

B
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London
LGBTQ+
Film
Festival



BFI Southbank
bfi.org.uk/flare

18–29
March



PURELAND FOUNDATION

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London LGBTIQ+ Film Festival

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Welcome

From the BFI

A hug. This year we challenged design company Studio Moross to find its graphic representation for our BFI Flare 2020 cover art... 'cos who in the UK doesn't need a hug after the last few years, eh? By turns tender and playful, when consensual a hug reassures, restores and renews; it's an act of intimacy, community, family. And that's what BFI Flare represents to so many of us – a special kind of queer family and cultural community. That's also a quality which makes the Pureland Foundation such a perfect Main Supporter for the Festival, with their commitment to empowerment and social wellbeing. We're so hugely grateful for their continued support.

On top of the moving, intelligent and sharply relevant programme of films and events, we're excited about More Films For Freedom, an evolution of our international short film series FiveFilms, delivered with British Council. This year, together with BFI NETWORK – the BFI's National Lottery-funded talent programme – we've paired UK filmmakers with counterparts in the Middle East and Africa, and funded their collaborations to bring new global queer stories to the screen.

Flare is also a time to celebrate the development of UK queer-identified filmmakers and we're proud to see our BAFTA/BFI Flare Mentorship alumni thriving. Joy Gharoro-Akpojotor, Amrou Al-Kadhi and Lindsey Dryden have all had successes with new film and TV projects this year, while Dionne Edwards and Aleem Khan have debut features coming soon.

You give them much confidence that they have a community behind them. So, see you on the Southbank for BFI Flare's warm embrace in March – great cinema, safe spaces for discovery and debate, and a rollicking good time in one of the most inclusive queer environments around.

Tricia Tuttle, BFI Festivals Director and

Ben Roberts, BFI Chief Executive

07 Special Presentations

Our Opening and Closing Night Galas and Centrepiece Screening.



32 BFI Player

Get that BFI Flare feeling from the comfort of your own home.



From the BFI Flare programmers

Activism, resistance and rebellion are key themes running throughout this year's programme, with a number of inspiring and timely films telling stories of brave individuals and communities that will not give up in the ongoing fight for change. Our Centrepiece Screening, *Disclosure: Trans Lives on Screen*, is both an enlightening history lesson and a call to arms for better, more positive representation. Isabel Sandoval's *Lingua Franca*, about an undocumented Filipina transwoman living in New York, is a deeply personal study of structural disempowerment in contemporary America. *Steelers: The World's First Gay Rugby Club* is a heartfelt celebration of sportspeople determined to squash stereotypes and break barriers. The joyous and inspirational *We Are the Radical Monarchs* follows several young women of colour in Oakland fighting for social justice. While *Pride & Protest* offers a fascinating look at Britain's LGBTIQ+ Black and POC community. That's just to name a few...

Screening the films is just the first step. It's the conversations that take place after the lights come up that truly make the difference – be those in the form of the many Q&As we host with visiting filmmakers, our various panel discussions and special events, or simply the casual conversations that take place in the bar between you, our audiences.

As programmers we are honoured to give a platform to a vast range of work that will educate, excite, provoke and motivate. The rest is up to you. We may well live in troubled times, but if you want to be inspired you've come to the right place.

Jay Bernard, Michael Blyth, Tara Brown, Zorian Clayton, Brian Robinson, Emma Smart,
Festival Programmers

11 Strands

Let your hearts, bodies and minds guide you through our carefully curated strands.



Schedule & Tickets

Jump to the end for the whole Festival schedule, as well as all the essential information on how to book.

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WONDERFUL THINGS

Special Presentations



Opening Night Gala

WED 18 MAR
18:15 NFT1

WED 18 MAR
20:50 NFT1

THU 19 MAR
16:00 NFT3

Cicada

Dir Matthew Fifer, Kieran Mulcare. Prod Ramfis Myrthil, Jeremy Truong.
Scr Matthew Fifer. With Sheldon D Brown, Matthew Fifer, Cobie Smulders.
USA 2020. 93min. Sales The Film Collaborative

A young man is forced to face past traumas when he embarks on a new relationship, in this remarkable feature debut.

New York City, 2013. Introspective bisexual Ben drifts from one casual hook-up to the next. While recent encounters barely last beyond the following morning, he feels differently when he strikes up a conversation with Sam, a handsome stranger he meets while browsing discount books at a street stall. Forming an immediate connection, the two spend more and more time together, slowly letting their guards down. But as they reveal intimate details about their lives, both begin to recognise the need to confront past traumas if they are to truly let the other person in. Based on true events, writer/director/star Matthew Fifer and co-director Kieran Mulcare have crafted a richly textured and complex drama, which tackles challenging subjects with grace, delicacy and uncompromising honesty. Fifer's sympathetic central performance is ably matched by Sheldon D Brown's nuanced turn as Sam, with the pair establishing an effortless on-screen connection. Sensitive balancing moments of natural humour amongst the pathos, *Cicada* is guaranteed to be one of the year's most acclaimed queer films. Michael Blyth

Please note, this film contains themes of sexual abuse



Summerland

Dir-Scr Jessica Swale. Prod Guy Heeley, Adrian Sturges. With Gemma Arterton, Gugu Mbatha-Raw, Lucas Bond, Dixie Egerickx, Sian Phillips. UK 2020. 100min. UK Distribution Lionsgate

A well-timed and thrilling analysis of the history of transgender stories on screen, from the silent era to the present day.

Secluded in her picturesque countryside cottage, Alice toils away at her academic thesis on pagan myths while the rest of the world is in turmoil. The Second World War rages, yet its impact is barely felt by the solitary and prickly writer. Unmarried, she attracts the consternation of local villagers and is tormented by their children. Nursing a heartache from her past, Alice would quite like the world to leave her alone, but it has very different plans for her – in the form of Frank, an evacuee from London. Initially determined to be rid of this interloper, the guilelessness of youth soon breaks through Alice's tough exterior. The boy opens old wounds with innocent questions about Alice's past. Through flashbacks, we see the reason for her pain – an all-consuming love affair with the decadent Vera (Gugu Mbatha-Raw), which unfolded when both women were barely out of their teens and everything seemed possible. Swale's rapturous feature debut is a heartfelt rumination on the power of love, set against a beautifully-shot Kent coastline. Arterton has rarely been better as the fiercely independent Alice, coming to terms with her past and finally setting herself free for a future she could only dream about. Emma Smart

Closing Night Gala

SAT 28 MAR
18:15 NFT1

SAT 28 MAR
20:45 NFT1



Disclosure: Trans Lives on Screen

Dir Sam Feder. Prod Amy Scholder, Sam Feder. With Laverne Cox, Mj Rodriguez, Lilly Wachowski. USA 2020. 105min. Sales The Film Collaborative

Cinema and TV have a difficult history in reinforcing narrow mainstream gender norms and have often painted LGBTIQ+ people as dangerous. Like a trans-focused sequel to the seminal documentary *The Celluloid Closet*, this fascinating film wrangles with the history of problematic depictions and celebrates the unravelling of various stereotypes.

A labour of love for director Sam Feder (whose last documentary was *Kate Bornstein is a Queer & Pleasant Danger*, a portrait of the pioneering writer and activist) the film features Laverne Cox at the helm and a cast of big hitters, including the Wachowski sisters and Chaz Bono. But it achieves much more than a rollcall of clips and celebrity talking heads. There's fascinating insight from Professor Susan Stryker, who places trans stories at the birth of cinema with the invention of the cinematic cut in the 1910s, and Yance Ford, who probes the horrible history of the blackface in the same era, drawing parallels with the handling of theatrical cross-dressing. Touching on titles as wide-ranging as *Yentl*, *Psycho*, and *Tootsie*, the film also exposes a downward trajectory in positive representation during the 1990s, as evinced by TV shows like *Jerry Springer* and the infamous final scene of *Ace Ventura: Pet Detective*, two of the most appalling and damaging examples cited. As an overdue assassination of troublesome tropes, *Disclosure* is absorbing and informative, providing a timely history lesson at the crossroads of change. Zorian Clayton

Centrepiece Screening

THU 26 MAR
18:20 NFT1

FRI 27 MAR
16:10 NFT3

EVERYBODY'S TALKING ABOUT

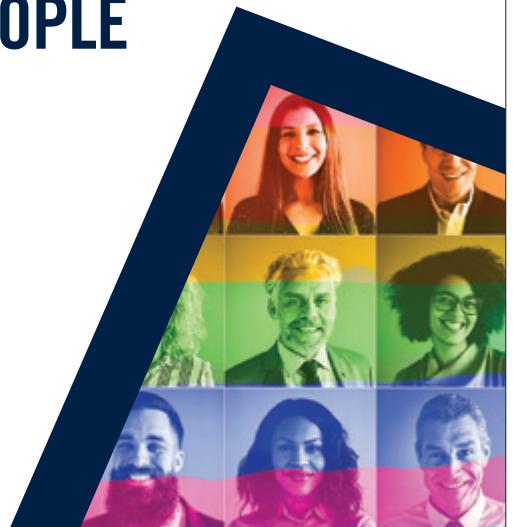
JAMIE THE MOVIE

THE FEEL-GOOD SENSATION ARRIVES
IN CINEMAS AUTUMN 2020

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Fri 24 April at 7.30pm - LONDON Royal Festival Hall
Sun 10 May at 3pm - CARDIFF St David's Hall

Fri 22 May at 7.30pm - BIRMINGHAM Symphony Hall
Sat 23 May at 7.30pm - MANCHESTER The Bridgewater Hall

Hearts

Films about love, romance and friendship



FRI 27 MAR
18:30 NFT2

SAT 28 MAR
15:50 NFT2

BSL



THU 19 MAR
18:20 NFT1

FRI 20 MAR
17:50 STUDIO



MON 23 MAR
20:40 NFT2

WED 25 MAR
15:50 NFT3

Anne+

Episodes 1–6

Dir Valerie Bisscheroux. Prod Rachel van Bommel, Suzan de Swaan. Scr Maud Wiemeijer. With Hanna van Vliet, Eline van Gils, Kirsten Mulder. Netherlands 2018. 67min. Sales Millstreet Films

Bumping into an ex the day she moves into a new apartment makes Anne reflect on her past, in this smart and sexy webseries.

The last person Anne is expecting to run into when moving into her new apartment is ex-girlfriend Lily. With a promise of catching up properly over coffee soon, Anne tries to put the chance encounter to the back of her mind, but can't help reminiscing about Lily and all the ex-girlfriends she's had since. As she looks back, Anne starts to figure out who she really is and what the future might hold. Told over the course of six episodes, each a glimpse into Anne's latest love affair (from the shy closeted girl to the seductive older lady), Anne+ proves that some of the best new queer work is being created in the digital realm. With strong performances, particularly from Hanna van Vliet as the eponymous lead, this is an honest and realistic glimpse of lesbian dating life, in all its sexy, funny, heartbreaking glory. Emma Smart

Clementine

Dir-Scr Lara Jean Gallagher. Prod Aimee Lynn Barneburg, Davis Priestley, Isabel Marden, Kim Bailey, Karina Ripper. With Otmara Marrero, Sydney Sweeney. USA 2019. 93min. Prod Co High Pony Pictures

Taking refuge in an idyllic lake house following her recent break-up, Karen meets the mysterious Lana in this moody and atmospheric debut.

Reeling from the end of her long-term love affair with an older woman and unable to completely let go of the love she's lost, Karen breaks into the lake house of her ex-lover, determined to stay there until her heart is mended and her ex has at least given her custody of the dog. Neighbours on the lake are few and far between and Karen relishes the solitude. But then she meets Lana, a vibrant young woman who might not be all that she seems. Gradually, Karen feels herself giving in to Lana's obvious flirtation, but is the prospect of a new love affair too much too soon? How many hearts will be left broken this time? Drawing out intimate performances from her two leads and utilising the lush forest backdrop, Gallagher has crafted a taut coming-of-age story, and establishes herself as an exciting new cinematic voice. Emma Smart

A Dog Barking at the Moon

Zai jian nan ping wan zhong

Dir-Scr Xiang Zi. Prod Xiang Zi, José Val Bal. With Naren Hua, Nan Ji, Zhang Xinyue. 2019. 107min. Prod Co Acorn Studio

This impressive dissection of one Chinese family's imperfect life gradually reveals discomforting secrets.

Returning to Beijing from New York with her American husband, Huang Xiaoyu is forced to face up to the realities of her family's life, in which her parents exist in a loveless and toxic marriage. Angry and insecure, her mother has found refuge in a bizarre Buddhist cult, while her father has taken a male lover, a situation his wife refuses to accept; she hopes that her cult's prophet can cure him. Not only alarmed by her mother's retreat into pseudo-religion, Xiaoyu is surprised by how much living in the West has changed her own perception of her parents and her outlook on the world. Offering a potent view of how relationships develop and change, and based largely on writer-director Xiang Zi's personal experiences, this Berlinale Teddy prize-winner is a stylish, rich and compelling film. Brian Robinson

HEARTS

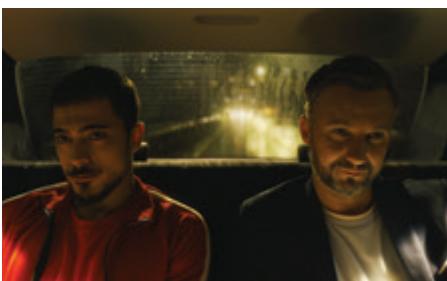
TUE 24 MAR
18:30 NFT1WED 25 MAR
20:50 STUDIO**Ellie & Abbie (& Ellie's Dead Aunt)**

Dir-Scr Monica Zanetti. Prod MahVeen Shahraki, Patrick James. With Marta Dusseldorp, Zoe Terakes, Sophie Hawkshaw. Australia 2020. 80min. Prod Co Cobbstar Productions

In this delightful rom-com from debut director Monica Zanetti, Ellie's dead aunt has the perfect dating advice for her. But will she listen to it?

Star student Ellie can handle most things high school has thrown at her, yet when it comes to finding the perfect way to ask her mega-crush Abbie to the end-of-school prom, Ellie just can't get it together. Luckily for her, the universe intervenes and Ellie gets her very own fairy godmother to help her on her dating way. Only Ellie doesn't want to listen to the advice from her dead lesbian aunt Tara, who has never heard of Facebook and hasn't dated since the 80s. How is she going to help Ellie get the girl of her dreams? With its unique and witty take on the teen rom-com, and heartfelt performances from its leads, Zanetti's film is fun and joyous, packing an emotional punch that will make you wish we all had a fairy godmother like Tara. Emma Smart

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FRI 27 MAR
20:45 NFT1

BSL

SAT 28 MAR
20:30 NFT2**The Lawyer**
Advokatas

Dir-Prod-Scr Romas Zabarauskas.
With Eimutis Kvočiauskas, Doğaç Yıldız, Darya Ekamasova. Lithuania 2020. 97min. EST. Sales Wide Management

This gentle romantic drama gradually increases in intensity as it probes its protagonists' complex lives. Marius is a highly successful lawyer based in Vilnius. He becomes obsessed with Ali, a handsome Syrian refugee he first encounters in an online chatroom run out of Belgrade. Marius is rich and enjoys a vibrant social and cultural life. Nevertheless, he feels that something is missing from it. The journey from Lithuania to Serbia is a relatively short one, but can the two navigate their way through the gulf that separates their very different lives? And how do they deal with the precarious obstacles of the physical borders that stand between them? Written and directed by Romas Zabarauskas, *The Lawyer* questions assumptions about what it means to be an immigrant and the possibilities offered by life in contemporary Europe. Brian Robinson

SAT 21 MAR
16:05 NFT2SUN 22 MAR
13:20 NFT3**Jack & Yaya**

Dir-Scr Jen Bagley, Mary Hewey. Prod Jorgy Cruz. USA 2019. 83min. Sales Hewes Pictures

A year in the lives of childhood best friends who go from swapping gendered Christmas gifts as kids to transitioning in their twenties.

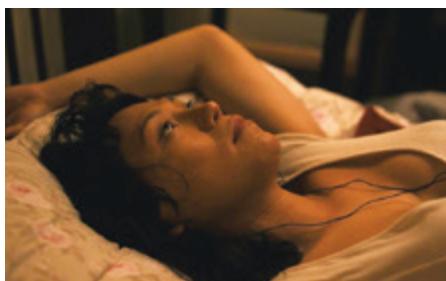
Jack and Yaya go back a long way. Kindred spirits as kids, the tomboy Jack and girly Yaya made an instant connection as toddlers through the fence separating their blue-collar South Jersey houses. Forging a firm friendship for life, with both coming out as trans in early adulthood, this tale of two besties is infused with 1980s home movie gold. It also features interviews with Yaya's gay brother and Jack's lively football-loving family. With this truly affable pair, *Jack & Yaya* is sure to put a smile on your face.

Zorian Clayton

+ 2 Dollars

Dir Robin Cloud. USA 2020. 15min

Non-binary queer artist Syd loathes their dreary day job. Thinking they've won the lottery, the office gets trashed with unexpected results.

WED 25 MAR
20:30 NFT2THU 26 MAR
20:50 NFT3**Lingua Franca**

Dir-Scr Isabel Sandoval. Prod Isabel Sandoval, Jhett Tolentino, Carlo Velayo, Darlene Malimas. With Isabel Sandoval, Eamon Farren, Lynn Cohen. USA 2019. 95min. Sales Luxbox

A deftly woven tale of love and inequality for a Filipina transwoman living under the radar in New York.

Isabel Sandoval is triply talented as the director, writer and star of her emotive and authentic third feature. Playing Olivia, she works in Brooklyn as an attentive carer to various patients. They include Olga, a Russian woman sliding into dementia. Finding few alternatives to buying into a fake marriage to secure a Green Card, Olivia is always looking over her shoulder as immigration officers prowl the city in search of people to detain and deport. In dealing with the various ways undocumented people are at risk of exploitation and with a sturdy performance from Australian actor Eamon Farren, who emerges as a genuine love interest in Olivia's life, *Lingua Franca* is a personal and politically charged insight into racial discrimination and human rights abuses in 21st-century USA. Zorian Clayton

SUN 22 MAR
18:20 NFT1MON 23 MAR
14:00 NFT3

R

MON 23 MAR
14:10 NFT2**Justine**

Dir Jamie Patterson. Prod Jamie Patterson, Jason Rush, Sarah Drew, Julius Beltrame. Scr Jeff Murphy. With Tallulah Haddon, Sophie Reid, Stan Reese-Williams. UK 2019. 81min. Prod Co Rush Productions

A young woman struggles with her demons, in this arresting sophomore feature from *Tucked* (Flare 2019) director Jamie Patterson.

Justine doesn't think much of life, nor does she particularly want to partake in it. Numbing the pain of past hurts with alcohol, giving nothing away at her court-appointed therapy sessions, she seems content to spend her days with her pothead friend Peach, not thinking of a future she doesn't think she deserves to have. Then she meets the idealistic Rachel and suddenly Justine is faced with someone who can see past her arrogant swagger – someone who wants to love Justine despite all the reasons she shouldn't. Perhaps life isn't so bad after all. But can a new love like theirs repair a lifetime of hurt? This Brighton-set drama is a powerful rumination on how the past can shape the present. Emma Smart

Tickets £3 for the relaxed screening on Mon 23 Mar 14:00 NFT3. See p28 for our relaxed short films screening. See p34 for more information on festival access.

SAT 21 MAR
15:40 NFT1FRI 27 MAR
13:45 NFT1**Matthias & Maxime**

Dir-Scr Xavier Dolan. Prod Nancy Grant, Xavier Dolan. With Gabriel D'Almeida Freitas, Xavier Dolan, Pier-Luc Funk. Canada 2019. 119min. Sales WaZabi Films

A kiss between two childhood friends has dramatic repercussions in the eighth film from Xavier Dolan.

Matthias (Gabriel D'Almeida Freitas) and Maxime (Dolan) have been friends since childhood. A few months before moving to Australia, Maxime spends the weekend with his friends at a lakeside retreat. As the boisterous gang laugh, drink and bicker, their host reveals she needs a pair of performers to kiss for her student film, promptly roping in Matthias and Maxime for the job. But the brief encounter causes a dramatic rift between the pair, forcing them to question what they really want from each other. As ever, Dolan proves himself a master visual craftsman, orchestrating ravishing set pieces that give voice to the emotions his characters hold within. But what is most striking here is the profound sense of intimacy, along with that aching sense of vulnerability which comes with accepting who you truly are. Michael Blyth



MON 23 MAR

18:20 NFT1

TUE 24 MAR

15:40 NFT2

Memories of a Teenager

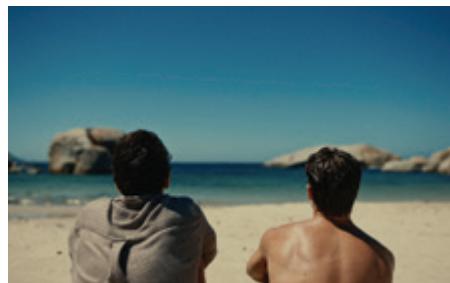
Yo, Adolescente

Dir-Scr Lucas Santa Ana. Prod Alberto Maslia. With Renato Quattordio, Malena Narvay, Jerónimo Giocondo Bosia. Argentina 2019. 97min. Sales Wildstar Sales

An Argentine teenager finds life and love difficult following the death of his gay best friend.

Zabo is a troubled 16-year-old living in Buenos Aires. A virgin, he's looking for a girlfriend, but is still reeling from the recent suicide of Paul, his closest friend. Navigating his social life and sexuality is both complicated and challenging, especially after he sets up a crazy nightclub in an abandoned warehouse. It's here that he and his friends drink, take drugs and hope to have sex, but also where Zabo learns about loyalty and betrayal, particularly when a new friend steals the girl he likes. *Memories of a Teenager* isn't your average high-school coming-out story. It possesses a rare energy and charm, particularly that of lead actor Renato Quattordio. It's a powerful recreation of adolescence, detailing its pleasures, pain and heartbreaks. Brian Robinson

Please note, this film contains themes of suicide



TUE 24 MAR

20:45 NFT1

THU 26 MAR

13:45 NFT1

Moffie

Dir Oliver Hermanus. Prod Eric Abraham, Jack Sidey. Scr Oliver Hermanus, Jack Sidey. With Kai Luke Brummer, Ryan de Villiers, Matthew Vey. South Africa-UK 2019. 103min. UK Distribution Curzon

Oliver Hermanus' fourth feature is a beautiful yet brutal study of closeted homosexuality in the Apartheid-era military.

South Africa, 1981. Like all white men over the age of 16, Nicholas has been drafted for two years compulsory military service. Lost in a sea of volatile machismo, the shy and sensitive young man must endure the unforgiving trials and humiliations of basic training before being stationed on the border of Angola, to defend the Apartheid regime from the supposed black Communist threat. As Nicholas struggles through each day, he finds solace in a friendship with another recruit. But as their relationship develops, they must keep it secret at all costs. Taking its name from a pejorative Afrikaans term for a gay man, the deeply accomplished *Moffie* is both an uncompromising examination of a country's dark history and a profoundly affecting portrait of a young man battling his inner demons. Michael Blyth



THU 26 MAR

20:45 NFT1

SAT 28 MAR

11:30 STUDIO

Monsoon

Dir-Scr Hong Khaou. Prod Tracy O'Riordan. With Henry Golding, Parker Sawyers. UK 2018. 86min. UK Distribution Peccadillo Pictures

Having opened Flare in 2014 with his acclaimed debut *Lifting*, Hong Khaou returns to the festival with this poignant meditation on cultural displacement.

Returning to Vietnam for the first time since his family fled to England when he was six years old, Kit scouts Ho Chi Minh City (still referred to as Saigon by most of the locals) for an appropriate location to scatter his parents' ashes. Unable to speak the language and with scant memories of his early childhood, Kit feels distant from the family members he meets as he awaits the arrival of his brother from London. Only a tentative romance with Lewis, an African-American designer, offers Kit a much-needed sense of comfort. Behind the bustle and commotion of the city, Khaou's elegiac character study is a film of stillness and quiet introspection, driven by Henry Golding's tender portrayal of a man endeavouring to reconnect with the place he once called home. Michael Blyth



SAT 21 MAR

18:20 NFT2

SUN 22 MAR

16:00 NFT2

My Fiona

Dir-Scr Kelly Walker. Prod Matthew Minshall, Tina Carbone, Katherine Sloate. With Jeanette Maus, Corbin Reid, Sara Amini. USA 2019. 87min. Prod Co The Art Factory

Grief draws out unexpected emotions and new beginnings in this riveting feature debut from Kelly Walker.

Best friends for life, Jane and Fiona have done everything together since kindergarten – Jane following wherever Fiona will lead. Left devastated and adrift following Fiona's sudden suicide, Jane's only way to make sense of everything is by helping Fiona's widow Gemma care for their young son Bailey. Polar-opposites, the two women have nothing in common save for their shared grief and love for Fiona. But as Jane's help offers some stability, Gemma can't help being drawn to her and an unexpected intimacy builds between them. However, is it enough to mend broken hearts and can Jane really keep living her life vicariously through Fiona's family? Writer-director Walker explores the myriad ways we deal with loss through an honest and nuanced script that finds humour in the darkest of times, resulting in a film that is both heart-breaking and uplifting. Emma Smart

Please note, this film contains themes of suicide



MON 23 MAR

20:45 NFT1

WED 25 MAR

18:40 STUDIO

The Prince

El Príncipe

Dir Sebastián Muñoz. Prod Marianne Mayer-Beckh, Roberto Doveris. Scr Luis Barrales, Sebastián Muñoz. With Juan Carlos Maldonado, Alfredo Castro, Gastón Pauls. Chile-Argentina-Belgium 2019. 96min. UK Distribution Peccadillo Pictures

This powerful tale of queers behind bars won the Queer Lion at the 2019 Venice Film Festival.

Chile, 1970. A disturbed young man enters an overcrowded cell in an old and spartan prison. His arrival prompts a realignment of the pecking order, and he is quickly taken under the wing and into the bed of the senior-ranking convict. As a handsome newcomer, he turns heads in other parts of the jail. Thus, the stage is set for a battle over the love of the man they nickname The Prince. By turns intensely brutal and tender, experienced production designer Sebastián Muñoz's directorial debut is a powerful exploration of what it means to love. As the film progresses, we discover the circumstances of the Prince's original crime and that his passion has previously provoked dangerous emotions. Featuring scenes of violence that might disturb, but also a beauty and lyricism that evokes Genet's account of prison life, this is a deeply affecting film. Brian Robinson



FRI 27 MAR

18:20 NFT1

BSL

18:00 STUDIO

Suk Suk

Dir-Scr Ray Yeung. Prod Michael J Werner, Teresa Kwong, Sandy Yip, Chowee Leow. With Bo Tai, Ben Yuen, Patra Ga Man Au. Hong Kong (S.A.R of China) 2019. 92min. EST. Sales Films Boutique

Love blossoms unexpectedly for two older Hong Kong gents.

Ray Yeung's third feature is a delicate tale that details the encounter between two Hong Kong residents. Pak is an energetic 70-year-old, who still races about the city as a taxi driver. Hoi, in his mid-sixties, is now retired. Both are closeted and live with their respective families, who know nothing of their other lives. We follow the course of their romance, which takes us into a world of older gay men, many of whom struggle with the idea of openness. There are important glimpses of the gay community going about everyday life, including a project for a gay old people's home, a gay sauna and shared visits to a doctor. A moving drama detailing the challenges faced by older closeted gays, its celebration of Pak and Hoi's relationship shows that love is not just the preserve of the young. Brian Robinson



TUE 24 MAR
20:40 NFT2

THU 26 MAR
15:50 NFT3

T11 Incomplete

Dir-Scr Suzanne Guacci. Prod Theresa Aquilina, Suzanne Guacci, Kevin Hanlon, Nic Novicki. With Karen Sillas, Kristen Renton, Zachary Booth. USA 2020. 105min. Prod Co Aspire Productions Inc.

Past mistakes haunt the present and threaten a new love affair between an older woman and her patient in this compelling melodrama.

Kate has not had an easy life. She knows a lot of the blame for that can be laid at her own feet. She steadfastly maintains her sobriety and tries to make amends to son Jack, who refuses to forgive her for past mistakes. Working every hour she can as a home health aide, Kate meets paraplegic Laura. Recognising in each other the struggle to survive – Laura has her own demons to fight – what starts out as a tender friendship soon turns into something neither women were expecting to feel. And as Laura begins to fall in love with Kate, a woman her overprotective brother deems entirely unsuitable for her, it's Kate's own actions that might derail their burgeoning relationship. With excellent performances throughout, this is a heartfelt and moving film about love and the power of forgiveness. Emma Smart



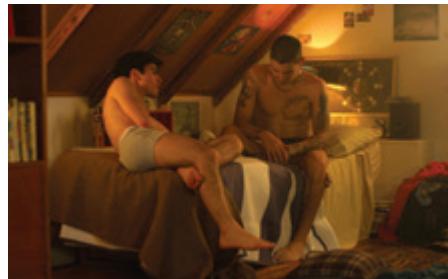
WED 25 MAR
20:45 NFT3

FRI 27 MAR
20:20 STUDIO

Two of Us

Dir Filippo Meneghetti. Prod Pierre-Emmanuel Fleurantin, Laurent Baujard. Scr Filippo Meneghetti, Malysonne Bovorasmby, Florence Vignon. With Barbara Sukowa, Léa Drucker, Martine Chevallier. France 2019. 96min. UK Distribution Peccadillo Pictures

Lies in the past and secrecy in the present has a potentially devastating impact on the relationship between two older women in this poignant drama. Nina and Madeleine have been keeping their passionate and committed relationship a secret for years. Sharing the top floor of a residential building, but living in two separate apartments, the lovers come and go from each other's homes with an ease that only long-term partners can know. Even Madeleine's adult children are none the wiser when they visit their widowed mother. But this shared intimacy is threatened when Madeleine becomes ill and her daughter can't understand why the nice old lady from next door is so concerned with the welfare of her mother. A nurse is employed to care for Madeleine, which literally shuts Nina out of her life. But Nina isn't going to give up on Madeleine, even if that means revealing their relationship. Emma Smart



THU 19 MAR
20:45 NFT1

FRI 20 MAR
15:45 NFT3

Young Hunter

Dir-Scr Marco Berger. Prod Alberto Masliah, Lucas Santa Ana. With Juan Pablo Cesterio, Lautaro Rodríguez, Juan Barberini. Argentina 2020. 101min. Sales Wildstar Sales

A lonely teenager gets more than he bargained for when he meets an older boy at the skate park.

15-year-old Ezéquiel tries his best to make connections with the boys at school, only to find out time and time again that they are attracted to girls. One afternoon he spots handsome skater boy Mono and the pair strike up a conversation. As the relationship between them develops, Ezéquiel thinks he may have finally found what he was looking for. But as Mono's motives become increasingly uncertain, Ezéquiel finds himself caught up in a dangerous situation. Having previously thrilled audiences with sexy stories of burgeoning male desire such as *Taekwondo* and *The Blond One*, Marco Berger veers into altogether darker territory here with a provocative and challenging exploration of abuse and consent. This is bold and confrontational filmmaking, often difficult to watch, but impossible to forget. Michael Blyth

Please note, this film contains themes of sexual abuse



MANDEM



WHO CAN PREDICT WHAT WILL MOVE YOU



BOLDLY GO

SUN 22 MAR
15:50 NFT1

Catching Feels

Feelings are unearthed, hearts are broken and lifelong bonds are formed in these unique meditations on the gay experience. Michael Blyth

Jay

Dir Szu-Wei Chen. Taiwan-USA 2019. 14min

A 13-year-old-boy is fascinated by his athletic older brother.

S.A.M

Dir Lloyd Eyre-Morgan, Neil Ely. UK 2020. 16min

Two young men form a connection on the swings of their local park.

Dirty

Dir Matthew Puccini. USA 2019. 11min

A young couple's intimate afternoon doesn't go quite as planned.

Mandem

Dir John Ogunmuyiwa. UK 2019. 10min

A pair of friends spend a day together.

Who Can Predict What Will Move You

Dir Livia Huang. USA 2019. 9min

Two teenage boys spend a final night together in Brooklyn.

Boldly Go

Dir Christopher Cosgrove. Australia 2019. 5min

As two men start to get it on, one of them reveals a secret about his body.

See You Soon

Dir Tyler Rabinowitz. USA 2019. 16min

After months of talking on an app, Vincent travels across the country to finally meet Anthony in person.

Total running time 81min



LES LEVRES GERCEES



HANDS AND WINGS



SHEER QORMA

SAT 21 MAR
11:10 NFT3

SUN 22 MAR
15:30 STUDIO



THE SUMMER HOUSE



THE FUTURE



BECAUSE YOU'RE MINE

SAT 21 MAR
11:15 NFT1

I Am My Mother's Child

The figure of the mother is psychologically complex and artistically rich, as shown by these six shorts, which take a heartfelt look at a delicate relationship.
Jay Bernard

Les lèvres gercées

Dir Fabien Corre, Kelsi Phung. France 2018. 5min

The demands of working life conflict with the needs of a young trans child, in this beautifully animated short.

My Mama, a Man

Dir Helena Middleton. UK 2019. 10min

A warm and funny take on gender, as a drag king fulfills her mother's wish to be a man for a day.

Hands and Wings

Dir Sungbin Byun. South Korea 2019. 18min

A mother engages in a taboo but ultimately loving act to help her disabled son.

What Next Partner Ibb Kya Kothie

Dir Neville Bhaskaran. India 2019. 13min

An unusually intimate look at Indian gender hierarchies, in which a young girl copes with having a hijra mother.

Sheer Qorma

Dir Faraz Arif Ansari. India 2020. 30min

Sometimes it's the children who must teach the mother to love, as revealed in this gorgeously-rendered portrait of a divided family.

Shéár Avory: To Be Continued

Dir Abram Cerdá. USA 2019. 26min

After years in foster care, Shéár has emerged as a thoughtful young activist. But their transition depends on consent from an increasingly fractured relationship with their mother.

Total running time 102min

HEARTS

Love, Sex and Other Emotions

A pick'n'mix of films dealing with deep feelings, the quest for love and its aftermath. Brian Robinson

After That Party Depois Daquela Festa

Dir Caio Scot. Brazil 2019. 15min

Being at a party with Dad becomes awkward.

The Summer House

Dir Luke Willis. USA 2019. 14min

A night in a dark house revives emotional wounds.

The Future

Dir Andy I-Chang Wang. UK 2019. 10min

A spooky encounter by night turns even stranger.

The Scene

Dir James Corley. UK 2019. 11min

It's a struggle getting an ex-boyfriend to face up to life.

The Last Romantics Os Últimos Românticos

Dir João Cândido Zacharias. Brazil 2019. 12min

Sexy confessions lead to unintended revelations.

Because You're Mine

Dir Jean-Baptiste Huong. France 2018. 12min

A poetic and erotic elegy for a lost lover.

The Spark El Destello

Dir Xavier Miralles. Spain 2019. 13min

Things get out of hand when a long-term couple fight over a T-shirt.

Total running time 87min



Past Imperfect

This collection of emotional short films explores the way hearts can break and be put back together again. Emma Smart

A Battle in Waterloo

Dir Emma Moffat. UK 2019. 11min

The hidden histories of those who really fought on the battlefield.

Sleeping Longing

Dir Virginie Nolin. Canada 2019. 13min

A young woman finds herself spiraling after the death of her father.

Atomic Love

Dir Imogen McCluskey. Australia 2019. 10min

Whilst making a video for a dating website, Aleea finds herself reassessing what she wants.

Room for Two

Dir Riffy Ahmed. UK 2019. 15min

Suspecting her partner of an affair, Helena goes to extreme lengths to discover the truth.

My World in Yours Min Värld I Din

Dir Jenifer Malmqvist. Sweden 2019. 29min

Proving her case for residency might tear Sham's new life in Sweden apart.

Total running time 78min



SAT 21 MAR

13:30 NFT1

**Ideals
not just
deals**

Integrity is the law of tomorrow

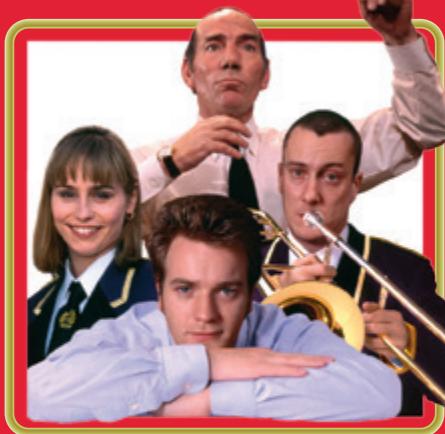
As lawyers we have a role that extends beyond representing our clients' legal interests. Just over 50 years ago, homosexuality was decriminalised in no small part due to the efforts of our founder Lord Mishcon and the work of the Wolfenden Committee. Today, we are proud to foster a culture which thrives on diversity and inclusion, respect for the individual and the expression of talent.

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Bodies

Stories of sex, identity and transformation



THU 19 MAR | SUN 22 MAR
13:50 NFT1 | 18:15 NFT3

Ask Any Buddy

Dir-Prod Evan Purchell. USA 2019. 78min.
Sales American Genre Film Archive

This lovingly edited compilation of erotic gay film is the nearest you'll get to experiencing queer life in the glory days between 1968 and 1986.

Set on the streets and piers, and in the bars, cinemas, bath-houses and toilets of New York and San Francisco, this is a world of moustaches, tight jeans, tighter leathers and shorts. It's an impressionistic cruise back to a time when the men and boys were beautiful and up for it. Think Peter de Rome meets Peter Berlin with Jack Wrangler and his friends. It's historic hot stuff for connoisseurs of any age and instant nostalgia for anyone who was there. Director Evan Purchell has woven a masterpiece out of 125 vintage films, for an intensely pleasurable experience that eschews any need of a narrative. Brian Robinson

Please note, this film contains explicit sex



SAT 21 MAR
16:00 NFT3

Bloodsisters : Leather, Dykes and Sadomasochism

Dir-Scr Michelle Handelman. Prod Michelle Handelman, Monte Cazzaza. With Patrick Califia, Skeeter, Wickie Stamps. USA 1995. 70min. Prod Co Michelle Handelman Studio

In this S&M classic, eight self-described leather dykes discuss queer politics, power and self-determination.

Riding the third wave after the feminist sex wars of the 1980s *Bloodsisters* features fascinating interviews with writer Patrick Califia (then Pat), Queen Cougar (Ms San Francisco Leather 1993) and many others. One of the works that prompted a 1997 campaign by the American Family Association to argue for the abolition of public arts funding, this is a film whose relevance and importance is now abundantly clear. To celebrate its 25th anniversary, join us for the world premiere of this restored version of the film. Jay Bernard

+ **Ritual Waves** Dir Lina Bembe. Germany 2019. 5min
A serene and beautiful debut short by alt-porn performer, director and co-founder of Sex School.

+ **Tribute** Dir Max Disgrace, Lina Bembe. UK 2018. 7min
A re-imagination of a lesbian cruising ground, in direct response to Annette Kennerley's *Sex Lies Religion*.

Please note, this programme contains explicit sex



EVENT
SAT 21 MAR
18:35 NFT3

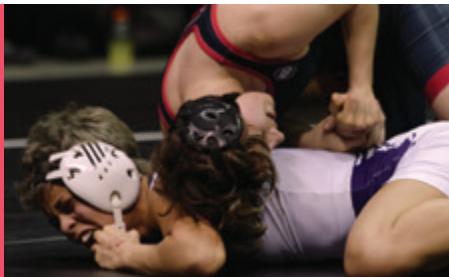
Bodily Autonomy

After the banning of body modification procedures using consent laws that have restricted queer practices, this talk explores sex, subcultures and personal autonomy.

The legal landscape changed forever with the 1987 *Spanner* case, in which 16 gay men were charged for offences relating to possessing and recording what was referred to as 'obscene material'. Since then, the UK has undergone a number of legal cases (including the now-repealed UK Porn Laws and Age Verification) around the tricky notion of consent, including the jailing last year of body modification practitioner Brendan Macarthy, making it illegal to perform tongue splitting or under-skin implants. 30 years since the *Spanner* trials, consent laws are still being used to frame the law around sexuality, fetishes, porn and now body modification. Join us for a discussion in which we bring together filmmakers, writers and activists to discuss the law, alternative lifestyles and community solidarity. Jay Bernard

Total running time c90min

BODIES

WED 25 MAR
18:20 NFT1FRI 27 MAR
18:00 STUDIO**Changing the Game**

Dir Michael Barnett. Prod Clare Tucker, Alex Schmider. USA 2019. 95min. Sales The Film Collaborative

A compelling account of the hard-won victories by trans teenage athletes competing across America.

This action-packed documentary reveals the lives of three major contenders in high-school wrestling, skiing and track sports. These young athletes have been making headlines for their activism, victories in competition and the battles they face being publicly out. Displaying extraordinary feats of courage and motivation, their fiercely protective family networks (including an amazing police man who raised the wrestler Mack Beggs) truly demonstrates the positive power of acceptance and support. A lot depends on individual state law. In progressive Connecticut, track star Andraya is allowed to compete on the women's team, but in Texas Mack is forced to wrestle on the team according to his gender assigned at birth. Changing policies and calmly standing up to haters, these teenage pioneers deserve multiple gold medals.

Zorian Clayton

Supported by **Mishcon de Reya**  PGIM

WED 25 MAR
18:30 NFT3SAT 28 MAR
18:05 NFT2**Flawless**

Haneshef

Dir-Scr Sharon Maymon, Tal Granit. Prod Osnat Handelsman-Keren, Talia Kleinhandler, Moshe Edery, Leon Edery, Thanassis Karathanos, Martin Hampel. With Stav Strashko, Netsanet Zenanah Mekonnen, Noam Lugassy. Israel 2018. 97min. EST. Sales Beta Cinema

A rich high-school teen trio bite off more than they can chew in the quest for conventional beauty.

Freaking out over prom dresses and dates – so far, so tame. But when one girl introduces others to a predatory black marketeer who exchanges plastic surgery procedures for body organs, the peer pressure to look perfect proves too great. Making sleepover excuses and flying to Ukraine for augmentations, new pupil Eden – living stealth in the group – gingerly embraces this risky opportunity. Although on hormones, her impatience for the surgery referrals that her father is slow to agree to, finds her caught up in the dangerous scheme. Played by model-turned-actor Stav Strashko, her performance won her the accolade of first trans nominee for an Ophir Award, an Israeli Oscar. Sidestepping various clichés, this prickly teen drama keeps you on your toes. Zorian Clayton

FRI 27 MAR
18:40 NFT3SAT 28 MAR
13:30 STUDIO**Don't Look Down**

Haut perchés

Dir-Scr Olivier Ducastel, Jacques Martineau. Prod Cyriac Auriol. With Manika Auxire, Geoffrey Couët, François Nambot. France 2019. 90 min. UK Distribution Peccadillo Pictures

Olivier Ducastel and Jacques Martineau, directors of *Theo and Hugo* (Flare 2016), serve up a deliciously enigmatic chamber piece.

Five strangers (four men and one woman) arrive at a chic Parisian apartment. They may not know each other, but each share one thing in common – the duplicitous man who used and abused their emotions. As the disparate group congregate in the kitchen/living area to eat, drink and reveal their deepest sexual fantasies, each member takes it in turns to visit an adjacent room where their mutual ex-lover is waiting for them. While theatrical in its set up, Ducastel and Martineau's playful mystery is deeply cinematic in execution, bathed in rich neon hues that heighten the simmering emotions on display. But far more than just an exercise in style, *Don't Look Down* is also a sly critique on power, submission and the destructive side of love.

Michael Blyth

THU 19 MAR
18:30 NFT3SAT 21 MAR
11:30 NFT2**Drag Kids**

Dir Megan Wennberg. Prod Erin Oakes. Canada-USA 2019. 80min. Sales The Film Collaborative

Enjoy flamboyant fun and temper tantrums galore in this cute foray into the world of child drag artistes.

With the unstoppable success of shows like RuPaul's runaway TV hit and millions of free online make-up tutorials to suit every wannabe queen, drag has never been more accessible. This documentary follows four very different kids from around the world who have been enraptured by the artform, but find few places to perform or to meet queens their own age. *Drag Kids* brings a group together to rehearse for a show at Montreal Pride, where they are set to take part in a vogue ball. But who is going to steal the crown? Are you team Queen Lactatia, Laddy GaGa, Suzan Bee Anthony or Bracken Hanke? Ready, set, glitter! Zorian Clayton

+ Dress Up Like Mrs Doubtfire

Dir Will J Zang. USA 2019. 12min

Crediting the impact of this 1993 comedy hit as one of the first family-friendly films to portray gay roles and drag without demonisation.

FRI 20 MAR
18:20 NFT2MON 23 MAR
18:30 NFT3**Make Up**

Dir-Scr Claire Oakley. Prod Emily Morgan. With Molly Windsor, Joseph Quinn, Stefanie Martini. UK 2019. 86min. UK Distribution Curzon

The debut feature from acclaimed short filmmaker Claire Oakley is a riveting psycho-sexual drama in which nothing is quite what it seems.

Teenager Ruth has finally been given the chance to stay with boyfriend Tom in the remote Cornish holiday park he works at over the summer. Now in the off-season, there's still plenty of work to be done. While Tom is out all day, Ruth picks up odd jobs around the park, growing close to Jade, a vibrant young woman who brings a dash of colour to this pale and isolated world. When Ruth begins to suspect that Tom might be cheating on her, her quest to find out the truth leads to her own sexual awakening, throwing all that she thought she knew into disarray and remaking her anew. Oakley's genre-defying film is fresh, original and not to be missed.

Emma Smart

Intersex Stories: Activism, Resistance and Being

Join intersex columnist and writer Valentino Vecchietti for an engaging, informative and illustrated overview of intersex culture.

Intersex is an umbrella term for people born with variations in their sex characteristics, who comprise 1.7% of the population. In the UK alone that's over 1.1 million, with 130 million worldwide. From the taboo of existence to creative representation in film, Valentino will take you on a remarkable journey, introducing you to key films, activists and activists. Through the mediums of narrative fiction, storytelling, documentary, Instagram, and protest: intersex people across the world seek to gain equal rights and freedom from non-consensual, cosmetic, medical interventions in infancy and childhood. The presentation will be followed by a Q&A

Total running time c110min



SAT 21 MAR
20:45 NFT1

TUE 24 MAR
13:50 NFT1

Midnight Kiss

Dir Carter Smith. Exec Prod John Hegeman, Erlingur Thoroddsen, Lauren Downey, Alexander Koehne, Jeremy Gold, Marci Wiseman, Jason Blum. Prod Tevin Adelman. Scr Erlingur Thoroddsen. With Augustus Prew, Scott Evans, Ayden Mayeri. USA 2019. 92min. Sales Sony Pictures Television International

It's time to kiss your nerves goodbye as there's a killer in town with taste for ripped male flesh.

Director Carter Smith (*Jamie Marks Is Dead*, Flare 2015) and writer Erlingur Thoroddsen (*Rift*, Flare 2018) invite you to a celebration you will never forget. When a group of long-time friends head to Palm Springs to ring in the New Year, they picture the chance to catch up, reconnect and party the night away. But little do they know that a homicidal maniac is on the prowl and he appears to have his sights set on this unfortunate gang of revellers. Gleefully swapping sorority houses for pumping gay clubs, this is the queer slasher throwback that every horror-loving scream queen has been waiting for. Michael Blyth

+ Family Dir Mark Pariselli. Canada 2019. 11min
A road accident has horrifying consequences for an ill-fated gay couple.

Please note, this programme contains scenes of violence



FROM THE ARCHIVES

SAT 28 MAR
15:30 NFT3

Sixth Happiness

Dir Waris Hussein. Prod Tatiana Kennedy. Scr Firdaus Kanga. With Firdaus Kanga, Souad Faress, Khodus Wadia. UK 1997. 98min. 35mm. 12A. UK Distribution BFI Distribution

An opportunity to see Firdaus Kanga's powerful autobiographical drama, detailing his battle to overcome prejudice.

Set in 1960s Bombay, Kanga plays himself in this adaptation of his semi-autobiographical novel. As Brit Kowal, he is a rebel who is as intelligent and witty as he is selfish and manipulative. His mother is deeply attached to her Parsee heritage, clinging to a fetishistic nostalgia of the British Empire, whilst his father treats Brit as a problem to be solved. But Brit is determined to defy his family's low expectation of him, due in part to his brittle bone condition. Throughout *Sixth Happiness*, the people around Brit constantly discuss how he can't grow. Yet we see him grow into his queerness, through his writing and the actualisation of his body as a sexual being. Affectionate yet unsentimental, the film offers an intriguing and compelling approach to understanding how disability, race and queerness are portrayed on screen. Tara Brown

Flare programmer Tara Brown will host a discussion about the themes raised by the film immediately following the screening.



FRI 20 MAR
18:00 NFT1

BSL

SAT 21 MAR
13:50 NFT2

No Hard Feelings

Futur Drei

Dir Faraz Shariat. Prod Paulina Lorenz, Faraz Shariat, Jost Hering. Scr Faraz Shariat, Paulina Lorenz. With Benjamin Radjaipour, Banafshe Hourmazdi, Eidi Jalali. Germany 2020. 89min. Sales m-appeal world sales

An incisive portrait of what it means to be an immigrant in contemporary Germany.

Parvis was born in a small German town, the son of a supermarket-owning, Iranian-born mother and father. He's now on the brink of adulthood and beginning to discover life and sexuality through Grindr, nightclubs and all-night raves. When he's charged with shop-lifting and ordered to do community service as a translator at a refugee centre, his life takes a new turn. He meets brother and sister Amon and Banafshe, who have fled Iran. The three soon become inseparable. The film's portrait of the youthful intensity of first love is tempered by the daunting challenge of how the siblings can live in Germany while constantly under the threat of deportation. And through this new relationship, Parvis is forced to confront his own identity as an Iranian immigrant and a gay man.

Brian Robinson



SUN 22 MAR
20:40 NFT1

WED 25 MAR
14:00 NFT1

Sequin in a Blue Room

Dir Samuel Van Grinsven. Prod Sophie Hatchett. Scr Jory Anast, Samuel Van Grinsven. With Conor Leach, Jeremy Lindsay Taylor, Ed Wightman. Australia 2019. 80min. Sales Sophie Hatchett

Sexual obsessions spiral dangerously out of control in this altogether different coming of age tale.

16-year-old Sequin isn't looking for love. Instead, the despondent teen trawls through sexually-charged dating apps on the hunt for no-strings encounters with older men whom he promptly ghosts upon leaving their apartments. But one night whilst at an anonymous sex party, Sequin meets a handsome young stranger with whom he becomes fixated. With no idea who this mysterious boy is, Sequin sets out on a mission to locate the object of his affection. But unbeknownst to Sequin, one of his previous conquests is harbouring a sinister obsession of his own. Dripping in heady atmosphere and rich foreboding, Samuel Van Grinsven's stylish debut feature is an uncompromising exploration of sex and technology in which nothing is quite what it seems. Michael Blyth



SAT 21 MAR
18:30 NFT1

MON 23 MAR
16:00 NFT1

Spiral

Dir Kurtis David Harder. Prod Colin Minihan, Kurtis David Harder, Chris Ball, John Poliquin. Scr Colin Minihan, John Poliquin. With Jeffrey Bowyer-Chapman, Ari Cohen, Jennifer Laporte. Canada 2019. 90min. Sales SC Films International

Like a gay variation on *Get Out*, this socio-political shocker is a masterclass in escalating tension.

It's 1995. Malik and his partner Aaron, along with Aaron's teenage daughter, have uprooted to the suburbs in order to start a new chapter in their lives. The arrival of an interracial gay couple in a small town does not go unnoticed by the locals, but while most appear friendly, a pointed act of vandalism triggers painful memories for hate crime survivor Malik. As a creeping sense of paranoia grows, Malik catches a glimpse of a strange gathering being held by his neighbour and suspects dark forces at play. Featuring a standout performance by Jeffrey Bowyer-Chapman as Malik, Kurtis David Harder's smart and scary horror film may be set in the mid-90s, but serves as a chilling sign of our times.

Michael Blyth



SAT 21 MAR
20:55 NFT3

SUN 22 MAR
18:10 NFT2

Transkids

Dir Hilla Medalia. Prod Hilla Medalia, Ronny Merdinger. Israel 2019. 103min. EST. Sales MetFilm Sales

Four very different Israeli teenagers, on the verge of military conscription, divulge the turning points in their transitions.

16 is a riotous age – full of promise and excitement, riddled with hormone explosions and petulance. Four teens let the cameras in to share a crucial juncture in the formation of their identities. Romy is a typical beauty queen, whose secular single mum tried to steer her away from femininity with orthodox school. Liron tried hard to be super girly before realising it was completely wrong for him. Noam is born into a religious family and wants to become a rabbi. And Ofri is a regular tomboy scout who always knew he was different. Director Hilla Medalia has been winning human rights awards for her deft handling of sensitive subjects. She scores again here, delving into her subjects' lives and the impact upon them of the society they live in. Zorian Clayton



EVENT

SAT 21 MAR
13:40 NFT3

We've Always Been Here

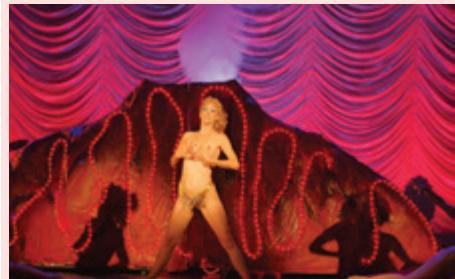
A timely provocation that highlights the importance of queer disability representation within the landscape of film and culture.

Illustrated presentations from some of the leading people in the movement for accessibility and queer disability on film make this event essential. Featuring rare clips which highlight the fact that queer disabled folk have always been here, *We've Always Been Here* will not only touch on representation in film, but also access to the festival scene. Afterwards, Tara Brown will lead an in-depth panel about the intersections of queerness, disability and film.

Total running time c90min

This talk will be followed by a zine-making workshop to commemorate the event, making sure that these vital conversations go beyond the panel and into the physical world.

£3 tickets for D/deaf and disabled patrons.
Email box.office@bfi.org.uk or call 020 7960 2102.



FRI 20 MAR
18:10 NFT3

SUN 22 MAR
20:30 NFT2

You Don't Nomi

Dir Jeffrey McHale. Prod Ariana Garfinkel, Jeffrey McHale. USA 2019. 92min. UK Distribution Bulldog Film Distribution

| Paul Verhoeven's much-maligned masterpiece is put under the microscope in this fascinating rumination on the one and only *Showgirls*.

When it opened in 1995, Paul Verhoeven's big-budget sleaze-fest *Showgirls* was the talk of the town – for all the wrong reasons. Reviled by critics and ignored by audiences, the only place it found any love was at the Razzies. But time is a great healer and as the years have passed perceptions of *Showgirls* have slowly begun to shift. In his riveting, deftly cine-literate investigation into the evolution of a true cult favourite, director Jeffrey McHale assembles a chorus of critics, academics and fans to have their say on one of cinema's most baffling camp classics. More akin to an essay film than a conventional documentary, *You Don't Nomi* makes a fascinating case for (and against) a film that we are still trying to understand all these years later. Michael Blyth



EVENT

FRI 20 MAR
20:30 NFT1

Showgirls Shade-Along

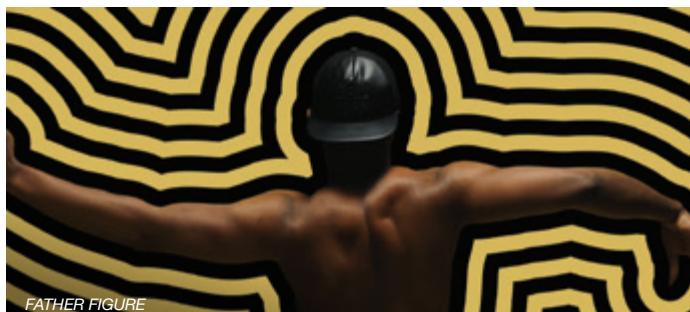
Dir Paul Verhoeven. Prod Alan Marshall, Charles Evans. Scr Joe Eszterhas. With Elizabeth Berkley, Kyle MacLachlan, Gina Gershon. France-USA 1995. 131min. Digital 4K restoration. 18. UK Distribution Pathé Film

| The award-winning Baby Lame is your host for a trash-tastic interactive screening of Paul Verhoeven's iconic disasterpiece.

Don your best Ver-sayce and leave your inhibitions at the door, drag superstar Baby Lame is here to bring you the outrageous camp classic *Showgirls* as you've never experienced it before. With lifelong dreams of becoming the World's greatest topless dancer, tempestuous Nomi Malone (Elizabeth Berkley) arrives in Las Vegas with nothing but a suitcase and a few dollars to her name. Landing a job at a seedy strip bar, Nomi has her sights set on the Stardust Hotel where erotic icon Cristal (Gina Gershon) rules the roost. And she'll stop at nothing to get there. A raucous mix of over acting, catfights and doggy chow, we promise you a night you will never forget. All you have to do is decide one thing – Team Nomi or Team Cristal?



134



FATHER FIGURE



BONDE

SAT 21 MAR
13:20 STUDIO

MON 23 MAR
18:10 NFT2

Dance Like Everyone's Watching

This eclectic assortment jumps into different worlds of dance and physicality for personal survival, visibility and the fortification of marginalised communities. Zorian Clayton

Sweetheart Dancers

Dir Ben-Alex Dupris. USA 2019. 14min
Two-spirit Native American couple Sean and Adrian rewrite the rulebook.

134

Dir Sarah-Jane Drummey. Ireland 2019. 12min
Conquering parental strife over a transgender child in this heartmelting Irish dance fiction.

Mack Wrestles

Dir Taylor Hess, Erin Sanger. USA 2019. 25min
A Texan transman faces the tough challenges of being forced to compete on the female team at high school.

Father Figure

Dir Bibi Fadlalla. Netherlands 2019. 25min
Young voguers look up to their house leader, sharing experiences of discrimination and creating the Dutch ballroom scene.

Cuban Heel Shoes Zapatos de tacón cubano

Dir Julio Mas Alcaraz. Spain 2019. 17min
Two boys fall in love over a passion for flamenco and flout local machismo to dance as a couple.

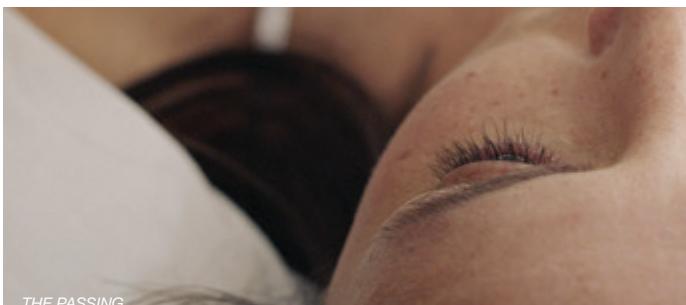
Bonde

Dir Asaph Luccas. Brazil 2019. 18min
Glamming up for a night out, these fluid fashionistas stick together to get home safe.

Total running time 111min



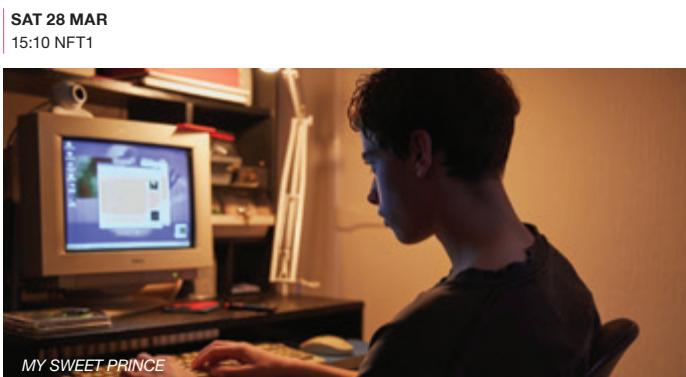
DUNGAREES



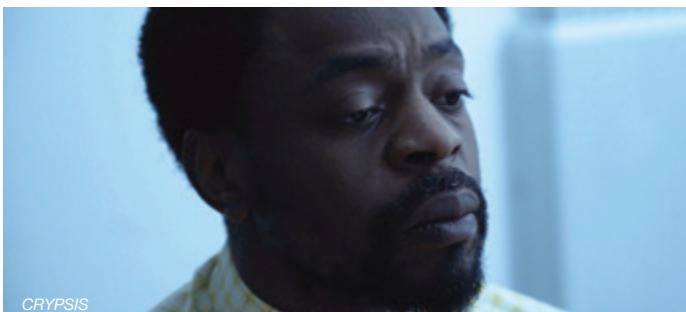
THE PASSING



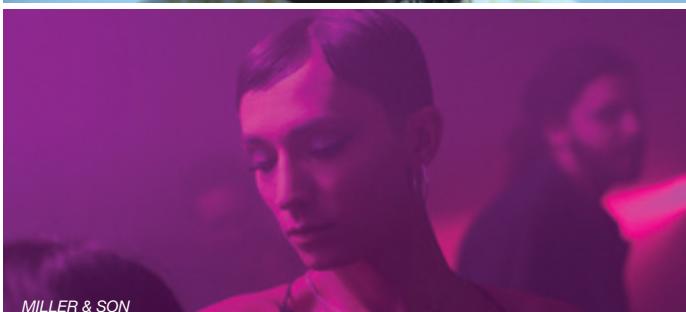
SOMETHING IN THE CLOSET



MY SWEET PRINCE



CRYPSIS



MILLER & SON

SAT 28 MAR
13:10 NFT1

Go Through It

UK Shorts Programme

| An eclectic selection of short films showcasing the best in home-grown queer filmmaking talent. Michael Blyth

Pompeii

Dir Harry Lighton, Marco Alessi, Matthew Jacobs Morgan. UK 2019. 9min
On the first tube home, Tam relives his night out via his phone.

Dungarees

Dir Abel Rubinstein. UK 2020. 5min
A day in the life of Blake, a transgender man, and his boyfriend Cane.

The Passing

Dir Nichola Wong. UK 2019. 15min
A mortician has a difficult day when she encounters a familiar face.

Memoirs of a Geeza

Dir Theo James Krekis. UK 2019. 3min
The life of a lad in three minutes.

Something in The Closet

Dir Nosa Eke. UK 2019. 12min
Is there really a monster in Madi's closet, or is it something else that she fears?

Bathroom Privileges

Dir Rupert Williams, Ellie Land. UK 2019. 6min
An animated documentary exploring the exclusion of minorities from public toilets.

Sweet Mother

Dir Zena Igbe. UK 2019. 14min
The relationship between a British-Nigerian man and his mother is put to the test.

Eyelash

Dir Jesse Lewis-Reece. UK 2019. 5min
Falling in love is hard in this powerful adaptation of Neil Hilborn's poem OCD.

Heart to Heart

Dir Lilah Vandernburgh. UK 2019. 10min
A young girl is scared to make the first move. But her heart has something to say about it. Literally.

Total running time 79min

BODIES

Keep on Living

| A stunning collection of shorts which prove that looking inward is the first step in moving forward. Michael Blyth

My Sweet Prince

Dir Jason Bradbury. UK 2019. 12min
In the early 2000s, a teenager searches for a connection against a backdrop of alcops, Placebo and MSN Messenger.

Positions

Dir Justin Ducharme. Canada 2018. 12min
A snapshot into the life of a Two-Spirit male sex worker in Vancouver.

Crypsis

Dir Christopher McGill. UK 2019. 9min
A gay asylum seeker is triggered as he attempts to prove his sexuality to the home office.

Wherever You Want A Donde Quieras

Dir Mariano Álvarez. Argentina 2018. 15min
A young man in rural Buenos Aires rebels against his macho environment.

Stray Dogs Come Out at Night

Dir Hamza Bangash. Pakistan 2019. 11min
An HIV positive sex worker takes a trip to the beach with his uncle.

Miller & Son

Dir Asher Jelinsky. USA 2018. 21min
An unexpected turn of events threatens to upset the delicate balance of a mechanic's compartmentalised life.

Total running time 80min



KIKO'S SAINTS



INVOLUNTARY ACTIVIST

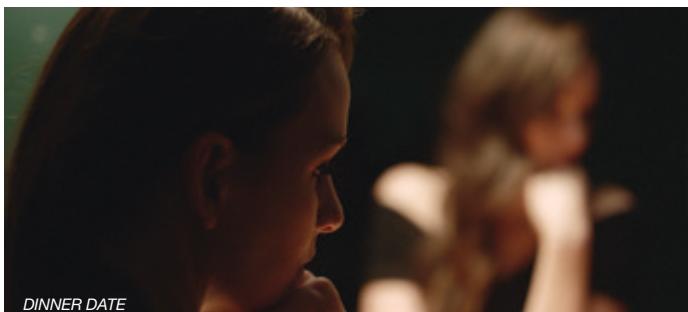


FAG

SUN 22 MAR
13:40 NFT1



LONE WOLF



DINNER DATE



I KNOW HER

SAT 28 MAR
11:00 NFT1

School of Life

Three films about being determined to fight for what you believe in.

Brian Robinson

Kiko's Saints Les saints de Kiko

Dir Manuel Marmier. France 2019. 25min

A woman artist discovers a new side to life and art when she happens on two burly men in the dunes. For someone who is used to sketching church architecture, the challenge of drawing men making love proves an inspiration.

Involuntary Activist

Dir Mikael Bundsen. Sweden-UK 2019. 20min

A gay teacher struggles with timid bureaucrats, while things boil over in his relationships with his family. When is he going to take charge and stand up for himself and his beliefs?

FAG

Dir Olivier Lallart. France 2019. 35min

It's the last term at a French high school and desires are running high. A boy-on-boy kiss in a game of spin-the-bottle sets the school rumour machine into overdrive. But what if those rumours are true?

Total running time 80min

Wonders of the Universe

These funny, charming and original short films reflect queer female life in all its wondrous glory. Emma Smart

Knowingly Unknown

Dir Jin-young Lee. South Korea 2019. 28min

A single mother accepts her daughter isn't just going through a phase.

Leo & Alex in the Middle of the 21st Century

Leo y Alex en Pleno Siglo 21

Dir Eva Libertad, Nuria Muñoz. Spain 2019. 7min

Surely if you continually hook up with your friend, it means something is right?

Girl, Sweetvoiced

Dir Rebecca Shoptaw. UK-USA 2019. 9min

Sappho's poetry crosses the centuries to help two girls fall in love.

How to Live Your Life Correctly

Dir Xindi Lou. USA 2018. 20min

The story of a young couple in love, like you've never seen before.

Lone Wolf

Dir January Jones. Australia 2019. 7min

A sleepover at her crush's house leads to some strange discoveries for Sam.

6:23AM

Dir Geoffrey Breton. UK 2019. 4min

That thing where you meet someone and you can just talk all night long.

Dinner Date

Dir Isabella Hubbard. UK 2019. 6min

It's hard finding 'the one' in this dating app age.

I Know Her

Dir Fawzia Mirza. USA 2019. 3min

Realising you have a little more in common with your new lover than you thought.

Total running time 84min

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GULDBAGGE AWARDS
4 BEST FILM BEST ACTOR
BEST SCRIPT BEST CINEMATOGRAPHY



★★★★★
“A SENSUAL TALE
OF IDENTITY AND DESIRE”
THE MIRROR

A FILM BY LEVAN AKIN

★★★★★
THE LONDON ECONOMIC
“A LUMINOUS
TOUR DE FORCE”
INDIEWIRE

IN CINEMAS MARCH 13
www.AndThenWeDanced.film



THE SPACE IN SOUND



LEE GAMBLE
NINA PIXEL
FEDDE TEN BERGE
HUGO ESQUINCA
JI YOUN KANG
PAUL DAVIES
RIE NAKAJIMA
LUCY HARRISON
MORE TBA

A DAY OF TALKS AND AN
EVENING PERFORMANCE
EXPLORING WAYS SOUND CAN
OCCUPY SPACE

25 MARCH, 12:30PM-LATE
THE OLD MARKET BRIGHTON
TICKETS AVAILABLE AT LIGHTHOUSE.ORG.UK

THE INFORMALS II

POLINA MEDVEDEVA & ANDREAS KÜHNE'S
IMPROVISATION IN DOCUMENTARY FILM AND
SOUND LOOKING AT SUBCULTURES IN OUR
DIGITAL AGE

EXHIBITION 2-24 MAY
Lighthouse, Brighton BN1 4AJ

LIVE PERFORMANCE 6 MAY
8.45 - 9.30 PM
Jubilee Square, Brighton BN1 1GE



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ENGLAND

Brighton Festival

Minds

Reflections on art, politics and community



EVENT

MON 23 MAR

19:00 BLUE ROOM

Big Gay Film Quiz

It's back. And this time it's bigger, gayer and quizzier than ever.

For the fifth year running, BFI Flare is proud to bring you the biggest and best LGBTIQ+ film quiz in the business. All you regular quiz hounds will know the drill, but for those newcomers: it's four quizzers per table, so come as a ready formed team or buy an individual ticket and team up with some fellow film buffs on the night. Everyone is welcome. Newcomers can rest assured there will be something in here for every entrant. So, don't be nervous, book a place and stand the chance of being crowned the ultimate queer film genius. And if that's not enough, there'll be some extra special prizes too. Michael Blyth

Total running time c180min

Tickets £5 per person. See bfi.org.uk/flare for further details



FRI 20 MAR

20:40 NFT3

SUN 22 MAR

20:15 STUDIO

Busy Inside

Dir Olga Lvoff. Prod Victor Ilyukhin. USA-Russia 2019. 70min. Sales The Film Sales Company

A therapist works with several women struggling with dissociative identity disorder, while dealing with the illness and the impact of her own childhood trauma.

The 'self' is warmly and insightfully explored in this documentary, which follows Karen Marshall, a therapist who lives with the same condition as her patients. Dissociative Identity Disorder (DID) is usually the result of physical and mental childhood trauma, in which individuals can have dozens of personalities, each serving a different purpose. This condition is laid bare, as we see Karen supporting three women – two of whom are interviewed in disguise – through art, music and understanding. And Karen herself is supported by current and former lovers, who acknowledge that conventional understanding of who we ought to be must make way for a deeper understanding of who we are. Jay Bernard

+ **Niomi Gets a Dog** Dir Richard Braham. UK 2019. 23min
Living as a transwoman with complex mental health can make London a lonely place, so Niomi decides to adopt Meka, a retired greyhound.



FROM THE ARCHIVES

TUE 24 MAR

18:15 NFT3

Drag Ball

Dir John Samson. UK 1981. 20min

A thrilling discovery, this short documentary captures with joyful panache one of the legendary drag balls at West London's Porchester Hall.

Guests from all walks of LGBTIQ+ life rub shoulders – among them Blitz Kids Boy George and Marilyn – enjoying a shared moment of freedom and some outrageous fashions. Scottish underground filmmaker John Samson was a talented chronicler of bohemia, known for his 1977 portrait of the fetish clothing scene *Dressing for Pleasure*. Recently unearthed by John's son, *Drag Ball* is an unmissable record of the capital's queer scene on the cusp of great change and adversity. Expect special guests and extra archive goodies on the night. Simon McCallum

+ **Lol: A Bonafide Queen of Fabularity**

Dir Angela Pope. BBC 1981. 40min

A chance to (re)discover this seminal portrait of a London drag artist. Unsure if you're a camp queen, a cottage queen, a clone queen or – heaven forbid! – a blob-type queen? Lol is here to help.
Please note this film contains flashing images



FAMILY EVENT

SAT 21 MAR

11:00 ATRIUM

Drag Queen Story Time

A whimsical morning of storytelling with dynamic drag duo Adam All and Apple Derrieres. It celebrates the diversity that exists within the LGBTIQ+ community by introducing 'difference' in a positive way – through the provision of a space in which children are able to see people who defy rigid gender restrictions. The event allows them to imagine a world in which people can present as they wish. Where dress up is real. Drag Queen Story Time UK is based on the original *Drag Queen Story Hour*, created by Michelle Tea and RADAR Productions in San Francisco.

Free event exclusively for children and their parents or carers. No unaccompanied adults. Places are limited, on a first come, first served basis.

Total running time c60min



THU 19 MAR

18:10 NFT2

FRI 20 MAR

13:50 NFT1

For They Know Not What They Do

Dir Daniel Karslake. Prod Daniel Karslake, Sheri Heitker, Barbara Simon. Scr Nancy Kennedy, Daniel Karslake. USA-Germany 2019. 92min. Sales United Talent Agency
No description of Daniel Karslake's powerful documentary can do justice to its sheer emotional intensity.

This incisive and all-too-timely US documentary about four different LGBTIQ+ individuals who experience bruising encounters with organised religion is anything but routine. The film portrays much that might seem familiar, as we get to know the protagonists' families and how they deal with the church, their children and their gender and sexual identities. But as the film details the actions taken by the far-right in the US, these family stories have a resonance far beyond their country. From conversion therapy, conflict over trans identity and the casual violence that impacts queer young people, what emerges is a ruthless battle for hearts and minds, and the political environment that is shaping the 21st century. Brian Robinson

Please note, this film contains homophobic and transphobic language



THU 26 MAR

20:20 STUDIO

SAT 28 MAR

11:50 NFT2

Keyboard Fantasies: The Beverly Glenn-Copeland Story

Dir Posy Dixon. Prod Liv Proctor. UK 2019. 63min. Prod Co LUCA Productions Ltd

After his 1986 album *Keyboard Fantasies* is re-discovered, a black trans musician recounts his life, from the lonely 1960s to the joy of witnessing the present.

Beverly Glenn-Copeland is that rare thing: a re-discovered talent who began writing music about queer experience in the 1960s, when same-sex relationships were illegal, trans lives were hidden and stigmatised, and the Civil Rights movement was just getting underway. Yet Glenn-Copeland manages to be light, funny and positive. Now in his seventies, he praises the activism of young people and beams when trans kids say that he is the trans elder they never had. He has worked on Sesame Street, as a professional children's performer and he has played his music to full houses internationally. This documentary is a snapshot of an ongoing legacy – poignant for Glenn-Copeland having been revived in such a beautiful, life-affirming way. Jay Bernard

+ Pxssy Palace Dir Laura Kirwan-Ashman. UK 2019. 6min
Meet the brains behind one of London's hottest and most creative queer nights.



EVENT

SUN 22 MAR

12:00 BFI REUBEN LIBRARY

Lesbian Cinema: From Subtext to Visibility

Join our panel of experts to explore the myriad ways queer women have been reflected on the screen in this thought-provoking discussion event.

Queer female representation on the big screen has been going through something of a renaissance over the last decade. Gone are the days, or so it seems, when a queer audience could only catch glimpses of lesbian desire on screen. We were hidden and coded beings, buried beneath layers of the dominant narrative, a subtext that only queer audiences could see and rejoice in. Now though, we have moved out of the shadows and our lives and desires are taking centre stage at last. But how did we get here? What are the key lesbian cinematic moments along the way? And has the journey from subtext to visibility meant we've sacrificed the illicit pleasure of interpreting cinema the way we want? Join programmer Emma Smart and Dr Clara Bradbury-Rance, author of *Lesbian Cinema After Queer Theory*, and our panel of experts to find out.

Total running time c180min

Free event. Places are limited, first come, first served. Please visit the Festival website for more information.



THU 26 MAR

18:40 NFT2

SAT 28 MAR

13:40 NFT2

La Leyenda Negra

Dir-Scr Patricia Vidal Delgado. Prod Alicia Herder, Marcel Perez. With Monica Betancourt, Kailie Lopez, Irlanda Moreno. USA 2020. 84min. Sales The Film Sales Company
A young undocumented teenager is confronted with deportation under the Trump administration.

What do you do when the country you have lived in since childhood begins to actively persecute you? Aleteia is a teenager from El Salvador, whose intelligence leads to both political rebellion and academic success. When the chance of a scholarship arises, Aleteia must consider the losses and gains of leaving the United States, even as she is fiercely critical of it. As a young anarchist, working in solidarity with other marginalised youth, she finds herself conflicted by radical activity at the same time as discovering her sexuality with new love interest Rosario, who is beginning to reject the superficiality of her old clique. This is a careful exploration of the turbulent forces that shape the lives of queer immigrant youth. Jay Bernard

+ Walk With My Spirits

Dir Tyler Jacobs. Canada 2018. 4min

A young fashion designer reflects on the relationship between art, indigeneity and gender.



FRI 27 MAR

20:40 NFT2

SAT 28 MAR

20:20 NFT3

A Night at Switch n' Play

Dir Cody Stickels. Prod Chelsea Moore. USA 2019. 72min. Prod Co Sour Peach Films

Enjoy an evening of non-binary burlesque with creative collective Switch n' Play, reinventing the gender wheel in Brooklyn queer spaces.

Firing up the New York queer scene, the saucy Switch n' Play collective engage with non-binary visibility, diverse bodies and the need for a more inclusive queer community. This much-loved night has recently been handed down to a new generation, winning a slew of Best Burlesque awards in the process. Joyful and uncompromising, this queer family is resplendent with faux queens, drag kings, trans masculinity and a fetish dentist to boot. Filthy and funny, outrageous and outré, *A Night at Switch n' Play* takes you on a riotous ride through one night at the club, layered with insightful interviews from the diverse players. Zorian Clayton

+ Ev Dir Sid Strickland. UK 2018. 5min

A trans non-binary make-up artist plays with the notion of wearing different faces and the stigmas attached to breaking down the performance of gender.



SAT 21 MAR
20:30 NFT2

SUN 22 MAR
20:20 NFT3

HOH



FRI 20 MAR
20:35 NFT2

SUN 22 MAR
15:40 NFT3



FRI 27 MAR
20:50 NFT3

SAT 28 MAR
18:10 NFT3

Our Dance of Revolution

Dir-Prod Phillip Pike. Canada 2019. 102min.
Prod Co Roaring River Films

A documentary portrait of how skilful organising created a cohesive Black LGBTIQ+ movement in Toronto.

This expansive film covers 35 years of black LGBTIQ+ organising in the Canadian city. Engaging a wide diversity of voices, it presents an intergenerational account of how activist communities and discourse was built. From collective housing to the 2016 Toronto Pride sit-in, we see the various ways community activism can be grown. Social groups, black lesbian publishing, club nights, AIDS awareness – all these elements play a role in the growth of a movement. And when black LGBTIQ+ folk find a place for themselves, we see them bring others with them. We also see how their 1980's slogan 'because all black lives are important' fed into Toronto's Black Lives Matter chapter. Decades of building visibility, safer spaces and resistance also include making food for friends and inclusive clubbing. After all, there's always space to dance in a queer black revolution! Tara Brown



THU 19 MAR
20:30 NFT2

FRI 20 MAR
20:20 STUDIO

MON 23 MAR
18:00 STUDIO

Queer Genius

Dir-Scr Chet Pancake. Prod Miriam Stewart, Chet Pancake. USA 2019. 115min. Sales Chet Pancake

A cutting edge look at the lives of four artists whose work has been instrumental in creating a bold queer aesthetic.

Queer Genius follows the lives of four artists: Eileen Myles, the late Barbara Hammer, Jibz Cameron (Dynasty Handbag) and Shannon Funchess (Light Asylum). With an unspoken but deliberate move away from the notion of genius as a male domain, these outspoken, forthright women present precious insights into what it means to be an artist. Moreover, the social and cultural impact of their work is carefully unpacked – from the bravery of Myles and Hammer, who forged a distinct lesbian aesthetic in the 1970s to younger artists Cameron, a physical theatre-maker and comedian, and Funchess, a pioneer of black futurism. The film stays true to its foundational principle, expressed by Gertrude Stein: 'That is what genius is to be the same time listening and telling really listening and really telling'. Jay Bernard

Pier Kids

Dir Elegance Bratton. Prod Chester Algernon Gordon. USA 2019. 84min. Sales The Film Collaborative

Queer black youth in New York contend with homelessness, violence and discrimination with dedication, humour and passion.

Queer family takes on new resonance in this portrait of the cultural descendants of *Paris is Burning*. Beginning with the St Christopher Street Pier queer youth have called home for generations, Bratton's curiosity also extends inland, following the turbulent lives of young people who persevere in the face of tremendous odds. It is alarming how the same issues of homelessness, transphobia, precarity and racism that impacted young LGBTIQ+ people decades ago persist relatively unchanged. Yet it is also heartening how ballroom culture remains a cultural bastion in the fight for social justice. Mixing politics, protest and partying – overcast by the abiding menace of the police – this is a nuanced snapshot of street life from a black queer perspective two decades into the new millennium. Jay Bernard

Please note, this film contains transphobic language



WED 25 MAR
18:15 NFT2

THU 26 MAR
20:30 NFT2



THU 26 MAR
18:10 STUDIO

SAT 28 MAR
13:20 NFT3

Queering the Script

Dir Gabrielle Zilkha. Prod Steph Ouaknine, Alex House. Canada-USA 2019. 93min. Sales The Film Collaborative

Explore the history of queer women on television and the various fandoms they inspired in this insightful and entertaining documentary.

Journeying into the cosplay-wearing world of lesbian fandom, *Queering the Script* examines the often-checkered history of how queer women have been represented on television in the past (bury your gays anyone?). And it shows what influence the fandoms of our beloved shows can have on the storytellers of today, particularly when they go viral with their demand for better representation. It kicks off at ClexaCon, the largest annual event aimed solely at queer fandom. Jam-packed with heartfelt and insightful interviews from both the fans and the creatives involved in the shows – including the Warrior Princess herself, Lucy Lawless – the film explores what happens when you get LGBTIQ+ people in the writers' room. It highlights how important positive representation is for marginalised audiences and, for the uninitiated, what 'shipping' actually means. It's an absolute delight of a film and not to be missed. Emma Smart

Rescue the Fire

Rettet das Feuer

Dir-Prod Jasco Viehues. Germany 2019. 82min. Sales Canadian Filmmakers Distribution Centre

Delve into the stirring archives of photographer Jürgen Baldiga, the gifted provocateur who laid bare his queer life and death.

Berlin, 1979. Young artist Baldiga arrives from a rural mining town, throwing himself into the heady heart of the German gay scene. Within a few years he is established as a new face in photography and performance art, evocatively capturing outsider street life and creatures of the night. Contracting HIV in 1984, Baldiga documents the process in the most candid way possible, forming a detailed visual record of his life with the disease. Artistic collaborator Aron Neubert discusses granting Baldiga's request to photograph him after death in 1993 to complete the magnum opus. Joining other friends and lovers in the archives of the Schwules Museum, the cataloguing of Baldiga's diaries continues. This film is both lusty and poignant, and features fabulously erotic experimental shorts by this bold and proud pioneer. Zorian Clayton

This film features scenes of a graphic nature.

WED 25 MAR
20:40 NFT1SAT 28 MAR
11:20 NFT3**Steelers: The World's First Gay Rugby Club**

Dir Eammon Ashton-Atkinson. Prod Jared Watmuff, Grace Tobin. UK-Netherlands 2020. 80min.
Prod Co One Man Band Media LLC

Whether you are a fan of the game or not, this uplifting documentary will charm the (rugby) socks off you.

In 1995, in a pub in King's Cross, a group of friends discussed the idea of a gay rugby club. From that casual conversation, the first gay rugby team was born. 25 years later, there are 60 clubs worldwide and once every two years they get together for the world tournament of gay rugby – The Bingham Cup. Eammon Ashton-Atkinson's heartfelt documentary travels to Amsterdam as the King's Cross Steelers attempt victory at the 2018 event. Along the way, we get to know some of the team. There's Drew, inside centre by day, drag queen by night; Simon, who found a much-needed support system at the club, and head coach Nic, who isn't shy of shedding a few proud tears when talking about her boys. It's an inspiring testament to the power of teamwork and friendship. Michael Blyth

THU 19 MAR
20:50 NFT3SUN 22 MAR
13:50 NFT2**We Are the Radical Monarchs**

Dir Linda Goldstein Knowlton. Prod Katie Flint, Linda Goldstein Knowlton. USA 2019. 90min.
Prod Co Ladylike Films

Activism is alive and well in this documentary portrait of a group of women who champion the importance of community.

Queer besties and community activists Anayvette Martinez and Marilyn Hollinquest wanted to empower the young women of colour in their neighbourhood, by setting up a youth group. Instead of selling cookies, these girls march on LGBTQ+ Prides; instead of learning to sew, they meet activists from Black Panthers and Black Lives Matter. *We Are the Radical Monarchs* follows the creation of this social justice radical troop and the blossoming of self-love. We also follow Martinez and Hollinquest as they struggle to keep Radical Monarchs alive alongside full-time jobs and limited funding. This joyous documentary is full of hope and inspiration to see the next generation of fierce confident young women more than ready to take on the world. Tara Brown

Please note, this film contains discussion of police brutality and murder

Relaxed Screening

THU 26 MAR | Blue Room

We are delighted to present a relaxed screening of short films for those in the neuro-diverse community, along with their carers and assistants.

At this informal screening, the soundtrack volume will be reduced and low lights will be left on. There will be a variety of seating options and attendees will be free to sit in whichever seat they like and can make noise, move around or leave the room at any time.

Doors will open one hour prior to the start and a quiet space will be available throughout.

Lone Wolf

Dir January Jones. Australia 2019. 7min
See page 22

Dirty

Dir Matthew Puccini. USA 2019. 11min
See page 14

Dungarees

Dir Abel Rubinstein. UK 2020. 5min
See page 21

134

Dir Sarah-Jane Drummemy. Ireland 2019. 12min
See page 21

Sheer Qorma

Dir Faraz Arif Ansari. India 2020. 30min
See page 15

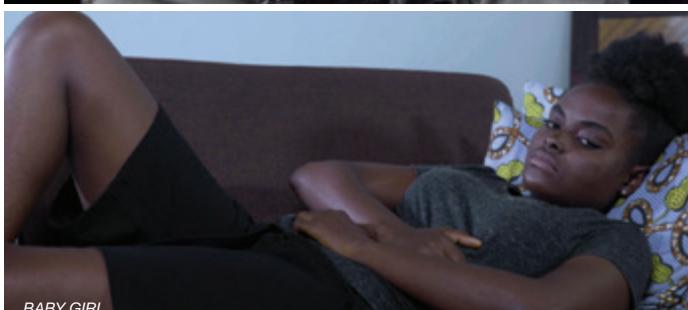
Doors open 19:00 Film start time 20:00

This is a free event. Tickets should be booked via the festival website.

See p12 for the relaxed screening of *Justine*.



THE SEA RUNS THRU MY VEINS



BABY GIRL



MISS MAN

MON 23 MAR
20:40 NFT3

TUE 24 MAR
20:50 STUDIO

At the Brink of Dawn

From the diaspora to the homeland, these films explore non-western ideas and experiences of queerness, gender and intersexuality. Jay Bernard

The Sea Runs Thru My Veins

Dir Zara Zandieh. Germany 2018. 20min
Queer migrants of colour discuss happiness in this beautiful experimental piece.

Aliou's Journey

Dir Mamadou Samba Diallo. Belgium 2017. 21min
A young actor wants to tell the story of their neighbour who migrated because of homophobia – but will the rest of the company accept?

Baby Girl

Dir Selasie Djameh. Ghana 2019. 24min
After discovering she is intersex, a young woman learns more about the condition and makes new friends along the way.

Miss Man

Dir Tathagata Ghosh. India 2019. 25min
A heady, ambitious film in which a young transwoman eschews social and cultural pressures at every stage of self-realisation.

Total running time 90min



MACH STEM



QUEERING DI TEKNOLOJIK



WHEN THE ANDROGYNOUS CHILD



WE ARE DANCERS



CAME THE WAVE



WHEN PRIDE CAME TO TOWN



TUE 24 MAR
18:20 NFT2

SAT 28 MAR
15:40 STUDIO

Depth of Perception

Experimenta Shorts Programme

A provocative collection of artists' film and video work, offering a variety of perspectives on the queer experience. Michael Blyth

Mach Stem

Dir Daniel McIntyre. Canada-Iceland-Norway-Sweden-Portugal 2020. 13min
An essay about skincare, depression, memory loss and the atomic bomb.

Queering Di Teknolojik

Dir Timothy Smith. UK 2019. 9min
A message of hope from the future.

They Looked at Me and I Smiled

Dir Ben Edelberg. Canada 2019. 12min
Does performance end after the make-up is removed?

Womxn

Dir Eden Tinto Collins, Adrien Gystere Peskine. France 2018. 4min
The nightmare of you know who.

Broth of Vigour

Dir Daniel McIntyre. Canada 2020. 6min
A tonic for the body and mind.

GUO4

Dir Peter Strickland. Hungary-UK 2019. 3min
A violent confrontation in a locker room.

May 35

Dir Tina Takemoto. USA 2019. 3min
A haunting commemoration of the Tiananmen Square uprisings.

When the Androgynous Child

Dir Melina Pafundi. Germany-Argentina 2019. 10min
In the creation of myths, the origin is androgynous.

Scat

Dir Eugene Caines. UK 2019. 11min
An exploration of fringe eroticism and transgression.

Total running time 71min

Please note, this programme contains scenes of a sexual nature

MINDS

Unite to Fight

Four tales of resistance highlighting the importance of community and solidarity, from pre-war drag activists to present day safehouses. Zorian Clayton

We Are Dancers

Dir Joe Morris. UK 2019. 30min
A dramatisation of the brave Hansi Sturm, a 1930s cabaret queen who stood up to the Nazis.

Came the Wave Vint la vague

Dir Benjamin Busnel. France 2018. 20min
A dark thriller about a dystopian gender war, but nobody is going to defeat this butch warrior.

To Be Heard Hazte Sentir

Dir Sahary Molina, Luis Gomez, Julio Rengel, Alice Carolina Filipa Fontes, Davis Marcona. Brazil 2019. 26min
A collaborative documentary made by Venezuelan migrants living in Brazil's first LGBTIQ+ shelter.

When Pride Came to Town

Dir Julia Dahr, Julie Lunde Lillesæter. Norway 2018. 18min
A groundswell of support for Norway's first rural Pride outstrips evangelical protests by a country mile.

Total running time 94min

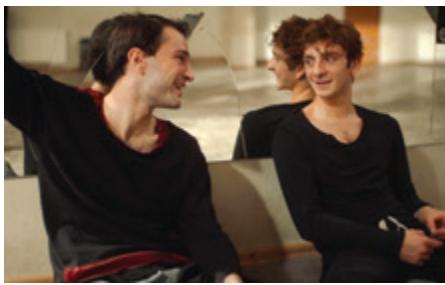
This programme contains scenes of violence.

Best of Year

At this year's Flare we will be offering you another chance to catch four of the best queer films to hit cinemas over the last 12 months.

We will also be repeating some of the most popular films from this year's Festival. Our Best of Fest titles will be based on audience demand, so keep an eye on our website and social media for announcements.

And make note, all tickets for screenings on Sunday 29 March are just £8!



SAT 21 MAR 11:00 STUDIO HOH SUN 22 MAR 17:50 STUDIO SUN 29 MAR 20:30 NFT3

And Then We Danced

Dir-Scr Levan Akin. Prod Mathilde Dedye, Ketie Daniela, Julien Féret. With Levan Gelbakhiani, Bachti Valishvili, Ana Javakishvili. Sweden-Georgia-France 2019. 106min. Cert tbc. UK Distribution Peccadillo Pictures.

Merab's world is turned upside down by the arrival of a new dancer in this impassioned Cannes-winning love story.

The life of a traditional Georgian dancer is intense and demanding. And in this deeply conservative society, the dance tradition is held up as a sacredly patriotic and hyper-masculine activity. This beautiful, rhapsodic film follows handsome Merab as he encounters Irakli, a new dancer brought into the troupe. Irakli not only proves to be Merab's rival in the rehearsal space, but also a competitor for his heart. As love blossoms in secret, Merab struggles with his emotions and the strictures of societal conventions. Controversial in its homeland, *And Then We Danced* has enchanted audiences worldwide since its world premiere and Grand Prix win at the Cannes Film Festival. It's one of the best queer films of the last decade. Brian Robinson

AD All screenings will have Audio Description available



SAT 21 MAR 20:25 STUDIO MON 23 MAR 20:50 STUDIO SUN 29 MAR 13:40 NFT3 HOH

Booksmart

Dir Olivia Wilde. Prod Chelsea Barnard, David Dinstenfeld, Jessica Elbaum, Megan Ellison, Katie Silberman. Scr Emily Halpern, Sarah Haskins, Susanna Fogel, Katie Silberman. With Beanie Feldstein, Kaitlyn Dever, Jessica Williams. USA 2019. 102min. 15. UK Distribution Entertainment One

BFFs Molly and Amy have one night to cram in four years' worth of high-school partying.

The competitive nature of high school is given a refreshing twist in actor Olivia Wilde's fast-paced and incredibly funny directorial debut. Superstar students Molly and Amy have spent their entire high-school career eschewing parties to work towards entry into the best colleges. Discovering that their class of party-hard students have also made the grade for the top schools ignites Molly's fiercely competitive streak. Determined to attend at least one amazingly debauched party before she graduates, she co-opts queer best friend Amy. What follows is one hell of a night to remember. *Booksmart* is a funny, warm and inclusive film that avoids the mean-girl pitfalls of other high-school comedies. Celebrating and embracing difference rather than torturing it, it's a queer classic for the ages. Emma Smart

AD All screenings will have Audio Description available



THU 19 MAR 18:00 STUDIO SAT 21 MAR 18:10 STUDIO SUN 29 MAR 15:40 NFT3

Pain and Glory

Dolor y Gloria

Dir-Scr Pedro Almodóvar. Prod Agustín Almodóvar. With Antonio Banderas, Asier Etxeandia, Penélope Cruz. Spain 2019. 113min. EST. 15. UK Distribution Pathé Film

Pedro Almodóvar makes a triumphant return with this teasingly autobiographical and ultimately moving portrait of a director in crisis.

Antonio Banderas plays Salvador Mallo, a once-fêted film director who is racked by pain and suffering from severe writer's block. In crisis, he is forced to review his life and art. Things are brought to a head when a film festival suggests Salvador reunite with the troubled actor from one of his most beloved films. But his encounter with the actor, an unrepentant but angst-ridden heroin-addict, prompts its own crisis of emotions and memories. A beautifully shot and compelling drama, it finds Almodóvar deftly weaving strands of a complex life into a meditation on creativity, love, memory and how life is lived. Banderas gives a spectacular performance and this is a must for admirers of Almodóvar. Brian Robinson



THU 19 MAR 20:40 STUDIO TUE 24 MAR 18:10 STUDIO SUN 29 MAR 18:00 NFT3

Portrait of a Lady on Fire

Portrait de la jeune fille en feu

Dir-Scr Céline Sciamma. Prod Bénédicte Couvreur. With Noémie Merlant, Adèle Haenel, Luàna Bajrami. France 2019. 122min. EST. 15. UK Distribution Curzon

1770: Marianna, a rare professional female painter, is commissioned to paint a portrait of a young woman for her soon-to-be husband.

If ever there was an immaculate study of lesbian desire this is it. Sciamma's masterful transubstantiation of the male gaze into that of the female inhabits the lives of four 18th century women: a countess attempting to marry off her daughter, Héloïse, who refuses to sit for a wedding portrait; Marianna, employed as a 'walking companion' but tasked with painting Héloïse on the sly; and their servant, whose man troubles reveal a fascinating underworld of female medicine. But it is the burning attraction between Héloïse and Marianna that launches Sciamma's fourth feature into a different stratosphere. This is a gothic tale of what it means to see and be seen, contrasting the repressive portraiture of gender with the passionate, intimate world of women. Jay Bernard

BFI Film Academy accreditation at BFI Flare

Accreditation for young people aged 18-25, who are passionate about queer filmmaking, are exploring careers in the industry, and want to make the most of BFI Flare.

Accreditation includes access to our Digital Viewing Library, Industry events, Press and Industry screenings, and exclusive networking and screening event on 27 March.

Find out about our accreditation offer and application process here:

bfi.org.uk/flare/professional-delegates

#FiveFilmsForFreedom

Join us for the biggest global digital LGBTIQ+ short film programme, brought to you by British Council and BFI.

#FiveFilmsForFreedom invites everyone, everywhere to watch and share the films in solidarity with LGBTIQ+ communities in countries where freedom and equal rights are limited

From **18 to 29 March 2020**, while audiences in London enjoy BFI Flare, people all over the world can watch five films selected from the Festival for free online.

Over the last five years, almost 14 million people have watched the films in over 200 countries and principalities, sharing the tagline Love is a Human Right.

See and share this year's #FiveFilmsForFreedom at britishcouncil.org/film

#FiveFilmsForFreedom



THE MEN WHO SPEAK GAYLE

TUE 24 MAR
16:00 NFTS

More Films For Freedom

Building on the success of #FiveFilmsforFreedom, MORE Films for Freedom is an international collaboration between British, Syrian, Palestinian and South African filmmakers. Join us for a screening of these LGBTIQ+ stories, commissioned by BFI Flare: London LGBTIQ+ Film Festival, the British Council, and BFI NETWORK.

Let My Body Speak

Dir Madonna Adib. UK with Syrian collaboration. 2020. 10min
Our bodies store memories. The body does not forget. A childhood in Damascus, OCD, the revolution, falling in love with a woman. My body remembers.

Nowhere

Dir Christopher Manning. UK with Palestinian collaboration. 2020. 20min

A young Palestinian woman crosses the Israeli border illegally to find her long-lost brother, discovering the truth behind his exiled existence.

The Men Who Speak Gayle

Dir Andrew Brukman. UK with South African collaboration 2020. 10min
Young drag performer Nathan is one of the last people to speak Gayle – a secret language the gay community were forced to invent during Apartheid.

This is a free event. Tickets should be booked via the festival website.

Club Nights

The Festival fun continues...

Stick around after your screenings to catch our hot line-up of DJs.

**BFI BAR & KITCHEN,
BFI SOUTHBANK**
21:00-01:00 | FREE ENTRY

THE BATTY MAMA FRI 20 MAR

A night of old skool 90s R&B and hip hop, garage, afrobeats, bashment, funky house and Detroit techno. The Batty Mama is a down and dirty, open and enticing dystopic space for QTIBPOC by QTIBPOC, with particular focus on showcasing the talent of black queer, trans and non-binary artists.

TWANG SAT 21 MAR

DJ Twang makes his BFI Flare debut with a special blend of high-energy electro and disco. Classic tunes mixed with modern beats, old school and the contemporary, to keep your body moving all night.

LAVENDER NIGHTS THU 26 MAR

A night for those who thought their clubbing days were over! DJs Jo Bunny (Bar Wotever) and Gareth Hackney (Athena) play an eclectic mix of tunes from 60s and 70s classics, show tunes, electro pop, 80s and disco to current chart hits.

CLUB KALI FRI 27 MAR

Legendary turntablist and broadcaster DJ Ritu returns to BFI Flare with her incense-fuelled Bollywood to BollyPop soundtracks. Dance to the unique blend of East-West flavours of Club Kali – the world's first queer Bollywood night. Come early and warm up with some fabulous BollyPop moves in our fun dance class.

BFI FLARE CLOSING NIGHT PARTY SAT 28 MAR BFI SOUTHBANK FOYER 22:00 – LATE | FREE ENTRY

Join us for a fun-filled closing night party with DJ sets from Jonathan Kemp & Sadie Lee (Lower the Tone) spinning bouncy retro pop, tuneful indie, and party classics. Then there's the dynamic Unskinny Bop duo, with their eclectic mix of pop, rock 'n' roll, girl groups, disco, punk, country, divas, R&B, indie and camp classics and GIN (Nite Dykez) brings you the sexiest sounds and the wickedest wines from Faggamuffin Bloc Party, Hackney Carnival's ground-breaking QTIPOC sound system.



Now showing:
JT LeRoy

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BFI FLARE FAVOURITES: NOW AVAILABLE TO RENT



Giant Little Ones

Teenage boys find that intimacy can, like glass, easily shatter and permanently scar.



The Blond One

A carnal tempest with a romantic heart, Marco Berger's drama sketches a playfully voyeuristic study of desire.



Girl

Acute moments of pain and a blazing humanity drive the story of a trans girl fighting to become a ballet dancer.

SUBSCRIPTION CLASSICS: WATCH WITH A FREE TRIAL



Chemsex

Unflinching documentary of fact over sensation, probing the lives of gay men using drugs as sexual experimentation.



The Watermelon Woman

Cheryl Dunye wrote, directed and stars in a pioneering tale, political and satirical, of hidden history.



XXY

An intersex teen must choose a path as anxiety swells in a sparse and beautiful Argentinean story featuring the great Ricardo Darín.

Key:

Feature Title **XX**
Short Film Title **XX**

-
- 134 **20, 28**
- 2 Dollars **12**
- 6.23AM **22**
- After That Party **15**
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- And Then We Danced **30**
- Anne+ **11**
- Ask Any Buddy **17**
- Atomic Love **16**
- Baby Girl **28**
- Bathroom Privileges **21**
- Battle in Waterloo, A **16**
- Because You're Mine **15**
- Bloodsisters: Leather, Dykes and Sadomasochism **17**
- Boldly Go **14**
- Bonde **20**
- Booksmart **30**
- Broth of Vigour **29**
- Busy Inside **25**
- Came the Wave **29**
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- Cuban Heel Shoes **20**
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- Dog Barking at the Moon, A **11**
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- Drag Kids **18**
- Dress Up Like Mrs Doubtfire **18**
- Dungarees **21, 28**
- Ellie & Abbie (& Abbie's Dead Aunt) **12**
- Ev **26**
- Eyelash **21**
- FAG **21**
- Father Figure **20**
- Family **19**
- Flawless **18**
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- Girl, Sweetvoiced **22**
- GUO4 **29**
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- How to Live Your Life Correctly **22**
- I Know Her **22**
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- Jay **14**
- Justine **12**
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- Mack Wrestles **20**
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- Mandem **14**
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- Monsoon **13**
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- Nomi Gets a Dog **25**
- No Hard Feelings **19**
- Our Dance of Revolution **27**
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- Queering the Script **27**
- Rescue the Fire **27**
- Ritual Waves **17**
- Room for Two **16**
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- Scat **29**
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- Shéár Avary: To Be Continued **15**
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- Sixth Happiness **19**
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- Spark, The **15**
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- Steelers: The World's First Gay Rugby Club **28**
- Stray Dogs Come Out at Night **21**
- Suk Suk **13**
- Summer House, The **15**
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- Sweet Mother **21**
- Sweetheart Dancers **20**
- T11 Incomplete **14**
- They Looked at Me and I Smiled **29**
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- Transkids **19**
- Tribute **17**
- Two of Us **14**
- Walk with My Spirits **26**
- We Are Dancers **29**
- We Are the Radical Monarchs **28**
- What Next Partner **15**

- When Pride Came to Town **29**
- When the Androgynous Child **29**
- Wherever You Want **21**
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- Womxn **29**
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- Young Hunter **14**

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- Lesbian Cinema: From Subtext to Visibility **26**
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We are enormously grateful for the generous, passionate and enthusiastic support BFI Flare receives from filmmakers, sponsors, sales and distribution companies and our partners. Special thanks also go to our colleagues at the BFI and the wider film industry, and all our Festival volunteers. BFI Flare is the result of so much effort from this big community.

With thanks to our Funding Contributor

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IT ON**

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FACT

www.tht.org.uk

Terrence Higgins Trust

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Photograph by Sam Egarr

Tickets & Booking Information

FOR FULL TICKET PRICES VISIT OUR
WEBSITE AT BFI.ORG.UK/FLARETICKETS

HOW TO BOOK

ONLINE bfi.org.uk/flare

TELEPHONE 020 7928 3232 from 11:30 – 20:30 daily

IN PERSON At BFI Southbank from 11:00 – 20:30 daily
(11:30 on 24, 25 and 27 Feb)

POST (BFI Members only) Forms from BFI Southbank
Box Office or at bfi.org.uk/members

BOOKING DATES

BFI MEMBERS BOOKING Tue 25 Feb 11:30*

PUBLIC BOOKING Thu 27 Feb 11:30

*BFI Patrons priority booking opens Mon 24 Feb 10:00 and BFI Champions booking
opens Mon 24 Feb 11:30.

TICKET PRICES

| | |
|---|----------------------------------|
| BFI MEMBERS | £6.50 – £10.60 |
| NON-MEMBERS | £8.00 – £12.60 |
| CONCESSIONS (BFI MEMBERS) | £6.50 – £8.20 |
| CONCESSIONS (NON-MEMBERS) | £8.00 – £10.20 |
| OPENING & CLOSING NIGHT GALA PREMIERES | £15.20 |
| SUN 29 MAR | £8 all tickets all screenings |

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25 & UNDER TICKETS ON THE DOOR FOR £3[†]

ON SALE 45 MINS BEFORE ADVERTISED
START TIME FOR NON-GALA FILMS

MISSED OUT? MORE TICKETS RELEASED FROM THUR 12 MAR, INCLUDING BEST OF FEST SCREENINGS ON SUN 29

ALTERNATIVELY, TRY YOUR LUCK IN THE RETURNS QUEUE 45 MINS
BEFORE EACH SCREENING AT THE BOX OFFICE

Find full ticket terms at bfi.org.uk/terms. Other events individually priced. Concession prices are available to: senior citizens, unwaged and disabled visitors on proof of valid ID.

There are no exchanges or refunds of any kind for all customers. Maximum of 2 tickets per film per customer until 27 Feb. BFI Members are exempt from booking fees.

All screenings marked 12+ are suitable for children aged 12+. Children under 15 are not permitted to attend any Festival screenings unless the film has received a lower BBFC certificate.

[†]In person at the venue with valid ID only, subject to availability, first come, first served and excluding Opening and Closing Night Galas. One ticket per customer. Full info bfi.org.uk/flare

ACCESS AT THE FESTIVAL

We are committed to ensuring that the Festival is as inclusive and accessible as possible. We offer a number of accessible screenings and events and will make reasonable efforts to meet any additional requirements within available resources. If you have any questions, suggestions or feedback, email festival@bfi.org.uk

For venue access information please visit

bfi.org.uk/flare-venue

For details of our Accessible Screenings please visit

bfi.org.uk/flare-access

ACCESSIBLE SCREENINGS

Accessible screenings are marked in the calendar and throughout the brochure according to the following key:

Screenings for customers who are D/deaf or hard of hearing

HOH English language films with English subtitles, including descriptions of non-dialogue audio.

BSL Screenings where the introduction and Q&A will be BSL interpreted.

Screenings for those in the neuro-diverse community and their carers and assistants

R Relaxed screenings with adjustments aimed to reduce over-stimulation and create a welcoming environment.

Screenings for customers who are blind or partially-sighted

AD Films with an audio-description soundtrack. Headphones are available on request.

ACCESS TICKETS

A limited number of tickets have been ring-fenced for guests with specific seating requirements including aisle seats for guests with restricted mobility and seating for BSL interpreted events in order to provide the best sight lines.

HOW TO BOOK

Email box.office@bfi.org.uk

Call the Box Office
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Quote 'ACCESS'
(lines open 11:30-20:30)

Access tickets are available on a first come, first served basis and are subject to BFI priority membership booking periods.

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London SE1 8XT
(under Waterloo Bridge)

Daily 09:45-23:00

Box Office (daily)

Phone 11:30-20:30
In person 11:00-20:30

BFI FLARE: ANTI-PIRACY POLICY

Cameras are not permitted in Festival screenings. Recording sound, taking pictures or filming during the screening is illegal and any person caught in the act of filming will be immediately expelled and pirated material seized. They may also be subject to legal action.

Calendar

| | NFT1 | NFT2 | NFT3 | Studio | Other Venues |
|---------------|--|--|---|--|--|
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| THU 19 | 13:50 Ask Any Buddy p17 18:20 Clementine p11 20:45 Young Hunter p14 | 18:10 For They Know Not What They Do p26 Queer Genius p27 | 16:00 Cicada p7 18:30 Drag Kids p18 20:50 We Are the Radical Monarchs p28 | 18:00 Pain and Glory p30 20:40 Portrait of a Lady on Fire p30 | |
| FRI 20 | 13:50 For They Know Not What They Do p26 | | 15:45 Young Hunter p14 | | |
| | 18:00 No Hard Feelings BSL p19 | 18:20 Make Up p18 | 18:10 You Don't Nomi p20 | 17:50 Clementine p11 | BFI Bar & Kitchen |
| | 20:30 Showgirls p20 | 20:35 Pier Kids p27 | 20:40 Busy Inside p25 | 20:20 Queer Genius p27 | Club Night: The Batty Mama p31 |
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| | 15:40 Matthias & Maxime p12 | 16:05 Jack & Yaya p12 | 16:00 Bloodsisters: Leather, Dykes and Sadomasochism p17 | 18:10 Pain and Glory p30 | 11:00 Drag Queen Story Time p26 |
| | 18:30 Spiral p19 | 18:20 My Fiona p13 | 18:35 Bodily Autonomy p17 | 20:25 Booksmart AD p30 | BFI Bar & Kitchen |
| | 20:45 Midnight Kiss p19 | 20:30 Our Dance of Revolution p27 | 20:55 Transkids p19 | | Club Night: Twang p31 |
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| | 15:50 Catching Feels p14 | 16:00 My Fiona p13 | 15:40 Pier Kids p27 | 15:30 I Am My Mother's Child p15 | Lesbian Cinema: From Subtext to Visibility p26 |
| | 18:20 Justine p12 | 18:10 Transkids p19 | 18:15 Ask Any Buddy p17 | 17:50 And Then We Danced AD p30 | |
| | 20:40 Sequin in a Blue Room p19 | 20:30 You Don't Nomi p20 | 20:20 Our Dance of Revolution p27 | 20:15 Busy Inside p25 | |
| MON 23 | 16:00 Spiral p19 | 14:10 Justine p12 | 14:00 Justine R p12 | | Blue Room |
| | 18:20 Memories of a Teenager p13 | 18:10 Dance Like Everyone's Watching p20 | 18:30 Make Up p18 | 18:00 Queer Genius p27 | 19:00 Big Gay Film Quiz p25 |
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| | 20:45 | 20:40 T11 Incomplete p14 | 20:30 Intersex Stories p18 | 20:50 At the Brink of Dawn p28 | |
| WED 25 | 14:00 Sequin in a Blue Room p19 | | 15:50 A Dog Barking at the Moon p11 | | |
| | 18:20 Changing the Game p18 | 18:15 Queering the Script p27 | 18:30 Flawless p18 | 18:40 The Prince p13 | |
| | 20:40 Steelers: The World's First Gay Rugby Club p28 | 20:30 Lingua Franca p12 | 20:45 Two of Us p14 | 20:50 Ellie & Abbie (& Ellie's Dead Aunt) p12 | |
| THU 26 | 13:45 Moffie p13 | | 15:50 T11 Incomplete p14 | | Blue Room |
| | 18:20 Disclosure: Trans Lives on Screen p8 Monsoon p13 | 18:40 La Leyenda Negra p26 | 18:30 Depth of Perception p29 | 18:10 Rescue the Fire p27 | 20:00 Relaxed Screening R p28 |
| | 20:45 | 20:30 Queering the Script p27 | 20:50 Lingua Franca p12 | 20:20 Keyboard Fantasies: The Beverly Glenn... p26 | BFI Bar & Kitchen |
| FRI 27 | 13:45 Matthias & Maxime p12 | | 16:10 Disclosure: Trans Lives on Screen p8 Don't Look Down p18 | | |
| | 18:20 Suk Suk BSL p13 | 18:30 Anne+ p11 | 18:40 | 18:00 Changing the Game p18 | BFI Bar & Kitchen |
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| | 18:15 Closing Night Gala: Summerland p8 | 18:05 Flawless p18 | 18:10 Pride & Protest p27 | 18:00 Suk Suk p13 | BFI Southbank Foyer |
| | 20:45 Closing Night Gala: Summerland p8 | 20:30 The Lawyer p12 | 20:20 A Night at Switch n' Play p26 | | Closing Night Party p31 |
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| | TBC Best of Fest (title tbc) | TBC Best of Fest (title tbc) | 15:40 Pain and Glory p30 | TBC Best of Fest (title tbc) | |
| | TBC Best of Fest (title tbc) | TBC Best of Fest (title tbc) | 18:00 Portrait of a Lady on Fire p30 | TBC Best of Fest (title tbc) | |
| | TBC Best of Fest (title tbc) | TBC Best of Fest (title tbc) | 20:30 And Then We Danced AD p30 | TBC Best of Fest (title tbc) | |

HOH Hearing Impaired Subtitles

BSL Intro/Q&A will be BSL interpreted

AD Audio Description available

R Relaxed Screening



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