

PROGRAMME ANNOUNCED: 300 FILMS. 100 EVENTS. 15 VENUES.



The BAFTA-Qualifying Aesthetica Short Film Festival 2018 returns from 7-11 November with its most rich and evolved programme to date, preserving a signature eye for emerging voices in cinema while shining a light of where the industry is fast headed.

For the first time this year, ASFF is expanding into Narrative and Documentary features, bringing audiences a thoughtfully curated clutch of films intended to dazzle and disarm, travelling from esteemed festivals such as Toronto International Film Festival, Sheffield Doc/Fest and Raindance.

The programme boasts a stellar host of home-grown stars such as Dominic West, award-winning actress Billie Piper, Jack O'Connell, whose acting career has taken an inspirational trajectory from Channel 4's *Skins* to working with some of the biggest names in Hollywood, and Joan Collins, who simply put, is one. 2018's programme continues to grow as a showcase for some of the most promising talent in film today, so even if you haven't heard of some of the names onscreen, there is a chance that you will see them grow to reach extraordinary heights in the coming years.

Over 300 films will play across 15 of York's most inspiring venues, which span 12 genres; Advertising, Animation, Artists' Film, Comedy, Dance, Documentary, Drama, Experimental, Family Friendly, Fashion, Music Video and Thriller.

On the industry front, ASFF has summoned key industry practitioners across all considered phases of filmmaking to step forth and share crucial knowledge on the ever-expanding horizon of cinema and how we consume films. Brands such as **Vogue**, **Dazed** and **Caviar** will be present to confirm that commercial content is more valuable now than ever, and an important way to make your mark on a particularly lucrative industry.

Aspiring or emerging filmmakers have a plethora of industry talks and networking opportunities to attend. Key figures from **Film4**, **BBC Film** and the **BFI** will be present to offer coveted advice and may well help to get your project to that vital next step. Guest speakers at ASFF this year include **Mark Cousins**, who will be casting an eye back over an extensive career as an essayist and filmmaker, comedy actress, screenwriter and director **Alice Lowe** will be sharing her experiences within the industry, and BAFTA-winning editor **Mick Audsley** will share insights from the cutting room floor within the crafts section of the industry programme. Tickets available online: www.asff.co.uk/tickets

-ENDS-

Notes for Editors:

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- Aesthetica Short Film Festival (ASFF) runs 7 - 11 November across York, UK. www.asff.co.uk
- Screening passes and event tickets can be collected from the ASFF Hub at York Theatre Royal, St Leonard's Place, York, YO1 7HD. Passes will permit access to Showcase Screenings, and events. Masterclass tickets are sold separately. Tickets can be purchased online: www.asff.co.uk/tickets
- The ASFF 2018 Jury includes practitioners from the film industry whose expertise span directing, editing, producing, journalism and film criticism. Jury members are: Aleks Dimitrijevic (The Small Film Festival), Alice Ramsey (Creative England), Emmanuel Anyiam-Osigwe (British Urban Film Festival), Gideon Koppel (Filmmaker), Iain Gardner (Edinburgh International Film Festival), Jackie Okwera (Duck Soup Films), Jaime Estrada-Torres (Editor), Julian Foddy (Industrial Light & Magic), Lauren Houlton (Jerwood Visual Arts), Mike Stubbs (FACT), Niccolò Montanari (Co-Founder of the Berlin Fashion Film), Rebecca Mark-Lawson (Tyke Films), Sheyma Buali (BBC Arabic Festival), and Simran Hans (*The Observer*).
- The ASFF Northern Film School Best Screenplay Jury members are: Annabelle Pangborn (Northern Film School), Dan Weldon (Northern Film School) and Cherie Federico (Aesthetica Magazine).
- The festival is produced by [Aesthetica Magazine](#), one of the leading publications for Visual Art, Design and Photography. The bi-monthly publication highlights the most important artists at work today, both established and emerging, through detailed features and stunning imagery.
- Festival Sponsors and partners include: Aesthetica, York St John University, BFI, Make It York, 1331 Bar, Brandy Brown's Cinema, City of York Council, Leeds Beckett University, Northern Film School, London College of Communication, Grand Central, Creative Scotland, Sheffield Doc/Fest, Ffilm Cymru Wales, Marston's Brewery, London College of Fashion, University of the Arts London, Plymouth College of Art, Middlesex University London, NAHEMI, Northern Ireland Screen, Scottish Film Talent Network, University of Lincoln, London Film School, Falmouth University, Northumbria University, Manchester Metropolitan University, National Centre for Early Music, Friargate Theatre, Barley Hall, Bootham School, Holiday Inn, Safestay, Hilton York, Middletons Hotel, St Mary's Guesthouse, Explore York, York Museums Trust, City Screen Picturehouse, Everyman Cinema, The Smalls, York Theatre Royal, York Conferences, firefly, York Means Business. See all supporters [here](#).
- Connect with the Aesthetica Short Film Festival on social media:
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- Press images can be downloaded here. <http://www.bit.ly/2Ar5pvl>

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