



*Announcing publication of the ninth title in the
Australian Screen Classics series**

ALVIN PURPLE

BY CATHARINE LUMBY

'A wonderful read: I feel like I've been excavated and carbon dated.' Graeme Blundell

An exercise in sexploitation or a complex socio-political statement about Australia in the 1970s?

Australia's first R-rated feature film, *Alvin Purple* depicts Alvin's struggles with his irresistibility with women—from his school days and time as a waterbed salesman to his short-lived career as a sex therapist. The film created a furore when it was released in 1974; panned by critics, it went on to become one of the most commercially successful Australian films of the 1970s, and the first major feature film bought for global distribution by a US studio.

In her affectionate and perceptive critique, Catharine Lumby argues for the film's iconic status and examines its popularity with local audiences and the forces that fuelled its success.

ALVIN PURPLE BY CATHARINE LUMBY

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Alvin Purple will be launched in Canberra and Sydney:

Canberra: 26 June at 6pm at Arc Cinema at the National Film and Sound Archive. Followed by a screening of the film and a Q&A with Catharine Lumby and series editor Jane Mills. For details, visit www.screensound.gov.au

Sydney: 3 July at 6pm at Chauvel Cinema, Paddington. Followed by a screening of the film and a Q&A with Catharine Lumby, Graeme Blundell and series editor Jane Mills. For details, visit www.chauvelcinema.net.au



CATHARINE LUMBY is one of our leading feminist cultural commentators. She has worked as a news reporter, feature writer and opinion columnist for the Sydney Morning Herald, the Age and the Bulletin. She is the author and editor of four books and co-author of the recently published *The Porn Report*. She is the Director of the Journalism and Media Research Centre at the University of NSW.

CATHARINE LUMBY IS AVAILABLE FOR INTERVIEWS.
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***Australian Screen Classics** is a series of film monographs, matching some of our best-loved films with some of our most distinguished writers and thinkers, drawn from the world of culture, criticism and politics. For more information on the series, visit www.currency.com.au/australian-screen-classics.aspx