screened on all Australian television networks, BBC, ITV, National Geographic, PBS, Universal, ARTE, Al Jazeera, Vice. <https://www.imdb.com/name/nm1881048/>

**Colourist Nicholas Hower (CSI)** is a highly skilled technical expert, Senior Colourist, and the technical director and co-owner of Post Lab.io. With an extensive background in colour grading, Nick has worked on various projects, ranging from long-form feature films to documentaries, episodic productions, and commercials. He has delivered content to numerous international and domestic distributors and major streaming services such as Netflix, Stan, ABC and SBS. Nick's passion for colour grading is rooted in his love for the craft and his ability to bring energy to every grade session. <https://www.postlab.io/artist/nicholas-hower>

## CREDITS

<b>Writer &amp; Director</b> Jeni Thornley <b>Producers</b> Tom Zubrycki & Jeni Thornley <b>Editor</b> Lindi Harrison (ASE) <b>Executive Producer</b> Sue Maslin <b>Original Music</b> Joseph Tawadros <b>Engineer and Mixer</b> Sean Carey <b>Super 8 Camera &amp; Archive</b> Jeni Thornley <b>Super 8 Digital Scanning</b> National Film & Sound Archive (NFSA) <b>Sound Editor and Mix</b> Tristram Meredith <b>Picture finishing</b> Post Lab.io	<b>Colourist</b> Nicholas Hower (CSI) <b>DI Producer</b> Keisha Clements <b>Supervising DI Producer</b> Darius Family <b>Business Development Manager</b> Chris Luscri <b>Media Conform Editor</b> Ahmadah Adil <b>Titles</b> Roen Davis <b>Edit Workflow Consultant</b> Marcus Ekermann Media Lab UTS <b>Project Consultants</b> Megan McMurphy Stephen Ginsborg
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### Technical Information

**Format** DCP/ProRes

**Genre** Documentary Feature

**Country of Production** Australia **Year of Production** 2023

**Running time** 85mins(24fps); 82mins (25fps)

**Ratio** 16:9 **Language** English

**Memory Film trailer**

<https://vimeo.com/833901906>

### Key Contacts

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**Publicity Design:** [Janny Grant Dragonfly Creative](#)

Thanks to NFSA for acquiring and digitising the Super8 Archive



**NATIONAL FILM  
AND SOUND ARCHIVE  
OF AUSTRALIA**

## ***Memory Film* –Thank you to our investors!**

Produced with the financial assistance of the  
**Melbourne International Film Festival (MIFF) Premiere Fund**  
Supported by the State Government of Victoria, Australia



Executive Producer: Mark Woods

Produced with the assistance of the  
Producer Equity Program  
Screen Australia



Financed with the assistance of  
Documentary Australia



School of Communication, FASS  
University of Technology (UTS)



Distributed by Antidote Films



Executive Producer Gil Scrine

***Memory Film* was made on Garigal country (NSW) Australia  
Always was and always will be Aboriginal land**