



**AFTER WINNING AT PRESTIGIOUS FILM FESTIVALS AND SCREENING
AROUND THE WORLD PULSE IS FINALLY COMING HOME!**

LONDON, SOUTH KOREA, AMSTERDAM, SCOTLAND AND NOW..

LUNA LEEDERVILLE

**Q&A hosted by Narelda Jacobs with director Stevie Cruz-Martin & Annie Murtagh-Monks
Wednesday May 29th 6:30pm**

Pulse, the AACTA Award nominated debut feature film from director/cinematographer Stevie Cruz-Martin and writer/actor Daniel Monks will have its first Australian cinema release in their home town of Perth. Filmed from Fremantle to Armadale and Joondalup, *Pulse* is the story of a gay, disabled teenage boy who changes into the body of a beautiful abled woman to make his straight best friend fall in love with him.

Cruz-Martin says “Danny and I began our partnership in Perth, we met at PAC Screen Workshops, we made our first short films here, so it felt only right to shoot *Pulse* where the story is set. Now to bring it home to the community that supported us from the beginning, will be a really heartwarming experience for both of us”.

Partly autobiographical, *Pulse* is a deeply personal story from writer and lead actor Daniel Monks. At age 11, he was left paralysed after complications from a biopsy on a spinal cord tumour. At this time, not only was Daniel coming to terms with being disabled, he was also grappling with being gay. Through a queer, disabled gaze, *Pulse* gives us a provocative insight into struggles with sexuality, disability and identity.

“After many months in hospital, I remember going back to school, as a disabled person.” Monks says. “The boy I had a crush on in my class was now dating the pretty blonde girl. I remember thinking, ‘If I looked like her, then he would look at me that way - he would want me, love me.’ My body no longer felt like my own, and my human form suddenly felt so arbitrary. It made me question how much our bodies shape who we are.”

Ultimately *Pulse* is a celebration of that which makes each of us different and charts the journey from self loathing to pride. Starring AACTA Award nominees Caroline Brazier (Rake, Terra Nova) and Daniel Monks (The Split, Silent Witness) with Scott Lee (Home & Away), Sian Ewers (The Great Mint Swindle) and Isaro Kayitesi (Soul Mates).

It’s a must see for young people, queer people, disabled people, in fact anyone who’s ever struggled with their body, appearance, sexuality, desires and essentially, themselves.

View trailer - <https://vimeo.com/161271274>

Purchase tickets - <http://lunapalace.com.au/special-events+3027+pulse-director-qa-screening>
Part proceeds donated to an organisation or charity supporting people living with a disability.

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