



BFI LONDON FILM FESTIVAL

7 – 18 October 2015

in partnership with



59TH BFI LONDON FILM FESTIVAL AMERICAN EXPRESS® GALA ANNOUNCED AS THE UK PREMIERE OF CAROL



Photo credit: Cate Blanchett in CAROL, courtesy STUDIOCANAL

**STUDIOCANAL RELEASES NEW OFFICIAL UK TRAILER
AVAILABLE VIA YOUTUBE AND TO DOWNLOAD**

Embargoed until 12:00pm midday UK, Monday 17 August 2015

LONDON, Monday 17 August 2015: The 59th BFI London Film Festival in partnership with American Express® is thrilled to announce CAROL, Todd Haynes' beautiful 1950s set drama, as the Festival's American Express Gala. The film will receive its UK Premiere on Wednesday 14 October at the Odeon Leicester Square, attended by Academy Award® nominated director Todd Haynes and his luminous stars Academy Award® winner Cate Blanchett and Academy Award® nominee Rooney Mara.

A young woman in her 20s, Therese Belivet (Rooney Mara) is a clerk working in a Manhattan department store and dreaming of a more fulfilling life when she meets Carol (Cate Blanchett), an alluring woman trapped in a loveless, convenient marriage. As an immediate connection sparks between them, the innocence of their first encounter dims and their connection deepens.

While Carol breaks free from the confines of marriage, her husband (Kyle Chandler) threatens her competence as a mother when Carol's involvement with Therese and close relationship with her best friend Abby (Sarah Paulson) comes to light. As Carol leaves the comfort of home to travel with Therese, an internal journey of self-discovery coincides with her new sense of space.

Based on Patricia Highsmith's seminal novel, The Price of Salt, adapted by Emmy nominated screenwriter Phyllis Nagy, directed by Todd Haynes, CAROL stars Cate Blanchett, Rooney Mara, Kyle Chandler, Jake Lacy and Sarah Paulson.

Clare Stewart, BFI London Film Festival Director: *We are delighted to announce that Todd Haynes' CAROL will be this year's American Express Gala. CAROL is a deeply romantic, emotionally honest love story and is also cinema at its most intoxicating and immaculate.*

Todd Haynes, Director: *We are all extremely proud to be presenting the UK premiere of CAROL at the BFI London Film Festival, a film adaptation which had its roots in Britain, and a festival which has meant a tremendous amount to me personally over the years.*

Elizabeth Karlsen, Producer: *As a British/American production it is very fitting that CAROL will premiere as the BFI London Film Festival's American Express Gala. CAROL is a beautiful romance with two powerful women at its heart and we are truly honoured that UK audiences will have the chance to see such a female-driven film at one of the world's most prestigious festivals. Phyllis Nagy's wonderful adaptation of Patricia Highsmith's once-scandalous love story translates brilliantly to the big screen and Director Todd Haynes' exquisite filmmaking has done terrific justice to a seminal novel.*

CAROL is produced by Elizabeth Karlsen and Stephen Woolley of Number 9 Films alongside Christine Vachon of Killer Films. CAROL was developed by Film4 who also co-financed the film and is produced in association with Larkhark Films Limited, for STUDIOCANAL, Hanway Films, Goldcrest, Dirty Films, InFilm. Executive Producers are Tessa Ross, Dorothy Berwin, Thorsten Schumacher and Bob Weinstein, Harvey Weinstein, Danny Perkins and Cate Blanchett, Andrew Upton, Robert Jolliffe, and is co-produced by Gwen Bialic. **STUDIOCANAL will release the film in cinemas nationwide on 27 November, 2015.**

The 59th BFI London Film Festival in partnership with American Express® runs from Wednesday 7 October-Sunday 18 October 2015. The full programme for the Festival will be announced on Tuesday 1 September 2015.

CAROL Assets

UK Trailer is available via:

YouTube for Embed - <https://youtu.be/Lt-WC9xa7qs>

Images are available on www.picselect.com / www.studiocanal.co.uk/press

For further press information about the 59th BFI London Film Festival

PREMIER – Rupert Goodwin, Senior Account Director
rupert.goodwin@premiercomms.com Tel: +44 20 7292 7342

PREMIER – Mia Farrell, Senior Publicist, LFF
mia.farrell@premiercomms.com Tel: +44 20 7292 6459

General Press Enquires & Accreditation
LFFPress@premiercomms.com Tel: +44 20 7292 8330

For further press information about the UK release of CAROL

STUDIOCANAL – Lucy Powell, UK Publicity Manager
lucy.powell@studiocanal.co.uk Tel: +44 20 7534 2700

Facebook:
www.facebook.com/CarolFilm

Twitter:
www.twitter.com/STUDIOCANALUK

Instagram:
<https://instagram.com/carolfilm/>

Festival Information & Ticket Booking

BFI Members' priority booking opens 10.00am, 10 September - join at www.bfi.org.uk/join

Public booking opens 10.00am, 17 September

Telephone Bookings: 020 7928 3232 between 10:00 – 20:30

Online: www.bfi.org.uk/lff

In person: BFI Southbank Office: 11:00 – 20:30

Notes to Editors

About the BFI

The BFI is the lead organisation 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
- Championing emerging and world class film makers in the UK - investing in creative, distinctive and entertaining work
- Promoting British film and talent to the world
- Growing the next generation of film makers and audiences

The BFI London Film Festival

BFI London Film Festival is Britain's leading film event and one of the world's best film festivals. It introduces the finest new British and international films to an expanding London and UK-wide audience and attracts significant international film industry participation. LFF is a compelling combination of red carpet glamour, friendly audiences and vibrant exchange. LFF provides an essential profiling opportunity for films seeking global success; promotes the careers of British and international filmmakers through its industry and awards programmes and positions London as the world's leading creative city.

Twitter - @bfi #lff

Facebook - facebook.com/londonfilmfestival

Clare Stewart biography

Clare Stewart's twenty year programming career has encompassed leadership roles as Festival Director, Sydney Film Festival (2006-2011) and the inaugural Head of Film Programs at the Australian Centre for the Moving Image in Melbourne (2002-2006) as well as various roles at the Australian Film Institute (1996-2001), including Exhibition Manager, and programmer and Committee Member of the Melbourne Cinémathèque (1995-2002). She has been BFI Head of Cinemas and Festivals since October 2011.



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