



**PRESS
RELEASE**

BFI APPOINTS ANU GIRI

HEAD OF BUSINESS AND OPERATIONS, BFI FESTIVALS

LONDON – Friday 22nd February 2019: The BFI today announces that **Anu Giri** has been appointed **Head of Business and Operations, BFI Festivals**, joining the team on the 25th of February. The post will play a key role in supporting the growth and delivery of the BFI London Film Festival, as well as supporting the team who deliver BFI Flare London LGBTQ+ Film Festival. Reporting into BFI Festivals Director Tricia Tuttle, Anu will run the business side of the festivals, devising their long term planning and leading on financial and strategic business matters. She will support the LFF's development as a global event for film audiences and industry and work closely with Tricia Tuttle to secure and enhance the Festival's increasingly significant position in the autumn international film calendar, whilst also working on developing key partnerships around BFI London Film Festival which help deliver strategic goals and build audiences.

Anu joins the BFI from Dance Umbrella Festival, where she has been Executive Director since 2014, responsible for business development, finance and fundraising. Prior to this, she was Co-Director of English National Ballet School, where she developed the 'My First' series of children's ballets in partnership with the English National Ballet and set up ENBS Juniors – high quality children's ballet classes across 3 London boroughs.

Anu Giri said: *"I am delighted to be joining the BFI London Film Festival, supporting Tricia and her vision as she takes the helm. My focus will be working with her and the team to ensure the Festival continues to grow and thrive and I look forward to contributing to the delivery of this exciting world class event to audiences in London and throughout the UK."*

Tricia Tuttle, Director, BFI Festivals, said: *"We are immensely excited about the future of BFI London Film Festival after both huge change and huge successes in the last five years. As we launch into the next period of the Festival's development, we need smart arts business leadership and a senior team strong in working with partners to deliver ambitious UK and international plans; Anu brings that in spades. I can't wait to work with her."*

Anu spent 10 years at Arts Council England and was Head of Dance from 2003-2010; earlier roles include General Manager at Shobana Jeyasingh Dance Company and Education Administrator at Birmingham Royal Ballet. She currently serves on the Boards of One Dance UK, The Arts Foundation and is Chair of Aakash Odedra Company.

Anu's new role begins as interim Managing Director Anne-Marie Flynn departs. In her 10 years at the BFI and as former BFI Festivals Head of Business & Industry, Anne-Marie has been instrumental in the growth of BFI Festivals. She is leaving to pursue her own creative interests outside of London, but the BFI will maintain the relationship with her on a consultancy basis.

ENDS

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NOTES TO EDITORS

About the BFI

The BFI is the UK's lead organisation for film, television and the moving image. It is a cultural charity that:

- Curates and presents the greatest international public programme of World Cinema for audiences; in cinemas, at festivals and online
- Cares for the BFI National Archive – the most significant film and television archive in the world
- Actively seeks out and supports the next generation of filmmakers
- Works with Government and Industry to make the UK the most creatively exciting and prosperous place to make film internationally

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

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.