

THE SIXTH ANNUAL
BARNES FILM FESTIVAL

SCREENINGS • WORKSHOPS • DIRECTOR Q&A'S • SPECIAL EVENTS

17-23 JUNE 2021



BARNESFILMFESTIVAL.COM
[#BARNESFILMFESTIVAL2021](https://www.instagram.com/BARNESFILMFESTIVAL2021)



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FILMWAVE



AYALON

OLYMPIC

NOR

REVERSE

STUDIOS



Ladies and gentlemen...

...welcome to BFF2021! Our programme is jam packed full of new films, discussions and workshops where we not only celebrate so many incredibly gifted emerging directors, but also dive into discussions on diversity, identity, our environment, creativity and above all connectivity and getting great films out there for you to see! In 2020 Covid-19 forced us to be clear about what was important. Connectivity! And whilst we reluctantly fall back on online access once more, we hope to open our reach across time and space with our content being available during the week of the festival and the week following.

In our planning we try to allow for both the physical experience of cinema and online screenings for you to experience beyond our usual borders. We are building our big screen ambitions for 2022 while retaining some of the virtual interactions established last year hoping to help filmmakers who might not have the resources to travel, even in an open season.

Our short film competition is back! This will be the second year of international entries in documentary, animation and fiction to diversify our programme so that our festival offers something unique. Importantly our finalists are part of a wider showcase celebrating over 100 filmmakers who have been shortlisted from our

largest ever pool of submissions. We celebrate the diversity of filmmaking with our online platform and our aim is to give our filmmakers more visibility internationally.

As well as the adult competition, we once again celebrate our youth showcase to provide a platform for the newest generations of storytelling and creative expression. Building on collaborations from last year with The Guardian, The Whickers and the world's largest disability film festival, Oska Bright, this year we are excited to form new connections with The Iraqi Film Institute, The Film and TV charity and of course our fantastic new sponsors Waterbear Network who have inspired us with their incredible free platform of environmental film.

Our curation this year explores the many narratives and wide-ranging voices of our Short Film Finalists. Poignant and creatively told stories reflect themes on humanity's mental anguish, our inherent need for belonging and identity, the struggles within families amidst cultural pressures, and how communities can come together and present the beauty of their best or indeed the very ugliness of their worst. So many stimulating tales are here for your viewing in a mix of documentary, animation and fiction. Engage in the collective conversations that these films present with friends and family or interact with our greater community on one of our many live Q&A events online. We hope you'll join us!



SAM CULLIS, FESTIVAL DIRECTOR



barnesfilmfestival.com



"The Barnes Film Festival has gathered real momentum over the past six years. After the year we have had, I would like to congratulate the festival team and all the people who have contributed to the accomplishment of the 6th edition. Since I have been involved, I have witnessed first-hand their distinctive vision, and have thoroughly enjoyed being a part of year-round events, most recently with a celebration of the return to cinema with Edgar Wright and Tom Holland. Last year BFF was one of the first to replicate the festival atmosphere online and I anticipate again this year that it will offer the much wider audience a range of high-quality screenings, workshops, Q and A's and networking events. I believe the festival will enrich people with new ideas, creative collaborations and synergies that can progress them in their film journey. The festival has turned Barnes into a place that now attracts filmmakers and people working in the film industry. I am proud to be supporting it."



DANIEL BATTSEK, DIRECTOR, FILM4

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Opening Night



LIMBO + Q&A AT OLYMPIC STUDIOS

THURSDAY, 17 JUNE 20:45 – 23:00

DIR. BEN SHARROCK

*This event will not
require a festival pass.*

Recently nominated for two BAFTA® awards for Best British Film and Best Debut by a British Writer, Director or Producer, LIMBO is a wry and poignant observation of the refugee experience, set on a fictional remote Scottish island where a group of new arrivals await the results of their asylum claims.

It centers on Omar, a young Syrian musician who is burdened by his grandfather's oud, which he has carried all the way from his homeland. Reflecting the complexity of the movement of people across borders has been a long-held passion for director and writer Ben Sharrock, who spent time working for an NGO in refugee camps in southern Algeria and living in Damascus in 2009 shortly before the outbreak of the Syrian civil war. There, he formed a network of friends whose personal stories inspired the film.

The film will be followed by a Q&A with Ben Sharrock by Cameron Saunders, Vice President and Trustee of the Film and TV charity who supported in the making of this film.

Come early to join us in the evening sun at the Olympic terrace from 8pm.

OLLY'S

Closing Night



GRANADA NIGHTS + Q&A AT RIVERSIDE STUDIOS

WED, 23 JUNE 20:00 – 23:00

DIR. ABID KHAN

*This event will not
require a festival pass.*

At BFF 2020 Head of Film4 Daniel Battsek announced GRANADA NIGHTS as Winner of Best Feature, it was also selected for 'Breakthrough' at London Screenings 2019. We are finally able to bring the film to the big screen for its Festival premiere. GRANADA NIGHTS is a self-discovery feature film set in Granada, Spain about a British-Asian tourist who struggles with a broken heart as he befriends a group of young foreigners and crashes into the heart of the international student scene. The film stars Screen International Star of Tomorrow, Antonio Aakeel (Eaten By Lions, City Of Tiny Lights), Quintessa Swindell (Netflix Trinkets, Voyagers and recently announced in DC Film Black Adam). After the film there will be a Q&A with the cast and crew.

Come early to mingle with us and enjoy a free beer courtesy of our drink sponsor Cervezas Alhambra from 7pm



Schedule THURSDAY 17TH JUNE

	12:00	13:00	14:00	15:00	16:00	17:00	18:00	19:00	20:00	21:00	22:00	23:00	00:00
SCREENINGS								UK SHORT FICTION SHOWCASE		DOC The Kiosk	FEATURE Rose: A Love Story		
WORKSHOPS													
TALKS								A Love Letter to the Big Screen	Q&A Will Poulter				
EVENTS								Festival Intro Sam Cullis @ Olympic Studios Live event			FILM LIMBO + Q&A @Olympic Studios Live event		

SCREENINGS

WORKSHOPS

TALKS

EVENTS

Schedule **FRIDAY 18TH JUNE**

	10:00	11:00	12:00	13:00	14:00	15:00	16:00	17:00	18:00	19:00	20:00	21:00	22:00	23:00	00:00
SCREENINGS					DOC 80,000 Schnitzels			FILM Traffiker			FEATURE How To Stop A Recurring Dream		DOC I'm An Electric Lampshade		
WORKSHOPS							Screenwriting with Mike Bartlett								
TALKS								Q&A Cameron Saunders	Q&A Larry Smith		Q&A Guardian Q&A with Director Laurence Topham Live				
EVENTS															

SCREENINGS

WORKSHOPS

TALKS

EVENTS

Schedule SATURDAY 19TH JUNE

	10:00	11:00	12:00	13:00	14:00	15:00	16:00	17:00	18:00	19:00	20:00	21:00	22:00	23:00	00:00
SCREENINGS				Youth Showcase			FEATURE 1986		FEATURE Valentina		SHORTS PROGRAMME -Pack Animals	SHORTS PROGRAMME -On The Edge			
					DOC Road to Vrindivan						FEATURE Brixton Tale		DOC Being Sacha		
WORKSHOPS	Pitching for TV with Endor's Sara Johnson		A Journey into Film Art			Pitching Masterclass									
TALKS															
EVENTS								Festival Formula Networking Event							

SCREENINGS

WORKSHOPS

TALKS

EVENTS

Schedule SUNDAY 20TH JUNE

[illegible]

Schedule MONDAY 21ST JUNE

	10:00	11:00	12:00	13:00	14:00	15:00	16:00	17:00	18:00	19:00	20:00	21:00	22:00	23:00	00:00
SCREENINGS								INT SHORT FICTION SHOWCASE		UK SHORT FICTION SHOWCASE		SHORTS PROGRAMME - Body Matters			
												FEATURE The Badger			
WORKSHOPS									Visual Effects - Peter Ezsenyi Live	ADOBE Best practices for Colour Grading in Premiere Pro					
TALKS											IRAQI FILM INSITUTE Live				
EVENTS															

SCREENINGS

WORKSHOPS

TALKS

EVENTS

Schedule **TUESDAY 22ND JUNE**

	10:00	11:00	12:00	13:00	14:00	15:00	16:00	17:00	18:00	19:00	20:00	21:00	22:00	23:00	00:00
SCREENINGS					INT SHORT DOC SHOWCASE		UK SHORT DOC SHOWCASE		ANIM. Good Intentions		THE WHICKERS AMERICAVILLE	FEATURE FILM FICTION Petya of my Petya			
WORKSHOPS									ADOBE - Best practices on using Productions Workflow in Premiere Pro (Live Q&A)	The Whickers Americaville & Director Q&A					
TALKS									Q&A Anna Mantzaris						
EVENTS															

SCREENINGS

WORKSHOPS

TALKS

EVENTS

Schedule WEDNESDAY 23RD JUNE

	10:00	11:00	12:00	13:00	14:00	15:00	16:00	17:00	18:00	19:00	20:00	21:00	22:00	23:00	00:00
SCREENINGS					SHOWCASE - INTERNATIONAL ANIMATION		SHOWCASE - UK ANIMATION				DOC FEATURE: BFF2021 Winner				
WORKSHOPS									Adobe Best practices in using After Effects						
TALKS															
EVENTS								ANNOUNCEMENT OF WINNERS -Daniel Battsek + WINNING FILMS			Granada Nights + Q&A LIVE AT RIVERSIDE STUDIOS				

SCREENINGS

WORKSHOPS

TALKS

EVENTS



"I was thrilled to hear that Barnes Film Festival would be returning for a sixth year. After successive lockdowns, it's safe to say we have a large and hungry pool of talented people who are ready, willing and able to start sharing their work again.

I am hugely grateful to the organisers for continuing to facilitate this wonderful community of storytellers, which I know provides guidance and inspiration for so many. It really is essential that upcoming talent, particularly young people, have platforms such as this where they can harness their passion and creativity for filmmaking. This past year has really highlighted how vital the arts, including and especially film, are to our sense of wellbeing. I look forward to enjoying what I'm sure will be another hugely successful event."

SARAH OLNEY MP
MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT
FOR RICHMOND PARK

AVALON

PROUD PARTNER OF BFF2021

Festival Jury 2021

Our Jury comprises filmmakers, actors and industry leaders who are committed to recognizing and supporting the best in innovative, diverse, and artistically excellent film for young audiences throughout the globe.



ANNA VALDEZ HANKS
Cinematographer



LAURA DODSWORTH
Photographer |
Filmmaker



NICOLA KINGHAM
UXF Producer



THEA PAULETT
Creative Executive at
Working Titles



CLARE ANYIAM-OSIGWE
Producer | Director | Actress



GEORGINA HURCOMBE
Director | Producer



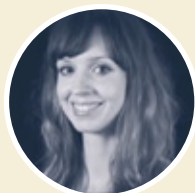
LARUSHKA IVAN-ZADEH
Metro Chief Film Critic



MELYS CUDO
Producer Film4



JANE RAY
Artistic Director
Whicker Awards



LINDSAY POULTON
Head of Documentaries
at The Guardian

A huge thank you to all our brilliant Festival and Crew Volunteers!



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Established in 2011, the Property Partnership is an independent, multi-award-winning estate agency with offices in Barnes, Richmond and Surrey, dedicated to providing a positive experience based on a blend of modern technology and traditional values.

Oh and we love cinema, and popcorn.

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Finalists **PACK ANIMALS**

From the ridiculous to the sublime, compassion clashes with violence in tales where human nature is at times harshly exposed.



DAY IE

DIR. ANTHONY NTI, *INTL SHORT FICTION*

Breathtaking and a visual treat, Anthony Nti, leads us into a world of peril. Set in Ghana, two young children, Prince and Matilda are taken on an ominous joyride by a stranger with the lure of food. As day turns into night we are acutely aware of the danger the children are in and desperately hope that the stranger will have a change of heart.



THE FIRE NEXT TIME

DIR. RENALDHO PELLE, *UK ANIMATION*

Animator Renaldho Pelle combines a slick digital approach with a tactile analog style. His atmospheric paint on glass film uses hand painted character animation with stop motion sets, drawing us into the oppressive world of social inequality. It will make your heart race.



ROTTWEILER

DIR. JONNY POWELL, *UK SHORT FICTION*

Jonny Powell's intense drama raises questions about privilege and strife. Set in a council estate, it transports you to a microcosm where the stakes are high and luck is low. Protagonist, Sophia, must help her ex-convict boyfriend pay his debt, but at what cost.



MAD IN XPAIN

DIR. COKE RIOBÓO, *INTL ANIMATION*

A dark satirical stop motion film, set in a post-apocalyptic Spain, where different tribes survive struggling to gain control of the only livelihood that exists - a very low quality red wine. Coke Riobóo's unique voice takes you on a wild ride while addressing current day issues.



SHOWTIME

DIR. TOMMY AGRIODIMAS, *INTL SHORT DOC*

Director Tommy Agriodimas celebrates resourceful moves of two young men, rejecting the life of gang criminality in their community, driven by passion and self expression, we are treated with a show of positivity, athleticism and performance dance on the subway cars of New York City.



CAGNOLINO

DIR. HUGO DIEGO GARCIA, *INTL SHORT FICTION*

Hugo Diego Garcia's gritty film keeps you on the edge of your seat. Sharp and fast paced, it takes you on a night out with a group of hoodlums looking for trouble, but it's a dog eat dog world out there and 'if you can't bite, you shouldn't bark'.

Trigger Warning



A CAT CALLED JAM

DIR. LORRAINE LORDAN, *INTL ANIMATION*

Lorraine Lordan's 2D treatment is an ode to the old masters of animation. Jam, a cat with an identity crisis is desperate to befriend dogs. When he meets a cat called Treacle, he must do some soul searching.



STARLINGS

DIR. SIMON ALLEN, *UK SHORT FICTION*

Filmed during lockdown, Simon Allen's directorial debut is a poignant insight to the lonely world of senior citizens. When an elderly man sets out to remove unwanted visitors who are ruining the vegetable patch in his garden, he did not anticipate how it would change him.



FLESH

DIR. CAMILA KATER, *INTL ANIMATION*

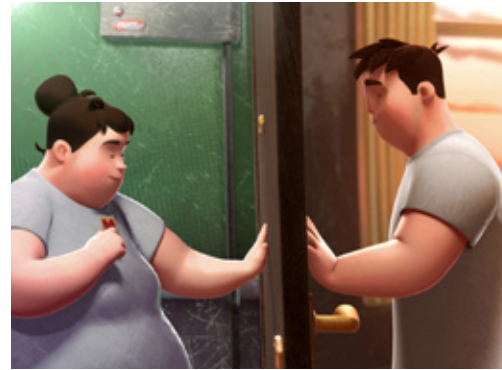
Camila Kater's approach is lyrical, haunting and hard hitting. Rare, medium rare, medium, medium well and well done. Five women share their intimate personal stories and experiences in relation to the body, from childhood to old age.



GYM PATRIOT

DIR. SLOBODAN KARAJLOVIC, *UK SHORT FICTION*

Slobodan Karajlovic brings Rishi Vaja's amusing script to life. The light hearted commentary on culture clash holds a mirror to the grim realities of the present day world. When a 'gym patriot', a white man, is left unnerved during his shower by the incessant singing in Arabic from another cubicle, we are curious to know how it ends.



ROBERTO

DIR. CARMEN CÓRDOBA GONZÁLEZ, *INTL ANIMATION*

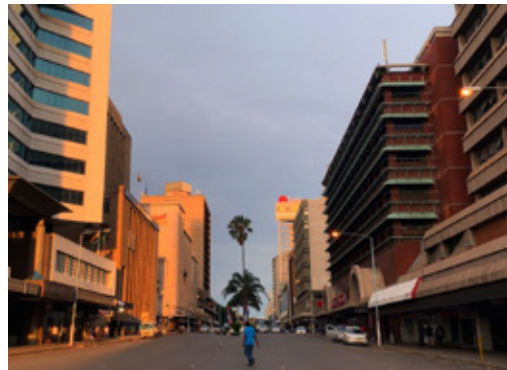
Carmen Córdoba González's visual storytelling is captivating, vibrant and deeply moving. It explores the very current issues of love and self image. Underpinned by the idea of perseverance and hope, it is truly an uplifting tale.



LET MY BODY SPEAK

DIR. MADONNA ADIB, *UK SHORT DOC*

Madonna Abib films a sensual documentary where sexual identity and body politics speak out following years of repression in Damascus.



ZERO, ZERO

DIR. EVA GRACE BOR, *INTL SHORT DOC*

Rooted in an ethnographic approach to filmmaking, Eva Bor's "Zero Zero" meditates on one family's relationship to identity and belonging.



SOMETHING BORROWED

DIR. MICKY WOZNY, *UK ANIMATION*

Set on the backdrop of delicate ink work, Micky Wozny's digitally animated world is almost palpable. A story about love, it inspires introspection and touches upon the bitter sweet realities of life.



MY OWN PERSONAL LEBANON

DIR. THEO PANAGOPOULOS, *UK SHORT DOC*

Documentary Director Theo Panagopoulos discovers his mother's secrets of war as he explores his National and personal identity.



BUSH SCHOOL

DIR. EMANUELA ZUCCALÀ, *INTL SHORT DOC*

Director Emanuela Zuccalà compassionately captures the difficulties for Liberian women fighting the deeply entrenched cultural tradition of genital mutilation.



HEDGEHOG

DIR. EDWARD BULMER, UK ANIMATION

Gareth has a debilitating sense of self-doubt - which follows him around in the form of a hedgehog. Edward Bulmer's CG animation is comedic but tackles the very important topic of anxiety and fear.



GOOD THANKS YOU?

DIR. MOLLY MANNING WALKER, UK SHORT FICTION

Writer director, Molly Manning Walker's exquisitely crafted film captures the inner turmoil of teenager, Amy, after an incident of assault. Let down by an incompetent system, she must find the strength to overcome the attack and save what matters most to her.



TRIANGLE

DIR. PETER ENGELMANN, UK SHORT FICTION

With a background in psychology, Peter Engelmann's sci-fi pseudo-docu drama is a riveting watch. Based on the 1997's psychological experiment by Arthur Aron on the bonds of friendship, it explores the dark realms of the human mind and asks some very pertinent questions.



BEFORE I DIE

DIR. IKER ESTEIBARLANDA, INTL SHORT DOC

In a small island on Lake Victoria, Kenya, fishermen believe they are entitled to patriarchy. Meanwhile, women and girls are forced to carry the weight of silence in the face of abuse. In a close journey through her childhood memories, documentary maker Iker Esteibarlanda gives voice to a young woman's decision to tell her story so she might lighten her burden and find hope...



POWERWASH (I LOVE YOU)

DIR. RORY WAUDBY-TOLLEY, UK ANIMATION

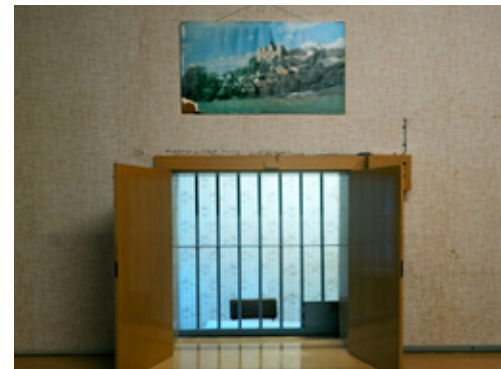
Rory Waudby-Tolley's minimalistic film is anything but minimal. The brief moment of exchange between a husband and wife speaks volumes about the mundanity of life and withered dreams.



GOD IS DEAD

DIR. NICK FORE, UK SHORT FICTION

Writer, Director Nick Fore introduces us to the philosophical debate of Nietzsche's principles of existentialism through humour. When the modern world discovers that God doesn't exist, Jesus fights to maintain his divine purpose, terrified of being diminished to his working-class existence in Northern England.



CELL 364

**DIR. MATHILDE BABO, ZOÉ ROSSION
INTL SHORT DOC**

An ex-prisoner of the Stasi delivers a frightening testimony from his former cell. Directors Mathilde Babo and Zoe Rossion perfect the short story telling form in a 4 min short leaving us questioning the sustainability of our contemporary democracies.



ENOUGH

DIR. ANNA MANTZARIS, UK ANIMATION

Moments of lost self-control we dare not act out. In her stop motion film, Anna Mantzaris' wool puppets are given to reckless impulsiveness. A bit like we all wish sometimes.

Finalists **A FAMILY AFFAIR**

These moving shorts shine a light on how our protagonists wrestle with identity and belonging as they entwine with the relationships in their lives.



SUN DOG

DIR. **DORIAN JESPER**, *INTL SHORT FICTION*

The golden haze of tungsten in the city with the longest night - Dorian Jespers' Tartovsky-ish fantasy world is alluring. Blurring the lines between dream and reality, one such night, we embark on a mesmerising and surreal journey with Fedor, a young locksmith, in the obscurity of the Russian Arctic to cross the threshold into a phantasmagoric universe.



PRECIOUS BUNDLE

DIR. **KIM ANGELICA HEAD**, *UK SHORT DOC*

Director Kim Head shares an honest reflection in this documentary exploring her want for a relationship with her father, entwining animation creatively to express her emotion.



ACCOMPLICES

DIR. **RUBÉN GUINDO NOVA**, *INTL SHORT FICTION*

The engaging performances inspired by director Rubén Guindo Nova take you on a rollercoaster of emotions. Set in Spain and seen through the eyes of teenager, Ana, Nova tackles a breadth of global issues ranging from harassment and bullying to austerity, and the devastating consequences they have on the lives of people.



TO THE DUSTY SEA

DIR. **HÉLOÏSE FERLAY**, *INTL ANIMATION*

A profoundly beautiful film, Héloïse Ferlay's hand crafted puppets, Malo, Zoe and their mother take you on an emotional journey of frayed relationships, yearning and moments of spontaneous joy. Truly a masterpiece.



LOLA

DIR. **MIRANDA CARTER-WATSON**, *UK SHORT DOC*

The story of a family - told from the perspective of their pet dog, Lola. As we observe everyday life, Director Miranda Carter-Watson with originality and poignance documents a larger story that quietly unfolds in the background.



TIME AND TIDE

DIR. **CALEB YULE**, *UK SHORT DOC*

Caleb Yule's stunningly shot documentary witnesses the last two seacoalers on the North East coast of England.



HANDSCAPE

DIR. **YIRU CHEN**, *INTL SHORT FICTION*

Partially deaf Xia Qing has more than his hearing to challenge him as he seeks to pursue his dream of becoming a dancer. Director Yiru Chen poignantly depicts realities of life facing expectations within different cultures.



THE KIOSK

DIR. ALEXANDRA PIANELLI
WEDNESDAY, 23 JUNE

The Kiosk is a humorous and tender video diary shot by young visual artist Alexandra Pianelli, on her Smartphone! Stories unravel from the newsstand in a chic Paris neighbourhood, meanwhile the printed press is in crisis and her childhood fantasy of keeping shop turns out to be a little more complicated than she expected...



SOUTHSIDE HEROES

DIR. MARTIN KIESSLING
FRIDAY, 18 JUNE

How can a student rise above low expectations? Director Martin Kiessling celebrates how a teacher takes 5 teenagers into the world of poetry slamming. Performances develop with a force and authenticity that you wouldn't expect.



ROAD TO VRINDAVAN

DIR. RAVINOL CHAMBERS
SATURDAY, 19 JUNE

Director and former Krishna monk Ravinol Chambers witnesses culture and progress collide, as girls confront traditional gender roles for education, throwing him into a new line of discovery.



PROPER PRONOUNS

DIR. MEGAN DANIELS
SUNDAY, 20 JUNE

Following four transgender ministers fighting intolerance and discrimination in the Bible Belt, documentary Director Megan Daniels witnesses their challenges as they seek validation in the pulpit, the community and existing relationships.



80,000 SCHNITZEL

DIR. HANNAH SCHWEIER
FRIDAY, 18 JUNE

Part diary form, part essay, Director Hannah Schweier documents her sister's struggle, never far from the cows and combine harvester, to single handedly bring back the profitability of the family farm and hotel whilst her grandmother reflects on a long lifetime in the kitchen. An intimate portrait of life, loss, love and above all perseverance.

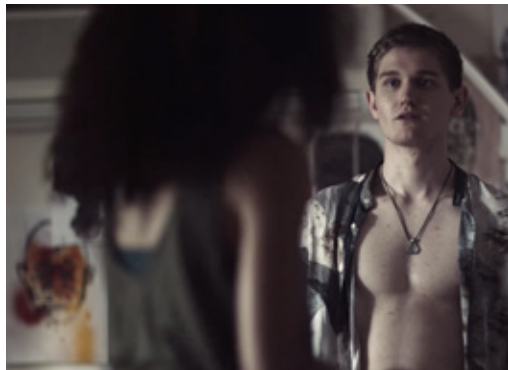


A BRIXTON TALE

DIR. DARRAGH CAREY, BERTRAND DESROCHERS
SATURDAY, 19 JUNE

An edgy, thrilling drama fuelled by the hunger for fame, a desire to find love and acceptance and the misguided energy of youth. Featuring powerful performances from a cast including Lily Newmark (Misbehaviour, Pin Cushion), Ola Orebiyi (Limbo, Cherry), Craig Middleburg (CO-D) and Jaime Winstone (Made In Dagenham, Kidulthood).

Trigger Warning



HOW TO STOP A RECURRING DREAM

DIR. EDWARD MORRIS
FRIDAY, 18 JUNE

Exploring themes of separation and loss this dreamy trip takes place over a weekend in the lives of two sisters. An imminent family separation forces the oldest daughter to kidnap her sister in an attempt to reconnect before they part.



ROSE: A LOVE STORY

DIR. JENNIFER SHERIDAN
THURSDAY, 17 JUNE

The story of a young couple living alone in the woods, who must contend with a life-altering illness that manifests itself in a violent and terrifying way. Rose's disease is a vampiric, parasitic thirst for blood.



TOPRAK

DIR. SEVGİ HIRSCHHÄUSER
FRIDAY, 18 JUNE

The dramatic story of a simple family in rural Turkey dealing with poverty, family traditions, and religious heritage. Since the death of his parents, the teenage Burak has lived with his uncle Cemil and grandmother in a remote Turkish village.



VALENTINA

DIR. CÁSSIO PEREIRA DOS SANTOS
SATURDAY, 19 JUNE

A trans girl and her mother move to a new town in order to start fresh, but quickly face dilemmas when the local high school needs a second parental signature for enrollment.



f-stop

**PROUD PARTNER
OF BFF2021**

We are excited to team up with Oska Bright again this year. Oska Bright is the worlds leading festival for films made by or featuring people with learning disabilities or autism. We proudly announce the selected films to be shown as part of our larger program. Film can be a powerful tool to create change and highlight injustices and inequalities within the industry and society as a whole.



ESCAPE THE ORDINARY

DIR. RAY JACOBS & ARTY PARTY

The story of a young woman travelling through time and space to discover a new world.



THE TRAIN

DIR. AARON DUNBAR

A rock pile ceases to be a rock pile the moment a single man contemplates it, bearing within him the image of a cathedral. A tale of artistic obsession.



UONTED!

DIR. DANIELE BONARINI

Tiziano wants to go to the Cinecittà World amusement park at all costs to visit the Old West. Will what he finds there be different to what he'd imagined?



SNOWBALL EFFECT

DIR. TEAGAN NASH

Lost on an expedition, a young explorer must find the way back to their team. This is Teagan Nash's first film. It was made almost entirely on a mobile device.



BORN TO DANCE WITH AN EXTRA CHROMOSOME

DIR. NIKOLAY NIKOLOV

Drag Syndrome are superstars who have entirely changed the conversation about Down's syndrome and drag, encouraging us all to embrace our inner diva.



SHAKESPEARE IN TOKYO

DIR. BUS STOP FILMS

A Shakespeare fan with Down's syndrome, sets off on an adventure to discover Tokyo and get away from his over-bearing older brother.



ISOLATED

DIR. CALYPSO CRAGG

Calypso Cragg is able to turn the negativity of the lockdown into something liberating through affirming creativity. This film captures feelings of loneliness and the exhausting monotony of this once-in-a-lifetime event through moody cinematography and a looping improvised score.



GRINDSTONE

DIR. TOAN VU, GRACE CONLEY, LOUIZA LAOUT, ANNABELLE RÄTH

This collaborative project brings together live action and animation to great effect. The film is a descent into neurotic hallucination as the protagonist faces the challenge of the filmmaking grind, something most young filmmakers have to undertake before going into specialisation.



SATIN & VELVET

DIR. ANNE PLOEGMAN

Anne Ploegman's stop-motion animation brings the friendship of a fabric girl and her feline friend to life. This sweet story reminds us not to forget to show kindness to those who are closest to you.



DREAMER

DIR. NICKOLAS KRUEGER

This short tells the story of a boy who dreams of transitioning but feels confined by the world he lives in. Nickolas Krueger makes great use of colour-filtered lighting to contrast the blue melancholia of his everyday with the multicoloured freedom of his dreams.



KALEIDOSCOPE

DIR. GRACE CONLEY

Taking the connotations of a spectrum of colours, Grace Conley frames the way she feels about herself and how she may try to come across. The film not only delves into the expressive power of colour but demonstrates a multisensory awareness one might expect from a more mature filmmaker.



DON'T OPEN THE DOOR!

DIR. VASILE BERDE LUCA STEFAN

Vasile Berde Luca Stefan employs classical horror and thriller tropes in this film to great effect. It tells the story of a boy who must decide his fate after receiving some ominous text messages.



TWO SIDES

DIR. RAULIZ PAEZ

Rauliz Paez blends Lego animation with live action footage to give visual metaphors that complement his spoken word poetry. He tells the story of two people who drifted apart and hopes they can be together again.



WHO ARE FRIENDS?

DIR. KATJA TUŠEK

Katja Tušek's short film devotes itself to the power of friendship by explaining its virtues using voice-over. The footage shows a group of girls whose friendship knows no bounds in this joyous film.



ROCKFACE

DIR. ISAAC HURST

This film by Isaac Hurst tells the story of a young girl who is bullied. Eventually she finds liberation through friendship and shares her story in online vlogs. Indeed, as her posts remind others in the film that they are not alone, this film can help victims of bullying to connect with others who care about them.



MAGIC HEAD

DIR. ANASTASIA SHINKARENKO

Anastasia Shinkarenko's stop-motion animation tells the story of a magic head that intervenes in acts of cruelty to restore goodness to the Earth. The sweet drawings and animal sound effects from this young filmmaker show great promise.



DEAR 2020!

DIR. ISHÉ GRANT

Ishé Grant's film is a poetic reflection on the ups and downs of lockdown in London. It brings contemporary footage into the black and white grain of film-stock to complement the thoughtful voice-over narration.



67 DASIES

DIR. SAFFRON COCKERTON-RAI

Saffron Cockerton-Rai's documentary tells the story of how she hand-painted 67 daisies to give to those in her neighbourhood. This film is inspiring in how it shows that creativity has the power to connect people who might otherwise be alone.



BODIES THAT FIGHT

DIR. CATALINA IBAÑEZ

Catalina Ibañez's hand-drawn digital animation tells the story of a day in the life of a young Chilean feminist. A highly dynamic animation of vibrant colours charge Catalina's revolutionary discourse with a youthful energy to be reckoned with.



PAINTING WITH LIGHT

DIR. MADELINE O'CONNELL

Madeline O'Connell's film tells the story of a filmmaker who must come to terms with the social responsibility that comes with documentary filmmaking. As we hear the sound of film running and the death of a filmic subject we may reflect on the thoughts of Laura Mulvey and Roland Barthes to consider the murderous potential of images.



PLAYERS

DIR. AVA BOUNDS

This high quality production from Ava Bounds is set in what initially seems to be an idyllic village. However, a young girl is revealed to exert a sinister level of control upon her fellow villagers and animals in the vicinity, in an eerie twist.



MUSIC FOR THE END OF THE WORLD

DIR. EMMANUEL LI

Music is the natural solution to the recent apocalypse in Emmanuel Li's film. The protagonist uses his radio to celebrate his freedom from responsibility, but also to help to come to terms with loneliness in a film showing sophisticated cinematic style from a young filmmaker.



A LOVE LETTER TO THE BIG SCREEN

THURSDAY, 17 JUNE 19:00 – 20:00

A repeat of our recent hugely successful Edgar Wright and Tom Holland interview to fill us with optimism for 2021 and why a return to the cinema is a must...

Edgar and Tom were joined by Daniel Battsek, (Director Film 4) and Charlotte Bogard Macleod (Distraction Tactics Film Club) for a night celebrating all things cinema.



NETWORKING EVENT: HOSTED BY FESTIVAL FORMULA

SATURDAY, 19 JUNE 17:00 – 18:00

It's Saturday night, so BYOB and come say hey at the Festival Formula happy hour. There will be the opportunity to say hello to everyone, a few party games, and mostly a slice of time to just relax and bring a smile to your face. Put on your best Zoom background and be ready to answer some interesting *Would You Rather...*? scenarios.



WINNERS ANNOUNCEMENT

WEDNESDAY, 23 JUNE 17:00

Festival Director Sam Cullis and film producer, and current director of Film4 Daniel Battsek announce the winners and runner up of each category of the festival competition as decided by our 2021 jury. Following the announcement the winners of the short categories will be screened. Feature winners will be available for 24 hours on the screening hub.



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Workshops



PITCH SURGERY: SASHA DAMJANOVSKI

SATURDAY 19 JUNE 15:00 – 17:00

You have a great project. So, how good is your pitch? Do you walk into a pitching session with a smile, or do you go in petrified and leave dissatisfied? The good news is that pitching skills can be learned. We'll look at how to identify the HOOK of a project and how to EXCITE others with it; how to PREPARE well; how to ADAPT to different circumstances, how to deal with NERVES and demonstrate AUTHENTICITY; we'll learn what is more powerful than Power Point. Sasha Damjanovski is a multiple award winning writer, director and producer with over twenty five years of experience working in film, TV and business communications. He's a counselling coach, an associate lecturer at Central Saint Martins (UAL), and works with individual and corporate clients in the UK and internationally. www.sashadamjanovski.com

SCHOOL OF NOISE: CINEMA SOUND

SUNDAY, 20 JUNE 16:00 – 17:00

Join Dan Mayfield from the School of Noise on a sonic journey exploring film sound. This family friendly workshop will cover how cinemas are designed, discover some classic sound design techniques, and uncover the importance of diegetic and non-diegetic sound (if you don't know what this is don't worry, all will be explained).

LIVE
EVENT



A JOURNEY INTO FILM ART

SATURDAY, 19 JUNE 12:30 – 13:30

Description: Ever wondered what makes a good poster great? Join Adam Cockerton for a critical but light-hearted journey into some of the best posters in cinematic history. We will explore marketing campaigns from the last 12 months, look at trends in film advertising and review some of the best film posters from this year's film festival. This talk follows on from last year's informative talk on the mechanics of a film poster and the resurgence of traditional illustration in modern film art. Adam is Creative Director of the Dream Factory, an entertainment design agency based in London and Berlin.

VISUAL EFFECTS: PETER EZSENYI

MONDAY, 21 JUNE 18:00 – 19:00

Imagined futures: a behind the scenes look at visual effects. Peter is a VFX Supervisor who has worked on the visual effects of films like Blade Runner 2049, George Clooney's The Midnight Sky and more recently, Ben Wheatley's In The Earth. In this talk he will explore the creative process that spans from concept to mockups to finished VFX assets, whether they are used on set or in the post process. Find out what it's like working with the director and the production designer or art department and making sure their unique vision becomes reality. Peter will share stories of his own experience of working on these productions, giving you an insight into the world of visual effects and designing for films, from indie to blockbuster.

LIVE
EVENT

Workshops

ANIMATION WORKSHOP

SUNDAY, 20 JUNE 10:00 – 12:00

This is a fun and easy workshop that goes through the basics of stop motion animation.

LIVE
EVENT



CLIMATE STORIES ON SCREEN

SUNDAY, 20 JUNE 14:00 – 15:00

The panel will be discussing the power of film to lead the conversation around Climate Change. From page to screen, we need to centre narratives about potential futures and collective action in order to combat ecological fatalism, as well as pursuing industry-wide reform to reach net-zero

Rowan Emslie is Communications Director (EU) for the Clean Air Task Force. He leads CATF communications work in the European Union to reduce climate change by applying an overwhelming amount of force to some of the biggest levers to reduce carbon and other climate warming emissions. Rowan has 10 years of communications experience across the public and private sectors, specialising in multi-channel digital communications campaigns.

Sarah MacDonald is a New Zealand born BAFTA-winning Director and Filmmaker. She spent 10 years working for both the BBC and Channel 4 creating major investigative documentaries that had significant social impact.

Thimali Kodikara is Series Producer and Presenter of Mothers of Invention Podcast.

LIVE
EVENT



WE ARE ALBERT WORKSHOP

SUNDAY 20 JUNE 11:00 – 12.30

BAFTA Albert, the authority on environmental sustainability for the Film & TV industry, are leading the charge against climate change. Line Producer and Albert Trainer, Miranda Simmons, inspires filmmakers to make positive steps towards actively reducing carbon emissions and waste from content production and champions the creation of inspirational content for a sustainable future.



BEST PRACTICES FOR COLOUR GRADING YOUR FILM/ DOCUMENTARY IN PREMIERE PRO

MONDAY 21 JUNE 19:00-20:00

This session is intended for anyone looking to colour grade their project using Premiere Pro. It will cover best practices such as achieving the correct exposure, white balance, saturation and skin tone for shots, and how to build a "Look" for a scene to help tell your story. Also it will introduce you to some useful plugins for Premiere Pro that may speed up a specific workflow.



ADOBE - BEST PRACTICES ON USING PRODUCTIONS WORKFLOW IN PREMIERE PRO

TUESDAY, 22 JUNE 18:00 – 19:00

You will learn how to set up and work in the Productions panel, useful tips for bin, project and media management (including Creative Cloud Libraries) to make sure things are kept organised, as well as best practices for sharing and collaborating on projects.



BEST PRACTICES IN USING AFTER EFFECTS FOR YOUR FILM/ DOCUMENTARY

WEDNESDAY 23 JUNE 18:00-19:00

This session is intended for anyone creating Motion Design/Graphics or Visual Effects using After Effects. It will cover, workflow and integration with Premiere Pro using Dynamic Link, 2D & 3D Motion Tracking including screen replacement, object removal using Content Aware Fill, basic rotoscope techniques using RotoBrush and creation of Motion Graphics Templates for other use in Premiere Pro.



SCREENWRITING WITH MIKE BARTLETT

FRIDAY 17 JUNE 16:00-17.00

Screenwriter and playwright Mike Bartlett (Doctor Foster, King Charles III) teaches this workshop on the basics of writing for screen, which is suitable for both beginners and those with more experience. The workshop will conclude with a Q&A. Lola Olufemi/Thimali Kodikara.



PITCHING FOR TV WITH ENDOR'S SARA JOHNSON

SATURDAY 19 JUNE 11:00-12:00

Sara Johnson Creative Director at Endor Productions (Deep State, State of Play) hosts this introductory workshop and Q&A session for writers interested in getting into TV. The workshop will cover how to get started in writing for TV, where to find screenwriting opportunities, how to pitch, and how to approach TV production companies. Sara is especially passionate about increasing disabled representation in TV and encourages disabled writers in particular to attend (though the session is open to anyone and to any level of experience).

BFF 2021

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WILL POULTER

THURSDAY, 17 JUNE 20:00-21:00

Following his breakthrough in *Son of Rambow*, Will went on to gain recognition for his role as Eustace Scrubb in *The Chronicles of Narnia*. He received further praise for his starring role in the comedy film *We're the Millers*, for which he won the BAFTA Rising Star Award.

Will also starred in *The Maze Runner* and *Maze Runner: The Death Cure*, the period epic film *The Revenant*, the crime drama film *Detroit*, the interactive science fiction film *Black Mirror: Bandersnatch*, and the folk horror film *Midsommar*.

Will is interviewed by *Distraction Tactic's* Charlotte Macleod.



CAMERON SAUNDERS

FRIDAY, 18 JUNE 18:00 - 19:00

Paramount Executive Vice President Cameron Saunders talks distribution in the digital age with senior lecturer in film from Ravensbourne University Mostafa Nagy.



CINEMATOGRAPHER LARRY SMITH

FRIDAY, 18 JUNE 18:00 - 19:00

BFF Creative Director Augusto Nembrini interviews Cinematographer Larry Smith. Larry Smith is a British cinematographer. Born in London, he is known for his work with Stanley Kubrick, Tom Hooper and Nicolas Winding Refn. Smith had his directing debut with the 2015 film *Trafficker*.

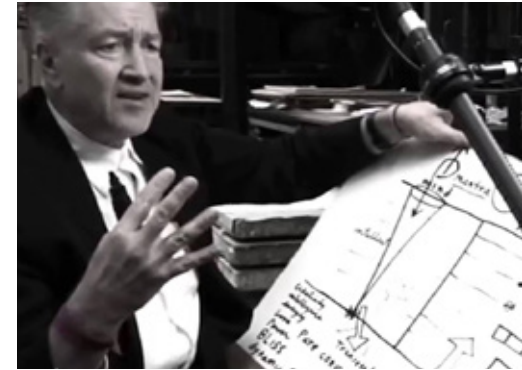


THE GUARDIAN'S DIRECTOR LAURENCE TOPHAM

FRIDAY, 18 JUNE 19:30

We are honoured to have The Guardian's Director Laurence Topham with us for a Live Q&A on the making of his inspirational film *My Brother's Keeper*. Using observational documentary and archival footage Laurence never loses sight of celebrating compassion and human kindness through his work.

My Brother's Keeper - Former Guantánamo detainee, Mohamedou Ould Salahi, and his guard, Steve Wood, reunite in Mauritania 13 years after last seeing each other, rekindling an unlikely relationship that profoundly changed their lives. Mohamedou was a prisoner at Guantánamo Bay for 14 years. During his incarceration he was subjected to torture and solitary confinement, but never charged with a crime. His memoir, *Guantánamo Diary*, became an international bestseller and was adapted into the film, *The Mauritanian*, starring Tahar Rahim and Jodie Foster.



DAVID LYNCH TRANSCENDENTAL MEDITATION

SUNDAY, 20 JUNE 09:00 - 10:00

Iconic filmmaker, David Lynch, has been practising the stress-reducing technique, Transcendental Meditation (TM), for 48 years and says that he has not missed a single meditation: "It has given me effortless access to unlimited reserves of energy, creativity and happiness deep within."

Nigel Barlow (Author, Creativity Consultant & Trustee of David Lynch Foundation UK) will be joined by Dr Norman Rosenthal (world-renowned psychiatrist, best-selling author, who is known for his innovative research on Seasonal Affective Disorder (SAD) and inspirational writings), to discuss how TM works, how it benefits mental health and increases creativity.

The David Lynch Foundation UK founded by filmmaker David Lynch, is a registered charity in England And Wales established in 2012. Since opening its doors in 2005 in US, the David Lynch Foundation, a 501(c)(3) a non profit organisation, has helped to bring the stress-reducing Transcendental Meditation technique to more than 1 million children and adults around the world.

To donate: davidlynchfoundation.org.uk/donate



GEORGE MACKAY

SUNDAY, 20 JUNE 20:00-21:00

BFF festival patron and stalwart George MacKay (thanks for coming back again!) discusses his career, focusing particularly on the influence of film musicals.



FILM COMPOSER SPOTLIGHT: LORNE BALFE

SUNDAY, 20 JUNE 16:00 - 17:00

A conversation with the award winning and internationally renowned film composer, Lorne Balfe, a Grammy Award-winning, EMMY and BAFTA nominated composer. Originally from Inverness, Scotland, his work can be heard across entertainment mediums, from stirring documentaries to high action blockbuster movies. Also known for his collaborations with other renowned musicians and composers such as Max Richter, Peter Gregson and Hans Zimmer. His recent credits include "His Dark Materials", "Mission Impossible - Fallout" and Marvel's upcoming "Black Widow".



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MUSIC SUPERVISION: MAGGIE RODFORD

SUNDAY, 20 JUNE 17:00 – 18:00

An insight into the role of music supervision with Air-Edel's Managing Director and Music Supervisor, Maggie Rodford. With over 40 years of experience, Maggie has worked as music producer, co-ordinator and supervisor on many high profile films and is known for her strong and lasting partnerships with iconic filmmakers and composers across the globe. Maggie is currently the President of the UK & European Guild of Music Supervisors and her recent film credits include Viggo Mortensen's *Falling* and Sir Kenneth Branagh's *Death On The Nile*. Join us as we explore her exceptional career and insight on the world of music supervision!



THE CARDIACS: ALL THAT GLITTERS IS A MARES NEST

SUNDAY, 20 JUNE 19:20-19:40

Hear from The Cardiac's classic line-up keyboardist, William D. Drake, speak with author and journalist Cathi Unsworth about the band's film, "All That Glitters Is A Maresnest".



FILM COMPOSER SPOTLIGHT: ISOBEL WALLER-BRIDGE

SUNDAY, 20 JUNE 19:00 – 20:00

A Q&A session with the amazing film and TV composer, Isobel Waller-Bridge, known for the beloved *Fleabag* TV series and critically acclaimed Autumn de Wilde's adaptation of *Emma*. Isobel Waller-Bridge has composed remarkable original scores comprising of her trademark electronic sound worlds and lush melodies for large-scale orchestra, across feature films, television, and narrative-driven entertainment. An award-winning composer at the forefront of a new wave of emerging artists in film, television and theatre. Other recent soundtracks include *Van-ity Fair* and *Vita & Virginia*.



DISTRACTION TACTICS - SOUND IN FILM

SUNDAY, 20 JUNE 21:00 – 22:00

Join Fearnie Cotton as she chats to Dan Smith, lead singer/songwriter of Bastille and Charlotte Bogard Macleod, playwright, about their global online film club, *Distraction Tactics*.



ANNA MANTZARIS

TUESDAY, 22 JUNE 18:00 – 18:30

Anna Mantzaris is a Swedish Animation Director based in London. Her work is often character driven and she loves to mix humour and melancholy. Her short films have won over 50 international awards, including European Animation Awards, Vimeo Best of the Year and Walt Disney and Audience Award at Ottawa International Animation Festival. Her most recent film 'Good Intentions' premiered at BFI London Film Festival and got awarded at London International Animation Festival. Anna is represented by Passion Animation Studios, where she directs commercials and commissions, most lately a Christmas advert for John Lewis. *Anna will be interviewed by our Grass Roots lead Naomi Westerman*

LIVE
Q&A

THE WHICKERS

THE WHICKERS - AMERICAVILLE & DIRECTOR Q&A

TUESDAY, 22 JUNE 19:00 – 21:00

Hidden among the mountains north of Beijing, a replica of the Wyoming town of Jackson Hole promises to deliver the American dream to its several thousand Chinese residents. Documentary *Americaville*, follows Annie Liu as she escapes China's increasingly uninhabitable capital city to pursue happiness, freedom, romance, and spiritual fulfilment in Jackson Hole; only to find the American idyll harder to attain than what was promised to her.

The screening will be followed by a Q&A with Director Adam James Smith, hosted by Artistic Director of *The Whickers*, Jane Ray.

Americaville Q&A with Director Adam James Smith, hosted by Artistic Director of The Whickers, Jane Ray

The *Whickers* were established in 2015 to fund and recognise original and innovative documentary. They are one of the biggest funds for first-time directors internationally, giving away over £100,000 annually to support emerging film and audio documentary-makers.

Artistic Director of *The Whickers*, Jane Ray talks to former funding award winner, Adam Smith about his first feature documentary, *Americaville*. A must watch to glean essential tips for documentary filmmakers looking to apply for funding.



IRAQI FILM INSITUTE

MONDAY, 21 JUNE 20:00 – 21:00

Join the president of the Iraqi Film Institute (IFI), Iraqi filmmaker and photographer Maythem Ridha in a special programme to discuss the challenges and achievements of Iraqi Cinema with Iraqi filmmakers Maysoon Pachachi and Zainab Al-Hariri. Presenting 3 films from the IFI's *New Narrative* programme which offer a unique glimpse into Iraqi society, our panel will be discussing experiences made in a country devastated by decades of war and violence and the journey of Iraqi filmmakers through these times. Maythem Ridha shares clips from his latest film *Ali* and *His Miracle Sheep* from his award winning anthology of films *Iraqi Tales*. Maysoon Pachachi, talks of her seminal film *Return to the Land of Wonders*, one of the first films made after the fall of Saddam Hussein documenting her return to Iraq after an absence of 35 years, and Zainab Al-Hariri's shares with us in *40 Years of Silence* her searching into why her father, a respected doctor, sacrificed himself trying to assassinate Saddam Hussein.



CACHAK

DIR. MUSTAFA SHAWKI

A documentary about a person who made society crazy, so they knew him and did not know him. A crazy tale and a more mad community.



THE BREAD AND SMOKE

DIR. IBRAHIM RAMADHAN

The flight of Kurdish children afraid of Daesh and Bachar Assad's regime and their life of misery in a refugee camp near Erbil (Iraqi Kurdistan). To get a meal these children are obliged to wait for hours and at the end, they sit before a cinema screen to forget about their misfortune and hunger.



RED WINDOW

DIR. HUSSEIN AL-AQILI

Set in a city of death and ruin, how can a fighter from ISSI give up the doctrine of killing to give birth to one of love and life?



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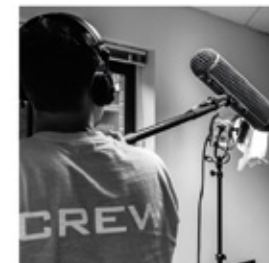
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IraqiFilmInstitute.com



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Interviewers 2021



CLARE WILLIAMS

I loved interviewing the director of Southside Heros because it was such a treat to be able to watch a film and then talk to the director afterwards! That is what every film buff wants to do. It was interesting to hear about how the documentary was made, and how it developed over time.



TOM SPARE

I am based in Cardiff. When I was 7 years old, I went to the Barbican Centre with my Mum for a special exhibition about Star Wars. It there was there I discovered that the Millennium Falcon was built on a set at Pinewood, and the ship 'flew' using special effects, blue screen with a camera moving around a model version. This was my first experience of seeing behind the curtain, understanding how a film came together. Ever since I've taken an interest in filmmaking and writing, and outside of work I am writing my own TV series.

I am someone who loves cinema, in fact I just completed my undergraduate study in film. Going into university I was attracted to the idea of filmmaking, however ended up taking more interest in film/ critical theory as I got into it, especially the work of thinkers like Gilles Deleuze. While most of my film viewing is comprised of watching art/ world cinema, I still enjoy commercial cinema. Some directors I admire are Michael Haneke, Kiarostami, Tarkovsky and Martin Scorsese. It is great to be involved with Barnes Film Festival in supporting the growth of talented filmmakers. Indie cinema currently is in a bad place and communities like BFF are crucial to ensuring it has a good future. Cinema is best defined by how it changes and there is great potential in this era of streaming to hear voices that would never normally have been heard.

LUCIEN OHANIAN

I have loved film ever since my dad took me to see "How the West was Won"; the cinematography hit me first, followed by the soundtrack, and then the acting! Saturday morning cinema at the Standard in Blackheath became a ritual, sitting in the Circle to maximise the view of the screen; then the thrill of illicit under age viewing of my first 18 rated movie "High Plains Drifter"



HATTIE MOIR

"This is my first time volunteering for Barnes Film Festival, and it was such a great experience! I thoroughly enjoyed engaging with directors and finding out more about their films, and I hope to one day contribute to the festival with an animation entry of my own."

REEM SOLIMAN

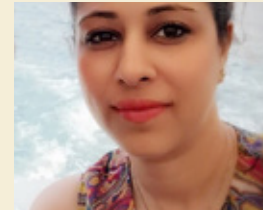


What I love most about movies is the social and informative aspect that comes with it - more than just its escapism I love its construction and storytelling, its way of sending strong messages to society and somehow shake it; I love its multi-language, its way of communicating via light, music, image, bodies. Watching a movie is a very psychological journey for me so I tend to dismantle it into pieces and try to figure out what the director is trying to tell me.

ELLIE FRATINI

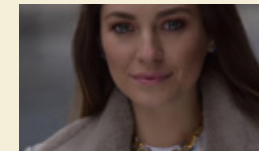
Conducting interviews with the directors of films nominated at this year's Barnes Film Festival has been a wonderful experience. Each film I watched had its own unique style and I learned a huge amount about each film makers creative process and what inspired them to follow their stories. Each piece had a distinctly personal touch while maintaining an engaging and relatable narrative. I believe that documentaries made today are much more character-based than they have been before, and this is something I hope to see continue in the future of film making.

ABBY CHITTY



MARIAM MAJJID

An artist and a mother, Mariam Majid is also an award winning writer and director. Her short film, A Night with Noorjehan, won awards at the BAFTA qualifying Leeds International Film Festival, Sheffield Film Festival and Film 4's Barnes Film Festival. Mariam was selected to curate and design an installation at the London Design Biennale 2018, Somerset House. It was featured as one of four pavilions out of forty in the official Somerset House podcast. As a springboard for British Asian content, she started her company, Wagging Tongues Productions with her partner in 2016. She then, wrote, produced and directed three theatre plays, the 'Jungly Jadooogar' series that were staged at London Olympia and Southbank Centre.



VIKTORIJA FAITH

Viktorija is a Singer/Songwriter, Actress, Producer and founder of Global Film & Music Empire, representing a new generation of young, self-made female creatives. She is currently in pre production of her two feature film projects. Winner and participant of various international singer-songwriter competitions such as X Factor, Baltic Voice, Viktorija Faith's debut EP was released by London-based independent label, Panache Records. We welcomed her to the BFF team this year and Viktorija has already interviewed several winners of the festival (Jaffar Murad and Abid Khan.)



ELLIE SMITH

I started volunteering at the Barnes Film Festival three years ago, initially getting involved after attending a writing seminar by acclaimed playwright James Graham. Since then, I've had some small successes, having a short play performed at a London theatre industry event, a short radio play being released later this year and won a playwrighting award. I am currently writing my first film screenplay and being involved in the festival this year has given me the opportunity to talk to other film-makers and share their passion in making movies.

TONY VOLLER

Interviewers 2021



NIKKI BARRON

I love intelligent, drama or documentaries that have the power to change society. I've been a huge fan of Barnes Film Festival since inception and admire Sam and his extremely talented team for their achievement in creating what is now a highly respected and world renowned film festival and am delighted to be part of it this year. Interviewing Mark Forbes, Director of Memories of Mortlake was a joy because his heart and passion for Elke is evident, which shone through in his film about her life.

Film is a compulsion, if not an addiction. It's therapy to watch, and therapeutic to make so my enjoyment is bound up with an emotional commitment to characters and activism. I have a great passion for projects with strong social and environmental justice angles, and I'm pretty good at the hustle. I have a great love of road movies - Easy Rider, Thelma and Louise, Queen & Slim, Sam Peckinpah pictures. Road movies often speak to psychoanalytic concepts of self, and are usually fertile ground for political and social commentary. But Smokey and the Bandit is simple, unreconstructed fun. I got involved with Barnes Film Festival to advance the conversation within the industry around environmental and climate change narratives. Conducting the interview has reminded me what a great privilege it is to work with artists and filmmakers!

TOM LOAN



ALYA SOLIMAN

I am a twenty-five-year-old British Egyptian film tutor who is obsessed with all things film. I absolutely love everything about the subject, watching, teaching and reading about film. I have my own private film tutoring business, this is a dream job as I get to analyse and dissect films with my students. It's so much fun! I have got involved in the Barnes Film Festival because it's actually my dream job to interview filmmakers about their films, so this experience was a great opportunity. I hope for the future of film to have more inclusivity and representation of Arabic women.

I enjoyed finding out about the creative process from concept to completion, the challenges and the effort that went into the final output. The creativity and sheer enthusiasm of the producers was wonderful to hear in person. I'd like to see more encouragement and support for independent film makers. There is so much creative talent it would be a pity if that potential isn't realised.

MARK MAIR



ALEX PREW

I've been screenwriting for about four years, and the script that didn't find itself scrunched in the bin, is making its debut at BFF this year. I'm honoured to be showcasing my work next to so many brilliant directors and writers, and loved chatting to them in my interviews. Everyone's motivations are different, and exploring how that shapes their story and the way they tell it always makes for good conversation. My favourite film of this year is Promising Young Woman, and I'm particularly interested in the work of female directors. I'll be channeling my inner Emerald Fennell in my future scripts, and hope others do the same.



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Tom Loan
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Hattie Moir
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