



## MEDIA RELEASE

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8 September 2010

For Immediate Release

### **Exclusive Advance Screening of Cannes Film Festival Closer**

#### ***THE TREE***

The Gold Coast Film Festival will host an exclusive once only film screening of *THE TREE* on Wednesday September 22 at 6.30pm at Australia Fair Birch Carroll and Coyle Cinemas on the Gold Coast!

Fans and cinefiles can purchase tickets for \$12 from Australia Fair cinemas from today, 8 Sep, (or at [www.eventcinemas.com.au](http://www.eventcinemas.com.au) with a \$1 booking fee) or can win tickets via a giveaway promotion on 102.9 Hot Tomato from 13 Sep. Tickets will also be available for sale on the night if not sold out prior. The screening is the final quarterly event screening which forms the Gold Coast Film Festival Sneak Peek program. The Sneak Peek program is one event screening per quarter before the actual film festival November 10-16. The earlier Sneak Peeks this year were *DAYBREAKERS* and *KINGS OF MYKONOS: WOG BOY 2*.

*THE TREE* stars Charlotte Gainsbourg (*Antichrist*, *Jane Eyre*), Marton Csokas (*Alice in Wonderland*, *The Bourne Supremacy*), Morgana Davies and Aden Young (*Black Robe*, *Mao's Last Dancer*) and **was the closing night film of the 2010 Cannes Film Festival.**

After the sudden death of her father, 8-year-old Simone shares a secret with her mother Dawn. She's convinced her father speaks to her through the leaves of her favourite tree and he's come back to protect them. But the new bond between mother and daughter is threatened when Dawn starts a relationship with George, the plumber, called in to remove the tree's troublesome roots. As the branches of the tree start to infiltrate the house, the family is forced to make an agonising decision. But have they left it too late?

Director Julie Bertuccelli says that while the story deals with death, it shows how grief can be used to take people to new places beyond their sadness. "I think it is very interesting to see how when there are terrible things happening around you, you don't just have to be sad but that it is possible



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to take that and invent something else...to create something with that sadness, to try to be an artist with it," Julie says.

The tree itself – a towering Moreton Bay Fig on a property near Boonah in south-east Queensland - is the founding, central character: powerful, magnificent, and enchanting, full of poetry and mystery.

“This is a great opportunity for Gold Coasters to see an advance screening of the film that closed this year’s Cannes Film Festival. And It was shot right here in South East Queensland! The GCFF is only doing one screening and I encourage people to get their tickets early”. Casey Marshall Siemer, Festival Director.

### **ENDS**

For further information please contact:

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