

For immediate release

AESTHETICA SHORT FILM FESTIVAL



NEW PERSPECTIVES: GUEST PROGRAMMES AT ASFF



Each year, the **BAFTA-Qualifying Aesthetica Short Film Festival** invites an array of guest programmers from across the world to present a carefully chosen selection of short films. This year's edition, which runs from 7-11 November, brings its best guest programme yet, with diverse voices curating some of the best offerings from their field of expertise.

ASFF brings a special focus to LGBTQ+ cinema for 2018. **Iris Prize Festival** is a Cardiff-based international festival and broader outreach initiative, and ASFF is thrilled to welcome them back for another year. Big questions lie at the heart of the Iris Prize's programme this year, like is LGBTQ+ film exclusively a domain for the young and beautiful? What does coming out in 2018 look like? What role does comedy play in gay cinema?

In June, thousands of people took to the streets of London, Cardiff, Belfast and Edinburgh to march in celebration of 100 years of women's suffrage. The anniversary is reflected in *Women in Power*, a strand of films curated by **Underwire Festival** made entirely by female filmmakers. The leading festival in celebration of women in film, Underwire will be looking at power from all perspectives; what it looks like when it's gone, what it could look like in the future, and what it means in today.

Shining a light on underrepresentation in film today, the **British Urban Film Festival (BUFF)** will be flying the flag for BAME filmmakers with its special programme of short films. Through showing films from diverse array of writer and directors, BUFF hopes to encourage a dialogue about imbalance and prejudice in the film industry.

Other guest programmers at ASFF include:

- **Chris Shepherd:** The award-winning director of Channel 4 short film *Jaw Bone* has collaborated with David Shrigley and Chris Morris, and will be sharing his portfolio.
- **The Scottish Documentary Institute:** A ground-breaking collection of films focused on women's voices in Syria will be presented by the British Council and Bidayyat.
- **The Imperial War Museum:** Delve deep into the archives with this collection of silent short films from the First World War, presented to remember its legacy 100 years on.

Guest programme screenings are free with an ASFF passes: www.asff.co.uk/tickets

-ENDS-

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Notes for Editors:

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To apply for **Press Accreditation** visit: <http://www.asff.co.uk/press/accreditation/>

- Aesthetica Short Film Festival (ASFF) runs 7 - 11 November across York, UK. www.asff.co.uk
- Download the Official Programme: <http://aestheti.cc/dbaeg>
- 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*).
- ASFF Northern Film School Best Screenplay Jury members: Annabelle Pangborn (Northern Film School), Dan Weldon (Northern Film School) and Cherie Federico (Aesthetica).
- 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.
- 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.
- Connect with the Aesthetica Short Film Festival on social media:
Twitter [@asffest](#) | Facebook [@aestheticashortfilmfest](#) | Instagram [@asffestival](#)
- Press images can be downloaded here. <http://www.bit.ly/2Ar5pvl>
- Watch the 2018 Official Trailer here: <http://aestheti.cc/16j70>

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