



360

Starring

Rachel Weisz, Jude Law, Sir Anthony Hopkins
to open
THE 55TH BFI LONDON FILM FESTIVAL



London –24th August: The 55th BFI London Film Festival, in partnership with American Express, is proud to announce that this year's Festival will open on Wednesday 12 October with the European premiere of **360**, directed by Fernando Meirelles (*City of God*, *The Constant Gardener*, *Blindness*) and with an original screenplay from the acclaimed writer Peter Morgan (*The Queen*, *Frost/ Nixon*).

Meirelles is no stranger to the Festival after *The Constant Gardener* (for which Rachel Weisz later won the Best Supporting Actress Oscar) opened it in 2005.

360 is a modern and stylish kaleidoscope of interconnected love and relationships linking characters from different cities and countries in a

vivid, suspenseful and deeply moving tale of romantic life in the 21st century. Starting in Vienna, the film beautifully weaves through Paris, London, Bratislava, Rio, Denver and Phoenix into a single, mesmerising narrative.

From a simple decision made by one man – to remain faithful to his wife – springs a series of consequences. From uplifting, beautiful and romantic moments through to desperate, confused and conflicted interludes, each protagonist in 360 has their own vivid, entertaining, funny, tragic narrative as their stories entwine across the globe.

Sandra Hebron, the Festival's Artistic Director comments:

"I'm delighted that 360 will be our opening night film, and very pleased to welcome back Fernando Meirelles and Peter Morgan to the Festival. With its impeccable film making credentials and intriguing premise, 360 combines masterful visual story telling with a modern and moving narrative, helped by strong performances from a terrific ensemble cast. It will be a pleasure to open this year's Festival with such an accomplished film from one of international cinema's finest film makers."

On having the film's European premiere at the Festival, producers **Andrew Eaton** and **David Linde** comment: *"It is a great honour to be invited to be the opening film of the BFI London Film Festival. It feels especially significant and poignant at Sandra Hebron's last Festival as Director."*

Director **Fernando Meirelles** adds: *"In the past decade I've been to the BFI London Film Festival six times, some of them as a guest, and some as part of the audience. The BFI London Film Festival is one of the best festivals in the world due to its selection of films and the number of theatres the films are shown in. I am very honoured 360, an intimate film that talks about our options in life, has been chosen to open the Festival this year, and I want to thank Sandra Hebron for extending this prestigious invitation to me for a second time, following *The Constant Gardener*, which opened the Festival in 2005."*

360 is a Revolution/ Dor Film/ Fidelite production, in co-production with O2 Filme and in association with BBC Films, The UK Film Council, ORF, Unison Films, Gravity Pictures, Hero Entertainment, Prescience, EOS Pictures, Wild Bunch, Film Location Austria, Austrian Film Institute and Vienna Film Fund.

It is produced by Andrew Eaton and David Linde with Emanuel Michael, Danny Krausz, Chris Hanley.

The full programme for The 55th BFI London Film Festival will be announced at the Press Launch on Wednesday 7th September. RSVP for more information lffrsvp@premierpr.com.

The Festival runs from 12-27 October 2011.

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For further press information about The 55th BFI London Film Festival please contact:

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Notes to Editors

About the BFI

The BFI is the lead body for film in the UK with the ambition to create a flourishing film environment in which innovation, opportunity and creativity can thrive by:

- Connecting audiences to the widest choice of British and World cinema
- Preserving and restoring the most significant film collection in the world for today and future generations
- Investing in creative, distinctive and entertaining work
- Promoting British film and talent to the world
- Growing the next generation of filmmakers and audiences
- The BFI London Film Festival

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 BFI London Film 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 showcase of the best in contemporary world cinema.

Last year's Festival hosted 201 feature films and 112 short films from 68 countries including 34 world premieres. There were 629 filmmakers in attendance, drawing the highest ever audience attendance of over 132,000 filmgoers. The Festival opened with the European Premiere of NEVER LET ME GO and closed with the European Premiere of 127 HOURS.

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The company has multi - year partnerships with a range of entertainment institutions including AEG Live, Ticketmaster, Live Nation and the British Film Institute. For full details, or to sign up to receive the free eNewsletters visit www.amex.co.uk/music