



Margaret River Shorts' Brad Fergusson has been hard at work determining this year's final 12 films.

PICTURE: STEVE TRIBBECK

Deadline met for Margaret River Shorts

THE final 12 have been selected for this year's Margaret River Shorts film festival, which go up for local audiences on March 26 and 27.

Colonial Brewery is the venue again for the popular film festival, which screened a retrospective of past finalists last month.

More than 180 entries were cut down for the final 12, which would go before prestigious judges including Revelation Film Festival boss Richard Sowada from Melbourne and Margaret River-based film-maker

Richard Todd. Festival organiser Brad Fergusson said entries had come from as far afield as Singapore, New York, Sweden and India.

Swedish director Erick Love Lundqvist would fly to the region for the awards ceremony, which is held on the Sunday night.

"Short-listing the films was one of the most difficult things I have ever done, even though I did get to sit around and watch some of the best short movies from around the world for a week," Mr Fergusson said.

"It was extremely challenging to choose what was best, what the festival believes is best, when the appreciation of film-making is so subjective."

Big prizes were on offer for this year's winners with \$5000 going to the best film, \$2500 for the best South West entry and \$1000 for the grommets' and sports movies.

The festival was exempt from Office of Film and Literature classification, but organisers said strong themes as well as drug use and adult language would feature.