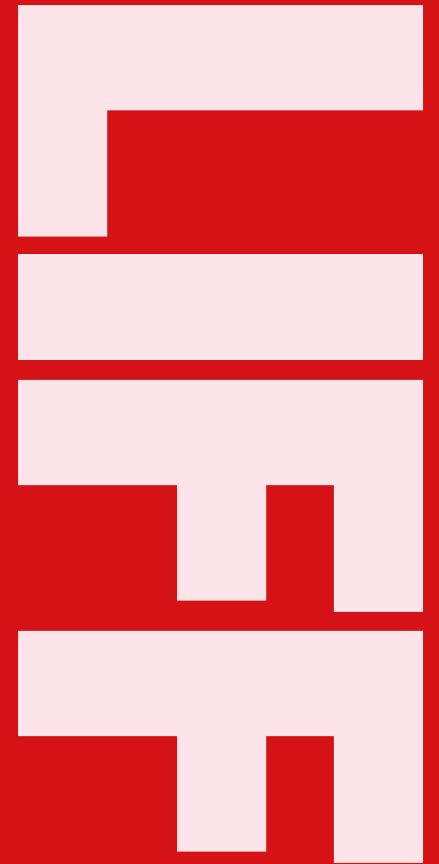




LEEDS INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL

29 October —
15 November



2026

40th Anniversary
Edition

Free Guide

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FILM4 AT LEEDS INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL

CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL OUR FILMMAKERS AND PARTNERS



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Martin McDonagh



A LONG WINTER

Andrew Haigh



TENDER LOVING CARE

Mike Leigh



FILIPINIANA

Rafael Manuel



LADY

Olive Nwosu



OUR SHARE OF SAND

Shalini Adnani

40th Leeds International Film Festival, 29 October — 15 November 2026

This year we're celebrating the 40th anniversary edition of LIFF and the milestone of 400 years since Leeds received its first Royal Charter in 1626, the start of its journey to becoming a city. From our specially commissioned, audience inspired cover artwork by local artist Laura Jayne Hodkin to our largest ever international programme, including anniversary retrospective *The City Plays Itself*, LIFF 2026 is an epic celebration of films, filmmakers, filmgoers, cinemas and Leeds. Whether you're new to film festivals or a dedicated regular, ready to be immersed in film for 18 days, LIFF is for everyone and we can't wait to welcome you for this extra special edition.

Programme Sections

▼ 20 Constellation

In LIFF's largest programme section Constellation, you can be among the first in the UK to see many of the most anticipated and significant new fiction features of the year and discover exciting new filmmakers in our 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 subjects, from a Leeds punk band and the Bradford 12 to young defectors from North Korea and fungi in Mexico's forests.

▼ 36 Fanomenon

If you're a genre film fan or you want to explore the fantastic side of cinema more, Fanomenon is the home at LIFF for big screen fantasy, sci-fi, horror, cult animation, dark comedies, gripping thrillers, and much more.

▼ 48 The City Plays Itself

In this special retrospective for the 40th edition of LIFF and the Leeds 400-year milestone, you can see 18 films about cities and urban life, made between 1947 and 2003, and including many rarely screened gems.

▼ 52 LIFF SHORTS

The world's first (very short) film was made in Leeds in 1888 by Louis le Prince, and in this extensive section you can see the latest shorts from new filmmaking talent from Yorkshire, around the UK, and across the world.

Information

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Visit leedsfilm.com

Full LIFF programme online
Sign up for LIFF newsletter
See the latest updates
@leedsfilmfest
#LIFF2026



How to LIFF



The LIFF programme

At LIFF every year we present an epic and unique selection of new feature films, which represent a much wider world of great filmmaking than you can normally experience in cinemas. Some are previews of films that will be released in cinemas later and you can be among the first in the UK to see them, while many will not be released at all and LIFF may be your only chance to see them.

We also present an extensive selection of new short films from Yorkshire, across the UK, and around the world, most of which you can only see on the big screen during LIFF, and special retrospectives with older features including many rarely-screened classics and discoveries from film archives. LIFF also includes Q&As, panels, social activities, and industry events – more details are on leedsfilm.com.

Schedule, audience awards, extra screenings

LIFF is 18 days long and includes three full weekends to help everyone see all the films they want to as many people have limited weekday availability. We aim to spread out screenings for a film across the 18 days to help everyone avoid missing films, and, where possible, we try to schedule films in the same section, or which have other strong connections, on the same day and in the same venue.

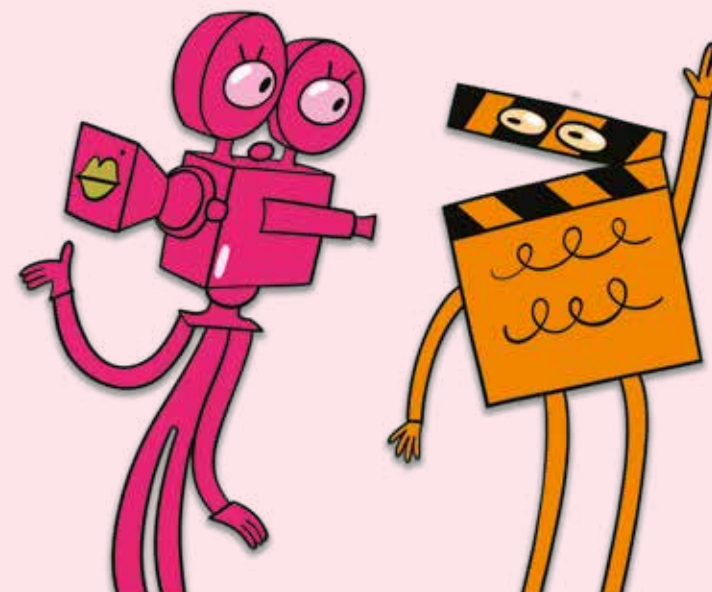
As you enter a screening, LIFF volunteers will give you a voting card for our audience awards for feature films and we regularly post about the latest top 10 audience favourites. If certain films become more popular during LIFF (often ones doing well in the audience award), we may arrange extra screenings for those on our last weekend and also for the winning features in our competitions.



Navigating the programme: stats, sections, film info

There are 294 films in the LIFF 2026 programme, all hand-picked by our team of 24 programmers from over 6000 submissions from 122 countries. The films are scheduled across 310 screenings over 18 days in 9 screens at 6 venues: there are 126 features, most of which have 2 or 3 screenings, and 168 shorts which are presented in 24 competition and panorama programmes. 121 films are directed by women and non-binary filmmakers.

That's a lot of films and we have several ways to help you decide what to see at LIFF. We programme all the films into 5 distinct sections, which can be helpful as an initial guide. Then there is the extra information with each film, especially the summary with details from our programmers about its significance and story, and also the director, country of origin, language and images.



Screening start times, booking seats, age ratings, content guidance

The most important thing to know about LIFF screenings is that there are no long series of adverts or trailers and films usually start at or very soon after the advertised time and often after a short introduction from a programmer. Please aim to arrive at least a few minutes before the start time. You can book a particular seat for almost all screenings, which saves time when you arrive.

Most films at LIFF are for ages 18+ due to local licensing requirements, except where a film has a BBFC age rating or where we have arranged a lower local 'LIFF age rating' for certain films like those for families. On our website you can find a content guidance button with some films. If you click on this, you will find information about scenes with content that may affect some people.

Navigating the programme: website, filters, recommendations

We have more information to help navigate the programme on our website including trailers, quotes, related films, and Letterboxd links, and you can see if a film has a UK distributor and will be released later in cinemas or not. We also have filters on our website to help find films with certain genres or themes, or other connections, such as comedy, human rights, queer films, and films by women.

We will also have lists of recommendations from our programmers on our website and social media, and we are very happy to help with recommendations in person during LIFF. Word of mouth is a strong influence on audience choice during LIFF too, and this can come from people you meet for the first time in screenings as well as people you know, and is often reflected in our audience awards.

Venues, access, tickets, passes, LIFF desks and updates

Please see separate pages in this guide for venues, access, and tickets and passes, and there are more details on our website including about venue accessibility, travel and hotels. In our venues, please show consideration to our team who aim to deliver the best possible experience for you, and to other people in screenings by avoiding any disruption including by not using your mobile phone.

If you have any questions, comments or issues during LIFF 2026, please visit our teams at LIFF desks in venues or use the contact information on the tickets and passes page in this guide. To make sure you find out about any LIFF 2026 updates – like guest news, the latest top 10 in the audience award, or extra screenings – sign up to our newsletter on leedsfilm.com and follow us @leedsfilmfest.





Vue Leeds The Light Lux Cinema

The main venue for LIFF 2026, with over 180 screenings across 18 days, Vue at The Light in Leeds city centre has deluxe seating with giant screens and new BARCO laser projection. This year we have a third screen from Fridays to Sundays alongside our two regular screens.



Cottage Road Cinema

The historic Cottage Road Cinema in Headingley first opened its doors on 29 July 1912 and it's the largest cinema in Leeds – and one of the largest in the North – with 415 seats, but you wouldn't realise it from outside and that's always a special surprise for LIFF first-time visitors.



Everyman Cinema Leeds

The first of the luxury boutique Everyman cinemas to have opened outside of London, in 2013 when LIFF opened there with Gravity in 3D, the Leeds cinema at Trinity hosts a wide range of LIFF programming including many guest screenings and most of our LIFF SHORTS competitions.



Leeds City Library

We're delighted this year to present some of our programme in the wonderful setting of Leeds City Library on The Headrow, adding another great venue you can discover through LIFF if you haven't visited before. Screenings at the venue will be pay-what-you-can.



Hyde Park Picture House

One of the most loved independent cinemas in the UK, Hyde Park Picture House first opened its doors on 2 November 1914, it was where LIFF began in 1987, and it hosts many of the most popular previews at LIFF in its beautifully restored landmark building.



Mill Hill Chapel

We return to the special setting of Mill Hill Chapel for LIFF 2026 and it's a venue you may have walked past many times, located by City Square just outside Leeds Station. We're increasing the number of screenings at the venue this year and they will be pay-what-you-can.



We want everyone to be able to access and enjoy our venues and screenings at LIFF. For LIFF 2026, we're offering more screenings with descriptive subtitles, audio description and BSL, alongside a simpler process for booking access and companion tickets and clearer information about how to contact us for assistance. Access information for individual screenings is listed on leedsfilm.com and will also be shown when you book tickets.

How to contact us for any assistance

If you have any specific access requirements or would like to discuss how we can support your visit, please email The LIFF Team at leeds.film@leeds.gov.uk and use Access in the subject line. You can also contact Leeds Ticket Hub by phone on 0113 376 0318 – lines are open Monday to Saturday, 10am to 4pm.

Booking access and companions tickets

We offer free entry for essential companions accompanying a customer who requires support to attend. Customers will need to register with the Leeds Ticket Hub Access Scheme to confirm eligibility, for example with a CEA Card, Access Card, PIP or DLA. Once registration has been confirmed by the Leeds Ticket Hub team, companion tickets can be booked online, over the phone or in person at LIFF venues or Leeds Ticket Hub.

Wheelchair spaces are available to book at all our venues except Cottage Road Cinema. These are indicated by the wheelchair symbol on the seat map when booking.

Induction hearing loop systems are available at Leeds Ticket Hub and at our ticket desks at Vue, Everyman and Hyde Park Picture House.

Wheelchair and step-free access

For detailed accessibility information, including wheelchair and step-free access, accessible toilets, hearing loops and assistance dogs, please see the individual venue pages on leedsfilm.com.

Blue Badge Parking

An interactive map is available on the venue pages at leedsfilm.com, showing accessible and Blue Badge parking near our city centre venues.

Descriptive subtitles (DS)

Screenings marked DS in this guide feature on-screen subtitles that include dialogue as well as important audio information such as sound effects, music cues and speaker identification. This supports Deaf and hard of hearing audiences by providing key audio information visually.

A full list of screenings with DS will be available on leedsfilm.com, and DS will also be indicated when you book tickets.

British Sign Language

For some Descriptive Subtitles (DS) screenings, a BSL interpreter will live-translate introductions and Q&As into British Sign Language.

For screenings with an introduction or Q&A, the interpreter may also be available at the ticket desk before the screening to assist customers.

Screenings and events with BSL will be listed on leedsfilm.com, and BSL will also be indicated when you book tickets.

Audio description (AD)

Screenings marked AD include an additional soundtrack describing important visual information such as body language, facial expressions, movement, scenery and action. Audio description supports blind and partially sighted audiences to follow visual elements that are important to a film's story.

AD is listened to through a dedicated headset rather than through the cinema's main speakers. You can book an AD headset as part of the ticket booking process and collect it at the venue.

Autism-Friendly screenings (AF)

Autism-Friendly screenings (AF) are adapted to create a more welcoming and accessible cinema environment for autistic and neurodivergent audiences of all ages. They are open to adults, children and families, and may also benefit anyone who finds a traditional cinema environment overwhelming or stressful. A full list of AF screenings will be available on leedsfilm.com, and AF will also be indicated when you book tickets.

Subtitled screenings

Films in languages other than English will have English subtitles for dialogue throughout, unless otherwise stated.

Pay-what-you-can and free screenings

We have a series of screenings at our partner community venues, Leeds Central Library and Mill Hill Chapel. Tickets at these venues are £0, £3 or £5, allowing you to choose the amount you can afford.

No evidence or proof is required to choose a free ticket.

Free screenings are indicated alongside screening information.

Community and other group bookings

We welcome community groups and charities and can offer support with free or discounted tickets to LIFF screenings for groups who may otherwise face barriers to attending. This can include support with travel.

To find out more, please contact The LIFF Team at leeds.film@leeds.gov.uk.

Food & Drink Pass Discounts

Use your LIFF 2026 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.

Assembly Bar and Kitchen

Cafe/Bar & Community Enterprise.

15% off food and drink
HEART, Bennett Road, LS6 3HN
heartcentre.org.uk
[@hearthedingley](https://twitter.com/hearthedingley)

Belgrave Music Hall
Pizza and burgers, rooftop bar, DJs.
15% off food and drink
1a Cross Belgrave Street, LS2 8JP
belgravemusichall.com
[@belgravemusichall](https://twitter.com/belgravemusichall)

Bundobust
Indian Street food & Craft Beer.
20% off food & drink
6 Mill Hill, Leeds LS1 5DQ
bundobust.com
[@bundobust](https://twitter.com/bundobust)

Eat Your Greens
Restaurant, bar & shop.
10% off food bill and a £5 glass of house wine
42 New York St, Leeds LS2 7DY
eatyourgreensleeds.co.uk [@eatyourgreensleeds](https://twitter.com/eatyourgreensleeds)

Friends of Ham
Craft beer, wine, charcuterie & cheese
10% off order
4-8 New Station Street, Leeds, LS1 5DL
friendsofham.com
[@friendsofham](https://twitter.com/friendsofham)

Galleria
Wood-fired kitchen & bar.
15% off all food and drink
Project House, Armley Road, Leeds LS12 2DR
galleria-lds.com
[@galleria_lds](https://twitter.com/galleria_lds)

Grindhouse
Plenty of drinks and movie food!
20% off order
22 New Briggate LS1 6NU
grindhouseleeds.com

Headrow House
Beer hall, restaurant & roof terrace.
15% off food and drink
19a The Headrow, Leeds LS1 6PU
headrowhouse.com
[@headrowhouse](https://twitter.com/headrowhouse)

Hyde Leeds
Coffee, brunch, drinks, co-working.
10% off all drinks
6 Headingley Lane LS6 2AS
hydeleeds.co.uk
[@hydeleeds](https://twitter.com/hydeleeds)

Hyde Park Book Club
Community music venue, cafe/bar.
10% off order
27-29 Headingley Lane, Leeds, LS6 1BL
hydeparkbookclub.co.uk [@hydeparkbookclub](https://twitter.com/hydeparkbookclub)

How to use
The discounts will be available for the duration of the festival, 29 October – 15 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

Laynes
Coffee, Breakfast & Brunch.
10% off order
12-16 New Station Street
laynescafe.co.uk
[@laynescafe](https://twitter.com/laynescafe)

Sela Bar
Late night bar & pizzeria.
House drink & pizza for £12.80
20 New Briggate, Leeds. LS1 6NU
selabar.com
[@selabarleeds](https://twitter.com/selabarleeds)

Social
Craft, cask & cocktails.
10% off order
21 Merrion Street, LS2 8JE
thesocialleeds.com

Stage Espresso & Brewbar
Speciality coffee, breakfast & brunch, hot & cold drinks.
10% discount on all food and drink.
41 Great George Street, LS1 3BB
stagecoffee.com
[@stagecoffeeleeds](https://twitter.com/stagecoffeeleeds)

Wax
Late night bar, beers, cocktails, DJs.
20% discount on all drinks
20 New Briggate, LS1 6NU
[@wax_bar_leeds](https://twitter.com/wax_bar_leeds)

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.

Vue Ultra Lux seat pricing at LIFF 2026
Vue now has premium Ultra Lux Seating on the back rows. For these seats an additional £3 will be added on to your total. For LIFF Buzz and LIFF Lite passholders it will be £2, and for Explorer 10/20/30/40 passholders it will be £1. For Gold passholders this seating is included for free.

Special Louis le Prince competition tickets
The 6 programmes in the Louis le Prince International Short Film Competition are presented in the daytime on 5 and 6 November at Everyman Cinema, and you can see 3 programmes on each day for just one price of £9.50/£7.50.

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

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 27 October, 1pm to 6pm, and then daily from 28 October to 15 November, 1pm to 6pm. We also sell on-the-door tickets at our venues during LIFF, but advanced booking is recommended.



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)

Passes
We offer a wide range of passes for seeing multiple films at LIFF 2026. 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 How to book with Leeds Ticket Hub section).

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 screenings and Fanomenon marathons. LIFF EXPLORER GOLD is for individual use only.

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



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thechristmasexperience.co.uk

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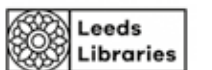


Leading Partners



Leading Supporting Partners

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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



Marie-Ange Zié
Marie-Ange Zié is a film programmer and Artistic Director of Films Femmes Afrique in Dakar. Her work focuses on African cinema, emerging voices and women's representation.



Rachel Pronger
Rachel Pronger is a writer, curator and editorial consultant. She is also co-founder of the archive activist feminist film collective Invisible Women.



Kevin Chan
Kevin Chan leads film strategy and acquisitions at indie media outfit Alexander. Formerly Global Co-Head of Acquisitions at MUBI, he has over a decade of experience driving content slates for top global distributors.

Fanomenon Feature and Short Film Competitions



Evangeline Spachis
Evangeline Spachis is a freelance film programmer and regular contributor to LIFF, including as a co-host of Night of the Dead.



Lee Hardcastle
Independent stop motion animator from Leeds.



Varun Raman
Varun Raman is a Manchester-based filmmaker and programmer at Fantastic Fest and SXSW. His latest short, *Into The Betaverse*, premiered at TIFF in 2026.

Louis le Prince International Short Film Competition



Grace Barber-Plentie
Grace Barber-Plentie is a film programmer for BFI London Film Festival and BFI Flare LGBTQIA+ Film Festival.



Franz Böhm
Franz Böhm is a BAFTA-winning film director. His documentary *Dear Future Children* won the German Documentary Film Award; his short *Rock, Paper, Scissors* won a BAFTA and was Oscar-shortlisted.



Malinda Kaur
Bradford filmmaker Malinda Kaur has made many BAFTA-accredited shorts include *AMISHI*, *BLIND* and award-winning *F.O.G.* She is also a respected First Assistant Director having worked her way up from a Runner. Her passion for telling the truth is what motivates her.

World Animation Competition



Evie Brudenall
Evie acquires content across ITV's portfolio of channels with a particular focus on children's and film. Her previous role was at the BAFTA-winning Magic Light Pictures, where she spent five years in distribution across theatrical, sales and awards.



Laura Jayne Hodkin
Laura Jayne is a Yorkshire based animator and filmmaker. A Royal College of Art graduate, her work blends humour and vulnerability, with films screened worldwide and collaborations with Adult Swim, Netflix & Apple.



Maybelle Peters
Maybelle is a London-based independent researcher working with personal and institutional archives to create film and installations. Her work draws on practice-based responses to absent and overlooked legacies of Britain's colonial past.

Cinema Versa Documentary Feature and LIFF SHORTS Documentary Short Film Competitions



Chloé Trayner
Chloé Trayner is a programmer, story consultant, co-producer and festival strategy advisor with a specialism in non-fiction cinema and talent development. She is based in London.



Theo Panagopoulos
Theo Panagopoulos is a Greek-Palestinian filmmaker, film programmer educator and PhD researcher based in Glasgow. His creative and academic work investigates collective memory, displacement and resistance often through anti-colonial, participatory, and archival methodologies.



Hannah Cesarani
Hannah Cesarani is the Acting Head of Sales at UK-based impact and sales agency, Together Films. She handles global sales for the Together's film slate, which spans documentary and scripted. She was previously Film Sales and Festivals Manager.

British and Yorkshire Short Film Competitions



Milly Garnier
Milly is a writer and award-winning director working across short film, commercial and HETV. Her recent work includes collaborations with Disney, The NFTS, the BBC/Neal Street Productions, and the British Museum.



Alfie Barker
Alfie Barker is a writer and director from Leeds. His work shines light on social stories and has premiered at TIFF, BFI LFF, winning Best Short Film Award at Leeds, Aesthetica and Encounters Film Festival.



Farah Dailami
Farah Dailami is a curator and writer based in Leeds, and is Assistant Curator at The Hepworth Wakefield.

Film Competition Juries

Leeds Queer Short Film Competition



Edie Barnabas
Edie Barnabas is a filmmaker and programmer from the North of England working across experimental cinema. She has programmed for Sheffield DocFest, Bolton International Film Festival and GoShort. As a filmmaker she has worked with ACE and NSMM.



Yi Wang
Yi Wang is the founder, director and programmer of Queer East, a festival that showcases LGBTQ+ cinema, arts and cultures from East and Southeast Asia and their diasporas. He is also a cultural and creative producer.



Sam Whitaker
Sam Whitaker is the founder and director of Out For Blood Queer Horror Film Festival. A passionate champion of queer cinema, Sam has programmed and judged hundreds of LGBTQ+ short films from filmmakers around the world.

Leeds Music Video Competition



Aimée Ferrier
Aimée Ferrier is a full-time journalist who has been working for Far Out Magazine since 2022. She specialises in both film and music, working across opinion pieces, interviews, and reviews.



Ben G Brown
An award-winning Director and Filmmaker based in Leeds. Specialising in documentaries, his work also spans across commercials, music videos and short films. His debut feature documentary, *Ultimate Thunder*, premiered at Sheffield DocFest in 2026, where it won the Audience Award.



Rosie Martin
Rosie Martin is a drummer who has been involved in punk and experimental music projects for 15 years. Her wider practice extends into making music videos, costume, zines, posters and flyers. She is interested in the ways music and visual creativity intersect within independent and DIY scenes.

LIFF 2026 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
 Social Media Assistant – Kai Brooks
 Access and Production Coordinator – Daniel Jones
 Production Assistant – Yamana Jaman-Browne
 Volunteers Coordinator – Matthew Chambers
 Guest Services Manager – Sofia Azevedo
 Events Manager – Angela Richards
 Prints Manager – Nick Randles
 Prints Coordinator – Fran Albrecht
 Digital Content Producer – Sally Molineaux
 Designer – Lee Goater
 LIFF 2026 Cover Artwork Design – Laura Jayne Hodkin
 Brand & Strategy Adviser – Nick Ramshaw
 Diversity & Inclusion Adviser – Steven Copsey
 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) Alice Miller, 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, Claudia Kappenberg.

International Short Film Consultant – Céline Roustan
 Night of the Dead Team – Lee Bentham, Matthew Chambers, Evangeline Spachis

Leeds Ticket Hub
 CRM & Ticketing Manager – Mark O'Leary
 Assistant CRM & Ticketing Manager – Juliet Moore
 Team Supervisor – Elisha Cotter

Ticketing Assistants – Laura Atkinson, Hannah Booth, Dan Jones, Lucy Jones, Sam Lawrence, Rachel Prince, Dean Ramsden, Douglas Rice, Helen Richmond, Cieran Ryan, Shirley Shortall, Fran Talbot

LIFF Venue Teams and Volunteers
 LIFF wouldn't be possible without the invaluable contribution of our Venue Supervisors, Venue Coordinators, Festival Trainees, and Venue Assistants. These roles are not fully recruited in time for the print deadline for this guide, but everyone supporting LIFF 2026 in these roles will be credited on the team page on leedsfilm.com.

LIFF 2026 Programmers



Spotlight Forum at LIFF 2026

We're delighted to host this year's Spotlight Forum, relocating from London for the first time to Leeds for LIFF's 40th anniversary. Taking place on 4 November at Leeds City Museum and Carriageworks Theatre, the Spotlight Forum will celebrate the thriving creative sector across the North and bring together performers, talent agents, casting directors, and directors. Themed this year as The North Star: Connecting Our Creative Community, the event will span a wide range of industry topics.



IMAGE: JOANNE NICOLE PHOTOGRAPHY

Programme Highlights

Non-Spotlight members can join us for an afternoon of panel discussions, awards and an evening celebration. Highlights include:

The Film and TV Charity Presents

Break the Cycle – An introduction to the charity's Break the Cycle film. Discover the support services on offer and how you can become an advocate and ally for its work. Find out how you can help build positive working cultures and call out bad practice.

Case Study

The Split Up – A deep dive into BBC/Sister's hit drama, examining how relocating production from London to Manchester drives Northern creativity, authentic South Asian storytelling, and regional skills investment.

Spotlight Forum Awards

Celebrating Our North Stars – This year, we'll honour the industry titans changing the game in the North and beyond, plus a special guest.

Last year's Spotlight Conference winners were:

- Debbie McWilliams (James Bond) – Lifetime Achievement in Casting Award
- Shaheen Baig (Adolescence) – Discovery Award
- Ben Frow (Paramount UK) – Broadcast Award

Evening Celebration

The Spotlight Forum After Party – End the day with people from across the industry as we celebrate the creativity and talent in the North.

Tickets

Limited tickets are available for non-Spotlight members via LIFF's website, where you can also find out more about the programme. All ticket proceeds go to The Film and TV Charity.

Please note that LIFF passes cannot be used for this event.

SPOTLIGHT
FORUM

LEEDS INTERNATIONAL
FILM FESTIVAL



The Education of Jane Cumming – Constellation, page 23

Constellation

Constellation is the largest programme section at LIFF where we preview many of the most anticipated and significant new fiction features of the year, and present UK Premieres of films from exciting new filmmakers in competition. International highlights this year include indie gem *Mouse* from Kelly O'Sullivan and Alex Thompson, epic melodrama *La Bola Negra* from Los Javis, Beth de Araújo's devastating drama *Josephine*, and Cristian Mungiu's *Fjord*, winner of the Palme d'Or at Cannes Film Festival. Highlights from British filmmakers include the latest from Yorkshire-born Clio Barnard with *I See Buildings Fall Like Lightning* and Andrew Haigh with *A Long Winter*, and debuts like *Lady* from Olive Nwosu and *Black Church Bay* from Rhys Marc Jones.

LIFF 2026 Opening Film

Mouse

Northern Premiere | Kelly O'Sullivan, Alex Thompson | USA 2026 | 120 mins | English

The summer of 2002 changes everything for shy high-schooler Minnie in this humorous yet heartbreaking drama from *Saint Frances* (2019) team Alex Thompson and Kelly O'Sullivan. When a tragic accident tears Minnie from her best friend Callie, Minnie develops an uncomfortable and dependent relationship with Callie's mum Helen (Sophie Okonedo), causing friction with her own frazzled mother. A remarkable coming-of-age film about grief, queerness and discovering yourself in the darkest times.

Thu 29 Oct 17:45 - Hyde Park Screen 1
Thu 29 Oct 18:00 - Vue Screen 12
Sat 7 Nov 17:30 - Vue Screen 12
Sun 15 Nov 14:00 - Vue Screen 12



LIFF 2026 Closing Film

Tender Loving Care

Mike Leigh | UK, USA, Singapore | 2026 | 107 mins | English

Mike Leigh has announced that *Tender Loving Care* is likely to be his last film and if so, it makes a beautiful swansong for one of the greatest British directors of all time. It's an uplifting and emotional family drama, about negotiating dramatic moments in ordinary lives. Amy is a dedicated child protection worker who deals with difficult family problems every day, but when she finds out her ageing father is having problems, she pulls together with her mother and best friend Rosie.

Sun 15 Nov 18:00 - Hyde Park Screen 1 (DS + AD)
Sun 15 Nov 18:45 - Vue Screen 7 (AD)
Sun 15 Nov 19:00 - Vue Screen 12 (AD)



9 Temples to Heaven

Northern Premiere | Sompot Chidgasornpongse | Thailand, Singapore, France, Norway, China, Hong Kong, Indonesia, Qatar | 2026 | 141 mins | Thai

9 Temples to Heaven is a beautiful and hypnotic film about a one-day family pilgrimage. Sakol hears a prophecy from a fortune teller that his elderly mother may die soon. He corrals three generations of his family to visit nine temples in succession, overcoming personal worries and generational conflict to offer tributes at each one. A gentle, patiently revelatory drama ensues, taking the viewer on a tour of stunning Thai architecture and celebrating magical everyday moments of transcendence.

Sun 1 Nov 20:00 - Vue Screen 7
Fri 6 Nov 18:45 - Vue Screen 7
Sat 14 Nov 20:00 - Vue Screen 7



CONSTELLATION COMPETITION

Ah Girl

UK Premiere | Ang Geck Geck Priscilla Singapore | 2026 | 99 mins | Mandarin, English

A 7-year-old girl battles with despair, delight and an unwanted haircut in this quirky autobiographical debut from Ang Geck Geck Priscilla. Sassy Ah Girl lives with her younger sister, reserved dad and unpredictable grandmother since her parents' divorce. Through her eyes, we navigate childhood crushes, the petty battle of her parents, and an introduction to the adult world far too soon. Brilliantly acted by an exuberant young cast, Ah Girl is an entertaining and singular depiction of childhood.

Fri 6 Nov 14:15 - Vue Screen 12
Sat 7 Nov 15:00 - Vue Screen 7



CONSTELLATION COMPETITION

Al Baraneya

UK Premiere | Ashgan El-Hamus The Netherlands, Egypt, Belgium, Saudi Arabia 2026 | 84 mins | Arabic

A beautifully realised debut feature from Dutch-Egyptian director Ashgan El-Hamus, *Al Baraneya* adds one professional actor to a cast of non-professionals for a warm and organic family drama about tradition and modernity. Pregnant Amal lives together with her family in Al Baraneya, a village outside Cairo, surrounded by jasmine fields. When Amal's cousin Rania visits from Cairo, she captivates Amal and her younger sisters with her modern lifestyle, making them question their future.

Thu 5 Nov 14:00 - Vue Screen 12
Sat 7 Nov 12:30 - Vue Screen 7
Mon 9 Nov 13:15 - Vue Screen 7



All of a Sudden

Ryūsuke Hamaguchi | France, Japan, Germany, Belgium | 2026 | 196 mins

Ryūsuke Hamaguchi weaves another poignant drama, this time about illness, friendship, art and care. In his first film in French, Marie-Lou (Virginie Efira), the director of a care home meets Mari (Tao Okamoto), a Japanese theatre director with terminal cancer. Despite different languages and ideas, their bond becomes a profound reflection on what it means to care. Shot in a facility with real patients, Hamaguchi's unfurling epic is a transformative experience for both the characters and audience.

Sun 1 Nov 19:00 - Vue Screen 12
Sat 7 Nov 13:30 - Vue Screen 12
Fri 13 Nov 13:30 - Vue Screen 12



Atonement

UK Premiere | Reed Van Dyk | USA | 2026 118 mins | English, Arabic

Anchored by moving performances from Boyd Holbrook, Hiam Abbass (also in *In a Whisper* at LIFF 2026), and Kenneth Branagh, *Atonement* is a powerfully human story about the immeasurable costs of war, exploring universal questions about guilt, redemption and the nature of forgiveness. In the early days of the Iraq War, a U.S. Marine's split-second decision during a firefight devastates an Iraqi family. Years later, haunted by his time in Iraq and aided by a New Yorker journalist, the Marine seeks to reconcile with the surviving family members.

Mon 2 Nov 20:30 - Hyde Park Screen 1
Sun 8 Nov 13:15 - Vue Screen 12



Ben'Imana

Northern Premiere | Marie Clémentine Dusabejamba | Rwanda, Gabon, France, Norway, Côte d'Ivoire | 2026 | 101 mins Kinyarwanda, Swahili

Winner of best first feature at Cannes Film Festival, *Ben'Imana* is an astounding debut from Rwandan filmmaker Marie-Clémentine Dusabejamba. In 2012, nearly two decades after the genocide against the Tutsi, survivor Vénéranda leads her community through a painful process of justice and reconciliation, while clashing with her pregnant teenage daughter. Drawing on a decade of research and gathered testimony, Dusabejamba crafts a deeply moving, feminist exploration of the genocide's enduring legacy and the difficulty of healing.

Fri 30 Oct 17:45 - Everyman Screen 4
Sun 1 Nov 15:45 - Everyman Screen 4
Thu 12 Nov 20:00 - Everyman Screen 4



Black Church Bay

Northern Premiere | Rhys Marc Jones | UK 2026 | 107 mins | English

Acclaimed for his short films – Pale Saint screened in the British short film competition at LIFF 2019 - writer-director Rhys Marc Jones has made a striking debut feature with *Black Church Bay*, a gripping and thought-provoking mystery thriller. In a Welsh fishing village, deputy head teacher Barry (Tom Cullen) starts an affair with one of his students Jasper (Joe Locke). One night, Jasper mysteriously disappears, and Barry's closely guarded secret threatens to come to light.

Fri 13 Nov 18:00 - Vue Screen 7 (AD)



Black Money for White Nights

UK Premiere | Kristina Grozeva, Petar Valchanov | Bulgaria, Greece | 2026 95 mins | Bulgarian

A bittersweet and often darkly funny tragicomedy about nostalgia, decay, and post-Soviet society. After years of saving money from small bribes they collect, 60-year-old Marina and her husband Gosha from Bulgaria prepare for their dream trip to St. Petersburg to witness a natural phenomenon, the White Nights. But when Russia invades Ukraine and the travel agency vanishes with all their savings, their broken dream forces them to confront corruption, morality, and their own relationship.

Mon 9 Nov 17:30 - Vue Screen 7
Wed 11 Nov 15:45 - Vue Screen 7
Sat 14 Nov 17:45 - Vue Screen 7



LIFF 2026 FAMILY CLOSING FILM

Bollywoof

World Premiere | Frederik Du Chau | UK 2026 | 104 mins | English | LIFF age rating PG

A Yorkshire dog (David Jonsson) has his life upended when his family move to Mumbai in this all-star animation from the team behind *The Amazing Maurice*. After Basil's pawrent (Olivia Colman) is relocated for work, Basil and his favourite human Luke are nervous. When they arrive and Basil is separated from the family, things get worse. His only hope? Befriending a Bollywood obsessed street dog and a feisty holy cow. Together this unlikely trio embark on an action packed adventure to reunite the family. Presented with Leeds Young Film Festival.

Sun 15 Nov 13:30 - Vue Screen 7



Conversation with the Sea

UK Premiere | Muayad Alayan | Palestine | 2026 | 112 mins | Arabic, Hebrew, English

Conversation with the Sea is a slow burning family drama about regret and reconciliation. Set in Jerusalem, the film follows Kamal, a 60-year-old Palestinian man, who is ordered by an Israeli court to pay a large social security debt allegedly owed by his son Wael. But Wael drowned in the Red Sea decades ago. When no official record of his death can be found, Kamal follows the only remaining lead to uncover what happened. Presented in partnership with the Leeds Palestinian Film Festival.

Sat 14 Nov 13:00 - Hyde Park Screen 1



Coward

Lukas Dhont | Belgium, France, Netherlands 2026 | 125 mins | French, Dutch

Lukas Dhont returns with the love story of a young soldier and a theatre troupe leader in this award-winning First World War drama. Pierre is a timid young farm boy, forced into the Belgian trenches of WWI. Once there, he is entranced by the charismatic and gentle tailor Francis, who leads a band of cabaret performers, there to provide the only form of escape and entertainment for men on the front. Dhont continues to examine queerness and masculinity in this tender exploration of forbidden love.

Tue 3 Nov 20:15 - Vue Screen 12 (DS + AD)
Sat 7 Nov 17:45 - Hyde Park Screen 1 (DS + AD)
Wed 11 Nov 20:00 - Cottage Road Cinema



Dao

Northern Premiere | Alain Gomis | France, Senegal, Guinea-Bissau | 2026 | 185 mins French, Wolof

French-Senegalese director Alain Gomis has made one of the best films of the year in this swirling, cross-continental epic. 'Dao' is defined as 'perpetual circular movement framing reality'. This informs a restless camera that sweeps through crowds of bodies, switching between two celebrations. Gloria returns to her late father's home village and introduces her daughter Nour to her ancestral motherland, and African and European guests flock to Nour's upmarket wedding on a French country estate.

Fri 30 Oct 14:15 - Vue Screen 7
Sat 31 Oct 14:30 - Vue Screen 7



CONSTELLATION COMPETITION

Caity

UK Premiere | Lindsay Calleran | USA 2026 | 101 mins | English

On Halloween, 16-year-old Caity juggles a new crush, her father's sobriety and running the family haunted house in Lindsay Calleran's outstanding debut. Every October, Caity and her dad transform their home into a beloved local attraction. But when he relapses, Caity faces more than any teenager should, while navigating her own relationship with alcohol and a queer awakening. Led by Chiara Aurelia, with Morgan Spector and Zach Cherry (*Severance*), this is a tender, beautifully written coming-of-age drama.

Wed 4 Nov 20:00 - Vue Screen 12
Sun 8 Nov 16:15 - Vue Screen 7
Mon 9 Nov 15:15 - Vue Screen 7



Clarissa

Arie Esiri, Chuko Esiri | USA, Nigeria | 2026 134 mins | English, Nigerian Pidgin

A luminous reimagining of Virginia Woolf's *Mrs Dalloway*, set in contemporary Lagos and led by a stellar cast including Sophie Okonedo and David Oyelowo. As she prepares for a garden party, Clarissa reminisces about her teenage years and the relationships she once shared with her friends and family. An evocative homage to the original novel, the film offers a vivid and captivating vision of class, friendship and identity in contemporary Nigeria.

Fri 6 Nov 17:45 - Vue Screen 11
Thu 12 Nov 17:45 - Hyde Park Screen 1
Sat 14 Nov 20:15 - Vue Screen 11



Congo Boy

Northern Premiere | Rafiki Fariala | Central African Republic, France, The Democratic Republic of Congo, Italy 2026 | 95 mins | Lingala, Swahili, French

A young refugee chases his rap dreams in this rousing autobiographical feature from the Central African Republic. Robert balances making music with hiding his identity and raising his siblings while his parents are imprisoned. During the day, he muddles through school whilst writing poetry, then at night hustles his way through vibrant nightclubs. Inspired by Rafiki Fariala's own life, *Congo Boy* is a joyous, crowd-pleasing film about following your dreams in the toughest of circumstances.

Sat 31 Oct 16:45 - Everyman Screen 4
Wed 4 Nov 12:00 - Everyman Screen 4
Tue 10 Nov 20:30 - Everyman Screen 4



A Day in the Life of Jo: Chapter Phaedra

Northern Premiere | Jacqueline Lentzou | Greece, Germany, France | 2026 | 88 mins Greek

Jacqueline Lentzou's bold and visionary second feature (after *Moon, 66 Questions*) transforms a teenage coming-of-age story into something altogether more expansive. 15-year-old Jo drifts through an ordinary day in suburban Athens until an encounter with new classmate Phaedra sparks an unexpected connection. Beautifully observed and formally daring, Lentzou's remarkable film moves beyond the everyday into metaphysical territory, exploring mortality and what might lie beyond.

Fri 6 Nov 16:45 - Vue Screen 7
Sun 8 Nov 18:30 - Vue Screen 7
Sun 15 Nov 12:30 - Vue Screen 11



The Debut

Jesse Eisenberg | USA | 2026 | 105 mins English | BBFC age rating 15

Actor-writer-director Jesse Eisenberg returns after *A Real Pain* (LIFF 2024) with a lovingly crafted comedy set in the world of theatre. When Mona Friedman (Julianne Moore) is cast in a bit part at a small community theatre, she transforms from a shy, unassuming housewife into a zealous method actor willing to do anything to protect the artistic integrity of her marginal role - even if it means waging war against the show's domineering director (Paul Giamatti).

Sun 8 Nov 18:30 - Hyde Park Screen 1 (DS + AD)
Tue 10 Nov 20:45 - Vue Screen 12 (DS + AD)
Thu 12 Nov 18:00 - Vue Screen 12 (AD)



The Education of Jane Cumming

Northern Premiere | Sophie Heldman | UK, Germany, Switzerland | 2026 114 mins | English

A powerful historical drama based on a real libel case from 19th Century Scotland, *The Education of Jane Cumming* interrogates the entrenched societal homophobia of the colonial era. Teachers Jane Pirie and Marianne Woods run a boarding school. Their lives are changed forever when a wealthy aristocrat enrolls Jane, her 'illegitimate' 15-year-old grandchild from India, who makes a scandalous accusation: that Miss Pirie and Miss Woods are lovers.

Mon 2 Nov 20:00 - Vue Screen 7 (DS + AD)
Tue 3 Nov 15:15 - Vue Screen 7 (AD)
Sun 8 Nov 20:30 - Vue Screen 7 (AD)



Elephants in the Fog

Northern Premiere | Abinash Bikram Shah
Nepal, France, Germany, Brazil, Norway
2026 | 108 mins | Nepali

An award-winning thriller set in a remote Nepalese village surrounded by dense lush forests and inhabited by wild elephants. In this striking debut from Abinash Bikram Shahthat, Pirati is the matriarch of a Kinnar (third gender) community, held together by strict vows and strong connections. When one of her daughters unexpectedly goes missing in the forest, she must choose between her heart and dreams of a different life, and her responsibility to protect and defend her community.

Fri 6 Nov 16:30 - Vue Screen 12
Sun 8 Nov 16:00 - Vue Screen 12
Wed 11 Nov 17:30 - Vue Screen 12



Elsinore

Simon Stone | UK, Italy, USA | 2026
111 mins | English

From Australian film and theatre director Simon Stone, and written by Stephen Beresford (Pride), *Elsinore* is the deeply emotional and stirring true story of gifted Scottish actor Ian Charleson, searingly played by Andrew Scott. Facing his own mortality as he is dying from AIDS, Charleson delivers a courageous performance that becomes a source of healing and inspiration for those around him. Also starring Olivia Colman, Billie Piper, Johnny Flynn, Juliet Stevenson, Adeel Akhtar and Peter Mullan.

Wed 11 Nov 18:00 - Hyde Park Screen 1 (DS+AD)
Thu 12 Nov 20:00 - Cottage Road Cinema
Sat 14 Nov 20:30 - Vue Screen 12 (AD)



Everytime

Northern Premiere | Sandra Wollner | Austria, Germany | 2026 | 124 mins | German

One of the most acclaimed films of the year, *Everytime* is the beguiling third feature from Austrian writer-director Sandra Wollner who has crafted an elusive and dreamlike portrait of grief. A mother, daughter and teenage boy are brought together by tragedy. They travel to Tenerife to escape the rhythms of daily life, but under the watchful gaze of the summer heat, the trip becomes a haunting space where the boundaries of memory, reality and reconciliation blur.

Fri 6 Nov 19:00 - Vue Screen 12
Sat 14 Nov 15:00 - Vue Screen 12



Heysel 85

Northern Premiere | Teodora Ana Mihai
Belgium, Netherlands, Germany | 2026
91 mins | English, Italian, Dutch, French
BBFC age rating 12A

This breathtaking thriller sweeps through the backrooms and corridors of Brussels' Heysel Stadium during the tragic incident at the 1985 European Cup Final, which killed 39 people. With great sensitivity and political nuance, the film splices actual historical footage with convincing period detail and peerless sound design. In classic disaster movie style, we are introduced to a cross section of contrasting characters, all of whom are drawn into the heart of the tragedy.

Sat 31 Oct 20:45 - Vue Screen 7
Mon 2 Nov 18:00 - Vue Screen 7



In a Whisper

Northern Premiere | Leyla Bouzid | France, Tunisia | 2026 | 113 mins | French, Arabic

From writer-director Leyla Bouzid (*As I Open My Eyes*), *In a Whisper* is a touching intergenerational family drama with a captivating ensemble cast, including the great Palestinian actress Hiam Abbass (also in *Atonement* at LIFF 2026). Back in Tunisia for her uncle's funeral, Lilia reunites with a family that knows nothing about her life in Paris, especially her love life. Determined to unravel the mystery surrounding her uncle's sudden death, Lilia find herself confronted with long-hidden family secrets.

Sun 1 Nov 13:00 - Vue Screen 7
Tue 3 Nov 20:30 - Vue Screen 7
Tue 10 Nov 15:30 - Vue Screen 7



Ink

Danny Boyle | UK, France, USA | 2026
116 mins | English

After depicting raging infected humans in *28 Years Later*, director Danny Boyle turns to the extremes of British newspapers in *Ink*, his stylish and pacy adaptation of playwright James Graham's chronicle of the rise of instantly notorious *The Sun*. Rupert Murdoch (Guy Pearce) persuades newspaper editor Larry Lamb (Jack O'Connell) to oversee his newly acquired but flagging daily. Their tactics to grab readers creates tabloid culture, the world's biggest selling newspaper, and a dark journalistic legacy.

Tue 10 Nov 18:15 - Vue Screen 12 (DS+AD)
Thu 12 Nov 15:30 - Vue Screen 12 (AD)



Filipiñana

Northern Premiere | Rafael Manuel
Singapore, UK, Philippines, France, Netherlands | 2026 | 100 mins
Filipino, English

Rafael Manuel's extraordinary debut is a razor-sharp satire of wealth and exploitation in the Philippines, every shot perfectly manicured as the fairways in the elite country club where it's set. Isabel, a 17-year-old from the rural north, gets a new job pampering powerful men, but soon uncovers the ugly truths behind the veneer of luxury as she encounters the patriarchal director of the club and uncovers her country's history of violence.

Thu 29 Oct 20:30 - Vue Screen 7
Sun 1 Nov 15:30 - Vue Screen 7



Fjord

Cristian Mungiu | Romania, France, Denmark, Finland, Norway, Sweden | 2026 | 146 mins
English, Romanian, Norwegian, Swedish

The gripping and thought-provoking drama *Fjord* is Cristian Mungiu's second Palme d'Or winning film at Cannes Film Festival after *4 Months, 3 Weeks and 2 Days* (2007). A Norwegian woman (Renate Reinsve) and her devout Romanian husband (Sebastian Stan) relocate with their five children to a remote, close-knit, coastal town. As unease begins to simmer among neighbours around their rigid beliefs, they are soon forced to confront a system of judgement that blurs the line between concern and prejudice.

Sun 1 Nov 12:45 - Vue Screen 12 (DS)
Fri 6 Nov 20:30 - Vue Screen 11
Sun 8 Nov 14:30 - Cottage Road Cinema
Mon 9 Nov 20:15 - Hyde Park Screen 1 (DS)



Flies

Northern Premiere | Fernando Eimbcke
Mexico, Spain | 2026 | 101 mins | Spanish

Fernando Eimbcke's gentle, charming character drama tracks an unlikely friendship with emotional warmth and touches of deadpan comedy. Landlady Olga is a little stubborn and set in her ways and struggles to adjust when a new tenant smuggles in his video game obsessed nine-year-old son. Memorably rendering the anonymous apartment blocks of Mexico City in finely grained black-and-white cinematography and imaginative sound design, the film has a finely-toned sense of detail.

Fri 30 Oct 16:00 - Vue Screen 12
Sat 31 Oct 13:00 - Vue Screen 12
Wed 4 Nov 17:45 - Vue Screen 12



I Rarely Wake Up Dreaming

Northern Premiere | Isabelle Stever
Germany, Ukraine | 2026 | 100 mins
Ukrainian, German

Isabelle Stever's daring and distinctive drama explores queer love and identity amid the upheaval of war. As Russia's full-scale invasion of Ukraine begins, Olya and her recently transitioned boyfriend Oleh attempt to flee Kyiv, only to encounter bureaucratic barriers and transphobia. Inspired by true experiences, this compassionate, finely observed film brings the intimate and political into powerful conversation, asking what it means to remain yourself when the world around you is being remade.

Sun 1 Nov 11:30 - Everyman Screen 4
Mon 9 Nov 20:15 - Everyman Screen 4



I See Buildings Fall Like Lightning

Clio Barnard | UK, France, USA | 2026
109 mins | English | BBFC age rating 15

LIFF-favourite Clio Barnard (*The Selfish Giant*, *Ali & Ava*) returns with a story of five Birmingham school friends growing apart against the backdrop of the UK housing crisis. Propelled by its five central actors, Barnard's latest wrestles with the economic pressures put on the contemporary working class with a British wit and unwavering power. Adapted by Edna Walsh from the book by Keiran Goddard, the film won the audience award at this year's Directors Fortnight in Cannes.

Sun 8 Nov 13:30 - Hyde Park Screen 1 (DS+AD)
Sun 15 Nov 16:15 - Vue Screen 7 (AD)



LIFF 2026 FAMILY OPENING FILM

Iron Boy

Northern Premiere | Louis Clichy | France, Belgium | 2026 | 90 mins | French
LIFF age rating PG

A beautiful, hand painted animation set in rural France, *Iron Boy* is also a personal story for the former Pixar animator Louis Clichy, a gently touching coming of age tale, often funny and consistently entertaining. 11-year-old Christophe tries to live up to his rigid and distant father on the family farm. But the young boy starts to lean over and collapse without warning. A doctor finds the solution that forces Christophe to reinvent his life and find new passions: he must wear an iron corset. Presented with Leeds Young Film Festival.

Thu 29 Oct 15:45 - Vue Screen 12
Sat 7 Nov 11:30 - Vue Screen 12
Sat 14 Nov 15:15 - Cottage Road Cinema - PWYC (AF)



Josephine

Beth de Araújo | USA | 2026 | 119 mins
English | BBFC age rating 18

Beth De Araújo's masterful and devastating drama *Josephine* won the top dramatic grand jury prize and the audience award at Sundance Film Festival. In a stunning child performance, Mason Reeves plays 8-year-old Josephine who witnesses a sexual assault in a park while out with her father Damien (Channing Tatum). In the aftermath, while suffering from the effects of the trauma, Josephine seeks to understand what she has witnessed and the part she has to play in the search for justice.

Sat 31 Oct 20:00 - Vue Screen 12
Wed 4 Nov 20:00 - Cottage Road Cinema
Tue 10 Nov 20:30 - Hyde Park Screen 1



La Bola Negra

Javier Ambrossi, Javier Calvo | Spain, France
2026 | 155 mins | Spanish

Three stories intertwine in Los Javis' ambitious melodrama of Spanish queer history. A soldier fascinated by a prisoner of the Civil War, the story of a man in pre-dictatorship Spain blackballed from his father's club, to a present-day man wrestling with his family's history. *La Bola Negra* is a celebration of Spanish poet and playwright Federico García Lorca's enduring legacy, which reimagines his work as a sweeping operatic epic starring an enigmatic young cast and scene-stealing turns from Penelope Cruz and Glenn Close.

Sun 1 Nov 15:45 - Vue Screen 12 (AD)
Mon 2 Nov 19:45 - Vue Screen 12 (DS + AD)
Tue 3 Nov 20:00 - Hyde Park Screen 1 (DS + AD)
Thu 5 Nov 19:30 - Cottage Road Cinema



La Gradiva

Northern Premiere | Marine Atlan | France, Italy | 2026 | 145 mins | French, Italian

A rowdy group of French teenagers embark on a field trip to Pompeii, where their desires, passions and tensions reveal themselves against the ruins of the past. As their trip to Naples progresses, the dynamics of the group shift, revealing the economic realities that structure their lives. With a visual poetry reminiscent of Alice Rohrwacher's *La Chimera*, Marine Atlan's film is an entrancing debut feature which captures the spirit and fantasy of youth and the often-devastating pressure of coming-of-age.

Sat 7 Nov 20:00 - Vue Screen 12
Wed 11 Nov 20:00 - Vue Screen 12
Fri 13 Nov 20:00 - Vue Screen 12



A Man of His Time

Northern Premiere | Emmanuel Marre
France, Belgium | 2026 | 158 mins | French

A distinctly ambitious and visually contemporary award-winning drama, set in 1940s Nazi-occupied France. Henri Marre arrives alone in the city of Vichy with a determination to help save France. He is willing to do whatever he believes is needed, but in doing so he may also be driving his own ruin. Drawn from the director's own family history, *A Man of His Time* grapples between the personal and political in this highly original and thought-provoking film.

Sat 7 Nov 19:45 - Vue Screen 7
Mon 9 Nov 19:45 - Vue Screen 7



Master

Northern Premiere | Rezwan Shahriar Sumit
Bangladesh | 2026 | 126 mins | Bengali

Master is a sly and gripping political drama from Bangladesh, brilliantly dramatising the subtle, corrupting influences of power. Jahir, a provincial high school history teacher, is a pillar of the community engaged in a crusading liberal campaign for a mayoral election, championing education and women's rights. He may be a shoe in for victory, but he is unprepared for the compromises of power, controlling bureaucrats and pressure from the criminal underworld.

Fri 30 Oct 20:00 - Everyman Screen 4
Sat 31 Oct 18:00 - Vue Screen 7



The Meltdown

Northern Premiere | Manuela Martelli
Chile, USA, Spain, Mexico | 2026
108 mins | Spanish

Manuela Martelli's second feature is an intense thriller set in 90s Chile, centering on a missing teenager in a remote ski resort. 9-year-old Ines is used to seeing people come and go at her family's resort and when young German skier Hanna arrives, they form a fast friendship. But when Hanna goes missing, Ines observes the reaction of her community without truly understanding. A gripping film about the tensions of a small community as their country undergoes political transition.

Sat 31 Oct 15:15 - Vue Screen 12
Mon 2 Nov 17:30 - Vue Screen 12



Lady

Northern Premiere | Olive Nwosu | UK, Nigeria | 2026 | 93 mins | English

A vibrant debut from director Olive Nwosu, which won the Acting Ensemble award at Sundance Film Festival for its all-female main cast. *Lady* works as one of the city's few women cab drivers in the sleepless city of Lagos. Saving her wages, Lady longs to leave for a new life, but is unexpectedly drawn into night journeys, chaos and self-discovery with her former childhood friend, Pinky, now a sex worker. What begins as judgement develops into unexpected sisterhood.

Sun 1 Nov 16:00 - Hyde Park Screen 1 (DS + AD)



A Long Winter

Andrew Haigh | UK, Canada | 2026
117 mins | English

Yorkshire-born director Andrew Haigh (*All of Us Strangers*) returns with *A Long Winter*, a rich and nuanced character drama set during the 1950s high in the beautiful, snow peaked Rocky Mountains. Adapted from a short story by Colm Toibin, the film follows a family whose life is upended by the disappearance of a troubled wife and mother during the first blizzard of the season. Featuring terrific performances by an ensemble cast, especially Ebon Moss-Bachrach (*The Bear*) as the struggling father.

Mon 9 Nov 20:30 - Vue Screen 12 (DS)
Sun 15 Nov 16:30 - Vue Screen 12



Look Back

Northern Premiere | Hirokazu Koreeda
Japan | 2026 | 100 mins | Japanese

We present two films this year from LIFF favourite Hirokazu Koreeda (*Shoplifters*, *Monster*), the sci-fi *Sheep in the Box*, and poignant friendship drama *Look Back*, his live action adaptation of celebrated manga artist Tatsuki Fujimoto's beloved story. Shot on 35mm and unfolding across the seasons in a small town in Northern Japan, *Look Back* portrays the growing emotional and creative bond between two teenage girls, confident Fujino and reclusive Kyomoto, who dream of becoming manga artists.

Sun 8 Nov 12:00 - Cottage Road Cinema
Fri 13 Nov 20:45 - Vue Screen 7
Sun 15 Nov 16:45 - Vue Screen 11 (DS + AD)



CONSTELLATION COMPETITION

Memorizu

UK Premiere | Miiku Sakanishi | Japan
2026 | 97 mins | Japanese

Memorizu is a beautifully understated debut from Japanese director Miiku Sakanishi, gently observing a devoted father reluctantly adapting to a spell apart from his family. Yuta goes to a rural town in Kyushu to help his injured father-in-law and records fragments of daily life, sharing photos and videos with his wife and daughter back in Tokyo. Repeated rhythms of everyday routine elevate little details to profound moments of insight, which bring the characters' lives vividly to light.

Thu 5 Nov 20:00 - Vue Screen 12
Sun 8 Nov 20:45 - Vue Screen 12
Tue 10 Nov 16:00 - Vue Screen 12



Minotaur

Andrey Zvyagintsev | France, Latvia, Germany | 2026 | 141 mins | Russian

The great Andrey Zvyagintsev (*Leviathan*, *Loveless*) returns with a taut crime thriller, which builds into a devastating critique of political corruption in contemporary Russia. Loosely based on Claude Chabrol's classic 1969 film *La Femme infidèle*, *Minotaur* follows Gleb, a powerful company director, who has to manoeuvre in a challenging corporate power struggle, only to be drawn into a clandestine surveillance campaign when he suspects his wife of having an affair.

Fri 6 Nov 20:15 - Hyde Park Screen 1 (DS + AD)
Sat 7 Nov 14:15 - Cottage Road Cinema
Sat 14 Nov 17:30 - Vue Screen 12 (AD)



Our Share of Sand

Northern Premiere | Shalini Adnani
India, UK, Greece | 2026 | 95 mins
English, Hindi, Marathi

A poignant coming of age drama that explores family politics and unsettling truths that can often lie beneath the surface. This powerful debut from director Shalini Adnani, centres the perspective of 12 year old Maya, who returns to her rural home in India with her mother to reconnect with her estranged father. However, the excitement soon unravels as she begins to witness the true reality behind her family's legacy and the cover-ups and corruption that surround it.

Mon 9 Nov 18:15 - Everyman Screen 4
Wed 11 Nov 14:15 - Everyman Screen 4



Paper Tiger

James Gray | USA, Brazil, Italy | 2026
115 mins | English

American auteur James Gray returns to his roots in this 80s-set New York crime thriller starring Adam Driver and Miles Teller as two brothers entangled with the Russian mafia. Teller plays engineer and family man Irwin who aspires to the middle-class American dream. When his older, show-boat brother Gary (Driver) presents him with a money-making project around oil dumped in the canal, he's pulled into a dark, corrupt underworld. A gripping and tragic drama on pollution in all its forms.

Mon 9 Nov 18:00 - Vue Screen 12
Wed 11 Nov 15:00 - Vue Screen 12
Fri 13 Nov 17:30 - Vue Screen 12



The Red Hangar

Northern Premiere | Juan Pablo Sallato
Chile, Argentina, Italy | 2026 | 83 mins
Spanish

A taut and enthralling political thriller, *The Red Hangar* takes place during the military coup in Santiago, Chile, on September 11, 1973. As a decisive shift in power prompts an escalating progression of disturbing events, an Air Force Captain receives an order that will change his life forever: to turn his Training Academy into a detention and torture centre. In an encounter with a former rival, he finds himself in an impossible moral predicament and realises he must put his life on the line.

Fri 30 Oct 14:00 - Vue Screen 12
Sat 31 Oct 17:45 - Vue Screen 12
Sun 8 Nov 11:15 - Vue Screen 12



Red Rocks

Northern Premiere | Bruno Dumont
Portugal, France, Italy, Spain, Qatar
2026 | 90 mins | French

The brilliantly unpredictable French director, Bruno Dumont returns with a vivid and offbeat drama about the strangeness and intensity of childhood. On the French Riviera, two gangs of kids compete in the perilous game of cliff jumping. Géo, barely five years old, discovers over the course of a summer a world where friendship blends with rivalry, and where the first stirrings of the heart emerge against the dazzling Mediterranean landscape.

Sat 31 Oct 20:45 - Everyman Screen 4
Wed 4 Nov 14:00 - Everyman Screen 4
Wed 11 Nov 20:30 - Everyman Screen 4



CONSTELLATION COMPETITION

Six Months in a Pink and Blue Building

UK Premiere | Bruno Santamaría Razo
Mexico, Denmark, Brazil | 2026 | 103 mins
Spanish

A boundless creative energy informs this warm and colourful family drama set in Mexico City in the early 90s. The film begins as Bruno turns 11, and he struggles to come to terms with his own emerging sexuality as feelings for his best friend Vladimir grow. His confusion is compounded by the shock announcement that his father has HIV. But his bustling household is full of life, art, food and music. Thirty years later, Bruno revisits his memories and tries to come to terms with his past.

Fri 6 Nov 11:15 - Vue Screen 12
Sun 8 Nov 18:15 - Vue Screen 12
Mon 9 Nov 15:45 - Vue Screen 12



CONSTELLATION COMPETITION

Take Me Home

UK Premiere | Liz Sargent | USA | 2026
91 mins | English

Liz Sargent's intimate and emotionally captivating debut draws on her real-life experiences to enlighten the struggle of Korean-American sisters navigating a complex web of caregiving needs and the structural challenges faced by disabled people. Anna (played by the director's sister Anna Sargent) is a 38-year-old woman with cognitive disabilities who looks after her ageing adoptive parents. A Florida heatwave disturbs the delicate balance of their lives and her sister Emily comes to help.

Wed 4 Nov 15:45 - Vue Screen 12
Sat 7 Nov 10:30 - Vue Screen 7



Variations on a Theme

Northern Premiere | Devon Delmar, Jason Jacobs | South Africa, Qatar, Netherlands
2026 | 65 mins | Afrikaans

Variations on a Theme is a captivating, lyrical portrait of life in rural South Africa. Elderly goatherd Hettie is drawn into a scam promising long-overdue compensation for her father's wartime service, unsettling the rhythms of her everyday life. Moving gracefully between documentary and fiction, Jason Jacobs and Devon Delmar create a tender, richly observed portrait of Hettie and her Kharkams community, alive to memory and the poetry of the everyday.

Fri 30 Oct 16:00 - Everyman Screen 4
Tue 10 Nov 16:30 - Everyman Screen 4
Thu 12 Nov 18:30 - Everyman Screen 4



Rose

Markus Schleinzner | Austria, Germany
2026 | 94 mins | German

A mesmerising performance from Sandra Hüller elevates the emotionally devastating, gender defying period drama *Rose*. It is based on a true story and handsomely shot in stark monochrome. Set in a German protestant village after the Thirty Years' War, an enigmatic soldier appears, who is slightly built with a disfiguring facial scar. He gradually attains a grudging acceptance from the suspicious villagers but this is shaken by the revelation of an impossible deceit, he is actually a woman.

Thu 29 Oct 20:45 - Vue Screen 12 (DS)
Sun 1 Nov 13:45 - Hyde Park Screen 1 (DS)
Sat 7 Nov 12:00 - Cottage Road Cinema



Sad Girlz

Northern Premiere | Fernanda Tovar
Mexico, France, Spain | 2026 | 90 mins
Spanish

Fernanda Tovar's award-winning debut is an intimate, deeply empathetic portrait of female friendship in the aftermath of trauma. Paula and La Maestra are inseparable friends and star swimmers until an incident at a party tests their bond as they struggle with differing responses to what happened. With exceptional performances from Rocío Guzmán and Darana Álvarez, this sensitive coming-of-age drama explores how young women navigate sexual violence, friendship and the possibility of finding joy again.

Fri 30 Oct 18:15 - Vue Screen 12
Sat 31 Oct 11:00 - Vue Screen 12
Thu 5 Nov 18:00 - Vue Screen 12



CONSTELLATION COMPETITION

Shana

UK Premiere | Lila Pinell | France | 2026
84 mins | French

Eva Huault electrifies as the irrepressible Shana in Lila Pinell's freewheeling, high-energy debut. Reeling from her grandmother's death, Shana inherits a ring said to protect her from bad luck, just as her toxic partner is released from prison and her troubles begin to multiply. Blending social realism with sharp comedy and adding propulsive tension, Pinell crafts a vibrant, unpredictable character study, driven by Huault's charismatic performance and Shana's defiant swagger.

Tue 3 Nov 18:15 - Vue Screen 12
Thu 5 Nov 16:00 - Vue Screen 12



Words of Love

UK Premiere | Rudi Rosenberg | France,
USA | 2026 | 95 mins | French

Rudi Rosenberg's warm, funny and heartbreaking *Words of Love* features captivating performances from new young actors Nour Salam and Mateo Danila, the brilliant Hafsia Herzi, and a mudi shepherd as a cheese-obsessed stray dog. Erika is the anchor of a household that rarely stands still, doing her best to raise teenage Abigail, and her whirlwind little brother, Yoni. When Abi hears that her long-absent father has been seen nearby, Erika fears the fragile family balance will collapse for good.

Sun 1 Nov 17:45 - Vue Screen 7
Tue 3 Nov 16:00 - Vue Screen 12
Tue 10 Nov 18:00 - Vue Screen 7
Sat 14 Nov 15:30 - Vue Screen 7



CONSTELLATION COMPETITION

Zejtune

UK Premiere | Alex Camilleri | Malta,
Germany, Qatar | 2026 | 108 mins | Maltese

A spellbinding drama set on the island of Malta, following an extraordinary folk singing tradition, where the vocalists spa with improvised rhyming couplets. After her estranged mother's death, Mar plans to leave Malta for good by selling the farmland she's inherited. But as she travels the island to claim her land, she meets Nenu, an irrepressible 80-year-old folk singer whose music and spirit challenge her desire to escape. Mar slowly warms to the homeland she wanted to turn her back on.

Wed 4 Nov 13:15 - Vue Screen 12
Sun 8 Nov 13:45 - Vue Screen 7



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OLD WOOLLEN WHAT'S ON



COMEDY - MUSIC
BINGO - THEATRE - CABARET
SPOKEN WORD

Wed 18 Nov **TALES OF BRITAIN AND IRELAND: THE FAE FOLK**
Storyteller Graeme Cooke explores lust, loss and hollow hills, with music from Alice Nicholls.

Thu 19 Nov **HEARTBREAK - THE TOM PETTY SHOW**
Celebrating 50 years of Tom Petty & The Heartbreakers.

Thu 26 Nov **CRIME VIRAL: CAN YOU CATCH A SERIAL KILLER?**
The UK's first interactive serial killer investigation.

Sat 28 Nov: **SOLVE-ALONG-A MURDER SHE WROTE**
The cult hit event - one of Time Out's 50 Great Nights Out.

Sun 6 Dec **A CHRISTMAS CAROL - AS TOLD BY MARLEY (DECEASED)**
Winner: OFFCOMM Commendation, Off West End Awards 2023.

Fri 5 Feb **THE UMBRELLA MAN & OTHER STORIES**
What do we talk about when we talk about the JFK assassination? "Full of humanity" - Hugh Bonneville, actor.

Wed 17 Mar **DAVID BRAMWELL: FROM SHAMAN TO STARMAN**
The secret shamanic history of popular entertainment.

Thu 18 Mar **SING-ALONG-A WICKER MAN**
Join in with the singing and buttock-slapping of the horror classic.

Wed 24 Mar **LUKE WRIGHT: YES.**
Part poetry, part stand-up from the Fringe First award-winner.



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Cinema Versa

Discover the year's most thrilling and creative documentaries in Cinema Versa, which this year opens with the homegrown wonder of *Ultimate Thunder* and closes with *Once Upon a Time in Harlem*, a perfect time capsule of African-American cultural history. We're launching a new competition this year, with UK premieres of some of the most innovative documentary features by emerging filmmakers, from Argentina to Benin. Highlights outside of competition include *Rehearsals for a Revolution*, an extraordinary political protest film from Iran, the jaw-dropping nature film *Nuisance Bear*, and the poignant portrait of North Korean teenagers in *School for Defectors*. There will be several guests at Cinema Versa screenings for introductions, Q&As, and panels.

Cinema Versa Opening Film

Ultimate Thunder

Ben G. Brown | UK | 2026 | 98 mins | English
LIFF age rating 12A

A fresh and joyful documentary which is a true ode to DIY, friendship and music with a generous dose of punk spirit. Described as the most punk rock band in Britain, Ultimate Thunder are musicians with learning disabilities, Down syndrome and autism based in Leeds. The film follows their story over three years as they develop new music and play to increasingly larger crowds, all while facing challenges including cuts to arts funding, major surgery and the lead singer losing his voice.

Fri 30 Oct 17:45 - Hyde Park Screen 1 (DS)
Sat 31 Oct 11:30 - Hyde Park Screen 2 - PWYC (AF+DS)
Mon 9 Nov 18:00 - Mill Hill Chapel - PWYC (DS)



Cinema Versa Closing Film

Once Upon a Time in Harlem

Northern Premiere | William Greaves, David Greaves
USA | 2026 | 100 mins | English

This documentary time capsule is a glorious love letter to the African-American cultural movement the Harlem Renaissance, filmed by legendary filmmaker William Greaves in 1972 and completed 50 years later by his son David. *Once Upon a Time in Harlem* offers audiences a unique chance to hang out with a lively gathering of artists, musicians and academics at Duke Ellington's townhouse. An essential work that is a distinctive and poetic snapshot of a moment in time and the sharing of knowledge and creativity.

Sun 15 Nov 13:30 - Hyde Park Screen 1 (AD)
Sun 15 Nov 14:15 - Vue Screen 11 (AD)



Adam's Apple

English Premiere | Amy K. Jenkins | USA
2026 | 98 mins | English

A unique collaborative documentary told through the dual perspectives of Adam, a transgender teenager, and his mother, visual artist Amy Jenkins. Filmed by the pair over two decades, the film offers a distinctive and authentic collage of Adam's gender transition alongside the everyday challenges of teenage life. Through the films creative and poetic lens, it captures a bold and joyful portrait of identity, friendship and the rhythms of family life.

Mon 2 Nov 14:00 - Everyman Screen 4
Tue 3 Nov 20:15 - Mill Hill Chapel - PWYC
Sat 7 Nov 19:45 - Everyman Screen 4



The Apologist

Kristof Bilsen | Belgium, Netherlands, France
2026 | 82 mins | English

The Apologist is a thoughtful and creative documentary, which interrogates the rituals of apology and reconciliation, particularly political apologies by colonial nations. Wide-ranging and international in scope, the film follows a stage play where a white Belgian actor collaborates with a Belgian-Congolese actress, alongside an EU political reconciliation committee and a ceremony in El Salvador honouring community members lost in a massacre. Followed by a panel discussion on decolonisation.

Fri 6 Nov 18:00 - Everyman Screen 4
Wed 11 Nov 12:45 - Vue Screen 12



Barbara Forever

Yorkshire Premiere | Brydie O'Connor
USA | 2026 | 102 mins | English

An expansive and essential documentary portrait of pioneering lesbian filmmaker Barbara Hammer. Director Brydie O'Connor has crafted a film told through Hammer's own voice and visual perspective, using a vast collection of unreleased archival material, audio interviews and some of Hammer's own films, which number over eighty. A visually encapsulating and unique exploration of Hammer's life, friendships, work, archive, and her ongoing cultural legacy.

Thu 5 Nov 19:45 - Leeds City Library - PWYC



Daughters of the Forest

Northern Premiere | Otilia Portillo Padua
Mexico | 2026 | 95 mins | Spanish

Journey deep into Mexico's forests in Otilia Portillo Padua's beautiful and immersive exploration of the hidden worlds beneath our feet. Indigenous mycologists Lis and Juli bring scientific practice into dialogue with ancestral knowledge as they study the extraordinary networks of fungi that sustain their ecosystems. Blending documentary with science fiction elements, this lyrical, transportative film offers a profound vision of our interconnectedness with the natural world.

Sat 31 Oct 12:15 - Vue Screen 7
Mon 2 Nov 20:15 - Mill Hill Chapel - PWYC



Germaine Acogny: The Essence of Dance

Northern Premiere | Greta-Marie Becker
Germany, France | 2025 | 90 mins
French, English, Fon, Wolof

The Essence of Dance is an essential profile of one of Africa's most influential artists, Germaine Acogny, the 'mother of African contemporary dance'. Now in her 80s, she reflects on a pioneering 50-year career of dance, choreography and teaching, blending traditional West African dance with European influences, and creating the Acogny Technique, which has shaped contemporary dance worldwide. Introduced by Marie-Ange Zié, a programmer at LIFF partner festival Films Femmes Afrique in Senegal.

Sat 7 Nov 11:00 - Vue Screen 11



The History of Concrete

Northern Premiere | John Wilson | USA
2026 | 100 mins | English

After attending a Hallmark movie workshop, John Wilson turns his new knowledge to a film about concrete, delivered with his usual dry wit. Finding himself with too much time on his hands, Wilson wonders if he can apply the winning rom-com formula to a documentary about the duller thing. From a man removing chewing gum from pavements to runners circling the same flat block, to dinner with Kim Kardashian, his feature debut proves again that Wilson is a master at finding absurd hilarity in the mundane.

Sun 8 Nov 16:15 - Hyde Park Screen 1
Sat 14 Nov 15:15 - Vue Screen 11 (DS)



CINEMA VERSA COMPETITION

Illusion of an Everlasting Summer

UK Premiere | Alessandra Sanguinetti
Argentina, USA | 2026 | 94 mins | Spanish

An extraordinary long form documentary filmed over 25 years by acclaimed photographer Alessandra Sanguinetti, *Illusion of an Everlasting Summer* traces the lives of two inseparable cousins. The film starts in 1999 as the two girls are 8 and 10, tracing the years into adult and parenthood. The setting makes a striking visual backdrop as they live in remote farmland in the vast Argentine Pampas. Superlative cinematography and editing combine to create a profound film on time, memory and womanhood.

Wed 4 Nov 16:00 - Everyman Screen 4
Thu 5 Nov 20:30 - Everyman Screen 4
Wed 11 Nov 16:15 - Everyman Screen 4



CINEMA VERSA COMPETITION

Into the Jaws of the Ogre

UK Premiere | Mahsa Karampour
France | 2026 | 86 mins | English

Iranian filmmaker Mahsa Karampour tries to reconnect with her younger brother in this thoughtful, tender documentary road movie. Travelling across the US with Siavash, a punk musician exiled from their homeland, she tries to understand the life he has built far from her own. Moving between their journey and memories of childhood in Tehran, Karampour traces the distance that has grown between them, exploring siblinghood and the different ways we carry home with us.

Sat 31 Oct 12:00 - Everyman Screen 4
Fri 6 Nov 16:00 - Hyde Park Screen 2



Joybubbles

Northern Premiere | Rachael J. Morrison
USA | 2026 | 79 mins | English

Long before the internet, in 1950s America, a young boy miraculously discovers that he can control the global telephone system by whistling a magic tone. Born blind, Joybubbles develops an obsession with telephones and building connections from a young age. This unexpectedly leads to the creation of a subculture that influences the future development of hacking and technology. Told through archival footage and voice recordings, the film highlights the power of community while challenging assumptions about disability and identity.

Sat 31 Oct 18:45 - Everyman Screen 4 (DS + AD)
Mon 2 Nov 16:15 - Everyman Screen 4 (DS + AD)



Nuisance Bear

Northern Premiere | Gabriela Osio Vanden,
Jack Weisman | Canada, USA, United
Kingdom | 2026 | 90 mins | Inuktitut, English

Nuisance Bear is a visually stunning and unconventional nature documentary, considered from one animals' perspective with a poetic voiceover from an indigenous Inuit elder. Welcome to Churchill, Manitoba, where there is a burgeoning tourist trade for polar bear watching, though increasing problems are caused by climate change, preventing the bears from migrating on the ice further north. The film then shifts to neighbouring Nunavut, where indigenous people struggle to preserve their culture.

Sun 1 Nov 11:00 - Vue Screen 7
Mon 2 Nov 16:00 - Vue Screen 7



Rebellion

Northern Premiere | Ken Fero, Tariq Mehmood
UK | 2026 | 80 mins | English

The landmark struggle of the Bradford 12 comes urgently to life in this powerful new documentary. In 1981, twelve young Asian men were arrested after preparing to defend their community against an anticipated far-right attack, sparking a major campaign for their freedom. Drawing on remarkable archive footage, first-hand testimony and a collectively staged reconstruction of the trial, *Rebellion* captures how a community organised in the face of racist violence and fought back.

Fri 30 Oct 18:15 - Pictureville Cinema (DS + AD)
Wed 4 Nov 19:45 - Leeds City Library - PWYC (DS)



Rehearsals for a Revolution

Northern Premiere | Pegah Ahangarani
Iran, Czech Republic, Spain | 2026 | 98 mins
Persian, English

Pegah Ahangarani turns four decades of Iranian resistance into something profoundly personal in this urgent and deeply moving documentary. Structured around five people who shaped her life, she traces a history of protest, repression and enduring hopes for change from the 1979 Revolution to the present. Carefully weaving intimate memories with a remarkable wealth of archival footage, this stirring debut asks what it means to keep resisting when revolution remains unfinished.

Sat 7 Nov 15:30 - Hyde Park Screen 1
Mon 9 Nov 13:30 - Vue Screen 12
Sun 15 Nov 11:15 - Vue Screen 7



Last Movies

Northern Premiere | Stanley Schtinter | UK
2026 | 76 mins | English

Last Movies is a unique analysis of film history by Stanley Schtinter, which remaps the century of cinema according to the final films watched by some of its cultural icons. Utilising collage and anecdote to compile a darkly comic essay on art and mortality, the film probes and pontificates on the final film experiences from Franz Kafka with Charlie Chaplin's *The Kid* to Kurt Cobain and Jane Campion's *The Piano*. There are many fascinating coincidences and compelling digressions along the way.

Sun 8 Nov 18:30 - Everyman Screen 4
Fri 13 Nov 13:00 - Vue Screen 11



CINEMA VERSA COMPETITION

Like a Fortress

UK Premiere | Lou Colpé | Belgium | 2026
83 mins | French

In this raw and deeply intimate film, Lou Colpé turns the camera on her own experience of grief following the sudden loss of her partner. Returning to the home they shared, she finds refuge in its familiar spaces as life quietly continues around her. Told through on-screen text and gentle observations of friends, objects and changing seasons, this moving, diaristic documentary transforms the house into a sanctuary of memory and survival.

Thu 5 Nov 14:00 - Hyde Park Screen 2
Wed 11 Nov 18:15 - Everyman Screen 4



CINEMA VERSA COMPETITION

My Father's Kora

UK Premiere | Aymar A. Esse | Benin,
Switzerland, Germany | 2026 | 88 mins
German, English, French, Wolof, Bambara

A journey from Berlin to Dakar becomes a moving exploration of identity and belonging in Aymar Ayéman Esse's affecting debut. Souleymane, an Afro-German trans man, travels to Senegal to repair the kora inherited from his father, reconnecting with family and heritage along the way. Quietly observant and deeply heartfelt, the film weaves together music, faith and chosen family in a sensitive meditation on repair and what we pass down through generations.

Sat 31 Oct 14:30 - Everyman Screen 4
Fri 6 Nov 14:00 - Hyde Park Screen 2



School for Defectors

European Premiere | Jeremy Workman
South Korea, United States | 2026 | 93 mins
Korean, English | LIFF age rating 12A

Receiving its European Premiere at LIFF 2026, this poignant observational documentary was filmed in Busan, South Korea, at a small school with just 20 students, all North Korean defectors. American director and editor Jeremy Workman had unique access over the course of a year, recording the stories of survival and resilience that led the students to the school, alongside their dreams, ambitions and hopes for the future. An illuminating journey through the hardships of adapting to a completely new way of life and future.

Thu 5 Nov 18:00 - Everyman Screen 4
Tue 10 Nov 14:30 - Everyman Screen 4
Thu 12 Nov 13:30 - Vue Screen 12



CINEMA VERSA COMPETITION

Summer 2000: The X-Cetra Story

UK Premiere | Ayden Mayeri | USA | 2026
104 mins | English

Four friends reunite when the album they made as pre-teens goes viral 20 years later. In 2000, X-Cetra was formed in a bedroom, pairing raw lyrics with trance beats. Soon forgotten as the friends drifted apart, the album resurfaces online, attracting fans, record labels and a Rolling Stone feature. Now adults, they reunite to record a new song and recapture the unselfconscious joy of their girlhood. Ayden Mayeri's debut is a celebration of female friendship and never losing your creative spark.

Mon 2 Nov 20:15 - Everyman Screen 4
Wed 4 Nov 20:15 - Everyman Screen 4
Thu 12 Nov 16:15 - Everyman Screen 4



CINEMA VERSA COMPETITION

Whispers in May

UK Premiere | Dongnan Chen | Hong Kong,
Netherlands, Sweden, South Korea | 2026
95 mins | Nuosu, Mandarin

A tender coming-of-age film about friendship and identity that blends reality and fiction, and challenges the boundaries of documentary filmmaking. Set in a remote village in south-west China, Qihuo and her two best friends set out across the surrounding mountains to find a new ceremonial skirt, while their parents work away from home. The journey challenges their friendship but also offers a glimpse into the fleeting balance between childhood and adulthood.

Sun 1 Nov 13:45 - Everyman Screen 4
Thu 5 Nov 16:00 - Hyde Park Screen 2

Fanomenon

Fanomenon is the home at LIFF for genre films, especially those on the fantastic side of cinema, and including big screen fantasy, sci-fi, horror, cult animation, dark comedies, gripping thrillers, and much more. Fanomenon this year opens with the eagerly awaited romantic fantasy comedy *Wicker* and closes with spellbinding occult sci-fi thriller *Chronovisor*. Other highlights include *Wild Horse Nine*, the latest brilliant dark comedy from Martin McDonagh, the 20th anniversary 4K restoration of *Pan's Labyrinth*, the striking Yorkshire-set Gothic horror *Mārama*, and *Donkey Princess*, a boldly original fairytale retelling. Fanomenon is also well known for its genre film marathons, which this year include a triple bill of shorts programmes and the legendary Night of the Dead.

Fanomenon Opening Film

Wicker

Alex Huston Fischer, Eleanor Wilson | UK, Australia, USA
2026 | 105 mins | English

Olivia Colman's perfect wicker husband becomes the source of much jealousy in this charming one-of-a-kind romance. Fisherwoman is often ridiculed by her peers for being unmarried – that is until she orders herself an unusual but perfect husband who sends the village into a frenzy. With an all-star cast including (former Leeds student) Alexander Skarsgård as the man made of wicker, Alex Huston Fischer and Eleanor Wilson's film is a funny, poetic, and a-bit-out-there tale of how love makes the world go round.

Thu 29 Oct 18:15 - Vue Screen 7 (DS + AD)
Thu 29 Oct 20:45 - Cottage Road Cinema



Fanomenon Closing Film

Chronovisor

Northern Premiere | Jack Auen, Kevin Walker | USA
2026 | 99 mins | English, French, German, Italian

This bold, haunting thriller shot on 16mm from Cosmic Salon (Jack Auen and Kevin Walker) follows a neuroscientist who stumbles onto a conspiracy surrounding a mysterious device. Respected scholar Béatrice Courte becomes increasingly obsessed with the real-life story of a Benedictine monk who claimed to have invented a mechanical device capable of replaying events from any point in history. As the audience is pulled deeper into Béatrice's rabbit hole of research, the lines between fact and fiction begin to blur in this eerie, analogue mystery.

Sun 15 Nov 15:45 - Hyde Park Screen 1
Sun 15 Nov 19:15 - Vue Screen 11



FANOMENON FEATURE FILM COMPETITION

Bagworm

UK Premiere | Oliver Bernsen | USA | 2025
96 mins | English

A surreal and darkly comic debut shot on 16mm about a man facing an existential meltdown that may have been caused by stepping on a rusty nail. Carroll is a paranoid, sexually frustrated hammer salesman who is convinced the world is coming to an end. When he accidentally steps on a rusty nail, his life starts to spiral in increasingly unhinged ways as he questions whether the universe really has it out for him or whether it's all just grotesque hallucinations caused by this putrid infection.

Thu 5 Nov 20:15 - Vue Screen 7



FANORAMA

Bowels of Hell

Gurcius Gewdner, Gustavo Vinagre | Brazil
2026 | 111 mins | Portuguese

A delightfully trippy and socially conscious horror-comedy from Brazil, about a sewage system taken over by evil spirits. Malu is a constipated event planner with a severe phobia of toilets due to a tragic event from her past. She also has a strained relationship with her non-binary child, who protests the gender reveal party she has been hired to plan. And now the toilets in their apartment building have turned carnivorous, making their way through the eccentric tenants one-by-one.

Sun 1 Nov 20:15 - Vue Screen 11



FANOMENON FEATURE FILM COMPETITION

The Days Off

UK Premiere | Lucila Mariani | Argentina, Brazil, Mexico, France | 2026 | 84 mins | Spanish, Portuguese

Set in near-future Argentina, Lucila Mariani's beguiling debut is a dreamlike coming-of-age story suspended between the everyday and the otherworldly. As a solar eclipse approaches, lonely 12-year-old Bego spends her summer drawn into an online community devoted to 'shifting', entering alternate realities through dreams. Beautifully shot, this tender, ethereal film explores adolescent longing, loneliness and the desire to escape into somewhere or someone else.

Thu 5 Nov 14:15 - Vue Screen 7
Thu 5 Nov 18:15 - Vue Screen 7



FANORAMA

The Difficult Bride

Northern Premiere | Rubaiyat Hossain
France, Bangladesh, Germany, Norway, Portugal | 2026 | 88 mins | Bengali, English

In this highly distinctive psychological drama, Bangladeshi filmmaker Rubaiyat Hossain uses subtle elements of folklore and body horror to create a biting feminist critique of the beauty myth. Zaineen reluctantly prepares for her wedding following a restrictive family set itinerary of beauty rituals and social functions. She rebels against these overbearing expectations, but starts to hallucinate, and finds strange marks on her body. The promise of her dream wedding becomes a nightmare.

Sat 7 Nov 15:30 - Vue Screen 11
Tue 10 Nov 14:00 - Vue Screen 12



FANOMENON FEATURE FILM COMPETITION

Donkey Princess

UK Premiere | Joaquín Cociña, Cristóbal León
Chile, Uruguay, France, Germany, Netherlands
2026 | 90 mins | Spanish

A princess defies her father's wishes in this boldly original retelling of Charles Perrault's fairytale Donkeyskin. When his wife dies, the King decides to outlaw love. But when his daughter falls for a merchant, only magic can help her be with the one she loves. Cristóbal León and Joaquín Cociña blend their animation expertise into this live action to create a shape-shifting visual feast. *Donkey Princess* is a truly unique work that is often magical but never shies away from the darkness of the original tale.

Wed 4 Nov 20:30 - Vue Screen 7
Sat 7 Nov 17:30 - Vue Screen 11



FANORAMA

Furies

Northern Premiere | Rami Kodeih | Lebanon, Brazil | 2026 | 133 mins | Arabic

A riveting heist thriller about two sisters fighting back against Lebanon's real-life corruption-fuelled economic collapse when banks froze accounts overnight, trapping millions of people's life savings. Maro, a determined single mother, tries to access her money to pay for her wild-hearted younger sister Dalia's life-saving surgery. When the bank refuses, the sisters plan an elaborate all-night heist to reclaim what is rightfully theirs, triggering out of control events in a city already on the brink.

Fri 13 Nov 14:45 - Vue Screen 11
Fri 13 Nov 20:15 - Vue Screen 11
Sat 14 Nov 17:30 - Vue Screen 11



FANORAMA

Grotesqqque

UK Premiere | Atsushi Nishigori | Japan 2026 | 104 mins | Japanese

A hit at this year’s Fantasia film festival, *Grotesqqque* is a music-fuelled, girl-filled anime anthology film in three parts from CloverWorks studio and Atsushi Nishigori, Chief Animation Director behind *Evangelion: 3.0+1.0 Thrice Upon a Time*. *A(E)lien* is a slapstick comedy starring a full-throttle alien octopus girl. In *Yoroshiku★Girl*, a frenzied battle royale is fought among gyarus (‘gals’). In *Nocturne: Nuit Grotesque*, a pureblood vampire and three ‘infected’ girls are sole post-apocalyptic survivors.

Sun 1 Nov 13:45 - Vue Screen 11



FANORAMA

I Love Paris

UK Premiere | Nicky Murphy | France, USA 2026 | 120 mins | French, English

Deadpan mockumentary about an up-and-coming musician whose career ambitions are complicated when she is turned into a bloodthirsty creature of the night. Paris is desperate to get her music career off the ground. But after an attempt to film a TikTok results in her becoming a vampire, she refuses to let her new nocturnal lifestyle, or the lack of daytime gigs, get in the way. Instead, she begins to realise that her newfound powers might actually help her achieve her dreams.

Sat 7 Nov 19:30 - Vue Screen 11



FANORAMA

Jim Queen

UK Premiere | Nicolas Athane, Marco Nguyen | France, Belgium | 2026 | 85 mins | French

A raunchy but heartfelt queer spoof about a viral outbreak which is turning gay men straight. Lucien is a timid twink who idolises gay social media influencer Jim Queen (and his rippling abs). When a mysterious virus begins turning proud gay men into cliché heterosexuals, Lucien must team up with his hero (who has contracted the disease) and journey through the edges of queer culture to find a cure and save the LGBTQIA+ community in this rapid-fire comedy from France.

Fri 6 Nov 21:30 - Vue Screen 12
Sun 8 Nov 20:15 - Vue Screen 11



FANOMENON FEATURE FILM COMPETITION

Mutter: The Diary of a Mother

UK Premiere | Alphan Eseli | Turkey | 2026 99 mins | Turkish

A mother’s love knows no bound in this maternal horror drama with a powerful central performance. When Gül gives birth to a child that resembles an otherworldly creature rather than a human baby, her husband leaves her. Alone and penniless, she will do everything in her power to care for her child, no matter what other people think. Mixing body horror and social drama, *Mutter* is an affecting exploration of motherhood and societal pressure that asks us what we should truly qualify as monstrous.

Sun 1 Nov 18:00 - Vue Screen 11
Wed 4 Nov 15:30 - Vue Screen 7



FANOMENON RETRO

Pan’s Labyrinth: 20th Anniversary 4K Restoration

Guillermo del Toro | Mexico, Spain | 2006 118 mins | Spanish | BBFC age rating 15

Guillermo del Toro’s beloved masterpiece is meticulously restored in 4K from the original 35mm negative. In post-Civil War Spain in 1944, Ofelia moves with her pregnant mother to live with her new stepfather, a brutal captain in Franco’s army. She discovers a mysterious labyrinth, where a faun tells her she must complete three dangerous tasks to reclaim her throne in the underworld. As Ofelia navigates the trials, the lines between her harsh reality and the fantastical world blur.

Thu 29 Oct 15:30 - Vue Screen 7
Fri 30 Oct 20:00 - Vue Screen 11



FANOMENON FAMILY

Papaya

Northern Premiere | Priscilla Kellen Brazil | 2026 | 74 mins | No Dialogue LIFF age rating PG

A tiny papaya seed rebels against becoming a tree in this stunning Brazilian animated debut from Priscilla Kellen. Little Papaya has always been a curious being, with a dream of flying and need for freedom. Realising she will soon have to root, she must fight against nature and keep moving, in this joyous, dialogue-free adventure about discovering the power within you. Accompanied by a soundtrack of Brazilian beats, Papaya is an imaginative and psychedelic experience for all ages. Presented with Leeds Young Film Festival.

Fri 30 Oct 13:45 - Vue Screen 11
Sun 1 Nov 12:00 - Vue Screen 11



FANOMENON FEATURE FILM COMPETITION

Levitating

UK Premiere | Wregas Bhanuteja | Indonesia, Singapore, Philippines, France, Taiwan, Thailand, South Korea | 2026 | 119 mins Indonesian

In a town where people find joy in possession, a young man aspires to become a trance party shaman to prevent his eviction. After his first attempt ends badly, Bayu meets Laksmi, who agrees to help him become the town’s official spirit channeler. But time is running out: his father plans to sell their home to a developer exploiting the village’s sacred water. With blistering visuals and incredible sound design, Wregas Bhanuteja’s musical fantasy sees indigenous spirituality, tradiiton and capitalism collide.

Wed 4 Nov 13:00 - Vue Screen 7
Sat 7 Nov 13:00 - Vue Screen 11



FANOMENON FEATURE FILM COMPETITION

Light Pillar

UK Premiere | Xu Zao | China | 2026 90 mins | Chinese, Mandarin

A hauntingly original sci-fi animation from Japan, *Light Pillar* is set on a wintry, abandoned film studio compound, where a lonely janitor is drawn into a virtual journey that blurs the line between dreaming and waking. The film studio is bankrupt, though the great sets remain, ranging from a Great Sphinx to the Forbidden City. With no money left for wages, remaining staff are offered alternative compensation and Zha ends up with a VR Headset, which draws him into a strange virtual world.

Thu 5 Nov 16:15 - Vue Screen 7
Sun 8 Nov 18:15 - Vue Screen 11



FANORAMA

Mārama

Taratoa Stappard | New Zealand, England 2025 | 89 mins | English, Maori, French BBFC age rating 15

A young Māori woman faces the horror of her colonial heritage in this stunning Gothic horror. Mary leaves New Zealand for Victorian Yorkshire looking to explore her family history. Against her better judgement, she takes on a role as governess in Hawkser Manor. But something is off and Mary realises she may be trapped inside the estate with buried secrets and dark, terrifying visions. A brooding and poignant exploration of the horror of colonialism and the erasing of Māori culture.

Fri 30 Oct 17:45 - Vue Screen 11
Sun 1 Nov 16:00 - Vue Screen 11



FANOMENON RETRO

Persepolis

Vincent Paronnaud, Marjane Satrapi | France, USA | 2007 | 96 mins | French, English, Persian, Germ | BBFC age rating 15

We opened LIFF 2007 with *Persepolis* at Leeds Town Hall and we are screening the film again in tribute to the artist, writer and filmmaker Marjane Satrapi who passed away this June. Adapted from her graphic novel, the groundbreaking animated classic *Persepolis* follows the life of Marji, a spirited young girl growing up in Iran during the 1979 Islamic Revolution. Through her eyes, we witness the fall of the Shah, and the rise of a new and even more strict regime.

Mon 2 Nov 18:00 - Mill Hill Chapel - PWYC
Tue 10 Nov 20:15 - Mill Hill Chapel - PWYC



FANORAMA

Prosecution

English Premiere | Faraz Shariat | Germany 2026 | 113 mins | Germany, Korean

Winner of the Berlin Film Festival audience award, Faraz Shariat’s gripping and politically charged thriller follows German-Korean prosecutor Seyo Kim (Chen Emilie Yan) as she turns vigilante to confront far-right violence in eastern Germany. After Seyo survives a racist attack, she defies orders and starts her own perilous investigation. When she brings one of her attackers to trial, she fights to expose him as part of a wider far-right network run with the complicity of the justice system itself.

Sat 7 Nov 17:15 - Vue Screen 7
Thu 12 Nov 20:15 - Vue Screen 12
Sun 15 Nov 11:30 - Vue Screen 12



FANORAMA

Salvation

UK Premiere | Emin Alper | Turkey, France, Netherlands, Greece, Sweden, Saudi Arabia 2026 | 120 mins | Turkish, Kurdish

Winner of the Silver Bear Grand Jury Prize at Berlin Film Festival, Emin Alper’s *Salvation* is a deeply unsettling folk-horror-like examination of the roots of atrocity that fills you with foreboding until its searing end. In a remote village high in the Turkish mountains, the return of an exiled clan reignites a decades-old land feud. As dormant resentments resurface, Mesut, the local leader’s brother, is seized by dark visions that he believes to be divine warnings and soon tensions surge in the community.

Tue 3 Nov 12:45 - Vue Screen 7
Wed 4 Nov 18:00 - Vue Screen 7



FANORAMA

Sheep in the Box

Northern Premiere | Hirokazu Koreeda
Japan | 2026 | 126 mins | Japanese
BBFC age rating PG

One of two new films from LIFF favourite Hirokazu Koreeda screening this year, alongside *Look Back*, *Sheep in the Box* is a moving sci-fi drama about bereft parents turning to AI to rebuild their family. Grieving their young son Kakeru who died in mysterious circumstances, Otone and her husband Kensuke turn to the Rebirth company to supply them with a state-of-the-art humanoid replication of Kakeru. The humanoid develops rapidly and appears to have memories it couldn't possibly have.

Tue 10 Nov 20:15 - Vue Screen 7
Wed 11 Nov 13:00 - Vue Screen 7



LIFF 40TH ANNIVERSARY SPECIAL FILM PREVIEW

Wild Horse Nine

Martin McDonagh | UK, USA, Chile | 2026
118 mins | English

From writer-director Martin McDonagh (*The Banshees of Inisherin*), *Wild Horse Nine* is a gripping dark comedy thriller set shortly before the 1973 coup in Chile. CIA agents Chris (John Malkovich) and Lee (Sam Rockwell) are dispatched from Santiago to Easter Island by their bureau chief, MJ (Steve Buscemi). Amongst the Island's iconic statues, Chris's new bond with a pair of rebellious students (Mariana di Girolamo and Ailín Salas) threatens to upend everyone's trip to this remote paradise.

Fri 30 Oct 20:15 - Vue Screen 12 (DS + AD)
Sat 31 Oct 16:00 - Hyde Park Screen 1 (AD)
Sun 1 Nov 19:00 - Cottage Road Cinema



FANORAMA

Wolfram

UK Premiere | Warwick Thornton | Australia
2026 | 102 mins | English

Warwick Thornton follows up his acclaimed *Sweet Country* from 2017 with the immersive and moving outback western *Wolfram*. A pair of Aboriginal siblings negotiate the punishing and violence-soaked terrain of 1930s Australia. After they break free from their white masters who forced them into child labour in mines, the children flee across the vast desert 'sweet country' of Central Australia, relying on each other as they search for safety, family, and a way home.

Mon 2 Nov 13:45 - Vue Screen 7
Tue 3 Nov 18:15 - Vue Screen 7

Jim Queen – Page 38



FANORAMA

You are the Film + Hoodsteps

Northern Premiere | Makoto Ueda (*You Are the Film*)/Nomura Fusso (*Hoodsteps*) | Japan
2026 | 68 + 10 mins | Japanese

A trip to the cinema breaks the space/time continuum in this delightful micro-budget sci-fi comedy. Aspiring playwright Madoka finds herself watching a film about musician Kazuma, who himself is watching a film about Madoka. Somehow the two can communicate through the screen and as their stories merge, cracks begin to show in the multiverse. Highly inventive, the feature debut from the writer of *Beyond the Infinite Two Minutes and River* is a giddy ode to creativity and being the writer of your own story.

Fri 30 Oct 15:45 - Vue Screen 11
Sat 31 Oct 11:15 - Vue Screen 11



EXPLORE A WORLD OF FILM AT
BRADFORD'S INDEPENDENT CINEMA

Q PICTUREVILLE CINEMA

FIND US AT

SCIENCE+
MEDIA
MUSEUM

Fanomenon Short Film Competition 1

Fri 6 Nov 11:15 - Vue Screen 11
 Sun 8 Nov 11:45 - Vue Screen 11

Running time: 91 mins

Carmageddon

English Premiere | Tarun Thind
 UK | 2025 | 13 mins | English

Seduced by far-right influencers, a lone driver is planning a deadly terror attack. But a vengeful South Asian spirit has other ideas.

Furies

UK Premiere | Alice Barsby
 France | 2025 | 19 mins | French

A mother keeps her daughter locked inside to protect her from the monsters she hunts. When her daughter sneaks out to a party, she is faced with a terrible decision.

Headphones

UK Premiere | Steven Arriagada
 Australia | 2025 | 9 mins | English

While cleaning at a fast-food restaurant, a man starts hearing instructions coming over the music on his old Walkman. Should he follow them? What will happen if he doesn't?

Kāalgaon

International Premiere
 Amit Gupta | India, USA | 2026
 12 mins | English, Hindi

This short film from India puts a supernatural spin on the very real issue of sexual assault, as a journalist investigates the disappearance of women in a small town.

Your Loss

Yorkshire Premiere | Nina Addams
 UK | 2026 | 9 mins | English

A grieving daughter wants to arrange a funeral for her mother. The only obstacle is the AI funeral director that even has a eulogy written for her already.

Raptor

European Premiere
 Libby Hakaraia | New Zealand
 2026 | 14 mins | Maori

Set in prehistoric Aotearoa, a Maori family is torn apart when a gigantic bird of prey snatches their child. The father takes it upon himself to go to his son's rescue.

Time's Up, I'm Afraid

Yorkshire Premiere | James Button
 UK | 2025 | 14 mins | English

Dream and reality blur in this comedy as a hypnotherapist finds herself snapping in and out of a trance. But which is her actual life, and which is a fiction?

Fanomenon Short Film Competition 2

Fri 6 Nov 13:45 - Vue Screen 11
 Sun 8 Nov 14:00 - Vue Screen 11

Running time: 88 mins

The Pigs Underneath

Yorkshire Premiere
 Charlie Dennis | UK | 2025
 12 mins | English

Residents from a tight-knit working class town are forced to meet a brutal quota just to survive. If they fail to meet it, they are punished with something far worse than death. A gripping sci-fi with a stark social and political commentary.

Sunlight Water

Yorkshire Premiere | Zoë Bullock
 UK | 2026 | 17 mins | English

When a lonely, recently single woman rescues a houseplant in need of serious TLC – and then falls in love with it – she must discover what the plant really wants, or risk losing herself forever. A highly original tale with a strong central performance.

REUS

UK Premiere | Ondřej Tešnar
 Czechia | 2026 | 9 mins | English

One fateful night, a self-centred cop named Jay tries to make his life easier, unknowingly unleashing a deadly spiral of events. This stunning animation will delight all fans of cyberpunk sci-fi.

Night Feeds

Rana Roy | USA | 2026 | 16 mins
 English

An Arab-American mother drowns in postpartum as a night nurse unnerves her and war floods her screens. The lines between nightmare and reality blur in this incredibly powerful story of survival and motherhood.

Knitting Club

Yorkshire Premiere
 Diogo Abrantes, João Rito
 Portugal | 2025 | 5 mins
 Portuguese

Miguel, a delivery guy, drops off red yarn at a knitting club run by three overly eager grannies. When they insist he stays for tea, he discovers they take their craft very seriously. A very modern take on the folk horror genre.

A Twist of Hate

Yorkshire Premiere
 Madeleine Shenai | UK | 2026
 9 mins | English

A newlywed couple encounter an unusual lawyer who probes their motivations for love. Marriage is for better or worse, but where does that leave us in practical terms? A delightfully spiky dark comedy.



CARMAGEDDON



HEADPHONES



A TWIST OF HATE



NIGHT FEEDS



FURIES



KĀALGAON



THE PIGS UNDERNEATH



SUNLIGHT WATER

Fanomenon Short Film Competition 3

Fri 6 Nov 15:45 - Vue Screen 11
Sun 8 Nov 16:00 - Vue Screen 11

Running time: 85 mins

The Bones Exist

Yorkshire Premiere | Kelsey Bollig, Matthew DuVall | USA | 2026
14 mins | English, Spanish

1850s Alta California, a dwindling group of gold prospectors encounters a feral boy who forces the men to confront the horrors lurking in the woods and the sins of their past. Tensions run high but they soon discover the boy may not be alone.

Banshee

UK Premiere | Peter Vass
Ireland | 2025 | 16 mins | English

In 1880s Ireland, Róise’s family is haunted by a banshee after she discovers a mysterious comb, leading to a series of deaths in her village. Told with fantastic cinematography, this is a truly haunting tale from director Peter Vass.

When You Hear Hoofbeats

International Premiere
Millie Donaldson | Australia
2026 | 9 mins | English

A young woman struggles to have her distressing medical symptoms taken seriously, leading her to believe she may be possessed by the devil. Navigating the medical system as a woman is not for the weak as exposed in this very clever little short.

Bait

Yorkshire Premiere
Martha G. Ayerbe | Spain | 2025
16 mins | Spanish

On a hunting trip, young Martín accompanies his father and his father’s boss. As the day progresses, each man’s inner tensions and frustrations come to light, putting Martín’s sensitivity and quiet strength to the test.

This Place is a Sh*thole

Yorkshire Premiere
Will Wightman | UK | 2025
4 mins | English

If you thought your overpriced yet filthy flatshare was bad, this one might actually take the cake. Chaos and grime are at the heart of this fast-paced, horrifying, hilarious and imaginative film from Will Wightman.

Benny’s Second Birthday

Yorkshire Premiere | R.J. Glass
USA | 2025 | 12 mins | English

Benny is turning 2 and he’s apparently invited the entire town, leaving his mother rather confused. This deeply unsettling short is told through great performances, and we’re pretty confident Benny would be besties with Damien from The Omen.

Red Velvet

International Premiere
Haley Hope | USA | 2026
14 mins | English

A serial killer goes on his dream date with his dream victim, but discovers he may have bargained for more than he can handle. A gorgeously shot short film that handles a familiar premise with great skill.

Day of the Dead

Featuring some of the most acclaimed horror films of the year, Day of the Dead on Halloween opens with *Never After Dark*, a spine-chilling ghost story from Japan. Two films from the USA follow – creepy Gothic horror *Recluse* and unsettling genre-bending mystery *Imposters*. The day’s finale is the wild martial arts horror comedy *Ghost in the Cell* from Indonesia.

Sat 31 Oct
13:15 – Vue Screen 11



DAY OF THE DEAD

Never After Dark

Dave Boyle | Japan | 2026 | 105 mins
Japanese | BBFC age rating 15

A travelling medium uncovers dark, threatening secrets in this spine-chilling ghost story. Airi helps lost souls cross over to the afterlife. Arriving at a remote location, she encounters a spirit that will only come out at night and that refuses to leave. With no other option, Airi breaks her own rules to try and understand the spirit’s strange behaviour and immediately puts herself in danger. Dave Boyle’s masterful storytelling gives us a fresh and terrifying take on the haunted house genre.

Sat 31 Oct 13:15 - Vue Screen 11



RED VELVET



WHEN YOU HEAR HOOFBEATS



THIS PLACE IS A SH*THOLE



BENNY'S SECOND BIRTHDAY



DAY OF THE DEAD

Recluse

Northern Premiere | Henry Chaisson
USA | 2026 | 102 mins | English

Henry Chaisson’s atmospheric debut set in a Gothic world is a claustrophobic descent into horror. After receiving a mysterious phone call, sound engineer Joan (Sasha Frolova) returns to her father’s New England estate in the aftermath of a devastating fire, where her painter father lies in bed with severe burns, watched over by the crossbow-wielding housekeeper. Joan must trace a series of ghostly audio fragments to confront the unearthed demons of her family’s past.

Sat 31 Oct 15:30 - Vue Screen 11



DAY OF THE DEAD

Imposters

Northern Premiere | Caleb Phillips
USA | 2026 | 102 mins | English

A couple is put to the test when their missing baby returns under mysterious circumstances in this chilling lo-fi sci-fi. Paul and Marie are a picture-perfect couple whose lives are shattered when their baby, Theo, is taken from them. But when Marie returns with an unharmed Theo sometime later, Paul suspects the child isn’t theirs and that something dark is at play. Caleb Phillips crafts a smart, tense, and at times harrowing film centred around a stellar performance from Jessica Rothe.

Sat 31 Oct 18:15 - Vue Screen 11



DAY OF THE DEAD

Ghost in the Cell

Joko Anwar | Indonesia, South Korea | 2026
106 mins | Indonesian | BBFC age rating 18

In the Fanomenon Day of the Dead finale, Indonesian genre master Joko Anwar delivers a wild combo of martial arts action, graphic horror, pitch-black humour, and social commentary, topped with dance battles and performance art prayer routines. When a high-security prison led by a tyrannical warden is rocked by a series of gruesome murders, with the bodies of victims put on spectacular display, rival gangs and outcasts are forced to unite against the invisible demon.

Sat 31 Oct 20:30 - Vue Screen 11

Night of the Dead

The Fanomenon all-night horror marathon returns to the iconic Hyde Park Picture House – and this year on Friday 13th - with a new mix of midnight horror and cult carnage. Can you survive the night? This year’s line-up opens with the intense French horror thriller *No Way Down*, followed by *Oddities* about two self-destructive best friends, and creeping dread and terror in *Infirmary*. The night comes to a gory close with a 4K re-release of *From Beyond*, a cult masterpiece from horror legend Stuart Gordon, the director of *Re-Animator*.

Fri 13 Nov 23:00 – Hyde Park Screen 1

No Way Down

Northern Premiere | Mohamed Chabane, Théo Jourdain
France | 2026 | 91 mins | French

Five friends must find their way out of an abandoned tower in this tense horror-thriller. Set to get to the bottom of the urban legend born out of a string of mysterious disappearances in the sealed tower of a local housing project, a group of friends embark on a night expedition inside the building. They’re soon chased by something or someone who has no intention of letting them out alive, and as they try and find a way out, every door opened is a new terror awaiting them.



Infirmary

Nicholas Pineda | USA | 2026 | 87 mins | English

The found footage genre meets liminal space horror in Nicholas Pineda’s tense and unnerving *Infirmary*. On his first shift as a night watchmen, former soldier Edward encounters increasingly strange phenomena alongside his coworker, retired police officer Lester. As the unlikely partners navigate the empty halls of an old psychiatric hospital, seemingly unnatural events begin to occur that reveal not only the secrets of the building’s past but of the men themselves.



From Beyond

Stuart Gordon | USA, Italy | 2026 | 85 mins
English | BBFC age rating 15

Celebrating its 40th anniversary, Stuart Gordon’s *From Beyond* reunites the director with his *Re-animator* stars, Jeffrey Combs and Barbara Crampton for another tale of Lovecraftian body-horror. Dr. Edward Pretorius’ Resonator machine has pierced the boundaries of reality as we know it and released unimaginable horrors. It falls to his assistant Dr. Crawford Tillinghast as well as disbelieving psychologist Dr. Katherine McMichaels to stop Pretorius’ machine before it is too late.



Oddities

Tyler Savage | USA | 2026 | 91 mins | English

A mixture of thriller and horror with touches of comedy, featuring a magnificent Adrienne Barbeau claiming her reign as horror queen. When two self-destructive best friends accidentally kill their drug dealer, they have to flee town. Stopping at a roadside antique shop, they quickly discover that the older woman running the place isn’t as sweet as she seems. It’s out of the frying pan and into the fire as they fight for survival while the criminals they were running away from descend on the property...



Night of the Dead Shorts

The Bones Exist

Yorkshire Premiere | Kelsey Bollig, Matthew DuVall | USA | 2026
14 mins | English, Spanish

1850s Alta California, a dwindling group of gold prospectors encounters a feral boy who forces the men to confront the horrors lurking in the woods and the sins of their past. Tensions run high but they soon discover the boy may not be alone.

The Candle

Yorkshire Premiere
Ren Ariel Sano | USA
2026 | 9 mins

When a mysterious candle brings a birthday cake to life, a group of friends find out the hard way that they can’t have their cake and eat it. But it might eat them.

The Humbug

Cole Paviour | UK | 2025
9 mins | English

An elderly woman in a care home learns about her friend’s magical mint humbugs which grant unearthly pleasures, with one catch... If you forget to save the middle bit, “the Humbug” will be coming to visit you, and he won’t be happy.

Knitting Club

Diogo Abrantes, João Rito
Portugal | 2025 | 5 mins
Portuguese

Miguel, a delivery guy, drops off red yarn at a knitting club run by three overly eager grannies. When they insist he stays for tea, he discovers they take their craft very seriously. A very modern take on the folk horror genre.

MILO

Yorkshire Premiere
Ryan Jeffrey Ross | USA
2026 | 11 mins | English
English, Spanish

A runaway teenager searching for his missing older brother manages to track him down to a deserted RV park. He wants to make amends, but something else is waiting for him in the woods.

Overture

Yorkshire Premiere
Jakub Hronský | Czechia
2025 | 7 mins

In a run-down housing estate in Bratislava, a strange creature is caught in the cycle of devouring and growing, as the world is transformed around it in this unsettling and dark animation.

This Place is a Sh*thole

Yorkshire Premiere
Will Wightman | UK | 2025
4 mins | English

If you thought your overpriced yet filthy flatshare was bad, this one might actually take the cake. Chaos and grime are at the heart of this fast-paced, horrifying, hilarious and imaginative film from Will Wightman.



KNITTING CLUB



OVERTURE



THIS PLACE IS A SH*THOLE

The City Plays Itself

In the year that the city of Leeds turns 400, this special retrospective for the 40th Leeds International Film Festival takes a panoramic look at cities and urban life on film. One of cinema's great protagonists, the city has been endlessly imagined, documented and mythologised by filmmakers. More than a backdrop, the city moves and breathes, encloses and conceals; a place of memory and reinvention, struggle and play. Journeying across continents and decades, these films explore urban spaces and the lives that unfold within them, revealing the cinematic city as a place of wonder, conflict, aspiration and possibility.

Anchoring the retrospective is Thom Andersen's sprawling, cinephilic film essay *Los Angeles Plays Itself*, from which the retrospective takes its name. Across the selection, cities become sites of feminist futurism and resistance in *Born in Flames*; of modernity and transformation in *PlayTime* and *Taipei Story*; and of displacement and belonging in *A Private Enterprise* and *Salaam Bombay!*. Jocelyne Saab records Beirut transformed by conflict, while elsewhere, *Summertime* finds romance amid the canals of Venice. Curated by Alice Miller



LOS ANGELES PLAYS ITSELF – Page 50



Atlantic Rhapsody

Katrin Ottarsdóttir | Faroe Islands, Denmark
1989 | 75 mins | Faroese

A rare chance to see the first Faroese-produced feature film, Katrin Ottarsdóttir's inventive debut takes us through 24 hours in Tórshavn, the world's smallest capital. Moving nimbly between 52 interconnected vignettes, the film follows the city's inhabitants through everyday encounters, comic mishaps and unexpected moments of magic, all with a largely non-professional cast. Funny, whimsical and brimming with life, *Atlantic Rhapsody* builds into an affectionate portrait of a city and its people.

Thu 12 Nov 19:00 - Vue Screen 7
Fri 13 Nov 14:00 - Vue Screen 7



The Beirut Trilogy

Jocelyne Saab | France | 1976, 1978, 1982
124 mins | French

Presented together in their recent restorations, Jocelyne Saab's landmark *Beirut Trilogy* forms a powerful, deeply personal record of a city transformed by war. Made between 1976 and 1982, these remarkable essay films follow Saab through the streets of her changing hometown, capturing displacement and everyday life amid destruction. Combining documentary images with poetic, sometimes epistolary narration, they form an intimate portrait of a disappearing city and of the people who persist.

Fri 13 Nov 17:30 - Vue Screen 11



Born in Flames

Lizzie Borden | USA | 1983 | 79 mins
English, French | BBFC age rating 15

A fiercely inventive work of feminist speculative fiction, Lizzie Borden's *Born in Flames* imagines a near-future New York where revolution has benefited only the privileged. As groups of women organise resistance, Borden's kinetic collage of television news, protest and underground radio crackles with punk energy and the possibility of building a new world in the shell of the old. Driven by a thrilling post-punk soundtrack, this exhilarating classic remains defiantly ahead of its time.

Sat 7 Nov 13:30 - Hyde Park Screen 1



Drifting Clouds

Aki Kaurismäki | Finland, Germany, France
1996 | 95 mins | Finnish, English, Swedish
BBFC age rating PG

Aki Kaurismäki's 1996 comedy-drama honed his tender, deadpan style to profound new levels, and his uniquely stylised depiction of a vintage, melancholic, blue collar Helsinki. Middle-aged couple Ilona and Lauri are down on their luck, when they both lose their jobs in close succession. They pull together to try and open their own restaurant, facing down major obstacles in a stoical, gruffly affectionate manner. A gently profound and unsentimental film with a winning streak of absurdist humour.

Thu 12 Nov 20:45 - Vue Screen 7
Fri 13 Nov 15:45 - Vue Screen 7



The Little Girl Who Sold the Sun + Le Franc

Djibril Diop Mambéty | Senegal, Switzerland, France | 1999 + 1994 | 91 mins | Wolof, French

Two extraordinary films from Senegalese master Djibril Diop Mambéty offer richly textured portraits of Dakar, where hardship coexists with possibility. In *The Little Girl Who Sold the Sun*, Lissa Baléra is unforgettable as Sili, the city's only female newspaper seller. Paired with *Le Franc*, a sly tale of a musician and a winning lottery ticket, these luminous, inventive films form Mambéty's unfinished *Tales of Ordinary People* series and offer a glimpse of his singular vision.

Sat 7 Nov 16:15 - Everyman Screen 4



Little Fugitive

Ray Ashley, Morris Engel, Ruth Orkin | USA
1953 | 80 mins | English | BBFC age rating PG

Seen through the eyes of a seven-year-old, *Little Fugitive* captures the excitement, fear and freedom of childhood in 1950s New York. When Joey runs away to Coney Island after being tricked into believing he has killed his brother, the legendary amusement park becomes a world of adventure and discovery. Co-directed by photographer Ruth Orkin, Morris Engel and Ray Ashley, this pioneering independent film's handheld camerawork and naturalistic style would inspire the French New Wave.

Sat 31 Oct 09:00 - Hyde Park Screen 1 - FREE



Los Angeles Plays Itself

Thom Andersen | USA | 2003
169 mins | English

A rare chance to see Thom Andersen's landmark essay film, an extraordinary exploration of how cinema has represented and misrepresented its own hometown. Drawing on more than 200 film clips, Andersen unpicks the myths Hollywood has created around Los Angeles, revealing the histories and communities they have obscured. Monumental yet endlessly engrossing, *Los Angeles Plays Itself* is a dazzling portrait of a city built on storytelling and one of cinema's great works of film criticism.

Sat 14 Nov 15:45 - Hyde Park Screen 1



Love Letter

Kinuyo Tanaka | Japan | 1953
98 mins | Japanese

The directorial debut of the great Japanese actress and filmmaker Kinuyo Tanaka, who made 15 films with director Kenji Mizoguchi, *Love Letter* is a vivid evocation of post-war Tokyo a year after the American occupation ended. The film follows repatriated veteran Reikichi, who searches for his lost love while translating romantic letters from Japanese women to American GIs. The film is a nuanced and perceptive romantic drama with a deft critique of patriarchal hypocrisy.

Sat 31 Oct 13:30 - Hyde Park Screen 1



Odd Man Out

Carol Reed | UK | 1947 | 116 min
English | BBFC age rating PG

Set against political unrest in Northern Ireland, Carol Reed's gripping post-war noir stars James Mason as Johnny McQueen, a revolutionary stranded on the streets of an unnamed Belfast after a robbery goes wrong. Wounded and hunted by police, Johnny makes his way across the city over the course of one increasingly desperate night. With cinematographer Robert Krasker, Reed transforms Belfast into a shadowy urban labyrinth, anticipating their later collaboration on *The Third Man*.

Fri 30 Oct 18:00 - Vue Screen 7
Mon 2 Nov 12:45 - Vue Screen 12



Salaam Bombay!

Mira Nair | India, USA, France, UK | 1988
113 mins | Hindi, English | BBFC age rating 15

Mira Nair's extraordinary debut plunges us into the teeming streets of Bombay through the eyes of ten-year-old Krishna. Abandoned by his family, he joins a community of children surviving on the margins of the city, determined to earn enough money to return home. Shot on location with a largely non-professional cast, *Salaam Bombay!* combines neorealist immediacy with deep compassion in its heartbreaking portrait of childhood and survival.

Wed 11 Nov 20:30 - Vue Screen 7
Thu 12 Nov 16:30 - Vue Screen 7



São Paulo, Incorporated (New 4K Restoration)

Luiz Sérgio Person | Brazil | 1965
107 mins | Portuguese, English

Luiz Sérgio Person's electrifying portrait of 1960s São Paulo captures a metropolis transformed by industrialisation. As the city's booming automotive industry gathers pace, ambitious young Carlos pursues professional success while growing increasingly alienated from the life he has built. Ricardo Aronovich's striking cinematography captures the scale and energy of the city, revealing a society in thrall to progress and the individual reduced to another cog in its machine.

Sun 1 Nov 18:00 - Everyman Screen 4
Tue 3 Nov 14:15 - Everyman Screen 4



Summertime

David Lean | UK, USA, Italy | 1955
99 mins | English, Italian

David Lean turns Venice into a city of longing and possibility in this exquisite, bittersweet romance. Katharine Hepburn gives one of her most moving performances as Jane, a lonely American tourist whose long-awaited trip takes an unexpected turn when she falls for a charming antiques dealer. Shot on location in radiant Technicolour, *Summertime* captures Venice through the wonder of a first-time visitor, and tenderly explores falling in love with a person and a place.

Sun 1 Nov 10:30 - Vue Screen 12
Tue 3 Nov 13:45 - Vue Screen 12



Panelstory or Birth of a Community (New Restoration)

Vera Chytilová | Czechoslovakia | 1980
96 mins | Czech

A vast, unfinished housing estate on the outskirts of Prague becomes the setting for Věra Chytilová's anarchic social satire. Over a single day, a tragicomic gallery of residents attempt to go about their lives amid mud, rubble and malfunctioning buildings. Shot with restless energy after Chytilová's years of blacklisting, this funny, dystopian and startlingly modern film exposes the absurdities of urban planning and human behaviour.

Sun 8 Nov 11:30 - Vue Screen 7
Tue 10 Nov 13:15 - Vue Screen 7



Playtime

Jacques Tati | France, Italy | 1967
124 mins | French, English, German
BBFC age rating PG

Playtime is Jacques Tati's gloriously inventive satire of modernity, and a portrait of a city in motion. As the bewildered Monsieur Hulot navigates a futuristic Paris of glass, gadgets and labyrinthine offices, he becomes entangled with a group of equally disoriented characters. Almost entirely wordless and packed with meticulously choreographed visual humour, Tati's expansive widescreen spectacle turns the modern world into an absurd playground.

Sat 7 Nov 08:30 - Hyde Park Screen 1 - FREE



A Private Enterprise

Peter Smith | UK | 1974 | 78 mins | English

A pioneering portrait of British-Asian life, Peter Smith's warm and perceptive drama follows young engineer Shiv as he tries to build a future in 1970s Birmingham. Dreaming of leaving factory work to start his own business, he navigates family expectations, romance and the racism of his adopted country. Shot on a tiny budget, *A Private Enterprise* finds humour and humanity in Shiv's determination to make a place for himself in a changing city.

Mon 2 Nov 18:15 - Everyman Screen 4
Mon 9 Nov 14:15 - Everyman Screen 4



Taipei Story

Edward Yang | Taiwan | 1985 | 119 mins
Min Nan, Mandarin, Hokkien

Edward Yang's melancholy masterpiece captures Taipei at a moment of dizzying transformation. As ambitious Chin looks towards the future, her boyfriend Lung, played by fellow New Taiwan Cinema master Hou Hsiao-hsien, remains tethered to the past, and their relationship begins to drift apart. Against a cityscape of gleaming towers and neon-lit streets, Yang's gorgeous compositions capture the pace of urban change while finding moments of intimacy and beauty within the modern metropolis.

Wed 11 Nov 18:00 - Vue Screen 7
Thu 12 Nov 14:00 - Vue Screen 7



The Third Man

Carol Reed | UK | 1949 | 104 mins | English, German, Russian, French | BBFC age rating PG

Regarded as one of the greatest British films of all time, *The Third Man* is one of two Carol Reed films screening in The City Plays Itself season alongside *Odd Man Out*. Set in post-war Austria in 1949, the film follows American writer Holly Martins who arrives in Vienna to visit an old friend but learns he has been killed in a street accident. The circumstances seem suspicious, and what follows is a murky and captivating thriller set among the maze-like streets and sewers of Vienna.

Fri 30 Oct 20:30 - Vue Screen 7
Mon 2 Nov 15:15 - Vue Screen 12



Ticket of No Return

Ulrike Ottinger | West Germany | 1979
108 mins | German, English

Ulrike Ottinger's wildly stylish feminist odyssey takes us through the cafés, nightclubs and queer spaces of West Berlin. Tabea Blumenschein is unforgettable as an enigmatic woman who arrives in the city with one purpose: to drink, embarking on an increasingly strange tour of its nightlife and eccentric inhabitants. Dressed throughout in Blumenschein's own extraordinary costumes, she drifts through Ottinger's intoxicating vision of Berlin in a film of outrageous wit and visual invention.

Sun 8 Nov 20:30 - Everyman Screen 4
Mon 9 Nov 16:00 - Everyman Screen 4

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Stewarts is delighted to sponsor LIFF SHORTS at Leeds International Film Festival 2026

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LIFF SHORTS
2026

We love short films so much at LIFF that we have a whole programme section dedicated to them, with an extensive selection of hand-picked shorts from Yorkshire, across the UK, and around the world. LIFF SHORTS 2026 opens on 3 November with the Yorkshire Short Film Competition. From 4 to 7 November, we present 7 more competitions including the Louis le Prince International Short Film Competition, named after the Leeds artist and inventor who made the world's first moving images in the city in 1888, and the World Animation Competition. The winning short films of the competitions are presented in the Award-Winners programme, first screening on 8 November, with repeats on 10 and 12 November.

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LIFF SHORTS 2026

The Award Winners

A great chance to see all the winning short films together from the eight competitions of LIFF SHORTS 2026, including the international, animation, documentary, British, and Yorkshire winners. LIFF is an Oscar® Qualifying Festival, which means that the winners of two of our competitions may be considered for nomination: the Louis le Prince International Short Film Competition (for the Academy Award for Best Live Action Short Film) and the World Animation Competition (for Best Animated Short Film).

Sun 8 Nov 16:00 - Everyman Screen 4

Tue 10 Nov 18:00 - Everyman Screen 4

Thu 12 Nov 14:00 - Everyman Screen 4

Leeds 400

Celebrating Louis le Prince

This special panel event will discuss his fascinating and tragic story of Leeds artist and inventor Louis le Prince, who made the world's first moving images in 1888, the influence of his wife Elizabeth Whitley, and how we can increase awareness of his place in film history.

Thu 5 Nov 18:00 - Leeds City Library - FREE

Vera Media: Archiving the City

Yorkshire and North East Film Archive presents a special screening of archive film from Leeds including spotlighting the remarkable work of Vera Media, the pioneering Leeds-based women's film and television collective founded in 1985. A unique retrospective on the city's people, places and stories from the 1980s to the early 2000s.

Wed 4 Nov 18:00 - Leeds City Library - FREE



Louis le Prince International Short Film Competition 1

Thu 5 Nov 11:15 – Everyman Screen 4

Running time: 91 mins

Named after the Leeds artist and inventor who created the world’s first moving images in 1888, and Oscar® Qualifying in the category of Best Live Action Short Film, this major competition is an extensive celebration of new short film fiction from around the world. Join us for the 6 programmes in the daytime on 5 and 6 November at Everyman Cinema, and you can see 3 programmes on each day for just one price of £9.50/£7.50.

Ambush | Kameen Chica

Yorkshire Premiere
Yassmina Karajah | Canada,
Jordan | 2025 | 21 mins
Arabic

A pop-up techno club in Amman. Inside, Jana’s fresh start is being challenged. Outside, Hasan quietly swallows heartbreak. They are two strangers on opposite sides of the street. A mesmerising portrait of loneliness, longing and resilience in a city in flux.

Milk

International Premiere
Filippo Marasco | Italy | 2026
18 mins | Italian

A tooth extraction introduces a watchful child to his mother’s new love. In Milk, tenderness turns grotesque, ordinary gestures uncanny, and love unfolds as a tale equal parts sweet and unsettling.

English Premiere
João Victor Silva, Matheus
Malburg | Brazil | 2026
14 mins | Portuguese

12-year-old Dadá sets off with her younger brother Tato to deliver a chicken to a local restaurant. But when she discovers Tato’s close bond with the chicken, the journey becomes an awakening to vegetarianism, violence, and the power of imaginative play.

Gloryland

Pauline Pichard | Switzerland
2026 | 13 mins | French

A dream of an enigmatic light triggers disappearances, leaving behind glowing human silhouettes. Hazy and experimental, the tale is witnessed in an eden-like allotment garden, where non-human witnesses and rumours of a healer from Mauritius deepen the mystery.

“Vaterland” or A Bule Named Yanto

Yorkshire Premiere
Berthold Wahjudi | Germany,
Indonesia | 2026 | 25 mins
English, German, Indonesian

When German-Indonesian Yanto returns to Yogyakarta from Berlin, he finds his younger sister belongs more effortlessly than he does. Equally hilarious and heartbreaking, this sharp episodic portrait of mixed-race identity captures the ache of in-betweenness.



AMBUSH | KAMEEN

MILK



CHICA



“VATERLAND” OR A BULE NAMED YANTO

Louis le Prince International Short Film Competition 2

Thu 5 Nov 14:00 – Everyman Screen 4

Running time: 91 mins

Burn and fade

UK Premiere | David Arslanian
France | 2025 | 15 mins
French Sign Language

Set amongst a forest full of ghosts, two septuagenarians share their reflections on life, love, and belonging, during an escape from their retirement home.

Nobody Barks

Yorkshire Premiere
Júlia Coldwell Serra | Spain
2025 | 20 mins | Catalan

When Candela accidentally runs over her nephew’s dog, she avoids confession by inventing a legend about a dog pilgrimage to a sacred tree. As the lie begins to consume her, this deadpan, absurdist look at folklore asks how far we’ll go to protect ourselves.

Surface Tension

UK Premiere
The Serrano Sisters | Philippines
2025 | 17 mins | Tagalog

When competitive swimmer Bulet returns to her hometown in Laguna for a wedding, she finds herself drowning out of water. Blending archival photos and underwater shots, this retelling of the siren myth explores the inseparable losses of love, land, and lineage.

As a Cure

UK Premiere
Dorothea Sing Zhang
China, UK | 2026 | 17 mins
Mandarin Chinese

Sifting through expansive sand dunes, a girl searches for her identity card to pursue personal artistic desires, a decision that would create a seismic shift within her family and future.

The Spectacular Death of Prisca

European Premiere
Kaelo Iyizoba | Nigeria | 2026
23 mins | English

On her daughter’s wedding day, an overprotective mother finds herself catapulted into the chaotic world of an old Nollywood film. As she embarks on a mission to rescue her daughter, what unfolds is a high-energy, entertaining love letter to Nollywood cinema.



AS A CURE



NOBODY BARKS



BURN AND FADE



SURFACE TENSION

Louis le Prince International Short Film Competition 3

Thu 5 Nov 16:00 – Everyman Screen 4

Running time: 87 mins

Trio

Yorkshire Premiere
Fridtjof Stensæth Josefsen,
Morten Borgestad | Norway
2026 | 4 mins | Norwegian

What is the worst way to find out that you are the third wheel in a friendship? As three friends journey through Oslo, one discovers that there is less and less space for him. A deeply relatable physical comedy about exclusion and the desire to fit in.

Scorching

Yorkshire Premiere | Beidi Wang
China | 2026 | 18 mins
Chinese - Min Nan, Mandarin Chinese

In a Guangdong factory town, 13-year-old Li Yan is expected to follow generations of women into the poultry plant. But after stealing an egg to hatch, her quiet defiance takes a strange, unsettling turn, challenging labour, womanhood, and biological destiny.

71

World Premiere | Sinisa Vidovic
Austria | 2026 | 15 mins
Bulgarian, Serbian

A young Bulgarian man drives a truck along an Austrian highway, 71 people sealed in the cargo hold with little air. Will he follow instructions from his handlers or lean into his humanity? Based on a true story that changed Europe's refugee policy in 2015.

Gloria

UK Premiere | Marvin Yamb
French Guiana | 2025 | 15 mins
French, Haitian

Gloria learns a heavy secret about her daughter Ilana. But finding herself trapped in the suffocating silence of religion and traditions, she doesn't know how to react to protect her child.

Fried Chicken & Strip Checkers

European Premiere
Ophelia Harutyunyan
Armenia, France | 2026
19 mins | Armenian

Twelve-year-old Amalia juggles childish dreams with adult duties while bickering with siblings, until a silent shared discovery forms a brief sense of family warmth.

Khufu

English Premiere
Mahmoud Assi | Canada,
Egypt, France, Sweden | 2026
17 mins | Arabic

At the foot of the Giza Pyramids, 14-year-old Sayed and his mother Ikram, face the fate of their dying camel, Khufu. Torn between selling or leaving him behind, Ikram refuses to surrender, leading her son through a journey of dignity and survival.



71



KHUFU



FRIED CHICKEN



TRIO

Louis le Prince International Short Film Competition 4

Fri 6 Nov 11:00 – Everyman Screen 4

Running time: 88 mins

Planetario

UK Premiere | Sofia Poncini
Argentina | 2025 | 9 mins
Spanish

After a haunting planetarium visit, a young girl's fascination with the Sun turns into an obsession with existence and its limits. In experimental black and white, childhood fears and realisations become a deeply relatable journey from wonder to sudden maturity.

Gorgeous Grandmother

World Premiere
Kylechandler Bigay | Philippines
2026 | 21 mins | Tagalog

Amor, 67, keeps her fading parlor afloat while caring for her grandson. When a senior beauty pageant pops up, she sees a chance to feel seen again. A tender portrait of shedding insecurities and coming of age in a society obsessed with youth.

Sauna Sickness

Yorkshire Premiere | Malin Barr
Sweden | 2026 | 15 mins
Norwegian, Swedish

It's New Year's Eve and Cleo and Tobias have a steamy relationship, yet things quickly become icy when they become locked out in the cold. Will they find the key they're searching for to enter back into the warmth?

Sudden Rain

International Premiere
Chilam Chan | China | 2025
16 mins | Mandarin Chinese

During a sudden downpour, a backpacker becomes stranded on an island. When she is offered shelter by a passing rickshaw driver, they share a fleeting yet profound moment of connection, overcoming the language barrier between them.

Echoes Beneath The Hill

English Premiere
Aime Octave Ishimwe
Belgium | 2025 | 17 mins
Kinyarwanda

In 1994 Rwanda, days before the start of the genocide against Tutsi people, 10 year-old Jeanne searches for her pet goat while her parents worry about the future. On her quest, she is exposed to new realities casting doubt on the world she thought she knew.

We Were Here

Yorkshire Premiere
Pranav Bhasin | India | 2026
11 mins | English, Hindi

Bagchi is a dish antenna. Ganguly is a reverse camera. Pimple is a microwave. In a small, crumbling Indian town, three retirees refuse to be replaced by machines. In fact, they are on a mission to replace them. The new digital resistance begins.



SUDDEN RAIN



SAUNA SICKNESS



GORGEOUS GRANDMOTHER



WE WERE HERE

Louis le Prince International Short Film Competition 5

Fri 6 Nov 13:45 – Everyman Screen 4

Running time: 91 mins

Whirlpool

International Premiere
Linas Žiūra | Lithuania | 2026
22 mins | Lithuanian

Isolated at a remote cabin, a film shoot spirals into a volatile love triangle where desire and power collide. As director Rokas forces his way between Jonas and Nina, all boundaries blur. Can their relationship survive when fragile masculine egos ignite?

Albatross

Yorkshire Premiere
Amandine Thomas | USA | 2026
14 mins | English, Spanish

Maria, burdened with caregiving for her ill husband and the loneliness that comes with it, is invited to a party by a new friend during an auspicious and surreal holiday.

Sandy Fannies

UK Premiere
Ingrid Runde Saxegaard
Norway | 2026 | 14 mins
Norwegian

On a deserted beach, 16-year-old Aurora and her mother share a day alone, naked. Quiet isolation sparks intimate conversations about sex and love, pushing shifting generational boundaries and testing the uneasy, delicate line between parenthood and friendship.

F**k Me in Saint-Gilles

UK Premiere
Victor Ruprich-Robert | Belgium
2026 | 26 mins | French

During a jam session in Saint-Gilles, the story of Harry and Tina's explosive, erratic, lustful affair emerges through music. Every tune reveals a crescendo of sensuality, a heartbreak pause - their jazzy romance is the ultimate 'matching each other's freak'.

Bleat!

Yorkshire Premiere
Ananth Subramaniam
Malaysia, Philippines | 2025
15 mins | Tamil

A Malaysian-Tamil couple discovers their prize goat is pregnant. There are only two problems. The goat was reared for religious sacrifice. The goat is male. A sharp, absurd satire interrogating ideas of tradition, authority and community.

Louis le Prince International Short Film Competition 6

Fri 6 Nov 15:45 – Everyman Screen 4

Running time: 99 mins

Caeneus

UK Premiere | August Joensalo
Finland | 2026 | 15 mins
Finnish

Captivated by Kaineus' performance on a punk stage, Kainis is consumed by an obsession to possess his body. Through a nightmarish yet vulnerable fling, this Greek-myth retelling unveils the complexity of desire, gender envy, and queer transformation.

Typhoon Mambo

UK Premiere
Domenico Singha Pedroli
France, Switzerland | 2026
23 mins | Thai

A widow finds solace in an AI chatbot that lets her converse with her dead husband, until his former caretaker returns and unsettles the fragile refuge she built. Typhoon Mambo delicately probes the shifting boundaries between grief, memory and the future.

A Shot At Art

Yorkshire Premiere
Ilke Paddenburg | Netherlands
2025 | 17 mins | Dutch

At a renowned annual art festival, two veteran volunteers can't resist taking a sneak peek at the new, buzzy performance art piece they have been stationed outside of. Inside, age, gender and power are at war. The weapon of choice? A paintball gun.

SLAP!!

Mikolaj Piszczan | Poland
2025 | 22 mins | Polish

In a desperate search for acceptance, a troubled young man takes part in brutal, bloody competitions. Disregarding the consequences, he increasingly negotiates the limits of what he is willing to do to gain adoration.

Faux Bijoux

Yorkshire Premiere
Jessy Moussallem | France,
Lebanon | 2026 | 22 mins
Arabic, English, Finnish

In Lebanon, Mireille promises Johnny a shot at the big screen. But this audition hides a darker bargain: dreams of stardom, escape and a better life collide with the brutal dynamics of illegal surrogacy, migration, and a visa that could change everything.



F**K ME IN SAINT-GILLES



BLEAT!



A SHOT AT ART



SLAP!!



ALBATROSS



WHIRLPOOL



FAUX BIJOUX



TYPHOON MAMBO

World Animation Competition 1

Fri 6 Nov 11:45 – Vue Screen 7
Sun 8 Nov 11:30 – Everyman Screen 4

Running time: 96 mins

Adgwa-Ata

Yorkshire Premiere
Zsuzsanna Kreif | France,
Hungary | 2026 | 15 mins
No Dialogue

Deep inside the jungle, three young girls plunge into a surreal tribal world, where they must undertake a harsh rite of passage. Enter a world of razor-sharp nails, giant snake totems and a pulsating colourful energy.

Penguin

Kaspar Jancis | Estonia | 2026
15 mins | English

A man returns home from Antarctica to find his relationship shifting beneath his feet. As ice shelves fracture, the couple is forced to confront the ways they, too, have changed. In a world undergoing transformation, can their relationship survive?

Ivar

Markus Tangre | Norway
2025 | 4 mins | Norwegian

Kept awake in the twilight hours, a restless woman fantasises about leaving her husband. This charming hand-and-rod puppet short offers a miserable dose of dark humour.



IVAR

So He Grabbed the Knife

UK Premiere | Sam Kuwa
Japan | 2026 | 12 mins
Chinese

A young child is pushed to his limits by the toxic masculinity he experiences in his neighbourhood. In a split-second decision, something changes, and he must live with the consequences. Colourful frames reveal an unfolding violence that will stick with you.

Hotel Oblique

UK Premiere | Merlin Fluegel
Germany | 2026 | 7 mins
No Dialogue

A bewildered budgie checks in to a wellness hotel for anxious birds, only to find himself longing for the safety and routine of the cage he left behind.

To Kill a Velofahrer

International Premiere
Helmi Korhonen, Ines Nungässer,
Livio Frauendorf, Marvin Büeler
Switzerland | 2026 | 3 mins
No Dialogue

Meet Franz, an idealistic and overzealous urban planner. His chaotic cycle path solutions are wreaking havoc on his city's two-wheeling road users. This wonderfully DIY satirical short serves as a warning to keep an eye on the road - and each other.

El Cuerpo de Cristo

Bea Lema | Spain | 2025
13 mins | Spanish

Beautifully hand-embroidered frames soften the tale of a young woman navigating psychological distress. Through a compassionate lens, the film unravels the complexities around mental health stigma, traditional religious norms and intergenerational trauma.



ADGWA-ATA



THE END

Acid City

Jack Wedge, Will Freudenheim
USA | 2026 | 13 mins | English

Emerging from a vast, empty ocean like a stunning spectre, Acid City is a surreal fever dream that blends real-life interviews with New Yorkers to explore human resilience against the stark reality of extreme weather.

The End

UK Premiere
Niki Lindroth von Bahr
Denmark, France, Sweden
2026 | 17 mins | French,
Swedish

In an airport at the end of the world, Niki Lindroth von Bahr's newest stop-motion miniverse unpacks the intricacies of life, death and humanity from the inside of an anthropomorphic purgatory.

World Animation Competition 2

Fri 6 Nov 14:30 – Vue Screen 7
Sun 8 Nov 13:45 – Everyman Screen 4

Running time: 99 mins

Cosmonauts

Yorkshire Premiere | Leo Cernic
Italy, Slovenia | 2026 | 14 mins
English

On an intergalactic sex cruise for the lonely, Delfino, Zenf, and Rita go in search of connection amongst the stars; be it love, lust or BDSM.

The Last Spring

UK Premiere | Mathilde Bédouet
France | 2026 | 15 mins
French

A quietly moving tale of two teenage girls, Marion and Camille, on a school trip of firsts, lasts and adolescent freedom. As the summer dwindles, so too does innocence, on a path to adulthood lit with dreamlike style and cutting realism.



COSMONAUTS

Take Care

UK Premiere | Patricia Strübin
Switzerland | 2026 | 9 mins
No Dialogue

Pure delight and wonder flow through scenes of women letting go and embracing playful self-care. A joyful reminder to carve out a little time in our day for authentic connection, shared pleasure and showing love for one another.

now is now

Yorkshire Premiere
Greg Keung Chun Yam
Hong Kong | 2025 | 5 mins
Mandarin Chinese

The discovery of a caterpillar by a distracted office worker triggers a surreal, domestic odyssey through time, nostalgia, and everyday encounters.

NOW IS NOW



Trading Cards

Yorkshire Premiere
Radheya Jang | UK | 2026
15 mins | English

As neon surrealism encroaches on time and space, a man confronts his younger self over a game of trading cards, exploring lived experiences of living with obsessive compulsive disorder through the guise of dark, psychological fantasy.

Venezia Diorama

UK Premiere | Nicolat Piret
Belgium | 2026 | 6 mins
No Dialogue

Merging exquisite pencil animation with archival photography, the story of an aging city unfolds under the camera. Quiet yet utterly absorbing, Nicolas Piret evokes a profound sense of fragility in our ever-changing urban landscapes.

Mnema

UK Premiere | Inês Costa,
Carolina Bonzinho | Portugal
2026 | 10 mins | Portuguese

Watch as Mnema tries to escape a world of digital twists and turns, in a video game which embodies the misogynistic industry of its making. Using real-life testimonies of women in gaming, Mnema symbolises the resilience of women in the face of advertisty and systematic oppression.



THE LAST SPRING

Uka-uka

English Premiere
Henri Veermäe | Estonia | 2026
12 mins | Estonian

When a bored little boy hides from his grandparents in the boot of their car, his selfish intent turns into a cautionary tale for attention seeking and the punishments karma may choose to inflict.

PLEASE

Yorkshire Premiere
Anna Mantzaris | Czechia,
Finland, France, Norway,
Sweden | 2026 | 9 mins
English

Through an assortment of odd yet tender vignettes, we see the spectrum of messy beauty in our human desire to love and be loved, from the neediness of a constant cuddle to the unexpected devastation of a solo supermarket shop.

Animation Panorama: Between Chaos and Vertigo

Fri 6 Nov 21:45 – Vue Screen 7

Running time: 60 mins

11 short animations, one wild ride. Between Chaos and Vertigo dismantles traditional animation through sensory chaos, shifting textures, and beautifully absurd narratives. Some programmes are meant to reassure, this one prefers to drift off course and invites you to lose your bearings and perhaps find new ones. Part of the WTF OFF series from Prague-based Cinefila, curated by Annecy International Animation Film Festival programmer Sébastien Sperer.

Felt Like Destroying Something Beautiful

Katrin Jucker | 2015
Switzerland | 3 mins

Image codes and their variations: an experiment in data-bending. Images morph through sound and text files and back into images.

The Impossible Mission

Nicolas Gebbe | 2025
Germany | 3 mins

A playful, fast-paced spoof that feels like an old-school video game that was never released or perhaps never meant to be.

Quantum Jump

Simon Meszaros | 2025
Czechia | 10 mins

Ambitious in concept, the film explores the vertigo of time and reality within a unique and intriguing visual universe.

Larry

Takeshi Murata, Christopher Rutledge | 2023 | USA | 4 mins

A singular, hypnotic, and incredible experience. Prioritizing sensation over narrative, it remains both fascinating and disorienting.

The Right to Be Forgotten

Tue Sanggaard | 2025
11 min | Denmark

Both relevant and unsettling, it questions our relationship to the modern world, digital memory, and erasure, following unexpected paths and holding several surprises.

When The Mountains Shook

Daiyu Li | 2025 | Japan | 2 mins

Short and intense, this student piece stands out for its original visual style, enhanced by highly effective sound design. Sometimes a toothache can drive you crazy, can't it?

I Live in the Woods

Max Winston | 2008
USA | 3 mins

A puppet animation with handcrafted charm, blending humour and strangeness. Is God American?

Finding Uranus

Ivan Li | 2019 | Canada,
Hong Kong | 7 mins

A genius is born. Ivan Li turns an intimate experience into an absurd and visually inventive space odyssey, blending humour and provocation.

The Undying Pain of Existence

Oscar Jacobson | 2025
Germany | 5 mins

A humorous student piece that elevates a simple physical sensation into a disturbing reflection on control and existence.

Los Viejos Drop Al Infierno

Esteban Azuela | 2021
Mexico | 3 mins

Energetic and irreverent, this music video stands out for its offbeat tone and dark humour. A striking tribute to a famous family we all know, delivered with real punch.

Ivan's Need

Veronica L. Montañó, Manuela Leuenberger, Lukas Suter
2015 | Switzerland | 6 mins

A sensitive and well-crafted story that delicately addresses human needs and may inspire some viewers to order a baguette from the local bakery more often...



I LIVE IN THE WOODS



FINDING URANUS

International Documentary Short Film Competition 1

Wed 4 Nov 14:00 – Hyde Park Screen 2

Running time: 93 mins

Forgotten Spaceman

Yorkshire Premiere | Elham Ehsas
Afghanistan, UK | 2026
16 mins | Pashto

The history of a nation is family history writ large in this inventive desktop doc, the impersonality of the archive - events seen as if from space - here a backdrop to one man's perspective on the half-remembered dream of Afghanistan's first and only astronaut.

Statues Also Die?

UK Premiere | Thais Fernandes
Belgium, Brazil, Hungary,
Portugal | 2025 | 12 mins
English, Hungarian

In a Budapest park full of decaying monuments to its nation's bygone communist era, four children gather the opinions of locals, tourists and even the statues themselves as they attempt to understand the complicated future of their past.



STATUES ALSO DIE?



STATUES ALSO DIE?

Spectral Geography

English Premiere
Manuel Mateo Gómez
Colombia | 2026 | 22 mins
Spanish

A river buried, a landscape transformed, the dead commemorated through song. Along Colombia's Cauca River, women embroider and cast flowers into the water in this haunting meditation on memory, resistance and the enduring violence of extraction.

Chuuraa

UK Premiere
Evgenia Arbugaeva | UK
2026 | 18 mins | Sakha

Deep in the Siberian Arctic, Indigenous Sakha palaeontologist Aisen Klimovskii descends into the thawing permafrost in search of an ancient creature. A mesmerising journey into a prehistoric underworld where science and mythology converge.

like moths to light

UK Premiere
Gala Hernández López | France,
Italy, Spain | 2026 | 26 mins
English

Prowling nocturnal animals, burning theme parks, doomed prophets... A speculative, docufictional essay that's as much a rigorous analysis of the new frontier of 'neurocapitalism' as it is a poetic reminder of the hallucinatory beauty of our shared human dream.



LIKE MOTHS TO LIGHT



SPECTRAL GEOGRAPHY

International Documentary Short Film Competition 2

Wed 4 Nov 16:00 – Hyde Park Screen 2

Running time: 98 mins

The Revolution Against Death

Yorkshire Premiere
Joshua Lincoln Oppenheimer
Denmark | 2026 | 24 mins
English

Joshua Oppenheimer continues to explore the interplay of fear and desire, belief and delusion, individual and system, as a thousand elderly Americans gather at a 'life-extension' conference in a last-ditch bid to outrun a fate they may well already have met.

The Dark Knot at the Center

UK Premiere
Inês Pedrosa e Melo | Portugal
2026 | 17 mins | English

In the years before Roe v. Wade, women travelled across the US to Mexican border towns in search of underground abortion care. Their intimate letters echo across present-day landscapes, retracing clandestine journeys that resonate with unsettling urgency today.

Intersecting Memory

Yorkshire Premiere
Shayma' Awawdeh | France,
Occupied Palestinian Territory
2025 | 20 mins | Arabic

A box of videotapes unseen for 20 years takes filmmaker Shayma' Awawdeh back to her childhood in Hebron during the Second Intifada. Memories of school and birthdays collide with the everyday violence of growing up under occupation.

A Woman's Place Is Everywhere

Yorkshire Premiere
Fanny Texier | USA | 2026
22 mins | English

After their mother dies, twin sisters Emiliya and Ona face eviction from the Williamsburg loft they've always called home. Filled with art and memories, their family home becomes a living archive of motherhood, sisterhood, and a disappearing New York.

Nothing Happens After Your Absence

UK Premiere | Ibrahim Omar
Sudan | 2026 | 15 mins | Tigre

A filmmaker returns to his hometown to screen a film for the community, but finds himself thwarted by bureaucracy, local custom and war, prompting a minimalist, tragicomic meditation on the power - but also the limits - of cinema as a tool of resistance.

Documentary Short Film Panorama: City Variations

Tue 3 Nov 18:00 - Mill Hill Chapel - PWYC

Tue 10 Nov 18:00 - Mill Hill Chapel - PWYC

Running time: 98 mins

Olinda's Golden Arches

UK Premiere | Douglas Henrique
Brazil | 2025 | 24 mins |
Portuguese

A twisty, playful take on the little-told tale of a Brazilian mayoral election that came to be known as the 'Battle of Olinda', a key engagement in the war between two of the most powerful colonial forces of the twentieth century: communism and McDonald's.

Your City

UK Premiere | Ting Su | China,
France, USA | 2026 | 14 mins
Mandarin Chinese

Between Shenzhen and New York, two queer voices connect across the distance as a typhoon gathers. Shifting from luminous 16mm to spectral thermal imagery, this atmospheric work speaks to the experience of migration, uncertainty and the search for home in an unstable world.

Infinity River

UK Premiere | Gonçalo Pina
Portugal | 2025 | 22 mins |
Nepali, Portuguese

Every day, thousands cross the Tagus River to clean, care for, build and serve the city of Lisbon. Following three workers through their daily routines, this delicately observed portrait pays tribute to the invisible labour that keeps a city moving.

Sawyer Avenue, Sunday Afternoon

Yorkshire Premiere
Bill Morrison | USA | 2026
18 mins | English, Spanish

Through the body-worn cameras of masked US Border Patrol agents and the phones of ordinary citizens, Oscar nominee Bill Morrison presents a tense, real-time reconstruction of a neighbourhood's desperate attempt to prevent the kidnapping of one of their own.

Another Day Shall Come

UK Premiere | Aida Kaadan
Palestine | 2026 | 20 mins
Arabic

Voicenotes from anonymous Palestinians living within the 1948 borders form a fragmented portrait of life under occupation; a mosaic of reflections on the instability of identity, the impermanence of nature, and the permeability of our inner and outer worlds.



A WOMEN'S PLACE IS EVERYWHERE



INTERSECTING MEMORY



NOTHING HAPPENS AFTER YOUR ABSENCE



THE DARK KNOT AT THE CENTRE



OLINDA'S GOLDEN ARCHES



ANOTHER DAY SHALL COME



SAWYER AVENUE, SUNDAY AFTERNOON



INFINITY RIVER

British Short Film Competition 1

Sat 7 Nov 11:30 – Everyman Screen 4

Running time: 103 mins

Jim

UK Premiere | Stuart Hackshaw,
Alistair Little | UK | 2026
15 mins | English

A man equally enamoured by the beauty of jazz and his beloved wife, Jim shares his deeply intimate thoughts with us. From New Orleans jazz to the difficulties of grieving someone before they've died, Jim is a poetic portrait of a mournful clarinetist.

FarEye

Yorkshire Premiere
Hayden Mclean | UK | 2026
14 mins | English

Escaping the chaos of home, a young Jamaican boy finds sanctuary in a community where music, spirit and faith become his guiding lights. But what he discovers there awakens something deep within him, setting his life on an entirely new path.

Every Time I See A Yellow Car

Yorkshire Premiere
Matt Chandler | UK | 2025
14 mins | English

Olly and Liam's relationship, like many siblings, is complex and strained. One queer and shy, the other straight and brash, both try to find comfort and make sense of a deeply traumatic event in this reflective drama about masculinity, violence and compassion.

Small Hours

Yorkshire Premiere
Oscar Wyndham Lewis | UK
2026 | 10 mins | English

A gorgeous animation created by hand painting almost 5,000 frames using oil on glass. Director Oscar Wyndham Lewis wrestles with his own recovery, depicting an artist struggling with alcohol addiction and mental illness, who reaches out to an old friend.

Free Lyric

Yorkshire Premiere
Cherish 'Chez' Oteka | UK
2026 | 31 mins | English

BAFTA-winning director (The Black Cop, LIFF 2021) Chez Oteka's new documentary cleverly explores truth in storytelling, consent, coercion and online abuse, when 17-year-old rapper O.G Niki sings of her experience of sleeping with six men in the same day.

Dug. Or, The Moral Of The Story Is.

Melanie Spencer | UK | 2026
4 mins | English

Author B.S. Johnson once wrote: "The novel should [...] be Funny, Brutalist, and Short". Swap novel for film and you'll very likely get Dug. Short, sharp and stuffed with wit and vigour, it's a daft, amoral story of drunkenness, coincidence and cul-de-sacs.

HINDSIGHT

Yorkshire Premiere
Remi R.M. Moses | UK | 2026
11 mins | English

After getting a new car, teenager Jamal and his friends are living life in the fast lane! But when late night parties turn into working late shifts, Jamal watches his car change from a symbol of freedom into a relic of his youth, as he's thrust into adulthood.

A Woman of Good Abilities

Mark Chapman | UK | 2026
15 mins | English, Panjabi, Polish

When a drug addict is caught stealing, her night spirals out of control as she's forced to confront the results of her own deceptions. A naturalistic style alongside professional and street-cast actors lends authenticity to a story of a bleak modern Britain.



A WOMAN OF GOOD ABILITIES



FREE LYRIC



EVERY TIME I SEE A YELLOW CAR



SMALL HOURS

British Short Film Competition 2

Sat 7 Nov 14:00 – Everyman Screen 4

Running time: 105 mins

Under The Wave Off Little Dragon

Yorkshire Premiere | Luo Jian
UK | 2025 | 14 mins | English,
Mandarin Chinese, Welsh

Feifei, a sweet and adventurous little girl, is dancing between two cultures: as a daughter of a Chinese immigrant and growing up in a white Welsh town. This pensive yet magical short highlights the crossroads many children face when finding their identity.

Daughters of the Late Colonel

Yorkshire Premiere
Elizabeth Hobbs | UK | 2026
9 mins | English

Adapting Katherine Mansfield's 1920s short story, this charming animation humorously updates the tale of two sisters seeking agency and independence after the loss of their over-bearing father. Painterly and playful, the film unpicks our pervasive patriarchy.



(FAILING TO MAKE)



DAUGHTERS OF THE LATE COLONEL

(Failing to Make) A Documentary About My Sudanese Family

Yorkshire Premiere
Sid Elbadawi | Sudan, UK
2026 | 15 mins | Arabic, English

While documenting his family's history, from fleeing war in Sudan to holidaying in Cairo, Sid Elbadawi begins to dissect his own motives. Reflecting on how we document our history, he questions identity, the complexities of capturing war, black pain and joy.

i have a

Yorkshire Premiere
Rory Waudby-Tolley | UK
2025 | 5 mins | English

A film about accumulating stuff, running out of time and coming to terms with death. With a sock puppet. i have a was inspired by the illustrations of Richard Heffer and is the latest from Rory Waudby-Tolley, creator of the award-winning Mr Madilla (LIFF 2016).

Date Night

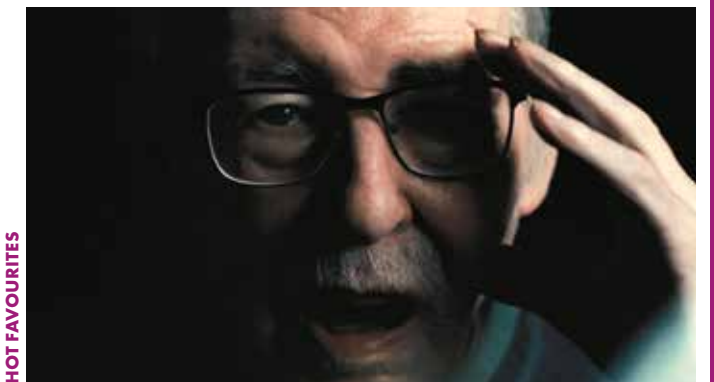
Northern Premiere
Tanya Reynolds | UK | 2026
15 mins | English

A delightfully naughty sex comedy. Young parents Danielle and Harry attempt to reignite the passion in their relationship with role playing dates. Returning home one evening they discover that the babysitter and her boyfriend have been at it on their sofa.

Strangle

Yorkshire Premiere
Cameron Cut | UK | 2026
9 mins | English

Expanding on their debut short Ritual (LIFF 2025) and beautifully shot on 16mm, director Cameron Cut has crafted another haunting film of fractured occurrences, as a young man seeks a mysterious driver after a woodland encounter and perhaps, his own obsession.



HOT FAVOURITES

Hot Favourites

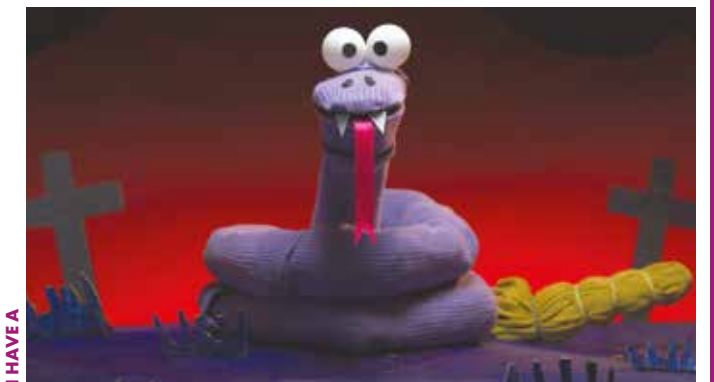
Yorkshire Premiere
David Arthur | UK | 2026
18 mins | English

2010: A man walked into a bookies in Dunfermline and placed a £40,000 bet on a horse. He never told a soul, especially not his family. Years later director David Arthur finds the faded betting slip and paints a portrait of his father's secret vice.

Flock

Yorkshire Premiere | Mac Nixon
UK | 2025 | 20 mins | English,
Welsh

When a peaceful shepherd's flock is spared from a mass disappearance that hits a small Welsh farming community, friends suddenly become foe. This eerily surreal folk horror beautifully showcases the reward, but also the price paid for going against the herd.



I HAVE A

Yorkshire Short Film Competition

Tue 3 Nov 20:30 – Everyman Screen 4 (DS)
 Fri 6 Nov 20:30 – Everyman Screen 4 (DS)
 Mon 9 Nov 20:15 – Mill Hill Chapel - PWYC

Running time: 90 mins | LIFF age rating 15

Practical Anarchy

Yorkshire Premiere
 Michael McCabe | UK | 2025
 13 mins | English

A defiant history of Bradford's 1in12 Club, the member-owned venue that became a beacon for protest and punk subcultures throughout the '80s and '90s. Long-standing club members reflect on the victories, struggles and the evolving destiny of the collective.

Pay As You Go

Yorkshire Premiere
 Tom Diffenthal | UK | 2026
 10 mins | English

A struggling tenant wants to escape his Pay-As-You-Go Life Tariff, but must first confront a relentlessly cheerful Customer Support officer conducting a routine "Life Utility Check-Up". A Kafka-esque comedy set in a world where everything is chargeable.

Wuthering Hearts

Laura Jayne Hodkin | UK
 2025 | 3 mins | English

O love! O achin' love! In this perfect blend of emo and romance, Helena (a teen with a heavy case of the "morbs") struggles to navigate her first romance when various obstacles get in the way of her beloved Bernard and his many odes to her beauty.

The Witches of Pool Bottom

Yorkshire Premiere | Ava Bounds
 UK | 2025 | 7 mins | English

Perfectly fitting the remit of our Yorkshire Competition to support young filmmakers, this film confronts, with increasing absurdity, societal expectations of female self-surveillance and judgement, in a humorous, surreal short exploring teenage body-image.

Claw & Order

World Premiere
 Mikey Sneddon | UK | 2026
 13 mins | English

When a sudden and unexplained extinction wipes out Whitby's lobster stocks, the local community is thrown into crisis. Fishermen and scientists must join forces to restore an ecosystem on the brink, with a little help from their hard-shelled heroes.

Nowt

Yorkshire Premiere
 Milda Baginskaitė | UK | 2026
 14 mins | English

This dark drama highlights the pressures of girlhood through Bailey, with big, beautiful lashes and very little confidence, a rebellious teen who is led astray by an older man. But what begins as forbidden love violently morphs into a traumatising situation.

Five Minute Brides

Yorkshire Premiere
 Jacqueline Maxted | UK | 2025
 16 mins | English

Twice a year, Skipton seamstress Mandy Abramson invites women of any age, shape or size into her bridal shop to have a wedding dress-up day of their own. Mandy's simple act of generosity elicits moving stories that this documentary compassionately captures.

Blue Hour

Kate Graham | UK | 2026
 13 mins | English

Before departing for university, a teenager wanders the Yorkshire moors for one last summer afternoon with her besties. Capturing their final moments of adolescence on film, she grapples with the looming transition and the fear of leaving everything she knows.



BLUE HOUR



FIVE MINUTE BRIDES



WUTHERING HEARTS



NOWT

Leeds Queer Short Film Competition 1

Wed 4 Nov 18:30 – Hyde Park Screen 1 (DS)

Running time: 88 mins

Log Off, Loser!

World Premiere | Heath Virgoe
 UK | 2026 | 11 mins | English

In the virtual world of The Lounge, you can look however you want - as long as you have your parents' credit card... A bittersweet hit of nostalgia for every trans person who's ever played a video game.

The Wind in Ash

Yorkshire Premiere | Sun Kun
 China | 2025 | 18 mins
 Mandarin Chinese

A student returns to rural China to attend their father's funeral. Amid the gossip at the funeral and the rules of tradition, an unexpected gesture from their mother creates an emotional connection. A tender journey of self-discovery based on the director's own experience.



HALF LIFE



MAKING IT FIT

Making It Fit

Yorkshire Premiere
 Mariana Leal | UK | 2025
 5 mins | English

A short animated documentary that reflects on funerary rites through a queer lens, exploring how the rituals we create to remember those we love should be extensions of their gender identity and the way they lived within their community.

Waves of Silence

International Premiere
 Caio J. Bonfim | Brazil, UK
 2026 | 20 mins | Portuguese

A charming love story where Amon, whilst helping his mother run a hotel, feels an immediate connection with the new delivery boy, Roberto. Meanwhile, his best friend Daniella also sets her sights on him.

Half-Life

World Premiere
 Emma McGordon, Chris Neilan
 UK | 2026 | 11 mins | English

Cumbrian poet Emma McGordon wrestles with mental health and class-based barriers as she tries to turn her poem into a film. Poetic yet gritty, this experimental performance piece weaves together McGordon's experiences of heartbreak and OCD.

This Love Isn't Taught

Yorkshire Premiere
 Harry Brandrick | UK | 2025
 11 mins | English

Jordan puts his child to bed and heads to a party. He meets a past flame, self-assured Atlanta, and they both feel the pull of old feelings returning. Jordan has decisions to make about love, life and taking a leap with someone who lights up his life.



BETTY ST. CLAIR



THE WIND IN ASH

Leeds Queer Short Film Competition 2

Thu 5 Nov 18:30 – Hyde Park Screen 1 (DS)

Running time: 95 mins

A Summer in M.

World Premiere
Manon Stutz, Margaux Fazio
Switzerland | 2026
20 mins | French

In the Swiss countryside, Raphael tries to suppress his attraction to men while working at his family's tobacco farm. As his desire grows, he attempts to turn virtual encounters into a reality. A tender coming of age adaptation of the award-winning novel by Robin Corminboeuf.

The Muscle Knows Better Than To Wait

Erica Monde | UK | 2026
4 mins | English

An empowering vignette celebrating queer and trans strength, power and community inside an LGBTQIA+ weightlifting club in Sheffield. Bodies are built, barriers are broken, and belonging grows stronger.

Whispers In The Void

European Premiere
Kevin Geiger | Taiwan | 2026
15 mins | Chinese

In a distant future, Captain Leizu and android Mira board a doomed colony ship and uncover a lone infant tied to Leizu's past. As a consuming alien AI threatens them, their bond is tested in a haunting story of love, sacrifice and hope.

Chulo

European Premiere
Joshua Hernández | Puerto Rico, USA | 2026 | 15 mins | English, Spanish

On a trip from New York City to visit their grandmother in Puerto Rico, Gael strikes up an instant connection with Mateo. A touching romance about the push and pull of the different places one calls home.

Handwoven

Yorkshire Premiere
Dasha Levin, Mason Cazalet, Mihika Das, and Matthew Wisdom | India, Ireland, Mexico, USA | 2025 | 9 mins | English

A lyrical portrait of Nikyle Begay, a non-binary shepherd and weaver, working to preserve their Navajo way of life through the traditional art of weaving.

If/When

Courtney Westbrook | Australia 2025 | 10 mins | Dutch, English, Urdu

A surreal, time-bending stop motion animation about love, fate, and what it means to hold on when everything is slipping away.

Choked

UK Premiere | Travis Alabanza
UK | 2026 | 10 mins | English

Shakona doesn't always want to be treated so nicely, sometimes she wants to feel like the world does: chaotic. Devoted boyfriend Eddie can't meet her needs, so she goes to where all good decisions are made: a hookup app.

Leo Lets It Rain

International Premiere
Jasmin Prophete | USA | 2025
12 mins | English

Leo, a trans man with undiagnosed ADHD, tries to win back his ex-girlfriend. The personal disasters that follow lead to self-reflection and acceptance.

Leeds Screendance Competition

Wed 4 Nov 18:00 – Everyman Screen 4

Running time: 64 mins

Surface Tension

Ben Wright | UK | 2026
4 mins | English

This film explores Nina's journey from childhood accident and coma into selective mutism, isolation, and eventual recovery. Learning to crawl, walk, run then dance, she adopts movement to speak for her when words fail.

My name is the sound I use to introduce myself

UK Premiere | Albert Rask
Netherlands | 2025 | 10 mins
No Dialogue

A group of young men seek intimacy and human contact in a competitive waltz. An allegory of growing up and the absurd rules we enforce without question, we witness the willing participants contort themselves in their efforts to conform to the pointless, durational game.

Twist Again

World Premiere | Kelia Ideishi
UK | 2026 | 3 mins | English

Four blindfolded dancers perform the twist, impenetrable against change. This experimental dance short proposes a visual representation of hauntology and the persistence of the past. Surreal and uncanny, the film captures the eeriness of a culture that is stuck in a recycled present.

Life/Time

UK Premiere | Terence White
Ireland | 2026 | 10 mins
No Dialogue

Life/Time is an experimental dance film, exploring the theme of ageing. Through the effective use of image layering, we see a woman at three different stages of her life, as she confronts some of the challenges involved in getting older.

Weeyagale

UK Premiere | Ainslie Senfuka
UK | 2025 | 6 mins | English, Ganda

A magical-realist drama about a young British-Ugandan girl whose classroom show-and-tell unlocks a dreamlike journey into her heritage. The film explores how identity can feel fragile in one space and powerful in another - and how ancestry can become a source of joy rather than something to conceal.

A Moment of Reverence

Yorkshire Premiere
Olivia West Alvarez | UK 2026 | 4 mins | English

What remains of dance when it is no longer seen? In a single take, we witness a blind woman listening to a live performance unfolding out of frame. Carried by audio description and music, the choreography is encountered through sound and imagination, reframing dance as something not only seen but felt.

Abjad Hawaz

Yorkshire Premiere
Hadi Moussally | Lebanon 2025 | 5 mins | Arabic

Abjad Hawaz takes its name from the ancient ordering of the Arabic alphabet. Through the body of Salma Zahore, each letter is danced and embodied, reclaiming a language often feared and misunderstood, turning it into a celebration of identity, resilience, and artistic freedom.

Organising Principles of Experience

Yorkshire Premiere
Gabriela Tropia | Brazil 2025 | 13 mins | English

An AI model, tuned to the writings and sensibilities of Maya Deren, collaborates with the filmmaker to imagine new films. Exploring memory, possession, and the digital afterlife, this experimental short questions what remains when the past becomes data and how an artist might lay claim to her absent hero.

Dikra

European Premiere
Pierre-Loys Joubert | France, Morocco | 2025 | 9 mins
Arabic, French

A young dancer crosses the sea, fleeing the shifting winds of a France that's closing in on itself. There, the sun feels familiar, but the walls speak another language. How does one find a place to call home? Between two shores and an intimate journey through invisible borders lies his deep longing to belong.



CHULO



WHISPERS IN THE VOID



LEO LETS IT RAIN



THE MUSCLE KNOWS BETTER THAN TO WAIT



ABJAD HAWAZ



DIKRA



TWIST AGAIN

Leeds Music Video Competition

Thu 5 Nov 18:00 – Leeds City Library – PWYC

Running time: 70 mins | LIFF age rating 15

Tamara Flores Chingona

Rupert Höller | Austria | 2025
3 mins | Spanish

Chingona is a vibrant, high tempo journey through the streets of Acatlán, Mexico - hometown of Tamara Flores' mother. Stuffed full of rhythm, attitude, strength, colour, movement, flutes, cowboy boots... and the most excellent use of a hair braid.

Tim Englehardt Feat. Jyll Wide Awake

UK Premiere | Roman Rütten
USA | 2025 | 3 mins | English

A woman drifts through versions of herself, trying to find her true liberation. Shot on Kodak film, this music video is a love letter to nostalgic aesthetics, from neon drenched street signage to Twin Peaks motel-chic, every shot of this could have been included in my 2008 Tumblr account.

Vogues Bliss

European Premiere
Brandon Sanchez | UK | 2025
4 mins | English

Director Brandon Sanchez describes Bliss as being born out of the desire to "create an interesting three-dimensional canvas for light" and serve Vogues song, it manages to hold cinematic movement effortlessly with melancholic, musical stillness. A visual poem of contrasting ideas excellently executed.



GRANDMA'S HOUSE

Lähiöbotox Kyläveli Keijo

International Premiere
Pekka Ollula | Finland | 2026
4 mins | Finnish

If you thought the racetrack could be tense, you've never set it to Finnish metal band Lähiöbotox. This beautifully shot video elevates every bead of sweat, every horsehair and every greasy onion on a hotdog to fine art. Relentless in the best way.

Shannon and the Clams Life Is Unfair

European Premiere
MaLo Sutra Fish | France, USA
2025 | 3 mins | English

Shannon and the Clams signature vintage doo wap sound sits in compelling contrast to the tragedy of the lyrics to 'Life is Unfair'. The instant nostalgia the Super 8 footage of their live shows creates brings a new dimension to this juxtaposition, beautifully textured and layered.

Jeanpool One Last Dance

Maebh Roisin Logue | UK
2026 | 5 mins | English

Music video history loves to look back, from Nirvana's In Bloom to Weezer's Buddy Holly and so... the Jeanvolution has begun! This charming video leans into nostalgia, alongside playful and experimental film techniques working in tandem with Leeds indie band Jeanpool's One Last Dance.



DYSTOPIA GENTLY



LÄHIÖBOTOX

Wet Leg pokemon

Elliott Arndt | UK, USA | 2025
3 mins | English

In a pastel coloured, pastiche of 80s American suburbia (think Edward Scissorhands) we see a tale as old as time... a woman's relationship with her giant egg. Sporting an appropriate amount of winks to the camera, and cinematic references for a Wet Leg track, Pokemon is delightfully sticky-sweet and weird.

Beton.Hofi Tarr Béla

Yorkshire Premiere
Jakob Ladányi Jancsó | Hungary
2025 | 5 mins | Hungarian

A stark, socially charged music video that follows Beton.Hofi moving through the aftermath of a violent protest, we follow the casualty of the riot police as the chaos continues, through the streets and hospital rooms in an effort for individual dignity in a world becoming numb to tragedy.

Harry G Roll the Dice

European Premiere
Cho SeungMin | South Korea
2025 | 5 mins | English, Korean

When musician Harry G, isolated in his workshop, seals his finished music inside of a device called "the Dice." intruders force their way in and a chase ensues... will he take a gamble and Roll the Dice?

KUXON RASTACID

UK Premiere | Diana Szczotka
Poland | 2025 | 4 mins | English

By day a city sanitation worker, by night a vogue dancer in the ballroom community. A cacophony of sound, colour, hi-vis and voguing. This music video is your sign to be your true self, and look fabulous doing so.

Ormella Godless Man

Jana Frost | UK | 2026 | 4 mins
English

Godless Man takes place in a surreal, time-ambiguous landscape that has a feel of legend and folklore, whilst echoing moments of early and silent cinema. Jana Frost's beautifully hand constructed paper installations in the video create the movement and narrative to Ormella's dulcet tones.

pôt-pot The Lights Are On

World Premiere
Tulipomania (Cheryl Gelover + Tom Murray) | USA | 2025
4 mins | English

Tulipomania take the concepts of light and illumination, using stop motion animation and a 'wonky old scanner/printer', alongside suggestions of objects and visuals from pôť-pôt's lead vocalist to create this otherworldly, dreamy, tactile delight of a video.



MAKESHIFT ART BAR



WET LEG

Majid WD RD3

World Premiere
Teymour Tehrani | Germany
2026 | 2 mins | Arabic

In an intense, monochrome and densely packed 2 minutes, RD3 distills Syrian rap artist Majid WD's words and music into a dystopian (yet recognisable) struggle, with fishy rebels standing against dehumanisation and oppression - a reminder we are not reliant on the ultra rich and broken systems.

Rentboy Pussy on the Floor

International Premiere
Chris Osborn | USA | 2025
3 mins | English

It seems wholly appropriate that this infectious song should be paired with viral imagery... Pussy on the Floor shows us the purest power that the internet possesses... community through the medium of social media dance crazes. Joyous, queer, fun. Let's put it on the floor.

Csalogány Peremvidek (F3160)

Yorkshire Premiere | Peter Becz
Hungary | 2026 | 5 mins
Hungarian

A buttoned-up gallery attendant finds herself moved by a mysterious horse painting. As the doors shut for the day in the museum the movement begins to take over, the taste of freedom, the power of the horse unleashes her inner animal.

Dystopia Gently Chimeras Tonight

Veronika Neputina | UK | 2026
4 mins | English

This creative collaboration between Dystopia Gently and illustrator Veronika Neputina has resulted in this beautifully otherworldly creation, animation and music dancing between romance and horror in hazy purple hues.



TIM ENGLEHARDT FEAT. JYLL



MAJID WD

Grandmas House Blue Oblivion

World Premiere
CLUMP Collective
A Twist of Hate | UK | 2026
4 mins | English

Have you ever turned up to your 70s chic air bnb rental house in the misty English countryside to find your oddly charming host is there... and has no head? Grandmas House has and they looked cool AF doing so. Another excellent offering from CLUMP collective.

Makeshift Art Bar Discipline

Colin Peppard | Ireland, UK
2026 | 5 mins | English

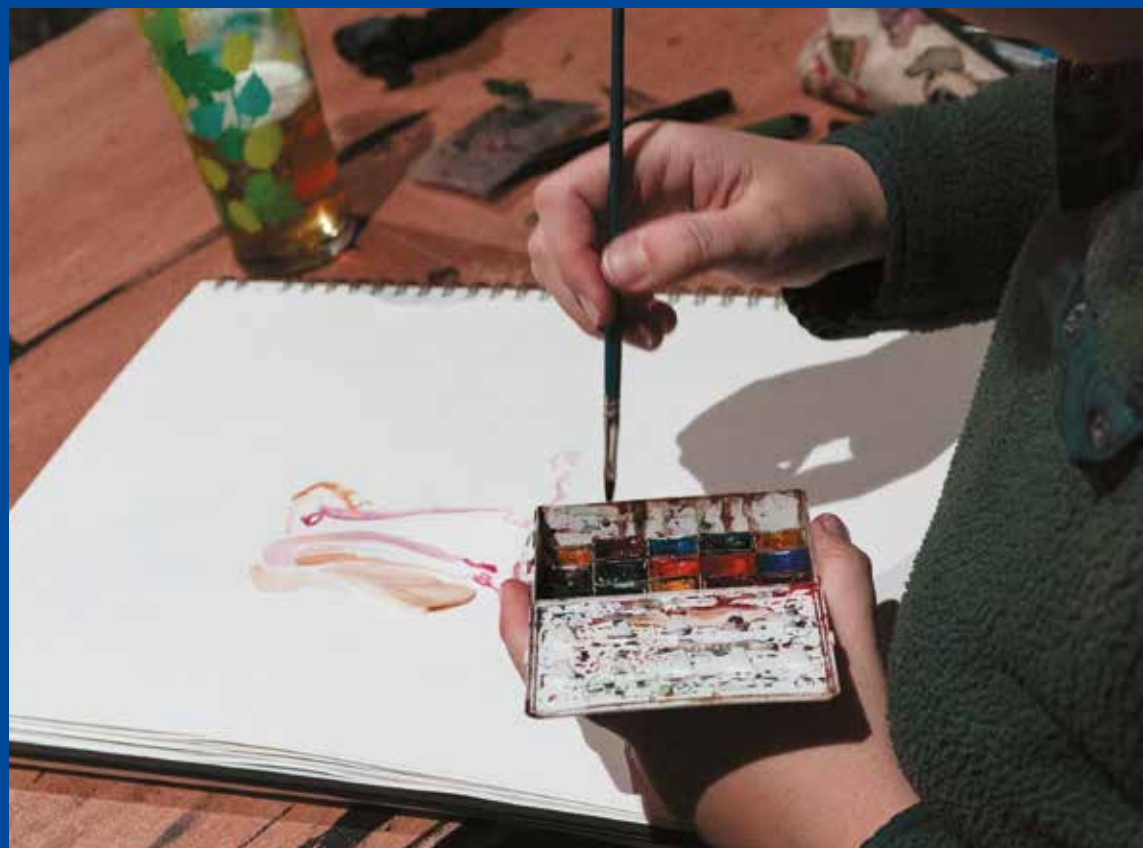
In a sunsoaked, colour saturated Benidorm, a dedicated Harry Styles impersonator starts to lose the line between self and performer. This music video strikes a visual and narrative line somewhere between Martin Parr and Aftersun, ebbing and flowing with the music of Irish noise rock band Makeshift Art Bar.

LIFF Social

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

From life drawing, to salsa dancing and 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.

LIFF passes cannot be used for these events.



LIFE DRAWING AT THE ATTIC



LIFE DRAWING AT THE ATTIC

Sela & LIFF's Big Movie Quiz!

Sela Bar
20 New Briggate, Leeds, LS1 6NU

Wed 11 Nov
19:30–23:00
Doors open 16:00

Grab your film loving friends and test your knowledge at our fun movie quiz. £2 each to play - 4 max per team. Pizza & a house pint is £12.80 all night. 18+

£2 to play

Sketches at The Attic [Life Drawing & Live Music] LIFF Special

The Attic
3 Sheaf Street, Leeds, LS10 1HD

Sun 1 Nov
19:00–21:00
Doors open 18:30

Life drawing guided by resident artist Jem Spence, accompanied by live music from Leeds artist Harry Orme. This film-themed session features movie favourites, with all materials provided. Beginners welcome!

pay-what-you-can

Flow in Frame: An Immersive Yoga Experience with Tash Berry Yoga

Roots of Respect
16 Blenheim Terrace, Woodhouse Lane, Leeds, LS2 9HN

Wed 11 Nov
11:00–12:15

Moving to the score of a specially selected LIFF film, you'll journey through a dynamic vinyasa flow as cinematic imagery is projected around you, creating a truly immersive experience.

pay-what-you-can

40 Years of LIFF: Movie Poster Making with Leeds Animation Workshop

Hyde Park Book Club
27-29 Headingley Lane, Leeds, LS6 1BL

Thu 12 Nov
17:00–19:00

Celebrate 40 years of LIFF with Leeds Animation Workshop! Cut, paste and create your own movie poster through collage, inspired by the films, stories and the creative history of Leeds.

£5

Our Latin Thing: Salsa with Lily and Ify

The Attic
3 Sheaf Street, Leeds, LS10 1HD

Thu 5 Nov
19:30–22:30

Join us in your best 70s outfit, inspired by the fashion from the documentary Our Latin Thing, to pay homage to the birth of salsa in the barrios of Nueva York. Beginner dancers welcome!

£8



SALSA AT ATTIC



ROOTS OF RESPECT



SELA BIG MOVIE QUIZ

Schedule

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Thursday 29 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							15:45 Iron Boy		18:00 Mouse		20:45 Rose		
VUE Screen 7						15:30 Pan's Labyrinth		18:15 Wicker		20:30 Filipiņana			
Hyde Park Screen 1								17:45 Mouse					
Cottage Road Cinema											20:45 Wicker		

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Saturday 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		11:00 Sad Girlz		13:00 Flies		15:15 The Meltdown		17:45 The Red Hangar			20:00 Josephine		
VUE Screen 11		11:15 You are the Film		13:15 Never After Dark		15:30 Recluse		18:15 Imposters		20:30 Ghost in the Cell			
VUE Screen 7			12:15 Daughters of the Forest		14:30 Dao			18:00 Master		20:45 Heysel 85			
Everyman Screen 4			12:00 Into the Jaws of the Ogre		14:30 My Father's Kora		16:45 Congo Boy	18:45 Joybubbles		20:30 Red Rocks			
Hyde Park Screen 1		09:00 Little Fugitive		13:30 Love Letter		16:00 Wild Horse Nine							
Hyde Park Screen 2		11:30 Ultimate Thunder											

Friday 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					14:00 The Red Hangar		16:00 Flies		18:15 Sad Girlz		20:15 Wild Horse Nine		
VUE Screen 11				13:45 Papaya		15:45 You are the Film		17:45 Mārama		20:00 Pan's Labyrinth			
VUE Screen 7				14:15 Dao				18:00 Odd Man Out		20:30 The Third Man			
Everyman Screen 4						16:00 Variations on a Theme		17:45 Ben' Imana		20:00 Master			
Hyde Park Screen 1								17:45 Ultimate Thunder					
Pictureville Cinema								18:15 Rebel-ion	Pictureville Cinema is at the National Science and Media Museum in Bradford - details on leedsfilm.com				

Sunday 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	10:30 Summer-time			12:45 Fjord			15:45 La Bola Negra			19:00 All of a Sudden			
VUE Screen 11			12:00 Papaya	13:45 Gro-tesqqque			16:00 Mārama		18:00 Mutter: The Diary of a Mother		20:15 Bowels of Hell		
VUE Screen 7		11:00 Nuisance Bear		13:00 In a Whisper		15:30 Filipiņana		17:45 Words of Love		20:00 9 Temples to Heaven			
Everyman Screen 4		11:30 I Rarely Wake Up Dreaming		13:45 Whispers in May		15:45 Ben'-Imana		18:00 São Paulo, Incorporated					
Hyde Park Screen 1				13:45 Rose		16:00 Lady							
Cottage Road Cinema										19:00 Wild Horse Nine			

Monday 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				12:45 Odd Man Out		15:15 The Third Man			17:30 The Meltdown		19:45 La Bola Negra		
VUE Screen 7					13:45 Wolfram		16:00 Nuisance Bear		18:00 Heysel 85		20:00 The Education of Jane Cumming		
Everyman Screen 4					14:00 Adam's Apple		16:15 Joybubbles		18:15 A Private Enterprise		20:15 Summer 2000: The X-Cetra...		
Hyde Park Screen 1											20:30 Atonement		
Mill Hill Chapel									18:00 Persepolis		20:15 Daughters of the Forest		

Tuesday 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					13:45 Summer-time		16:00 Words of Love		18:15 Shana		20:15 Coward		
VUE Screen 7				12:45 Salvation		15:15 The Education of Jane Cumming			18:15 Wolfram		20:30 In a Whisper		
Everyman Screen 4					14:15 São Paulo, Incorporated						20:30 Yorkshire Short Film Comp...		
Hyde Park Screen 1											20:00 La Bola Negra		
Mill Hill Chapel									18:00 City Variations		20:15 Adam's Apple		

Wednesday 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				13:15 Zejtune			15:45 Take Me Home		17:45 Flies		20:00 Caity		
VUE Screen 7				13:00 Levitating		15:30 Mutter: The Diary of a Mother			18:00 Salvation		20:30 Donkey Princess		
Everyman Screen 4			12:00 Congo Boy		14:00 Red Rocks		16:00 Illusion of an Everlasting Summer		18:00 Screen-dance Comp...		20:15 Summer 2000: The X-Cetra...		
Hyde Park Screen 1									18:30 Queer Short Film Comp 1				
Hyde Park Screen 2					14:00 Doc. Short Comp. 1		16:00 Doc. Short Comp. 2						
Cottage Road Cinema											20:00 Josephine		
Leeds City Library									18:00 Vera Media: Archiving the City		19:45 Rebellion		

Thursday 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					14:00 Al Bara-neya		16:00 Shana		18:00 Sad Girlz		20:00 Memorizu		
VUE Screen 7					14:15 The Days Off		16:15 Light Pillar		18:15 The Days Off		20:15 Bagworm		
Everyman Screen 4			11:15 Louis le Prince Short Comp. 1		14:00 Louis le Prince Short Comp. 2		16:00 Louis le Prince Comp. 3		18:00 School for Defectors		20:30 Illusion of an Everlasting Summer		
Hyde Park Screen 1									18:30 Queer Short Film Comp. 2				
Hyde Park Screen 2					14:00 Like a Fortress		16:00 Whispers in May						
Cottage Road Cinema											19:30 La Bola Negra		
Leeds City Library Room 1									18:00 Music Video Comp.		19:45 Barbara Forever		
Leeds City Library Room 2									18:00 Celebrating Louis le Prince				

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Friday 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		11:15 Six Months in a Pink and Blue...			14:15 Ah Girl		16:30 Elephants in the Fog		19:00 Everytime		21:30 Jim Queen		
VUE Screen 11		11:15 Fanomenon Short Film Comp. 1		13:45 Fanomenon Short Film Comp. 2		15:45 Fanomenon Short Film Comp. 3		17:45 Clarissa		20:30 Fjord			
VUE Screen 7		11:45 World Animation Comp. 1		14:30 World Animation Comp. 2		16:45 A Day in the Life of Jo		18:45 9 Temples to Heaven		21:45 Between Chaos and Vertigo			
Everyman Screen 4		11:00 Louis le Prince Comp. 4		13:45 Louis le Prince Short Comp. 5		15:45 Louis le Prince Short Comp. 6		18:00 The Apolo-gist		20:30 Yorkshire Short Film Comp...			
Hyde Park Screen 1										20:15 Minotaur			
Hyde Park Screen 2					14:00 My Father's Kora		16:00 Into the Jaws of the Ogre						

Saturday 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		11:30 Iron Boy		13:30 All of a Sudden				17:30 Mouse		20:00 La Gradiva			
VUE Screen 11		11:00 Germaine Acogny		13:00 Levitating		15:30 The Difficult Bride		17:30 Donkey Princess		19:30 I Love Paris			
VUE Screen 7		10:30 Take Me Home		12:30 Al Baraneya		15:00 Ah Girl		17:15 Prosecution		19:45 A Man of His Time			
Everyman Screen 4		11:30 British Short Film Comp. 1		14:00 British Short Film Comp. 2		16:15 The Little Girl Who Sold the Sun		19:45 Adam's Apple					
Hyde Park Screen 1	08:30 Play-time			13:30 Born in Flames		15:30 Rehearsals for a Revolution		17:45 Coward					
Cottage Road Cinema		12:00 Rose		14:15 Minotaur									

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Sunday 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		11:15 The Red Hangar		13:15 Atonement			16:00 Elephants in the Fog		18:15 Six Months in a Pink and Blue...		20:45 Memorizu		
VUE Screen 11		11:45 Fanomenon Short Film Comp. 1		14:00 Fanomenon Short Film Comp. 2		16:00 Fanomenon Short Film Comp. 3		18:15 Light Pillar		20:15 Jim Queen			
VUE Screen 7		11:30 Panelstory or Birth of a Community		13:45 Zejtune		16:15 Caity		18:30 A Day in the Life of Jo		20:30 The Education of Jane Cumming			
Everyman Screen 4		11:30 World Animation Comp. 1		13:45 World Animation Comp. 2		16:00 LIFF Shorts 2026: The Winners		18:30 Last Movies		20:30 Ticket of No Return			
Hyde Park Screen 1				13:30 I See Buildings Fall Like...		16:15 The History of Concrete		18:30 The Debut					
Cottage Road Cinema		12:00 Look Back			14:30 Fjord								

Monday 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				13:30 Rehearsals for a Revolution		15:45 Six Months in a Pink and Blue...		18:00 Paper Tiger		20:30 A Long Winter			
VUE Screen 7				13:15 Al Baraneya		15:15 Caity		17:30 Black Money for White Nights		19:45 A Man of His Time			
Everyman Screen 4				14:15 A Private Enterprise		16:00 Ticket of No Return		18:15 Our Share of Sand		20:15 I Rarely Wake Up Dreaming			
Hyde Park Screen 1										20:15 Fjord			
Mill Hill Chapel								18:00 Ultimate Thunder		20:15 Yorkshire Short Film Comp...			

Tuesday 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					14:00 The Difficult Bride		16:00 Memorizu		18:15 Ink		20:45 The Debut		
VUE Screen 7			13:15 Panelstory or Birth of a Community			15:30 In a Whisper		18:00 Words of Love		20:15 Sheep in the Box			
Everyman Screen 4				14:30 School for Defectors		16:30 Variations on a Theme		18:00 LIFF Shorts 2026: The Winners		20:30 Congo Boy			
Hyde Park Screen 1										20:30 Josephine			
Mill Hill Chapel								18:00 City Variations		20:15 Persepolis			

Thursday 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				13:30 School for Defectors		15:30 Ink		18:00 The Debut		20:15 Prosecution			
VUE Screen 7				14:00 Taipei Story		16:30 Salaam Bombay!		19:00 Atlantic Rhapsody		20:45 Drifting Clouds			
Everyman Screen 4				14:00 LIFF Shorts 2026: The Winners		16:15 Summer 2000: The X-Cetra...		18:30 Variations on a Theme		20:00 Ben' Imana			
Hyde Park Screen 1							17:45 Clarissa						
Cottage Road Cinema									20:00 Elsinore				

Wednesday 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			12:45 The Apologist		15:00 Paper Tiger		17:30 Elephants in the Fog		20:00 La Gradiva				
VUE Screen 7			13:00 Sheep in the Box		15:45 Black Money for White Nights		18:00 Taipei Story		20:30 Salaam Bombay!				
Everyman Screen 4				14:15 Our Share of Sand		16:15 Illusion of an Everlasting Summer		18:15 Like a Fortress		20:30 Red Rocks			
Hyde Park Screen 1							18:00 Elsinore						
Cottage Road Cinema									20:00 Coward				

Friday 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				13:30 All of a Sudden			17:30 Paper Tiger		20:00 La Gradiva				
VUE Screen 11			13:00 Last Movies		14:45 Furies		17:30 The Beirut Trilogy		20:15 Furies				
VUE Screen 7				14:00 Atlantic Rhapsody		15:45 Drifting Clouds		18:00 Black Church Bay		20:45 Look Back			
Hyde Park Screen 1										Night of the Dead 23:00 – 8:00am	23:00		

Schedule

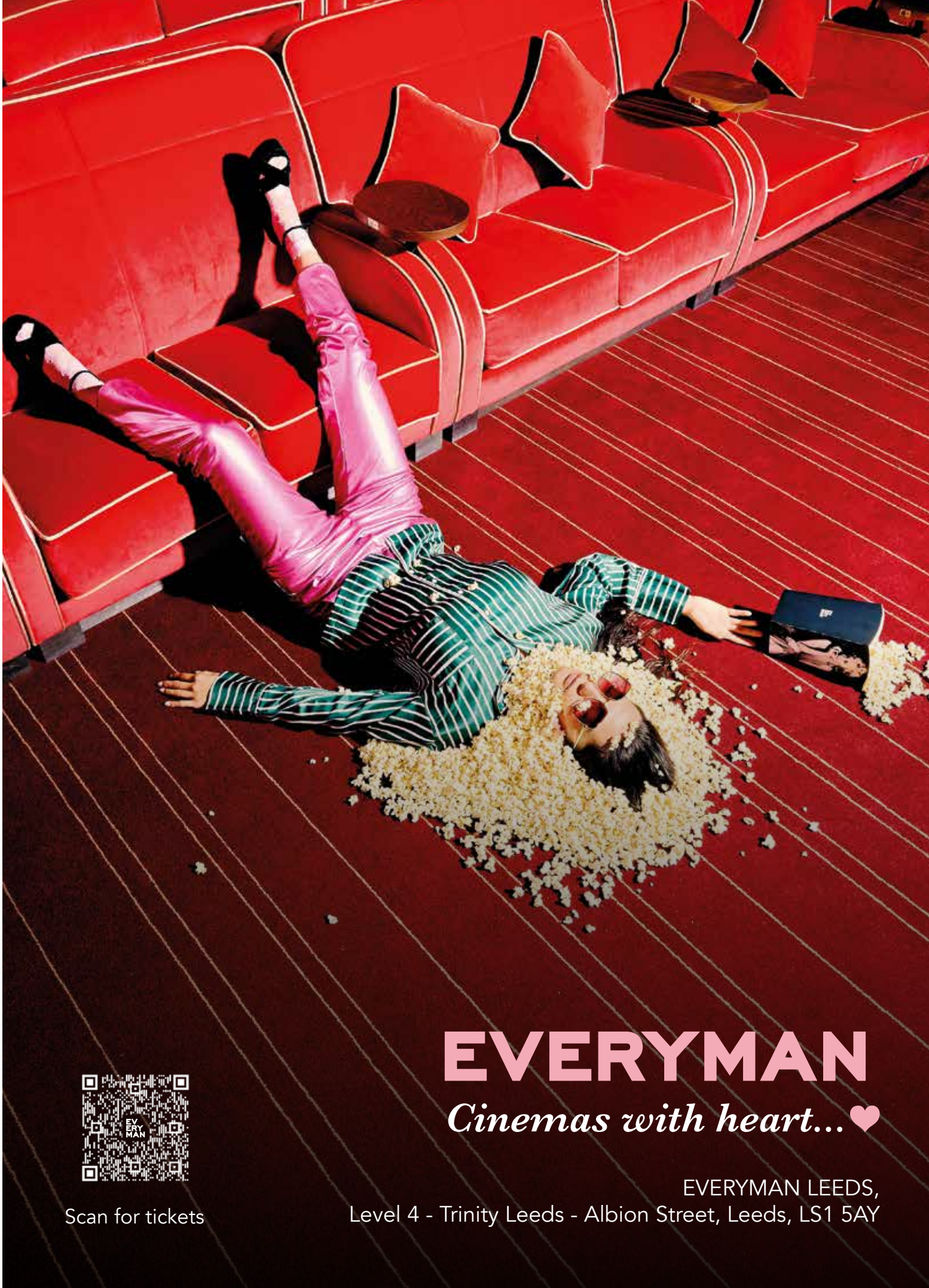
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	10:00	11:00	12:00	13:00	14:00	15:00	16:00	17:00	18:00	19:00	20:00	21:00	22:00
VUE Screen 12						15:00 Everytime		17:30 Minotaur			20:30 Elsinore		
VUE Screen 11						15:15 The History of Concrete		17:30 Furies			20:15 Clarissa		
VUE Screen 7						15:30 Words of Love		17:45 Black Money for White Nights			20:00 9 Temples to Heaven		
Hyde Park Screen 1			13:00 Conversation with the Sea			15:45 Los Angeles Plays Itself							
Cottage Road Cinema						15:15 Iron Boy							

Sunday 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		11:30 Prosecution			14:00 Mouse			16:30 A Long Winter		19:00 Tender Loving Care			
VUE Screen 11			12:30 A Day in the Life of Jo		14:30 Once Upon a Time in Harlem			16:45 Look Back		19:15 Chrono-visor			
VUE Screen 7		11:15 Rehearsals for a Revolution		13:30 Bollywoof			16:15 I See Buildings Fall Like...			18:45 Tender Loving Care			
Hyde Park Screen 1				13:30 Once Upon a Time in Harlem		15:45 Chrono-visor			18:00 Tender Loving Care				



Scan for tickets

EVERYMAN
Cinemas with heart...♥

EVERYMAN LEEDS,
Level 4 - Trinity Leeds - Albion Street, Leeds, LS1 5AY

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Film Hub North

funding

for short film
production &
early feature
development



director, producer
& writer labs

training

events

roundtables,
mixers &
screenings



NETWORK





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Winning films at this festival may be eligible to enter for Oscars consideration.

Year-round, the Academy celebrates artistry and innovation in filmmaking, inspires new generations to share our love of cinema and storytelling, preserves and creates our global film industry, and connects film fans from around the world.

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