



# BFI LONDON FILM FESTIVAL

9 – 20 October 2013

in partnership with



## SAVING MR. BANKS

**20 Towns and Cities across the UK and Ireland to simultaneously screen the World Premiere of SAVING MR. BANKS with a live satellite link to the Closing Night of the 57<sup>th</sup> BFI London Film Festival in partnership with American Express® on Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> October**

The 57<sup>th</sup> BFI London Film Festival in partnership with American Express® will close on Sunday 20th October with the World Premiere of SAVING MR. BANKS, the extraordinary untold story of how one of the most beloved tales of all time, *Mary Poppins*, was brought to the big screen.

SAVING MR. BANKS is directed by John Lee Hancock (*The Blind Side*) and stars two-time Academy Award®-winner Emma Thompson (*Sense and Sensibility*, *Howards End*) as the London-based author of *Mary Poppins*, P.L. Travers, and fellow double Oscar®-winner Tom Hanks (*Forrest Gump*, *Philadelphia*) as Walt Disney. They will be joined on the red carpet by two of the stellar supporting cast, Colin Farrell (*In Bruges*) and Ruth Wilson (*Luther*), along with producer Alison Owen, p.g.a. (*Jane Eyre*, *Elizabeth*) and co-writer Kelly Marcel.

The excitement, glamour and interviews from the red carpet at London's Odeon Leicester Square will be beamed into Odeon cinemas around the country from 7:00pm (Doors Open at 6:45pm) followed by the World Premiere of SAVING MR. BANKS.

The 20 Odeon cinemas taking part across the UK will be:

Basingstoke	Huddersfield	Preston
Birmingham Broadway Plaza	Hull	Stoke
Bracknell	Lee Valley	Tunbridge Wells
Braehead	Lincoln	Taunton
Cardiff	Manchester	Warrington
Dorchester	Milton Keynes	Wimbledon
Dunfermline	Norwich	

For information on participating venues and obtaining tickets, visit

<https://www.showfilmfirst.com/pin/699504>

SAVING MR. BANKS is a poignant, sharply funny and moving story of personal journey and discovery, which reveals how P.L. Travers' emotional connection to her characters and exhaustive apprehension to Walt Disney's creative vision nearly dismantled the entire twenty-year endeavour to transform a work of personal significance into one of the most endearing classic films in cinematic history. The film is directed

by John Lee Hancock, produced by Alison Owen, Ian Collie and Philip Steuer, and written by Kelly Marcel and Sue Smith. Walt Disney Studios releases the film in UK cinemas 29 November 2013.

The 57<sup>th</sup> BFI London Film Festival in partnership with American Express® runs from Wednesday 9 October-Sunday 20 October.

...ends...

For further press information about the 57<sup>th</sup> BFI London Film Festival:

Rupert Goodwin, Print Publicist – LFF, Premier

[rupert.goodwin@premiercomms.com](mailto:rupert.goodwin@premiercomms.com)

Tel: +44 20 7292 7342

Rob Deacon, Broadcast Publicist – LFF, Premier

[rob.deacon@premiercomms.com](mailto:rob.deacon@premiercomms.com)

Tel: +44 20 7292 6459

For further information about SAVING MR. BANKS:

Stu Oakley, Senior Publicist, Walt Disney Studios UK

[stu.oakley@disney.com](mailto:stu.oakley@disney.com)

Tel: +44 20 8222 1000

For Closing Night media enquiries:

Vicky Grayson, / Aimee Hall, Freud Communications

[vicky.grayson@freud.com](mailto:vicky.grayson@freud.com) / [aimee.Hall@freuds.com](mailto:aimee.Hall@freuds.com)

Tel: +44 20 3003 6327 / +44 20 3003 6418

Images for SAVING MR. BANKS are available at [www.image.net](http://www.image.net)

## **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
- 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 an iconic international film festival that supports London's position as the world's leading creative city. It presents the best new British and international films to an expanding London and UK-wide audience. It provides career-enabling opportunities for British and international filmmakers through its industry and awards programmes.

### **Clare Stewart biography**

Clare Stewart's sixteen 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).



#### **About Arts Council England**

The Arts Council champions, develops and invests in artistic and cultural experiences that enrich people's lives. We support a range of activities across the arts, museums and libraries – from theatre to digital art, reading to dance, music to literature, and crafts to collections. Great art and culture inspires us, brings us together and teaches us about ourselves and the world around us. In short, it makes life better. Between 2011 and 2015, we will invest £1.4 billion of public money from government and an estimated £1 billion from the National Lottery to help create these experiences for as many people as possible across the country. [www.artscouncil.org.uk](http://www.artscouncil.org.uk)

#### **About American Express® Company**

American Express is a diversified worldwide travel, financial and network services company founded in 1850. It is a leader in charge and credit cards, Travellers Cheques, travel and insurance products.

As part of the premium service American Express provides, Cardmembers have access to enriched experiences at some of the UK's most sought after entertainment events, including best seats, exclusive offers and early-on-sale tickets. The company has multi - year partnerships with a range of entertainment institutions including AEG, Live Nation, Ticketmaster, Somerset House, The British Film Institute and National Theatre.

For more detail on the enriched service American Express offers its Cardmembers, please visit [www.amex.co.uk/potential](http://www.amex.co.uk/potential) or connect with AmericanExpressUK on Facebook or Twitter @AmexUK