

For immediate release



FOR THE FIRST TIME, BFI LFF EDUCATION PROGRAMME OFFERS INSPIRING FILM EDUCATION SCREENINGS AND EVENTS TO YOUNG PEOPLE ACROSS THE UK

- Primary school students in London, Bristol, Leeds and Glasgow will have access to FREE BFI LFF Education screenings of DreamWorks Animation and Pearl Studio's co-production **ABOMINABLE** in partnership with Into Film
- Secondary school students in London, Bristol, Sheffield and Glasgow will have access to FREE BFI Education screenings of Tom Harper's **THE AERONAUTS** in partnership with Into Film
- BFI LFF Education will offer audiences in London, Bristol and Nottingham access to Sarah Gavron's **ROCKS** for young people from 16-25 years old
- The female-led cast and crew of **ROCKS** are expected to help deliver a day of workshops for young aspiring filmmakers in London
- We introduce #GenerationNow, inspiring coming-of-age shorts from around the world FREE to view online at bfi.org.uk/lffeducation
- The full programme utilises film's power to enhance and support learning, providing inspiration in and outside of the classroom



Thursday 5 September, London – Today BFI London Film Festival (LFF) in partnership with American Express announces a new **BFI LFF Education Programme**, which for the first time gives children and young people UK-wide the chance to enjoy brilliant films from this year's Festival. School students with their teachers can access free screenings of major new Gala films, **ABOMINABLE** (Jill Culton, 2019) and **THE AERONAUTS** (Tom Harper, 2019) in venues in Bristol, Glasgow, Leeds, London and Sheffield with special guests Q&As. Audiences aged 16-25 can get a sneak peak of Sarah Gavron's LFF Special Presentation **ROCKS** (2019), followed by London

based workshops with the film's crew. The Festival also introduces **#GenerationNow**, a selection of Festival short films available online for free at bfi.org.uk/lffeducation.

BFI LFF School screenings in partnership with Into Film

BFI LFF Education in partnership with Into Film takes classrooms on a journey as they explore the Festival's free school screenings, specially selected for each age group. Both screenings will be followed by a special guest Q&A (to be announced soon), simultaneously live-streamed to each venue. The screening will be accompanied by free educational resources grounding the adventures in the classroom with materials connecting the films to the national curriculum, making these screenings an invaluable resource to the pupils' learning.

Primary school students will have the opportunity to watch DreamWorks Animation and Pearl Studio's co-production **ABOMINABLE** (Jill Culton, 2019) following its UK Premiere as this year's BFI LFF Family Gala and ahead of its theatrical release on Friday 11th October. The film is a fun and heart-warming adventure about a teenage girl and her mischievous friends who discover a young Yeti and embark on a thrilling, magical quest to reunite the mysterious creature with his family at the highest point on Earth. Screenings are free to schools on Tuesday 8th October at 10:00 and take place at BFI Southbank (London), Watershed (Bristol), Hyde Park Picture House (Leeds) and Glasgow Film Theatre (Glasgow). Classroom resources that accompany the ABOMINABLE screening focus on understanding different cultures as well as the geography of Asia. The film also supports school's lessons on tales, myths and legends alongside the history of exploration.

BFI LFF Education brings secondary school audiences **THE AERONAUTS** (Tom Harper, 2019) starring Felicity Jones and Eddie Redmayne. Set in 1862 and inspired by true events, the film follows wealthy young widow Amelia Wren (Jones) and headstrong scientist James Glaisher (Redmayne), as they mount a balloon expedition to fly higher than anyone in history. Following this year's BFI LFF Mayor of London's Gala, where it will enjoy its European premiere, the film will screen simultaneously at BFI Southbank (London), Watershed (Bristol), Sheffield Showrooms (Sheffield) and Glasgow Film Theatre (Glasgow) on Thursday 10th October at 10:00. THE AERONAUTS encompasses a myriad of topics, including science, history, geography, what it means to take risks, believe in yourself and make a difference, making it an exciting springboard for lessons in a broad range of subjects.

Future Film at BFI LFF

Sarah Gavron's (Suffragette) latest feature, **ROCKS**, has been programmed for the 16-25 year old audience and will headline Future Film at LFF on 10:00 on Saturday 12th October. ROCKS will screen simultaneously at BFI Southbank (London), Watershed (Bristol) and Broadway (Nottingham) with tickets priced just £5. The film is a vibrant and hugely engaging portrait of female friendship and growing up, giving a voice to girls who have something to say but rarely the opportunity to say it. Based on a script from award-winning playwright Theresa Ikoko and Claire Wilson, the drama was developed through extensive workshops with the female cast, all of whom were discovered through casting sessions at schools. For those attending in London, there will be £10 tickets available, which covers the screening plus Future Film Workshops at BFI LFF. The full day pass gives aspiring filmmakers access to workshops, with the film's crew expected, as well as a chance to meet the award-winning filmmakers, these sessions offer insight into the making of the film and exclusive behind the scenes.

#GenerationNow

BFI LFF Education also introduces **#GenerationNow**, a curated programme of Festival short films available to watch online at bfi.org.uk/lffeducation. Each short has been specially selected from the Festival's line-up with

stories that will appeal to students, teachers and young people. Each explores coming of age in the 21st century across the world, some closer to home such as **SERIOUS TINGZ** (Abdou Cissé, 2018) which looks at masculinity in the tower blocks of London to **ZOMBIES** (Baloji, 2019) set in the Congo where Tribal motifs and digital culture collide. Each short also explores issues of individuality, family, friendship and community. **IF YOU KNEW** (Stroma Cairns, 2018) tackles the issues of identity in a beautiful portrait of deaf brothers showing them making their own way in the world and not being defined by what others see as a disability. Grappling with the concept of online dating **#21XOXO** (Sine Özbilge, 2019) follows a girl's search for love and **FAULT LINE** (Soheil Amirsharifi, 2018) sees an Iranian schoolgirl who must create a new version of the truth in a strict environment, despite there being unintended consequences to her self-preservation. Not only do these films explore issues impacting on young people but the collection showcases some of the brightest emerging filmmakers from across the world.

Film fans and aspiring filmmakers can make the most of the festival with **Future Film Accreditation**, enabling 18-25 year olds or mature students in full-time education access to more than 100 press and industry screenings, full access to the BFI LFF Education programme as well as free or discounted tickets to selected BFI LFF industry events and public screenings. Accreditation closes Wednesday 11th September and costs only £40 – further information available [here](#). 16-25 year olds can also take advantage of our 25 and Under £5 rush ticket offers – more information [here](#).

The BFI London Film Festival Education programme is supported by Future Film Lead Supporter Reuben Foundation and our Future Film Day Headline Partner LaCie. The programme is also supported by funding contributor Sir John Cass's Foundation and event delivery partners Into Film.

The BFI LFF Critics Mentorship Programme returns for a second year, following a successful inaugural programme in 2018, which saw a diverse group of emerging writers paired with media industry mentors.

BFI Network and via iFeatures run skills development Labs within the BFI London Film Festival that connect emerging UK filmmakers with visiting Festival filmmakers and executives from around the world.

The BFI LFF Education programme complements BFI's year round commitment to give everyone the educational opportunity to build a lifelong relationship with film. Celebrating and exploring film in formal education creates clear progression paths for future audiences and talented young people with ambitions in the industry. The BFI offers a huge range of activity for children and young people including the BFI Film Academy (hands-on filmmaking courses for 16-19 year olds), BFI Future Film (a monthly programme and annual festival for aspiring filmmakers), monthly education screenings and events for primary and secondary schools at BFI Southbank as well as online resources. Additionally there are specific events and screenings linking to both BFI Southbank seasons and UK-wide with the BFI Film Audience Network for BFI blockbuster projects such as the upcoming BFI Musicals!

For further information visit bfi.org.uk/lffeducation

- Ends-

For further press information and general enquiries about the 63rd BFI London Film Festival:

Please note the contacts and red-carpet accreditation for the different festival sections.

BFI LFF EDUCATION PROGRAMME:

Email: elizabeth.dunk@bfi.org.uk

BFI INDUSTRY PROGRAMME:

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GENERAL ENQUIRIES and FESTIVAL ACCREDITATION

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Accreditation email: LFFPressAccreditation@bfi.org.uk

Director of Press and PR, BFI: Judy Wells

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Festival Information & Ticket Booking

BFI Members' priority booking opens 10:00am, 5th September – join at www.bfi.org.uk/join

Public booking opens 10:00am, 12th September

Telephone Bookings: 020 7928 3232 between 10:00 – 20:30 (from Tuesday 3rd September – Sunday 13th October)

Online: www.bfi.org.uk/lff

In person: BFI Southbank Office: 11:00 – 20:30 *(open 10:00am from 5th + 12th September)

NOTES TO EDITORS**#GenerationNow – selected shorts****ZOMBIES**

Dir Baloji. Belgium-Democratic Republic of the Congo 2019. 15min. EST

Tribal motifs and digital culture collide exploring the stupefying effects of mobile technology.

#21XOXO

Dir Sine Özbilge, Imge Özbilge. Belgium 2019. 9min

A girl's online search for love in times of social media, speed dating, cyberlove, hipster culture and post-net attitudes.

IF YOU KNEW

Dir Stroma Cairns. UK 2018. 5min

A beautiful close-up of deaf brothers showing them making their own way in the world and not being defined by what others see as a disability.

SERIOUS TINGZ

Dir Abdou Cissé. UK 2018. 3min

The face of masculinity as portrayed by young men who grow up in the inner city, where the iconic 'screwface' is more than just an expression.

FAULT LINE GOSAL

Dir Soheil Amirsharifi. Iran 2018. 15min. EST

Nahal is an Iranian schoolgirl who must create a new version of the truth in a strict environment, despite there being unintended consequences to her self-preservation.

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.

Tricia Tuttle Biography

Tricia Tuttle's appointment as Director of BFI Festivals follows her role as Artistic Director of the 62nd Edition of the BFI London Film Festival and five successful years as Deputy Head of Festivals at BFI, including BFI Flare and BFI London Film Festival. Moving from North Carolina in 1997 to complete a joint MA at BFI and Birkbeck, University of London in Film and TV Studies, Tricia's passion for film has seen her work as a programmer, lecturer, writer and journalist. Her career has spanned a five year tenure at BAFTA, starting in 2008 and with her appointment as Film Programme Manager in 2011. Tuttle has been instrumental in evolving BFI Festivals, continuing to expand audience reach year on year and introducing impactful initiatives such as BFI Flare's FiveFilms4Freedom, in partnership with the British Council. In March 2019, she was recognized in Variety's annual International Women's Impact Report as a woman making an impact in showbiz around the globe.



About Amex Experiences

American Express connects Cardmembers to the kinds of rewarding experiences and opportunities that matter to them and their businesses. Through Amex Experiences, Cardmembers have access to presale tickets, as well as the best seats and exclusive offers at some of the UK's most sought-after entertainment events via partnerships with a range of entertainment institutions, including AEG, Live Nation, Somerset House, The British Film Institute and the National Theatre. Amex Experiences is just one example of the powerful backing that American Express provides its customers.

About American Express

American Express is a global services company, providing customers with access to products, insights and experiences that enrich lives and build business success. Learn more at americanexpress.com and connect with us on facebook.com/americanexpress

About Into Film

Into Film is an education charity that puts film at the heart of children and young people's educational, cultural and personal development. Over two thirds of UK schools engage with our programme of Into Film Clubs, special cinema screenings, and resources and training to support classroom teaching. Alongside rich online content for young audiences, this provides 5-19 year olds with inspiring opportunities to learn about and with film, and develop a passion for cinema. The Into Film Festival (6-22 Nov) will host a further 3,000 free screening events for schools across the UK this November. To book your class tickets: www.intofilm.org/festival2019

Into Film's work is supported principally by the BFI through the National Lottery, and by the film industry through Cinema First.

About LaCie

LaCie, the premium brand from Seagate Technology, designs world-class external storage products for Apple and PC users. LaCie differentiates itself with sleek design and unmatched technical performance. Find out more at www.lacie.com

About the Reuben Foundation

Formed in 2002 the Reuben Foundation is a UK registered charity, committed to the betterment of society in the UK and around the globe through focused charitable giving in the areas of education, health and the community. A select group of Trustees oversee the operation of the Reuben Foundation and are closely involved in all funding initiatives and charitable donations.. Please visit www.reubenfoundation.com for more information.

About Sir John Cass's Foundation

Sir John Cass's Foundation is one of London's oldest and largest education charities. Founded in 1748, it supports the education of young people in inner London through its grant programmes for individuals, schools and organisations, and its support for a number of institutions bearing Sir John Cass's name.

