



THE 2021 AESTHETICA FILM FESTIVAL PROGRAMME



We are delighted to announce the programme for the 11th edition of the BAFTA-
Qualifying Aesthetica Film Festival. This hybrid version of the festival incorporates both live and
virtual events 2-30 November.

The 2021 Aesthetica Film Festival programme is now available to read, spanning the month of November, over 300 films, 100 industry events and 100 speakers from across the globe. To read the programme, [click here.](#)

This year's festival is has been curated into six conceptual strands: *How it was, How it is, How it will be?, Humanity on the Edge, When Life Gives You Lemons, Make Lemonade, Pleased to Meet You, Mirror, Mirror and Nobody's Free Until Everybody is Free.* Inside each strand are 9-12 programmes of films that span across over 12 short film genres, feature-length narratives and documentaries, as well as virtual reality experiences. These strands embrace the world in which we live, offer a view of the present moment, and look to the future.

Diversity plays a large part in the programme this year, with industry events and screenings that have LGBTQ+, communities, Black Lives Matter, women, gender and identity at the core. We've taking a look at on-screen representations, whilst subverting the status quo. As part of this year's Guest Programmes, **ASFF looks at 9/11, commemorating 20 years since the terrorist attack.** Complementary programmes spotlight works from Ireland, China, Kenya and North Africa, with **Scottish Documentary Institute, We Are Parable, Girls in Film South Africa and more.**

The 2021 industry programme is extensive: looking at everything from VFX, animation and cinematography, to editing, screenwriting and virtual reality. Alongside industry giants such as **Sally Potter, Maxine Peake, Gamba Cole, Craig Roberts, Framestore, ILM, Film4, Chanel 4, BBC Film,** we sit down to chat with some of the UK's leading rising stars such as **Alice Seabright, Francis Lee and Prano Bailey-Bond,** who are all Aesthetica alumni. Alongside the industry and film programmes are multiple opportunities to network and connect, as well as pitch projects to the likes of **Film 4, BBC Film, Guardian Documentaries, StudioCanal and DocSociety.**



There are three ticket options: **In person, virtual or hybrid. Tickets start from £25. asff.co.uk**

Notes for Editors:

For press information please contact **Kate Simpson, Associate Editor**, kate@aestheticamagazine.com, or visit: 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 11th edition with an extended six-day festival, that runs in-person, online and hybrid, in York from 2-7 November, and virtually 2-30 November.
 - **The Film Programme:** This year's festival features over 300 works across short and feature film, virtual reality and immersive experiences. ASFF presents an extensive programme, with works participating from around the world. This year's Official selection will be organised as part of six curated strands, titled *How it Was*, *How it is*, *How it Will be*; *Humanity on the Edge*; *When Life Gives You Lemons, Make Lemonade*; *Pleased to Meet You*; *Mirror, Mirror*; and *Nobody's Free Until Everybody's Free*.
 - **Guest Programmes:** This year's Guest Programmes span vast distances, with focuses including South Africa, Indonesia, Iraq, Afghanistan and China, from T A P E's centring of female filmmakers of Islamic heritage, to We Are Parable's celebrations of Black filmmaking. Docs Ireland demonstrates how a divided past continues to shape Northern Irish culture, whilst Directors Notes offers a provocative take on identity politics, and ASFF screens a three-part programme commemorating 9/11.
 - **New Wave:** ASFF is the only festival in the UK that offers a dedicated strand celebrating graduate filmmakers. This is your chance to see work by fresh talent and to meet the visionaries who will shape the future of film.
 - **Live Industry Events:** Every year, we welcome industry leaders from a range of disciplines to speak about their craft. This year, we welcome acclaimed editors, directors and actors such as **Sally Potter**, **Nicolas Chaudeurge**, **Maxine Peake**, **Gamba Cole** and **Francis Lee** as well as leading practitioners across more than 50 masterclasses.
 - **Industry Marketplace:** Returning to ASFF for the third year, the Industry Marketplace finds a new home in both a live and virtual space, welcoming more than 40 exhibitors from leading exhibitors, including production services, film festivals, screen agencies and renowned universities. A unique platform in the UK, the Industry Marketplace offers a vital platform for practitioners to make connections and uncover opportunities. asff.co.uk/industry-marketplace.
 - **Tickets, Events & Passes:** In-Person, Hybrid and Virtual Passes are available. Prices start from £25 and cover an entire household if attending virtually. To book your ticket, visit 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 email: 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.
 - **Connect with ASFF on social: [Twitter @asffest](https://twitter.com/asffest) | [Facebook @aestheticashortfilmfest](https://facebook.com/aestheticashortfilmfest) | [Instagram @asffestival](https://instagram.com/asffestival)**
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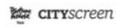


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