

## AESTHETICA FILM FESTIVAL 2020: FULL PROGRAMME ANNOUNCEMENT



(Left to Right) 1. *Under the Waterfall* / Dir. Sebastian Caudron; Part of the Official Selection 2020. 2. Aesthetica Short Film Festival Opening Night 2019. Courtesy of the Aesthetica Short Film Festival and Jim Poyner. 3. *Lying Together* / Dir. Corey Baker; Part of the Official Selection 2020.

2020 has had its challenges for the film and events industry but Aesthetica has responded with a programme that is rich, diverse and captivating. **The 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Edition of the Aesthetica Film Festival will take place 3-30 November in a new and exciting way – comprising digital and live-streamed events.**

films in competition at this year's Aesthetica Film Festival span a range of genres including animation, documentary, drama, dance, fashion and thriller. There are also 360 screenings offering viewers the chance to get a Festival Pack, which will include a festival bag, printed programme, lanyard and VR Cardboards. The festival also welcomes renowned talent from a huge range of crafts, who will offer their insights into acclaimed productions and exploring their motivations and expertise. This year's industry programme includes over 50 masterclasses, spotlights and panel discussions in the most exciting edition to date.

Guest speakers include Oscar-Winning Director **Andrea Arnold** (*Wasp, Fish Tank, American Honey*), BAFTA-winning filmmaker **Sarah Gavron** (*This Little Life, Suffragette, Rocks*), BIFA-winning and Emmy-nominated Documentarian **Jeanie Finlay** (*Seahorse, Orion: The Man Who Would Be King, Game of Thrones: The Last Watch*), celebrated Filmmaker **Sam Feder** (*DISCLOSURE, Boy I Am*), Oscar Winning Sound Designer **Glenn Freemantle** (*Gravity, Annihilation*), double Oscar-winning VFX Supervisor **Paul Franklin** (*Inception, Interstellar*), as well as leading animators, cinematographers, editors, production designers and representatives from **Film4, BBC Films, Framestore** and many more.

Films in competition will be released in 6 Strands from 3-8 November, with 10 programmes per day. The strand titles include: ***Just Another Day on Earth, Humans and their Environment, Connections: People, Places and Identity, Breaking Down Barriers*** and ***Keep on the Sunny Side of Life***.

Guest programmes have also expanded for 2020. These include: ***Perspectives Indigenous Cinema***: Celebrating Visual Narrative Sovereignty (Native Spirit FF), Cinesisters: ***A Platform for Female Voices*** (Cinesisters), ***Tales from Isolation*** (Short of the Week), ***Transformation, TransAction*** (Transgender Media Portal), BFI Doc Society Presents: ***Documenting Modern Britain*** (Doc Society), ***Hanoi Stories*** (Scottish Documentary Institute), ***Fresh Perspectives: Making Space for Disability*** (OSKA BRIGHT), The True Glory: ***Remembering WWII*** (IWM), ***I Still Can't Breathe*** (Directors Notes, Can We Talk DXB), ***The Future of AI: People and Data*** (DC LABS), Iris Prize Presents: ***LGBT+ Shorts*** (Iris Prize), ***Short Films from Brazil*** (Sao Paulo Short Film Festival), ***Perspectives from the Arctic Circle: Norway on Film*** (Norwegian Short Film Festival).

**Cherie Federico, Festival Director**, notes: "ASFF 2020 will also include a national film tour in partnership with PictureHouse, where audiences will be able to see a selection of films on the Big Screen. We support the recovery of the cinema industry and hope that you venture out to see some of our programmes in the cinema. In the meantime, I'd like to invite you to log in from home and join us for one the UK's most exciting film events of the year."

For Immediate Release



This year's tickets are **24-hour, 7-day and 1-Month Film & Industry Passes**, as well as a film only pass for the month of November. [Click here](#) to download the full programme. Book before 30 September and Save 50%.



## Notes for Editors:

For press information please contact **Kate Simpson, Assistant Editor**, [kate@aestheticamagazine.com](mailto:kate@aestheticamagazine.com)

Images are available to download here: [asff.co.uk/press](https://asff.co.uk/press).

- **About the Festival:** The Aesthetica Short Film Festival is one of the UK's leading film events founded in 2010. It is a unique gathering point for filmmakers, industry delegates and audiences. This year, ASFF marks its 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Edition with an extended six-day festival, running virtually from 3-8 November, in association with Film Chief. All content, including all films and events, are available On Demand until 30 November.
- **The Film Programme:** This year's festival features over 300 works in the Official Selection across 12 short film genres. ASFF presents an extensive and diverse programme, with works participating from around the world. This year's Official selection will be released as part of six daily curated strands from 3-8 November, titled *Just Another Day on Earth*; *Humans and their Environment*; *Connections: People, Places and Identity*; *Breaking Down Barriers*; *Reclaiming Space: Universal and Personal Narratives*; and *Keep on the Sunny Side of Life*.
- **Guest Programmes and Showcase Screenings:** This year's extensive Guest Programmes include specially curated screenings from 13 organisations. Key topics and themes include *Defining Gay Cinema*, *Tales from Isolation*, *Documenting Modern Britain*, *Indigenous Cinema*, *I Still Can't Breathe* and *The Future of AI*. Showcase Screenings offer films from 9 of the UK's leading institutions including London College of Communication, London College of Fashion, Arts University Bournemouth, Regent's University London, University of York, York St John University, University of Lincoln, Falmouth School of Film and Television and Ravensbourne University.
- **Live Industry Events:** ASFF boasts one of the biggest and most exciting industry programmes in the UK, with over 100 masterclasses, spotlights, panel discussions, networking opportunities and pitching sessions. Key speakers include Andrea Arnold (*American Honey*), Sarah Gavron (*Suffragette*), Sam Feder (*Disclosure*) and Paul Franklin (*Inception*), as well as delegates from BBC, Film 4, Industrial Light & Magic, Dazed, Compulsory, Nowness, Framestore, Birds Eye View, Storyville, Short of the Week, Potboiler Productions and more.
- **Industry Marketplace:** A virtual meeting place with over 40 exhibitors including distributors, film festivals, universities and more. Access is open to all pass-holders. [asff.co.uk/industry-marketplace](https://asff.co.uk/industry-marketplace).
- **Tickets, Events & Passes:** Unlimited Screening Passes, Week Passes, 24-Hour Passes and Film Only Passes are available. Prices start from £25 and cover an entire household. To book your ticket, visit [asff.co.uk/tickets](https://asff.co.uk/tickets).
- **Press Credentials:** ASFF offers journalists an unparalleled opportunity to immerse in a cinematic playground for the duration of the festival, taking advantage of our both live and on demand events. To register for accreditation visit: [asff.co.uk/press](https://asff.co.uk/press) or email [kate@aestheticamagazine.com](mailto:kate@aestheticamagazine.com).
- **The Aesthetica Short Film Festival is produced by Aesthetica Magazine**, one of the UK's leading publications for contemporary art and culture. [aestheticamagazine.com](https://aestheticamagazine.com).
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