



PRESS RELEASE October 2010

10/6

December 2010 at BFI Southbank has the ultimate Christmas for film lovers

It's a very Merry Christmas at **BFI Southbank** this year, packed with yuletide treats for film and TV lovers. The **Frank Capra** retrospective, including seasonal favourite ***It's a Wonderful Life***, (1947) continues, an Extended Run of **Ernst Lubitsch's *The Shop Around the Corner*** (1940) provides perfect Christmas melodrama and there are TV treats with the first part of a **TV Variety** season. ***Shadows of Progress: British Post-war Documentary Film*** – documenting the 'nation's life on film', also continues as the centrepiece of the BFI's **Boom Britain** project. Special guests will take to the stage for a Q&A after TV previews of the new ***Upstairs Downstairs*** and ***Doctor Who Christmas Special***, with a performance by guest star **Katherine Jenkins**, and there's a special Screen Epiphany with **Matt Lucas** introducing ***Singin' in the Rain***. The long-awaited ***The Way Back*** (**Peter Weir**) and ***The Next Three Days*** (**Paul Haggis**), starring **Russell Crowe**, will also preview. A **Tim Burton** themed festive **Family Funday** will delight younger film goers with ***The Nightmare Before Christmas***, in addition to fun-filled **BFI IMAX 3D** family favourites on the big, big screen with ***A Christmas Carol 3D*** and ***The Polar Express 3D*** alongside new releases ***Tron: Legacy*** and ***Harry Potter and The Deadly Hallows Part 1***. And should anyone wonder what to give that special film fan in their life for Christmas a **BFI Membership** is the gift that keeps on giving throughout 2011.

Seasons:

"He is a giant in American cinema – it was Capra who taught Hollywood to think." Stated David Shipman in *The Story of Cinema*, of one of the most popular and exciting American filmmakers. We conclude our retrospective of ***Rediscovering Frank Capra*** with many of his timeless classics, including ***You Can't Take It With You*** (1936), winner of **Academy Awards** for both **Best Director** and **Best Picture**, ***Mr Smith Goes to Washington*** (1939), ***Arsenic and Old Lace*** (1944), and his last film ***Pocketful of Memories*** (1961). Much more than the fantastic social comedies he is best known for, Capra also made a number of highly influential war documentaries between 1942 and 1945, most notably his ***Why We Fight*** series, designed to inform the American public of the facts of Nazism, fascism and Japanese aggression, and to break down US isolationism. The first in the series, ***Prelude to War***, won Capra another **Oscar**.

BFI Southbank will also conclude ***Shadows of Progress: British Post-war Documentary Film***, part of the BFI's **Boom Britain** project. This landmark season includes archival restorations and on-stage discussions with many of the filmmakers including **John Krish**, onstage on 8th November, and **Derrick Knight** – a household name in the 60s after the success of his groundbreaking ***Time to Heal*** (1963), a portrayal of the rehabilitation of injured miners. In ***Voyages and Ventures, Oil and Ecology: An Evening with Derek Williams***, we will screen the director's Oscar nominated films ***Foothold on Antarctica*** (1956) and ***The Shetland Experience*** (1977). And the changing landscape of London is depicted in shorts programmes ***Bow Bells*** and ***The Festival of Britain***, including an ode to The Thames and Cockney east London with songs from the music halls.

Variety Part One: *The BFI Salutes the London Palladium* will remind viewers of a different form of music hall when we celebrate the centenary of this venue which was once known as 'The

Greatest Variety Theatre in the World'. Our programme will feature some of the greatest talents from around the world: **Judy Garland** and **Liza Minnelli**, **Sarah Vaughn**, **Bob Hope** and **Roy Orbison**, plus home grown entertainers such as **Shirley Bassey**, **Petula Clarke** and **Cliff Richard**. One of the highlights of the season is **The BFI Salutes the Palladium**, a compilation of the most memorable moments plus a screening of Alfred Hitchcock's **39 Steps** (1935), famously featuring The Palladium at the film's thrilling climax.

We welcome the return of the **Fashion in Film Festival**, from 1 – 12 December celebrating costume as a cinematic spectacle. Entitled **Birds of Paradise**, the programme will examine the 'exotic' in costumes of films from Europe and the US during the silent era, with reference to the Ziegfield Follies and the Folies-Bergère.

Yvonne Rainer is a writer and filmmaker who began her career as a dancer and choreographer. An important figure in the New York avant garde, she made her first feature film, **Lives of Performers**, in 1972. To complement our exhibition (and footage screening in the Hayward Gallery) BFI Southbank will present all seven of her films, alongside those made by filmmakers that she has influenced, seen in **Yvonne Rainer artist's films** in the Studio, as part of our profile of this seminal practitioner and director.

Across BFI Southbank:

In the **BFI Gallery**, **The Yvonne Rainer Project** features Rainer's 2002 installation, **After Many a Summer Dies the Swan: Hybrid** (shown for the first time in Europe); and installation format projections of two of her most recent choreographies (she has returned to dance in the past ten years), filmed by Babette Mangolte: **RoS Indexical** (2008) and **AG Indexical with a Little Help from H.M.** (2007).

This month in the **Studio** there is a last chance to catch **Robinson in Ruins** (on nationwide release by BFI Distribution), **Patrick Keiller's** new study of the contemporary, English landscape through the eyes of the mysterious Robinson. The newly restored version of **Fritz Lang's Metropolis** (1927) will screen alongside **The Arbour** (2010), a portrait of the Bradford based playwright Andrea Dunbar, **Certified Copy** (*Copie Conforme*, 2009), starring **Juliette Binoche**, and the compelling **Winter's Bone** (2009).

Our **Mediatheque** programme will be dedicated to **Play for Today**, the groundbreaking and often controversial BBC single drama series which attracted audiences of tens of millions at its peak, we rediscover the work of some of the most talented writers and directors whose careers were launched through their work on the series, such as **Mike Leigh**, **Alan Clark**, **Alan Bleasdale** and **Dennis Potter**.

BFI Southbank in January:

- **Audrey Hepburn** – A season of her finest films with a national release of **Breakfast at Tiffany's** (1961) to celebrate its 50th anniversary
- **Howard Hawks** – **The Big Sleep** (1946) receives a national release and features as a highlight of our two part retrospective
- **The Long Goodbye: Death in the Cinema** – Death and life are contemplated here, looking at films such as **Bigger Than Life** (1956), **Cries and Whispers** (1972) and **Last Night** (1998)

On BFI DVD on 17 January

- Available in Dual Format Editions (DVD & Blu-ray), **BFI Flipside** presents: **Private Road** (Barney Platts-Mills, 1971) With Bruce Robinson and Susan Penhaligon

Barney Platts-Mills' stylish and compelling follow up to the critically acclaimed *Bronco Bullfrog* relocates the youthful struggle for social and personal freedom to the suburbs of Surrey, 1970s Boho London and the wilds of Scotland.

- **Duffer** (1971) and **The Moon Over the Alley** (1976) (William Dumaesq and Joseph Despina)
Unique and compelling, these rarely-seen films are released here for the very first time. *Duffer* is a bizarre study of obsession that is by turns beautiful and disturbing. While *The Moon Over the Alley* is an equally unconventional drama, about the problems of the multicultural residents of a West London boarding house, with magic realist musical numbers by Galt 'Hair' MacDermot.
- **The Films of Yasujiro Ozu:** The latest titles to be released in Dual Format Editions are: **Equinox Flower** (1958), Ozu's first colour film, is a warm-hearted comedy about an old-fashioned father outwitted by his wily female relatives. The film is paired with the powerful war-time drama **There Was a Father** (1942). By way of contrast, **Good Morning** (1959), Ozu's most playful comedy, is a remake of his own silent masterpiece, **I Was Born, But...** (1932), with which it is paired.

At BFI IMAX in January

- The 3D high-tech adventure **Tron: Legacy** will continue to play on Britain's biggest screen; **Tron: Legacy** is a 3D high-tech adventure set in a digital world that's unlike anything ever captured on the big screen. Garrett Hedlund and Jeff Bridges star as a father and son who embark on a life-or-death journey across a visually-stunning cyber universe.

- End -

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Previews and Events at BFI Southbank

Member Only Events:

TV preview Doctor Who Christmas Special

We are delighted to present the premiere of the Christmas episode of *Doctor Who*. Writer/Exec Producer Steven Moffat says: "This one's incredibly Christmassy. It's a huge, sentimental, lovely, jeopardy-driven story. It's like a compilation of every Christmas movie. A big Christmas treat. But that doesn't mean it's without scares, and that doesn't mean it's without heartbreak." We hope to welcome members of the cast and production team for a panel discussion and Q&A.

BBC 2010. Dir Toby Haynes With Matt Smith, Karen Gillan, Arthur Darvill, Michael Gambon 60min

Mon 13 Dec 18:30 NFT1

Screen Epiphanies in partnership with American Express

BFI Members can enter the ballot for up to two paid tickets for these events. Visit bfi.org.uk/members for details. The ballot closes on 5 November at 20:30. Any remaining tickets will go on general release

Preview: The Way Back

Courtesy of E1 Entertainment Long anticipated, Peter Weir's epic tale of endurance and survival follows a group of prisoners who escape a Siberian gulag in 1941, trekking through Mongolia and the Himalayas to India in the search of freedom. The multinational group, escaping from Communist Russia include an American (Harris), a Russian thug (Farrell), and a refugee girl (Ronan), led by a young Polish soldier (Sturgess).

USA 2010. Dir Peter Weir. With Colin Farrell, Ed Harris, Saoirse Ronan, Mark Strong 134min.

Thu 16 Dec 20:20 NFT1 Tickets £9, concs £6.65 (Members pay £1.40 less)

Preview: The Next Three Days

Wife and mother Laura (Banks, wonderful in a rare non-comedic role) is arrested on suspicion of murder, leaving John Brennan (Crowe) to raise their son while trying to prove her innocence. Years into her prison sentence and following the rejection of their final appeal, Laura becomes suicidal, inciting John to make a decision that will risk everything he knows and loves: to break his wife out of prison. A gripping thriller from Haggis, based on the popular French film *Pour Elle*.

USA 2010. Dir Paul Haggis. With Russell Crowe, Elizabeth Banks, Liam Neeson. 120min tbc.

Tue 14 Dec 20:20 NFT1 Tickets £9, concs £6.65 (Members pay £1.40 less)

The BFI Salutes the Palladium

We are thrilled to present a purpose-built compilation of memorable moments in celebration of the Palladium's 100th Birthday. Unlike the quick-fire clip shows of modern day television, this compilation will rejoice in featuring longer extracts, sometimes complete routines or whole performances from across the years, hand-picked not only from the entire BFI Southbank Palladium season but from treasured archives beyond.

With some live piano accompaniment.

Mon 20 Dec 18.30 NFT1

The 39 Steps

Hitchcock's brilliant adaptation of John Buchan's story is a heady combination of swashbuckling adventure, risqué romance and witty comedy. Tonight – as part of our salute to the Palladium – we present a special digital presentation of this cinema classic which famously has its thrilling climax at the London Palladium.

UK 1935. Dir Alfred Hitchcock. With Robert Donat, Madeleine Carroll. 87min. U

With thanks to ITV Studios Global Entertainment and Park Circus.

Mon 20 Dec 20.45 NFT1 Joint ticket available £12.90, concs £9.65 (Members pay £1.40 less)

TV preview Upstairs Downstairs + Q&A

The hugely anticipated return of the legendary TV series *Upstairs Downstairs* takes viewers, old and new, back to the lavish world of 165 Eaton Place in Belgravia, London. A new set of occupants move into the iconic address, as storm clouds gather in Europe. The lives of the wealthy Holland family and their servants will never be the same again. Followed by a panel discussion and Q&A with members of the cast and production team.

BBC 2010. Dir Euros Lyn. With Dame Eileen Atkins, Jean Marsh, Ed Stoppard, Keeley Hawes. 60min.

Wed 15 Dec 20:30 NFT1

Dinner for One + Other Christmas Treats

A Christmas hamper of archive gems.

Dinner for One

Shown at Christmas or New Year every year in Germany and much of Scandinavia, this legendary extended comic sketch – based on an old British music hall skit – is barely known in the UK, despite being in English and starring British stand-up star Freddie Frinton.

Germany 1963 Dir Heinz Dunkhase With Freddie Frinton, May Warden 18min

+ Personally Speaking

Alastair Sim delivers a comic tour de force as he struggles present a monologue to camera on the difficulties of delivering a monologue to camera. Priceless.

BBC 1952. With Alastair Sim. 15min

+ A Child's Christmas in Wales

A specially shot *Late Night Line-Up* film illustrating Dylan Thomas's poem.

BBC 1965. With Philip Madoc. 10min

+ More Christmas Treats

Featuring Flanders and Swann, Diana Dors and a Christmas visit with The Goodies.

Total running time c100min

Tue 21 Dec 18:00 NFT3

The Flipside Cartoon Classics and Animated Oddities 2

Back by popular demand, another strange assortment of raw, raucous, untamed vintage American short cartoons from the 20s to the 50s, some well-known, others exceedingly obscure, chosen with the adult aficionado of all things old, weird, funny and outrageous in mind. Get a load of how regal Betty Boop handles herself when a saucy seedy King gets fresh! Goggle as Tex Avery's evil imp wrecks marriages with false lipstick marks and blonde hairs! Includes: *Alice's Spooky Adventure* (1924), *Felix in Outer Space* (c1926), *Hell's Bells* (1929), *Mask-a-Raid* (1931), *Pleased to Meet Cha!* (1935), *Don't Look Now* (1936), *The Old Grey Hare* (1944), *Dolly Put the Kettle On* (1947), *Texas Tom* (1950).

70min approx With some live piano accompaniment U

Introduced by Vic Pratt and William Fowler, BFI National Archive Curators

Wed 15 Dec 18:20 NFT2

Out at the Pictures:

But I'm a Cheerleader

This tongue-in-cheek queer favourite sees all-American girl Megan packed off to a gay rehab camp because her friends and family think she's a lesbian. There she meets boyish Graham (played by the fantastic Clea Duvall), and instead of turning her straight, the camp has the opposite effect. But will true love triumph for our two young lovers come graduation day?

USA 1999 Dir Jamie Babbit. With Natasha Lyonne, Clea Duvall, Cathy Moriarty. 92min.

Sat 4 Dec 18:30 NFT2, Tue 7 Dec 20:40 NFT3

Velvet Goldmine

Todd Haynes' sparkling homage to 70s glam rock features Jonathan Rhys Meyers as Brian Slade, a Bowie-esque figure, Ewan McGregor as the suitably named Curt Wild and Christian Bale as a reporter trying to piece together the real story in the early 1980s. Sandy Powell's costume designs were nominated for an Oscar.

UK-USA 1998. Dir Todd Haynes. With Jonathan Rhys Meyers, Ewan McGregor, Christian Bale 124min

Thu 16 Dec 20:30 NFT2, Wed 22 Dec 20:30 NFT2

African Odysseys Besouro

This action drama, set in rural Brazil during the 1920s, combines history, magic and myth. It follows the story of a legendary capoeirista who seeks revenge for the murder of his master and fights against racism in his neighbourhood. (Capoeira is today recognised by the UN as a unique Afro-Brazilian martial art developed by African slaves in Brazil in the colonial period.) The choreography is by Huen-Chiu Ku, who worked on *The Matrix* sequels and both *Kill Bill* films, and the score includes music from Gilberto Gil. Followed by discussion.

Brazil 2009. Dir João Daniel Tikhomiroff. 95min. EST

Sat 18 Dec 14:00 NFT1 Tickets £5

The 1910 Show

The year 1910 saw the return of that harbinger of ill fortune, Halley's Comet; but though the great Paris floods of January and the eruption of Etna in March might have been inauspicious events, 1910 didn't turn out so bad. This year's centenary programme widens the scope a little to include a peek over the Channel at what our French cousins were producing and is the usual eclectic mix of actualities, comedy and drama.

c90min. With live piano accompaniment

Introduced by Bryony Dixon, BFI National Archive Curator **Mon 13 Dec 18:00 NFT2**

Ivan the Terrible Part 1 *Ivan Grozni*

Part 1 of this historical epic charts the rise of self-proclaimed Tsar Ivan IV, and his battle to reign in the face of conspiracy. This was one of Eisenstein's most ambitious films. Demonstrating a mature mastery of his pioneering montage theories, Eisenstein also creates further visual conflict within the frames themselves, juxtaposing camera angle, direction of motion and depth of field to great dramatic effect.

USSR 1944 Dir. Sergei Eisenstein. 99min EST **Thu 9 Dec 18:10 NFT3**

+ Ivan the Terrible Part 2 *Ivan Grozni*

Part 2 continues with Ivan's struggle for supremacy and the founding of his own secret police force – the depiction of which caused the film to be banned by Stalin (it was eventually released in 1958). Two colour sequences within a predominately black and white film reveal a tantalising glimpse of what Eisenstein could have achieved in the colour era, had he lived longer.

USSR 1946/1958. Dir. Sergei Eisenstein. 88min. EST.

Joint ticket available £12.90, £9.65 concs (Members pay £1.40 less) **Thu 9 Dec 20:40 NFT3**

Shadows of Progress:

Boom Britain – The Debate

The Shadows of Progress documentaries offer illuminating insights into a nation rising from the ashes of War. What do these films, forged in the 'white heat' of Boom Britain, tell us about society then and now, and how do they alter our perceptions of film history? As the enduring legacies of the post-war consensus come into focus – and under question – we welcome a panel of cultural and political historians, to debate the issues at stake.

Contributors include writer and producer John Wyver and film-maker and documentary historian Michael Chanan, with the full line-up to be announced.

Tickets £5 Joint Ticket available with **1964 Today in Britain** £12.90, concs £6.65 (Members pay £1.40 less)

Wed 8 Dec 20:20 NFT3

Free Community Talk World Wide Pictures: A Film Industry Casebook

Many renowned filmmakers (including John Schlesinger, director of *Billy Liar*) cut their teeth at World Wide Pictures, the oldest independent documentary production company in Britain, going strong since 1942. The company is a fascinating example of a film business that has survived the vicissitudes of a rapidly changing industry. Special guests this afternoon include current chair Ray Townsend, film historian and former WWP editor Kevin Brownlow and producer-director Glyn Jones.

Tickets are **FREE** but should be booked at the Box Office.

Wed 1 Dec 14:00 NFT3

Capital Tales Bow Bells

Step back in time to see sights of vanished London, via four post-war documentaries. Basil Wright's *Waters of Time* (1951) is a love letter to the Thames; *City of London* (1952) is an atmospheric day-in-the-life of the Square Mile. Moving east, Anthony Simmons' *Bow Bells* (1954, new print) sets images of working class east London to cockney music-hall songs. *The Scene from Melbury House* (1972) sets its year of street-life (recorded from British Transport Films' roof) to sublime music by Ralph Vaughan Williams. Introduced by an archive curator.

Tue 14 Dec 18:10 NFT1

Projecting the Archive:

The Crowded Day

Five women's lives intertwine in this shop-floor drama of post-war London. Some of the stories are happy, some sad; all played out against the lively backdrop of Bunting and Hobbs, a department store in the midst of a Christmas rush. With interiors shot at the now defunct Bourne & Hollingsworth on Oxford Street adding authenticity, this slickly written ensemble piece boasts a bundle of familiar faces, including Thora Hird, Edward Chapman, Dora Bryan, and Richard Wattis.

UK 1954 Dir John Guillermin With John Gregson, Joan Rice 82min

Introduced by Vic Pratt (Curator, BFI National Archive)

Tue 7 Dec 18:30 NFT3

Moonlighting

It's Christmas and four Polish builders come to London for work. Back home – unbeknown to them – the military stage escalating clashes with the trade union, Solidarity. Nowak (a remarkable Jeremy Irons), the only English speaker, hides the news from his comrades in a bid to complete their job while also struggling with money, shop-lifting and desperate longings for his wife. Skolimowski's delightfully observed, often deadpan script won an award at Cannes in 1982 and rightly so.

UK 1982. Dir Jerzy Skolimowski With Jeremy Irons 97min

Introduced by William Fowler (Curator, BFI National Archive)

Wed 15 Dec 20:40 NFT2

12 Angry Men

In the heat of a New York summer twelve jurors assemble to decide whether an accused man lives or dies. Individual prejudices and weaknesses are revealed, as Henry Fonda's lone dissenting juror struggles to establish an objective look at the evidence. Sidney Lumet's cinematic debut is a masterly distillation of a city's tensions and prejudices into a single confined space.

USA 1957. Dir Sidney Lumet. With Henry Fonda, Lee J Cobb, Jack Klugman. 96min.

+ The Hole

USA 1962 Dir John Hubley 15min

Introduced by Richard Combs

Mon 6 Dec 18:10 NFT2

An American in Paris

Arthur Freed approached Ira Gershwin after hearing George Gershwin's *An American in Paris* suite and asked whether he would sell him the title – a deal was struck on the proviso that Freed used Gershwin's music. The result is one of the heights of the Freed Unit and MGM, climaxing in a 17-minute ballet that brings the art of the musical to its highest level.

USA 1951. Dir Vincente Minnelli With Gene Kelly, Leslie Caron 113min

+ The Cat Concerto

USA 1947 Dir Joseph Barbera, William Hanna 8min U

Introduced by Lindsey Moore

Mon 13 Dec 18:10 NFT3

Fashion in Film panel: The Gossamer Wings of Early Cinema

Blowing the fairy dust from an array of butterfly and serpentine dance and magical-trick archive films, Fashion in Film Director Marketa Uhlířová welcomes a panel of scholars to explore their enduring legacy. Guests include Vanessa Toulmin, Director of the National Fairground Archive, and Giovanna Fosatti, Head Curator at EYE Film Institute, Netherlands.

Tickets £5 Joint ticket available with Secrets of the East: £12.90/£9.65 concs (Members pay £1.40 less)

Thu 9 Dec 18:20 NFT2

Kinescope Parlour

A new commission by the Fashion in Film Festival, designer Mark Garside has created six Kinoscopes that will be installed at venues across London. Turn the wheel to play a selection of hand-coloured and stencilled early film costume spectacles which include beautiful early films made by Spanish film pioneer Segundo de Chomón for Pathé in the early 1900s. Witness costume and cinema history brought to life through lavish choreography and technical wizardry.

This project is supported by Film London through the UK Film Council's Digital Film Archive Fund.

www.fashioninfilm.com

30 Nov – 14 Dec BFI Southbank Foyer

National Day of Disability

As part of the International Day of Disabled People, BFI Southbank is proud to be the London host of this remarkable day celebrating disability film culture. Leading disability arts and media organisation DASH have organised this extraordinary venture which will see venues across the UK screening films made by filmmakers with disabilities or that address disability themes. Highlights include a selection of brand new work from The Magic Hour, films made by directors with disabilities funded by the UKFC, the best of the Oskar Bright film festival, and a specially curated programme of archive television. Please find full programme details here: www.disabilityfilmfestival.eu

Tickets £6.50, M'bers & concs £5; Free for carers and personal assistants

Best of Oskar Bright 11:00 Studio, Best of Oskar Bright (with audio description) 12:15 Studio

Magic Hour 14:00 Studio; Archive film 17:00 Studio; Freaks 19:20 NFT3

Fri 3 Dec Studio/NFT3

Tim Burton's The Nightmare Before Christmas in 3D

In Halloween Town, the king is getting bored. Scaring people just isn't fun any more. He sets his sights on Christmas Town, covered in snow and full of tinsel and joy. Attempts to demonstrate seasonal goodwill and assorted yuletide traditions seem to get lost in translation when Father Christmas mysteriously disappears and instead of toys in their sacks the children start receiving rats and shrunken heads in their place. Surely this can't mean the end of Christmas as we know it?

USA 1993-2006. Dir Henry Selick with voices of Chris Sarandon, Catherine O'Hara 80min

Sun 19 Dec 13:30 NFT1

The Nightmare Before Christmas Funday Workshop

Come along to our Christmas Extravaganza and make your own special decorations and cards in the style of *The Nightmare Before Christmas*. Join in our animated workshop sessions creating your own seasonal scenes and help us to decorate our giant Christmas tree mural. With plenty of competitions and prizes that are tastier than a mince pie and brandy butter – make sure you don't miss our winter warmer workshop.

Sun 19 Dec 11:30 Foyer

NOTES TO EDITORS:

The BFI Gallery is supported by



About the BFI

The BFI is the nation's cultural organisation for film, keeping the breadth of voices in moving image culture alive and known. Through its venues, festivals, film releases and online, the BFI inspires people to understand and enjoy film culture, ensuring that everyone in the UK can see the broadest range and choice of films, otherwise not provided by commercial cinema. The BFI reaches an audience of over 7.5 million in the UK every year.

The BFI London Film Festival champions creativity, originality, vision and imagination by annually showcasing the best of contemporary world cinema, documentaries, shorts, animation and experimental film. The Festival is a highly regarded and anticipated event in Europe's cultural calendar, attracting leading international filmmakers, industry professionals and the media together with large public audiences to London for a two week celebration of cinema.

Last year's Festival hosted 193 feature films and 113 short films from 46 countries including 15 world premieres. There were 515 screenings and 553 filmmakers in attendance, drawing the highest ever audience attendance of over 130,000 filmgoers. The Festival opened with the World Premiere of *FANTASTIC MR. FOX* and closed with the World Premiere of *NOWHERE BOY*.

This year's Festival is in the second of a three-year Lottery funding partnership with the UK Film Council.

The BFI is a public body part funded by DCMS through the UK Film Council. For every £1 it receives in grant-in-aid, the BFI raises a further £1.50 through self-generated means.

www.bfi.org.uk / www.bfi.org.uk/lff

Booking information

The BFI Southbank is open to all. BFI members are entitled to a discount on all tickets. BFI Southbank Box Office tel: 020 7928 3232. Unless otherwise stated tickets are £9.00, concs £6.65 Members pay £1.40 less on any ticket. Website www.bfi.org.uk/southbank

Tickets for FREE screenings and events must be booked in advance by calling the Box Office to avoid disappointment

BFI Filmstore

The BFI Filmstore is stocked and staffed by BFI experts with over 1,200 book titles and 1,000 DVDs to choose from, including hundreds of acclaimed books and DVDs produced by the BFI.

The benugo bar & kitchen

Eat, drink and be merry in panoramic daylight. benugo's décor is contemporary, brightly lit and playful with a lounge space, bar and dining area. The place to network, hang out, unpack a film, savour the best of Modern British or sip on a cocktail.

There's more to discover about film and television through the BFI. Our world-renowned archival collections, cinemas, festivals, films, publications and learning resources are here to inspire you.

***** PICTURE DESK *****

A selection of images for journalistic use in promoting BFI Southbank screenings can be found at www.image.net under BFI / BFI Southbank / December 2010