BFI PLAYER LAUNCHES THE CUT

Unique insights from leading artists and creatives on the influence of film on their lives and work
Designer Es Devlin picks Nymphomaniac Volume I and II, Orphée and
Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind
https://player.bfi.org.uk/the-cut

London, Wednesday 24 January 2018 – BFI Player, the BFI’s unique VOD service, today launches THE CUT. A monthly series of new short films featuring nine high-profile artistic creators lauded for success in their respective creative spheres – from fashion and music to science, art and design – who all have a passion for film and chose the titles that have most inspired them. Free to view on BFI Player, THE CUT launches with British designer Es Devlin and will include actor, rapper and comedian Ben Bailey Smith also known as Doc Brown, and world-renowned physicist Brian Cox. Further names to be announced.

From January through to September 2018, BFI Player will feature a new short every month with each artist revealing the independent films from around the world that they love. THE CUT offers unique insights into how the lives and careers of iconic and respected creatives have been influenced by film. Each of their chosen films can be found on BFI Player, introducing audiences to titles they might not have been aware of or were hesitant to explore.

The first CUT is from British designer Es Devlin, best known for her kinetic stage sculptures created in conjunction with artists including Beyoncé, Kanye West and Lady Gaga as well as her role in staging the 2012 Summer Olympics closing ceremony. Devlin has designed for many of the major UK theatre companies including the Royal Shakespeare Company, Royal Court Theatre and the Old Vic.

Talking about her film choices on THE CUT, Es Devlin says: “I want to get lost in a film; I want to be absolutely taken over....Some of the most extraordinary and important experiences that I’ve had in a cinemas have been, if I analyse it, independent cinema. It’s the experiences where you know you’re having a distinct engagement with a voice that hasn’t been diluted.”

THE CUT is supported by Creative Europe, providing new content for BFI Player, a video streaming service which combines free, rental and subscription offers to provide access to the world’s greatest global cinema. It contains classic and contemporary films as well as titles hand-picked from BFI festivals, cultural programme and the BFI National Archive.

Edward Humphrey, Director of Digital at the BFI, said: “We are thrilled to be working with such acclaimed creatives to shine a light on the power of independent British and European film to challenge, delight and inspire. With the proliferation of content available to view at home, it is fantastic that these artists, who are leaders in their field, act as trusted curators to guide audiences to films that deserve a spotlight. BFI Player is the destination for film fans and through THE CUT we hope to introduce more people to great films. Thanks to Creative Europe for supporting this project.”

Es Devlin’s first episode of THE CUT can be viewed on the BFI Player from 24 January https://player.bfi.org.uk/the-cut.
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.