BFI’S ‘HITCHCOCK 9’ GO INTERNATIONAL

Hitchcock restored silent films screen in 15 countries

**Friday 14th June 2013** After a 3 year BFI National Archive project Rescue the Hitchcock 9 to restore Alfred Hitchcock’s 9 silent films and highly acclaimed gala premieres of the films in the UK in 2012, the Hitchcock 9 are being seen by audiences all over the world, with major presentations on three continents over the next few days alone. For the first time internationally ALL nine films will be showcased by the San Francisco Silent Film Festival from 14-16 June and at the Shanghai International Film Festival (SIFF) from 17-22 June. BLACKMAIL screens tonight with a live performance by Oulu Symphony Orchestra of Neil Brand’s orchestral score at the Midnight Sun Film Festival in Finland.

Launching an extensive US tour, the San Francisco screenings at the legendary Castro Theatre will be accompanied live by Stephen Horne, Judith Rosenberg and the Mont Alto Motion Picture Orchestra. More than a dozen prestigious venues, each screening all of the titles, are already lined up for the tour across the US. The touring festival is a joint venture between the BFI, Park Circus/ITV Studios, and Rialto Pictures/Studiocanal. Simultaneously with the films’ New York premiere at the Brooklyn Academy of Music (BAM), the Hitchcock 9 will also feature as a highlight of this year’s Il Cinema Ritrovato in Bologna, Italy from 29 June – 6 July.

Individual performances of the films have so far been seen in France, New Zealand, Brazil, Ukraine, USA, India, China, Armenia, Sweden and Spain. Further screenings are planned for 2013/14 in Czech Republic, Mexico, Germany and Australia with more to follow (see notes to editors for confirmed screenings list).

From his directorial debut in 1925 with The Pleasure Garden to Blackmail (1929) Hitchcock created a group of films which already reveal his genius at work, and show that the brilliance of the Hitchcock touch, so admired in later works, was there at the very beginning of his career.

**THE HITCHCOCK 9:**

**THE PLEASURE GARDEN** (UK 1926)

**THE LODGER** (UK 1926)

**DOWNHILL** (UK 1927)
EASY VIRTUE (UK 1927)

THE RING (UK 1927)

CHAMPAGNE (UK 1928)

THE FARMER’S WIFE (UK 1929)

THE MANXMAN (UK 1929)

BLACKMAIL (UK 1929)

Using the latest restoration techniques, the BFI National Archive has worked from the earliest surviving materials of the silent Hitchcock films, in some cases using vintage nitrate prints or negatives, enabling the viewer to see the films in greater clarity than they have been seen for many decades. Original tints and toning have been reinstated and missing scenes reincorporated, changing our understanding of Hitchcock’s silent works.

Work was undertaken at the BFI National Archive and key digital facilities supplied by Deluxe Soho. The work has taken almost two years to complete and has been supported by a wide range of industry and individual support, including a significant donation from The Film Foundation (chair: Martin Scorsese) and the Hollywood Foreign Press Association. This restoration project could not have taken place without the support and co-operation of rightsholders STUDiocanal and ITV Studios Global Entertainment.

PRESS CONTACT

Judy Wells, Head of Press and PR, BFI
Tel: +44 (0) 20 7957 8918 or email: judy.wells@bfi.org.uk

NOTES TO EDITORS

Additional background information on Rescue the Hitchcock 9

Hitchcock’s early films are among the finest achievements of British silent cinema. His subsequent films refined his techniques of stunning visual composition, richly cinematic storytelling linked to dramatic invention, which are uniquely Hitchcock.

The surviving nitrate materials for these films bear the marks of wear and tear over the decades. New digital techniques mean that the BFI’s team of technical experts are now in a position to restore scratched and damaged negatives and produce much improved viewing copies.

Phase two of the restoration means we are actively seeking more funds for restoration and to enable us to produce these once in a lifetime events: from Hitchcock devotees, film lovers or anyone who cares about our cultural history. Even small amounts to help us reach our target and members of the public who would like to save an important and historic film can contribute by visiting www.bfi.org.uk/saveafilm.

BFI Silent Hitchcock Restorations – International Screenings

- 19 May 2012
  France - Cannes International Film Festival
  THE RING - world premiere, with live accompaniment by Stephen Horne

- 5 August 2012
  New Zealand International Film Festival
BLACKMAIL – Neil Brand’s score performed live by 18-piece orchestra

- **4 October 2012**
  Brazil - Rio de Janeiro International Film Festival (Partnership with British Council)
  THE PLEASURE GARDEN – Daniel Patrick Cohen’s score performed live
  Opening film of Transform Festival as part of Rio Film Festival
  Venue: Copacabana Beach
  Daniel Patrick Cohen’s score performed live by youth orchestra of Orchestra Sinfonica

- **20 October 2012**
  France - Lumière Film Festival, Lyon
  THE PLEASURE GARDEN (with solo piano accompaniment). Introduced by Kieron Webb, BFI National Archive

- **17 November 2012**
  Ukraine – Kiev (20th anniversary of British Council Kiev)
  THE LODGER

- **29 November 2012**
  USA - Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences, Los Angeles
  US premiere of THE RING with recorded score by Soweto Kinch
  Introduced by Kieron Webb, BFI National Archive

- **3 December 2012**
  France - Cinémathèque Française, ‘Toute la mémoire du monde’ (Archive Festival)
  BLACKMAIL
  Closing event of festival in large auditorium accompanied by DJ Chloe with electronic music, DJ Chloe. Introduced by Bryony Dixon, BFI National Archive.

- **7 December 2012**
  India – Kerala International Film Festival
  THE RING – Soweto Kinch’s score performed live

- **7 December 2012**
  France – La Ferme du Buisson
  THE PLEASURE GARDEN

- **16 & 31 December 2012**
  China – Beijing, British Council British Film Week
  THE LODGER (DCP with recorded score)
  Screenings at MOMA Broadway Cinematheque, Beijing

- **21 & 23 December 2012**
  China – Xi’an, in association with British Council
  THE LODGER
  Screenings at Jackie Chan Cinema, Xi’an

- **1 – 10 March 2013**
  Armenia – British Film Festival, Yerevan
  THE LODGER (DCP with score)
  In partnership with British Council

- **20 April 2013**
  Sweden - Swedish Film Institute, Stockholm
  BLACKMAIL (with live piano accompaniment by Matti Bye)

- **25 April 2013**
  Spain - Filmoteca de Catalunya, Barcelona
  BLACKMAIL (as part of FIAF Congress 2013)
  Introduced by Bryony Dixon, BFI National Archive

- **14 June 2013**
  Finland – Midnight Sun Film Festival
  BLACKMAIL (with Neil Brand’s score for 18-piece orchestra performed live by Oulu Symphony Orchestra)

- **14 – 16 June 2013**
  USA - San Francisco Silent Film Festival
  West Coast launch of Hitchcock US tour.
  Special weekend event at Castro Cinema
17 – 22 June 2013
China – Shanghai International Film Festival
9 x Hitchcock silents including special presentation of BLACKMAIL in Shanghai Film Museum

18 June 2013
USA - Academy of Motion Pictures, LA
BLACKMAIL at Samuel Goldwyn Theatre

29 June – 6 July 2013
Italy – Cinema Ritrovato, Bologna
Presentation of 9 restorations in 35mm

29 June – 4 July 2013
USA - BAM (Brooklyn Academy of Music), New York
East Coast launch of Hitchcock US tour

30 June 2013
Czech Republic – 48th Karlovy Vary Film Festival
THE RING – Neil Brand live piano

27 June – 13 July 2013
USA - Los Angeles County Museum of Art (LACMA)

12 – 28 July 2013
USA – Cambridge, Harvard Film Archive

13 July – 3 August 2013
USA - AFI Silver Theater, Silver Spring

14 July – 4 August 2013
USA - National Gallery of Art, Washington

26 – 28 July 2013
USA - Seattle International Film Festival (SIFF)

July 2013
Mexico – Cineteca Nacional, Mexico City
9 x Hitchcock silent

4 August – December 2013
China - Hong Kong Film Archive
6 x titles plus BLACKMAIL as outdoor event at Clockenflap Festival

8 – 18 August 2013
Germany - Bonn International Silent Film Festival
THE PLEASURE GARDEN (8 August – with Stephen Horne on piano, accordion, flute)
EASY VIRTUE (15 August – with Joachim Baerez on piano)

9 – 15 August 2013
USA – Chicago, The Music Box Theatre

16 – 31 August 2013
USA - Pacific Film Archive, Berkeley, CA

16 August – 8 September 2013
Finland - Helsinki, KAVA (National Audiovisual Archive)
9 x Hitchcock silents

13 – 14 September 2013
Australia – Melbourne, ACMI
THE RING
Australian premiere

10 October – 25 October 2013
USA - Wexner Center for the Arts, Columbus, OH

1 – 25 November 2013
USA - Museum of Fine Art, Houston

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

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

*** PICTURE DESK ***
A selection of images for journalistic use in promoting the screenings can be found at www.image.net under BFI / Archive / The Genius of Hitchcock