What’s on in Sydney from 18 to 20 March

French Film Festival
Dates: 18-20 March
Venue: Palace Cinemas
Times: Films will be screened daily between 13:45 and 21:00
www.affrenchfilmfestival.org

With film classics such as Breathless, a Nouvelle Vague masterpiece, and world-acclaimed hits Amélie and The Intouchables, French cinema is in a league of its own. Returning to Palace Cinemas for its 27th season, the 2016 line-up of the Alliance Française French Film Festival—which is not only Australia’s biggest film festival, but also the largest festival of French films outside of France—includes 42 superb contemporary features, one timeless classic and a fabulous new programme strand that will showcase five of France’s premier television series.

Sydney Symphony in Parramatta Park
Date: 19 March
Venue: The Crescent at Parramatta Park
Starting time: 20:00
www.sydneysymphony.com

Be enthralled with a magical night under the stars when the Sydney Symphony performs their annual free concert at Parramatta Park for the tenth time. With conductor Benjamin Northey, the concert promises jazz from Dixieland to Duke Ellington, with roof-raising hits like “Basin Street Blues” and Judy Bailey’s “Four Reasons”. Making the event even more special is Australian jazz superstar James Morrison, who will be joining the orchestra on stage.

Food and drinks will be available to purchase on-site or you can bring your own delicious picnic full of tasty treats to take you through the night. If all of the above is not enough to convince you to attend this fabulous concert, consider the venue itself a must-see for visitors to Sydney. First declared a People’s Park in 1858, UNESCO World Heritage-listed Parramatta Park is more than a green retreat and has much to offer, including the Old Government House, Australia’s oldest surviving public building, erected in 1799.

March into Merivale Food and Wine Festival
Date: 18-20 March
Venue and events are available at www.merivale.com.au

Spanning restaurants and event locations across the city, Sydney’s annual food and wine festival is a month-long extravaganza of food- and drink-related events. Including food markets, wine tastings, chef competitions, cooking classes and anything else food enthusiasts fantasize about, each event has a quirky theme to keep guests entertained. In addition, foodies are given the opportunity to interact with some of the best chefs and sommeliers in Sydney.

Madonna
Dates: 19 and 20 March
Venue: Allphones Arena
Starting time: 20:00
www.allphonesarena.com.au

Including the new singles “Living for Love” and “Ghosttown”, Rebel Heart, Madonna’s 13th No. 1 album on the Australian charts. As the last stop on her homonymous world tour, the 57-year-old icon will perform live Down Under for the first time since 1993 (!). Anyone who has ever attended a Madonna show knows that this will not be just a concert but an event with major costume changes, spectacular dance pieces and of course many (thought-) provoking lines, for which the Queen of Pop is world famous. UK newspaper The Telegraph wrote: “Inarguably another fantastic display of showbiz shock and awe from a mistress of the form.”