

Press Release
23 October 2013

Live Cinema, Artists' Film and the Crossover Between Mainstream & Experimental Cinema at ASFF

This year at ASFF audiences will have the opportunity to engage not only with mainstream cinema, but also experience a programme of thought-provoking artists' film. This year's event will exhibit the festival's strong links with the world of contemporary art, showcasing a line-up of outstanding artists' films and related masterclasses.

Artists' film generally interacts solely with the fine art world, but at ASFF we recognise the importance of cross-pollination of ideas and genres, and see these works of art as instrumental in creating a diverse programme. More and more, artists' films are crossing over into mainstream cinema, for example, films from Turner Prize winner Steve McQueen (*Hunger* and *Shame* starring Michael Fassbender and Carey Mulligan) or Turner nominee Sam Taylor-Wood (*Nowhere Boy*) or even documentary filmmaker and artist, Clio Barnard (*The Arbor*).

Artists' film does not need to be confined to the white cube, and we are taking these films and concepts and bringing them to a wider audience through an exciting screening programme alongside our mainstream films. At ASFF there are five screening programmes for this strand and these will be exhibited in two locations across the city, According to McGee and New School House Gallery – both dedicated spaces for artists' films with cinema projections, individual booths and art books for browsing at your leisure. There are films commissioned by Hans-Ulrich Obrist for Serpentine Gallery's Memory Marathon project.

Maggie Ellis, Head of Artists' Moving Image at Film London, will lead a discussion about the crossover between artists' film and mainstream cinema. We are also presenting a performance in which lost and abandoned films that have been found in flea markets and dusty attics will re-emerge with new life as part of Screen Bandita's show at Bedern Hall at 4pm on Sunday 10 November. This live cinema performance also includes an original score created by two gramophones, guarding the nostalgic and the mechanical, and is an experience not to be missed.

ASFF Director, Cherie Federico comments: "The films in the artists' film strand not only invite a new dialogue and engage viewers in a different way than some of our more mainstream films, but they serve to do what contemporary art does best – question. The programme is diverse and engaging, and ASFF is the only short film festival in the UK to introduce these films into our programme. Considering our strong links with the art world, it's important to me, to give these films a platform at ASFF."

All filmmakers are available for interview with video content and images. [CLICK HERE](#) to download the full programme. The festival director is also available for further comment.

Editor's Note

1. ASFF runs from 7-10 November 2013.
2. There are a variety of ticketing options available for the weekend, please refer to the programme for further information.
3. Special screenings include guest programmes from BAFTA, Kuwait, Mexico, India and Screen Bandita (reclaimed 16mm film).
4. For the 15 locations, visit www.asff.co.uk/venues/ - images of all venues are available
5. There are 300 films in the Official Selection screened over 4 days.
6. The Artists' Film strand includes access to a reading area to learn more about the genre.
7. Filmmakers are from 36 countries including the UK, Brazil, Japan, Iran, Canada, Kenya.
8. The Official ASFF Trailer: <https://vimeo.com/76682439>.
9. The festival is produced by Aesthetica Magazine. Visit www.aestheticamagazine.com.

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