



REEL TIME

As the Sydney Film Festival (June 5 to 16) kicks off, event director Nashen Moodley offers his viewing picks for *Vogue*.

1. *VARDA BY AGNÈS*

I've always loved Varda's inimitable imagination. The French New Wave legend's final film presents her own thoughtful version of an autobiography, revisiting different key points across her incredible career and legacy.

2. *PHOTOGRAPH*

Starring Nawazuddin Siddiqui as a photographer who convinces a shy stranger to pose as his fiancée, this film possesses the same quiet sentimentality that made director Ritesh Batra's previous film, *The Lunchbox*, such a success.

3. *THE THIRD WIFE*

This period drama is about a 14-year-old girl who becomes the third wife of a wealthy landowner in rural 19th-century Vietnam. Inspired by director Ash Mayfair's family history, it features an incredible performance by the lead actress.

4. *NOTHING FANCY: DIANA KENNEDY*

A candid profile of the iconic 96-year-old British chef, regarded an authority on Mexican cuisine. She's a staunch environmentalist and has built her own sustainable, solar-powered property where she recycles rainwater.

5. *I AM NO BIRD*

Told using digital footage, Super 8 vignettes and animation, this film looks at four women from different countries preparing for their weddings, raising interesting questions of gender roles, faith, family and love.



Above: the cover and inside images from *Mini Monographs: Del Kathryn Barton* (Thames & Hudson, \$29.99), one of two new releases from an ongoing series profiling prominent Australian female artists.

PORTRAIT OF AN ARTIST

Celebrating Australia's most illustrious female artists, *Mini Monographs* is a new series of books with each 96-page volume dedicated to a single artist and serving as a compact portfolio of her most captivating works. Edited by notable art curator Natalie King, the first two releases feature two-time Archibald Prize winner Del Kathryn Barton and award-winning late photographer Polixeni Papapetrou. As well as offering a visual deep dive into each artist, the book also includes an essay inspired by the artist's work penned by a luminary from another creative field – in this instance, writer Sarah Darmody (Barton) and playwright, screenwriter and novelist Joanna Murray-Smith (Papapetrou).

BANGARRA DANCE THEATRE CELEBRATES ITS 30TH ANNIVERSARY WITH A TRIPLE-BILL PROGRAM OF CONTEMPORARY DANCE THEATRE AND A NATIONAL TOUR. ENTITLED *BANGARRA: 30 YEARS OF SIXTY FIVE THOUSAND*. THE NAME OF THE WORK PAYS HOMAGE TO THE COMPANY'S DRAWING INSPIRATION FROM 65,000 YEARS OF CULTURE AND INDIGENOUS STORYTELLING. GO TO WWW.BANGARRA.COM.AU.