**NINETIES: YOUNG CINEMA REBELS**

A season celebrating the explosive and iconic film and TV of the 1990s – BFI Southbank, 1 July – 31 August 2019

*Left to right: Show Me Love, Gas Food Lodging, My Own Private Idaho, Do the Right Thing*

**Wednesday 12 June 2019, London.**

Throughout July and August BFI Southbank will host a two month exploration of explosive, transformative and challenging cinema and TV made from 1989-1999 – the 1990s broke all the rules and kick-started the careers of some of the most celebrated filmmakers working today, from Quentin Tarantino and Richard Linklater to Gurinder Chadha and Takeshi Kitano. **NINETIES: YOUNG CINEMA REBELS** will explore work that dared to be different, bold and exciting filmmaking that had a profound effect on pop culture and everyday life. The influence of these titles can still be felt today – from the explosive energy of *Do the Right Thing* (Spike Lee, 1989) through to the transformative style of *The Blair Witch Project* (1999) and *The Matrix* (The Wachowskis, 1999). Special events during the season will include a 90s film quiz, an event celebrating classic 90s children’s TV, black cinema throughout the decade and the world cinema that made waves. Special guests attending for Q&As and introductions will include Isaac Julien (*Young Soul Rebels*), Russell T Davies (*Queer as Folk*) and Amy Jenkins (*This Life*).

**SPECIAL EVENTS:**

- The season will kick off with a special screening of *Do the Right Thing* (Spike Lee, 1989) on Friday 5 July, presented in partnership with *We Are Parable*; Spike Lee’s astute, funny and moving film stars out with a spat in an Italian restaurant in Brooklyn, before things escalate to a tragic event taking place in the neighbourhood.
- The launch event comes ahead of an extended run of the film from Friday 2 August, when it is re-released in selected cinemas across the UK by Park Circus.
- The BFI Southbank Atrium will be host to a Video Store installation from Friday 26 July – Saturday 17 August; designed by students from Wimbledon College of Arts, the store will play host to pop-up events and be the perfect trip down memory lane for those pining for the bygone VHS era.
- The 90s were truly a golden decade for the American teen film – and to celebrate, the Forever Young Film Club will present a fun-packed 90s Teen Film Quiz on Thursday 1 August, testing audiences to see if they know their 10 Things I Hate About You from their She’s All That.
- In the 1990s, British films such as *Trainspotting* and *Human Traffic* swapped gritty realism for a giddy sense of freedom. On Monday 12 August author and film critic Matt Glasby will take part in an illustrated talk about his new book *Britpop Cinema: From Trainspotting to This Is England*, exploring how 90s cinema said goodbye to the kitchen sink and embraced escapism instead.
- There will also be special events celebrating TV shows including *Queer as Folk, This Life* and *The Word*, with special guests, as well as a look at 90s TV (see TV section for more details).
- A special event, Girls to the Front: An Evening of Riot Grrrl Films, will celebrate the riot grrrl movement of the 90s that incorporated the raw energy of punk with a feminist consciousness, led by bands like Bikini Kill, Sleater-Kinney and Bratmobile. The event on Saturday 27 July will present a time-capsule of short docs and music videos that capture the energy and style of this pivotal, punk-feminist movement.

**FILM AND TELEVISION PROGRAMME:**
Black Cinema of the 1990s

- The 1990s was a dynamic decade for black cinema worldwide, with these developments being captured in the seminal BFI publication The Black Film Bulletin. In a discussion event – Black Cinema of the 1990s – on Saturday 6 July, founding editors June Givanni and Gaylene Gould invite past colleagues and collaborators to explore this important decade.
- Tongues Untied will screen alongside Non, je ne regrette rien (Marlon Riggs, 1992) in which five gay black men discuss their experiences and HIV-positive status.
- Cheryl Dunye, the director and star of The Watermelon Woman (1996) was passionate about bringing the stories of queer black women to filmgoers. This first feature directed by a black lesbian is a rom-com about a video store clerk trying to make a film about an uncredited black actress from the 1930s.
- Artist Isaac Julien’s first narrative feature Young Soul Rebels (1991) revolves around four characters in 1977 London, where class and racial tensions simmer. A screening on Wednesday 14 August will be followed by a Q&A with Isaac Julien.

American Disruptors

- Reservoir Dogs (Quentin Tarantino, 1992) is a heist film that needs very little introduction: eight men carry out a diamond robbery for a crime lord, but one of them is not what he seems...
- Todd Haynes is now a staple of arthouse cinema, but before this he was crafting one of the most talked-about films of the decade. A blend of horror and existential Americana, [Safe] (1995) is a character study of a housewife possibly suffering from a mysterious environmentally-caused illness.
- The Blair Witch Project (Daniel Myrick, Eduardo Sanchez, 1999) sees three student filmmakers attempt to make a documentary about a local urban legend, the ‘Blair Witch’ – but all that’s left of them is the footage that comprises this film. Horror was never the same after this film, a pioneering example of the ‘found footage’ genre, with a scarly real marketing campaign.
- Before he became a critically acclaimed powerhouse director, Richard Linklater made Slacker (1991), a low-budget feature following a day in the life of young bohemians in Austin, Texas, the director’s hometown.
- Gregg Araki’s unique blend of genres, teen angst and deadpan comedy The Doom Generation (1995) was the second part of his of his loose ‘Teen Apocalypse trilogy’; after accidentally killing a store clerk, a trio set off on a road trip full of sex, violence and endlessly quotable one-liners.
- A unique meld of influences from cyberpunk to anime, The Matrix (The Wachowskis, 1999) is the perfect capsule-film for a decade that broke formal and thematic ground. The season will screen the new 4K restoration of this classic in its 20th anniversary year.

World Cinema Gone Wild

- A discussion event on Monday 8 July – Global Cinema in the 1990s – will welcome invited speakers to take a closer look at some of the world cinema movements from the decade that pushed the boundaries of aesthetic and narrative conventions and introduced new stylistic forms and means of artistic expression.
- World cinema titles screening will include La Haine (1995), Mathieu Kassovitz’s debut feature chronicling 20 hours in the aftermath of a riot in suburban Paris.
- In Tetsuo: The Iron Man (Shin’ya Tsukamoto, 1989) a metal fetishist is run over by an office worker who tries to cover up his crime – until his body starts slowly turning into a walking pile of metal.
- Contemplative gangster film Sonatine (Takeishi Kitano, 1993) follows a Yakuza enforcer who has grown tired of criminal life and resentfully heads to Okinawa to settle a dispute between his boss’s allies.
- Festen (Thomas Vinterberg, 1998) was the first film of the Dogme 95 movement initiated by Thomas Vinterberg and Lars von Trier, a filmmaking manifesto that emphasised story, theme, acting and simple production values over special effects, elaborate lighting and technical tricks.
- Filmed on a low budget and with a thumping rock soundtrack, Brat (Aleksey Balabanov, 1997) became a cult film in Russia, as both a portrait of a lost generation and a symbol of the early post-Soviet era
- Les Amants du Pont-Neuf (Leos Carax, 1991) is a portrait of an explosive, all-consuming love between two vagrants. Set on the oldest public bridge in Paris, Les Amants du Pont-Neuf is full of energy and emotion and offered a fresh direction for 1990s French cinema.

British Change-Makers
- One of the most popular British films to come out of the 90s, *Trainspotting* (Danny Boyle, 1996) is the energetic, stylish portrait of a group of drug-addled Edinburgh friends, one of whom tries to get clean and abandon his hedonistic lifestyle.

- In *Bhaji on the Beach* (Gurinder Chadha, 1993) a group of British women, mostly Punjabi, take a group trip to Blackpool, where tensions rise between the younger girls and the older women. Gurinder Chadha’s debut feature film (co-written with Meera Syal) uses the day trip to look at issues in the British Asian community, where old traditions and new ways make for uncomfortable situations.

**New Female Voices**

- *Girls to the Front: An Evening of Riot Grrrl Films* will celebrate the riot grrrl movement of the 90s that incorporated the raw energy of punk with a feminist consciousness, led by bands like Bikini Kill, Sleater-Kinney and Bratmobile. This event on **Saturday 27 July** will present a time-capsule of short documentaries and music videos that capture the energy and style of this pivotal, punk-feminist movement.

- Also screening will be *Gas Food Lodging* (Allison Anders, 1992), a delicate portrait of teenage sisters: rebel Trudi skips school to hang out with boys, while daydreamer Shade wants to find a good boyfriend for their mother. Anders’ moving portrait of three women, each on a journey of self-discovery, stands out as one of the most underappreciated gems of the Sundance class of 92.

**New Queer Cinema**

- 1992 saw the publication of B Ruby Rich’s landmark article in Sight & Sound in which she coined the term ‘New Queer Cinema’. On **Monday 5 August** there will be a discuss event to look at what impact the article had on writing about queer cinema in the 1990s and its role in defining cinema experiences.

- Also screening will be *My Own Private Idaho* (1991), Gus Van Sant’s landmark in New Queer Cinema starring River Phoenix as a narcoleptic hustler and Keenu Reeves as his friend who is secretly from a wealthy family.

- In *Show Me Love* (Lukas Moodysson, 1998) Agnes and Elin are two very different girls, both attending school in a small-town. Isolated and friendless, Agnes is pining from a distance for pretty and popular Elin, and tentatively the two begin to form a romantic bond and a shared dislike of their hometown.

- Rose Troche’s *Go Fish* (1994) is about a young college student who becomes creatively and romantically involved with a woman who also has long-term, long-distance partner. The talk of Sundance at the time, *Go Fish* celebrated and showcased lesbian culture on all levels, and its box-office success paved the way for the lesbian films that followed.

**Boundary Pushing TV**

- *This Life* (BBC, 1996-97) was one of the great British shows of the 1990s. Focusing on the dysfunctional house-share between a group of twenty-something law graduates, its depiction of casual sex and drug-taking smashed taboos, but it was the smart, witty, insightful dialogue, the multi-layered characters and the ensemble of young, talented actors that really made it must-see TV. On **Thursday 1 August** there will be a special event to celebrate the show with a screening of an episode followed by a Q&A with creator and writer Amy Jenkins and executive producer Tony Garnett.

- As we mark the 20th anniversary of *Queer as Folk* (Red Production Company-Ch4 1999) it now seems impossible to imagine the sense of shock and awe that accompanied its first transmission in 1999. On **Thursday 8 August** writer Russell T Davies and cast members Craig Kelly and Denise Black will take part in a Q&A event to celebrate this true TV game-changer.

- Going on air in 1990, *The Word* both revolutionised youth TV and pre-dated reality TV by many years. It combined cutting-edge bands, irreverent and anarchic interviews with A-listers, stories from the margins of society, and downright bizarre and outrageous studio stunts, and soon became loved by its audience and loathed by the press in equal measure. In a special discussion on **Tuesday 13 August**, hear from two of the show’s presenters Terry Christian and Katie Puckrik and celebrate this quintessentially 90s TV show.

- Meera Syal was commissioned to write her first TV script by the BBC in the early 90s and the result *My Sister-Wife* (Screen Two, BBC, 1992) is a tale about the competing affections of a Pakistani man’s two wives, which lead to a series of attempts by each to annihilate the other.

- *Meat* (Screen One, BBC, 1994) is a gritty look at love among the underclass; Myra is a teen prostitute, Charlie is a recently released young offender and together they begin an affair.

- *Meat* will screen alongside *Zinky Boys Go Underground* (Screen Two, BBC, 1994) a thriller that provides a chilling insight into the damaged psyche of Russian soldiers returning home from Afghanistan.
- There will also be a lively illustrated panel discussion with creators and casts of some of the best-remembered and most beloved children’s TV shows of the 1990s. In **90s Kid’s Shows** on **Sunday 18 July** audiences will be able to take a nostalgic trip to revisit programmes like *Five Children and It, Live & Kicking, The Queen’s Nose, Maid Marian and her Merry Men, Bodger & Badger* and *Press Gang*.

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**Media partner:**

[THE FACE](#)

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**NOTES TO EDITORS:**

**Press Contacts:**

Liz Parkinson – PR Manager, BFI Cultural Programme

[liz.parkinson@bfi.org.uk](mailto:liz.parkinson@bfi.org.uk) / 020 7957 8918

Elizabeth Dunk – Junior Press Officer

[elizabeth.dunk@bfi.org.uk](mailto:elizabeth.dunk@bfi.org.uk) / 020 7957 8986

**SEASON LISTINGS:**

**Do the Right Thing**


**Screening and venue-wide takeover in partnership with We Are Parable** **FRI 5 JUL 18:15 NFT1**

**EXTENDED RUN FROM FRI 2 AUG**

Also available on **BFIPLAYER**

**Sonatine**


EST. **18 SUN 7 JUL 15:15 NFT3 / SUN 14 JUL 20:20 NFT3**

**Safe**

USA-UK 1995. Dir Todd Haynes. *With* Julianne Moore, Peter Friedman, Xander Berkeley. 119min. 35mm 15

**SAT 6 JUL 20:40 NFT3 / THU 18 JUL 18:20 NFT3 / FRI 26 JUL 20:30 NFT3**

**The Watermelon Woman**


**MON 8 JUL 18:20 NFT3 / TUE 23 JUL 18:30 NFT3**

**La Haine**


EST. **15 TUE 16 JUL 20:45 NFT3 / WED 24 JUL 20:20 NFT1 / TUE 30 JUL 20:45 NFT1**

**The Blair Witch Project + intro by Mike Muncer, host of The Evolution Of Horror podcast**

USA 1999. Dirs Daniel Myrick, Eduardo Sanchez. *With* Heather Donahue, Michael C Williams, Joshua Leonard. 81min. 35mm. 15

**SAT 13 JUL 20:50 NFT3 / SUN 21 JUL 17:50 NFT3 / TUE 23 JUL 20:30 NFT3**

Also available on **BFIPLAYER**

**Black Cinema of the 1990s**

*Joint ticket offer available with Tongues Untied on Sat 6 July £18, concs £15 (Members pay £2 less)*

**SAT 6 JUL 13:00-17:00 NFT3**

**Tongues Untied**


+ *Non, je ne regrette rien*

USA 1992. Dir Marlon Riggs. 38min

*Joint ticket offer available with Black Cinema of the 1990s and Tongues United on Sat 6 July £18, concs £15 (Members pay £2 less)*

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MON 1 JUL 18:20 NFT3 / SAT 6 JUL 18:20 NFT3

Reservoir Dogs
USA 1992. Dir Quentin Tarantino. With Harvey Keitel, Tim Roth, Steve Buscemi, Michael Madsen. 99min. Digital. 18
SUN 7 JUL 17:30 NFT3 / SAT 20 JUL 20:50 NFT1 / SUN 28 JUL 19:50 NFT1
Also available on BFIPLAYER

Tetsuo: The Iron Man
SUN 7 JUL 20:15 NFT2 / SAT 20 JUL 18:20 NFT2
Also available on BFIPLAYER

Trainspotting + intro by Matt Glasby, author of Britpop Cinema: From Trainspotting to This Is England*
THU 11 JUL 20:45 NFT3 / MON 22 JUL 20:50 NFT3*

Festen
Denmark-Sweden 1998. Dir Thomas Vinterberg. With Ulrich Thomsen, Henning Moritzen, Thomas Bo Larsen, Paprika Steen. 105min. 35mm. EST. 15
WED 17 JUL 20:30 NFT3 / SAT 27 JUL 20:50 NFT3
Also available on BFIPLAYER

Woman with a Movie Camera presents: Grrrls to the Front: An Evening of Riot Grrrl Films
TRT c.90min
SAT 27 JUL 18:20 NFT3

Global Cinema in the 1990s
TRT 90min
Tickets £6.50
TUE 16 JUL 18:20 NFT3

My Sister-Wife
Screen Two. BBC 1992. Dir Lesley Manning. With Meera Syal, Shaheen Khan, Paul Bhattacharjee. 87min
TUE 9 JUL 20:40 NFT3 / MON 29 JUL 18:10 NFT2

Meat
Screen One. BBC 1994. Dir John Madden. With Johnny Lee Miller, John Simm, Sarah Jane Potts. 84min
+ Zinky Boys Go Underground
MON 22 JUL 18:20 NFT3

90s Kids' Shows
TRT 120min
SUN 28 JUL 15:00 NFT1

90s Teen Film Quiz
THU 1 AUG 19:30 BLUE ROOM

Slacker
USA 1991. Dir Richard Linklater. With Richard Linklater, Kim Krizan, Mark James, Mark Harris. 100min. 35mm. 15
SUN 4 AUG 20:15 NFT1 / FRI 16 AUG 18:20 NFT3

Young Soul Rebels + Q&A with director Isaac Julien (work permitting)*
UK-France-Germany-Spain 1991. Dir Isaac Julien. With Valentine Nonyela, Sophie Okonedo, Jason Durr, Mo Sesay. 100min 35mm 18
WED 14 AUG 20:30 NFT3* / THU 22 AUG 18:20 NFT3

Gas Food Lodging + intro by Dr Lucy Bolton, Queen Mary University of London*
FRI 2 AUG 20:45 NFT3* / SUN 25 AUG 17:45 NFT3

**Brother**
Russia 1997. Dir Aleksey Balabanov. With Sergey Bodrov, Viktor Sukhorukov, Yuriy Kuznetsov, Svetlana Pismchenko. 95min. Digital. EST. 18

**SUN 11 AUG 19:40 NFT2 / SAT 24 AUG 18:30 NFT3**

Les Amants du Pont-Neuf
The Lovers on the Bridge
France 1991. Dir Leos Carax. With Juliette Binoche, Denis Lavant, Daniel Buain. 127min. 35mm. EST. 18

**FRI 9 AUG 18:10 NFT2 / SUN 18 AUG 15:00 NFT3**

**The Doom Generation**
USA-France 1995. Dir Gregg Araki. With James Duval, Rose McGowan, Johnathon Schaech. 83min. 35mm. 18

**SUN 4 AUG 18:10 NFT2 / SAT 17 AUG 20:45 NFT3**

My Own Private Idaho

**MON 5 AUG 20:20 NFT2 / FRI 16 AUG 20:45 NFT1**

Bhaji on the Beach

**SUN 18 AUG 17:40 NFT3 / TUE 20 AUG 20:40 NFT3**

Show Me Love
Fucking Åmål

**SUN 18 AUG 20:00 NFT2 / TUE 20 AUG 18:20 NFT3**

Go Fish
USA 1994. Dir Rose Troche. With Guinevere Turner, VS Brodie, T Wendy McMillan. 83min. 35mm 18

**WED 7 AUG 20:45 NFT3 / MON 26 AUG 18:00 NFT2**

4K Remaster: The Matrix

**SAT 3 AUG 20:20 NFT1**

Also available on BFIPLAYER

**This Life + Q&A with creator and writer Amy Jenkins and exec producer Tony Garnett**
BBC 1996/1997. Dir various. With Jack Davenport, Amita Dhiri, Andrew Lincoln, Daniela Nardini, Jason Hughes. TRT 90min (includes 50min episode). 18

**THU 1 AUG 18:15 NFT1**

**The Word + Q&A with presenters Terry Christian and Katie Puckrik**
TRT 90min

**TUE 13 AUG 18:15 NFT3**

**Queer as Folk + Q&A with Russell T Davies and actors Craig Kelly and Denise Black**
Red Production Company-Ch4 1999. Dir Charles McDougall (4 eps). With Aidan Gillen, Craig Kelly, Charlie Hunnam, Denise Black. TRT 135min (includes Eps 1 & 2). 18

**THU 8 AUG 18:15 NFT1**

1990s New Queer Cinema
TRT 90min
Tickets £6.50

**MON 5 AUG 18:10 NFT2**

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.

**BFI Southbank**
The BFI Southbank is open to all. BFI members are entitled to a discount on all tickets. BFI Southbank Box Office tel: 020 7928 3232. Unless otherwise stated tickets are £13.75, concs £11.25 including Gift Aid donation. Members pay £2.20 less on any ticket - [www.bfi.org.uk/southbank](http://www.bfi.org.uk/southbank).

Young people aged 25 and under can buy last minute tickets for just £3, 45 minutes before the start of screenings and events, subject to availability - [http://www.bfi.org.uk/25-and-under](http://www.bfi.org.uk/25-and-under).

**Tickets for FREE screenings and events must be booked in advance by calling the Box Office to avoid disappointment**

**BFI Shop**
The BFI Shop is stocked and staffed by BFI experts with over 1,200 book titles and 1,000 DVDs to choose from, including hundreds of acclaimed books and DVDs produced by the BFI.

**BFI Reuben Library**
BFI Southbank is home to the BFI Reuben Library which holds the world’s largest collection of books, journals and digitised material about film, television and the moving image. The library is free to access and hosts a year-round programme of talks and events.

'Not just for movie nerds - this huge collection of film and TV books, periodicals, scripts, stills and posters is full of inspiration for anyone involved in the creative arts' – Evening Standard Magazine

The BFI Reuben Library is open 10:30-19:00, Tuesday-Saturday.

**The benugo bar & kitchen**
Eat, drink and be merry in panoramic daylight. benugo’s décor is contemporary, brightly lit and playful with a lounge space, bar and dining area. The place to network, hang out, unpack a film, savour the best of Modern British or sip on a cocktail.

There’s more to discover about film and television through the BFI. Our world-renowned archival collections, cinemas, festivals, films, publications and learning resources are here to inspire you.

**BFI Mediatheque**
Free to access BFI Mediatheques offer users an opportunity to explore the digital collections drawn from the BFI National Archive and partner collections, at select UK-wide locations.

***PICTURE DESK***
A selection of images for journalistic use in promoting BFI Southbank can be found via the link below: [https://www.dropbox.com/sh/bv5defzi4rm5bg/AABM_AW1iEB18kPTK1CVNSUIa?dl=0](https://www.dropbox.com/sh/bv5defzi4rm5bg/AABM_AW1iEB18kPTK1CVNSUIa?dl=0)

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