

Coast is all set for a movie feast

THE Gold Coast is set to experience a bout of movie madness next month with two separate film festivals and an international convention being held to celebrate the silver screen.

The Australian International Movie Convention, the Gold Coast Experimental Film and the Gold Coast Film Fantastic, which incorporates the Future Fantastic Film Awards Festival, are all scheduled for August and will bring recognition and visitors' dollars to the city.

The 2002 Australian International Movie Convention, scheduled for August 13 to 17 at Royal Pines Resort, is Australia's largest and most successful film event.

The gathering attracts about 800 industry delegates to the Gold Coast each year from across Australia and around the world to discuss the latest trends and developments in film distribution and exhibition.

The Gold Coast Film Fantastic, to be held at the Birch, Carroll & Coyle Robina Town Centre cinemas from August 15 to 18, will spotlight films from the fantasy, science fiction, horror and anima-

By SAM CLEVELAND

tion genres and is the first festival of its kind in Australia.

The event, which runs concurrently with the AIMC, will incorporate world and Australian premieres, retrospectives, special tributes, seminars, forums and a series of gala screenings and parties.

Meanwhile, budding film-makers will be given opportunities to display their work at the inaugural Future Film Fantastic Awards, to be held in conjunction with the Film Fantastic and at the second annual Gold Coast Experimental Film Festival on August 11.

More than 500 people crammed into the Gold Coast Art Gallery for last year's Experimental Film Festival.

The festival will this year be held in the Gold Coast Art Gallery and the Skylight Room at the Gold Coast Arts Centre and would incorporate performance art, music and the best in local and international experimental film.

Entries have closed, but films submitted after today will still be screened on a reel with the official entries at the Gold Coast Art Gallery during the day of the festival.

The Future Film Fantastic Awards are open to student film-makers and are run to coincide with the Gold Coast Film Fantastic, with winning films to be screened during the festival.

Entries close on August 9 and must be no longer than five minutes in length and need to feature Gold Coast settings and locations.

Although the theme of the event is the fantastic, entries need not strictly be confined to the genre.

A representative from the Future Film Fantastic Awards can be contacted on 0405 325 877 and a Gold Coast Experimental Film Festival organiser can be contacted on 5527 1778 or 0411 187678.