

## INSPIRED BY IDEAS: ASFF 2019 OPENS



**The 9th edition of the Aesthetica Short Film Festival 2019 begins, featuring over 400 films and 100 industry events for 25,000 people across the city of York.**

ASFF once again transforms the historic city of York into a cinematic playground. Welcoming directors from over 60+ countries, the 2019 is the most extensive yet, expanding to feature, VR and short film. ASFF also welcomes industry leaders from a range of disciplines to speak about their craft. For 2019, this includes Emmy- and Oscar-nominated producers, directors, sound designers, editors and cinematographers such as **Simon Chinn, Dick Pope** and **Tracy Granger**, as well as cultural powerhouses **British Vogue, i-D** and **Rankin**.

Returning for 2019, the **Screen School VR Lab**, in partnership with the **London College of Communication (LCC)**, is a celebration of new forms of storytelling in Virtual Reality. The **Showcase Screenings** presents a series of discussions hosted by staff and alumni of leading UK organisations, including **University of the Arts London** and **Goldsmiths University of London**. ASFF also offers a selection of filmmakers the opportunity to pitch their projects to industry professionals from the UK's biggest production companies, including **Film 4, BBC, Baby Cow** and **the Guardian**.

Bear witness to some of the 20<sup>th</sup> century's most defining and critical moments. As part of **Defining an Era: The 20<sup>th</sup> Century on Screen Guest Programmes**, the **Imperial War Museum** presents archival footage examining the D-Day invasion, and **Filmfest Dresden** curates a series of films depicting life on both sides of the Berlin Wall. **Skin & Coal** explores the divisiveness of miners' strike-era Britain. **Man on the Moon: The Apollo 11 Mission** provides never before seen footage.

Providing a space for new voices and individual perspectives, ASFF's **Alternative Perspectives** strand covers a broad range of ideas through film and panel discussions, presenting works from black filmmakers and women directors from the Arab World, presented by the **BBC Arabic Festival**. Meanwhile, **Iris Prize Film Festival** examines the relationships between siblings who identify as LGBTQ+, looking at complex narratives based around identity and sexuality.

-ENDS-

**Notes for Editors:**

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**Press images** are available to download here: <http://aestheti.cc/nmp35>

- **About ASFF:** The Aesthetica Short Film Festival runs 6-10 November, York, UK. ASFF is a hotbed for talent discovery and a key annual event for both emerging and established filmmakers to meet alongside industry professionals. It is one of the UK's most exciting site-specific events, showcasing over 450 films and 100 events, across five days. [www.asff.co.uk](http://www.asff.co.uk)
- **Tickets, Events & Passes:** Unlimited Screening Passes, Two Day Screen Passes and Single Day Passes are available. Prices start from £16. Concessions are available for students, seniors and families. Single tickets can be upgraded at a discounted rate. Family Passes are also available to groups of four individuals made up of two adults and two children (ages 14 and under). To book visit: [www.asff.co.uk/tickets](http://www.asff.co.uk/tickets)
- **Press Credentials:** ASFF offers journalists an unparalleled opportunity to immerse in a cinematic playground for five days. The programme includes short and feature film screenings, masterclasses, panel discussions, access to the Industry Marketplace, networking sessions and social events. To register for accreditation visit: [www.asff.co.uk/press](http://www.asff.co.uk/press)
- **The Aesthetica Short Film Festival is produced by *Aesthetica Magazine*.** It is one of the leading publications for Visual Art, Design and Photography in the UK. The bi-monthly publication highlights the most important artists at work today, both established and emerging, through detailed features and stunning imagery. [www.aestheticamagazine.com](http://www.aestheticamagazine.com)
- **Partners and Sponsors of ASFF 2019 include:** York St John University, London College of Communication, Visit York, Make It York, Grand Central, MUBI, Hijack, City of York Council, Brew York, York Gin Company, 1131, Yorkshire Museum, Everyman Cinema, City Screen Picturehouse, Éclair Post Production Services, Holiday Inn, Safestay, Hilton Hotels, Middletons York, Moxy York and more. [www.asff.co.uk/partners/](http://www.asff.co.uk/partners/)
- **Connect with the Aesthetica Short Film Festival on social media:**  
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