

THE SAGE / PRIME GENTLEMEN MOVIE

Jim is a seventeen-year-old boxer in a small town. He is a golden boy, preparing for a fight that will elevate him to an early professional status. All bets are on his climb to success. But his father, Stan, is a demanding coach, and a notorious alcoholic. In the town, Stan is treated like a joke, but he has given everything to see his son gain professional status and escape the brutality of his small world. As Jim begins to rethink why he is fighting, his life tangles with Whetu, a razor-tongued, gay, indigenous boy who spends his days in an old shack down by the beach. With his dog Moimoi, he cobbles together a fragile glamour, and dreams of leaving town to become a musician. As Jim stumbles towards discovering what it really is to be a gay man, he is forced to see that strength has little to do with heroism.



The instant connection between these two young men is captured in this film, and it conveys Jim's combination of excitement and terror when he realizes this bond could evolve easily into a romance. *Punch* realizes that when it's two guys in the ring — as sparring partners or as romantic partners — outside forces can take them down for the count. The stifling homophobia of small-town New Zealand permeates this heartfelt drama. *Punch* is a tough, moving, and confident piece of filmmaking.



Pretty Boy is an award-winning coming of age story of a young bullied teen, Sean, struggling with his sexuality and the hardships of high school. After his father finds some questionable magazines in his room, this devout Christian will go to any lengths to get his son to find the light and 'perform' the way a man should. Sean is taken to a motel for his 18th birthday by his father and given a prostitute. He must sleep with her to "fix" his questionable homosexuality. Obviously, the prostitute is on to him from the beginning, and winds-up being a mentor. While Dad is in the parking lot waiting in the car, Sean and the hooker develop a touching relationship. *Pretty Boy* is a short film about confidence, finding an inner strength, acceptance, and being who you are meant to be.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 15th, 2023

1:30PM at the PRIDE CENTER

FREE POPCORN and SODA