

**Press release**  
**Tuesday 23 October 2012**

ASFF Announces its Artists' Film Programme for 2012

The Aesthetica Short Film Festival (ASFF) will open in venues across the city of York, UK, from the 8-11 November this year. Hosted by Aesthetica Magazine, the international arts and culture publication, this year's ASFF will exhibit the festival's strong links with the world of contemporary art, showcasing an enticing and varied line-up of Artists Films and related masterclasses that will allow new audiences to experience the latest developments in this increasingly prominent medium. For details of the full programme please visit [www.asff.co.uk](http://www.asff.co.uk), where tickets are also available.

Consistent with ASFF's uniquely site-specific approach, the Artists' Film screenings will occur in two contrasting dedicated venues. Bar Lane Studios, a contemporary art space, will be the focus of the Art strand, hosting screenings throughout the festival alongside a dedicated reading area supported by the likes of Tate Publishing, Thames & Hudson, the BFI and Prestel. From Saturday 10 November, it will be joined by York St Mary's, a beautiful medieval church that is also York's foremost contemporary art space, recently hosting exhibitions from the likes of Laura Belém and Cornelia Parker. In these beautiful environs, visitors will be able to view a range of films from across the world, gaining insight into different cultures while experiencing these exciting, innovative pieces in a uniquely approachable context.

This year's Artists' Film strand represents a cross-section of the emerging and established talent working in film and video art across the world. From strong graduate entries from the Royal College of Art and Central Saint Martins to contributions from Pieter Geenen, winner of Art'Contest 2011 and Andrea Dojmi and Lorenzo Bona's YICCA winning film, *Ely*, each of the 25 films screening represents an exciting perspective on the relationship between art and film. Other highlights include work by Samuel Dowd, who has recently exhibited at Transmissions Gallery, Glasgow and HBC Berlin and David Jacques, winner of the Liverpool Art Prize 2010 and recently exhibited at the Walker Gallery and at Liverpool Biennial.

ASFF is also proud to host some excellent masterclasses that augment and elucidate the insights offered by its screenings of Artists' Film. Tabitha Jackson, Channel 4's Commissioning Editor for Arts, will be talking about her recent project, *All in the Best Possible Taste with Grayson Perry*, illustrating television's attempts to work with artists and present visual art in a new, more accessible way. Visitors will also be able to learn about this extraordinary genre from two of its leading exponents: in a discussion with Dr Sam Lackey, Curator at The Hepworth Wakefield, Ed Atkins and Patrick Ward will be exploring video art and the boundaries between contemporary practice and traditional filmmaking. This masterclass will also begin with a screening of their work *Defining Holes*, a work that draws startling parallels between art, cinema and literature, epitomising the remarkable relationships that can be achieved across disciplines through the medium of film.

ASFF represents a unique opportunity to see Artists' Film in dedicated space, but also to interact with the genre, exploring its growing profile within the world of contemporary art and its influence upon the way we experience art in the media today.

For details of the full programme and to book tickets, please visit [www.asff.co.uk](http://www.asff.co.uk).

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**Notes for Editors:**

**For all Aesthetica Short Film Festival press enquiries, please contact**

Helena Culliney

Tel: 01904 629 137

Email: [helena@aestheticamagazine.com](mailto:helena@aestheticamagazine.com)

Further press images are available upon request.

Cherie Federico, Festival Director, is available for comment, as are many of our selected filmmakers. If you would like to arrange a Q&A, please contact Helena at the above address.

**Listings information**

The Aesthetica Short Film Festival (ASFF): 8 – 11 November 2012

Explore York – Experience Film.

**Festival Pass: £25 / One Day Pass: £12**

**Tabitha Jackson Masterclass: 9 November 13.00-14.00, £8**

**Ed Atkins and Patrick Ward Masterclass: 9 November 15.00-16.00, £8**

Twitter: @asffest Facebook: [www.facebook.com/aestheticamag](http://www.facebook.com/aestheticamag)

Book online: [www.asff.co.uk](http://www.asff.co.uk) Call Box Office: 01904 629 137

Travel with Northern Rail and receive 15% off a three-day screening pass or 10% off a one-day pass when you present a valid rail ticket at the ASFF Festival Hub, Visit York, 1 Museum Street, York, YO1 7DT (8 – 11 November 2012).

Press accreditation is now open and closes on 31 October 2012.

Please contact [helena@aestheticamagazine.com](mailto:helena@aestheticamagazine.com) for all accreditation enquiries.

**Aesthetica and Film:**

Inside each of issue of Aesthetica Magazine, we report on the latest independent theatrical and DVD releases, as well as focusing on topics in the film world such as issues around funding, festivals and events. The magazine also works in close partnership with many British and international film festivals, and has a strong presence in the film world. In 2010, the magazine launched the Aesthetica Short Film Competition and received an overwhelming response from filmmakers in 37 countries. The finalists were showcased on the Aesthetica Short Film DVD (December 2010), and laid the foundations for the inaugural Aesthetica Short Film Festival (ASFF), which launched to great acclaim in November 2011. ASFF continues the drive to bring films of excellence to a wider audience.

**About Aesthetica:**

Aesthetica Magazine is a leading visual art and contemporary culture publication that combines dynamic content with compelling critical debate. Through in-depth articles and reviews on contemporary art, Aesthetica pushes boundaries and stimulates discussion relating to the latest trends and developments in the art world. Aesthetica covers a broad spectrum of topics relating to contemporary culture from visual art and film to performance and music. [www.aestheticamagazine.com](http://www.aestheticamagazine.com)

**Creative England:**

Creative England supports the sustainable growth of independent creative businesses, and the talent that feeds them, in every part of England outside London. It is the first agency to provide dedicated support to Film, Television, Games and Digital & Creative Services in the English regions outside London. [www.creativeengland.co.uk](http://www.creativeengland.co.uk)

**Arts Council England**

Arts Council England champions, develops and invests in artistic and cultural experiences that enrich people's lives. It supports a range of activities across the arts, museums and libraries - from theatre to digital art, reading to dance, music to literature, and crafts to collections. They believe that, great art and culture inspires us, brings us together and teaches us about ourselves and the world around us. In short, it makes life better. Between 2011 and 2015, ACE will invest £1.4 billion of public money from the government and an estimated £0.85 billion from the National Lottery to help create these experiences for as many people as possible across the country. [www.artscouncil.org.uk](http://www.artscouncil.org.uk)

**York St John University**

Founded in 1841, York St John University has a long and proud tradition as a distinguished education provider. Professor David Fleming was installed as Vice Chancellor in 2010. The University has around 6,000 students studying on a range of courses in faculties of Arts, Health and Life Sciences, Education and Theology, and the York St John Business School. Through its faculties, York St John has developed many partnerships with practitioners, business and representative bodies both within York and the wider region. In addition, the University has invested over £90 million in its facilities for students and partners in its city centre campus since 2001.

Professor David Fleming, Vice Chancellor of York St John University, said: "We are very proud to be the main sponsor of the 2012 Aesthetica Short Film Festival. The festival is a fantastic addition to York's event calendar and we are very much looking forward to being part of it. Our students, especially those studying film and media, will certainly benefit from our involvement. And we are all looking forward to welcoming the many inspirational people from the film industry who will be visiting our campus to deliver talks and events."

For further information please contact Louise McKenzie, PR & Communications Officer on 01904 876466 or [l.mckenzie@yorks.ac.uk](mailto:l.mckenzie@yorks.ac.uk) or go to [www.yorks.ac.uk](http://www.yorks.ac.uk)

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### Festival Partners

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