

**BFI** **BFI LONDON FILM**  
**FESTIVAL 2017**

In partnership with  
**AMERICAN EXPRESS**

**61<sup>st</sup> BFI London Film Festival in partnership with American Express® adds new Screen Talks with Jake Gyllenhaal, Lucrecia Martel and Annette Bening to the programme line-up with Takashi Miike**



Images, clockwise from top left: Lucrecia Martel, Annette Bening, Takuya Kimura and Takashi Miike (on set of *BLADE OF THE IMMORTAL*) and Jake Gyllenhaal in *STRONGER* (photo credit: Lionsgate)

**For Immediate Release**

**LONDON – 21 September 2017:** The 61st BFI London Film Festival in partnership with American Express® is delighted to announce additional Screen Talks with BAFTA-winning and Academy-nominated actor Jake Gyllenhaal, four-time Academy Award-nominated actor Annette Bening and critically acclaimed director Lucrecia Martel alongside previously announced guest, director Takashi Miike.

The Festival's acclaimed Screen Talks series welcomes some of the most exciting international actors and directors in contemporary cinema to discuss their body of work. Jake Gyllenhaal, the compelling and versatile actor of *BROKEBACK MOUNTAIN* and *END OF WATCH*, will be giving a Screen Talk about his career and his remarkable performance as a survivor of the Boston marathon bombing in David Gordon Green's *STRONGER*, which is presented at this year's Festival. The brilliant and always eloquent Annette Bening will discuss her distinguished career and her commitment to playing unconventional characters, including her role as Hollywood screen icon Gloria Grahame in *FILM STARS DON'T DIE IN LIVERPOOL*. And Argentine director Lucrecia Martel, whose intoxicating and elusive films have seen her critically acclaimed at the world's top international festivals, will discuss her filmmaking approach and well as her extraordinary new film *ZAMA*.

The programme of Screen Talks events include:

#### **SCREEN TALK: JAKE GYLLENHAAL**

Hosted by broadcaster and writer, Edith Bowman

Screening date, time and location: **Thursday 5 October, 15.45, NFT 1**

From his breakthrough role in the 2001 cult favourite *DONNIE DARKO*, to climate change blockbuster *THE DAY AFTER TOMORROW*, and from his BAFTA-winning performance in *BROKEBACK MOUNTAIN* to his deeply unnerving performances in *NIGHTCRAWLER* and *NOCTURNAL ANIMALS*, Jake Gyllenhaal has delivered some of the most diverse and accomplished performances of the 21st Century.

Gyllenhaal joins the festival to discuss his career and celebrate the UK premiere of his latest film *STRONGER* - screening in LOVE - in which he gives an extraordinary performance as a survivor of the Boston Marathon bombing.

#### **SCREEN TALK: ANNETTE BENING**

Hosted by BFI Head of Cinemas and Events, Gaylene Gould

Screening date, time and location: **Thursday 12 October, 16.30, NFT 1**

Annette Bening's beguiling portrayal of the Marquise de Merteuil in Milos Forman's *VALMONT* attracted the eye of director Stephen Frears who cast her as a young hustler in his stylish film noir *THE GRIFTERS*, for which she earned her first Academy Award nomination for her role as a flirtatious, unapologetic con artist.

She is known for playing complex characters that refuse to fit into societal norms or expectations. Whether playing an adulterous housewife in *AMERICAN BEAUTY*, a bohemian single-mother in *20<sup>TH</sup> CENTURY WOMEN*, a larger-than-life actress in *BEING JULIA*, or a well-meaning yet overbearing lesbian mother in *THE KIDS ARE ALL RIGHT*, Bening's performances are layered and nuanced.

Bening joins us to discuss her career and her new film in which she plays the aging film actress Gloria Grahame. *FILM STARS DON'T DIE IN LIVERPOOL* screens as The May Fair Hotel Gala.

### **SCREEN TALK: LUCRECIA MARTEL**

Hosted by LFF Programme Advisor, academic and critic, Maria Delgado

Screening date, time and location: **Sunday 15 October, 12.00, NFT3**

A founding member of the New Argentine Cinema movement that came to international prominence in the mid-1990s, Lucrecia Martel is one of the most critically acclaimed directors of contemporary cinema and one of its great stylists. Her work is poetic, mysterious, and deeply personal.

Following the success of her Award-winning Salta trilogy, *THE SWAMP* (La ciénaga), *THE HOLY CHILD* (La niña santa) and *THE HEADLESS WOMAN* (La mujer sin cabeza), the enigmatic director returns after almost a decade hiatus from feature filmmaking with her bold fourth feature *ZAMA*, an incisive and visually arresting examination of the abuses of colonialism.

The Festival is delighted to welcome Martel to London to discuss her creative approach to narrative filmmaking and to present *ZAMA* which screens as a Special Presentation in association with Sight & Sound.

### **SCREEN TALK: TAKASHI MIIKE**

Hosted by Editor-at-Large Total Film, Jamie Graham

Screening date, time and location: **Monday 9 October, 18.15, Curzon Soho**

Riding the 'Asian Extreme' wave of the late 1990s, revered Japanese director Takashi Miike achieved global prominence with his astonishingly graphic films *AUDITION* and *ICHI THE KILLER*. Now, with a hundred films under his belt, the prolific filmmaker has defied all attempts to pigeonhole him as a niche director. He is both a film festival darling and a big-budget hit-maker. Best known for over-the-top violence and gore, his films cover a much wider range of genres and styles, including light-hearted children's films (*ZEBRAMAN* and *THE GREAT YOKAI WAR*), period pieces (*SABU*), subdued road movies (*THE BIRD PEOPLE IN CHINA*) and farcical musical-comedy-horror (*THE HAPPINESS OF THE KATAKURIS*).

Takashi Miike joins us to talk about the road leading to his 100th film, the blood-drenched supernatural samurai movie *BLADE OF THE IMMORTAL* which screens as our THRILL gala.

The 61st BFI London Film Festival in partnership with American Express® takes place from Wednesday 5 October-Sunday 15 October 2017. Full programme information at [www.bfi.org.uk/lff](http://www.bfi.org.uk/lff)

**- Ends-**

### **Festival Information & Ticket Booking Details**

On sale date (incl. priority booking window) for the Jake Gyllenhaal, Annette Bening and Lucrecia Martel Screen Talks:

**Members on Friday 22 September – 11.30am**

**Public on Saturday 23 September – 10.30am**

The Takashi Miike Screen Talk is **on sale now**.

### **All other Festival tickets are on sale now**

Telephone Bookings: 10:00-20:30 daily at +44 (0)20 7928 3232

Online: [bfi.org.uk/lff](http://bfi.org.uk/lff)

In Person: BFI Southbank Box Office 10:00-20:30

### **For further press information and general enquiries about the 61<sup>st</sup> BFI London Film Festival**

*Please note separate DDA and Four Colman Getty details for the BFI LFF sections:*

### **OPENING/CLOSING AND HEADLINE GALAS, SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS and ASSOCIATED SCREEN TALKS:**

DDA Email: [LFFPress@ddapr.com](mailto:LFFPress@ddapr.com) | Tel: +44 207 932 9800

Head of Press: Kate Hudson. Festival Publicity Assistant: Yasmin Purves

### **For Headline Gala Red Carpet Media Enquiries:**

DDA Media Manager: Hannah Proudlock

Email: [Hannah.Proudlock@ddapr.com](mailto:Hannah.Proudlock@ddapr.com) | Tel: +44 207 932 9800

### **ACCREDITATION TO THE FESTIVAL, MAIN FESTIVAL PROGRAMME AND STRAND GALAS, LFF AWARDS and EVENTS:**

Four Colman Getty Email: [LFF@fourcommunications.com](mailto:LFF@fourcommunications.com) | Tel: + 44 20 3697 4262

Accreditation: [laura.steele@fourcommunications.com](mailto:laura.steele@fourcommunications.com) | +44 20 3697 4241

Project Lead: Matt Railton. Title PR Lead: Jon Rushton

### **LFF GENERAL ENQUIRIES**

61st BFI London Film Festival enquiries

BFI London Film Festival PR Manager: Mia Farrell

Email: [Mia.Farrell@bfi.org.uk](mailto:Mia.Farrell@bfi.org.uk) | Tel: +44 (0)20 7957 8970

BFI Head of Press and PR: Judy Wells

Tel: +44 (0)7984 180 501

Film images can be found at: [www.image.net](http://www.image.net)

**Social Media:**

@BFI | #LFF

Facebook.com/londonfilmfestival

**NOTES TO EDITORS****About the BFI**

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

- Connecting audiences to the widest choice of British and World cinema
- Preserving and restoring the most significant film collection in the world for today and future generations
- Championing emerging and world class film makers in the UK - investing in creative, distinctive and entertaining work
- Promoting British film and talent to the world
- Growing the next generation of film makers and audiences

The BFI is a Government arm's-length body and distributor of Lottery funds for film. The BFI serves a public role which covers the cultural, creative and economic aspects of film in the UK. It delivers this role:

- As the UK-wide organisation for film, a charity core funded by Government
- By providing Lottery and Government funds for film across the UK
- By working with partners to advance the position of film in the UK.

Founded in 1933, the BFI is a registered charity governed by Royal Charter. The BFI Board of Governors is chaired by Josh Berger.

**The BFI London Film Festival**

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

## Clare Stewart Biography

Clare Stewart's 21 year programming career has encompassed leadership roles as Festival Director, Sydney Film Festival (2006-2011) and the inaugural Head of Film Programs at the Australian Centre for the Moving Image in Melbourne (2002-2006) as well as various roles at the Australian Film Institute (1996-2001), including Exhibition Manager, and programmer and Committee Member of the Melbourne Cinémathèque (1995-2002). She has been BFI Head of Festivals and BFI London Film Festival Director since October 2011.



## About American Express® Company

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

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

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

---

PRINCIPAL PARTNER



---

SUPPORTED BY



---

MAIN SPONSORS



---

OFFICIAL PARTNERS



---

MAIN FUNDING CONTRIBUTORS

