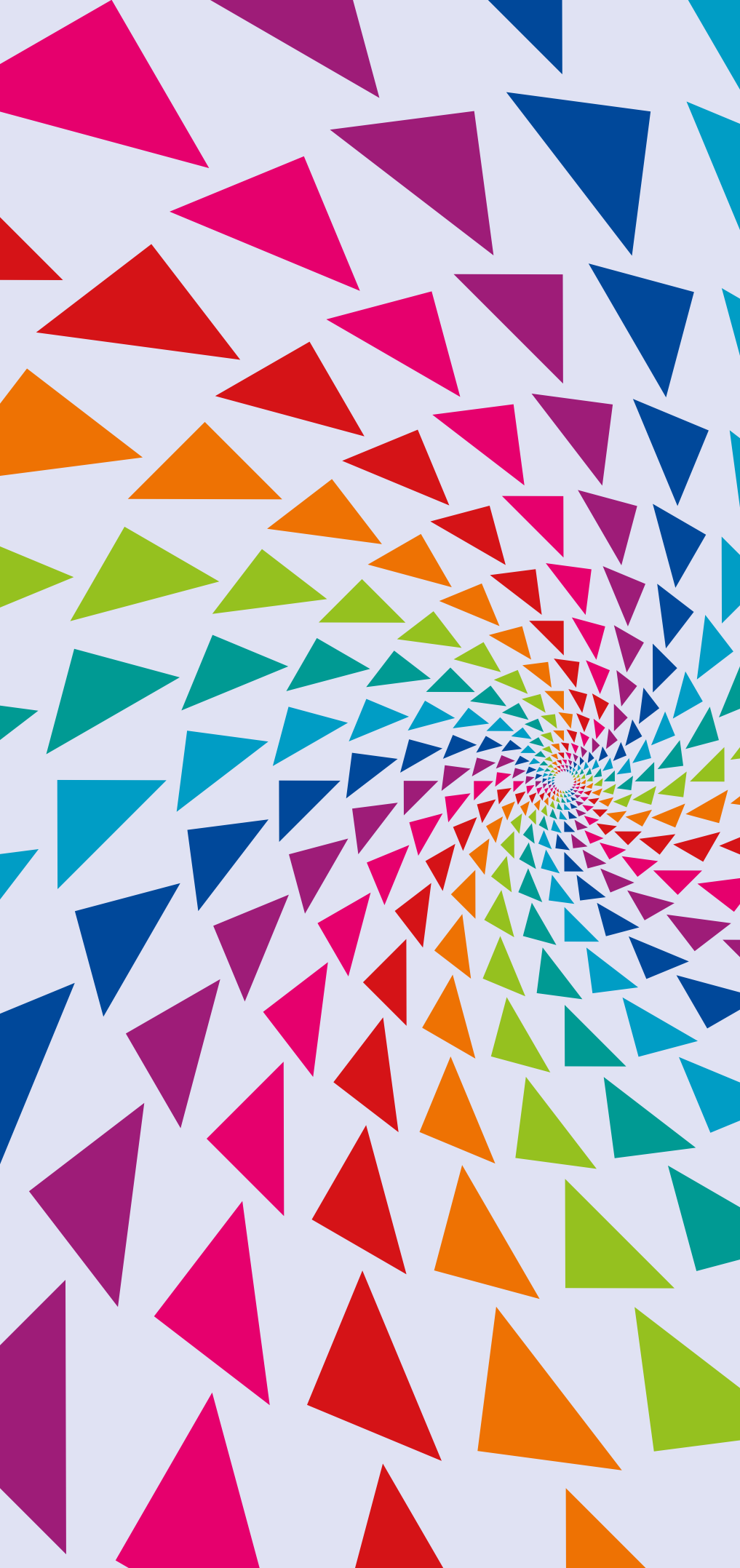




LEEDS INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL

**30 October —
16 November**



2025

Free Guide

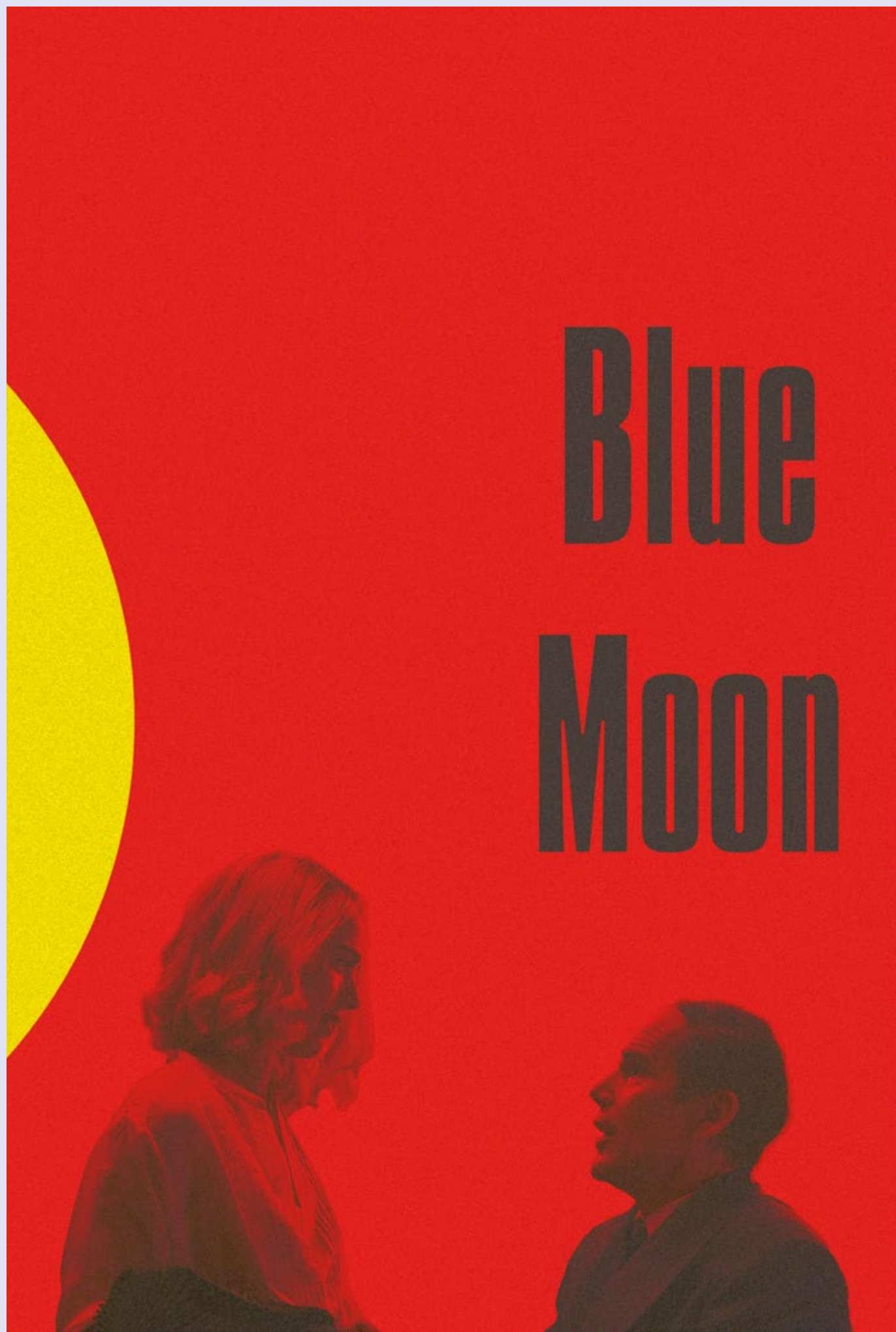
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LEEDS ARTS
EVENTS & VENUES

 **Leeds**
CITY COUNCIL





39th Leeds International Film Festival

30 October – 16 November 2025

Join us for an epic celebration of film at LIFF 2025, with 260 films showing at more than 300 screenings and events over 18 days at venues including Vue in The Light, Everyman, Hyde Park Picture House, Cottage Road Cinema, and Howard Assembly Room. The films are presented in 5 distinct programme sections which are detailed in this guide, and you can find the day-by-day screenings and events schedule at the back. You can also find information in this guide about booking tickets, accessibility, our great value passes that can also be shared, pass discounts, and social events – and more details are on leedsfilm.com. We can't wait to welcome you to LIFF 2025!

Programme Sections

▼ 22 Constellation

In Constellation you can be among the first in the UK to see many of the most anticipated and significant new films of the year and discover exciting new filmmaking talent in our feature film competition.

▼ 32 Cinema Versa

You can see some of the most immersive and fascinating documentaries of the year in Cinema Versa, with a wide range of themes, from the environment and resistance to train journeys and Irish folk music.

▼ 38 Fanomenon

The UK's largest festival selection of new fantastic genre films, Fanomenon is your destination at LIFF for big screen fantasy, sci-fi, horror, anime, dark comedies, thrillers, mixed genre, and much more.

▼ 50 LIFF Spotlights

In LIFF Spotlights you can explore unique retrospectives and other special selections of rarely screened films. This year's main spotlights are Deslocamentos: Brazilian Cinema on the Move and We Gotta Get Outta This Place.

▼ 57 LIFF SHORTS

We love short films at LIFF – the world's first (very short) film was made in Leeds in 1888 by Louis le Prince – and in LIFF SHORTS you can see a vast selection from Yorkshire, around the UK, and across the world.

Information

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Visit leedsfilm.com

Full LIFF programme online

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See the latest updates

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#LIFF2025

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ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND



Women in Film & TV (UK) is the leading membership organisation for women working in creative media in the UK. We host a variety of online and in-person events throughout the year, as well as professional development schemes, mentoring schemes, a screenwriters' lab and more!

Become a member by visiting www.wftv.org.uk or by scanning the QR code.



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funding

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early feature
development



events

roundtables,
mixers, &
screenings

training

director, producer
& writer labs

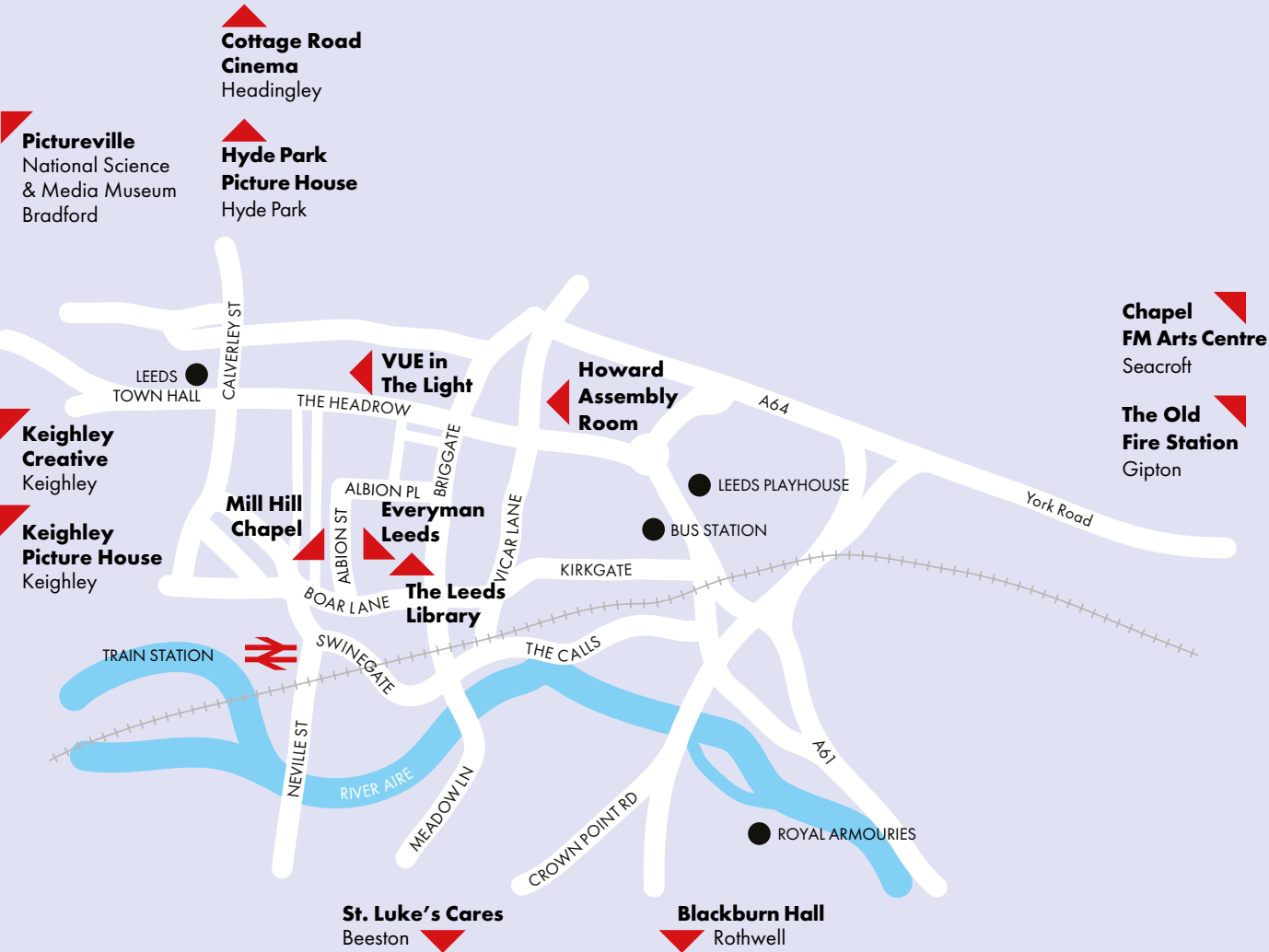


NETWORK



Venues & Accessibility

- Hyde Park Picture House**
73 Brudenell Road,
Leeds LS6 1JD
- Howard Assembly Room**
32 New Briggate,
Leeds LS1 6NU
- The Old Fire Station**
Gipton Approach,
Leeds LS9 6NL
- Chapel FM Arts Centre**
Old Seacroft Chapel,
York Road, Seacroft,
Leeds LS14 6JB
- The Leeds Library**
18 Commercial Street,
Leeds LS1 6AL
- VUE in The Light**
22 The Light, The Headrow,
Leeds LS1 8TL
- Cottage Road Cinema**
Cottage Road,
Leeds LS6 4DD
- Pictureville**
National Science and
Media Museum Pictureville,
Bradford BD1 1NQ
- Mill Hill Chapel**
City Square, Leeds LS1 5EB
- Blackburn Hall**
Commercial Street,
Leeds LS26 0AW
- Everyman Leeds**
Level 4, Trinity, Albion
Street, Leeds LS1 5AY
- Keighley Creative**
Stockroom Cinema,
3-7 Cooke Lane, Airedale
Centre, Keighley BD21 3PF
- St. Luke's Cares**
246-252, 246 Dewsbury
Road, Leeds LS11 6JQ
- Keighley Picture House**
132 North Street,
Keighley BD21 3AF



Accessibility at Venues

For detailed accessibility information for all our venues, please see the individual venue pages on leedsfilm.com, or you can call, email or visit us (see details on page 9). We offer free entry for essential companions and accept the CEA card: seats can be booked with Leeds Ticket Hub. If you have any specific access requirements and you would like to discuss them, please email leeds.film@leeds.gov.uk, or call or visit Leeds Ticket Hub (see details on page 9)

Accessible Screenings

For LIFF 2025, we have more screenings with on-screen captions or descriptive subtitles, including descriptions of non-dialogue audio, and with an audio-description soundtrack. We have two autism-friendly screenings – Space Cadet on 9 November and Mary Anning on 16 November. Details about all accessible screenings are on leedsfilm.com, or you can call, email or visit us (see details on page 9).

We also have more free screenings, including an expanded programme at community venues, and we have a wide range of pass options with great value offers for seeing multiple films at LIFF 2025.

Tickets & Passes

Tickets

Tickets Feature films £10.50/£8.50*/£6**
Unless otherwise stated. No booking fee is applied.

Short film programmes £9.50/£7.50*
Unless otherwise stated. No booking fee is applied.

* Concession price: students, ages 60 and over, disabled, unwaged.
** Concession price: ages 14 and under.

Passes

We offer a wide range of passes for seeing multiple films at LIFF 2025. Please check individual pass summaries and the pass pricing table below for the different options. No booking fee is applied. Pass information is also online on leedsfilm.com, and you can call, email or visit us (see opposite).

LIFF LITE PASS £54/£45*
LIFF LITE gives you 6 tickets that can be used in any combination: e.g., one person for 6 screenings or two people for 3 screenings. You can buy a second LIFF LITE once you use up the first one.

LIFF BUZZ PASS £36 (FOR AGES 25 AND UNDER)
LIFF BUZZ is for ages 25 and under and gives you 6 tickets that can be used in any combination: e.g., one person for 6 screenings or two people for 3 screenings. Proof of age required. You can continue buying LIFF BUZZ passes after you use up each one.

LIFF EXPLORER PASS (SEE PRICE OPTIONS IN TABLE)
You can choose 10, 20, 30 or 40 ticket options for LIFF EXPLORER, with increasing discounts. Tickets can be used in any combination: e.g., with LIFF EXPLORER 30, one person for 30 screenings, or two people for 15 screenings.

LIFF EXPLORER GOLD PASS £325/£300*
For film fans who want to see 50 or more films, LIFF EXPLORER GOLD is the best value option. There are no limits on what you can see and the pass includes all events and Fanomenon marathons. You will also receive a free LIFF 2025 tote bag and poster. LIFF EXPLORER GOLD is for individual use only.

How to book with Leeds Ticket Hub

Online
Visit leedsfilm.com

Over the phone on 0113 376 0318
Lines open from Monday to Saturday, 10am to 4pm.

In person at Carriageworks Theatre on Millennium Square, Leeds city centre
Open every Tuesday until 28 October, 1pm to 6pm, and then daily from 29 October to 16 November, 1pm to 6pm. We also sell tickets at our venues during LIFF, but advanced booking is recommended

Screening start times

There are no trailers or adverts before films at LIFF. Films start on or just after the advertised start times where possible. There are often introductions by LIFF Team members and guests, or promotional videos or slides from LIFF partners at the start, but these are short. If there is a longer talk before the start of a film, this is mentioned with the film information in the guide or online.

Film certification

Most films presented at LIFF are only available to those aged 18 or over due to local licensing requirements. If a film has a BBFC rating, this is listed with the film information in the guide or online.

Programme updates

There may be occasional updates to the programme, including extra screenings, and these are announced on our social media @leedsfilmfest and on leedsfilm.com where you can also sign up to our newsletter to receive the latest information

Pass Name	Tickets	Full Prices	Price Per Ticket (PPT) With Pass	Concession Prices	PPT with Concession Pass
BUZZ (25 & under)	6	£36	£6.00	NA	NA
LITE	6	£54	£9.00	£45	£7.50
EXPLORER 10	10	£85	£8.50	£70	£7.00
EXPLORER 20	20	£160	£8.00	£135	£6.75
EXPLORER 30	30	£225	£7.50	£195	£6.50
EXPLORER 40	40	£280	£7.00	£250	£6.25
EXPLORER GOLD	UNLIMITED	£325	£6.50 (50 FILMS)	£300	£6.00 (50 FILMS)

Pass Discounts

Use your LIFF 2025 pass to access exclusive discounts across the city at some of our favourite food, drink and social spots. Whether you're grabbing a morning coffee, enjoying dinner with friends or heading out for post-film drinks, using your pass discounts helps support independent businesses during the festival. Find out more and see the updated list at leedsfilm.com.

How to use

The discounts will be available for the duration of the festival, 30 October – 16 November.

To validate any discount or special offer, please show your physical festival pass (Gold Passholders) or an email confirmation of the pass on your phone. If there are any issues redeeming your discount please get in touch with us on social media or email – leeds.film@leeds.gov.uk



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15% off food and drink

1a Cross Belgrave Street, LS2 8JP
belgravemusichall.com
@belgravemusicall

Bundobust

Indian Street food & Craft Beer

20% off food & drink

6 Mill Hill, Leeds LS1 5DQ
bundobust.com
@bundobust

Friends of Ham

Craft beer, wine, charcuterie & cheese

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4-8 New Station Street, Leeds, LS1 5DL
friendsofham.com
@friendsofham

Galleria

Wood-fired kitchen & bar

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Project House, Armley Road, Leeds LS12 2DR
galleria-lds.com
@galleria_lds

Grindhouse

Plenty of drinks & movie food!

20% off order

22 New Briggate LS1 6NU
@grindhouseleeds

Headrow House

Beer hall, restaurant & roof terrace

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19a The Headrow, Leeds LS1 6PUH
headrowhouse.com
@headrowhouse

Assembly Bar and Kitchen

Cafe/bar and community enterprise

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HEART, Bennett Road, LS6 3HN
Heartcentre.org.uk
@heartheadingley

Laynes

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12-16 New Station Street
(next to Leeds Train Station)
www.laynescafe.co.uk
@LaynesCafe

North Bar Leeds

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24 New Briggate, LS16NU
facebook.com/northbarleeds
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Sela Bar

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20 New Briggate, Leeds. LS1 6NU
selabar.com
@selabarleeds

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21 Merrion Street, LS2 8JE
@thesocialleeds

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41 Great George Street, LS1 3BB
stagecoffee.com
@stagecoffeeleeds

Wax

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20 New Briggate, Leeds. LS1 6NU
selabar.com
@selabarleeds

Water Lane Boathouse

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Canal Wharf, Holbeck, Leeds LS11 5PS
waterlaneboathouse.com
@waterlaneboathouse

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12 Otley Rd, Headingley, Leeds LS6 2AD
vinylwhistle.co.uk
@vinylwhistle

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CURRIE
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WALSH
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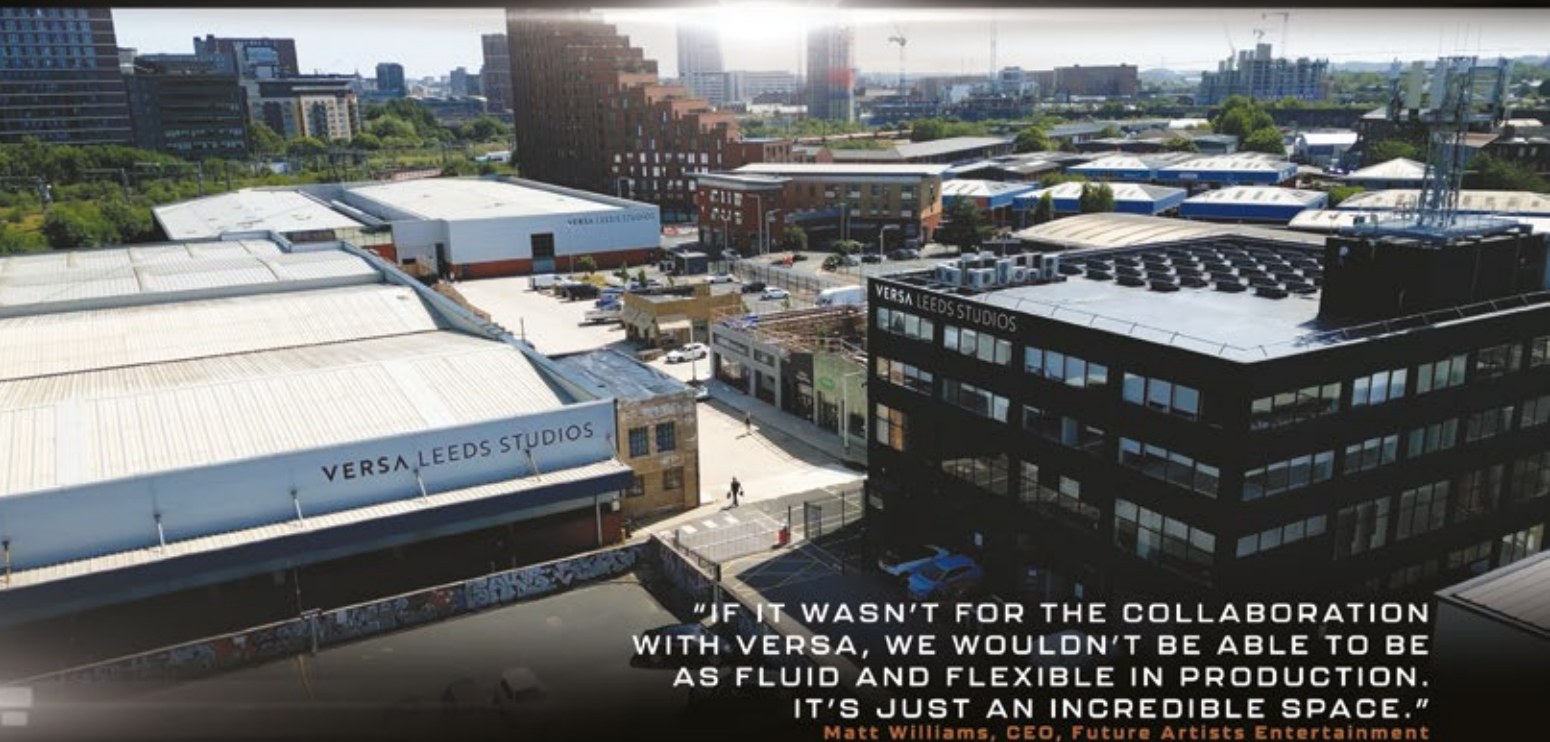
Booking fees may apply. Registered charity no. 259140. Company registration no. 947096. Northern Ballet Limited registered in England and Wales. Company limited by guarantee and share capital. Matthew Koon and Rachael Gillespie in *The Nutcracker*. Photo Guy Farrow.

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12

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women in film
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Partner opportunities
with Leeds Film

LIFF is organised by the Leeds Film team at Leeds City Council. Based at Leeds Town Hall, Leeds Film also organises Leeds Young Film Festival, Independent Directions Film Festival, and year-round film and education programmes, and operates leedsfilm.com.

All our activities are made possible by our partnerships and if you would like further information about opportunities with Leeds Film, please email leeds.film@leeds.gov.uk or call +44(0)113 378 5999

Film Competition Juries

Constellation Feature Film Competition



Omar Ahmed

Omar Ahmed is a Manchester-based writer and international film curator who has worked with HOME, Il Cinema Ritrovato, the Barbican and Leeds International Film Festival. His books include The Revolution of Indian Parallel Cinema (2025, Bloomsbury).



Lillian Crawford

Lillian Crawford is a film and culture writer. She is the shorts programmer for Edinburgh International Film Festival, and co-founder of Stims Collective. She is currently a PhD researcher on Screen Two at Royal Holloway, University of London.



Graham Fulton

Graham is co-founder of Glasgow based distributor Conic, who release bold and innovative award-winning films across the UK and Ireland.

Fanomenon Feature and Short Film Competitions



Becky Darke

Becky Darke is a freelance film critic working across writing, podcasting and live events (Empire, Arrow Video, Second Sight Films, The Evolution of Horror). She specialises in genre cinema, particularly horror.



Paolo Strippoli

Italian director and screenwriter Paolo Strippoli's films include A Classic Horror Story (2021), co-directed with Roberto De Feo, Piove (2022), and The Holy Boy (2025) which premiered at Venice film festival and is screening at LIFF 2025.



Paris Zarcilla

Paris Zarcilla is a British-Filipino writer/director of film and television.

Louis le Prince International Short Film Competition



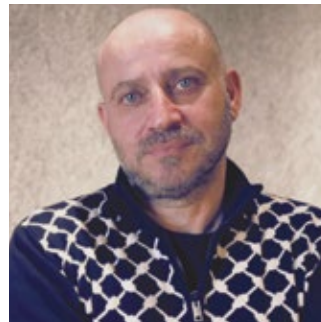
Ane López

Ane López is a Glasgow-based curator and artist. She has programmed for BFMAF, Fempectives, and GSFF. Ane is also the co-founder of Burnished, an artist-led residency in Scotland and works for Market Gallery.



Molly Cowderoy

Molly Cowderoy oversees the film festivals, events and family programme at The Garden Cinema. Prior to this she was the Senior Programmer at Leeds International Film Festival where she worked for 11 years.



Bard Ydén

Bard Ydén is editor and senior programmer at The Norwegian Short Film Festival, Norway's only Academy Award qualifying festival, and the director of Oslo/Fusion International Film Festival, Norway's only queer film festival.

World Animation Competition



Ellie Land

Ellie Land is a BAFTA long-listed director/producer working in documentary, animation & immersive tech. Her award-winning films explore women's health, identity & climate through an ecofeminist lens, screened at 250+ festivals incl. BFI, Hot Docs & IDFA.



Maryam Mohajer

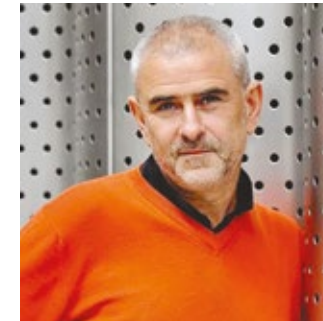
Maryam is a BAFTA winning animator, director, writer with a background in painting. She is also a part time lecturer in animation at Kingston University.



Serafima Serafimova

Serafima is a film and animation director at Nice and Serious, and a senior programmer at Short of the Week. She focuses on short-form storytelling with strong emotional and social impact.

Documentary Short Film Competition



Sean McAllister

Documentary film maker and professor of film and TV.



Cherish Oteka

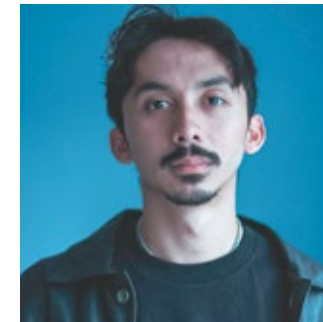
Cherish 'Chez' Oteka is a BAFTA-winning documentary filmmaker, passionate about telling universal stories through the lens of often-erased communities, with a focus on identity, social justice, and representation.



Karanjit Panesar

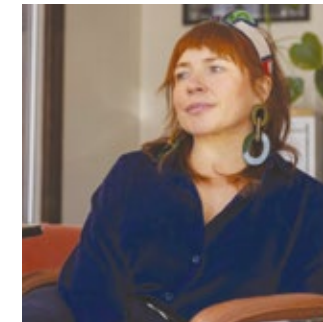
Karanjit Panesar is a Leeds-based artist working with moving image, sculpture and installation. In his work, oblique explorations of diasporic identity and empire intersect with a structural concern.

British and Yorkshire Short Film Competitions



Matty Crawford

Matty Crawford is a BAFTA-nominated writer-director and 2025 Screen Star of Tomorrow. His award-winning shorts have screened at TIFF, BFI LFF, SXSW & more, blending bold visual storytelling with unflinching emotion.



Nic Greenan

Nic Greenan is the CEO of Tyneside Cinema in Newcastle.

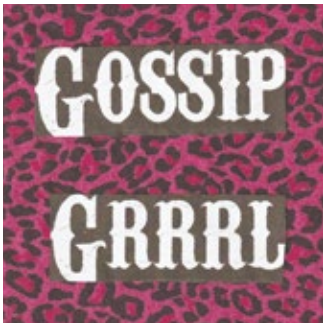


Jade Turner

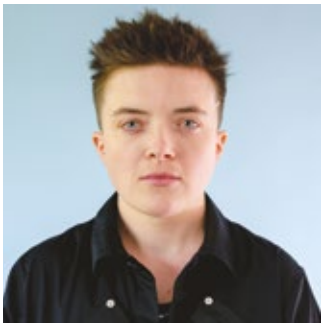
Jade is an experienced programmer and distributor. She currently works as Film Distribution Officer at the BFI and has previously programmed for Curzon, the Independent Cinema Office and Borderlines Film Festival.

Film Competition Juries

Leeds Queer Short Film Competition



GossipGrrrl
GossipGrrrl is a historian and Cher fan from Leeds.

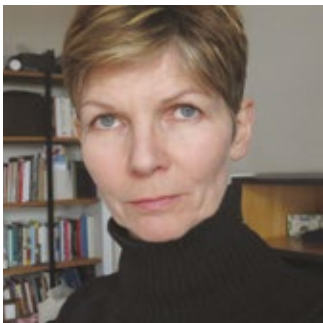


Helios Blanc
Helios Blanc is a producer, distribution strategist and founder of Trans+ on Screen.



Indigo Korres
Indigo Korres (she/her) is a trans and queer artist, Film Curator, and Director of SQIFF. She supports new producers at Film Hub Scotland and co-hosts Changing the Frame, a podcast on trans voices in film.

Leeds Screendance Competition



Claudia Kappenberg
Dr Claudia Kappenberg is an artist, writer, and curator, Honorary Fellow at the University of Brighton and founder-editor of The International Journal of Screendance. Her current research focuses on choreocinematic strategies in archival projects.



Ashavari Majumdar
Ashavari a.k.a Vajrasara is the co-founder and Director of the MANIFEST Dance-Film Festival, India. She works across movement, text and image.



Douglas Rosenberg
Douglas Rosenberg is the Vilas Distinguished Professor of Art at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. He is an artist and a theorist working with performance, video, and installation whose work has been exhibited internationally for over 30 years.

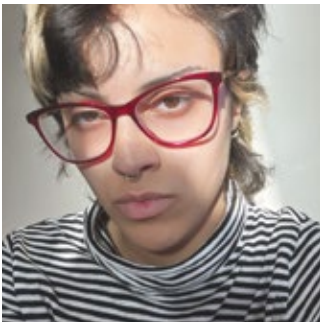
Leeds Music Video Competition



Nicky Bray
Nicky is a musician, singer-songwriter and freelance Community Music Worker. She has been part of the Leeds DIY scene since the late 90s, playing in bands and running events for people to enjoy music in a happy, safe and inclusive environment.



Suzy Harrison
Suzy is a musician, photographer, videographer and zine maker based in York.



Aneela Siddiqui
Freelance photographer and musician in Pleasure Centre, based in Manchester.

LIFF 2025 Team

LIFF is organised by Leeds Film at Leeds City Council, part of the Leeds Arts, Events and Venues (LAEV) service which also organises Leeds Young Film Festival, Light Night Leeds, Leeds International Concert Season, Leeds International Beer Festival, Summer Series on Millennium Square, Breeze in the Park, and much more. LAEV also operates many of the city's leading venues including Leeds Town Hall, Carriageworks Theatre, and Millennium Square.

Director – Chris Fell
Programme Manager – Alex King
Development and Production Manager – Jamie Cross
Development and Communications Officer – Lee Bentham
Programme and Outreach Officer – Ellie Hales
Programme and Outreach Officer – Martha Cattell
Programmer – Alice Miller
Communications Coordinator – Molly Harman
Production Coordinator – Daniel Jones
Production and Communications Assistant – Yamana Jaman-Browne
Volunteers Coordinator – Matthew Chambers
Guest Services Coordinator – Sofia Azevedo
Prints Manager – Nick Randles
Prints Coordinator – Fran Albrecht
Digital Content Producer – Sally Molineaux
Designer – Lee Goater
Brand & Strategy Adviser – Nick Ramshaw
Diversity & Inclusion Adviser – Steven Copsey

Leeds Ticket Hub
CRM & Ticketing Manager – Mark O'Leary
Assistant CRM & Ticketing Manager – Juliet Moore
Team Supervisor – Elisha Cotter
Ticketing Assistants – Hannah Booth, Dan Jones, Dean Ramsden, Helen Richmond, Shirley Shortall, Fran Talbot, Sam Lawrence, Rachel Prince.

Opportunities at LIFF 2026
In early 2026, we will advertise new opportunities for freelance programmers at LIFF, including several entry-level roles for those who have no experience but who love film and are interested in being part of the film industry. We will also have other opportunities available at LIFF 2026 and we will recruit for volunteers over the summer. To find out about any opportunities with LIFF, follow us @leedsfilmfest on Instagram, Facebook or LinkedIn, or sign up to our newsletter on leedsfilm.com. If you have any queries, please email us at leeds.film@leeds.gov.uk

Feature film programmers – Alex King, Alice Miller, Ellie Hales, Martha Cattell, Chris Fell, Lee Bentham, Melissa Gueneau

Short film programmers – (Louis le Prince) Liz Chege, Allegra Bell, Gurnesha Bola, Jason Liwag, Kristen Harding, Miranda Bentley, Saulė Savanevičiūtė; (Animation) Heather Bradshaw, Georgia Dixon-Lynch; (Documentary) Jenna Isherwood, Ted Steptoe; (British & Yorkshire) Robb Barham, Khara Linton-Salmon, Olivia Thomas; (Fanomenon) Melissa Gueneau, Zoë Wren Boyd; (Queer shorts) Leeds Queer Film Festival; (Music videos) Robyn Lawrence; (Screendance) Andy Wood, Gitta Wigro.

International Short Film Consultant – Céline Rouston

Programme adviser for Deslocamentos:
Brazilian Cinema on the Move – Dr. Stephanie Dennison

Night of the Dead Team - Lee Bentham, Matthew Chambers, Daniel Johnson, Evangeline Spachis, Amber T

LIFF Venue Teams and Volunteers
LIFF wouldn't be possible without the invaluable contribution of our Venue Supervisors, Venue Coordinators, Festival Trainees, Venue Assistants and Digital Assistants. These roles are not fully recruited in time for the print deadline for this guide, but everyone supporting LIFF 2025 in these roles will be credited on the team page on leedsfilm.com.

LIFF 2025 programmers





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Constellation

Constellation is our main programme section where we preview many of the most talked about films of the year, and present UK Premieres of films from exciting new filmmakers in our feature film competition. Major highlights this year include two from Richard Linklater – our opening film *Blue Moon* and *Nouvelle Vague* – Jafar Panahi's Cannes Palme d'Or winner *It Was Just an Accident*, the latest from Lynne Ramsey *Die, My Love*, Mary Bronstein's dark comedy *If I Had Legs I'd Kick You*, and Kaouther Ben Hania's devastating drama *The Voice of Hind Rajab*. British film highlights in Constellation this year include three outstanding debut features – Harry Lighton's *Pillion*, Imran Perretta's *Ish*, and Joy Gharoro-Akpojotor's *Dreamers* – plus two films made in West Yorkshire, Paul Andrew Williams's *Dragonfly* and Nicholas Hytner's *The Choral*.

LIFF 2025 Opening Film

Blue Moon

Richard Linklater | USA, Ireland | 2025 | 100 mins | English

Ethan Hawke delivers a career-best performance as legendary lyricist Lorenz Hart in Richard Linklater's evocative and captivating chamber piece. Set on the opening night of Oklahoma!, a loquacious Hart awaits his former collaborator Richard Rodgers at the afterparty in iconic Broadway bar Sardi's. With superb performances from Margaret Qualley, Bobby Cannavale, and Andrew Scott as Rodgers, *Blue Moon* is a witty yet melancholic portrait of friendship, art, and faded glory.

Thu 30 Oct 18:00 – Hyde Park Screen 1



LIFF 2025 Closing Film

The Love That Remains

Northern Premiere | Hlynur Pálmason | Iceland, Denmark, Sweden, France | 2025 | 109 mins | Icelandic, English, Swedish, French, Danish

Icelandic director Hlynur Pálmason's follow-up to *Godland* is a tender and playful portrait of a family in flux, shot on luminous 35mm. Across a year in rural Iceland, artist Anna and fisherman Magnús navigate marital separation while co-parenting their three children (played by Pálmason's own). Pálmason delicately captures the changing seasons and shifting family dynamics with warmth, humour and touches of absurdity, crafting an intimate meditation on love, nature, and unconventional families.

Sun 16 Nov 18:00 – Hyde Park Screen 1
Sun 16 Nov 19:00 – Vue Screen 12
Sun 16 Nov 19:15 – Vue Screen 7



Blue Heron

Northern Premiere | Sophy Romvari
Canada, Hungary | 2025 | 90 mins
English, Hungarian

Blue Heron marks a striking debut from Canadian-Hungarian filmmaker Sophy Romvari, who draws on her own childhood experiences to create an intimate and heartrending drama. Set on Vancouver Island in the 1990s, *Blue Heron* depicts family life through the eyes of a young Sasha as her parents reckon with the increasingly volatile behaviour of her older brother, Jeremy. Romvari's sensitive exploration of family trauma, memory, and grief leaves a lasting impression.

Sat 8 Nov 14:45 – Vue Screen 12
Wed 12 Nov 20:45 – Vue Screen 7
Sat 15 Nov 13:45 – Vue Screen 12



The Blue Trail

Northern Premiere | Gabriel Mascaro
Brazil, Mexico, Netherlands, Chile | 2025
85 mins | Portuguese

Gabriel Mascaro's *The Blue Trail* is an entrancing, inspiring and visually lush film odyssey and a striking critique of ageism and authoritarianism. In a near-future Brazil, the government gives priority to the country's younger generations, while older people are put away in colonies so they will not "get in the way". The 77-year-old Tereza (Denise Weinberg) refuses to submit and decides to escape, embarking on a transformative journey through the Amazon to fulfil one last wish before she loses her freedom.

Sat 1 Nov 13:15 – Everyman Screen 4
Mon 3 Nov 18:30 – Everyman Screen 4
Tue 4 Nov 20:30 – Everyman Screen 4
Sun 16 Nov 17:00 – Vue Screen 12



Calle Málaga

Northern Premiere | Maryam Touzani
Morocco, France, Spain, Germany, Belgium
2025 | 116 mins | Spanish, Arabic

Director Maryam Touzani (*The Blue Caftan*) returns with an endearing, big hearted drama boasting a towering performance from Carmen Maura. Maria Angeles is a 79-year-old Spanish woman who lives alone in Tangier, Morocco, and loves her hometown, the warm people and labyrinthine markets. However, her life is turned upside down when her daughter arrives from Madrid to sell the apartment where she's always lived. Determined to stay, she digs in her heels and, unexpectedly, rediscovers love and sensuality.

Sun 9 Nov 17:00 – Vue Screen 12
Wed 12 Nov 18:00 – Vue Screen 12
Sat 15 Nov 15:15 – Vue Screen 7



The Choral

Nicholas Hytner | UK, USA | 2025
113 mins | English

From director Nicholas Hytner and writer Alan Bennett (who also collaborated on *The History Boys* and *The Lady in the Van*), *The Choral* is a rousing period comedy drama filmed in Bradford. As war rages on the Western Front in 1916, the Choral Society in Ramsden, Yorkshire has lost most of its men to the army. The Choral's ambitious committee decides to recruit local young males with the help of new chorus master Dr. Henry Guthrie (Ralph Fiennes). As conscription papers arrive, the whole community discovers that the best response is to make music together.

Fri 31 Oct 18:00 – Hyde Park Screen 1



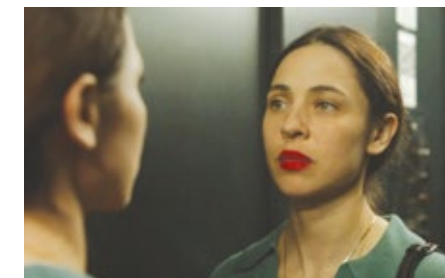
CONSTELLATION FEATURE FILM COMPETITION

Cotton Queen

UK Premiere | Suzannah Mirghani
Sudan, Germany, France, Saudi Arabia, Qatar
2025 | 93 mins | Arabic

In her captivating debut feature, Sudanese-Russian filmmaker Suzannah Mirghani expands on her acclaimed short *Al-Sit* with a richly layered feminist tale, set in a cotton-farming village. Teenage Nafisa, raised on her grandmother's stories of resistance, finds herself at the centre of a power play when a businessman introduces genetically modified cotton. With touches of magical realism, *Cotton Queen* captures a young woman's awakening amid a community caught between tradition and modernity.

Wed 5 Nov 14:15 – Vue Screen 12
Sat 8 Nov 10:45 – Vue Screen 12
Tue 11 Nov 13:30 – Vue Screen 7

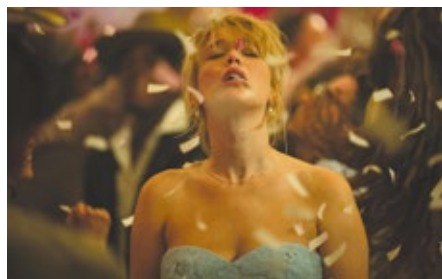


The Currents

UK Premiere | Milagros Mumenthaler
Argentina, Switzerland | 2025
104 mins | Spanish

A mesmerising psychological drama from acclaimed Argentine filmmaker Milagros Mumenthaler. After accepting an award in Switzerland, fashion designer Lina impulsively jumps from a bridge into icy waters. On her return to Buenos Aires, something inside her has shifted, and she struggles to resume daily life with her husband and young daughter. Isabel Aimé González-Sola gives an outstanding performance as Lina in this singular and deeply resonant exploration of mental health, trauma and motherhood.

Wed 5 Nov 18:30 – Vue Screen 12
Mon 10 Nov 20:30 – Vue Screen 12
Thu 13 Nov 18:00 – Vue Screen 12



Die, My Love

Northern Premiere | Lynne Ramsay | USA, Canada, UK | 2025 | 118 mins | English

Jennifer Lawrence and Robert Pattinson star in Lynne Ramsay's striking drama about a woman's descent into psychosis. Grace and Jackson leave New York for the country with their baby, seeking space for Grace to write. But something has changed in her since the birth, which has unleashed primal urges and threatens her grip on reality. Lawrence is stunning as a wife driven to the edge, in a sharp screenplay by Ramsay, Enda Walsh and Alice Birch about the collapse of a relationship post-childbirth.

Fri 31 Oct 20:30 – Vue Screen 12
Mon 3 Nov 20:30 – Hyde Park Screen 1
Thu 6 Nov 20:00 – Cottage Road Cinema

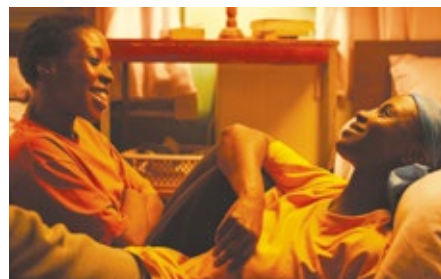


Dragonfly

English Premiere | Paul Andrew Williams | UK | 2025 | 98 mins | English

Simmering tensions bring shocking consequences in a gripping human story filmed in West Yorkshire. Neglected pensioner Elsie (Brenda Blethyn) finds an unexpected ally in her younger neighbour Colleen (Andrea Riseborough). Their new friendship brings brighter days for both of them, but their relationship starts to change when Elsie's son John (Jason Watkins) shows concern about Colleen. Dragonfly is the latest film from acclaimed filmmaker Paul Andrew Williams who also directed the recent TV series *Suspect: The Shooting of Jean Charles de Menezes*.

Sat 1 Nov 16:00 – Vue Screen 7
Sun 2 Nov 13:30 – Vue Screen 7
Mon 3 Nov 15:45 – Vue Screen 7



Dreamers

Northern Premiere | Joy Gharoro-Akpojotor | UK | 2025 | 78 mins | English

Two Nigerian migrants dream of a future beyond confinement in Joy Gharoro-Akpojotor's stunning debut. After two years undocumented, Isio is detained at Hatchworth Removal Centre, facing deportation. There she meets Farah, a bold roommate who challenges her faith in the system. Their friendship deepens into love, offering hope amid despair. When Isio's asylum plea is denied, they must decide between submission and escape in this timely drama of resilience and freedom.

Sat 8 Nov 16:30 – Howard Assembly Room



Follies

UK Premiere | Eric K. Boulianne | Canada | 2025 | 101 mins | French

Eric K. Boulianne's directorial debut *Follies* is a frank and funny exploration of modern love, sex, and intimacy. After 16 years of marriage and two kids, François and Julie decide to open up their relationship, diving into swingers' apps, awkward encounters, and new desires. Boulianne and co-star Catherine Chabot deliver a sharp, sex-positive comedy that balances farce with warmth, offering a witty, relatable reflection on the complexities of contemporary relationships.

Thu 6 Nov 10:45 – Vue Screen 12
Sat 8 Nov 18:15 – Everyman Screen 4
Tue 11 Nov 20:15 – Everyman Screen 4



Fwends

Northern Premiere | Sophie Somerville | Australia | 2025 | 92 mins | English, French

Two friends reunite over a weekend in Melbourne in this hilarious, improvised ode to mid-twenties friendship. When old friend Em visits on a whim, Jessie becomes a tour guide. As they walk the streets trying to reconnect, they find increasingly funny ways to distract themselves from their problems and the uncertainty of their futures. Almost entirely improvised on a budget of 5000 AUD (about £2500), Sophie Somerville's mumblecore debut is a raw and deeply relatable portrait of the messiness of adult life.

Sat 8 Nov 20:30 – Everyman Screen 4
Mon 10 Nov 20:30 – Everyman Screen 4

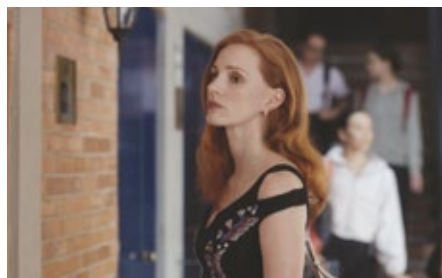


Game

Northern Premiere | John Minton | UK | 2025 | 82 mins | English

Written and produced by Portishead co-founder Geoff Barrow, *Game* is a gripping and unpredictable thriller set in the 90s rave scene. Marc Bessant plays an ageing raver who steals a stash at his final party but ends up in a car crash. Trapped and struggling for survival, he encounters a menacing poacher played by Jason Williamson (vocalist from Sleaford Mods). Director John Minton hones a tense and hallucinatory film taking the viewer way beyond the expectations of thriller conventions.

Thu 13 Nov 18:00 – Hyde Park Screen 1



Dreams

Northern Premiere | Michel Franco | Mexico, USA | 2025 | 95 mins | Spanish, English

Uncompromising Mexican director Michel Franco reunites with actress Jessica Chastain, whose cold precision powers an erotically charged political drama with a vicious sting in its tail. Chastain stars as rich philanthropist Jennifer opposite Isaac Hernández, who plays her lover, a young Mexican ballet dancer Fernando who dreams of international recognition and a life in the US. Believing she will support him, he leaves everything behind but his arrival disrupts her carefully curated world.

Fri 31 Oct 13:30 – Vue Screen 12
Sat 1 Nov 18:30 – Vue Screen 7
Sat 8 Nov 16:45 – Vue Screen 12



Drunken Noodles

UK Premiere | Lucio Castro | USA, Argentina | 2025 | 81 mins | English, Spanish

Lucio Castro's *Drunken Noodles* is playful and profound, an understated drama about desire and intimacy full of surprising, sensuous encounters through one hazy summer. Adnan, a young art student, arrives in New York City to flat-sit for a friend. He begins interning at a gallery where an artist who specialises in embroidered queer erotica is being exhibited. This opens a portal to his own desire as moments from his past and present intertwine in a gently captivating, magical realist tapestry.

Thu 6 Nov 17:00 – Everyman Screen 4
Mon 10 Nov 14:15 – Everyman Screen 4
Tue 11 Nov 16:00 – Everyman Screen 4



CONSTELLATION FEATURE FILM COMPETITION

Fantasy

UK Premiere | Kukla | North Macedonia, Slovenia | 2025 | 98 mins | Macedonian, Slovenian, Albanian, Serbian, Bosnian

A bold and confident debut from Slovenian-Macedonian filmmaker and musician Kukla, *Fantasy* is a vivid exploration of gender identity and desire. Tomboy friends Mihrije, Sina and Jasna refuse to conform to the patriarchal world around them, but their lives shift when they meet Fantasy, a free-spirited transgender woman. With a strong visual style and dynamic use of music, the film celebrates friendship, self-discovery and queerness in contemporary Slovenia.

Thu 6 Nov 13:30 – Vue Screen 12
Sun 9 Nov 16:00 – Everyman Screen 4
Tue 11 Nov 13:45 – Everyman Screen 4



CONSTELLATION FEATURE FILM COMPETITION

Happy Birthday

UK Premiere | Sarah Goher | Egypt | 2025 | 95 mins | Arabic

A child maid is exposed to a class system she can't understand in this stunning Tribeca winner and Egypt's Oscar entry. Eight-year-old Toha bonds with her wealthy employer's daughter, Nelly. Having never celebrated her own birthday with family, she throws herself into planning Nelly's party. But as her ties with the family deepen, rigid class divides emerge, exposing Toha to the harsh realities of privilege and exploitation in this tender, unflinching debut led by a stunning central performance.

Tue 4 Nov 14:00 – Vue Screen 12
Sat 8 Nov 12:45 – Vue Screen 12
Wed 12 Nov 14:15 – Vue Screen 12



If I Had Legs I'd Kick You

Northern Premiere | Mary Bronstein | USA | 2025 | 113 mins | English

Led by a virtuoso, Silver Bear-winning performance from Rose Byrne, Mary Bronstein's *If I Had Legs I'd Kick You* plunges us into the nightmare of modern motherhood. As overworked therapist Linda faces her daughter's mysterious illness, a collapsing home, and an absent husband, her world becomes a relentless pressure cooker of crises. Claustrophobic, darkly funny and unnerving from start to finish, this breathless whirlwind of a film is absolutely not to be missed.

Sun 9 Nov 18:00 – Hyde Park Screen 1
Tue 11 Nov 18:00 – Vue Screen 12
Sat 15 Nov 20:30 – Vue Screen 12



Is This Thing On?

Northern Premiere | Bradley Cooper | USA | 2025 | 120 mins | English

In actor and filmmaker Bradley Cooper's tender and funny third feature film as director, Will Arnett and Laura Dern play a couple who seek new purpose as their marriage quietly unravels. Alex and Tess Novak – parents of two young boys – decide to split up after their marriage has reached an impasse. Their separation leads to unpredictable midlife self-reckonings, most dramatically in Alex's wild career pivot to become a confessional stand-up comedian in New York City's West Village, where he finds new direction and camaraderie.

Tue 11 Nov 20:30 – Vue Screen 12
Thu 13 Nov 17:45 – Vue Screen 7



Ish

Northern Premiere | Imran Perretta | UK
2025 | 89 mins | English

Imran Perretta's feature debut is a tender and powerful coming of age story, set against the backdrop of Britain's fraught political landscape. In a Bedfordshire town, teenagers Ish and Maram are inseparable. Their friendship however is tested when they become the targets of police harassment. Shot in striking monochrome and accompanied by a distinctive score, this is a bold British film, that places marginalised characters at its centre and exposes the deep-rooted biases that continue to run through society.

Fri 7 Nov 18:30 – Everyman Screen 4
Sat 8 Nov 11:45 – Everyman Screen 4



It Was Just an Accident

Jafar Panahi | Iran, France, Luxembourg
2025 | 105 mins | Persian, English

Winner of the Palme d'Or at this year's Cannes, Jafar Panahi's *It Was Just an Accident* is a bold, darkly satirical thriller that confronts the violence of Iran's repressive regime head-on. A minor traffic collision sparks a tense reunion between two men with a shared, traumatic past – one a victim, the other possibly his former torturer. What begins as an almost absurd road trip escalates into a gripping moral reckoning on justice, revenge, and the possibility of mercy.

Sun 2 Nov 15:45 – Hyde Park Screen 1
Mon 3 Nov 18:15 – Vue Screen 12
Sat 8 Nov 12:00 – Cottage Road Cinema



La Grazia

Northern Premiere | Paolo Sorrentino | Italy
2025 | 131 mins | Italian

The great Paolo Sorrentino's latest film reunites him with his favourite leading actor Toni Servillo (*The Great Beauty*, *Il Divo*), who gives a sublime performance as a fictional Italian president. The ageing leader has to reckon with political dilemmas, moral quandaries and ghosts from his past as his term draws to a close. Made with baroque flourishes of his trademark visual style but also a newfound elegant restraint, Sorrentino's film achieves a real depth and emotional resonance.

Thu 30 Oct 20:15 – Vue Screen 7
Thu 6 Nov 17:45 – Hyde Park Screen 1
Sat 15 Nov 14:15 – Cottage Road Cinema



Mirrors N° 3

Northern Premiere | Christian Petzold
Germany | 2025 | 86 mins | German

Christian Petzold's *Mirrors No. 3* is a compact, superbly crafted psychodrama that grips from start to finish. When music student Laura (Paula Beer) survives a countryside car crash that kills her boyfriend, she is taken in by Betty, a benevolent stranger. As the two women fall into a quiet routine, the return of Betty's family stirs unease. Elegant and unsettling, Petzold's beguiling tale explores loss, trauma, and the unorthodox ways we cope with grief.

Thu 13 Nov 16:00 – Vue Screen 12
Fri 14 Nov 18:00 – Vue Screen 12



CONSTELLATION FEATURE FILM COMPETITION

The Mysterious Gaze of the Flamingo

UK Premiere | Diego Céspedes | Chile,
Germany, France, Belgium, Spain | 2025
104 mins | Spanish

An unknown disease spreads fear through a 1980s desert town, in this Cannes Un Certain Regard winner. Teenage Lidia lives happily with her large queer family at Mama Boa's cabaret, but their haven shatters when rumours spread that the illness transmits through two men by a simple glance of love. As accusations mount, Lidia must uncover the truth to protect them from the town. Part modern Western, part Almodóvar-inspired melodrama, Diego Céspedes' striking debut marks a director to watch.

Tue 4 Nov 20:15 – Vue Screen 12
Sat 15 Nov 15:45 – Vue Screen 12



Night Stage

Northern Premiere | Filipe Matzembacher,
Marcio Reolon | Brazil | 2025 | 117 mins
Portuguese

Night Stage is a stylish and provocative erotic thriller from Brazilian filmmakers Marcio Reolon and Felipe Matzembacher that echoes the films of Brian De Palma and Paul Verhoeven. Matias (Gabriel Faryas) is an ambitious actor who starts a secret affair with mayoral candidate Rafael (Cirillo Luna), and together they discover their fetish for having sex in public places. The closer they get to their dream of fame, the more they feel the urge to put themselves at risk, and they end up in a dangerous game of success, pleasure and death.

Fri 7 Nov 15:30 – Vue Screen 12
Wed 12 Nov 20:30 – Vue Screen 12



Little Amélie

Northern Premiere | Maïlys Vallade,
Liane-Cho Han Jin Kuang | France, Belgium
2025 | 77 mins | Age rating PG

Little Amélie is a tender, poignant and visually stunning animated story about the healing power of human connection. The world is a perplexing, peaceful mystery to Amélie until a miraculous encounter with chocolate ignites her wild sense of curiosity. Amélie discovers the wonders of nature as well as the emotional truths hidden beneath the surface of her family's idyllic life as foreigners in post-war Japan. (Rated PG – tickets for under 15s are £6. Dubbed in English.)

Fri 31 Oct 13:15 – Vue Screen 7
Sat 15 Nov 13:15 – Vue Screen 7



Love Letters

UK Premiere | Alice Douard | France | 2025
96 mins | French

Ella Rumpf (Julia Ducournau's *Raw*) and Monia Chokri give exceptional performances in Alice Douard's debut feature *Love Letters*, a tender and affecting drama inspired by the director's own experiences of queer parenthood. Set just after France legalised same-sex marriage, Céline and her wife Nadia are expecting their first child. But as Céline must gather letters of support to legally adopt her daughter-to-be, she is forced to confront her estranged mother and her own fears of repeating past mistakes.

Sun 2 Nov 11:45 – Vue Screen 12
Fri 14 Nov 16:00 – Vue Screen 7
Sun 16 Nov 14:45 – Vue Screen 12



Mary Anning

UK Premiere | Marcel Borelli | Switzerland,
Belgium | 2025 | 72 mins | French
Age rating PG

The pioneering fossil collector's youth is brought to life in this charming Swiss animation. In 1811, Mary Anning loves searching for fossils on the Dorset coast, a passion given to her by her father. But one day, he disappears, leaving behind a strange drawing and a struggling family. Determined to help, Mary hatches a plan that will lead to new friendships, big adventures and the discovery of palaeontology as we know it. A punky, high-spirited film perfect for budding scientists of all ages. (Rated PG – tickets for under 15s are £6. In French with English subtitles.)

Sun 2 Nov 13:00 – The Old Fire Station - FREE
Fri 14 Nov 16:00 – St Luke's Cares - FREE
Sun 16 Nov 11:00 – Hyde Park Screen 2
Sun 16 Nov 11:30 – Hyde Park Screen 1



Nouvelle Vague

Northern Premiere | Richard Linklater
France, USA | 2025 | 106 mins
French, English

In his second much-anticipated feature this year (also see *Blue Moon* at LIFF 2025), indie auteur Richard Linklater crafts a stylish, black-and-white homage to the French New Wave. Set across the streets of Paris, it follows the chaotic making of the legendary 1960 film *Breathless*. Newcomer Guillaume Marbeck, shines as Jean-Luc Godard, directing Jean Seberg (Zoey Deutch) and Jean-Paul Belmondo (Aubry Dullin) amid growing pressures from producers. A nostalgic feast for cinephiles and lovers of film history.

Fri 7 Nov 20:45 – Vue Screen 7
Sun 16 Nov 15:30 – Hyde Park Screen 1



CONSTELLATION FEATURE FILM COMPETITION

Omaha

UK Premiere | Cole Webley | USA | 2025
83 mins | English

Two young siblings are taken on a mysterious cross-country journey in this performance-driven debut starring John Magaro (*First Cow*, *Past Lives*). Awoken by their dad and hustled into their car, Ella and Charlie discover an America they've never known. As their road trip unfolds, Ella grows suspicious of her father's secrecy. *Omaha* embraces stripped-down intimacy, thriving on an incredible performance by Magaro, debuts from Molly Belle Wright and Wyatt Solis and a quietly impactful screenplay.

Tue 4 Nov 16:15 – Vue Screen 12
Fri 7 Nov 10:30 – Vue Screen 12
Sun 9 Nov 11:30 – Vue Screen 7



Out of Love

UK Premiere | Nathan Ambrosioni | France
2025 | 111 mins | French

Out of Love is an intimate and empathetic portrait of a woman forced to become a mother to children she barely knows. After many years, Suzanne (Juliette Armanet) and her two children unexpectedly show up at the home of her sister Jeanne (Camille Cottin). It initially looks like Suzanne is tentatively attempting to re-establish a relationship with her sister. But by the morning, Suzanne is gone. *Out of Love* is already the fifth feature from 26-year-old French writer/director Nathan Ambrosioni, who made his first feature *Hostile* at the age of 14.

Mon 10 Nov 15:45 – Vue Screen 12
Thu 13 Nov 20:15 – Vue Screen 12



CONSTELLATION FEATURE FILM COMPETITION

Perla

UK Premiere | Alexandra Makarová
Austria, Slovakia | 2025 | 108 mins
German, Slovak, Russian

Alexandra Makarová’s impressive second feature is a quietly powerful portrait of motherhood, resilience, and survival under patriarchy. In early 1980s Vienna, artist Perla (Rebeka Poláková, in an arresting performance) lives freely with her young daughter, until she receives a phone call that compels her to make the risky return to communist Czechoslovakia. Drawing on personal family history, this taut Cold War drama traces the costs of exile, and the courage to live on one’s own terms.

Wed 5 Nov 16:15 – Vue Screen 12
Wed 12 Nov 18:30 – Vue Screen 7
Fri 14 Nov 13:15 – Vue Screen 12



Peter Hujar’s Day

Northern Premiere | Ira Sachs | USA, UK,
Germany, Spain | 2025 | 76 mins | English

Ben Whishaw delivers a standout performance in Ira Sachs’s intimate day-in-the-life portrait of 70s photographer Peter Hujar. Based on a 1974 conversation with writer Linda Rosenkrantz, he recounts what appears to him as a day of unremarkable interactions with Sontag, Burroughs and Ginsberg, while Linda listens with quiet curiosity and admiration. Minimal in action yet rich in human detail, *Peter Hujar’s Day* captures the spontaneity and intimacy of an underappreciated New York icon.

Thu 6 Nov 20:45 – Everyman Screen 4
Fri 7 Nov 16:45 – Everyman Screen 4
Wed 12 Nov 20:45 – Everyman Screen 4



Pillion

Harry Lighton | UK, Ireland | 2025
107 mins | English

Harry Lighton’s bold, funny, and unexpectedly tender debut reinvents the queer love story. Colin (Harry Melling), a mild-mannered young man still living with his parents, is swept into the orbit of Ray (Alexander Skarsgård), an enigmatic biker who draws him into a BDSM relationship. As Colin gives himself over to Ray, he begins to uncover his own desires and boundaries. Anchored by fearless performances, *Pillion* is a refreshingly original and moving portrait of love and self-discovery.

Tue 4 Nov 20:15 – Hyde Park Screen 1
Fri 7 Nov 18:30 – Pictureville Cinema
Sun 9 Nov 13:30 – Vue Screen 7
Thu 13 Nov 20:30 – Vue Screen 7
Sun 16 Nov 15:15 – Cottage Road Cinema



Rental Family

Hikari | Japan, USA | 2025 | 103 mins
English, Japanese

Hikari’s *Rental Family* is a poignant comedy drama starring Oscar-winner Brendan Fraser as an American actor in Tokyo whose life is changed when he is cast for an unusual role. Philip (Fraser) has lived in Japan for seven years with little acting success until he’s recruited to play ‘sad American’ at an actual funeral and is offered more stand-in roles working for a Japanese ‘rental family’ agency. As he immerses himself in his clients’ worlds, he begins to form genuine bonds that blur the lines between performance and reality.

Sat 1 Nov 20:30 – Vue Screen 7
Sun 9 Nov 15:45 – Hyde Park Screen 1



Resurrection

Northern Premiere | Bi Gan | China, France,
USA | 2025 | 160 mins | Mandarin

A bold and hypnotic return from director Bi Gan (*Long Day’s Journey into Night*) that affirms his status as one cinema’s most ambitious visionaries. Told in six chapters, each aligned with one of the five senses and the mind, the film follows immortal characters living through different eras and genres. With its shifting timeframes and experimental structure, *Resurrection* is an ode to the past, present and future of cinema, and will mesmerise and entrance audiences long after viewing.

Fri 31 Oct 15:00 – Vue Screen 7
Sun 2 Nov 14:00 – Vue Screen 12



Rosemead

English Premiere | Eric Lin | USA | 2025
97 mins | English, Mandarin

Based on a harrowing true story, *Rosemead* is a gripping, emotionally charged portrait of a mother’s love pushed to its limits. In cinematographer Eric Lin’s first feature as director, Lucy Liu delivers a stunning performance as a terminally ill Chinese immigrant in southern California who uncovers her teenage son’s disturbing fixation with mass shootings. As her health deteriorates, she takes increasingly desperate – and morally complex – measures to protect him and confront the darkness he’s drawn to.

Sun 2 Nov 17:15 – Vue Screen 12
Mon 10 Nov 18:15 – Vue Screen 12



CONSTELLATION FEATURE FILM COMPETITION

Pinch

UK Premiere | Uttera Singh | India | 2025
83 mins | Hindi

A travel vlogger enacts her revenge on the family friend who assaults her in this darkly comic debut from actor-director Uttera Singh. When Maitri joins her family on a temple trip, she’s groped by her beloved neighbour. Her fury sparks retributive action that rattles the community, prompting everyone to rethink their definition of sexual assault and attitudes towards it. A gripping morality play with vibrant modern visuals, traditional sitar music and a unique take on trauma-comedy.

Thu 6 Nov 15:45 – Vue Screen 12
Fri 7 Nov 18:45 –Vue Screen 7
Thu 13 Nov 14:00 –Vue Screen 12



A Poet

UK Premiere | Simón Mesa Soto
Colombia, Germany, Sweden | 2025
120 mins | Spanish

A jury prize winner at Cannes, Colombian director Simón Mesa Soto’s *A Poet* is an affecting and bitterly funny satire about art and privilege. In a mesmerising central performance Ubeimar Rios plays Oscar Restrepo, a maladapted middle-aged poet who struggles to make ends meet. He takes a teaching job and there he meets the talented working class teenager Yurlady who fills her notebooks with powerful, unaffected poetry. Becoming her champion proves much more difficult than he anticipates.

Sat 8 Nov 20:30 – Vue Screen 12
Fri 14 Nov 15:30 – Vue Screen 12
Sat 15 Nov 18:00 – Vue Screen 12



A Private Life

Northern Premiere | Rebecca Zlotowski |
France | 2025 | 103 mins | French, English

Jodie Foster shines in her first French-speaking lead role in Rebecca Zlotowski’s playful murder mystery. Foster stars as Lilian Steiner, an American psychoanalyst in Paris whose life is upended after the sudden death of a long-standing patient. Convinced it was murder, Lillian throws herself into some amateur sleuthing, with her ex-husband (Daniel Auteuil) in tow. An elegant, unpredictable thriller laced with dark humour and Hitchcockian flair, *A Private Life* is a hugely entertaining delight.

Thu 30 Oct 17:45 – Vue Screen 7
Mon 3 Nov 13:00 – Vue Screen 12
Fri 7 Nov 18:00 – Vue Screen 12



The Secret Agent

Northern Premiere | Kleber Mendonça Filho
Brazil, France, Germany, Netherlands | 2025
158 mins | Portuguese

Brazilian Director Kleber Mendonça Filho hits dizzying new heights with *The Secret Agent*, a complex and riveting political thriller set in the paranoid 1970s with unexpected streaks of absurdist black humour and bags of style. Wagner Moura plays a university professor who travels from São Paulo to the seaside city of Recife during Carnival week, hoping to reunite with his son. He finds out he’s being tailed by hitmen hired by a corrupt federal officer. One of the best films of the year.

Sun 9 Nov 19:30 – Vue Screen 12
Tue 11 Nov 20:00 – Hyde Park Screen 1
Thu 13 Nov 19:30 – Cottage Road Cinema



Sentimental Value

Northern Premiere | Joachim Trier
Norway, Germany, Denmark, France,
Sweden, UK, Turkey | 2025 | 133 mins
Norwegian, English

After *The Worst Person in the World*, Renate Reinsve reunites with Joachim Trier in his latest Cannes-winning film, also starring Elle Fanning and Stellan Skarsgård. Nora and Agnes confront old wounds when their director father, Gustav, returns to the family home to shoot a film based on their lives. With actress Nora refusing to take part, Gustav turns his attention to moulding a young American star (Fanning) into his daughter’s role. A masterfully skilled drama featuring Trier’s distinctive humour about grief and the healing power of art.

Thu 6 Nov 18:00 – Vue Screen 12
Sat 8 Nov 14:30 – Cottage Road Cinema
Mon 10 Nov 20:15 – Hyde Park Screen 1



Silent Friend

Northern Premiere | Ildikó Enyedi
Germany, Hungary, France, China | 2025
147 mins | German, English

In Ildikó Enyedi’s mesmerising *Silent Friend*, three lives are quietly shaped by encounters with a majestic ginkgo biloba tree on a university campus. In 1908, a determined young botany student challenges the university’s barriers to women; in 1972, two students forge a charged bond over a plant experiment; and in 2020, a neuroscientist (Tony Leung) teams with a botanist (Léa Seydoux) to probe the mysteries of the ginkgo. A tender and engrossing exploration of human connections to nature.

Sun 2 Nov 19:30 – Vue Screen 12
Fri 7 Nov 12:30 – Vue Screen 12
Fri 14 Nov 20:00 – Vue Screen 12



CONSTELLATION FEATURE FILM COMPETITION

That Summer in Paris

UK Premiere | Valentine Cadic | Franc
2025 | 77 mins | French, English, Greek

A vibrant and lyrical debut that frames a personal awakening against the drama and fanfare of the 2024 Paris Olympics. 30-year-old Blandine leaves her quiet life in Normandy to watch her favourite swimmer and reconnect with her half-sister she hasn't seen in a decade. Immersed and challenged by the energy of Paris, she begins to rediscover lost relationships, but also her own sense of self. A tender story about family, identity, and quiet transformation.

Thu 6 Nov 20:45 – Vue Screen 12
Sun 9 Nov 12:45 – Howard Assembly Room
Wed 12 Nov 16:15 – Vue Screen 12



The Thing with Feathers

Northern Premiere | Dylan Southern
UK | 2025 | 98 mins | English

Adapted from the novel by Max Porter and directed by Dylan Southern, *The Thing with Feathers* is a raw and poetic portrait of grief. Benedict Cumberbatch is a young father of two sons left devastated by the sudden and unexpected death of his wife. His hold on reality crumbles as a seemingly malign presence begins to stalk him. What begins as a terrifying haunting evolves into a battle of wills between the grieving family and their unpredictable, uninvited house guest and tormentor.

Sun 2 Nov 15:45 – Vue Screen 7
Mon 3 Nov 20:30 – Vue Screen 7
Wed 5 Nov 18:15 – Hyde Park Screen 1



The Voice of Hind Rajab

Northern Premiere | Kaouther Ben Hania
Tunisia, France, USA | 2025 | 89 mins
Arabic

Kaouther Ben Hania's *The Voice of Hind Rajab*, winner of the Grand Jury Prize at Venice Film Festival, transforms the last recorded words of a six-year-old girl in Gaza into a vital act of remembrance. Blending archival audio with re-enactments, the film captures both the unbearable suspense of the complex rescue attempt and the impossible choices faced by first responders, creating a devastating and unforgettable portrait of innocence in the face of unspeakable violence.

Mon 3 Nov 20:45 – Vue Screen 12
Tue 4 Nov 18:15 – Vue Screen 12
Sun 9 Nov 13:30 – Hyde Park Screen 1
Sun 16 Nov 13:00 – Cottage Road Cinema



CONSTELLATION FEATURE FILM COMPETITION

We Believe You

UK Premiere | Charlotte Deville,
Arnaud Dufey | Belgium | 2025
78 mins | French

An unbearably tense courtroom drama, *We Believe You* is an extraordinary debut feature by Belgian filmmakers Charlotte Devillers and Arnaud Dufey. Miriam Akheddiou holds the film together with an intense performance as mother Alice who has to represent her two children in a custody battle against a father who stands accused of sexual abuse. In a legal system where victims struggle to be heard and difficult confrontations are enforced, can she protect them and ensure justice is upheld?

Wed 5 Nov 20:45 – Vue Screen 12
Sat 8 Nov 18:45 – Vue Screen 12
Sun 16 Nov 13:00 – Vue Screen 12



NEW FILM ADDITION

The Testament of Ann Lee

Northern Premiere | Mona Fastvold
UK, USA | 2025 | 135 mins | English

In this sweeping, lyrical epic, writer-director Mona Fastvold (*The Brutalist*) reimagines the life of Ann Lee, the visionary founder of the Shakers, who proclaimed herself the female incarnation of Christ. Spanning from industrial Manchester to pre-revolutionary America, *The Testament of Ann Lee* vividly captures the ecstatic fervour of a movement built on song, devotion, and radical equality. Amanda Seyfried gives an electrifying career-best performance in this richly detailed period piece.

Sun 16 Nov 16:30 – Vue Screen 7



NEW FILM ADDITION

100 Nights of Hero

Northern Premiere | Julia Jackman | UK
2025 | 90 mins | English

Julia Jackman's *100 Nights of Hero* is a flamboyant, funny and defiantly feminist fairytale, adapted from Isabel Greenberg's acclaimed graphic novel. In a patriarchal kingdom where women are forbidden to read or write, Cherry (Maika Monroe) and her sharp-witted maid Hero (Emma Corrin) turn the tables on a cruel wager through the power of storytelling. With sumptuous set design, dry humour and a spirit of rebellion, Jackman conjures a riotous, imaginative queer fable and ode to female solidarity.

Sat 15 Nov 12:00 – Cottage Road Cinema
Sun 16 Nov 11:00 – Vue Screen 12



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Cinema Versa

In Cinema Versa we assemble some of the most immersive and fascinating documentaries of the year. We open Cinema Versa with the UK premiere of *The Shepherd and the Bear*, a beautifully shot film made on the frontline of the rewilding project in the French Pyrenees. Environmental themes reoccur throughout Cinema Versa, from a group of schoolkids uncovering a toxic waste dumping scandal in *Middletown*, to the first American climate change refugees in *Lowland Kids*. We have UK premieres of Maciej Drygas's extraordinary collage film *Trains, Yalla Parkour* about Palestinian resistance on the streets of Gaza, *One of Us* about LGBTQIA+ asylum seekers, and a tremendous survey of the new generation of Irish folk musicians in *Celtic Utopia*. We close with the UK Premiere of the latest from the legendary Werner Herzog as he pursues *Ghost Elephants* in Southern Africa.

Cinema Versa Opening Film

The Shepherd and the Bear

UK Premiere | Max Keegan | UK, USA, France | 2024
101 mins | French

Set in the sublime mountainscapes of the French Pyrenees, the reintroduction of brown bears ignites a fierce conflict within a traditional shepherding community. Max Keegan's compelling debut follows an ageing shepherd searching for a successor, and a teenage boy enthralled by the predators threatening the flock. Immersive and visually stunning, *The Shepherd and the Bear* unfolds like a modern folktale, reflecting on tradition and our coexistence with the natural world.

Sat 1 Nov 13:30 – Vue Screen 7
Tue 4 Nov 13:45 – Vue Screen 7



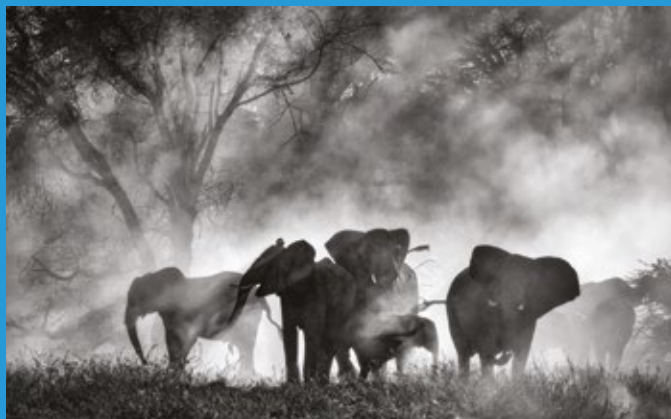
Cinema Versa Closing Film

Ghost Elephants

UK Premiere | Werner Herzog | USA | 2025 | 98 mins | English

Werner Herzog returns with *Ghost Elephants*, an enthralling journey into the misty Angolan highlands. Joining eccentric conservationist Dr Steve Boyes and master Namibian trackers, Herzog searches for a mythical herd of giant elephants, colossal creatures that exist between science and legend. With dazzling cinematography and Herzog's singular narration, the film becomes a poetic meditation on obsession, vanishing cultures, and the enduring mysteries of nature.

Fri 14 Nov 13:45 – Vue Screen 7
Fri 14 Nov 20:30 – Vue Screen 7
Sat 15 Nov 17:45 – Vue Screen 7

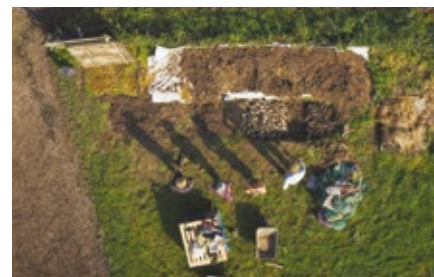


Celtic Utopia

UK Premiere | Dennis Harvey, Lars Lovén
Ireland, Sweden | 2025 | 90 mins
English, Irish

A vibrant portrait of Ireland's folk renaissance, *Celtic Utopia* captures a new wave of musicians who are bold, funny, and politically outspoken. Featuring the likes of The Mary Wallopers, The Deadlians, Young Spencer, Lankum and more, these artists grapple with Ireland's complex past, confronting legacies of colonialism while imagining freer futures. With humour, honesty, and a loose energy, the film celebrates music's power to challenge painful histories while shaping what comes next.

Sun 9 Nov 19:00 – Howard Assembly Room
Mon 10 Nov 20:00 – The Leeds Library

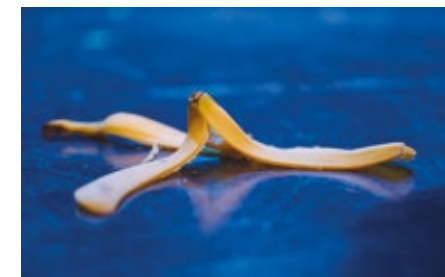


In Symbiosis

Northern Premiere | Helena Berndl, Francesco Maria Gallo | UK | 2025 | 123 mins
English, Italian, Spanish

A vital and informative new documentary which sets out to create a deeper understanding of the current state of our food system. *In Symbiosis* systematically tracks how food is produced and distributed and is full of eye-opening testimony from perceptive scientists, writers and activists. The film reveals how globalised industrial farming accelerates environmental degradation in response to consumer demand. It also reveals a drive for change and shows a path to sustainability and resilience.

Sat 1 Nov 15:15 – Everyman Screen 4
Mon 3 Nov 13:45 – Everyman Screen 4

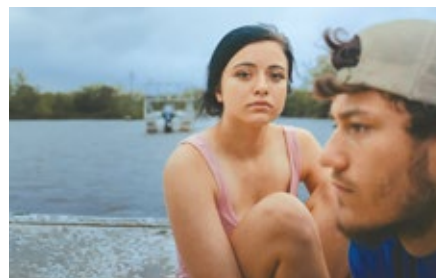


The Laughable

English Premiere | Sarah Browne | UK
2025 | 30 mins | English

This Leeds-set experimental documentary by Sarah Browne explores what is laughed at and who gets to laugh. Six disabled comedians perform on a bare sound stage, confronting taboo subjects from transphobia to religion. With no laugh track or live audience, the onus falls on cinema-goers to decide what is laughable. Commissioned by the research project Imagining Technologies for Disability Futures, a LIFF partner in 2022, *The Laughable* radically reconsiders the ethics of laughter. (The screening will be followed by a discussion – tickets £6.)

Thu 13 Nov 18:00 – Everyman Screen 4



Lowland Kids

Sandra Winther | USA, Denmark | 2025
92 mins | English

A timely debut, focusing on the resettlement of a community, dubbed the United States' first climate refugees. Isle de Jean Charles, connected to the mainland by a single road, has been home to a largely Indigenous community for generations. Now, rising seas and storms threaten their way of life. Filmed over six years and seen through the eyes of two teenagers, the film captures their emotional journey of resettlement. It offers a powerful glimpse into life on the frontline of the climate crisis.

Sat 8 Nov 14:00 – Howard Assembly Room
Fri 14 Nov 20:00 – Mill Hill Chapel – FREE



Middletown

English Premiere | Amanda McBaine, Jesse Moss | USA | 2025 | 95 mins | English

Idealistic teenagers really do change the world in *Middletown*, a fascinating documentary about a high school project that became a genuinely groundbreaking work of investigative journalism. An inspiring teacher encourages his upper state New York class of '91 to make a video which becomes an exposé of a toxic waste dumping scandal uncovering political corruption and organised crime. The now middle-aged protagonists look back at this transformative experience with humour and emotional insight.

Sun 2 Nov 15:45 – Everyman Screen 4
Fri 14 Nov 18:30 – St Luke's Cares – FREE



Move Ya Body: The Birth of House

Elegance Bratton | USA, UK | 2025
92 mins | English

House music has a fascinating history and in *Move Ya Body* director Elegance Bratton takes us from its conception in late 70s Chicago to its huge influence on pop superstars like Lady Gaga and Beyoncé. Teenager Vince Lawrence was the target of racist violence at the infamous 'Disco Demolition Night' in 1979. He received a settlement and bought a Moog synthesizer, recording 'On and On,' the first house record, stoking a technologically innovative musical subculture made by Black and queer people.

Fri 7 Nov 15:45 – Howard Assembly Room
Sun 9 Nov 16:45 – Howard Assembly Room
Tue 11 Nov 19:30 – Chapel FM – FREE



One of Us

UK Premiere | Marine Place | France
2025 | 96 mins | French, English

Marine Place's powerful documentary takes us to the LGBTQIA+ Centre in Lille, France where dedicated volunteers coach asylum seekers who are fleeing persecution because of their sexuality. To obtain asylum in France, they will have to provide proof of their homosexuality or transidentity. In intense scenes, they have to grapple with difficult testimonies, explaining why they have had to hide to survive in their home countries. The film imbues a real, inspiring sense of solidarity and community.

Sun 2 Nov 17:45 – Everyman Screen 4
Fri 14 Nov 18:00 – Mill Hill Chapel – FREE



Our Land

Orban Wallace | UK | 2025
91 mins | English

Our Land interrogates the connections between land, power and a sense of belonging following the Right to Roam movement in England and Wales now it's gaining real traction. We hear from both sides of the divide. Director Orban Wallace gives space for some of the landowners of large estates to offer their perspectives, which are more diverse than you might think. And it witnesses organised mass trespass events led by activists who question the 92% of English land which lacks legal public access.

Sun 2 Nov 11:30 – Vue Screen 7
Tue 4 Nov 20:30 – Vue Screen 7



Trains

UK Premiere | Maciej Drygas | Poland,
Lithuania | 2024 | 81 mins | Polish

Elegantly compiled from wordless black and white archive footage, *Trains* is a sweeping history of people, industry and conflict in twentieth century Europe, all focussed on one piece of life changing technology: the locomotive. From vast industrial assemblies of steam engines to excited passengers chugging through beautiful scenery, the film takes a darker turn through the repurposed war machines of the century's great conflicts. The film makes a mesmerising, uniquely cinematic journey.

Sun 9 Nov 14:45 – Howard Assembly Room
Mon 13 Nov 18:00 – The Leeds Library



Yalla Parkour

UK Premiere | Areeb Zuaiter | Sweden,
Saudi Arabia, Occupied Palestinian Territory,
Qatar | 2024 | 89 mins | Arabic, Swedish

A Palestinian director in the US reflects on identity through an online friendship with a young parkour artist in Gaza. Areeb first visited Gaza aged four, a memory tied to her mother's smile. Years later, a parkour video of Ahmed on Gaza's shores sparks nostalgia. Through a ten-year friendship, they explore Gaza's ruins, revealing the harsh realities of life under occupation. An exploration of homeland and a nail-biting sports tale. Presented in partnership with Leeds Palestinian Film Festival.

Wed 12 Nov 18:00 – Hyde Park Screen 1
Thu 13 Nov 20:00 – Mill Hill Chapel – FREE



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Thu 12 Feb **SCARRED FOR LIFE: FOLK HORROR SPECIAL** We explore ancient stone circles to ask... What does lie beneath?

Thu 19 Feb **BEN MOOR: A THREE THING DAY** "An English Wes Anderson" – BROADWAY WORLD

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Thu 5 Mar **JONATHAN MAYOR: VARNISH** It takes star quality to get adopted... And Jonathan Mayor has it!

Sun 8 Mar **THE BIG OSCARS QUIZ WITH THE EVOLUTION OF HORROR**

Thu 26 Mar **SHERLOCK JR: SILENT FILM WITH LIVE SCORE** Presented by Northern Silents

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Fanomenon

Fanomenon is the home at LIFF for fantastic genre films – including fantasy, sci-fi, horror, anime, dark comedies, thrillers, mixed genre films, and much more. Highlights this year include the Fanomenon opening film – the apocalyptic road trip *Sirāt* from Oliver Laxe, previews of Julia Ducournau's *Alpha* and *Bugonia* from Yorgos Lanthimos, wonderful family films like Kid Koala's *Space Cadet* and *The Girl Who Stole Time* from Yu Ao and Zhou Tienan, and award-winners like Paolo Strippoli's *The Holy Boy* and *A Useful Ghost* from Ratchapoom Boonbunchachoke. We present two competitions for the new generation of genre filmmakers, with UK Premieres of 7 features and three programmes of shorts. Plus, we have special selections for Halloween like Grace Glowicki's *Dead Lover*, and our legendary horror all-nighter *Night of the Dead*, headlined this year by Tina Romero's *Queens of the Dead*.

Fanomenon Opening Film

Sirāt

Northern Premiere | Oliver Laxe | Spain, France | 2025 | 115 mins
Spanish, French, English, Arabic

Winner of the Cannes Jury Prize, Oliver Laxe's *Sirāt* is a hallucinatory odyssey that demands to be experienced on the big screen. A father (Sergi López) and his young son scour the Moroccan desert, searching for a daughter lost to the rave scene. Along the way, they join a nomadic community of ravers and are swept into a world of pounding techno, dust storms, and looming conflict. Shot on Super 16mm and with a thunderous score, this apocalyptic road trip is raw and unforgettable cinema.

Thu 30 Oct 18:00 – Vue Screen 12
Fri 31 Oct 15:30 – Vue Screen 12
Fri 7 Nov 20:15 – Vue Screen 12



Fanomenon Closing Film

Queens of the Dead

Tina Romero | USA | 2025 | 99 mins | English

The *Night of the Dead* headline film and Fanomenon closing film is Tina Romero's outrageous horror-comedy about a zombie apocalypse during a queer warehouse party in Brooklyn. Drag queens, club kids, "token straights" and frenemies have to come together, battling the undead horde and dealing with their own personal conflicts. Featuring queer icons Nina West, Dominique Jackson, Margaret Cho and Cheyenne Jackson, this gloriously trashy yet heartfelt romp honours the Romero family tradition.

Fri 14 Nov 23:00 – Hyde Park Screen 1
Sat 15 Nov 16:00 – Hyde Park Screen 1



FANORAMA

All You Need is Kill

English Premiere | Ken'ichirō Akimoto
Japan | 2025 | 82 mins | Japanese

Like *Edge of Tomorrow* (2014), the spectacular animated sci-fi *All You Need is Kill* is based on Hiroshi Sakurazaka's best-selling young adult novel of the same name. Rita is a resourceful volunteer helping to rebuild Japan after the mysterious appearance of a massive alien flower known as Darol. When Darol unexpectedly erupts in a deadly event, unleashing monstrous creatures, Rita is caught in an endless time loop of dying and waking up again. With shy young fellow time-looper Keiji, she tries everything to break out of the cycle.

Mon 10 Nov 20:45 – Vue Screen 7
Thu 13 Nov 15:45 – Vue Screen 7



FANORAMA

Alpha

Northern Premiere | Julia Ducournau
France, Belgium | 2025 | 128 mins
French, English, Berber languages

Julia Ducournau follows her award-winning *Titane* with this genre-bending family drama. Young Alpha returns home with a freshly branded tattoo made with a dirty needle, much to her mother's panic. At the same time, her mysterious uncle returns, and a virus spreads through the population, turning people into stone before crumbling to dust. A coming-of-age story cleverly blended with genre elements, *Alpha* is a more tender film from Ducournau, but one that's as provocative as you'd expect.

Mon 3 Nov 15:15 – Vue Screen 12
Sat 8 Nov 17:30 – Vue Screen 7



FANORAMA

Anything That Moves

UK Premiere | Alex Phillips | USA | 2025
80 mins | English

A food courier who offers sex services on the side becomes entangled in a string of grisly murders in this surreal, psychedelic horror-thriller. Cycling through the streets of Chicago with his business-partner girlfriend, Liam delivers food and illicit sexual encounters to his eager clients, until they start turning up gruesomely murdered. Shot on 16mm, *Anything That Moves* channels sordid 70s exploitation films and giallo horror, creating a fever-dream film experience which is often as funny as it is graphic.

Sat 8 Nov 18:30 – Hyde Park Screen 1



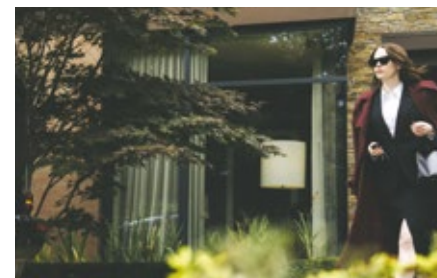
FANOMENON FEATURE FILM COMPETITION

The Black Hole

UK Premiere | Moonika Siimets
Finland, Estonia | 2024 | 115 mins | Estonian

Otherworldly creatures disrupt the lives of the residents of an apartment block in this delightful Estonian sci-fi triptych. Aliens, giant spiders, and the malice of men unleash on a quiet neighbourhood when a black hole opens up nearby. Moonika Siimets explores the depths of humanity in this genre-bending deadpan sci-fi comedy, and manages to shine a light on the struggles of modern society - for women and the working class in particular - with humour, tenderness and a charming melancholy.

Wed 5 Nov 13:15 – Vue Screen 7
Tue 11 Nov 18:30 – Vue Screen 7



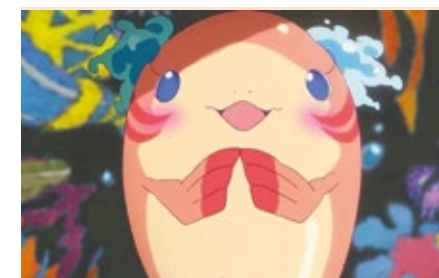
FANORAMA

Bugonia

Yorgos Lanthimos | Ireland, UK, USA, South Korea, Canada | 2025 | 120 mins | English

The latest, much-anticipated collaboration between Yorgos Lanthimos and Emma Stone after *Poor Things* and *Kinds of Kindness*, *Bugonia* is a remake of cult Korean sci-fi comedy *Save the Green Planet* (2003). An obsessive conspiracy theorist (Jesse Plemons) and his cousin (Aidan Delbis) kidnap the high-powered CEO of a major pharma company (Emma Stone). They are convinced that she is part of an alien species involved in conducting experiments on humans and is intent on destroying Earth.

Thu 30 Oct 20:30 – Vue Screen 12
Fri 31 Oct 18:00 – Vue Screen 12
Mon 3 Nov 18:00 – Vue Screen 7
Tue 4 Nov 16:00 – Vue Screen 7



FANORAMA

ChaO

Northern Premiere | Yasuhiro Aoki | Japan
2025 | 90 mins | Japanese

From acclaimed Japanese animation production house Studio 4°C, *ChaO* is a wild romantic comedy and a true 'fish out of water' story. In a futuristic world where humans and mermaids coexist, *ChaO* follows Stephan, a mild-mannered office worker at a shipbuilding company, whose life is upended when he is suddenly proposed to by Chao - a princess from the mermaid kingdom. Stephan soon finds himself living with the unpredictable, wholehearted Chao, and an unexpected and touching romance begins to unfold.

Sat 8 Nov 10:30 – Vue Screen 7
Mon 10 Nov 17:00 – Vue Screen 7
Wed 12 Nov 14:00 – Vue Screen 7



FANOMENON FEATURE FILM COMPETITION

Dandelion's Odyssey

UK Premiere | Momoko Seto | France, Belgium | 2025 | 76 mins | No dialogue
Age rating PG

A creatively unique animated journey of friendship and survival, this mesmerising film follows a group of dandelion seeds as they escape a nuclear explosion in search of a new home. As the four plant heroes of the film crash-land on an unfamiliar planet, they must overcome various obstacles including weather, animals, and harsh terrain to find soil where they might survive. Combining diverse animation styles, this film pushes the boundaries of storytelling in a compelling and lyrical manner.

Thu 6 Nov 11:00 – Vue Screen 7
Mon 10 Nov 19:00 – Vue Screen 7



FANORAMA

Dead Lover

English Premiere | Grace Glowicki
Canada, USA | 2025 | 95 mins | English

Shot on 16mm, this delightfully strange love story follows a lonely gravedigger who tries to resurrect the love of her life. The blossoming love between a gravedigger (who smells like corpses) and a poet is cut short by a tragic accident. Grief-stricken and in possession of his severed finger, she uses her knowledge of dead bodies to try to bring him back in a highly inventive tale inspired by Frankenstein. Written by and starring Grace Glowicki and Ben Petrie (also in LIFF2025 film Honey Bunch).

Fri 31 Oct 20:45 – Vue Screen 7
Sun 2 Nov 20:30 – Vue Screen 7



FANORAMA

Dog of God

Northern Premiere | Raitis Ābele, Lauris Ābele
Latvia, USA | 2025 | 92 mins | Latvian, English, German

This surreal, graphic and beautifully twisted rotoscope animation explores witchcraft, werewolves and corruption in 17th-century Europe. When a small village consumed by religious fervour puts a woman on trial for witchcraft, the proceedings are disrupted by a stranger who claims to be a werewolf. As his influence spreads, fear turns to desire and the villagers descend into carnality and chaos. Inspired by folklore and real events, this striking, sexualised vision is unforgettable and unique.

Sat 8 Nov 12:30 – Vue Screen 7
Mon 10 Nov 13:45 – Vue Screen 12



FANORAMA

Honey Bunch

Northern Premiere | Madeleine Sims-Fewer, Dusty Mancinelli | Canada, UK | 2025
113 mins | English, French

Dark truths emerge from an experimental treatment for memory recovery in this gothic thriller. Following an accident, Homer accompanies his wife Diana to a remote trauma facility. As fragments of memories return, Diana begins to question what truly happened to her, and how much she can actually trust Homer. An ode to genre cinema of the 70s and 80s, *Honey Bunch* is as poignant as it is chilling, and features fantastic performances by real-life couple Grace Glowicki and Ben Petrie.

Fri 31 Oct 18:15 – Vue Screen 7
Sun 2 Nov 18:00 – Vue Screen 7



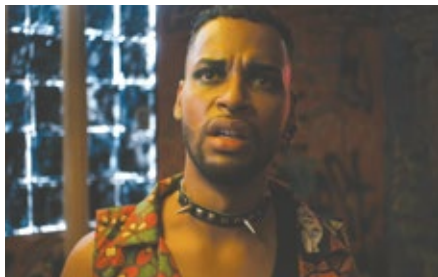
FANORAMA

Nemurubaka: Hypnic Jerks

UK Premiere | Yugo Sakamoto | Japan
2025 | 106 mins | Japanese

From director Yugo Sakamoto (*Baby Assassins*) and adapted from Masakazu Ishiguro's manga, *Nemurubaka: Hypnic Jerks* is a comic story about the everyday life and ennui of two broke college roommates with polar opposite personalities. Yumi isn't particularly passionate about anything and works part-time at a used book and DVD shop, while Ruka pursues her dream of being a musician as the guitarist and vocalist of the indie band 'Peat Moth'. One day, a major record label approaches Ruka with an offer that could change everything for the two friends.

Mon 3 Nov 20:30 – Everyman Screen 4
Sun 9 Nov 20:30 – Everyman Screen 4



FANOMENON FEATURE FILM COMPETITION

Rains Over Babel

UK Premiere | Gala del Sol | Colombia, USA, Spain | 2025 | 113 mins | Spanish

Blending steampunk, magic realism, and Afrofuturism, director Gala del Sol's first feature is an exuberant tropical fantasy inspired by *Dante's Inferno*, with a terrific ensemble of trans and queer characters. One night, in a city suspended between worlds, a group of misfits gathers at Babel, a legendary neon-lit dive bar that doubles as purgatory. There, they face La Flaca, the elegant and unyielding embodiment of Death. Troubled souls gamble years of their lives in high-stakes games, daring to do the impossible: outwit Death herself.

Thu 6 Nov 13:00 – Vue Screen 7
Sun 9 Nov 20:15 – Vue Screen 7



FANORAMA

F*cktoys

Northern Premiere | Annapurna Sriram
USA | 2025 | 106 mins | English

A young sex worker attempts to challenge the universe's dark karma in Annapurna Sriram's distinct and surprising debut. According to AP's astrologer, the universe is out to get her. If only AP could get hold of \$1,000 and a sacrificial lamb, she might be able to get rid of that dreaded curse. With hints of John Waters and Anna Biller, Annapurna Sriram has created a profound portrait of the ills of an entire generation disguised behind a rose-tinted filter and a brilliant soundtrack.

Fri 7 Nov 20:30 – Hyde Park Screen 1
Sat 15 Nov 18:15 – Hyde Park Screen 1



FANORAMA

The Girl Who Stole Time

UK Premiere | Yu Ao, Zhou Tienan
China | 2025 | 107 mins | Mandarin
Age rating PG

From writer/directors Ao Yu and Tienan Zhou, the stunningly-animated *The Girl Who Stole Time* is a fast-paced fantasy action adventure packed with delights, surprises and twists to the end. Qian Xiao is a girl from a humble fishing village who gains the extraordinary ability to stop time through a coveted magical device. She explores a fantastical city filled with wonder but also danger as a powerful organisation tracks her down. (Rated PG and more suitable for older children – tickets for under 15s are £6. In Mandarin with English subtitles.)

Sat 1 Nov 11:15 – Vue Screen 7
Sun 9 Nov 11:00 – Vue Screen 12



The Holy Boy

Northern Premiere | Paolo Strippoli
Italy, Slovenia | 2025 | 122 mins | Italian

Something sinister lies beneath the picture-perfect aura of a small community in this Italian horror thriller. Trying to run away from grief, a PE teacher takes a job in a gorgeous mountain village where everyone seems to get along. But it isn't long before he uncovers the town's strange rituals and their dire consequences on one particular teenager. *The Holy Boy* is a thought-provoking exploration of collective trauma and displaced grief from Paolo Strippoli.

Sat 8 Nov 14:45 – Vue Screen 7
Mon 10 Nov 14:30 – Vue Screen 7



FANOMENON FEATURE FILM COMPETITION

Roqia

UK Premiere | Yanis Koussim | France, Algeria
2025 | 89 mins | Arabic

Yanis Koussim's first feature *Roqia* is an eerie and graphic supernatural horror that confronts the spectres of Algeria's 'Black Decade' (1992–2002), when extremist violence engulfed the country and left traumas still felt today. In 1993, Ahmed, left with amnesia after a car crash, dreads regaining his memory as mysterious visitors torment him at night. In the present day, a disciple of an elderly Raqi (a Muslim exorcist) is worried that his master's struggles with Alzheimer's may unleash an ancient evil as violence escalates in the city.

Wed 5 Nov 20:30 – Vue Screen 7



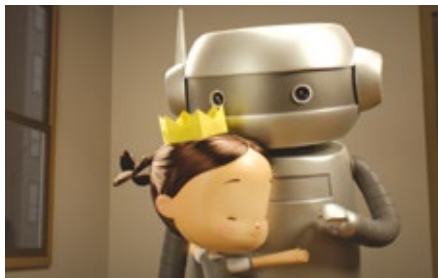
FANOMENON FEATURE FILM COMPETITION

Sirens Call

UK Premiere | Miri Ian Gossing, Lina Sieckmann | Germany, Netherlands
2025 | 121 mins | English

A reincarnated mermaid tries to find herself and adapt to the rigidity of the human world in this astonishing hybrid debut. Part fiction, part documentary, *Sirens Call* follows a once mermaid now wandering Earth in a human body, as she joins the merfolk community in Oregon. Unlike anything else, Miri Ian Gossing and Lina Sieckmann's debut is a meditative, true compassionate ode to unapologetically living your authentic self in a world that would prefer we all neatly fit into boxes.

Thu 6 Nov 19:45 – Vue Screen 7
Wed 12 Nov 16:00 – Vue Screen 7



FANORAMA

Space Cadet

UK Premiere | Kid Koala | Canada | 2025
86 mins | No dialogue | Age rating U

Music-filled and dialogue-free, Kid Koala's *Space Cadet* is a gentle, funny, and moving futuristic lullaby about memories and the bonds that connect us. When the young astronaut Celeste launches into space on her first solo mission, the guardian robot that has accompanied her throughout her childhood is left by himself, viewing records of their time together. Meanwhile, Celeste faces danger in the vastness of space, but her childhood memories light her way. (*Space Cadet* is rated PG, includes themes of loss and grief – tickets for under 15s are £6.)

Sat 1 Nov 11:00 – Vue Screen 12
Sun 9 Nov 11:00 – Hyde Park Screen 2
Sun 9 Nov 11:30 – Hyde Park Screen 1



FANOMENON FEATURE FILM COMPETITION

Tinsman Road

UK Premiere | Robbie Banfitch | USA
2025 | 119 mins | English

Shot entirely on DV, this haunting found-footage horror follows a filmmaker investigating the mysterious disappearance of his long-missing sister. Returning to his small hometown in the backwoods of New Jersey, Robbie Lyle moves back in with his still-grieving mother to interview the local townsfolk and retrace the final steps of his sister. An atmospheric, simmering, and ultimately terrifying horror about the memory of those we lose and the ghosts we carry with us.

Wed 5 Nov 15:45 – Vue Screen 7
Sun 9 Nov 17:45 – Vue Screen 7



FANORAMA

The True Beauty of Being Bitten by a Tick

UK Premiere | Pete Ohs | USA | 2025
82 mins | English

A weekend to the country changes Yvonne's life forever when she's bitten by a tick. Yvonne is going through a rough time and her friend Camille invites her over for a bit of relaxation. But Yvonne isn't enthused by the presence of two mysterious guests, who seem overfamiliar and unaware of adequate social boundaries. And to make matters worse, Yvonne gets bitten by a tick and begins to develop strange side effects. *Jethica* director Pete Ohs crafts a quiet masterclass in millennial malaise.

Fri 7 Nov 16:45 – Vue Screen 7
Sun 9 Nov 15:45 – Vue Screen 7



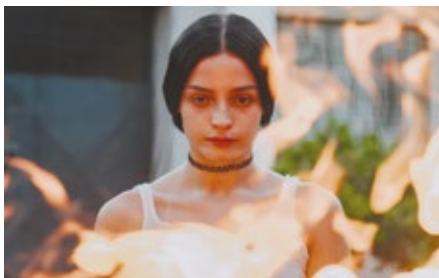
FANORAMA

A Useful Ghost

Northern Premiere | Ratchapoom Boonbunchachoke | Thailand, Singapore, Germany, France | 2025 | 130 mins | Thai

Visually striking, haunting and sharply funny, *A Useful Ghost* is a wildly inventive tale and unlike anything you'll see this year. Director Ratchapoom Boonbunchachoke plays with form and tone in a bold and genre-defying debut that won the top prize at this year's Cannes Critics' Week. When Nat unexpectedly returns from the dead as a vacuum cleaner, she tries to reconnect with her husband, to the dismay of her in-laws. Beneath its surreal premise, the film explores Thai history, grief, and usefulness.

Sat 8 Nov 20:15 – Vue Screen 7
Tue 11 Nov 15:45 – Vue Screen 7
Sat 15 Nov 20:15 – Vue Screen 7

Rains Over Babel – Fanomenon, Page 41

FANOMENON FEATURE FILM COMPETITION

The Virgin of the Quarry Lake

UK Premiere | Laura Casabe
Argentina, Spain, Mexico | 2025
93 mins | Spanish, English

A young girl's first love awakens something darker within her when another woman gets in her way. Diego has been teasing something of a romance with Natalia for a little while, but when he begins to see an older woman, Natalia refuses to sit back in silence. Quiet on the surface, much like its main character, *The Virgin of the Quarry Lake* is a captivating supernatural coming-of-age film that explores the depths of hormonal frustration, somewhere between *The Virgin Suicides* and *The Craft*.

Thu 6 Nov 15:30 – Vue Screen 7
Tue 11 Nov 21:00 – Vue Screen 7
Thu 13 Nov 13:45 – Vue Screen 7

**THE VIRGIN OF THE QUARRY LAKE**

Fanomenon Short Film Competition 1

Tue 4 Nov 18:30 – Vue Screen 7
Fri 7 Nov 10:15 – Vue Screen 7

Sucker

Fae Al-Kalamchi | UK | 2025
13 mins | British Sign Language

Juni is a cannibal who lures men in as meal planning, but when her new neighbour comes by, she might have just met her match. Who doesn't like a good cannibal romance? Especially when they come with a fantastic central performance.

Gynoid

UK Premiere | Celia Galan | Spain 2025 | 20 mins | Catalan

Two women take part in an experiment where they must determine which one of them is human, and which is a humanoid robot. A gripping exploration of consciousness, what makes us human, and the ethics of the future of technology.

Full Term

World Premiere | Lizz Marshall USA | 2025 | 10 mins | English

Wade and Sanger's getaway turns into a hostage situation when the result of their spicy, carefree night together appears to go against state laws. Terrifying in its closeness to reality, this is a thought-provoking, witty and smart film by Lizz Marshall.

Pimple

Yorkshire Premiere
Fernando Alle | Portugal | 2025
4 mins | Portuguese

A young boy's pimple leads to bloody consequences and an empowering life lesson when he is confronted by bullies in the school corridor. Silly, funny and positively gross, this is a strangely life-affirming little film.

Lockdoon

Ruaridh Lever-Hogg | UK | 2025
14 mins | British Sign Language

Thrust into an escape room, four misfits must find their way out. But what seemed like a friendly game soon becomes a fight for survival. Told entirely in sign language, this is a classic tale of how repressed secrets will always come back to haunt you.

MARDAZMA

World Premiere
Amir Masoud Soheili
Iran, Afghanistan | 2025
14 mins | Persian Dari, Pashto

Attempting to avoid the local army after capturing voters on election day to punish them, two soldiers find themselves at the mercy of a mythical djinn. This supernatural folk story shines a light on the resilience of the Afghan people.

Anesthesia

International Premiere
Jeff Osborne | USA | 2025
13 mins | English

Michael is enjoying a nice day at the beach with his parents, but his mother has a strange and rather invasive question to ask. This gorgeous film explores corrupt systems in the age of overpowering tech systems.

Fanomenon Short Film Competition 2

Wed 5 Nov 18:15 – Vue Screen 7
Fri 7 Nov 12:45 – Vue Screen 7

Houston, We Have a Crush

UK Premiere | Omer Ben Shachar USA | 2025 | 10 mins | English

A lonely alien develops an all-consuming crush on an astronaut after finding his phone following a mission. This sweet little sci-fi shows that loneliness is a universal ill, no matter what planet you may come from.

Wanna Die Wanna Kill

UK Premiere | Jaehee JEONG
South Korea | 2024 | 22 mins
Korean

Following a suicide pact, a bullied teenager visits a hotel suite looking to end her life. But things change when an unexpected suggestion is made. A difficult watch at times, this is a remarkably crafted film with true compassion for its central character.

WHITCH

Hoku Uchiyama | USA | 2024
5 mins | English

After putting her daughter to bed, Aura finds an elderly lady in her living room and it soon becomes apparent, she might have witchy intentions. A creepy, bloody, and ultimately funny encounter with a slightly disoriented witch.

Halfway Haunted

Sam Rudykoff | Canada | 2025
17 mins | English

Jess is about to be evicted. But perhaps an unlikely alliance with the ghost who haunts her apartment might solve her problems. This quirky short looks into the real horror of gentrification with a quirky and twisted sense of humour.

Poly Baggage

Emma Ramsay | UK | 2024
14 mins | English

Polly has been dumped, and she might have gone a bit too far to cope with her pain. Emma Ramsay crafts a deeply relatable story of heartbreak. Love truly will make you do the craziest things.

Fiend

Yorkshire Premiere
Barnaby Boulton | UK | 2025
11 mins | English

Home alone and unable to sleep, a young woman begins to experience strange lapses in her reality as her sleep deprivation reaches deadly new depths. With a powerful central performance, Barnaby Boulton has finely crafted a film that will keep you on your toes.

The Second Time Around

Yorkshire Premiere | Jack Howard UK | 2025 | 12 mins | English

A young waitress allows an older woman to take shelter in her closing café on a stormy night. Before long she realises that perhaps this isn't entirely a coincidence. A compelling time-bending story that will keep you guessing until the end.



FULL TERM



PIMPLE



ANESTHESIA



SUCKER



HALFWAY HAUNTED



WHITCH



HOUSTON, WE HAVE A CRUSH



THE SECOND TIME AROUND

Fanomenon Short Film Competition 3

Thu 6 Nov 17:30 – Vue Screen 7
 Fri 7 Nov 14:45 – Vue Screen 7

Grandma is Thirsty

Kris Carr | UK | 2025
 14 mins | English

George is being bullied, and his new friends promise they can help by making him big and strong. But at their house it becomes clear there's something wrong with their family, their rules and their sleeping grandma who they promise will come out at midnight.

Em & Selma Go Griffin Hunting

England Premiere
 Alex Thompson | USA | 2025
 18 mins | English

In this alternate 1930s America, Em is expected to kill a griffin in order to come of age. Hunting alongside her mother, she starts to question the violence of this ritual. Spectacular effects and excellent performances make this a beautiful, affecting short.

Night Whispers

Yorkshire Premiere
 Adrián Ramírez León | UK
 2025 | 7 mins | English

What starts out as a fun hook up turns into a night of terror as Tom's date starts to talk in her sleep. Is it just gibberish, or something more sinister? This thrilling short will keep you guessing from start to finish, playing masterfully with expectations.

Stomach Bug

Yorkshire Premiere | Matty Crawford | UK | 15 mins | English

It's hard when your children leave the nest, and Manny is struggling to adjust to his daughter leaving home. He's also dealing with a strange stomach bug, a swollen stomach and some unpleasant gurgles as his problems manifest in an extremely strange way.

Checkout

England Premiere | Mairead Hamilton | UK | 2025 | 15 mins
 English

Grumpy hermit Agnes just wants to get some food for her pet lizard, but a killer in the supermarket has other plans for her. With plenty of dark humour, this short slasher film is bloody, exciting and surprisingly charming.

Plastic Surgery

Yorkshire Premiere
 Guy Trevelyan | UK | 2025
 12 mins | English

An A&E shift turns into a nightmare as people keep coming in with unexplained objects embedded in their bodies. This powerful short keeps the tension ratcheting up throughout, with a strong environmental message at its heart.

Crowded Out

UK Premiere | Brian Lederman
 USA | 2025 | 9 mins | English

Owen just wants to find parking, but somehow he keeps picking up hitchhikers whose help quickly becomes more of a hindrance. A quirky, absurd short that manages to be both silly and extremely tense, helped by some fantastic performances.



STOMACH BUG



NIGHT WHISPERS



GRANDMA IS THIRSTY



PLASTIC SURGERY

Day of the Dead

Our two horror film marathons, Day of the Dead and Night of the Dead, are two very popular annual highlights in the Fanomenon line-up. This year's Day of the Dead includes two of the most acclaimed independent genre films of the year, *Redux Redux* and *Hellcat*, and UK Premieres of *The Book of Sijin and Illiyyin* from Indonesia and *We Bury the Dead* from Australia.

Sat 1 Nov 13:15
 – Vue Screen 12



DAY OF THE DEAD

We Bury the Dead

UK Premiere | Zak Hilditch | Australia | 2025
 94 mins | English

An epic survival thriller about a young woman searching for her husband in the aftermath of a terrifying national disaster. When an experimental military weapon accidentally devastates Tasmania, volunteers travel to the island to help authorities identify the dead. Among them is Ava (Daisy Ridley), secretly hoping to find her missing husband. But some of the bodies seem to be "waking up". An emotional, dread-building thriller that mixes horror with a tale of loss and our need for closure.

Sat 1 Nov 20:15 – Vue Screen 12



DAY OF THE DEAD

Redux Redux

Northern Premiere | Kevin McManus, Matthew McManus | USA | 2025 | 107 mins | English

A bereaved mother journeys across universes to repeatedly kill her daughter's killer in this lo-fi sci-fi horror. Irene's life has only one purpose since she lost her daughter, and no time or space continuum will stop her in her tracks to avenge her loss. Kevin and Matthew McManus have crafted a heartfelt, haunting and truly original film, centred around an incredibly powerful performance from Michaela McManus. When grief and love know no bounds, how far will you go?

Sat 1 Nov 13:15 – Vue Screen 12
 Tue 11 Nov 13:45 – Vue Screen 12



DAY OF THE DEAD

The Book of Sijin and Illiyyin

UK Premiere | Hadrah Daeng Ratu | Indonesia
 2025 | 99 mins | Indonesian

From two of the leading women horror filmmakers in Southeast Asia, writer Lele Laila and director Hadrah Daeng Ratu, *The Book of Sijin and Illiyyin* is a visceral Indonesian tale of black magic revenge. In rural Indonesia, Yuli grows up despised within her father's household. Seeking retribution, she turns to a shaman and summons a djinn through corpse-bound ritual. The film fuses Islamic cosmology with unflinching body horror, transforming domestic cruelty into an eerie and blood-soaked vision of spiritual reckoning.

Sat 1 Nov 15:30 – Vue Screen 12



DAY OF THE DEAD

Hellcat

Northern Premiere | Brock Bodell | USA
 2025 | 91 mins | English

A woman must find a way out when she wakes up in a moving trailer in this simple but effective horror. Lena wakes up drowsy with a nasty wound on her arm and no recollection of ever getting in the moving vehicle she finds herself within. Things only get worse when the voice of the driver comes through telling her they have one hour to find a doctor or she'll meet a horrible fate. *Hellcat* presents a game of survival and trust that goes both ways and will keep you guessing the whole way through.

Sat 1 Nov 18:15 – Vue Screen 12
 Tue 11 Nov 16:00 – Vue Screen 12

Night of the Dead the Bead

Night of the Dead returns for an all-night horror marathon at Hyde Park Picture House, with a new mix of outrageous horror, cult carnage and Midnight Mayhem. This year's line-up includes Tina Romero's queer zombie romp *Queens of the Dead*, the darkly comic French thriller *Flush*, and the 50s creature features spoof *Zombie Vampires from Space*. The night closes with Steven Kostanski's riotous remake of the cult swords-and-sorcery epic *Deathstalker* – a guaranteed crowd-pleaser and not to be missed.

Fri 14 Nov 23:00 – Hyde Park Screen 1

Queens of the Dead

Tina Romero | USA | 2025 | 99 mins | English

The Night of the Dead headline film and Fanomenon closing film is Tina Romeo's outrageous horror-comedy about a zombie apocalypse during a queer warehouse party in Brooklyn. Drag queens, club kids, "token straights" and frenemies have to come together, battling the undead horde and dealing with their own personal conflicts. Featuring queer icons Nina West, Dominique Jackson, Margaret Cho and Cheyenne Jackson, this gloriously trashy yet heartfelt romp honours the Romero family tradition.

Fri 14 Nov 23:00 – Hyde Park Screen 1
Sat 15 Nov 16:00 – Hyde Park Screen 1



Vampire Zombies from Space

English Premiere | Michael Stasko | Canada | 2024 | 98 mins | English

A loving spoof of 1950s drive-in creature features, packed with laughs, gore and lots of cigarettes. The quiet town of Marlow is under siege from creatures that come from space and want to suck your blood, led by Dracula himself. With bloodsuckers and zombies multiplying fast, a grizzled detective, a chain-smoking greaser and a plucky young woman must join forces to save the town. Wild, silly and uncannily faithful to B-movie cinema, this is a parody that revels in its love of schlocky horror.

Fri 14 Nov 23:00 – Hyde Park Screen 1



Flush

Northern Premiere | Grégory Morin | France | 2025
70 mins | French

A darkly comic horror-thriller about a down-on-his-luck dad whose night takes a grotesque turn in the toilets of a grimy nightclub. Luc is an aging, cocaine-addicted father desperate to prove he can change. Hoping to make amends, he visits the club where his ex works, only to stumble upon a secret stash of drugs. Old habits die hard, and soon he draws the wrath of a ruthless drug dealer, ending up trapped headfirst in a toilet as the night descends into chaos, humiliation and bodily fluids.

Fri 14 Nov 23:00 – Hyde Park Screen 1



Deathstalker

Steven Kostanski | USA, Canada | 2025 | 102 mins | English

Cult director Steven Kostanski resurrects the classic 1980s fantasy in a riotous mix of swords, sorcery and gloriously gooey practical effects. In the kingdom of Abraxeon, legendary warrior Deathstalker uncovers a cursed amulet that marks him for death from a neverending onslaught of monstrous assassins. To break free, he joins forces with a wizard and a thief to battle the dark necromancer Nekromemnon and his undead army. A triumphant tale of pure fantasy fun and inventive monster creations.

Fri 14 Nov 23:00 – Hyde Park Screen 1



Night of the Dead Shorts

Pimple

A young boy's pimple leads to bloody consequences and an empowering life lesson when he is confronted by bullies in the school corridor.

WHITCH

After putting her daughter to bed, Aura finds an elderly lady in her living room and it soon becomes apparent, she might have witchy intentions.

Channelvue

During a late-night 90s TV broadcast, a cable company CEO battles a group of deranged hackers who hijack her station and start changing its programming in real time.

Flowers

A young woman takes a backyard trip with a mind-altering tea, but discovers something strange lurking amongst the flowers.

The Littles

When 11-year-old Juliet stubs her toe on a loose floorboard, she discovers an unusual glow and strange noises rising from below.

Night Whispers

What starts out as a fun hookup turns into a night of terror as Tom's date starts to talk in her sleep. Is it just gibberish, or something more sinister?

PUMPKIN GUTS

A babysitter's quiet Halloween turns sinister when a strange pumpkin appears on the doorstep with a gruesome message in this throwback to 80's horror cinema.

PIMPLE



PUMPKIN GUTS



WHITCH



LIFF Spotlights

In LIFF Spotlights we present unique retrospectives and other special selections of rarely screened films. This year the special screenings in LIFF Spotlights include the beautiful *The Arch* (1968) from Hong Kong's first woman filmmaker Shu Shuen Tong, and *Compensation*, Zeinabu Irene Davis's landmark portrait of the struggles of Deaf African Americans – both new 4K restorations. The first of our two main spotlights this year is *Desclocamentos: Brazilian Cinema on the Move*, with 6 features that reflect movements and displacements within Brazilian society, like the restored classic *Iracema*, and *Cinema, Aspirins and Vultures* which we are screening on 35mm. In our second main spotlight, *We Gotta Get Outta This Place*, we present 9 features on the theme of escaping, including Barbara Loden's *Wanda* and William Wyler's *Roman Holiday*.

LIFF Spotlights Special Screenings

The Arch (New 4K Restoration)

T'ang Shushuen | Hong Kong | 1968 | 94 mins | Mandarin

A beautiful 4K restoration of a little-known film that should be elevated to classic status, the graceful, nuanced *The Arch* was made in 1968 by Hong Kong's first female film director, T'ang Shushuen. In 17th century China a young widow, Madam Tung, lives a virtuous life but when a military captain arrives, a passion between them grows that can never be fulfilled. Innovatively directed, the film cleverly reveals the emotional turmoil beneath an elegantly controlled surface.

Sat 15 Nov 11:15 – Vue Screen 7



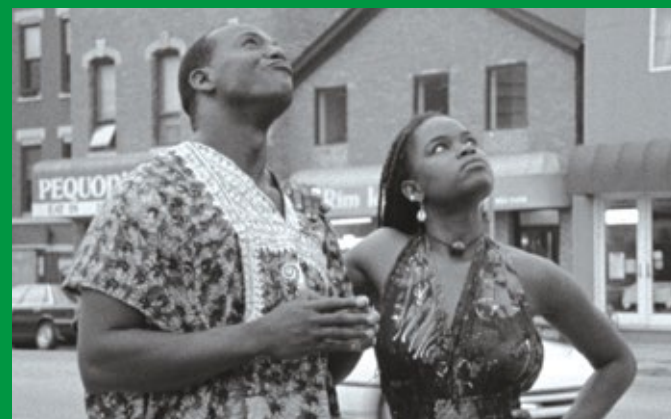
LIFF Spotlights Special Screenings

Compensation (New 4K Restoration)

Zeinabu irene Davis | USA | 1999 | 95 mins
English, American Sign Language

An underseen gem, Zeinabu irene Davis' *Compensation* is a tender and original exploration of the Deaf Black American experience. Set in Chicago, the film weaves two parallel love stories between a Deaf woman and a hearing man, one set at the turn of the century and the other in the 1990s. Using silent film-style intertitles, evocative archival photographs, and inventive descriptive subtitles, Davis crafts a lyrical and affecting meditation on the complexities of love, language and communication.

Sun 16 Nov 14:30 – Vue Screen 7



DESLOCAMENTOS:
BRAZILIAN CINEMA ON THE MOVE

Bye Bye Brazil

Carlos Diegues | Brazil, Argentina, France
1980 | 100 mins | Portuguese

Bye Bye Brazil is a bittersweet Brazilian road movie about a rapidly modernising country leaving its traditions behind. A circus troupe rolls into town with the Gypsy Lord at the mic: he does magic tricks, the erotic Salomé dances, and the mute Swallow performs feats of strength. A wide-eyed young accordion player begs to join them and brings along his young pregnant wife. Together they encounter excitement, joy and heartbreak on their travels from the coast deep into the Amazon.

Sat 1 Nov 20:30 – Everyman Screen 4
Mon 3 Nov 16:15 – Everyman Screen 4



WE GOTTA GET OUT OF THIS PLACE

The Green Ray

Éric Rohmer | France | 1986 | 99 mins
French, English, Spanish, German | BBFC 12A

Winner of the Golden Lion at Venice Film Festival in 1986, Éric Rohmer's *The Green Ray* is a luminous tale of summertime melancholy and romantic longing. Marie Rivière gives a radiant, improvised performance as Delphine, a newly single Parisian secretary drifting from Cherbourg to Biarritz in search of love and meaning. With rare delicacy, Rohmer captures the ache of loneliness, the promise of chance encounters, and a fleeting sunset that becomes pure transcendence and one of cinema's most unforgettable final moments.

Wed 12 Nov 18:30 – Everyman Screen 4
Thu 13 Nov 15:45 – Everyman Screen 4



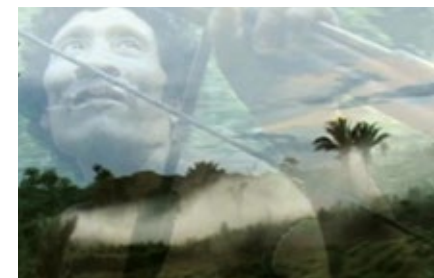
SPECIAL SCREENINGS

Chronicle of the Years of Fire (50th Anniversary)

Mohammed Lakhdar-Hamina | Algeria
1975 | 177 mins | Arabic

This epic six-part tale of the Algerian Revolution became the first African film to win the Cannes Palme d'Or 50 years ago. Through a farmer's eyes, the long build-up from WWII to the Algerian War of Independence is meticulously recounted, painting a merciless portrait of colonial Algeria and the strength of organised resistance. Restored with impeccable care by The Film Foundation's World Cinema Project and Cineteca di Bologna, its masterful cinematography demands to be seen on the big screen.

Sat 15 Nov 13:00 – Hyde Park Screen 2



DESLOCAMENTOS:
BRAZILIAN CINEMA ON THE MOVE

Hills of Disorder

Andrea Tonacci | Brazil | 2006
135 mins | Portuguese

An unusual, immersive blend of documentary and re-enactment tells the extraordinary true story of Carapiru, an indigenous man who survived the massacre of his Amazonian tribe and wandered alone through the forests and mountains of central Brazil for a decade. He eventually settles in a remote village and then a government agency tries to repatriate him with his native people. Andrea Tonacci's thoughtful film centres on the real Carapiru and constantly challenges preconceptions about native people.

Sun 2 Nov 20:00 – Everyman Screen 4
Mon 3 Nov 13:15 – Vue Screen 7



DESLOCAMENTOS:
BRAZILIAN CINEMA ON THE MOVE

Cinema, Aspirins and Vultures (35mm)

Marcelo Gomes | Brazil | 2005 | 99 mins
Portuguese, German

Far from Europe's darkest hour at the peak of the Second World War, two men meet in the Brazilian outback in this bewitching Brazilian road movie. Johann is a German who has escaped from the war, and Ranulpho, a Brazilian who wants to leave his backwater home town for Rio. Driving from village to village, they show a film to the inhabitants who have never before experienced cinema in order to sell a brand new 'miracle' medicine. A gently moving and lyrical film with beautiful cinematography.

Sun 2 Nov 13:30 – Hyde Park Screen 1



WE GOTTA GET OUT OF THIS PLACE

Holiday (Free screenings) (New 4K Restoration)

George Cukor | USA | 1938 | 95 mins
English | BBFC U

Cary Grant and Katharine Hepburn sparkle in George Cukor's sophisticated comedy of manners from 1938. Grant plays Johnny Case, a self-made man who dreams of escaping work for a life of freedom and plans to take a year-long holiday, an idea that shocks his wealthy fiancée but delights her spirited older sister Linda (Hepburn). Brimming with pithy dialogue and irresistible chemistry, *Holiday* is a comedic masterpiece from Hollywood's golden age, and one of Cukor's best.

Sat 1 Nov 09:00 – Hyde Park Screen 1 – FREE
Sun 2 Nov 17:00 – The Old Fire Station – FREE



DESLOCAMENTOS:
BRAZILIAN CINEMA ON THE MOVE

Iracema

Jorge Bodanzky, Orlando Senna
Brazil, West Germany, France | 1975
91 mins | Portuguese

Iracema is an atmospheric Brazilian road movie and a savage critique of the political hypocrisies of its time. It's shot in guerilla style in a national security zone soon after the construction of the environmentally ruinous Trans-Amazonian Highway. Indigenous teenager Iracema leaves her family and falls into work as a prostitute. She meets Tião Brasil Grande, an unscrupulous truck driver and apologist for the Brazilian economic miracle, an unfortunate companion for a heartrending odyssey.

Fri 31 Oct 20:30 – Everyman Screen 4
Sun 2 Nov 11:00 – Everyman Screen 4



WE GOTTA GET OUT OF THIS PLACE

L'Atalante
(New 4K Restoration)

Jean Vigo | France | 1934 | 89 min
French, Russian | BBFC PG

A visionary classic of French cinema, and Jean Vigo's only feature, *L'Atalante*, is a luminous tale of love, desire and disillusionment. Newlyweds Jean and Juliette set sail on a canal barge, embarking on married life in cramped quarters alongside the eccentric old fisherman Père Jules and his cats. Restless with the monotony of barge life, Juliette is soon drawn to the allure of Paris. Blending social realism with poetic scenes, Vigo created one of cinema's most hauntingly romantic masterpieces.

Sat 1 Nov 13:30 – Hyde Park Screen 1



WE GOTTA GET OUT OF THIS PLACE

Little Forest

Yim Soon-rye | South Korea | 2018
103 mins | Korean | Age rating PG

With its sumptuous cooking sequences and tender reflections, *Little Forest* is a heartfelt ode to food, friendship, and the restorative pleasures of slowing down. In Yim Soon-rye's gentle, nourishing drama, Hye-won (Kim Tae-ri – *The Handmaiden*) leaves behind the pressures of Seoul to return to her rural childhood home. As she tends the land, rekindles old friendships, and prepares seasonal meals of exquisite simplicity, she begins to heal from past wounds and rediscover her sense of self.

Fri 14 Nov 18:15 – Vue Screen 7
Sun 16 Nov 12:15 –Vue Screen 7



WE GOTTA GET OUT OF THIS PLACE

Roman Holiday
(Free screenings)
(4K Restoration)

William Wyler | USA | 1953 | 118 mins
English, Italian, German | BBFC U

William Wyler's *Roman Holiday* remains one of Hollywood's most enchanting romantic comedies. Audrey Hepburn, radiant in her Oscar-winning debut, stars as a runaway princess who, while on a European tour, escapes her royal duties to explore Rome incognito. Gregory Peck plays an American reporter who stumbles upon her, hoping for a scoop, but instead he is swept into a whirlwind of Vespa rides and romantic encounters. A timeless classic full of humour, heart and elegance.

Sat 1 Nov 13:00 – Keighley Picturehouse – FREE
Sun 2 Nov 14:00 – Blackburn Hall – FREE
Sat 8 Nov 09:00 – Hyde Park Screen 1 – FREE



SPECIAL SCREENINGS

Sholay
(50th Anniversary,
New 4K Restoration)

Northern Premiere | Ramesh Sippy
India | 1975 | 191 mins + 15 mins interval
Hindi | BBFC PG

Restored uncut for the big screen on its 50th anniversary, Ramesh Sippy's towering classic *Sholay* is an epic 'curry western' packed with exhilarating action, musical numbers, Indian cinema's most iconic actors, and jaw-dropping widescreen cinematography. *Sholay* follows Thakur Baldev Singh (Sanjeev Kumar), a retired police officer seeking vengeance against the notorious dacoit Gabbar Singh (Amjad Khan). Thakur hires two small-time criminals, Jai and Veeru (unforgettably portrayed by Amitabh Bachchan and Dharmendra), to capture Gabbar.

Sun 9 Nov 13:15 – Vue Screen 12



WE GOTTA GET OUT OF THIS PLACE

Summer with Monika

Ingmar Bergman | Sweden | 1953 | 96 mins
Swedish | BBFC PG

A sensual yet sobering portrait of youthful rebellion and first love, *Summer with Monika* was Ingmar Bergman's international breakthrough. Harriet Andersson, in her debut collaboration with Bergman, is luminous as Monika, a 17-year-old who escapes Stockholm with boyfriend Harry (Lars Ekborg) for an idyllic, carefree summer on the archipelago. Tender and devastating, the film's erotic candour and vision of young love would inspire filmmakers of the French New Wave.

Sat 1 Nov 15:30 – Hyde Park Screen 1



DESLOCAMENTOS:
BRAZILIAN CINEMA ON THE MOVE

Macunaíma

Joaquim Pedro de Andrade | Brazil
1969 | 110 mins | Portuguese

Macunaíma is a vibrant and carnivalesque satirical comedy, an unusually playful highlight of Brazil's fiercely political Cinema Novo movement and its first genuine box office hit. The fantastical story follows our eponymous hero miraculously born fully grown as a black man in the Amazonian jungle. He transforms into a white man as he ventures out into the city, falling in love with a revolutionary and clashing with a wealthy industrialist. A bit like a multicultural Brazilian Monty Python.

Fri 31 Oct 18:15 – Everyman Screen 4
Sat 1 Nov 11:00 – Everyman Screen 4



SPECIAL SCREENINGS

Our Heavenly Bodies
(with Live Music
Accompaniment)

Hanns Walter Kornblum | Germany, Chile
1920 | 70 mins |

Our Heavenly Bodies is an extraordinary German proto-documentary made in 1925 that harnesses the wonder of early cinema to explore no less than everything that was known about the universe at the time. 15 special effects experts and 9 cameramen were employed utilising innovative new animation techniques, historical documents and fictional re-enactments, prefiguring Carl Sagan, Brian Cox and Stanley Kubrick. Screening with live accompaniment by acclaimed pianist and keyboard player Matthew Bourne.

Fri 7 Nov 18:00 – Howard Assembly Room



DESLOCAMENTOS:
BRAZILIAN CINEMA ON THE MOVE

Pixote

Hector Babenco | Brazil | 1980 | 128 mins
Portuguese, English | BBFC 18

Hector Babenco's 1980 masterpiece is both a gripping crime drama and a devastating exposé of how political corruption and police brutality drive street kids into the São Paulo underworld. *Pixote*, a ten year old homeless boy is thrown into a juvenile prison, eventually breaking into a life of drugs and street crime. With incredible performances from a cast of non-professionals, all from similar backgrounds to the characters, the film is immediate, shocking and heartrendingly moving.

Sat 1 Nov 17:45 – Everyman Screen 4
Sun 2 Nov 13:00 – Everyman Screen 4



WE GOTTA GET OUT OF THIS PLACE

Touki Bouki

Djibril Diop Mambéty | Senegal | 1973
85 mins | Wolof, Arabic, French

Restless young lovers Mory and Anta roam Dakar on a horn-adorned motorbike, scheming to escape Senegal for a dreamlike Paris, in this landmark of African cinema. Djibril Diop Mambéty's *Touki Bouki* fuses surreal imagery, frenetic editing, and bursts of colour and sound into a feverish road movie. Blending oral tradition with an avant-garde style, the film captures both the disillusion of post-independence Senegalese society and the intoxicating pull of imagined freedom.

Mon 10 Nov 18:30 – Everyman Screen 4



WE GOTTA GET OUT OF THIS PLACE

Vagabond

Agnès Varda | France, UK | 1985
105 mins | French, Arabic, English | BBFC 15

Agnès Varda's stark portrayal of defiant teenage drifter Mona (Sandrine Bonnaire) is a startling and singular work of cinema. Found perished from the cold at the film's beginning, Mona's story is stitched together through flashbacks told by those she encountered before her death. Winner of the Golden Lion at the 1985 Venice Film Festival, *Vagabond* is a poetic, compassionate look at homelessness and a young woman's refusal of conventional life and femininity.

Tue 11 Nov 18:00 – Everyman Screen 4
Wed 12 Nov 16:15 – Everyman Screen 4



WE GOTTA GET OUT OF THIS PLACE

Wanda

Barbara Loden | USA | 1970 | 102 mins
English | BBFC 15

A groundbreaking work of American independent cinema, Barbara Loden's *Wanda* is a stark, unsentimental portrait of a woman adrift in Rust Belt America. Inspired by a news story, Loden wrote, directed, and starred as Wanda, a coal miner's wife who abandons her family and drifts through bars, motels, and desolate landscapes, eventually falling in with a hapless thief. With an intimate vérité style, *Wanda* is a quietly devastating vision of a woman searching for something beyond the roles assigned to her.

Sun 9 Nov 18:15 – Everyman Screen 4
Mon 10 Nov 16:15 – Everyman Screen 4



TOUKI BOUKI

A FILM BY
DJIBRIL
DIOP
MAMBÉTY



STEWARTS

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Stewarts is delighted to sponsor LIFF SHORTS at Leeds International Film Festival 2025

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LIFF SHORTS

We love short films so much at LIFF that we have a whole programme section dedicated to them, with a huge selection of hand-picked shorts from Yorkshire, around the UK, and across the world. LIFF SHORTS 2025 opens on 5 November at Everyman with a special selection of programme highlights. Then over four days we present 8 short film competitions that culminate with the awards night at Howard Assembly Room on 8 November where we screen all the winning shorts. The competitions include the Louis le Prince International Short Film Competition, named after the Leeds pioneer who made the world's first moving images in 1888, and the World Animation Competition. Our other competitions bring together new British and Yorkshire shorts, documentaries, queer shorts, screendance, and music videos.

LIFF SHORTS is sponsored by **STEWARTS**

LIFF SHORTS 2025

The Award Winners

Always a popular event at LIFF, the Award Winners is the culmination of a year of shortlisting and selecting short films from over 120 countries to include in our 8 competitions. Taking place in the historic setting of Howard Assembly Room on 8 November, the event starts with the announcement of the award winners and then all the winning films are screened together. The duration of the event depends on the length of the winning films – last year it was around 120 minutes. The programme of winning films is repeated twice at Everyman on 13 November.

Sat 8 Nov 19:00 – Howard Assembly Room
Thu 13 Nov 13:00 – Everyman Screen 4
Thu 13 Nov 19:30 – Everyman Screen 4



LIFF SHORTS 2025: Opening Selection

Wed 5 Nov 18:30 – Everyman Screen 4

One & One Other [Episode 1]

UK Premiere | Shawn Fitzgerald Ahern, Emilie Leriche
USA, Germany, France | 2024
10 mins | No Dialogue

Two shelf stackers at a 24/7 mega-supermarket are entrenched in the banal nature of their painfully ordinary jobs. Their imaginations fuse to provoke a jailbreak from their lives as they are transported to the retro 80s dance break of their dreams.

The Thread

Fenn O’Meally | UK | 14 mins
English

Curtis and Grace are navigating growing up and discovering a complicated adult world of influence and identity. Elegantly portraying a family’s dynamic and routines, small, meaningful details come together effortlessly in a thoughtful and intimate narrative.

THE SPECTACLE

UK Premiere | Bálint Kenyeres
Hungary, France | 2025
17 mins | Hungarian

When rumours spread that a young Roma boy possesses a rare gift, TV crew descends upon his home, eager to capture the miracle. Yet the rising hopes and expectations of his community collapse as his quiet talent falters under the harsh glare of media scrutiny.

Love, Your Neighbour

UK Premiere | Jethro Westraad
South Africa | 2024 | 8 mins
English

A wry look at isolation and paranoia in an upmarket Durban neighbourhood, where residents fortify their homes, hide behind intercoms, and a ‘Crime Watch’ WhatsApp group provides the last trace of human contact. The local monkeys, however, have other ideas.

Panic Shack Girl Band Starter Pack

Ren Faulkner | Wales | 2025
3 mins | English

Shack Shack! Girl Band Starter Pack brings together the chaotic, raucous fun of Panic Shack and a rowdy gals night out on the Cardiff high street, with some glorious alter egos, and a smashing Mean Girls nod. Get hyped!

Divine Intervention

Yorkshire Premiere
Ravenna Tran | UK | 2024
17 mins | English

Mischievous Xena must pull off a matchmaking feat in order to get the promotion of her dreams. Exquisitely styled and produced, this is a queer-as-hell, laugh-out-loud guardian angel story you haven’t seen before.

God is shy

Yorkshire Premiere
Jocelyn Charles | France | 2025
16 mins | French

An existential train ride takes a strange turn, as hand-drawn anxieties and subconscious entities take collective form. As reality and imagination unite, a single thread of immersive fear is woven through life, death and all that comes in between.

Louis le Prince International Short Film Competition 1

Wed 5 Nov 20:30 – Everyman Screen 4

THE SPECTACLE

UK Premiere | Bálint Kenyeres
Hungary, France | 2025
17 mins | Hungarian

When rumours spread that a young Roma boy possesses a rare gift, TV crew descends upon his home, eager to capture the miracle. Yet the rising hopes and expectations of his community collapse as his quiet talent falters under the harsh glare of media scrutiny.

I Fear Blue Skies

Europe Premiere
Salar Pashtoonyar | Canada
2025 | 12 mins | Dari, Pashto

Amid the chaotic U.S. withdrawal from Afghanistan, a desperate civilian seeks a Taliban permit for his American employer, hoping it will secure his family’s evacuation. Inspired by Zemari Ahmadi, an Afghan aid worker who strived to make life better for others.

Sukua

Europe Premiere
Omar E. Ospina Giraldo
Colombia | 2025 | 17 mins
Kogui

Pirimín, a Kogi child, receives a water pistol as a gift. But when he overhears his father’s disapproval of the toy, Pirimín must make an important decision. A quietly powerful coming-of-age story about confronting inherited trauma and collective history.

Thoughts on Peace in an Air Raid

Yorkshire Premiere
Vyacheslav Turyanytsya
Ukraine, Netherlands
2025 | 16 mins | Ukrainian

Workers chat amidst traffic. A woman cares for her grandmother. An editor works on a film amidst sirens. In three vignettes, three strangers attempt at regaining normalcy amidst war. In these pockets of peace and silence, life slowly reemerges.

Don’t wake the sleeping child

UK Premiere | Kevin Aubert
Senegal, France, Morocco
2025 | 28 mins | Wolof

Diamant, a young girl from Dakar, is set to be betrothed without her consent. Her family’s dream swiftly becomes a nightmare when they are unable to wake her from her slumber. A Senegalese reimagining of *Sleeping Beauty*, where rest is resistance.



LOVE, YOUR NEIGHBOUR



DIVINE INTERVENTION



GIRL BAND STARTER PACK



GOD IS SHY



I FEAR BLUE SKIES



SUKUA



DON'T WAKE THE SLEEPING CHILD



THOUGHTS ON PEACE IN AN AIR RAID

Louis le Prince International Short Film Competition 2

Thu 6 Nov 10:30 – Everyman Screen 4

Family Sunday

Yorkshire Premiere
Gerardo Del Razo | Mexico
2025 | 18 mins | Spanish

On a pleasant Sunday afternoon in a peripheral zone of Mexico City, the regular collection of money from merchants and residents carries an ultimatum that forever alters the neighbourhood, morphing the community into a site of resistance.

We Had Fun

Yorkshire Premiere | Linda Lô
France | 2025 | 18 mins
French

Bordeaux, 1987, Christmas Eve. Three siblings are far away from their mother and while the eldest treats himself to a weekend getaway, his younger siblings are left to their own devices, making them susceptible to untold dangers both internal and external.

I'M GLAD YOU'RE DEAD NOW

UK Premiere | Tawfeek Barhom
France, Greece, Palestine | 2025
13 mins | Arabic

Two brothers, Reda and Abu Rashid, return to the island on which they were born and raised. Only this time, instead of trying to keep the darkness of their childhood buried in the past, they decide to confront it once and for all.

Made of Sugar

UK Premiere | Clàudia Cedó
Spain | 2024 | 25 mins
Catalan

Maria, a woman with an intellectual disability, longs to be a mother, yet her caretakers dismiss her dream as impossible. Denied recognition, she takes action, sparking urgent questions about autonomy, rights, and the power to decide over her "disabled" body.

Grandma Nai Who Played Favorites

Yorkshire Premiere
Chheangkea | Cambodia,
France, USA | 2025
19 mins | Khmer

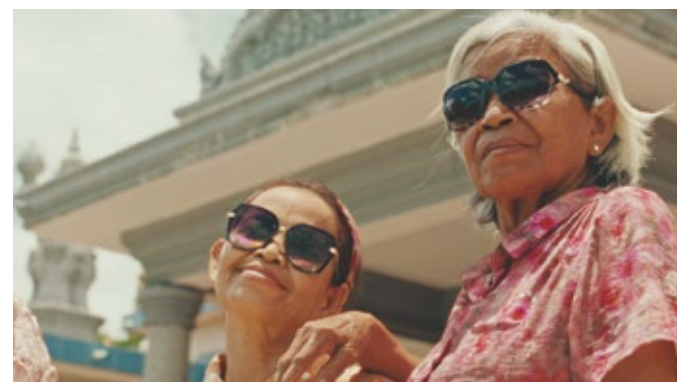
When Grandma Nai's lively family visits her grave for the Qingming Festival, she discovers that her grandson Meng is being pressured to marry a woman. So, together with a neighbouring ghost, Grandma Nai sneaks away to take care of him for one more day.



WE HAD FUN



I'M GLAD YOU'RE DEAD NOW



GRANDMA NAI WHO PLAYED FAVORITES



FAMILY SUNDAY

Louis le Prince International Short Film Competition 3

Thu 6 Nov 13:00 – Everyman Screen 4

Garan

UK Premiere | Mahsum Taşkın
Turkey | 2024 | 20 mins
Kurdish, Turkish

On the border between two countries, the hopes of a desperate man turn into the fear of losing everything. In his waiting, we witness a rumination on the tug of war between our lack of control and the tensions of exuberant hopes for a better life.

Malicia

UK Premiere | Edward Gómez
Granada | Colombia | 2024
15 mins | Spanish

Two close friends reunite to remember their best friend El Mono who died a year prior. A stolen bike leads them down a dangerous chain of events forcing them to play at being adults in a neighborhood where growing up means learning to survive.

Crumb

UK Premiere | Elena Kulesh
Russia | 2025 | 28 mins
Russian

Alyoshin is a pupil in a correctional orphanage who dreams of a domestic life. When his workplace discovers he's been lying about an affair, his place in society is thrown up in the air. A tender and rebellious portrait of teens with no safety nets.

The End of the World

UK Premiere | Alessandro Mosca
Mosca | Peru, UK | 2025
14 mins | Quechua, Spanish

Set amongst the mountainous landscapes of Peru, Epifanio embarks on a journey in search of his family, who were buried beneath an avalanche of his hometown. The End of the World offers a moment to reflect on our relationship to the changing natural environment.



MALICIA



THE END OF THE WORLD



GARAN



CRUMB

Louis le Prince International Short Film Competition 4

Thu 6 Nov 15:00 – Everyman Screen 4

Blue Heart

UK Premiere | Samuel Suffren
Haiti, France | 2025 | 15 mins
Haitian Creole

A silent phone rests against Haiti's steady pulse as Marianne and Pétion wait for a call that never comes, their son gone chasing the American dream. A breathing portrait of migration's hidden ache quietly carried by those left waiting in wake.

Ali

UK Premiere | Adnan Al Rajeev
Bangladesh, Philippines | 2025
15 mins | Bengali

In a coastal Bangladeshi town where women's voices are muted, teenage Ali enters a singing contest to flee to the city. Yet his voice conceals a darker truth: the burden and invisible bonds kinship and society inscribe upon us.

What If They Bomb Here Tonight?

UK Premiere | Samir Syriani
Lebanon | 2025 | 17 mins
Lebanese Arabic

A sleepless night for a Lebanese couple begins with the fear their glass walls could shatter on them in an Israeli airstrike. Caught between dread and absurd humour, they confront the fragility of safety and the daily paranoia of living in the shadow of war.

In Between Storms

UK Premiere | Fran Zayas
Puerto Rico | 2025 | 14 mins
Spanish

Cheito is trying to find his brother. Hurricane season has once again ravaged his hometown, including the cemetery where his brother was laid to rest. He decides to take matters into his own hands and rescue what remains of his loved one.

Cucumber

Yorkshire Premiere
Harald Furuholmen
Norway, Japan | 2024
11 mins | Japanese

Shintaro receives a cucumber from his neighbor: an innocent act that spirals into wild overthinking. A darkly comic tale inspired by a true Hikikomori story, revealing how a simple gift can unravel a mind.

Dancing Pigeons

International Premiere
Christofer Nilsson
Sweden, France | 2025
23 mins | Swedish, Danish

A widow interrupts a medium's seance in the hopes of reuniting with her ex-husband. When holes begin to appear in his act, his legitimacy is put into question. An irreverent and unnerving exploration of performance, grief, and exploitation.



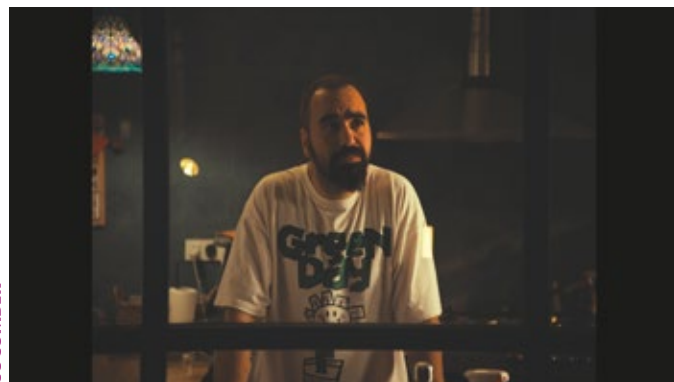
DANCING PIGEONS



BLUE HEART



CUCUMBER



WHAT IF THEY BOMB HERE TONIGHT?

Louis le Prince International Short Film Competition 5

Fri 7 Nov 10:30 – Everyman Screen 4

Ladybugs

International Premiere
Thor Zing | Denmark | 2024
14 mins | Danish

At five years old, Magne is committed to not attending his grandfather's funeral unless he can wear his Batman costume. A tender and memorable portrayal of a father and son's dynamic, Ladybugs explores the vulnerability in compromising to individual processes of grief.

The Thing About Kashem

UK Premiere | Bijon
Bangladesh | 2025 | 17 mins
Bengali

When a bookkeeper gets aroused during a haircut, it plunges him into an existential crisis that turns everything phallic. A comedic dig at the absurdity of masculinity, the violence of internalized homophobia, and late-in-life sexual awakening.



LADYBUGS



THE THING ABOUT KASHEM

My Plastic Mother

World Premiere | Amar Haikal
Indonesia | 2025 | 18 mins
Indonesian

In a landfill where landslides have fused graveyards with plastic waste, young boy Eki searches for a memento of his late mother to bring to school. His tough quest reflects a deeper need for care, belonging, and the unfulfilled need of familial completeness.

Metae

UK Premiere | Elisabeth Caravella | France | 2025
24 mins | French

In her AR dreamscape, a lone soul meets Iliona – silent, uncanny, tender. This poetic debut constantly blurs the real and virtual, unfolding a haunting study of digital longing and the fragile architectures of perception.

Nervous Energy

UK Premiere | Eve Liu
USA | 2025 | 16 mins
English, Mandarin Chinese, Japanese, French

Two young artists desperate to make it in the big city decide that in order to tap into their true creative genius, they must break up with their boyfriends. This razor-sharp comedy, executive produced by Spike Lee, asks us what we would sacrifice for greatness.



NERVOUS ENERGY



MY PLASTIC MOTHER

World Animation Competition 1

Fri 7 Nov 13:30 – Hyde Park Screen 1
Sun 9 Nov 11:30 – Everyman Screen 4

Can You Hear Me? S The Wolf

England Premiere
Anastazja Naumenko | Poland
2025 | 15 mins | Russian

A mother and daughter connect over a Zoom call, where intergenerational perceptions of technology bring family conflicts and age-old bonds to light. With their thinking reflected on screens, can a digital space transform distance into a new kind of intimacy?

Amarelo Banana

UK Premiere | Alexandre Sousa
Portugal, Hungary | 2025
12 mins | English

Welcome to the dreamy nighttime world of apes. Unable to sleep, a man explores the hidden depths of his apartment block. With hints of comedy and the absurd, here lies a surreal landscape where those seeking connection escape from an ever-isolating reality.

DETLEV

Yorkshire Premiere
Ferdinand Ehrhardt | Germany
2024 | 13 mins | English

How do we warm ourselves up in cold times? One man ashamedly thinks a microwavable Hawaiian toasty is the answer. *DETLEV* probes us to consider how we find solace in familiar routines. But what if that sought comfort was just on the other side of the glass?

Dollhouse Elephant

England Premiere | Jenny Jokela
Finland | 2025 | 11 mins
No Dialogue

Weight-lifters, lovers, and fish dinners all vie for space in an apartment block. *Dollhouse Elephant* examines the tensions that arise when we attempt to live authentically. How we share space and adapt to ways of living are key themes in this vibrant short.

How To Build a Sand Castle

Yorkshire Premiere
Nour Khamis | Ecuador, UK,
Palestine | 2025 | 4 mins
English, Spanish

Dive into the bold blue world of *How to Build a Sand Castle* and find yourself swept up in an inky journey of discovery. Themes of queer exploration and self-identity make this a liberating watch, which ends in a joyful freeing feeling you won't want to forget.

Hunting

Yorkshire Premiere | Lea Favre
Switzerland | 2024 | 11 mins
French, Italian

A young woman armed with her camera is on the hunt for the perfect subject. The use of charming stop motion animation makes the derailment of this tale felt even further, as the story takes a darker twist towards violence. Both deeply powerful and affecting.



HOW TO BUILD A SANDCASTLE

Flow of Being

Yorkshire Premiere | Helen Unt
Estonia, Bulgaria | 2024
11 mins | No Dialogue

One lone woman with a large garden goes on a journey of transformation in a delightfully mossy and green world. With notes of magical realism, this beautiful eco-fable underscores the raw allure of nature and our intrinsic connection to the natural world.

Retirement Plan

Yorkshire Premiere | John Kelly
Ireland | 2024 | 7 mins | English

Ray daydreams about how to spend his retirement once he finally has some free time. Wonderfully simple in style yet capturing a world of emotion as we delve through his list; this moving and sweet short invites us to consider how to live before the inevitable.



AMARELO BANANA

World Animation Competition 2

Fri 7 Nov 15:30 – Hyde Park Screen 1
Sun 9 Nov 13:45 – Everyman Screen 4

Stone of Destiny

Yorkshire Premiere | Julie Černá
Czech Republic | 2025
10 mins | Czech

One solitary stone embarks on a musical journey of self-discovery, as it ponders the meaning of life. Weighed down by self-doubt, this aimless martyr must begin to understand the importance of embracing your flaws and being your own destiny.

Fačuk

UK Premiere | Maida Srabović
Croatia, Slovenia | 2025
13 mins | Croatian

A woman expects the birth of her child in ritual isolation, cast out by a community that damns the product of her mortal 'sin'. Exploring the harshness of trad rurality, this Croatian folk tale contemplates timely stigma through a delicate historic lens.



STONE OF DESTINY

Devil's Beacon

Yorkshire Premiere
Gervasio Canda, Paula Boffo,
Patricio Plaza | Argentina,
Canada | 2025 | 11 mins
Spanish

Entangled in the morbid curiosities of a roadside pitstop, a young raver's paranoia begins to take hold. With mind and body in distorted unison, supernatural forces lead him further into the ghostly Argentine wilderness, lost in visions of gruesome neon.

Progress Mining

Yorkshire Premiere
Gabriel Böhmer | UK,
Switzerland | 16 mins | English

Monday morning at the Progress Mining Company is a decaying, cubist nightmare of monotony. As one worker shows round a new employer, another campaigns for its closure and reconstruction, as the long-buried secrets of Sector Three quickly come to light.



MURMURATION

DESK BUGS

Yorkshire Premiere
KIM Hakhyun | South Korea
2024 | 3 mins | No Dialogue

A red desk becomes the pint-size home of procrastination, as a hoard of spritely desk bugs manifest and multiply. With chaos at every turn, these tiny terrors of distraction are the furry foragers of emphatic silliness and overstimulation.

God is shy

Yorkshire Premiere
Jocelyn Charles | France | 2025
16 mins | French

An existential train ride takes a strange turn, as hand-drawn anxieties and subconscious entities take collective form. As reality and imagination unite, a single thread of immersive fear is woven through life, death and all that comes in between.

Sappho

UK Premiere | Rosana Urbes
Brazil | 2025 | 12 mins
Portuguese

Enter the sensual world of Ancient Greek female author Sappho, combining fragments from her poetry and mixed multiplane animation. Originally erased from the male-dominated classical canon, this short takes us on a meditative journey through her life and work.



DEVIL'S BEACON

Ouais.

International Premiere
Della Miranda | Switzerland
2025 | 4 mins | No Dialogue

A girl is consumed by the loneliness of a bathroom mirror. As each intrusive thought overwhelms her tiled dwelling, so too does a body contorted by crippling self-esteem; too big and yet, not enough, for a world consumed by beauty standards.

Murmuration

Yorkshire Premiere
Janneke Swinkels, Tim Frijnsinger
Netherlands, Belgium | 2025
13 mins | No Dialogue

An elderly man named Piet begins to transform into a bird, navigating the peculiar metamorphosis from his lowly carehome. As his body deteriorates, his spirit takes flight, departing the flow of one world to join the flock of another, where aging is a peaceful rebirth.

Documentary Short Film Competition 1

Fri 7 Nov 12:30 – Everyman Screen 4

Their Eyes

Yorkshire Premiere
Nicolas Gourault | France
2025 | 23 mins
English, Spanish

As self-driving cars learn to navigate the Global North, their teachers - low-paid clickworkers in the Global South - learn to navigate a system that's exploiting them. A colourful look at the invisible work that is shaping how machines read our world.

The Rock Speaks

UK Premiere | Francois Knoetze, Amy Louise Wilson | South Africa, Democratic Republic of Congo | 2024 | 7 mins | English

In this short, sharp scream of a film, the social and ecological consequences of the Congolese cobalt industry's violent labour practices are uneasily allied with the mining of images for use by generative AI.

Common Pear

UK Premiere | Gregor Božič
Slovenia, UK | 2025 | 15 mins
Slovenian, English, French, Italian

In a climate-ravaged future, scientists study archive films to reimagine fruit growers' bond with the land. As the footage hums with life, this inventive doc-fiction draws speculative links between the creativity of cultivation and the emotive power of cinema.

Daria's Night Flowers

Yorkshire Premiere
Maryam Tafakory | UK, France
2025 | 16 mins | Farsi

Plants that devour women. Fevers of unknown origin. An ocean that can teach you how to vanish. Fragments of a forbidden love story bloom in the shade of an oppressive regime in this poetic, experimental essay whose roots stretch far beneath the surface.

CAIRO STREETS

UK Premiere | Abdellah Taïa
France | 2025 | 19 mins
Arabic

Cairo, January 2007. Abdellah searches for his lost love, Omar. Legendary filmmaker Youssef Chahine completes his final film. The city streets pulse with romance, animated by the mystery and intimacy of love and cinema.

We Were The Scenery

Christopher Radcliff
USA, Canada | 2025 | 15 mins
Vietnamese

Hoa Thi Le and Hue Nguyen Che, refugees from the Vietnam War, reflect on the real war and the fake one: Apocalypse Now, where they appear as extras. What is reality when media shapes perception, making some people fully human and others part of the landscape?



COMMON PEAR



THEIR EYES



DARIA'S NIGHT FLOWERS



THE ROCK SPEAKS

Documentary Short Film Competition 2

Fri 7 Nov 14:30 – Everyman Screen 4

Voices from the abyss

Europe Premiere
Irving Serrano, Victor Rejón
Mexico | 2025 | 23 mins
Spanish

In Acapulco, Mexico, divers plunge 100 feet from the cliffs of La Quebrada in a breathtaking show. Testimonies from the diverse, tight-knit group reveal the beauty and cost of their craft, with perilous climbs and daring leaps captured in stunning slow motion.

Love, Your Neighbour

UK Premiere | Jethro Westraad
South Africa | 2024 | 8 mins
English

A wry look at isolation and paranoia in an upmarket Durban neighbourhood, where residents fortify their homes, hide behind intercoms, and a 'Crime Watch' WhatsApp group provides the last trace of human contact. The local monkeys, however, have other ideas.

Hole in the Stone

Yorkshire Premiere
Holly Marie Parnell | UK | 2024
23 mins | English

Past collides with future, life with death, fantasy with bitter economic reality, in this lyrical, patiently observed portrait of an Irish farming community, where a soulful interplay of light and shadow reflects the quiet struggles and joys of rural life.

+10k

UK Premiere
Gala Hernández López
France, Spain | 2025 | 32 mins
Spanish, Catalan

Pol is 21 and lives with his grandmother. He dreams of moving to Miami and making 10k a month. With online coaches, self-help and crypto, he believes he'll get there. He just doesn't know when. A tender, timely portrait of ambition, delusion and fragile hope.

I Dreamed of a Gentle Landscape

International Premiere
Kim Torres | China, Costa Rica
2025 | 13 mins | Spanish, Enping Chinese Dialect

Chunyan's thoughts drift between two worlds: her hometown in China, and coastal Costa Rica, where she and her husband Jun run a mini-mart. It's the heart of their community, but why, after all these years, have the couple never celebrated their wedding?



+10K



VOICES FROM THE ABYSS



I DREAMED OF A GENTLE LANDSCAPE



HOLE IN THE STONE

British Short Film Competition 1

Sat 8 Nov 13:45 – Everyman Screen 4

A Bear Remembers The Thread

Yorkshire Premiere | Zhang + Knight | UK | 2024 | 20 mins | English

Seeking the source of a mysterious metallic sound that haunts a rural village, local boy Peter meets an old woman, sparking memories of a strange bear that once roamed the hills of her childhood. An atmospheric and gentle folk tale of reminiscence and loss.

Dancing on Road

Yorkshire Premiere | Lauren Gee | UK | 2025 | 8 mins | English

Dancing on Road follows a London based rollerskating community run by and for black women. Faced with societal issues like colourism and oversexualisation, watch how these women keep their heritage alive and find liberation, kinship and peace on four wheels.

Fenn O'Meally | UK | 2025 | 14 mins | English

Curtis and Grace are navigating growing up and discovering a complicated adult world of influence and identity. Elegantly portraying a family's dynamic and routines, small, meaningful details come together effortlessly in a thoughtful and intimate narrative.

Party Animal

Yorkshire Premiere | Ali Gill | UK | 2025 | 13 mins | English

Barber Dustin's sanity is tested when he's given the absurd task of cutting the ears off a politician that's slowly turning into a donkey. *Party Animal* perfectly captures the disillusionment of modern-day politics and the gaslighting methods of the media.

Murewa

Ché Scott-Heron Newton | UK | 2025 | 14 mins | English

Focusing on the tight-knit bond between skaters Marlon and Murry, we see how their different upbringings and circumstances weigh on their friendship and adult lives. *Murewa* is a love letter lamenting lost time whilst celebrating future connection.

The Eating of an Orange

Yorkshire Premiere | May Kindred-Boothby | UK | 2024 | 7 mins | English

In this sensuous animation, identical figures eat, move and look the same. But everything will change for a woman, gifted an orange, that transports her to a realm where lichen and slugs become symbols of nature, in all of its glorious growth and potential.

Ritual

Yorkshire Premiere | Cameron Cut | UK | 2025 | 6 mins | No dialogue

Two boys sit in an empty cul-de-sac sharing gum. It feels like a beginning, but it isn't. A haunting tale of complicity, repression and silent moments that betray us. *Ritual* fractures time to unearth a devastating truth: sometimes the horror is yet to come.

Neil Armstrong and the Langholmites

Yorkshire Premiere | Duncan Cowles | UK | 2025 | 18 mins | English

Everyone knows Neil Armstrong went to the Moon, but it wasn't until three years later, when visiting the tiny Scottish town of Langholm, that he finally got home. A wry and beautiful slice of Scottish life and a lesser-known tale of one of America's most famous sons.



A BEAR REMEMBERS



DANCING ON THE ROAD



PARTY ANIMAL



NEIL ARMSTRONG AND THE LANGHOLMITES

British Short Film Competition 2

Sat 8 Nov 15:45 – Everyman Screen 4

MAGID / ZAFAR

Yorkshire Premiere | Luís Hindman | UK | 2025 | 18 mins | English, Urdu

During a shift in the kitchen heat of his dad's takeaway, Magid is faced with a choice: do what is expected of him or follow his heart? A stunning portrait of masculinity in a working-class British Pakistani community, shot with frenetic energy in gorgeous 16mm.

A Round of Applause for Death

Yorkshire Premiere | Stephen Irwin | UK | 2024 | 5 mins | English

Death takes centre stage in Stephen Irwin's widely celebrated new animation, where faceless spectators applaud surreal situations. The increasing histrionics of these murderous dreams feel like a barbed satire on our dubious fascination with the inevitable.



BEYOND THE RUSH



HUMBLE PIE

Beyond The Rush

Yorkshire Premiere | NIYADRE | UK | 2025 | 16 mins | English

This intensive crash course in British Caribbean history covers everything from Windrush, Carnival and community projects in Luton. Fun but honest, *Beyond the Rush* ponders what has changed in the last 60 years and why that communal feeling has started to fade.

Humble Pie

Jack Hartley | UK | 2024 | 12 mins | English

Tony, a hungry bloke, has the depth of his gluttony tested when he's graced with a life-changing opportunity; the chance to eat a "once in a lifetime pie". This surrealist comedy on greed and obsession will have you belly laughing and your belly growling.

No Mean City

Ross McClean | Northern Ireland, USA | 2025 | 14 mins | English

In Belfast, two workmen and an apprentice roam through the city at night, replacing old sodium street lights with sparkling LEDs. Beneath their glow, the city grapples with change as progress marches on.

Giants

Andy Berriman | UK | 2025 | 17 mins | English

Drifting through his post-industrial town scavenging for scrap, isolated teenager Sandy finds unexpected purpose after meeting conspiracy theorist Don, who tasks him with destroying a local wind farm.



NO MEAN CITY



PEN MARI

Our Wayne

Craig Bingham | UK | 2025 | 4 mins | English

A conversation between two estranged brothers from Yorkshire. In search of reconciliation, this film is honest, direct, deeply personal, beautifully observed and subtly ambiguous. You might never see a better documentary in three and a half minutes than this.

PEN MARI

Yorkshire Premiere | Siôn Marshall-Waters | UK | 2025 | 13 mins | English, Welsh

Uncomfortable and a tad grotesque, this thrilling fever dream follows a man in search of a horse's skull to lead a traditional Welsh folk procession. *Pen Mari* plays on the weird, surreal and mundane that comes with celebrating tradition in the modern age.

Yorkshire Short Film Competition

Sun 2 Nov 15:00 – The Old Fire Station – FREE

Tue 4 Nov 18:30 – Keighley Creative – FREE

Fri 7 Nov 20:00 – Howard Assembly Room

Thu 13 Nov 18:00 – Mill Hill Chapel – FREE

Rocket Fuel

Jordon Scott Kennedy | UK
2025 | 15 mins | English

No money, loads of time and endless imagination: Lenny and Mullet are never bored wandering around their estate looking for things to do. When they come across an abandoned car, they begin to plan the ultimate escape from the rundown playground they call home.

The Colder the Water, the Deeper the Bonds

Milk Teeth Productions | UK
2024 | 7 mins | English

This languidly observed documentary joins a community of keen open water swimmers in Leeds, an increasingly popular spot for this cathartic pastime. Through short reflections with the participants, the film shares their joy and connection with nature.

Rhubarb Rhubarb

Yorkshire Premiere
Kate McMullen | UK | 2025
16 mins | English

In the legendary Yorkshire Rhubarb Triangle, Jo and her elderly father harvest the pink delicacy by candlelight like their ancestors before them. But are they prepared for danger, looming in the dark?

The Long Away Game

Hannah Congdon | UK | 2025
13 mins | English

The Afghan Women's Football team fled their country in the wake of the Taliban takeover in 2021. But what happened next? Sabriah Nawrooz reflects on her life and love of football, as she finds a new community working with Harrogate Town FC.

The Caged

World Premiere | Lewis Pashley
UK | 2024 | 4 mins
No dialogue

Without using any dialogue, director Lewis Pashley comments on the beauty and simplicity of connecting with nature through the tale of a Yorkshire coal miner. He gets through his claustrophobic profession by racing pigeons in the open air.

My Friend Orson Welles

Sam Judd | UK | 2025
14 mins | English

An aspiring screenwriter discovers his true feelings for his childhood friend, all under the sardonic but dubious tutelage of an imaginary Orson Welles. Boasting a 50% disabled cast and crew, the film is a whimsical romantic comedy and love letter to cinema.

The Trees Have Eyes

Yorkshire Premiere
Charlie Johnson | UK | 2025
6 mins | English

A hunter stalks through the dark forest in search of prey. But the trees are watching and ready to take revenge. A sumptuously dark stop motion animation from first time director Charlie Johnson.

Riding Time

World Premiere | Roopa
Gogineni, Farhaan | UK | 2025
19 mins | English

Tent pegging is an ancient South Asian cavalry sport taken up by British colonial officers. There is now a national UK team, but also a burgeoning Pakistani British circuit, featuring in this film – a short which blows the dust off traditional tales of Empire.

Presented in partnership with
VERSA STUDIOS
LEEDS INTERNATIONAL FILM STUDIOS

Leeds Queer Short Film Competition 1

Sat 8 Nov 13:30 – Hyde Park Screen 1

We'll Go Down in History

Cameron Richards, Charlie
Tidmas | UK | 2025 | 25 mins
English

A documentary following TRUK United: a grassroots, proudly trans football club. Filmed over two years, it captures the team's highs and lows on and off the pitch as they create a safe haven for their community in the face of rising transphobia.

How To Build A Sand Castle

Yorkshire Premiere
Nour Khamis | Ecuador, UK,
Palestine | 2025 | 4 mins
English, Spanish

In this lush animation, we watch our protagonist discover themselves and claim their queer identity. Shedding shame and rebuilding a beautiful intricate structure in its place.

Silence = Death

UK Premiere | Trace Pope | USA
2025 | 16 mins | English

With archival footage from the ACT UP movement. This historical fiction re-enacts a direct action at the National Institute of Health during the height of the AIDS crisis. It creates a throughline to the COVID pandemic and Anthony Fauci's role during both.

Zari

Yorkshire Premiere
Shruti Parekh | USA, India
2024 | 19 mins | English, Hindi

American teen Neelu feels out of place amidst preparations for her sister's wedding in Delhi until she forges a brief and unexpected connection with Zeyb, a quiet sari store clerk who moonlights as an internet drag queen.

Purebred

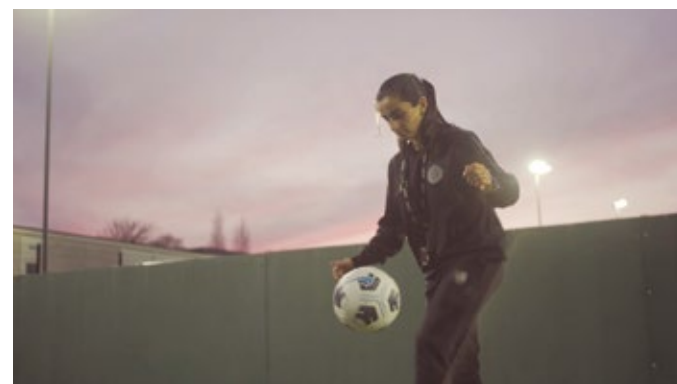
Yorkshire Premiere
Caleb J. Roberts | Northern
Ireland, UK | 2025 | 15 mins
English

During a hot Belfast summer, a trans man takes a pregnancy test and then faces the difficult situation of how to tell his on-again/off-again boyfriend.

Divine Intervention

Yorkshire Premiere
Ravenna Tran | UK | 2024
17 mins | English

Mischievous Xena must pull off a matchmaking feat in order to get the promotion of her dreams. Exquisitely styled and produced, this is a queer-as-hell, laugh-out-loud guardian angel story you haven't seen before.



THE LONG AWAY GAME



RHUBARB RHUBARB



DIVINE INTERVENTION



PUREBRED



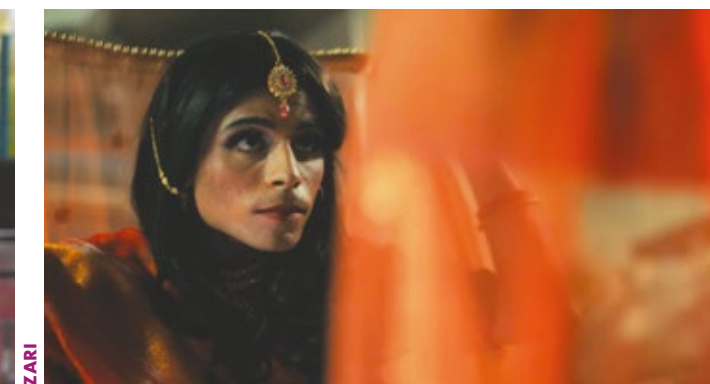
THE CAGED



ROCKET FUEL



WE'LL GO DOWN IN HISTORY



ZARI

Leeds Queer Short Film Competition 2

Sat 8 Nov 15:45 – Hyde Park Screen 1

One Day This Kid

Yorkshire Premiere
Alexander Farah | Canada
18 mins | Dari/Farsi, English

Told seamlessly over decades, we watch Hamed grow up and navigate his queer, Afghan, and Muslim identities, as well as a difficult relationship with his father. Beautiful storytelling that does so much with so little; an exultation of the short film genre.

UBIQUITOUS

World Premiere
Masha Maroutitch | UK | 2025
7 mins | English

Blending music, visual poetry, and an emotionally grounded performance, *UBIQUITOUS* tells the story of a young man battling with internalised homophobia and unrequited love.

Jo's Turn

World Premiere
Vino Cholimparambil | India
2025 | 15 mins | Hindi

The weekly family Scrabble game presents Jo with an opportunity to be open about who she is. With relatable characters and genuine connections that create a real lived-in feel, this charming slice-of-life film is a triple-word score!

Rope

International Premiere
Lucas Ikaika Manuel-Scheibe
USA | 2024 | 13 mins | English

During a night of erotic bondage, Aki begins to recall the story of his grandmother's disappearance. An "ama," or "sea woman" of Northern Japan, her gradual descent into the ocean's loving arms reflects Aki's drift from the ropes and lover who bind him.

Saturday Night Butch

Northern Premiere
Claudia Vogt | UK | 2025
13 mins | English

Taking a 1950's term for those who could only appear butch at the weekend. This dapper documentary looks at how queer nightlife creates space for butch identities to flourish.

Ata Pūao

Europe Premiere | Allie Howell
Aotearoa | 2025 | 14 mins
English, Māori

Amid the nightlife of a new city, a young Māori trans woman reckons with safety, isolation, and the fragile bonds of old friendships outgrown – as the promise of belonging rises just beyond the horizon.

Sucker

Fae Al-Kalamchi | UK | 2025
13 mins | British Sign Language

Bringing men back to her home at night, Juni's cannibalistic hunger is satiated. But is her cover almost blown by a hot new neighbour? With plenty of fourth wall-breaking nods reminiscent of *Fleabag*, *Sucker*, is a sexy thriller rom-com to end our programme.

Leeds Screendance Competition

Fri 7 Nov 20:45 – Everyman Screen 4

Wed 12 Nov 14:30 – Everyman Screen 4

Still Moving

World Premiere | Jonny White
UK | 2025 | 4 mins | English

Through the eyes of a 60-year-old contemporary dancer, *Still Moving* explores ageing and identity, embracing the echoes of who we were and the grace of who we are becoming. Dawn Holgate MBE is one of the original dancers of Leeds-based Phoenix Dance Theatre.

One & One Other [Episode 1]

UK Premiere | Shawn Fitzgerald
Ahern and Emilie Leriche
USA, Germany, France | 2024
10 mins | No Dialogue

Two shelf stackers at a 24/7 mega-supermarket are entrenched in the banal nature of their painfully ordinary jobs. Their imaginations fuse to provoke a jailbreak from their lives as they are transported to the retro 80s dance break of their dreams.

Naval Ode

UK Premiere | Fu Le
Portugal, France | 2024
6 mins | Portuguese

Naval Ode embodies the movement of separation between dock and the ship, between the inside and the outside, between one and the other. This mysterious and suspended dance is imbued with nostalgic desire and swells like a sail.

Spoken Movement Family Honour

Yorkshire Premiere
Daniel Gurton | UK | 2025
10 mins | English

In a British-Ghanaian household bound by tradition and religion, a young girl lives under the oppressive control of her abusive father. At the family dinner table, heated arguments reveal the deep rift between them as they confront the scars of their past.

Carmen

Yorkshire Premiere
Andrew Margetson | Spain, UK
2025 | 5 mins | No Dialogue

A young woman, dressed in a tracksuit, walks through the backstreets of Sevilla into a housing project. This is Carmen Aviles - the young street superstar of flamenco.

Directions to the Other Side of the World

UK Premiere | Derrick Belcham
Ireland | 2025 | 12 mins
English

A woman explores the far reaches of rural Ireland in a desperate attempt to make peace with the darker aspect of her spirit. The film attempts to bridge generations of place and ritual into a poetic and practical film of belonging and peace.

On My Way to You

UK Premiere | Astrid De Haes,
Brecht Van Vliet, Jonathan Van
Hemelrijk | Belgium | 2025
8 mins | No Dialogue

A couple are seeking ways to restore intimacy but how can one (re)encounter the other? The play that arises from their desire involves risk and physical exertion, yet the pursuit of a shared rhythm urges them both on.

Underpass

UK Premiere | Stefan Georgiou
UK | 2025 | 6 mins
No Dialogue

A couple meet at assorted urban underpasses and dance together, expressing their affair. Eventually they realise it has to stop.

The Gift

International Premiere
Mikki Sindhunata | Netherlands
2025 | 11 mins | No Dialogue

On her 34th birthday, Alesya retreats to the solitude of her remote home, following her private ritual of spending the day alone. But when a mysterious box appears at her doorstep, her carefully controlled world begins to shift.



JO'S TURN



ATA PŪAO



UBIQUITOUS



ONE DAY THIS KID



STILL MOVING



ONE & ONE OTHER [EPISODE 1]



CARMEN

Leeds Music Video Competition

Thu 6 Nov 19:00 – Everyman Screen 4
 Thu 13 Nov 19:30 – Chapel FM

Lang Lee There is A Wolf

Europe Premiere
 Saerom SEO | South Korea
 2025 | 4 mins | Korean

The playful animation style and summery sound to the music sit in glorious juxtaposition to the social commentary of the lyrics. Every inch of the visuals are packed, giving you too much to take in and inviting multiple viewings.

Liz Horsman Gun

Lado Kvataniya | Russia | 2024
 5 mins | English

It can be hard to show hope in dark spaces whilst acknowledging struggle and fear. *Gun* achieves that with a powerful song and a video that unites the struggle with the hope, and lets a crack of light shine through.

La Piena La Piena

UK Premiere | Lorenzo Gonnelli
 Italy | 2024 | 2 mins | Italian

A frantic, filthy, and perfectly pitched piece that ties in band performance, projection, and unrelenting animation overlays. Short and not at all sweet, as it should be.

Okay Kaya Check Your Face

World Premiere | Lou Beauchard
 France, Norway | 2024
 3 mins | English

Okay Kaya appeared in last year's lineup and proves her taste again in creative collaborators with this new slice of melodic weirdness: a gorgeously mind-bending stop-motion confectionery creation.

Yoann Roussin A Little More Action

Yorkshire Premiere
 Alexis Beaumont | France
 2025 | 1 mins | French

Short, energetic and poetically dark. There is an impressive level of finesse and choreography to the searing commentary in this punchy ginger shot of an animation.

Honningbarna Heute Ist Mein Tag

Sander August Dahl | Norway
 2025 | 6 mins | Norwegian

Sander August Dahl directs another edition to the Honningbarna's cinematic universe of corporate violence. *Heute Ist Mein Tag* will bring back that acidic taste of company-sponsored training cut with the frantic musical catharsis.

Horsegirl Julie

England Premiere
 Daphna Awadish Golan
 USA, Netherlands | 2024
 5 mins | English

This salve for the soul uses masterful illustrative animation to accentuate the textural nature of the track. Julie is a music video where you can hear the crunch of the Autumn leaves and smell the crayons of the dancing colour.

Monolink Avalanche

UK Premiere | Vasco Alexandre
 Denmark, Germany | 2025
 4 mins | English

Bringing an unexpected level of elegance and romance to a worse-for-wear morning walk home, *Avalanche's* choreography and hazy morning sun cityscape will leave a twinkle in your eye.

That Handsome Devil Buddha Was A Rich Boy

Europe Premiere | Hunter Wayne
 United States | 2024 | 3 mins
 English

When a gig flyer makes its way to a pair of rambunctious youngsters, their appetite for mayhem is satiated and boredom solved. A frenetic and playful video for troublemakers, where a grimy dive bar toilet never looked so much fun!

Foster the People Lost in Space

Yorkshire Premiere | Rupert Höller
 USA, Austria | 2024
 4 mins | English

The art of the studio music video is alive and thriving in *Lost in Space*. Drenched in sumptuous reds, 70s design elements and tactility begging for some crushed velvet.

BIG SPECIAL GOD SAVE THE PONY

World Premiere
 CLUMP Collective | UK
 2025 | 4 mins | English

Clump Collective expertly bring BIG SPECIAL's song to life in this dark and humorous video for *GOD SAVE THE PONY*, with the appropriate amount of absurdity, politically poetic commentary and a couple of cheeky looks from the lads.

Pit Pony At Dawn

Europe Premiere
 Roberto Colapietro | UK
 2025 | 5 mins | English

A tale of troubled love told through analogue memories, greyscale fragments, the crackle of a lighter and sand in your shoe from last summer. The expired film and experimental filmmaking bring a level of texture perfectly matched to Pit Pony's fuzz-rock.

Nick Leng Ruth

International Premiere
 Drey Jordan Singer | USA
 2025 | 3 mins | English

Shot entirely on a 27mm Panavision Primo lens (with a mysterious backstory), *Ruth* is a labour of love which shines through the gorgeous colours in every shot. A simple and affecting journey you'll be charmed to be along for.

Panic Shack Girl Band Starter Pack

Ren Faulkner | UK | 2025
 3 mins | English

Shack Shack! *Girl Band Starter Pack* brings together the chaotic, raucous fun of Panic Shack and a rowdy gals night out on the Cardiff high street, with some glorious alter egos, and a smashing Mean Girls nod. Get hyped!

Alabaster DePlume Invincibility

International Premiere
 Niall Trask | UK | 2025
 3 mins | English

In this bittersweet story of a mother and daughter taking their injured dog to the vet, our shared grief is cut with the delightfully weird experience of Alabaster De Plume inhabiting the canine loved one singing *Invincibility*.

GANS IT'S JUST LIFE

Euan Woodman, Benji Charles
 UK | 2025 | 3 mins | English

Evoking some delicious early MTV editing, high colour saturation, pigs and a little Dylan reference, this belter of a video is the perfect accompaniment for the energetic music of two-piece GANS.

Lambrini Girls Company Culture

UK Premiere | Al Brown
 UK | 2024 | 3 mins | English

If you've ever thought about smashing up your office, maybe just get the Lambrini Girls in to do it for you. *Company Culture* brings all the punk energy and catharsis you've ever wanted to a bad day at work. Directed by last year's special mention, Al Brown.

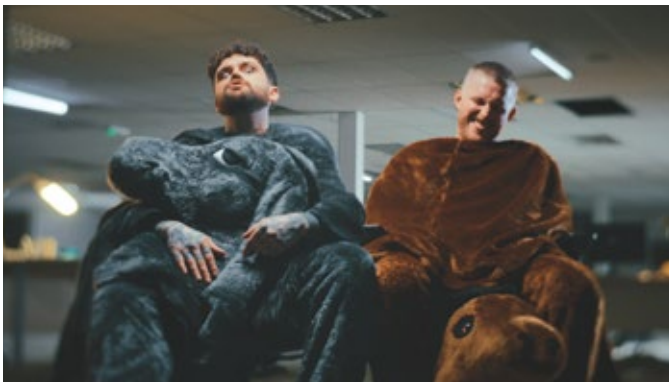
Self Esteem The Deep Blue Okay

Piers Dennis | UK | 2025
 6 mins | English

In equal parts vulnerable and confrontational, Piers Dennis' *The Deep Blue Okay* video is everything Self Esteem brings to her music, uncomfortably intimate, overwhelmingly powerful and undeniably awesome.



GIRL BAND STARTER PACK



GOD SAVE THE PONY



COMPANY CULTURE



LOST IN SPACE



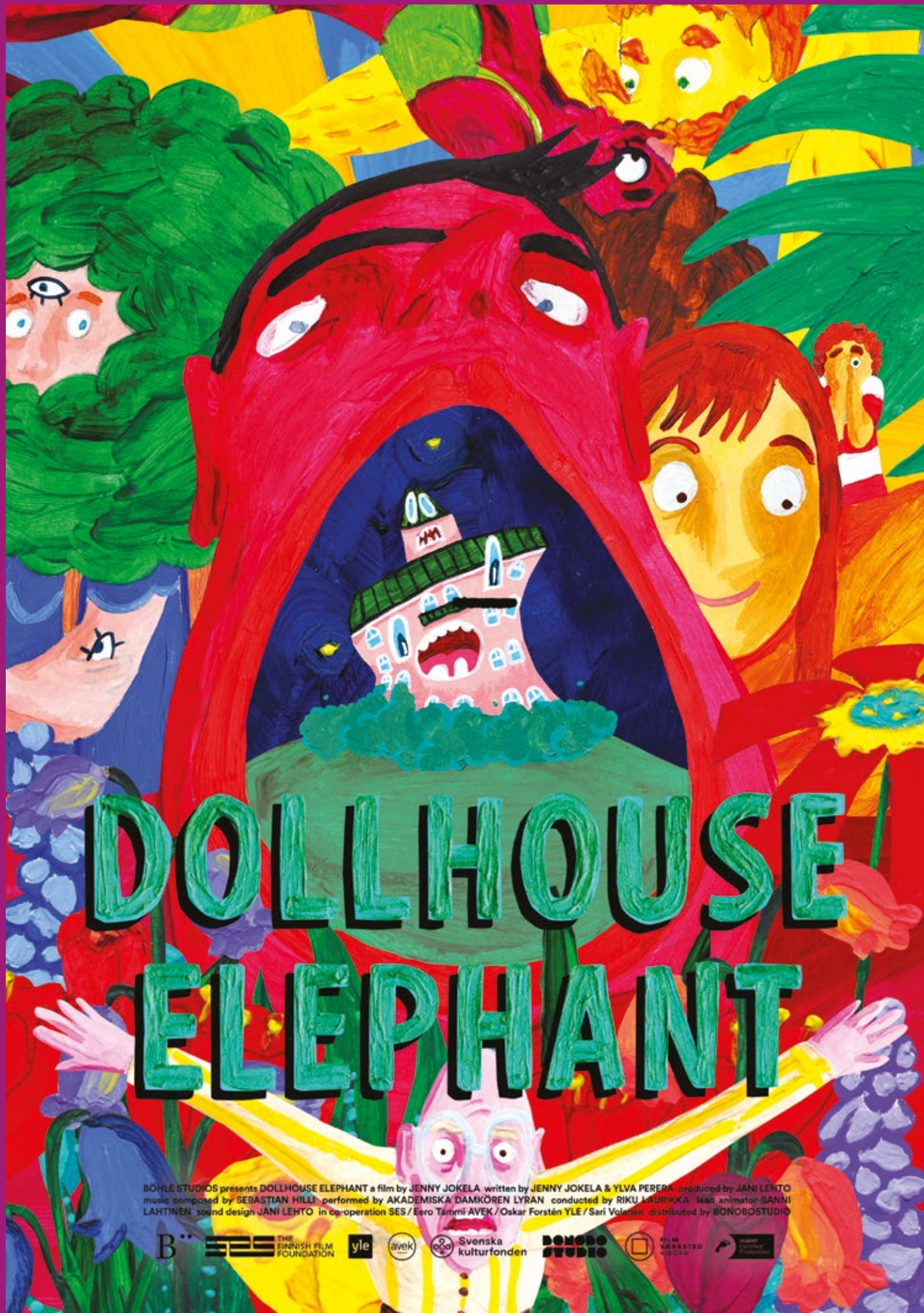
LA PIENA



THERE IS A WOLF



BUDDHA WAS A RICH BOY



LIFF Social

We've teamed up with venues across Leeds to highlight fun, social activities during LIFF.

From board games and life drawing to jazz nights, film quizzes, and open decks, these events are a chance to meet fellow festival goers, discover new venues and keep the conversation going off-screen.



THE ATTIC



THE DOMINO

Sketches – Life Drawing & Live Jazz

The Attic

3 Sheaf Street, Leeds, LS10 1HD

Sunday 2 November

7pm – 9pm

Doors Open: 6:30pm

Pay As You Feel

Free entry life drawing, accompanied by live jazz music, with a film soundtrack twist! Life drawing guided by our resident artist, Jem Spence. Pencils + paper provided, but feel free to bring your own materials also. No previous experience needed, everyone is welcome.

The Music of James Bond

The Domino Club

7 Grand Arcade, LS1 6PG

Tuesday 4 November

8pm – 11pm

Doors Open: 7pm

£18 Seated - £11 Standing

Step into The Domino for an evening of Bond reimagined in jazz. From timeless themes to vodka martinis, just don't ask us to shake them.

The Big Movie Quiz

Sela Bar

20 New Briggate, LS1 6NU

Wednesday 12 November

7:30pm – 10pm

£2 Entry

Grab your fellow film lovers and test your knowledge at our fun movie quiz. All proceeds go to PAFRAS, a local charity helping refugees and asylum seekers in Leeds.

Open Decks at the Movies

Vinyl Whistle

12 Otley Rd Headingley, Leeds LS6 2AD

Friday 14 November

6pm – 10pm

Free Entry

A movie themed Open Decks night. Book a 30 minute slot and play your favorite tracks from the movies you love. Reduced drinks prices and prizes to be won.

Heart On Board – Film Edition

HEART

Bennett Road, LS6 3HN

Saturday 15 November

6pm – 10pm

Free Entry

Soundtracked by HEART's resident DJ, Heart On Board is a monthly casual games night in their cosy café environment, this month with a fun film twist!



THE VINYL WHISTLE



SELA BAR



HEART

Thursday 30 October

	10:00	11:00	12:00	13:00	14:00	15:00	16:00	17:00	18:00	19:00	20:00	21:00	22:00
VUE Screen 12									18:00 Sirāt		20:30 Bugonia		
VUE Screen 7								17:45 A Private Life			20:15 La Grazia		
Hyde Park Screen 1								18:00 Blue Moon					

Friday 31 October

	10:00	11:00	12:00	13:00	14:00	15:00	16:00	17:00	18:00	19:00	20:00	21:00	22:00
VUE Screen 12				13:30 Dreams		15:30 Sirāt			18:00 Bugonia		20:30 Die, My Love		
VUE Screen 7			13:15 Little Amélie			15:00 Resurrection			18:15 Honey Bunch		20:45 Dead Lover		
Everyman Screen 4								18:15 Macunaima			20:30 Iracema		
Hyde Park Screen 1								18:00 The Choral					

Saturday 1 November

	10:00	11:00	12:00	13:00	14:00	15:00	16:00	17:00	18:00	19:00	20:00	21:00	22:00
VUE Screen 12		11:00 Space Cadet		13:15 Redux Redux		15:30 Book of Sijjin and Illiyyin		18:15 Hellcat		20:15 We Bury the Dead			
VUE Screen 7		11:15 The Girl Who Stole Time		13:30 The Shepherd and the Bear		16:00 Dragonfly		18:30 Dreams		20:30 Rental Family			
Everyman Screen 4		11:00 Macunaima		13:15 The Blue Trail		15:15 In Symbiosis		17:45 Pixote		20:30 Bye Bye Brazil			
HP1	9:00 Holiday			13:30 L'Atalante		15:30 Summer with Monika							
Keighley Picturehouse				13:00 Roman Holiday									

Sunday 2 November

	10:00	11:00	12:00	13:00	14:00	15:00	16:00	17:00	18:00	19:00	20:00	21:00	22:00
VUE Screen 12		11:45 Love Letters		14:00 Resurrection		17:15 Rosemead		19:30 Silent Friend					
VUE Screen 7		11:30 Our Land		13:30 Dragonfly		15:45 The Thing with Feathers		18:00 Honey Bunch		20:30 Dead Lover			
Everyman Screen 4		11:00 Iracema		13:00 Pixote		15:45 Middle-town		17:45 One of Us		20:00 Hills of Disorder			
Hyde Park Screen 1				13:30 Cinema, Aspirins & Vultures		15:45 It Was Just an Accident							
The Old Fire Station			13:00 Mary Anning		15:00 Yorkshire Short Film Comp		17:00 Holiday						
Blackburn Hall				14:00 Roman Holiday									

Monday 3 November

	10:00	11:00	12:00	13:00	14:00	15:00	16:00	17:00	18:00	19:00	20:00	21:00	22:00
VUE Screen 12				13:00 A Private Life		15:15 Alpha			18:15 It Was Just an Accident		20:45 The Voice of Hind Rajab		
VUE Screen 7				13:15 Hills of Disorder		15:45 Dragonfly			18:00 Bugonia		20:30 The Thing with Feathers		
Everyman Screen 4				13:45 In Symbiosis		16:15 Bye Bye Brazil			18:30 The Blue Trail		20:30 Nemurubaka: Hypnic Jerks		
Hyde Park Screen 1											20:30 Die, My Love		

Tuesday 4 November

	10:00	11:00	12:00	13:00	14:00	15:00	16:00	17:00	18:00	19:00	20:00	21:00	22:00
VUE Screen 12					14:00 Happy Birthday		16:15 Omaha		18:15 The Voice of Hind Rajab		20:15 Mysterious Gaze of the Flamingo		
VUE Screen 7				13:45 The Shepherd and the Bear			16:00 Bugonia		18:30 Fanomenon Short Film Comp 1		20:30 Our Land		
Everyman Screen 4											20:30 The Blue Trail		
Hyde Park Screen 1											20:15 Pillion		
Keighley Creative									18:30 Yorkshire Short Film Comp				

Wednesday 5 November

	10:00	11:00	12:00	13:00	14:00	15:00	16:00	17:00	18:00	19:00	20:00	21:00	22:00
VUE Screen 12					14:15 Cotton Queen		16:15 Perla		18:30 The Currents		20:45 We Believe You		
VUE Screen 7				13:15 The Black Hole			15:45 Tinsman Road		18:15 Fanomenon Short Film Comp 2		20:30 Roqia		
Everyman Screen 4									18:30 LIFFSHORTS Opening Selection		20:30 Louis le Prince Comp 1		
Hyde Park Screen 1									18:15 The Thing with Feathers				

Thursday 6 November

	10:00	11:00	12:00	13:00	14:00	15:00	16:00	17:00	18:00	19:00	20:00	21:00	22:00
VUE Screen 12		10:45 Follies		13:30 Fantasy		15:45 Pinch		18:00 Sentimental Value		20:45 That Summer in Paris			
VUE Screen 7		11:00 Dandelion's Odyssey		13:00 Rains Over Babel		15:30 Virgin of the Quarry Lake		17:30 Fanomenon Short Film Comp 3		19:45 Sirens Call			
Everyman Screen 4		10:30 Louis le Prince Comp 2		13:00 Louis le Prince Comp 3		15:00 Louis le Prince Comp 4		17:00 Drunken Noodles		19:00 Music Video Comp		20:45 Peter Hugar's Day	
Hyde Park Screen 1								17:45 La Grazia					
Cottage Road Cinema											20:00 Die, My Love		

Friday 7 November

	10:00	11:00	12:00	13:00	14:00	15:00	16:00	17:00	18:00	19:00	20:00	21:00	22:00
VUE Screen 12	10:30 Omaha		12:30 Silent Friend			15:30 Night Stage			18:00 A Private Life		20:15 Sirāt		
VUE Screen 7	10:15 Fanomenon Short Film Comp 1		12:45 Fanomenon Short Film Comp 2		14:45 Fanomenon Short Film Comp 3		16:45 True Beauty of Being Bitten...		18:45 Pinch		20:45 Nouvelle Vague		
Everyman Screen 4	10:30 Louis le Prince Comp 5		12:30 Doc Short Film Comp 1		14:30 Doc Short Film Comp 2		16:45 Peter Hujar's Day		18:30 Ish		20:45 Screen Dance Comp		
Hyde Park Screen 1			13:30 World Animation Comp 1		15:30 World Animation Comp 2						20:30 F*cktoys		
Howard Assembly Room					15:45 Move Ya Body: Birth of House			18:00 Our Heavenly Bodies			20:00 Yorkshire Short Film Comp		
Pictureville Cinema								18:30 Pillion					

Saturday 8 November

	10:00	11:00	12:00	13:00	14:00	15:00	16:00	17:00	18:00	19:00	20:00	21:00	22:00
VUE Screen 12	10:45 Cotton Queen		12:45 Happy Birthday		14:45 Blue Heron		16:45 Dreams		18:45 We Believe You		20:30 A Poet		
VUE Screen 7	10:30 ChaO		12:30 Dog of God		14:45 The Holy Boy		17:30 Alpha				20:15 A Useful Ghost		
Everyman Screen 4			11:45 Ish		13:45 British Short Film Comp 1		15:45 British Short Film Comp 2		18:15 Follies		20:30 Fwends		
Hyde Park Screen 1	9:00 Roman Holiday			13:30 Queer Short Film Comp 1		15:45 Queer Short Film Comp 2		18:30 Anything That Moves					
Cottage Road Cinema			12:00 It Was Just an Accident		14:30 Sentimental Value								
Howard Assembly Room				14:00 Lowland Kids		16:30 Dreamers			19:00 LIFF SHORTS The Award Winners				

Sunday 9 November

	10:00	11:00	12:00	13:00	14:00	15:00	16:00	17:00	18:00	19:00	20:00	21:00	22:00
VUE Screen 12		11:00 The Girl Who Stole Time		13:15 Sholay				17:00 Calle Málaga		19:30 The Secret Agent			
VUE Screen 7		11:30 Omaha		13:30 Pillion		15:45 True Beauty of Being Bitten...		17:45 Tinsman Road		20:15 Rains Over Babel			
Everyman Screen 4		11:30 World Animation Comp 1		13:45 World Animation Comp 2		16:00 Fantasy		18:15 Wanda		20:30 Nemurubaka: Hypnic Jerks			
Hyde Park Screen 1		11:30 Space Cadet		13:30 The Voice of Hind Rajab		15:45 Rental Family		18:00 If I Had Legs I'd Kick You					
Hyde Park Screen 2	11:00 Space Cadet		Autism Friendly screening										
Howard Assembly Room				12:45 That Summer in Paris		14:45 Trains		16:45 Move Ya Body: Birth of House		19:00 Celtic Utopia			

Monday 10 November

	10:00	11:00	12:00	13:00	14:00	15:00	16:00	17:00	18:00	19:00	20:00	21:00	22:00
VUE Screen 12				13:45 Dog of God		15:45 Out of Love		18:15 Rosemead		20:30 The Currents			
VUE Screen 7				14:30 The Holy Boy		17:00 ChaO		19:00 Dandelion's Odyssey		20:45 All You Need is Kill			
Everyman Screen 4			14:15 Drunken Noodles		16:15 Wanda		18:30 Touki Bouki		20:30 Fwends				
Hyde Park Screen 1										20:15 Sentimental Value			
The Leeds Library								18:00 Trains		20:00 Celtic Utopia			

Tuesday 11 November

	10:00	11:00	12:00	13:00	14:00	15:00	16:00	17:00	18:00	19:00	20:00	21:00	22:00
VUE Screen 12					13:45 Redux Redux		16:00 Hellcat		18:00 If I Had Legs I'd Kick You		20:30 Is This Thing On?		
VUE Screen 7				13:30 Cotton Queen		15:45 A Useful Ghost		18:30 The Black Hole		21:00 Virgin of the Quarry Lake			
Everyman Screen 4				13:45 Fantasy		16:00 Drunken Noodles		18:00 Vagabond		20:15 Follies			
Hyde Park Screen 1											20:00 The Secret Agent		
Chapel FM										19:30 Move Ya Body: Birth of House			

Wednesday 12 November

	10:00	11:00	12:00	13:00	14:00	15:00	16:00	17:00	18:00	19:00	20:00	21:00	22:00
VUE Screen 12					14:15 Happy Birthday		16:15 That Summer in Paris		18:00 Calle Málaga		20:30 Night Stage		
VUE Screen 7					14:00 ChaO		16:00 Sirens Call		18:30 Perla		20:45 Blue Heron		
Everyman Screen 4					14:30 Screen Dance Comp		16:15 Vagabond		18:30 The Green Ray		20:45 Peter Hujar's Day		
Hyde Park Screen 1								18:00 Yalla Parkour					

Thursday 13 November

	10:00	11:00	12:00	13:00	14:00	15:00	16:00	17:00	18:00	19:00	20:00	21:00	22:00
VUE Screen 12					14:00 Pinch		16:00 Mirrors N° 3		18:00 The Currents		20:15 Out of Love		
VUE Screen 7					13:45 Virgin of Quarry Lake		15:45 All You Need is Kill		17:45 Is This Thing On?		20:30 Pillion		
Everyman Screen 4				13:00 LIFF SHORTS The Award Winners		15:45 The Green Ray		18:00 The Laughable		19:30 LIFF SHORTS The Award Winners			
Hyde Park Screen 1								18:00 Game					
Cottage Road Cinema										19:30 The Secret Agent			
Mill Hill Chapel								18:00 Yorkshire Short Film Comp		20:00 Yalla Parkour			

Friday 14 November

	10:00	11:00	12:00	13:00	14:00	15:00	16:00	17:00	18:00	19:00	20:00	21:00	22:00
VUE Screen 12				13:15 Perla		15:30 A Poet		18:00 Mirrors N° 3		20:00 Silent Friend			
VUE Screen 7				13:45 Ghost Elephants		16:00 Love Letters		18:15 Little Forest		20:30 Ghost Elephants			
Hyde Park Screen 1												Night of the Dead 23:00 – 8:00am	23:00
Chapel FM										19:30 Music Video Comp			
Mill Hill Chapel								18:00 One of Us		20:00 Lowland Kids			
St Luke's Cares						16:00 Mary Anning		18:30 Middle-town					

Saturday 15 November

	10:00	11:00	12:00	13:00	14:00	15:00	16:00	17:00	18:00	19:00	20:00	21:00	22:00
VUE Screen 12					13:45 Blue Heron		15:45 Mysterious Gaze of the Flamingo		18:00 A Poet		20:30 If I Had Legs I'd Kick You		
VUE Screen 7		11:15 The Arch		13:15 Little Amélie		15:15 Calle Málaga		17:45 Ghost Elephants			20:15 A Useful Ghost		
Hyde Park Screen 1							16:00 Queens of the Dead		18:15 F*cktoys				
Hyde Park Screen 2				13:00 Chronicle of the Years of Fire									
Cottage Road Cinema			12:00 100 Nights of Hero		14:15 La Grazia								

Sunday 16 November

	10:00	11:00	12:00	13:00	14:00	15:00	16:00	17:00	18:00	19:00	20:00	21:00	22:00
VUE Screen 12		11:00 100 Nights of Hero		13:00 We Believe You		14:45 Love Letters		17:00 The Blue Trail		19:00 The Love That Remains			
VUE Screen 7			12:15 Little Forest		14:30 Compensation		16:30 The Testament of Ann Lee		19:15 The Love That Remains				
Hyde Park Screen 1		11:30 Mary Anning					15:30 Nouvelle Vague		18:00 The Love That Remains				
Hyde Park Screen 2		11:00 Mary Anning	Autism Friendly screening										
Cottage Road Cinema				13:00 The Voice of Hind Rajab		15:15 Pillion							

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emma stone jesse plemons
a film by yorgos lanthimos

BUGONIA

directed by yorgos lanthimos screenplay by will tracy

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