

BOLTON FILM FESTIVAL

@BoltonFilmFest
#BoltonFilmFest

Wed 5th - Sun 9th October 2022

the light
cinema



5 Days - 300 Short films - 30 Industry Events

www.boltonfilmfestival.com



BIFA Qualifying
Short Film Festival

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BOLTON FILM FESTIVAL

A brief introduction to Bolton Film Festival from our patron the actress Maxine Peake...

"I'm delighted to be the patron of this event, it's been great to see the festival grow in stature since it's inception six years ago. When I attended I was impressed by the scale and ambition of the festival, the size of its audiences and the warm welcome it offers its filmmakers. Short films are a format close to my heart, they have the ability to tell big stories in a short amount of time, it's always been a place to take risks and be bold and adventurous."



Zoe and I are delighted to welcome you to the sixth edition of Bolton International Film Festival, this year screening over 300 short films including 29 world premieres and 61 UK premieres. Our 2022 edition brings well known names to the festival such as Sir Steve McQueen with his charity film highlighting prostate cancer and our patron Maxine Peake directs her latest short film focusing on pro-rights for women. Other short films feature household names such as Kevin Bacon, Morgan Freeman, Ruth Madeley, Jo Martin and Timothy West, as audiences are introduced to films made by some of the world's rising stars - both behind and in front of the camera.

Our headlining guest this year is Joe Lycett who joins us to share his short comedy film "Ray" (playing in competition), but also for an evening of chat with DJ Shaun Keaveny about filmmaking, music, classic adverts and comedy in our special programme "Multifarious Mixtape."

There are over 30 industry events this year including a masterclass with two-time Academy Award winner and DNEG co-founder Paul Franklin. He will be talking about his 30+ year career in digital visual effects and animation, including his ten year-long collaboration with director Christopher Nolan.

BAFTA-winning editor Mick Audsley joins us to share insights into the cutting room process, with over thirty film credits to his name, including Terry Gilliam's "12 Monkeys", Kenneth Branagh's "Murder on the Orient Express" and Armando Lannucci's "The Personal History of David Copperfield."

Representatives from Film 4, The Guardian, Doc Society, BFI Film Hub North and the BBC Writers Room will also be in attendance, as well as festival programmers from Tribeca, Raindance and London Short Film Festival, in the hope of offering support and guidance to those looking to forge and develop a career in the screen industries.

Bolton-born writers Michael and Paul Clarkson (aka The Clarkson Twins) will also be making a return to the festival to discuss their experiences of co-writing for television; including the newly released BBC Three horror series Red Rose, set and filmed in Bolton.

There will be a strong push on Environmental films this year, as the festival takes a look in the mirror at its own policies and practices. We're finding new ways to reduce our own carbon footprint whilst sharing the big issues on screen that have led us to take action.

Zoe and I hope you enjoy the festival !!



Judges



Colin Pons
Producer

Colin has worked on thirty two feature films, including BAFTA winning television drama "This Little Life" and the much acclaimed feature films "Acid House", "The Darkest Light", "HUSH", "ILL Manors" and feature documentary "Zoned In", which won the New York loves film documentary award at the Tribeca film festival. His short film repertoire comprises of four x BAFTA winners.



Maggie Ellis
Producer

Maggie Ellis is a champion of independent talent in the film industry and has helped launch the careers of some of UK's most talented filmmakers and artists. She has set up commissioning schemes, for shorts and feature films, including the Microwave production scheme. Maggie is currently Head of Film London's Artists Moving Image Network (FLAMIN) which also runs the prestigious annual Jarman Award.



Rob Speranza
Producer

Rob Speranza is an American film producer and line producer. Rob has worked on several feature films including "Arthur and Merlin", "Entity", "Inbred", "Small Creatures" and 16 short films with various directors and writers. Rob runs the South Yorkshire Filmmakers Network. He is also a programmer at Aesthetica Film Festival and a lecturer at various Northern universities.



Amy O'Hara
Development Exec

Amy O'Hara is a Development and Production Executive at Film4. She has over nine years' experience in film marketing, distribution and development, most recently as a BFI NETWORK Talent Executive for Film Hub North.



Chris Hees
Producer

Chris is the founder of Bridge Way Films and is the Managing Director at the Kurious in Sheffield. He is a BAFTA winning and OSCAR nominated producer and alumni of the prestigious National Film & Television School. His current slate is a mixture of live-action and animation, includes adaptations, comedies, thrillers and period dramas.



MarBelle
Directors Notes

MarBelle is the co-founder and editor-in-chief of the independent film curation and interview site Directors Notes. Prior to that, he worked as editor of Shooting People's Filmmakers Bulletin and as a contributing writer for Short of the Week and No Film School. Through DN he has curated numerous film programmes and served on festival juries for over a decade.



Lorán Dunn
Producer

Lorán is a 2017 Screen Daily Star of Tomorrow & BFI Vision Award Producer with a background on BBC Dramas, independent features and major music promos. With a track record of short film screenings and awards at festivals including Sundance, Palm Springs, London Film Festival, and the Best Producer Award at BAFTA accredited Underwire Film Festival. Lorán's First Feature A Deal With The Universe was the centre-piece at BFI Flare London.



Barrington Paul Robinson
Creative Producer

Barrington is a BFI Insight Producer, BFI x BAFTA CREW and Alumni of EIFF Talent Lab. Barrington is a former UKFC Breakthrough Brits and Screen International Star of Tomorrow. This year has seen him break into HETV, where he is Co-Producing The Responder a BBC1 Drama with Dancing Ledge starring Martin Freeman and is signed up to Produce more HETV later this year.



Anna Price
Editor

Treble BAFTA-nominated for Editing Factual: 2022, 2021, 2018 and Grierson and RTS award winning editor Anna Price specialises in complex narrative and human drama told with "flair, precision, wit and emotional punch". Credits include "Once upon a time in Iraq" and numerous collaborations with Louix Theroux.



Chris Lunt
Writer

Chris has won commissions from the BBC, ITV, Canal +, Red Productions, Drama Republic, Look Out Point, World Productions, Leopard Drama, Lionsgate, Sky, Slim Film and TV, Wall 2 Wall and Eone. Chris was nominated for two Baftas and two RTS awards for his debut work "PREY" he was also named a BAFTA Breakthrough Brit of 2014.



Jon Turner
Animator

Jon co-founded the animation studio Kilogramme in 2005, having previously worked for five years at Cosgrove Hall films. In the past he has provided content for CBBC, Cbeebies, CITV, Kaspersky Lab, the V&A, TBWA and McCann Erikson, while writing and directing his own shorts in his spare time. His animation "Tall Tales" has reached over 100,000+ viewers



D J Clark
Multi Media Journalist

Over 25 years experience working with media organisations across the world as a video producer, photojournalist, presenter, writer, trainer and multimedia consultant. Currently a multimedia director at China Daily Asia, video adviser to the Asia News Network and a contributing video producer to The Economist and National Geographic.



Arron Wood
Animation Producer

Aaron is the Co-Founder and Producer at London animation company, Slurpy Studios, who create a range of animated content for commercials, education and entertainment platforms. Away from Slurpy, he is a co-owner and writer at Skwigly Animation Magazine and also runs animation-festivals.com, the only website dedicated to listing and covering animation-specific film festivals around the world.



Bridget Appelby
Animator

Voted as one of the top ten women in animation by "Animation Magazine" Bridget's long and illustrious career is enviable. A personal BAFTA and Emmy award winner her designs and productions have been transmitted and licensed all over the world. Credits include Roary the Racing Car, Fifi and the Flowertots, Postman Pat, Little Robots, Enjie Benji and the Reluctant Dragon



Kirsty Fairclough
Reader in Screen Studies

Kirsty has published widely on popular culture and is the co-editor of The Music Documentary: Acid Rock to Electropop (Routledge), The Arena Concert: Music, Media and Mass Entertainment (Bloomsbury) The Legacy of Mad Men: Cultural History, Intermediality and American Television. (Palgrave) and Music/Video: Forms, Aesthetics, Media and Pop Stars on Film.



Adam Miller
Programmer

Adam Miller is the Festival Coordinator and Senior Programmer for the Big Sky Documentary Film Festival. He has over a decade of exhibition, programming, and coordination experience and has worked on a number of commercial and independent film productions in the Pacific Northwest. Adam resides in Portland, Oregon.



Industry Sessions 1

Wednesday



Isabelle Croissant
Event Producer

Isabelle works at HOME, Manchester's international multi arts venue. She programmes and produces events and schemes that aim to showcase and develop creative talents and forge connections between practitioners in all creative sectors. She manages Filmed Up, HOME's regular regional short film night and was the co-director of exposures UK Student Film Festival, which ran for 18 years at Cornerhouse.



Gerard Kearns
Actor

Gerard has been working professionally in Film, Theatre and Television for the past fifteen years. Gerard has worked on Feature Films which include "Looking for Eric", "Trespass Against Us", "The Mark Of Cain" and well known series such as "Shameless", "The Smoke" and "The Last Kingdom". Gerard has a huge enthusiasm for short film - most recently starring in "Bunny and Clive".



Rob Scott
VR Manchester

Rob is the chair of the VR Manchester community group. In his day job as a User Experience Architect at the BBC, he has worked on defining Augmented Reality interaction frameworks, conducted user research for head mounted mixed reality experiences, and also designed prototype app experiences to explore the benefits of AR in Educational contexts. He was previously a judge for the 2018 and 2019 editions of the VR Awards.



Mike Todd
Producer

Mike is the founder of Northern Docs and for the last ten years has run Riverhorse a production company specialising in creative documentaries. Mike has directed and produced numerous films that have been broadcast and screened internationally, working with broadcasters including the BBC, ITV, Channel 4, PBS, Starz and ESPN.

NETWORKING IN THE CREATIVE INDUSTRIES

Wed : 11:00am - 12:00pm - Light Cinema 5

Everyone tells you to "get out and network" but for many this is easier said than done. Where do you find the right events to attend? When you are alone in the room how do you approach people? How does the internet and social media fit into the networking equation? Rob Speranza of the South Yorkshire Film Network offers practical advice and tips that you can act on.



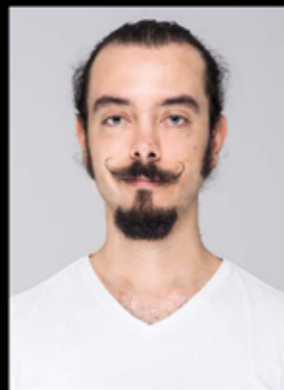
Annabeth Robinson
Electronic Artist/Film-maker

An Electronic Artist and Filmmaker based in Leeds, predominantly using screen based virtual worlds and game platforms since 2005, to explore multi-user interactive artworks and education experiences. Currently the Course Leader in BA(hons) Animation at University of Salford - supporting students development in Creative Development, Industry Engagement and Practice Based Research.



Steve Boot
Animator

Steve Boot is a professional stop-motion animator who has worked on many high profile and successful children's television series, including "Andy Pandey", "Bob the builder", "Little robots", "Roary the Racing car", "Raa Raa the noisy lion", "Postman Pat", "the Clangers", and "Twirly Woo's". His production company "Gadzooks Animation" produces short films and commercials.



Danilo Godoy
Director

Working in documentary and publicity produced in Brazil, Colombia and Portugal. He is best known for his short film "Forgotten memories from the end of the world" which won best Artists Film at Aesthetica Film Festival in 2014 and his branded content videos for MOFILM, presented at SXSW and shortlisted for CANNES. Based in Lisbon, Portugal he is currently working on his debut feature film "Hover".



FLIPBOOK - PIPELINE OF ANIMATION PRODUCTION

Wed 11:00am - 12:00pm - Light Cinema 3

Flipbook is a creative production studio specialising in Animation, VFX, Digital, Immersive and live action productions for TV, film, brands and video. Andrew Lord, the co-founder and managing director joins us to talk through the pipeline of production for the animations they have on their slate.



HOW TO START A PRODUCTION COMPANY

Wed: 12:20pm - 1:20pm - Light Cinema 5

Chris Overton began his filmmaking journey small, raising money on Indiegogo and even selling cup cakes to raise the money for his OSCAR winning film. Now with a broad slate of shorts and moving into features, his company Slick Films has taken many forms. Barrington Paul Robinson started out in finance before a sudden career change led him to begin producing short films. Now a HTV producer he sits on the panel alongside Dominique Unsworth, a fellow BAFTA Elevate producer of 20 years. Passionate about inclusion and accessibility in the screen industries she's just set up a new production company in Bolton. Our host is Holly Carrington.

A CAREER IN ANIMATION - ONE FRAME AT A TIME

Wed 12:20pm - 1:20pm - Light Cinema 2

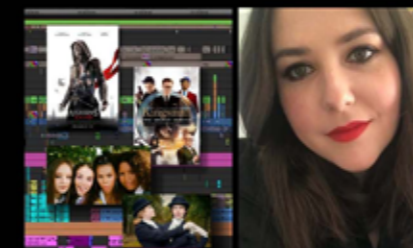
Simon Partington is the Head of Animation at Three Arrows Media. In the past he has worked on numerous animation and puppetry series including 'Postman Pat SDS', 'The Furchester Hotel', 'Toby's Travelling Circus', 'Mister Maker Comes to Town'. He is an Animation Director and designer on the multi BAFTA award winning BBC children's series 'Old Jack's Boat' and co-developer of the spin off series, he joins us today to share highlights from his long career.



PRODUCING AWARD WINNING FILMS

Wed: 1:40pm - 2:40pm - Light Cinema 5

Loran is a Screen Daily Star of Tomorrow, BFI Vision Award winner and BIFA Longlisted Breakthrough Producer. With a track record of short film awards at festivals including Sundance, Palm Springs Film Festival. She sits alongside Chris Hees, a BAFTA winning, Oscar nominated producer and alumni of the National Film and Television School. His BAFTA winning animation, "The Bigger Picture," along with his live action short, "How I Didn't Become A Piano Player", racked up over 200 festival screenings and 75 awards.



EDITING MASTERCLASS - RACHEL DURANCE

Wed: 1:40pm - 2:40pm - Light Cinema 3

Rachel Durance is a freelance editor and assistant editor whose vast knowledge of the TV and Film industry covers a myriad of platforms and specialisms. From creating her own content to assisting on award-winning feature films, Rachel has a young, creative mind with the technical expertise to support her expanding portfolio. In this session she shares her timelines, tips and expertise.



CO-WRITING MASTERCLASS

The Clarkson Twins - Michael and Paul - are writers and directors from Bolton who have worked for both UK and US television. Their credits include HIS DARK MATERIALS (BBC), THE WHEEL OF TIME (Amazon) and THE HAUNTING OF BLY MANOR (Netflix). Their original series RED ROSE (BBC/Netflix) has premiered recently. A horror/thriller series set in Bolton, written by Boltonians, seriously? Does it get anymore Bolton than this?...

Wed : 3:00pm - 4:00pm - Light Cinema 5

GROUNDBREAKING ANIMATION

Balázs Simon has a great body of work, last winter he created a stunning film for the BBC Winter Olympics coverage, using a combination of 3D printed ice sculptures and stop motion. He's also received global recognition for his music videos at SXSW and the UKMVA. In his new music video for ODESZA, the Blinkink director combines live action and motion capture with painterly 2D and 3D animation to dazzling effect.

Wed : 3:00pm - 4:00pm - Light Cinema 2



UTC MEDIA CITY SHOWCASE

A unique, technical and creative college for 14-18 year olds based in the heart of the northern digital world - MediaCityUK brings us this showcase of films, supported by a panel of current students and graduates.

Wed: 4:30pm - 5:40pm - Bolton Museum



VIP RED CARPET RECEPTION

Join us on the red carpet for a complimentary drink, and what locals might arguably say is some of Bolton's finest cuisine, the "Carr's Pasty". Delivered to the festival by a family run bakery based in Bolton who've been baking perfect pasties since 1938.

Wed 6.00pm - 8:00pm - The Green Room, The Light Cinema



OPENING NIGHT AFTER PARTY

Join us to discuss the films and industry sessions you've enjoyed at the festival today. A chance to meet fellow filmmakers and build new creative relationships for the future. Our venue of choice is Great Ales, just two floors down from the Light Cinema in The Vaults at the Market Place.

Wed: 9.30pm - 11.20pm



Industry Sessions 2

Thursday



UNIVERSITY OF BOLTON SHOWCASE

Creative, practical and industry-focused, this session gives you the chance to experience aspects of the filmmaking skills from Bolton University, including pre-production, filming and post production workflow in film and TV.

Thurs: 10:50am - 12:10pm - Light Cinema 3



FUTUREWORKS SHOWCASE

Futureworks School of Media provides world-class education and training in Sound, Music, Film & TV, Games, Animation and Visual Effects. In this showcase the school shares it's latest short films and also talks to its graduates about their journey into the industry.

Thurs: 10:50am - 12:10pm - Light Cinema 1

BFI DOC SOCIETY - MADE OF TRUTH

Stepping into docs? Join us for a screening of two recently completed short documentaries funded by the BFI Doc Society Made of Truth Fund: #BlackBoyJoy/Gone and Hanging On. The screening will be followed by a discussion with co-directors Ashley Karrell and Isaac Ouro-Gnao and director Alfie Barker about their creative filmmaking approach and the process of working with funders like BFI Doc Society. Hosted by BFI Doc Society Film Production Executive Hannah Bush Bailey. Presented as part of BFI NETWORK

Thurs: 12:25pm - 1:35pm - Light Cinema 1



MUSIC VIDEOS & COMMERCIALS

Ben Thornley has been delivering award winning content to a global audience since 2002. Primarily working with Sitcom Soldiers Film Company specialising in Music Videos & Commercials his work has been seen by an audience of millions. James Slater has achieved industry recognition, winning NME video of the year and Raindance Video Of The Year. Chris Turner is a commercial promo and film director from Favourite Colour: Black. He has created music videos for artists such as Birdy, Hurts, Jax Jones, and Gazelle Twin, and worked with a myriad of commercial clients including Jaguar, Adidas, Honda, AMC and Sprint.

Thurs: 12:40pm - 1:40pm - Light Cinema 3



MADE IN BRITAIN - THE GUARDIAN

John Domokos from the Guardian hosts this panel about a collaborative video series "Made in Britain", a community-based video journalism project looking at poverty, inequality and the challenges our communities face in the wake of the coronavirus pandemic. The aim is to put the individuals who are typically under-represented in the media in front and behind the camera.

Thurs: 2:00pm - 3:00pm - Light Cinema 2



SOUND DESIGN MASTERCLASS

Andrew Dennis Layfield joins us to share his expertise on both location sound recording and post production sound design. Working in both roles he has developed a unique knowledge that informs the process of crafting sound design from the start to the finish of a project.

Thurs: 2:00pm - 3:00pm Light Cinema 3

SHORTS SHOWCASE - FILM HUB NORTH

Join us for a special screening of BFI NETWORK funded shorts Salt Water Town (Dir. Dan Thorburn), The Barber (Dir. Divya Kate Chetty), The Hermit (Dir. Andrew Coates) and A Snapshot (Dir. John Clark). The screening will take place in Screen 1 at The Light Cinema.

Thurs - 3:20pm - 4:20pm Light Cinema 1



SHORTS TO FEATURES - FILM4

Noah is a Development Executive at Altitude, and a producer at his own production company, Two By Two Productions. Noah produced the BIFA longlisted short PRINCESS, directed by Screen Daily 'Star of Tomorrow' Edem Kelman. The pair's follow up short, EXPRESS, was commissioned by Film4, with whom they are also developing their debut feature, DUKE.

Thurs - 3:20pm - 4:20pm Light Cinema 2

NAHEMI

A rare opportunity to see films from the NAHEMI National Student Film Awards, the best short films selected from our fifty-six member institutions by tutors teaching filmmaking in UK Film Schools and Universities. Plus, a selection of commercials from the NAHEMI / Kodak Student Commercial Competition. <https://www.nahemi.org/>

Thurs - 4:40pm - 6:40pm Light Cinema 2



NETWORKING

Join us in the gallery for some chilled out tunes, a few complimentary drinks with other filmmakers and festival goers.

Thurs: 6:00pm - 8:00pm Unit Base Gallery



VR PRODUCTION - KIRSTY JENNINGS - ANAGRAM

Working across company development and on the award-winning Goliath: Playing with Reality and Messages to a Post Human Earth. Kirsty has previously worked with Documentary Campus, 104 Films and Sheffield Doc/Fest, she joins us to talk about VR production.

Thurs: 5:20pm - 6:20pm @ Unit Base Gallery

VR PRODUCTION - KATIE GREYSON - PASSION PICTURES

With a production background that covers film, advertising, animation, games, and real-time/immersive technologies, Katie Greyson of Passion Pictures has an extensive record of successfully delivering technically and creatively challenging projects across interactive/realtime CG VR, AR, touch interface, live action 360, pre-rendered animated 360 and mixed reality/Hololens. She joins us to talk about a recent VR project "Laika" directed by Asif Kapadia.



Thurs: 6:40pm - 7:40pm @ Unit Base Gallery



Gorgeous comedian, TV personality, writer, artist, gardener, and lover, Joe Lycett has in recent years also been making some daft films. In a special evening of screenings and discussion the Brummie chucklemonger is joined by radio DJ Shaun Keaveny as they chat about filmmaking, music, classic adverts and comedy. Screening alongside some of Joe's music videos and shorts (including "Ray" Lycett's own film) there will be a selection of films and clips that have inspired him over the years.

**Thurs 8:00pm - 10:00pm - Light Cinema 5
Pre-Paid Tickets only (not included with festival passes)**

AFTER PARTY DRINKS @ THE DIVERSION

Join us for craft beers and a bit of a natter at The Diversion. A chance to meet with other filmmakers and talk film, or simply meet some locals and speak Bowt'en, flat caps, whippets and drizzle.

Thurs 9.45pm - 11.20pm - The Diversion, 26 Corporation St, Bolton BL1 2AN



Industry Sessions 3

Friday



SHORT FILM SALES & DISTRIBUTION

Sadhbh Murphy from Network Ireland TV and Alexandra Gramatke from AG Kurtzfilm join us to share their knowledge on Short Film Distribution and Sales. Our host is Beatrice Neumann of Screen Yorkshire

Fri: 11:00am - 12:00pm - Light Cinema 1

BBC WRITERS ROOM

BBC Writers Room champions new writing talent in film, television, radio, and theatre. In this session, Development Executive Simon Nelson shares advice on writing for film and television by offering pragmatic tips and advice on structuring your plot, defining your genre and authoring compelling characters and realistic dialogue.

Fri: 12:40pm - 1:50pm - Light Cinema 1



PAUL FRANKLIN - A LIFE IN VISUAL EFFECTS

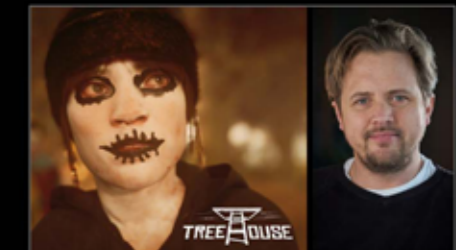
Two-time Academy Award winner and DNEG co-founder Paul Franklin talks about his 30+ year career in digital visual effects and animation. Paul will talk about the early days of digital effects in London in the 1990s, the founding of DNEG in 1998, and his ten year-long collaboration with director Christopher Nolan - starting with Batman Begins and including the Oscar-winning visual effects work he designed for Inception and Interstellar.

Fri 12:40pm - 2:00pm - Light Cinema 2

DIVING INTO THE WELL - PETER STANLEY WARD

The world of filmmaking has suddenly, and dramatically, shifted. By utilising the power of Unreal Engine and Epic's MetaHumans Peter Stanley Ward was able to create incredibly detailed animated films using digital humans. In this session he explains the many types of software and key processes involved in the making of his short film "The Well"

Fri: 2:20pm - 3:30pm - Light Cinema 2



EDITING MASTERCLASS - MICK AUDSLEY

BAFTA-winner Mick Audsley is an editor with over thirty film credits to his name. In this industry session he takes a look back at his work on films including The Personal History of David Copperfield, Murder on the Orient Express, Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire and Twelve Monkeys. A frequent collaborator with directors Gilliam, Frears and Newell we are overjoyed to have him join us at the festival.

Fri: 2:10pm - 3:30pm - Light Cinema 1

FIREWORKS - A VIRTUAL PRODUCTION SHORT FILM

In this session we will go through the development, design, and production of FIREWORKS, showing how a purpose-built LED volume and realtime 3D graphics were used to create the film's compelling visual world. Paul Franklin, the director, joins us to share the process and the lessons learned as we all move forward with this new and evolving technology.

Fri 3:50pm - 5:00pm - Light Cinema 2



FESTIVAL FORMULA

The epic landscape of film festivals are forever changing with new festivals, stipulations and regulations popping up at any given point. Add in a pandemic and there's been a drastic shift even more so. Festival Formula will guide you through how best to prepare for the festival circuit.

Fri - 3:50pm - 5:00pm Light Cinema 1



UNIVERSITY OF SALFORD SHOWCASE

Situated in the heart of MediaCity, the country's biggest creative media cluster Salfords Film Production degree, develops key filmmaking skills including directing, producing and editing, as well as writing for screen, sound design, cinematography and production design. In this showcase they bring the best of their short films to BFF, with supporting Q&A's from students and graduates.

Fri - 5:20pm - 6:35pm Light Cinema 2

NETWORKING

Join us in the gallery for some chilled out tunes and a few complimentary drinks with other filmmakers and festival goers.

Fri - 6:30pm - 8:00pm, Unit Base Gallery



AFTER PARTY @ BAR 4

Join us at Bar 4 for some film inspired tunes by DJ Tatty and a prize or two from the quiz. Meet up with filmmakers and festival attendees to discuss the days films and talks, or that next big project.

Fri - 9.30pm - 11:20pm, Bar 4, The Vaults



Industry Sessions 4

Saturday / Sunday

THE PERFECT PITCH

Luke Walton, director of The Pitch, shows us in this session how to get the core of your story across with genre and character, how to practise pitching in everyday life, how to avoid pitfalls and how to respond to feedback. There will also be the opportunity to pitch live and receive feedback.

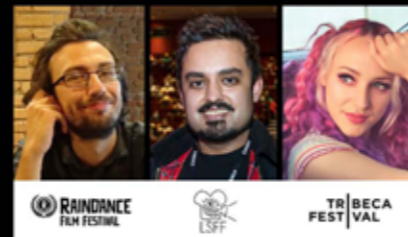
Sat: 11.00am - 12:20pm - Light Cinema 1



GETTING YOUR SCRIPT NOTICED

Getting your script noticed as a new writer and breaking into the industry has never been tougher. We're joined by Andrew Oldbury, Senior Development Executive for Red Productions (It's A Sin, Happy Valley, Last Tango in Halifax) who will answer your burning questions alongside highlighting other sources of support for writers.

Sat: 12:40pm - 1:30pm - Light Cinema 1



MEET THE FESTIVAL PROGRAMMERS

Varun Ramun of London Short Film Festival, Danny Moltrasi of Raindance and Alice Shone of Tribeca join us to discuss the complexity behind the world of festival programming. A unique insight in how the selection process works, what they look for in a film and how to improve your chances when structuring your next film.

Sat: 2:00pm - 3:00pm - Light Cinema 1

NETWORKING - Saturday - 6:30pm - 8:00pm - Unit Base Gallery

Join us in the gallery for some chilled out tunes and a few complimentary drinks with other filmmakers and festival goers.

DRINK IT DRY PARTY @ UNIT BASE GALLERY

Saturday 9.30pm - 11.30pm - drink, dance, boogie woogie, stagger.

AWARD CEREMONY

Sunday - 4:30pm - 5:40pm - Light Cinema Screen 1

Join us for the finale of the festival, our announcement of the nominees and award winners from the 2022 edition of Bolton International Film Festival.



AR / VR / 360

Daily from 11:00am - 7:00pm
Unit Base Gallery

7 GRAMS

AR Project by Karim Ben Khelifa

Although we use our smartphones countless times each day to connect to the web and each other, we are largely disconnected from how our phones are made. Seven Grams uses Augmented Reality to expose the connection between our smartphones and the human abuse and exploitation linked to mineral extraction in the Democratic Republic of Congo.



MONTGELATO

360 Project by Davide Rapp

Hundreds of cinematic sequences define a three-dimensional collage of the Monte Gelato waterfalls (Rome, Italy) as they have been filmed in more than 180 productions including films, TV series and commercials. From peplum to western, from comedy to thriller, from science-fiction to erotica: sounds and videos expand in an immersive landscape that transports the falls in time and space.



CAVES

360 Project by Carlos Isabel Garcia

Experienced cave explorer and mountaineer Lea Odermatt leads us on her tours beneath the surface of the earth, in claustrophobic passageways and gigantic caverns and chambers usually only accessible to specialists.



PROMENADE

VR Project by Christos Richard Hatjoulis

Using Modern British Artist Mike Hatjoulis' own story & iconic graphic lino print artwork as its inspiration, Promenade is an intimately told true story of inter-generational immigration.





LAIKA
Asif Kapadia, Nick Abadzis

Employing striking VR animation, Asif Kapadia tells the story of Laika, the stray dog that the Soviet Union sent into orbit.



REIMAGINED VOLUME 1: NYSSA
Julie Cavaliere

In partnership with Meta, co-creators Julie Cavaliere and Michaela Temasky-Holland bring to life a virtual reality (VR) animation series. This anthology series will take the audience into a new kind of storybook by showcasing lesser-known fables, mythology, and folklore in a gender-inclusive experience.



CHILDHOOD REVISITED
VR Project by Wen-Chieh Chang

There is a darkroom flashing with dim red lights. A person carefully puts the negatives into the cassette with both hands, focusing on the paper below with a magnifier moving up and down in flaring lights. An image emerges on the paper.



THE STARRY SANDY BEACH
VR Project by Hsin-Chien Huang & Nina Barbier

A scientific fairy tale about the starry grains of sand found on multiple beaches across the East China Sea... This starry sand is called Baculogypsina sphaerulata, a particular species of Foraminifera, and is the protagonist of a local legend about the North Star, the Southern Cross and a mythical sea serpent...



GOLIATH - VR Project by Barry Gene Murphy

Through mind-bending animation, award-winning GOLIATH: PLAYING WITH REALITY explores the limits of reality in this true story of so-called 'schizophrenia' and the power of gaming communities. Echo (narrated by Tilda Swinton) guides you through the many realities of Goliath, a man who spent years isolated in psychiatric institutions but finds connection in multiplayer games.



LAST DANCE
VR Project by Toshiaki Hanzaki

The human race has devoured itself in war, resulting in the destruction of our home, the Earth. Only an AI created by human wisdom was able to survive. The AI escaped into space and was given a single mission: the Regeneration of Mankind.



ON THE MORNING YOU WAKE (TO THE END OF THE WORLD)
VR Project by Arnaud Colinart, Mike Brett, Pierre Zandrowicz, Steve Jamison

On a regular Saturday morning in January 2018, as Hawaiian citizens went about their daily routines, the entire population received an SMS from the Hawaii Emergency Management Agency, which read: "BALLISTIC MISSILE THREAT INBOUND TO HAWAII. SEEK IMMEDIATE SHELTER. THIS IS NOT A DRILL."



SAMSARA
VR Project by Hsin-Chien Huang

In the near future, the Earth environment is completely destroyed by the human race. We have to abandon it and find a new home in space. After hundred years of space travel, we have re-engineered our DNA and artificially evolved into a new form.



NAHEMI
Student Film Awards Showcase

Thursday
4:40pm - 6:40pm
Light Cinema 2



We would like to welcome you to this free event. A rare opportunity to see films from the NAHEMI National Student Film Awards, the best short films selected from our fifty-six member institutions by tutors teaching filmmaking in UK Film Schools and Universities. Plus, a selection of commercials from the NAHEMI / Kodak Student Commercial Competition,



HEART FAILURE

Falmouth University. 10:27
Director: Will Wightman / Producer: Cleo Yeomans
In this musical comedy, when Frank falls for his one nightstand, he must do everything he can to stop his heart from breaking completely.



NUDITY

London College of Communication. 6:30
Director: Jachym Bouzek / Producer: Luca House
In a fabric society, a young figure diverges from rigid gender binaries to explore where their identity lies.



CLAMPED

University of Gloucestershire. 10:04
Director: Amy Barnes / Producer: Liam Pym
After a sex-positive student encounters an awkward one-night stand, she must regain control to climax again.



GORGE

University of the West of Scotland. 7:02
Director: John Perivolaris / Producer: Lewis Girvan
A penetrating look into the life of a sufferer of a compulsive eating disorder.



ALIEN ZEN

Leeds Arts University 4:09
Director: Ben Wilkinson
Ben is a 2D animator and cartoonist, drawing inspiration from stories, art, and the world around him, his goal is to make a difference with his pen, which may take some time...

EVERYTHING IS TEMPORARY

University of Gloucestershire. 9:23
Director: Addison Coath / Producer: Britta Merirand
This documentary follows the journey of Robin, a dancer who has struggled with mental health. This film reflects on friendship and laughing in the face of emotional trauma.





NEW HEIGHTS

London South Bank University. 4:18

Director: Niccolo Poiana

An immaculate land of north-eastern Italy is violated by an unusual guest: a living drone, antagonist of the poor farmer who does everything to chase away the strange beast.



SILVER AND GOLD

London College of Communication. 10:29

Director: Jack Pulford / Producer: Douglas MacDowall

A living statue waits to be noticed, but when a potential rival teaches her to move she finds a real connection. A film without words.



AN EXQUISITE DINNER

UWE Bristol. 10:41

Director: Olly Blower / Producer: Amber Fitzwilliam

The C.P.F., a totalitarian regime, introduces a new policy to ensure all children are raised in a nuclear family, this leaves a widowed mother of two with twenty husbandry candidates to choose from, if unsuccessful, she will lose her children.



GIRLS NIGHT OUT

University of the West of Scotland. 11:22

Director: Linda Scott / Producer: Eugenia Kamozinova

Girls Night Out is a coming-of-age comedy drama following two teenage girls who decide to lie to their parents to spend their first night out in Glasgow city centre.



EDEN

UWE - Bristol. 10:30

Director: Charlie Bush / Producer: Patrick Whinder-Montague

Eden Elgeti was transitioning from male to female when they realised they might want biological children, but after hormone treatment, they were unable to produce fertile sperm. A medical practitioner suggested that swimming in cold water might help reverse the effects.



NAHEMI / KODAK COMMERCIALS COMPETITION (x6)



The NAHEMI Kodak Student Commercial Awards is a competition open to NAHEMI members. Students submit 30 second commercials shot from one 10 minute roll of 16mm film stock donated by Kodak. Briefs for real brands and charities are provided by leading advertising agencies and judged by a jury of advertising agency and commercials professionals. This is a collection of recent winners:



Made in Bolton

Guest Programme

Wednesday

6:05pm - 7:00pm

Light Cinema 3

A YEAR ON THE HILL

Rachel Elizabeth Appleton (UK)



An animated film that pays tribute to a prominent landmark in South Lancashire which has played a part in creating a mythology and a relationship now emphasized through lockdown as people have rediscovered a wilderness on their doorstep.



LOCAL LEGENDS: BOLTON'S COMMUNITY CHAMPIONS

Nicolay Armando (Title Productions), on behalf of Bolton Council

This film helps to represent, individualise, and showcase the 'Champions' of Bolton in their own unique voices as they engage in programmes and activities supported by community organisations and funding awarded via the Bolton Fund.



BEAUTIFUL BOLTON

A community film made in partnership with the Octagon theatre, Bolton Community Solidarity Association and Modify films, celebrating the beauty of Bolton's landscapes and the people who explore them. Responses to a call out for photographs that celebrated the beauty of Bolton were overwhelming and this film celebrates the images and the stories behind them.



Archive Film

Friday

2:10pm - 3:25pm

Bolton Museum

SAINT MARIETTA - Ben Young (UK)

In the 1980s, a crusading paediatrician in a small corner of the North of England ignited a mass panic that consumed the people of its local area they were supposed to serve. Found footage explores the strange and tangled story of how one doctor's dedication snowballed into a catastrophe.



JOURNEY TO JAGDULA - Jordan Carroll (UK)

In the 1960's six women from the Pinnacle Club took part in an expedition to a remote part of Nepal. These intrepid women became the first to summit and map a region of peaks in the Kanjiroba Himal, a place they called Jagdula.



MUSHY PEAS TO GREEN TEA KULFI - Thea Burrows (UK)

The recollections of a lonely traumatised working class 60 year old Yorkshire bloke, who at stages of his life returns to the area of his childhood and references one building that has become his comfort blanket



THE HEART OF SHELLEY - Nick Hugh McCann (UK)

In 1822 the poet Shelley was drowned and cremated on an Italian beach. 200 years later his wife Mary, the mother of Frankenstein, sears our consciences and troubles our souls with her husband's haunting 'Mask of Anarchy', the greatest Human Rights poem of them all.



OLUWALE - Jeremiah Quinn (UK)

The first documentary to explore the story of David Oluwale, a Nigerian immigrant chased or thrown into the River Aire by Leeds Police in 1969.



Dance

Fri 7th Oct @ 7:00pm, Light Cinema 3



SALIDAS

Michael Fetter Nathansky (Germany)

A fictional dance film which tells the story of Giralda, an undertaker who accompanies deceased human beings into their afterlife.

Also plays in Culture in Motion 3 (Daily @ Unit Base Gallery)



IN LIGHT

Alice Fassi (Italy)

Alternating archival film material with new footage, the short film grants a unique insight into the peaceful and sublime ways of the Universal White Brotherhood.

Also plays in Culture in Motion 1 (Daily @ Unit Base Gallery)



STAVROPOL

Andrew Margetson (UK)

A short dance film featuring a choreographed 'battle' between two teams of female dancers.

Also plays in Culture in Motion 2 (Daily @ Unit Base Gallery)



BALLET & I

Jonny White (UK)

An intimate portrait spotlighting a dancer's relationship with her mental health following the introduction of dance in her life.

Also plays in Culture in Motion 1 (Daily @ Unit Base Gallery)



I FALL

Dan Thorburn (UK)

A dance film created and choreographed by past addicts now in recovery. Focusing on the twisted love story between two addicts - how they can't live with or without each other.

Also plays in Culture in Motion 1 (Daily @ Unit Base Gallery)



NON-UPGRADED EXISTENCE

Nicolas Clausen, Nadine Gerspacher (Germany)

The inability of human beings to reconnect with each other has reached its breaking point. We have left our planet dry and our plates are soon to be empty.

Also plays in Culture in Motion 3 (Daily @ Unit Base Gallery)

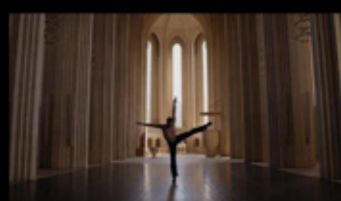


ONE NIGHT

Isla Badenoch (UK)

A physical tale of awakening, overwhelm and release. Through dance, a young woman explores her inner turmoil after realising the reality of being a victim of domestic abuse.

Also plays in Culture in Motion 2 (Daily @ Unit Base Gallery)



UNSPOKEN

William Armstrong (Botswana)

A film centred around world-class contemporary choreographer Paul Lightfoot who lost his father during the pandemic. Not permitted into the hospital to say goodbye, he began working with a Danish dancer remotely to create a performance.

Also plays in Culture in Motion 1 (Daily @ Unit Base Gallery)



Music & Fashion

Sat 8th Oct @ 7:00pm, Light Cinema 3



YEMAYA

Greth Castillo (Cuba)

In a small community in the Caribbean, a woman gives birth to her second child, during childbirth she dies.

Also plays in Culture in Motion 1 (Daily @ Unit Base Gallery)



AFTER THE DANCE

Shunsaku Hayashi (Japan)

This work is inspired by the realisation that someone you thought you knew has changed in frightening ways. Our understanding of people is mediated by our own experience, limited, and the indirect ritualism of relationships is like dance or sport.

Also plays in Culture in Motion 2 (Daily @ Unit Base Gallery)



YANA - JUNE

Magdalena Zielińska (Poland)

"June" explores the idea that to be fully present, you must let go, get lost, and surrender first. It celebrates our vulnerability, praises the beauty of fleeting moments, nostalgia, and finding inner peace and acceptance despite our failures, fears, burn-outs, and sorrows.

Also plays in Culture in Motion 3 (Daily @ Unit Base Gallery)



THE NORTH FACE SS22

Leone (Italy)

Fuelled by the desire to Never Stop Exploring, The North Face SS22 takes us on a journey into another dimension. The campaign celebrates the brand's timeless NSE collection by crafting a new world in which time and space are of no consequence.

Also plays in Culture in Motion 1 (Daily @ Unit Base Gallery)



NEOSHIN

Sebastian Selg (Germany)

After the invention of CRYONIC REALITY (CR), world leaders chose to discontinue the counting of time in 2073 and proclaimed the final year 2073X. CR is a virtual world of utopia that people can access to escape the bleak reality.

Also plays in Culture in Motion 2 (Daily @ Unit Base Gallery)



RAY-BAN - YOU'RE ON

Iacopo CarPELLI (Italy)

In line with "You're On", the brand's core message launched in 2020, this campaign encourages us to live in the moment and embrace the most authentic version of ourselves.

Also plays in Culture in Motion 2 (Daily @ Unit Base Gallery)



SAPHI

Javier Cano Larumbe (Spain)

"Saphi" is an adventure to our origins, back to our roots and the deepest of our essence. A journey which connects our inner selves through nature and the world around us.

Also plays in Culture in Motion 1 (Daily @ Unit Base Gallery)



ARMOUR

Andres Soler (USA)

Two astropilots travel through space and time.

Also plays in Culture in Motion 2 (Daily @ Unit Base Gallery)



FROLOV BRIDAL
Yuriy Dvizhon (Ukraine)

Love, passion, and sex are what FROLOV is often inspired by. Besides, love, passion, and sex are essential attributes of weddings and engagements.
Also plays in Culture in Motion 3 (Daily @ Unit Base Gallery)



EVEN DEATH IN MY ARMS IS BEAUTIFUL
Jannis Lenz (Germany)

Former participants of the "Next Top Model" Show, Venus, goddess of beauty, and the lyrics of female poets of the beginning 20th century meet in a casting.
Also plays in Culture in Motion 2 (Daily @ Unit Base Gallery)



AN ODE TO TEENAGEHOOD (AND DYSFUNCTIONAL FAMILIES)
Celis Arias (UK) F
RATED

We all are incredibly fragmented as human beings. We all have conflicting desires and beliefs. An insight into a 'quantum' family setting where everyone exists in the same space whilst navigating different realms of reality.
Also plays in Culture in Motion 2 (Daily @ Unit Base Gallery)



MIJO
Mazdy Snob (Mexico)

Mijo is a young dreamer, suddenly blessed with the gift of King Midas. However his ability has a unique twist; whatever and whoever he touches is stylishly pimped up.
Also plays in Culture in Motion 3 (Daily @ Unit Base Gallery)



Experimental

Fri 7th Oct @ 6:55pm, Light Cinema 2



TRUE SOUND FACADE
Laura N-Tamara F
RATED

A celebration of how our inner and outer lives merge with each other playfully in the act of artistic creation. It takes inspiration from the Japanese notions of 'Honne' - the true sound, one's true feelings - and 'Tatemae' - the façade we put up to live in society.
Also plays in Culture in Motion 2 (Daily @ Unit Base Gallery)



SILENCE 1b
Rollo Hollins (UK)

The greatest thing Iggy ever met, before anyone else knew it. Her favourite thing, taken away before she could ever truly understand her. Iggy is now left to try and emotionally connect the dots between all that happened all too quickly.
Also plays in Culture in Motion 1 (Daily @ Unit Base Gallery)



PORTRAIT
Shunsaku Hayashi (Japan)

A highlight of a memory, an evidence of being. This moment represents not only a single point in time - it is a portrait of an infinite expanse..
Also plays in Culture in Motion 1 (Daily @ Unit Base Gallery)



VIRTUAL VOICE
Suzannah Mirghani (Sudan) F
RATED

Suzi is the (virtual) voice of her generation.
Also plays in Culture in Motion 2 (Daily @ Unit Base Gallery)



SENSUAL PILL
Sam3 (Greece)

A magnetic animation-documentary, using Google Earth satellite facilities to travel worldwide during the pandemic era. Epic music by the Athenian Kostadis.
Also plays in Culture in Motion 3 (Daily @ Unit Base Gallery)



SAUDADE;
Eimear Young (Ireland)

By combining a variety of different mediums and visual styles, this experimental short film seeks to capture the fragmented and confused nature of a human mind in various states of being.
Also plays in Culture in Motion 1 (Daily @ Unit Base Gallery)



ADVICE FOR LIVE BAIT
Patrick Moser (USA) F
RATED

Also plays in Culture in Motion 3 (Daily @ Unit Base Gallery)



BERLIN LOOP: STRESOW STATION
Jeffrey Moser (USA)

An experimental film that examines the visual architecture of the moving image, in specific cases. The uniform linear motion of the Berlin public transport system is expanded through the persistence and offsetting of the previous frames.
Also plays in Culture in Motion 2 (Daily @ Unit Base Gallery)



EMPIRE OF MY MELODIOUS MIND
Jeannette Louie (USA) F
RATED

In the space of a moment, inside a cabinet, perception embarks on an epic journey through the terrain of memories that form the identity of an American born Asian.
Also plays in Culture in Motion 3 (Daily @ Unit Base Gallery)



THE MIDNIGHT WANDERER
Yurui Chen (China) F
RATED

The Midnight Wanderer is an experiential adaptation of the Beijing show and incorporates the artist's interest in parallel worlds and digital realms. The film opens with Cao Fei as a disgruntled exhibition cleaner who has been tasked with clearing away the detritus of the day.
Also plays in Culture in Motion 3 (Daily @ Unit Base Gallery)



Environmental 1

Wednesday
2:00pm - 3:20pm
Unit Base Gallery



THE FARM UNDER THE CITY
Brett Chapman, Jordan Carroll (UK)

Luke Ellis is a builder-turned-farmer that has set up an innovative new business in the heart of Sheffield's industrial quarter. Leaf + Shoot is an underground vertical bioptic farm built in a disused spring factory.



IDYLL
Harvey Thring (UK)

A documentary about the Ashley Vale Allotments, an allotment plot in Bristol, and the people who grow there. - University of West England

SKYWARD
Jessica Bishop (UK)



Two young birdwatchers, Mya and Arjun, raise awareness of conservation and climate change whilst navigating the challenges of coming of age.



LEADER
Chris Overton (UK)



LEADER - (shot entirely on a mobile phone) is the story of Donnie, who lives on his own in a very remote area by the sea. He creates sculptures from ocean waste, until one day the tide changes and he inspires a new normal.



OUR LAND
Alexandra Genova (UK)



'Our Land' is the story of Britain's black farmers, food growers and activists who are shaking up the system; carving their own path in the predominantly white agricultural industry.



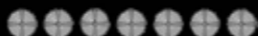
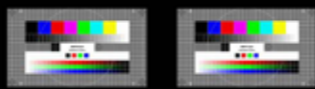
OCEAN GREENS
Scott Bradley (UK)

Ocean Greens is an intimate portrait of farmers harvesting seaweed along the UK's coastlines. Through personal testimonies of those working closely with this sustainable food source the film explores the environmental benefits of seaweed and the impact this revolutionary crop can have on the future of our food.



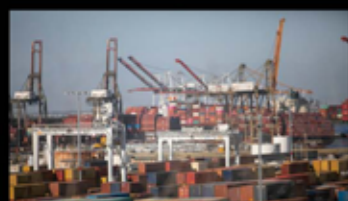
Environmental 2

Thursday
4:20pm - 5:40pm
Unit Base Gallery



A DAY'S WORK
Max Kerkhoff (Germany)

In a landscape already scarred by colonialism, logging, land seizure from indigenous peoples, civil war and neglect, the construction of a road looks like a further violation of nature in a remote region of Burma/Myanmar.



FIGHTING FOR AIR
Nicola Milne, Shanshan Chen (UK)



Air pollution has long been recognised as a cause of chronic health issues, but over the last decade, the port region, close to LA, has become one of the most polluted parts of the world.



IN A STATE OF CHANGE
Donal James Boyd, Frank Nieuwenhuis (Iceland)

An American photographer and filmmaker living in Iceland romanticizes his own personal connection to glaciers and struggles to discover the true role of beauty in nature for communicating the most critical issue of our time: climate change.



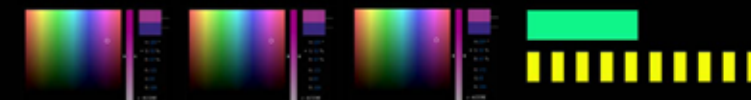
HEART VALLEY
Christian Cargill (UK)

Welsh shepherd Wilf Davies has never left his valley, eats the same meal every day and works his farm alone, where his family of over one hundred black-spotted sheep rely on him. And yet, he wouldn't want to be anywhere else.



Marmite

Saturday
8:15pm - 9:45pm
Light Cinema 2



BABYTHUMP
Ian Killick (UK)

A couple, Donny and Marie, awake one morning to find a baby has appeared in their apartment. Unsure what to do, and bewildered by the intrusion, they seek guidance from the eccentric Dr. Hoofenhoffer



PLAYGROUND
Elisa Possenti (Italy)



2006, Northern Italy. In a provincial playground, a young mother and her children are waiting for their friends. Their arrival is imminent, the chessboard is ready.

THE DIAMOND
Vedran Rupic (Sweden)

Stefan is lonely with a blinding ambition to make friends. One day he stumbles upon a diamond in the woods. Unable to reach it, the solution presents itself in the form of an even smaller man.



ANIMALS
Joakim Thörn (Sweden)

A teenage deer who, after her mother has been shot dead, struggles to find her place in life. Together with her newfound animal friends, she starts to think... What would their lives be like if humans did not exist? This is a modern fable and a dark comedy-drama, in the middle of the Swedish nature.



THE MIDNIGHT WANDERER
Yurui Chen (China)



The Midnight Wanderer is an experiential adaptation of the Beijing show and incorporates the artist's interest in parallel worlds and digital realms. The film opens with Cao Fei as a disgruntled exhibition cleaner who has been tasked with clearing away the detritus of the day.



WHILE MORTALS SLEEP
Alex Fofonoff (USA)



When a cold case novelist's career implodes, she seeks refuge in her friend's remote vacation home. Upon arrival, she encounters a strange couple who claim to be the caretakers. As tensions build, a dark secret begins to emerge.



ARTIST'S LAMENT
Alexis Bronte (USA)



A struggling artist has spent a lifetime waiting to have his work appreciated when he discovers what it truly means to put his entire self into his work.



CLAUDIO'S SONG
Andreas Nilsson (UK)

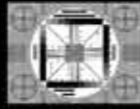
A young man faces the wrath of a family of criminals that target people who are famous on the internet and extort money from them. When their scheme fails, the plan to kill him takes an unexpected turn.





Opening Night

Wednesday
Light Cinema 1
8.00pm - 9.30pm



SPUN
Kevin Morosky (UK)

Love and misogyny are in the air

AN OSTRICH TOLD ME THE WORLD IS FAKE AND I THINK I BELIEVE IT
Lachlan Pendragon (Australia)

A young call centre employee uncovers the flaws in his stop motion universe with the help of a mysterious talking ostrich. - Griffith Film School



CAI-BER
Ahmed Abdelsalam (Egypt)

Hours before her one way trip out, Nour's last night in Cairo turns to be a troublesome journey of struggle with a patriarchal society and a fight within to keep her hidden secret. - MetFilm School London



DAD'S SNEAKERS
Olha Zhurba (Ukraine)

Sasha is one of the luckiest at his boarding school - an American family has finally adopted him. Today he will move to another country forever but there's something that doesn't let him go.



NORMA
Emily Munster (UK)

An elderly couple are celebrating a birthday. A lifetime of mutual resentment reveals itself as an unexpected guest.



SWEET LITTLE DESPAIR
Carolina Petro (UK)

Lynsey struggles with her routine of looking after the elderly and her newborn baby. Between the two, Lynsey seems to be carrying the weight of the world over her shoulders.



CAESAR'S DYING WISH
Alex Cooper (UK)

Caesar discovers a way his name can live on in eternity.



THE FARM UNDER THE CITY
Brett Chapman, Jordan Carroll (UK)

Luke Ellis is a builder-turned-farmer that has set up an innovative new business in the heart of Sheffield's industrial quarter. Leaf + Shoot is an underground vertical bioponic farm built in a disused spring factory.



International 1

Wednesday
Bolton Museum
2:20pm - 3:55pm

Sunday
Light Cinema 3
2:40pm - 4:15pm

BERRY PICKERS
Agnes Skonare Karlsson (Sweden)

Two Thai brothers take a large loan to come to Sweden as migrant workers in the berry picking industry, hoping to secure a brighter future for themselves back home. The problem is, Sweden has been hit by an unexpected heat wave and there are no berries to pick. - Columbia University



RUSTLING
Tom Furniss (New Zealand)

In a family of sheep rustlers, a 15-year-old boy must go up against his domineering father in order to help his younger brother keep the baby lamb left orphaned by their latest slaughter.

CHAPERONE
Sam Max (USA)

An unnamed figure picks up a young man in his car. As the two drive together, and settle into an austere rental house in the country, the details of their arrangement become guttingly clear.





PARKING LOT
Jorė Janavičiūtė (Lithuania)



One day Martyna is on her way to meet her co-workers, she is passing through a shopping centre parking lot in a rush. She meets Kamilė, an old friend who wants to find out the reasons for Martyna's sudden disappearance from her life.



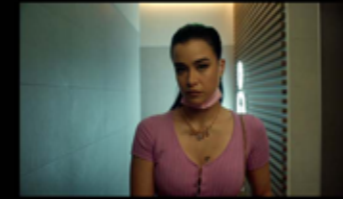
SEABREAKER
Eloy Domínguez Serén (Spain)

Santi is a teenage father who lives in a small coastal town. During the day he has a job as a fisherman, while at night he smuggles seafood. While his girlfriend Lucia takes care of their baby all by herself, Santi, absent and overwhelmed by responsibility, seeks refuge and redemption in the sea.



WARSHA
Dania Bdeir (Lebanon)

A Syrian migrant working as a crane operator in Beirut volunteers to cover a shift on one of the most dangerous cranes, where he is able to find his freedom.



BY FLAVIO
Pedro Cabeleira (Portugal)

Márcia, wannabe digital influencer, has a promising date with Chullz, a famous rapper, but there's no one to babysit Flávio, her son. The solution is to bring him with her and hope for the best.



International 3



Friday
2:00pm - 3:30pm
Light Cinema, Screen 3

Saturday
12:10pm - 1:40pm
Light Cinema, Screen 2



THE WATER MURMURS
Story Chen (China)



When an asteroid hits the Earth, underwater volcanic eruptions risk submerging a riverside town and the inhabitants start to flee inland. Gradually, Nian's memories of the town start to become clearer and clearer in her mind.



International 2

Wednesday
4:20pm - 5:50pm
Light Cinema 3

Thursday
2:00pm - 3:30pm
Bolton Museum



THE BOY WHO COULDN'T FEEL PAIN
Eugen Merher (Germany)

Chester is a street fighter who can't feel any pain. When Annie, a bowling alley employee who just moved into town challenges him for a fight, things begin to change. - Filmakademie Ludwigsburg

BUGALOO
Ben Conway, Peter McCarthy (Ireland)

Theo is on the run from the police while still in handcuffs. He hides out in a nearby mansion with the help of Arthur, the supposed owner. Things take a turn for the strange when Arthur challenges him to a game of Bugaloo.

PRIMAL THERAPY
Santtu Salminen (Finland)

A middle-aged man on the verge of a burnout seeks new energy through a very special form of self help therapy.

THE NEIGHBOR
Lauri Haukkamaa (Finland)

Two neighbors find themselves in the middle of disagreement over an (un)wanted visitor.



BURROS
Jefferson Stein (USA)

Set in southern Arizona, twenty miles from the Mexico border on the Tohono O'odham Nation, a six-year-old Indigenous girl (Amaya Juan) discovers a Hispanic migrant her age who has lost her father while traveling through the Tohono O'odham tribal lands into the United States.



MARIANNE
Julien Gaspar - Oliveri (France)

Marianne, a heroine for a day, is interviewed by a young journalist. Despite of all the misunderstandings, a meeting takes place, brief, tenuous, human.



TO VANCOUVER
Artemis Anastasiadou (Greece)



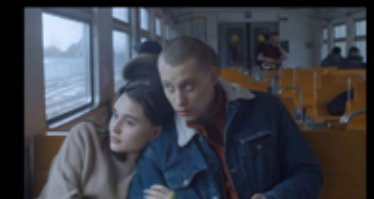
Two siblings, one spell, wounded landscapes and an inevitable departure. 'To Vancouver' is a short chronicle of a disappearing act in the times of the new Depression.



TRAP
Anastasia Veber (Russian Federation)



Young Sasha loves and hates his sister at the same time. She is a troublemaker. That is why he carefully avoids mentioning her even in an ordinary conversation with a policeman on the street. - Saint Petersburg SoNC





International 4

Saturday
2:45pm - 4:15pm
Bolton Museum

Sunday
11:00am - 12:30pm
Light Cinema - Screen 3

MURDER TONGUE

Ali Sohail Jaura (Pakistan)

It is May of 1992. The state sanctioned "Operation" has put the city of Karachi at constant unrest. Abdul Aziz Ansari wakes up at night and is informed by his daughter in law, Naseema that his son hasn't returned home.



SOLAR ECLIPSE

Alireza Ghasemi, Raha Amirfazli (Iran)

Saaghi and her two friends have come to the largest park in Teheran to take pictures of the one-in-a-century total eclipse announced later in the afternoon. As the sun disappears, Saaghi sees something that should have stayed hidden.



MEMOIR OF A VEERING STORM

Sofia Georgovassili (Greece)

Anna, a fifteen-year-old girl sneaks out of school, and with the help of her boyfriend, they visit a hospital. There, she has to face an event that will jolt her into adulthood.

HONEY

Tanmay Chowdhary, Tanvi Chowdhary (India)

Childhood friends Satakshi and Madhyama reunite at a celebration during Durga Puja. As the night progresses, their feelings for one another are revealed to us on a beautiful Ferris Wheel ride of love, hopes, and dreams.



SANDSTORM

Seemab Gul (Pakistan)

Zara shares a sensual dance video with her virtual boyfriend. Caught between his manipulative behaviour and the desire to experience love on her own terms, Zara searches for the strength to reject the confines of a patriarchal society.



CLARE

Lauren Minnerath (USA)

When 17-year-old Clare and her best friend sneak away from a high school talent show to vape in the locker room, they discover their teacher, Mrs. Larsson, has also snuck away to cry.



International 5

Saturday
11:00am - 12:30pm
Bolton Museum

Sunday
12:50pm - 2:20pm
Bolton Museum



MAGMA

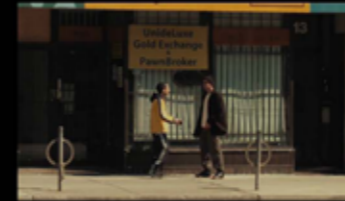
Arthur Fanget (France)

Adil, 20, has a date with a girl tonight in the downtown. Time to show everybody on social media, especially Sabri, his best and only friend, that he can seduce.

THE UNTOUCHABLE

Avazeh Shahnava (Iran)

The police arrives to control a huge scene being made by a young girl in the city streets.



BUMP

Maziyar Khatam (Canada)

A young man's unwillingness to let go of a trivial encounter leads him to seek retribution.

OUSMANE

Jorge Camarotti (Canada)

Ousmane, a newly arrived immigrant living in Montreal, faces a challenging situation when he meets an elderly disoriented lady at the end of his workday.



THE RATTLIN' BOG

Maxwell Hughes (USA)

Three friends. Alcohol. Male ego. Pride. Shirtless. And an Irish Drinking Song. What could go wrong?



DATSUN

Mike Albiston (New Zealand)

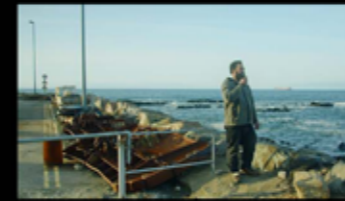
A fourteen-year-old boy, whose Mum plans on selling his deceased Dad's Datsun, decides to take his best friend and little brother on one last joyride



Doc 60 - 1

Wednesday
11:00am - 12:00pm
Bolton Museum

Saturday
3:30pm - 4:30pm
Light Cinema 3



THE BAY VIEW - Daniel Cook (UK)

On the North East Coast of Scotland, an extraordinary family have turned the previously derelict Bayview hotel into a place of respite for international fishermen when they come to land. This film is a glimpse into this unlikely home and the transient guests who pass through it.



ADJUSTING - Dejan Petrovic (Serbia)

Through looking at a loveable dog's refusal to submit to the will of her trainer, Adjusting reflects on the relativity of any authority that renders us obedient through the exercise of reward and punishment.



GHOSTS OF MORIA - Florian Elabdi, Michael Graversen (Denmark)

We meet Khalil and Ayham in the burnt-out Moria refugee camp on the island of lesbos in Greece. They are rooting about, pulling copper cords from wiring boxes, their clothing greased from the soot, ashes, oil and smoke.



Doc 60 - 2

Friday
3:50pm - 4:50pm
Light Screen 3

Saturday
10:45am - 11:45am
Light Screen 2



THE SPACE I OCCUPY

Colleen Bell (UK)

This video essay explores eating disorders, self-criticism and a woman's relationship with her body. A combination of childhood photos, hand-drawn animation and live footage depicts the journey from childhood to adulthood and the process of unlearning the male gaze.



NICE TO MEET YOU ALL

Guen Murrioni (UK)

"Nice To Meet You All" is a celebration of a woman with Dissociative Identity Disorder who has survived human trafficking rings in the US.



BALLET & I

Jonny White (UK)

An intimate portrait spotlighting a dancer's relationship with her mental health following the introduction of dance in her life.

SKATING AND TALKING: BEN RAEMERS

Liam Martin (UK)

In May 2019, the skateboarding industry was left devastated by the news that British pro skater Ben Raemers had died by suicide. Friends and family reflect on Ben's rise to US sponsorship, and the struggles that came later as his mental health deteriorated.



DEMONS

Daniel Ali, Mark Robertson (UK)

Whilst struggling with his addiction to alcohol, Ben Dean turns to the dark side finding sobriety and solace. Dean's spiritual journey and quest for a higher power leads him down an unexpected path where he becomes an inspiration to others, leading them on their own path to sobriety.



UNSEEN

Ian Robert Smith (UK)

Whilst photographing those struggling with their mental health, renowned photographer Suzie Larke has an emotionally difficult year witnessing her father's slow death. Will he still be alive for her exhibition and what will pull her through?



Doc 60 - 3

Thursday
10:50pm - 11:50pm
Light Screen 2

Saturday
6:50pm - 7:50pm
Light Screen 2



A VILLAGE WITH A VIEW

Joseph Inman (UK)

In wartime Britain, a Lord permitted unused land on Cornwall's Rame Peninsula to be built on. Tiny chalets appeared, each as individual as its owner, and the community of Freathy came to life. In 2016, with Cornwall's tourism industry booming, the Lord's estate announced that they own everything the residents have built over generations.

UNDER THE FOREST

Ryan Powell (UK)

In the Forest of Dean is a community of people carrying on the ancient practice of Freemining. This is a traditional way of mining for coal and iron ore in small scale mines. The detailed knowledge involved has been passed on by oral tradition since time immemorial.



THE OLDEST PUB IN BRITAIN

Joe Bor (UK)

A short documentary about the Ye Olde Fighting Cocks, the oldest inhabited pub in Britain.



SEAL AND THE CITY

Jakob Lancaster (UK)

As London's oldest fish market faces closure, its only hope is a seal called Sammy who has been visiting the market for 20 years.



Doc 60 - 4

Friday
12:40pm - 1:40pm
Light Cinema 3

Saturday
2:00pm - 3:00pm
Light Cinema 2

THIS TREE IS HOSTILE

Hugh Clegg (UK)

In an attempt to cure his loneliness, a filmmaker embarks on a curious odyssey through London, searching for human connection.



VILLAGE HOURS

Matthew Reed (UK)

Taking in a thwarted pantomime rehearsal, dreamlike dance displays and a macabre local history presentation; Village Hours explores the people, practices and passing moments which make up contemporary rural life.



ONE SECOND IN SMALL FRANCS

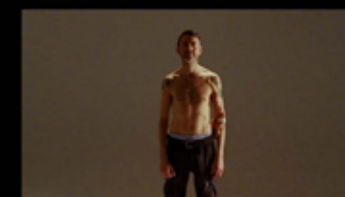
Douwe Dijkstra (Netherlands)

A long time ago some people decided which motifs would best represent the country of Switzerland. And then they put them onto coins. How much is money worth in this country and what values should it represent?

LOOK FOR THE DIAMONDS

James Slater (UK)

Joel Goldberg has four Kidneys, but none of them work. He has to go on dialysis everyday in order to survive, but he refuses to let his condition define him. Through a uniquely positive outlook on life, Loel is not just surviving, but living.



UNDERDOGS

Jamie Yuan (UK)

Meet Lewis Van Poetsch, the boxer who gets paid to lose. His record lies at 134 fights, 9 wins and 125 defeats. In boxing, there's a market for a reliable loser, and Lewis is the best in the business.



Doc 60 - 5

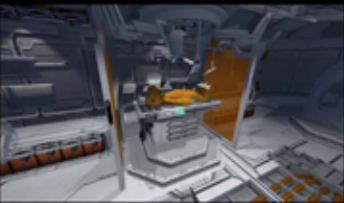


\$75 000
Togo Moise

\$75,000 highlights the biological aspect of albinism, which is a genetic and hereditary abnormality that affects not only pigmentation, but also and above all the physical and moral conditions of people with the condition.

VO
Nicolas Gourault (France)

A sensory investigation about the role of human workers in the training of self-driving cars.



SECOND
Andrea Santos Martins (Portugal)

Four weeks since quarantine started, and André begins to digitally recreate the street where he lives in Berlin. Wondering about the possibility of a cyber society, he keeps revisiting the online virtual world of Second Life, searching for the promise he was once told as a kid.



Art & Artists



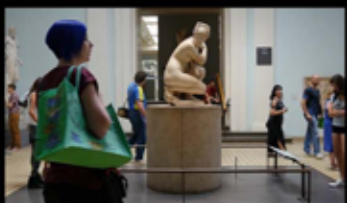
WALLACE CHAN - THE ART OF MATERIALS
Martina Margaux Cozzi (Italy)

Established as one of the greatest jewellery designers in the world, Wallace Chan - The Art of Materials chronicles the artist's debut into the world of sculpture fuelled by his desire to innovate.



HUBER - IRRITATING ALIENATION
Matt Schoemer (Germany)

The film focuses on the artist Stephan Huber, in the studio, but also in situations of rest, pause, reflection and looking for inspiration in nature. What drives him, where he takes his inspiration from, his inner longings, desires, ideas, and perhaps even fears and worries.



MY LIFE AS A GODDESS
Nicholas Barker (UK)

Venus, Goddess of love, beauty and fertility now finds herself alone, naked and trapped in a museum. As thousands of global tourists flock past her each day, she contemplates this latest crop of strangely behaved mortals.



COPY OF THE NATURE
Rob Reed (UK)

A short documentary film about the life and work of Manchester based Ikebana tutor Junko Popham.

Wednesday
12:20pm - 1:20pm
Light Screen 3

Thursday
3:20pm - 4:20pm
Light Cinema 3



Wednesday
12:20pm - 1:20pm
Unit Base Gallery



SHUT UP AND PAINT
Alex Mallis, Titus Kaphar (USA)

Shut Up And Paint follows African-American painter Titus Kaphar as he looks to film as a medium in the face of an insatiable art market seeking to silence his activism.



FFF-Rated Women in Film

Friday
3:45pm - 5:05pm
Bolton Museum

Saturday
12:20pm - 1:55pm
Light Cinema 3



PORTRAYED
Nicole Rixon, Ryan Goodman (UK)

A picture tells a thousand words, a woman hears them all. Too shrill, too matronly, too provocative, not young enough, not old enough, not strong enough, too bossy, too aloof, not likeable enough, not relatable enough. I'd vote for a woman, just not that woman.

HIM
Sammy Paterson (UK)

With past trauma appearing in waves, Geny finds it hard to focus on her life going forward. When she should be coming-of-age she's battling the past as it overshadows her future; the young bird that's allowed to fly is forced to return.

A LIFE INSIDE
Nicole Rixon (UK)

Thrilled to become a mum Carrie's confidence is shattered when the pandemic hits. Her excitement and resilience crumble on the maternity unit floor, split apart from her partner, and forced to labour alone with Covid.

CANDY
Sarah Grant (UK)

Burlesque enthusiast Mandy is gearing up for her first public performance with support from her best friend Jenna. When things don't go as planned, Mandy has to find the confidence to perform in all her power.



PLACENTA PATE
Tia Salisbury (UK)

New mum Libby has breastfeeding woes, but when her wife, Erin suggests a traditional placenta remedy is the answer, underlying tensions rear their head and it's not just the kitchen getting messy.



THIS LITTLE GIRL
Annette Westwood (UK)

A mother with a substance misuse issue, has to prove herself on her path to recovery, to prevent her child from being taken away from her and placed into care.



WOMEN OF VIRTUE
Stéphanie Halfon (France)

Etel, a 9-year-old girl who lives in the Hassidic community in Paris, gets her period for the first time. Myriam, her mother, finally looks at her as if she were a woman. Etel is blessed, until she finds out that in her religion, women are considered impure when they have their period.



Comedy

Saturday
5:05pm - 6.35pm
Light Cinema 1

Sunday
11:00am - 12:30pm
Bolton Museum



DELOPING
Jon Olav Stokke (UK)

On July 21st 1792, Mary and Emma settled their differences the only way they knew how: a duel to the death!



HIYA, MATE
Joseph Hurst (UK)

A friendly customer buys a can of pop.



CAN'T STOP ME
Scott Piggott (UK)

A short film about a job interview where a simple lie begins a spiral into chaos.



JUST DO IT
Antonia Kinlay, Laurence Dobiesz (UK)



Mark's trying to finish his novel but everyone tells him long-form content's dead. 'Make a film instead,' they say. 'Just do it! Shoot something short. Shoot something funny.'



PRAGMA
Ellie Heydon (UK)



Should you trust science or trust your heart (or let's be honest...your burning loins)? Willow has signed up to a Partnering Programme led by the world's leading practitioner in sustainable love.



THE ONE WHO NEVER WATCHED FRIENDS
Charlotte Gabris (France)



Rachel is getting married. In one hour she will say yes to the love of her life. Greg, her future husband, wants to see her before the wedding. She is so beautiful, he looks at her and says a complimentary joke from the series Friends, but Rachel has never watched the tv show...and suddenly a crisis erupts.



POINT FIVE
Sam Turner (UK)

A nervous upper-class banker reluctantly gets dragged into a hostile transaction with an extremely unorthodox drug dealer.



AN IRISH GOODBYE
Ross White, Tom Berkeley (Ireland)

Set against the backdrop of a working farm in rural Northern Ireland, 'An Irish Goodbye' is a black comedy following the reunion of estranged brothers Turlough (Seamus O'Hara) and Lorcan (James Martin) following the untimely death of their mother (Michelle Fairley).



Black Cinema

Thursday
12:20pm - 1.40pm
Light Cinema 2



EMBARRASSED
Sir Steve McQueen (UK)

A Sir Steve McQueen film to raise awareness and reduce embarrassment of Prostate Cancer to the black community. Produced by UK charity, Male Cancer Awareness Campaign and Lamma Park. Staring Edris Elba OBE, Chiwetel Ejiofor CBE, Micheal Ward and Mr Morgan Freeman



THE BALLAD OF OLIVE MORRIS
Alex Kayode-Kay (UK)

The Ballad Of Olive Morris will follow events based on an incident that happened in 1969, where 17 year old Olive Morris bravely stepped in at great personal risk to herself, to try and prevent a Nigerian diplomat named Clement Gomwalk from being arrested and assaulted under false pretenses by police officers in Brixton.

SNOW BURN
Mathieu Glissant (France)

Louise is dragged into her estranged father's world on a tropical island, as he is convinced by a snowy vision that it is her destiny to take over his dying crops.



A LETTER TO BLACK MEN
Kiosa Sukami (UK)

A young man learns to navigate his way through an ever-changing London borough, as he rekindles his relationship with a long-time friend of his late father.



SHUT UP AND PAINT
Alex Mallis & Titus Kaphar (USA)

Shut Up And Paint follows African-American painter Titus Kaphar as he looks to film as a medium in the face of an insatiable art market seeking to silence his activism.



Thriller

Saturday
3:20pm - 4:45pm
Light Cinema 2



DEAD WHISTLE STOP
Sean McKenna (UK)

Daniel's not going to the office today. A dying man asked him to deliver a letter, so he's doing that instead. Though he's not sure who the dying man was or where the person he's delivering it to is. Or what, if anything, it has to do with his new neighbours, The Illuminated Brotherhood of the All Seeing Eye.



FORTUNA
Jairo González (Spain)

The disappearance of a child in the small town of Fortuna unchains a series of events that will impact the local detective's life and reveal a shocking secret.



THE GAMBLER
Mark Popple (UK)

The Gambler is a black comedy about the battle of wits between an inveterate gambler and the two less-than-intelligent heavies who have been tasked with making him disappear.



CRUISE
Sam Rudykoff (Canada)

We've all received scam phone calls, but what about the person making the calls? Cruise is a dark workplace satire about a hapless telemarketer trying mightily to give away a free cruise. And if he fails, there will be dire consequences.



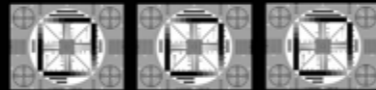
FIREWORKS
Paul Franklin (UK)

A team of MI6 officers in London argue about the use of a drone strike to take out a terrorist target. One side of the room gives way, to reveal the real people and marketplace they are about to bomb.



Sci-Fi & Fantasy

Friday
8:10pm - 9:25pm
Light Cinema Screen 2



THE LAST DAYS
Dipo Baruwa-Etti (UK)

In a near-future world where you can discover your Death Day, an apolitical woman learns that she and many Black people have been given incorrect dates and seeks justice before her time runs out - that same day.



SONG OF THE SEA
Simon Nilsen (Norway)

Leif encounters a strange creature at sea that drives him insane.



Noroff School of Technology and Digital media

OTTO'S STONES
Juan Bobbio (Argentina)

In a house at Buenos Aires, a woman mourns the death of her husband. One day, the family dog discovers a stone buried in the garden. The interaction between the stone and a mysterious necklace, triggers the reunion between the woman and the man she misses so much.



REFLECTION
David Anderson (UK)

Early morning at an average, riverside greasy-spoon café in Kent, a lone stranger cuts an odd figure. The cheerful but exhausted waitress is barely holding it together when her teenage son arrives suspiciously bad tempered. But what connects this disparate trio is a deeper mystery than at first seems.



SPELL ON YOU
Sarah Lasry (France)



Salome has a wart on her nose. She's disgusted by her own reflection. At night, she spies on her parents through the keyhole. Strange things are happening, which no one speaks of... A spell will be cast.



TILL
Marc Philip Ginolas (Germany)

In a world where humaneness counts for nothing, a man has lost his value to society.

University of TV & Film Munich



Horror

Thursday
8:15pm - 9:45pm
Light Cinema Screen 2

KNOW THE GRASS
Sophie Littman (UK)



15 year old Mattie has dreamlike premonitions which she is encouraged to ignore by her older brother Marco. But during a trip out of town, Mattie senses her visions could have some substance and that her brother's life might be in danger.



O, GLORY
Charlie Edwards-Moss, Joe Williams (UK)

Set in the late 70's, a psychiatric doctor and his assistant are called to an isolated country house to examine Deborah, whose brother believes she is losing her mind. Fuelled by hysteria and hallucinatory paranoia, they descend into abstract madness.

MANTIS
Luigi Sibona (UK)

Late at night in a dusty South London laundrette frozen in time, Jas is doing her laundry. She's in a world of her own when Chris, with brash confidence and self-importance, decides to strike up a conversation.



UNHEIMLICH
Fabio Colonna (Mexico)

The eternal fight between the conscious and unconscious.



THE LAST MARRIAGE
Johan Tappert, Gustav Egerstedt (Sweden)

A comedy about how the meager everyday life continues even after the zombie apocalypse.



ESCALATION
Christian Bachini (Italy)

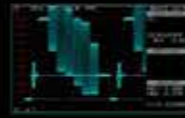
In the Midst of the COVID-19 Pandemic, Chris, a paranoid and self-centered man, is happily avoiding all human contact, preferring to escape from reality in whatever's on TV. When a friend reaches out to him to confront him about his past promises.





Best of the Fest (1)

Thursday
Light Cinema 1
8.15pm - 9.40pm



THE NEIGHBOR
Lauri Haukkamaa (Finland)



Two neighbors find themselves in the middle of disagreement over an (un)wanted visitor.



BELLE RIVER
Guillaume Fournier, Samuel Matteau, Yannick Nolin (USA)

2019. Spring flooding in Mississippi hits record highs. In Louisiana, the residents of Pierre-Part are preparing for the worst.



STRANGER THAN ROTTERDAM WITH SARA DRIVER
Lewie Kloster, Noah Kloster (USA)

In 1982, the completion of Jim Jarmusch's sophomore film, Stranger Than Paradise, hinged on producer, Sara Driver's duty to hand carry the only existing print of the world's most controversial rock documentary, Cocksucker Blues, across the Atlantic Ocean.

SOUR MILK
Mark Keane (Ireland)

Two teen boys in a kitchen at night. One boy wants the other to take him seriously, and does something extreme in order to prove himself...



SAME PAGE
Josie Charles (UK)

After they have a one-night stand, Luke wants Ela to leave so he can get on with his day. After all, they're totally casual. And totally on the same page. Or so they say...



HELD
Toby Wharton (UK)

Charles is brutally attacked and stabbed, leaving him traumatised. His shame of being a helpless victim prevents Charles from reaching out, he makes it back to the safety of his own home and the one person he knows will not judge. But Mum isn't answering the door...



SPOTLESS
Emma Branderhorst (Netherlands)



During her menstrual period, 15-year-old Ruby does not dare to ask her mother for tampons or pads because she knows that there is really no money for them. In order not to be a burden to anyone around her, she tries to solve it herself.



TOO ROUGH
Sean Lionadh (USA)

After a night of intoxication, a hungover and hysterical Nick wakes up next to his boyfriend Charlie and must conceal him from his own homophobic and dysfunctional family.



UK Shorts 1

Wednesday
4:20pm - 5:45pm
Light Cinema 1

Saturday
5:05pm - 6:30pm
Light Cinema 2



BIG EARS
Sam Baron (UK)

A struggling actor finds a lump on his testicle and is forced to confront his life choices.

SERVICES
Freya Billington (UK)

A Service Station cafe, as separated parents 'child-swap', strangers isolated grandfather, WALLACE and angry teenager JOSH, bond through comical commentary on the broken family chaos they witness through the window, indirectly sharing issues of their own



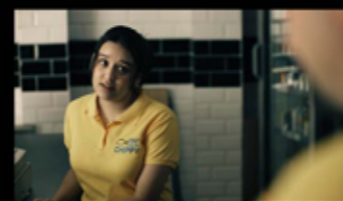
THE WALLED GARDEN
Emma Morley (UK)

Two people, separated in time, united through their love of The Walled Garden and their concern for its future.



WHITE PUDDING SUPPER
Ciaran Charles (UK)

People will forget what you said, but some people will never forget how you made them feel.



THE FOOL'S MATE
Cian Llewellyn (UK)

A couple's relationship is at a cross roads - as Fred attempts to break up with Holly, she thinks he's about to propose. But will an impromptu chess game finally force the truth to come out?





BAKED BEANS
Matt Ayleigh (UK)

When Nik, a British Asian actor, auditions for a radical retelling of the classic 'East is East', he soon begins to wonder if everyone around him is stuck in the past



SHELF LIFE
Luke Roulstone (UK)

Dorothy spends her days glued to her computer, sometimes literally with her lips, worshipping a pizza delivery boy she meets on-line. But as life treats her like a mouldy peach, she soon starts to feel like one.



A NIGHT OF MISTAKES
Jack Hextall (UK)

A black comedy about three disabled performers trying to get through a cursed stage production against all the odds.



YOU FROM THE FUTURE
Joseph Patrick, Tim Bunn (UK)

Daniel and Mary are a twenty-something couple with their lives stuck on pause... that is until two very familiar-looking visitors from the future come to hit fast-forward.



UK Shorts 2



Thursday
6:25pm - 7:55pm
Light Cinema 1

Sunday
12:50pm - 2:20pm
Light Cinema 1



UK Shorts 3



Friday
5:20pm - 6:50pm
Light Cinema 1

Sunday
11:00am - 12:30pm
Light Cinema 1



INCOMPATIBLE
Maxine Peake (UK)



A childless woman is told that her longed for unborn baby is incompatible with life. Alone, with her conscience and unable to openly discuss her situation because of society's stigma surrounding termination and the self-silencing of women concerning reproduction, she painfully decides the best way forward.



MILK
Adam Etheridge (UK)

A single Mum collects her teenage son from hospital following a suicide attempt, but quickly finds herself trapped between the medical advice she receives, and her fundamental instincts as a parent.

SINKING
Shaun James Grant (UK)

Torn between her feelings of fear and love a young woman living in an rural isolated house endures a mental and physically abusive relationship with her partner.



THE OUT
Harry Branrick (UK)

Liam looks after his young daughter for the first time since being out of prison and getting clean. These 24 hours see Liam piecing together the fragments of his life after prison and his complicated journey to recovery.



SURGEONS
Craig Talbot (UK)



Two women discover being a surgeon can mean very different things.



IT FEELS PERSONAL
Hugh Clegg (UK)

When Hugh finds out that his video has been stolen, re-contextualised, and turned into a viral meme he embarks on an internet odyssey, interviewing and interrogating the people that he finds, in an attempt to find the thief.



FIVE WEEKS
Geej Ower (UK)



Jen attempts to go about her daily routine, but the reality of what she's done begins to catch up with her.



THREE THINGS WE WON'T TALK ABOUT
Jessie Craig Roche (UK)



A woman comes to realise how she has compromised her own wellbeing for her crumbling relationship, with dark consequences.



BULLDOZER
Stella Scott (UK)



Ray's estate is being bulldozed. On the way to fireworks night, Ray and her daughter take a detour through the new development that is being built in its place.

EXPRESS
Edem Kelman (UK)

Under the cover of night, three dreamers have to look beyond the city to find what they're searching for.



BRUCE
Kevin Morosky (UK)

While at the beach a family navigates the continued bloody legacy of the global slave trade.



ASHA
Federico Barni (UK)

Following an unsuccessful excavation, a zealous researcher and her archaeology-trained dog decide to follow the trail of one last scent, beginning an odyssey in which the environment around them takes new and unexpected forms..



HEART VALLEY
Christian Cargill (UK)

Welsh shepherd Wilf Davies has never left his valley, eats the same meal every day and works his farm alone, where his family of over one hundred black-spotted sheep rely on him. And yet, he wouldn't want to be anywhere else.



UK Shorts 4

Thursday
4:40pm - 6:15pm
Light Cinema 1

Saturday
3:20pm - 4:45pm
Light Cinema 1



JOY
Alexandra Brodski (UK)

A teenage inmate in juvenile detention finds himself drawn to a magnetic 10 year old girl who wields an intoxicating power over her peers and perhaps even the adults watching over them.



WALLS LIKE WINDOWS
Werner Vivier (UK)

When Maggie invites a stranger into her home, she is confronted with the very thing she has been trying to avoid.



CONSUMED
Karen Lomand (UK)

Grieving after an early miscarriage, Faye preserves the embryo in a jar of oil, and sleeps with it under her pillow. She shows her husband, expecting him to feel the same connection. Isolated when he questions her sanity instead, Faye must act to keep the embryo safe.



CALVING
Louis Bhose (UK)

In a rural Irish village, a strange calf is born. And it won't stop screaming.

CANVAS 5
Karla Crome (UK)

When gallery director Ruth is accused of using her position to exploit people of colour, she protests her innocence - but her doubt turns to paranoia when anonymous portrait Canvas 5 starts to exert a power of its own.



LEOPARD HEELS
Chris Turner (UK)

A job interview turns sinister when misogyny and malice constrict around Renée Hart. Is it a career opening, or the venomous jaws of a trap?



UK Shorts 5

Friday
10:50am - 12:20pm
Light Cinema 2

Sunday
2:40pm - 4:10pm
Light Cinema 1



PAKEEZA
Jaffar Raza (UK)

The relationship between a responsible boy and his precocious younger sister becomes strained when an unspoken truth dares to surface.

London Film School



ROBIN
Tristan Shepherd (UK)

When recovering addict Joseph starts his new job as a Porter in the local Care Home, an unlikely yet instinctive friendship develops with Robin, a selectively mute, autistic resident.



MY JEROME
Adjani Salmon (UK)

On the morning of, Bev and her family anticipate the verdict of her son's trial.



BOYS DON'T CRY
Lorenzo Somini (UK)

Boys Don't Cry talks about Mark, a 35 year old that suffers from depression and anxiety but struggles to ask for help until porn gives him a way out.



CALM, ORDINARY
Claudia Paterson (UK)

A young woman with money troubles and an isolated older man are brought together by an unorthodox social network.



HARD TO REACH
Darryl Foster (UK)

Morey, a young mentor at a Birmingham academy for at-risk young people, is deeply struggling with his identity and who he wants to be. But through the relationship with his flagrant, rebellious, and sometimes violent teenage student Jackson, he becomes increasingly aware of his desperate need to break free.



UK Shorts 6 Made up North

Wednesday
5:40pm - 7.10pm
Light Cinema 2

Sunday
12:50pm - 2.10pm
Light Cinema 3



WANDERLAND
Nicole Pott (UK)



A young girl attempts to navigate the sea front on the search of her missing alcoholic mother over one night.



BEHOLDER
Daniel Newsham (UK)

Beholder is an experimental short film created from rediscovered Super 8 footage. The film reimagines the memories of people from the 60s and 70s and has been used with a piece of poetic narration to invite viewers to consider which moments they choose to prolong in the present.

THE PHENOMENON OF NOT WANTING TO BE ALONE AND SIMULTANEOUSLY HATING EVERYBODY
Lizzy Manfield (UK)



An animation about a woman called Ruby, who is seeking companionship in a strange and confusing world.



FINDING 'APPINESS
Natasha Hawthornwaite (UK)



After 70 years of keeping a devastating secret, eccentric fashionista Allan Bradbury is on a journey to recovery. By opening up about his childhood trauma can he find true 'appiness in later life?

BALD
Luke Bather (UK)

Bald tells the heartwarming tale of how the baldest man in the world accidentally starts a moon-worshipping cult in South Wales.



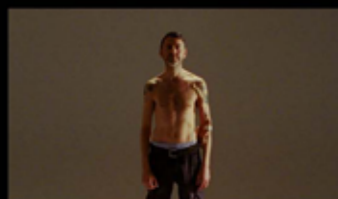
BRING BACK MY BONNIE
Mark Waters (UK)

An elderly man with dementia continues to speak with his late wife to keep her alive. When his daughter sees his decline she tries her best to make him comfortable and the memories they share embolden their relationship. An exploration of the highs-and-lows of memories fading through illness and natural inclinations.



TASBEEH
Iqbal Mohammed (UK)

Two childhood friends reunite in their Northern working-class town, post-Brexit.



LOOK FOR THE DIAMONDS
James Slater (UK)

Joel Goldberg has four Kidneys, but none of them work. He has to go on dialysis everyday in order to survive, but he refuses to let his condition define him. Through a uniquely positive outlook on life, Look For The Diamonds shows Joel not just surviving, but living.



Animation 1

Wednesday
11:00am - 12:00pm
Light Cinema 2

Friday
5:20pm - 6:20pm
Light Cinema 3



A LONG PROTRACTED SCENE OF AN ACCIDENT
Lars Henrik Andersson, Lisa Rydberg (Sweden)

Through its uniquely shaped narrative, drawn out in whimsical animation, this film invites us to bear witness to the emotional struggle of a nuclear family.

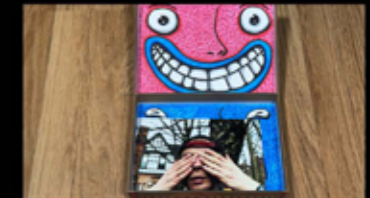


LOSING IT
Sascha Vernik (Austria)

After losing the tool he relies on most, a fraud information worker decides to go back in time to prevent it.

PROSOPAGNOSIA
Steven Fraser (UK)

Prosopagnosia means face-blindness and to understand this neurodiverse behaviour, the contents of a memory box are intricately explored. Sketchbooks, photographs and diaries unravel to tell a unique and personal story.



STEAKHOUSE
Špela Čadež (Slovenia)

The steak has been marinating for a few days now. The pan is heated. Franc's stomach is rumbling. But Liza's co-workers surprise her with a birthday party. Will she be home on time?



AFFAIRS OF THE ART
Joanna Quinn (UK)

Beryl's back in Affairs of the Art, which showcases one family's eccentric yet endearing obsessions with everything from drawing to pet taxidermy.



Animation 2

Thursday
2.00pm - 3:00pm
Light Cinema 1

Sunday
2:40pm - 3:40pm
Bolton Museum



BACKFLIP
Nikita Diakur (Germany)

Attempting a backflip is not safe. You can break your neck, or land on your head, or land badly on your wrists. None of that is nice, so my avatar does the trick. It practices on a 6-core processor with the help of Machine Learning.



WHERE ARE THE FILES?
Philip Davies (UK)

You have received a message. The message reads: "Where are the files?" Where are the files?



ALL THE BLUE CATS LOOK LIKE THE SAME COLOUR

Wenzhe Xu (UK)

A short film about how language influences our perception of the world.

A GOAT'S SPELL

Gerhard Funk (Germany)

A Child and its day. A conquest before breakfast, a clueless goat next to the house, a couple of promising airplanes far up in the sky. Then things and events fall apart. The goat seems to be linked to all of that. If there is any link between anything at all.



GOODBYE JEROME

Adam Sillard, Chloé Farr, Gabrielle Selnet (France)



Having just arrived in paradise, Jerome sets out to find his wife Maryline. In the course of his search, he sinks into a surreal and colourful world in which no one seems to be able to help him.



A BRIEF HISTORY OF US

Etgar Keret (Poland)

The story is about a couple who have gone so long together that they almost became one.



SIERRA

Sander Joon (Estonia)

Father and his son are losing the folk race. In order to win, a boy turns himself into a car tire. Loosely inspired by the director's childhood, Sierra pulls us into the surreal car racing world.



Animation 3

Friday
12.45pm - 1.45pm
Bolton Museum

Wednesday
11:00am - 12:00pm
Light Cinema 3



THE DEBUTANTE

Elizabeth Hobbs (UK)



A spirited young woman persuades a hyena from London Zoo to take her place at a dinner dance held in her honour. Their plan requires a surprising amount of artistry and violence. Based on a story by artist Leonora Carrington, Elizabeth Hobbs celebrates her startling tale with paint and collage.



THERE IS EXACTLY ENOUGH TIME

Oskar Salomonowitz (Austria)

Oskar Salomonowitz, the 12-year-old son of filmmakers Anja Salomonowitz and Virgil Widrich, had drawn 206 frames of a flip book when he died in an accident. Using the remaining blank sheets, his father continued drawing the film.

THE CROW

Glenn Marshall (UK)

In this animation, artificial intelligence is used to transform a dancer into a crow. The result is a haunting and compelling piece that follows the crow through its brief dance in a landscape of post-apocalyptic barrenness, to its inevitable demise.



SOFT TISSUE

Cliona Noonan (Ireland)

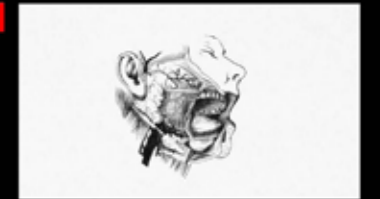


A father takes desperate measures in the hopes of saving his son, but his actions soon become a distraction from what matters to him most.

STILL LIFE

Conner Griffith (USA)

Composed of over 1000 engravings from the 18th-19th century, Still Life is a meditation on objectivity and meaning. The film explores the idea that we live in a world of objects and a world of objects lives within us.



MY FATHER'S DAMN CAMERA

Milos Tomic (Slovenia)

In a story that intertwines hand-drawn and stop animation in collage technique, the author takes his audience on a ride through the archive of Slovenian photographer Dragiša Modrinjak, and at the same time draws from personal experience as a filmmaker and father.



TAP RUNNER

Paola Chianta (UK)

In a dystopian future, it's one man's job to check taps for leakage and wastage. But he is not permitted to fix the taps. Much as he might want to...



GROWING PLAINS

Jessica Wheeler (UK)



The plains are populated with beds. Growing Plains is a sensory snapshot of an uncanny landscape where humans have an alternative biology.



BARDO

Aisling Conroy (Ireland)



A woman questions her lifestyle choices when the travails of urban living are one day jolted into juxtaposition with a simpler way of life.

SHE DREAMS AT SUNRISE

Camrus Johnson (USA)

Every sunrise, Gerry dreams of a magical world where life feels as joyful as it once was. But when she wakes up, her great-nephew must find ways to remind her of the joy that's still there.



ZOON

Jonatan Schwenk (Germany)

Small shimmering animals are in heat. A two-legged forest dweller encounters the lustful group. He and his companions snack on the little creatures and soon a feast begins.





Animation 4

Wednesday
4:20pm - 5:20pm
Light Cinema 2

Saturday
2:10pm - 3:10pm
Light Cinema 3



THEY DANCE WITH THEIR HEADS

Thomas Corriveau (Canada)

The severed head of a choreographer is held captive by an eagle on a desert island. With a dazzling mastery of drawing and painting, this animated short unexpectedly takes us into the sensitive world of an artist madly in love with dance.



THE RECORD

Jonathan Laskar (Switzerland)

An antique music instrument dealer receives a magical vinyl record from a traveller: "It reads your mind and plays your lost memories".



TYPE

Lesley-Anne Rose (UK)

Type is a stop motion animation about Franny, a young woman growing up with chronic allergies that isolate her from the world. In her search for friends and a soulmate, she finds a parasite that can solve all her problems - for 24 glorious hours.



US

Nelson Fernandes (Portugal)

War, loneliness, nature, crossings, fallen dreams are some of the recurring aspects in this animated poem on paper.



MIDDLE WATCH

Aiesha Penwarden, John Stevenson (UK)

A sailor must come to terms with the trauma of war and the mysteries of the deep, as he endures another shift on the Middle Watch.



THE TENEMENT

Claire Fleming (UK)

A rainy spring evening catching a glimpse inside the red sandstone of a Glasgow Tenement.



THE SPRAYER

Farnoosh Abedi (Iran)

In the land occupied with the sprayers army, no one has the right to grow any kind of plants either in public or private. So many of the people and soldiers do not even know how dose a plant grows or look like, until one day one of the soldiers finds a seed buried deep down in the dust.



THE WELL

Peter Stanley-Ward (UK)

Known as the outsider, Trish leads three 'friends' to a secret well in the hope to build friendships. When they realise the potential of the well, they get a terrifying reminder to always be careful what you wish for...



Student Animation 1

Wednesday
1:40pm - 4:15pm
Light Cinema 2



EATING IN THE DARK

Inari Sirola (UK)



Through snakey dildos, setting boundaries and a journey through a mind bending forest, we follow Sirola's quest for self discovery.

Royal College of Art



PERSONA

Sujin Moon (South Korea)



The process of being encroached by the persona.



PRISONER OUTSIDE

Igor Medvedev (Germany)

Locked up and isolated, a prisoner starts to merge his imagination with the real world and tries to escape the prison with his newly found powers.

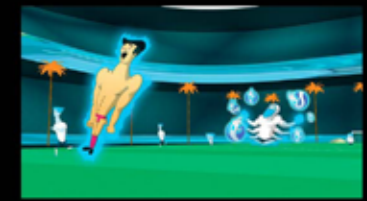
Film University Babelsberg

WEEKLY THERAPY FOR THE MENTAL HEALTH OF ANTI WIZARDS

Aron Siegler (UK)

A story about an ocean, an island and an extraordinary egg that gives infinite magical power to everyone in it's proximity. Well, not exactly everyone..

Royal College of Art



NALSUM

Souen Jeon (South Korea)



It's the story of individuals being forced by groups during the process of belonging to a group.

Korea National University of Arts



TRAIT CALME

Gabrielle Mouret (France)



Someone wakes up somewhere and is carried away by his daily life.

Institut Supérieur Couleur Image Design



LOVE, DAD

Diana Cam Van Nguyen (Czech Republic)



She finds letters full of love her dad wrote her 15 years ago. Now she fights to get that love back.

Prague Film and TV School





Student Animation 2

Thursday
10:50am - 11:50am
Bolton Museum

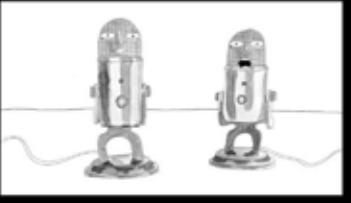


HOMEBIRD
Ewa Smyk (UK)



Struggling to make it in a big city, a young artist finds herself retreating into the rose-tinted memories of the village she left behind.

National Film and Television School



DOOMER DIARIES
Eva Riddle (UK)



An animated short film that represents the fear and worries of my generation, living in the 21st century: an age of anxiety. - Manchester School of Art



MY GRANDMOTHER IS AN EGG
Wu-Ching Chang (Taiwan)



Egg is life per se. Eggs are fragile, but at the same time tough. My grandmother is an egg. - Royal College of Art



BEFORE HER BODY LEFT HER
Yuxin Yang (China)



Trans woman, scrutinizing her reflection in the mirror. A tangling battle between the self and the allo-self, in a surreal dream, secretly happens. Meanwhile, her desires become an alien, breast floating, tentacles trembling, constantly luring her to the outside world... Academy of Arts & Design, Tsinghua University



PASSWORD TO THE *****
Adel Szegedi (UK)



Jumping between dreams, nightmares, and confused memories, Grandma's timeless, safe figure links to the stars that show a path in the dark as the shining responses of the universe. - Illyés Academy of Arts



A PLACE IN BLUE
Seung eon Yi (South Korea)



A girl is searching for her mother in a grocery store and in a forest. At the end of the forest, she encounters passages from her mother's life.



L'ABATTU DES VENTS
Félix-Antoine Garneau-Chouinard (Canada)

Alone on a secluded island, a lightkeeper is prisoner of his own madness.

Université Laval



THE CLEARING
Daniel Hope (UK)

In a desperate battle with his ballooning ego, Bill struggles in vain to re-woo Deb with his below-par outdoor skills and, quite frankly, shocking behaviour, until their last-ditch camping trip takes a VERY sinister turn. - National Film & TV school



Family Animation

Thursday
12:15pm - 1:40pm
Unit Base Gallery

Saturday
1:00pm - 2:25pm
Bolton Museum



FETCH
Sam Gill (New Zealand)

Fetch is a heart-on-its-sleeve animated dramedy about a dog and his human, working together as the only maintenance crew aboard a colossal space station.

WAABER WAABER
Rich Webber (UK)

The adventures of two fun loving idiots.



BLACK SLIDE
Uri Lotan (Israel)

Eviah, a young and timid kid on the brink of puberty and his best friend sneak into the Black slide, the most terrifying ride in Aqua Fun. There Eviah will gain insight to prepare him for events about to unfold at home.

STEP BY STEP

Anabelle David, Claire Robert, Emma Gach, Fanny Paoli, Julie Valentin, Théodore Janvier (France)

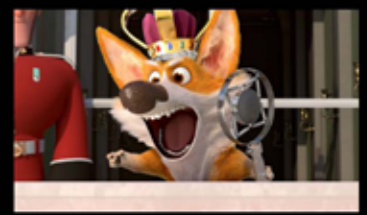


A little rain boot wakes up on a river's side. On her journey through the forest she would overcome any obstacles to find her way back home. On the road she faces many events that will make her grow.



BARKING ORDERS
Alex Tullo (USA)

When the entire British Royal family tragically dies, the Queen's corgi finds himself next in line for the throne and in the seat of power.



LAIKA & NEMO
Jan Gadermann, Sebastian Gadow (Germany)

Nemo looks different. Nobody else wears a diving suit and such a huge helmet. But then he meets Laika, an astronaut. - Film University Babelsberg Konrad Wolf



MIRACLE
Shaofu Zhang (China)

A curious and naughty boy and his adorable younger sister are visiting their Grandma's house. However, she's no ordinary Grandmother. In fact, she is the world's greatest inventor.



TANKED
Duncan Rudd (UK)

A couple of loved up lobsters have their tango disrupted by a sadistic chef.



COLORFUL

Cha Jae-hyeon, Hwang Byeong-hyeon (South Korea)

Will, a boy who wants to become an inventor, loves to invent various toys for his old dog named Norman. One day, while introducing his new toys to Norman, he finds out that dogs are colour blind.



THE SOCIAL CHAMELEON

Alex Ross (USA)

Cosmo the chameleon doesn't fit in with the other animals. No matter how hard he tries, he just can't seem to find his place in the jungle. Then, everything changes when he meets another chameleon who shows him how to live by his own true colors!

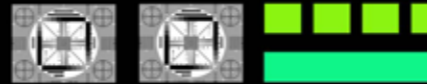


I'M FINE!

(Guest Programme)

Friday

10:45am - 12:00pm
Bolton Museum



SOMMERREGEN

Julia Skala, Oscar Jacobson (Germany)

After an exhausting rainy day, a young woman is struggling with her growingly overwhelming feelings. Initially, she has difficulties allowing her tears and fights actively against them.



PROCRASTINATION

John Kelly (UK)

An investigative and exploratory hands-on gloves-off study into the practice of putting things 'off'. Sometimes the only way to get something done is to do two dozen other things first.

THE GREAT MALAISE

Catherine Lepage (Canada)

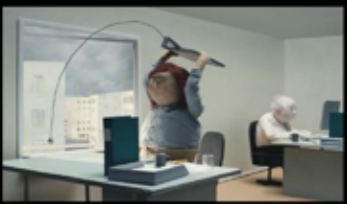
In the voiceover for this animated short, a young woman attempts to describe herself, casting her life in the ideal light that society expects. The film's imagery, however, tells a different story, poignantly illustrating the intense anxiety that comes with the quest for perfection and the pursuit of happiness.



CONVERSATION WITH A WHALE

Anna Samo (Germany)

In this love letter to artists, their art and its audience, one filmmaker is confronted with rejection after rejection until at last a beautiful fig tree bears sweet fruits.



ENOUGH

Anna Mantzaris (UK)

This film centres around impulses we all can feel but never act upon.



DRAWN UNDEW DRAW

Angel Wu (Taiwan)

Therapy part, self-questioning, Q1: Why did you draw? Q2: How did you begin to draw? Q3: Why did you stop drawing? Q4: How did you go back to draw? Q5: Will you draw on?



SELF SCRATCH

Chenghua Yang (France)

Following a break-up, Wen sinks into melancholy. She can't talk to anyone and therefore talks to herself a lot. By understanding that it is not the love she has lost but her confidence, she will be able to reconcile with herself and feel ready to love again.



INERTNESS

Jakub Krzyszpín (Poland)

Animation drawn in black & white, in its understated form shows the story of a day full of unfortunate events.



AM I ORIGHT

Yen Liang Chen (Taiwan)

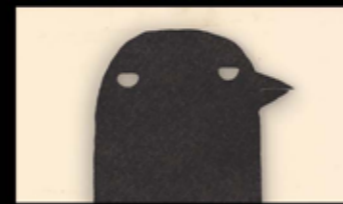
The basic performance of the experimental animation, "AM I ORIGHT", is based on sounds. The sounds which were recorded, mixed and edited, were used as the basic performance of the animation creation. To indicate the author's actual experience of getting lost, growing, and transforming in the process of the creation journey.



PANDICULATION

Jakob Eiring, Konrad Hjemli (Norway)

pan-dic-u-la-tion - The act of stretching oneself (often accompanied by yawning)



THE MAKING OF LONGBIRD

Will Anderson (UK)

A 'behind-the-scenes' look at an Animator/Filmmaker as he struggles with his character.

PLAYING DEATH

Margarida Madeira (Portugal)

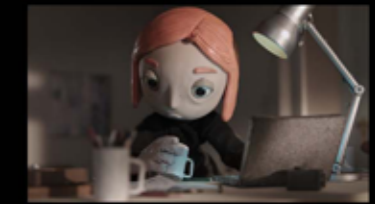
A character fighting against the loss of identity whose journey is continuously influenced by the fear of the unknown and closeness to death.



TICK

Fabienne Priess, Levin Tamoj (Germany)

Before burn-out has burned out it is a flame. And Jane is on fire. She is a very disciplined and ambitious young woman. Her days consist of going to work and ticking off her never ending To-Do-Lists. She does not realize how the flame starts to consume her and how she loses sight of everything around her.



HI! HOW ARE YOU?

Gaïa Grandin-Mendzylewski (France)

Self-reflection somewhat painful but yet deeply caring concerning the following protocol: 'Hi, how are you?', 'I'm Fine, and you?', 'Yes, I'm fine thank you'





Best of the Fest (2)

Friday
Light Cinema 1
8.10pm - 9.40pm



KASPER & SOPHIE
Tomas Jonsgarden (Sweden)

A provocative story of love and betrayal in the midst of adolescent mental illness. This single shot film raises the question of how far one is willing to go for the sake of love culminating in a terrible deed.



GROOM
Leyla Coll-O'Reilly (UK)

Groom is about a young, school leaver called Hannah who is on a trial shift at a beauty salon. It's a story about coercive relationships, consent, puberty and sexual desire.



WHEN THE CLAPPING STOPS
Cameron Perry (UK)

Matty - a young and dedicated care worker - meets his match when his agency assigns him to middle-aged firecracker and epilepsy sufferer, June. Despite struggling to access support from a sector stretched thin, Matty must also provide unpaid care for his terminally ill Grandfather.

RAY
Joe Lycett (UK)

A daft short film by Joe Lycett



BLEEP
Ben S. Hyland (UK)

A couple's relationship is pushed to the brink as they investigate a strange noise that's woken them in the night.



HAULOUT
Evgenia Arbugaeva, Maxim Arbugaev (Russian Federation)

On a remote coast of the Russian Arctic in a wind-battered hut, a lonely man waits to witness an ancient gathering. But warming seas and rising temperatures bring an unexpected change, and he soon finds himself overwhelmed.



ALL THE CROWS IN THE WORLD
Yi Tang (Hong Kong)

18-year-old Shengnan Zhao enters an adventure in the adults' world.



LGBTQ+

Thursday
6:00pm - 7:35pm
Light Screen 3



OUTDOORS
John Fitzpatrick (UK)

Bim and Nathan meet in the park and have immediate chemistry. But Bim finds himself too exposed when a chance encounter reveals what he's trying to hide.



LITTLE SKY
Jess X.Snow (Canada)

Haunted by their childhood memories, Chinese American drag sensation, Sky returns to their hometown to confront their estranged father. - New York University



PEACH PARADISE
Shiva Raichandani (UK)

Non-binary Japanese-Irish drag artist ShayShay storms U.K.'s cabaret scene with a gender-diverse, Pan-Asian collective to dismantle racial stereotypes with love and glitter!



BINGO QUEENS
Nicholas Finegan (UK)

Set against the colours of summer the film tells the story of Luna; a trans, bipoc ballet dancer on the brink of giving up on her career and Eric; a forgotten viral video star. They are both dreamers, both romantic, both stuck... like birds of paradise with clipped wings.



SWIM
Michael Gamarano Singleton (UK)

Two swimmers develop a strong friendship during their weekly sessions. Their relationship is tested outside the pool, when true identities are revealed.



NORTH STAR
P.J Palmer (USA)

A rural rancher and his ailing husband, struggling against poverty and isolation, make a heartbreaking decision in order to preserve the dignity of their marriage in the face of mounting pressures from relatives.





Student 1

Wednesday
12:20pm - 1:55pm
Bolton Museum

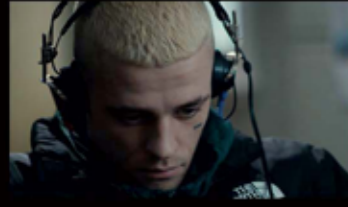


UNDERS

Bert Dijkstra (UK)

At an under-18s club night in Glasgow, a strong-willed teenager struggles to cope with the behaviour of her male friends.

London Film School



SONS OF ROISIN

Conor Bradley (Ireland)

Pádraig's life has been turned upside down after the tragic passing of his brother, Fionn. One month later Pádraig visits an audiologist to learn that his hearing has deteriorated beyond repair. Left in the silence of his own grief, Pádraig hides from the world. - National Film School at IADT



BLUE NOISE

Simon Maria Kubiena (Germany)

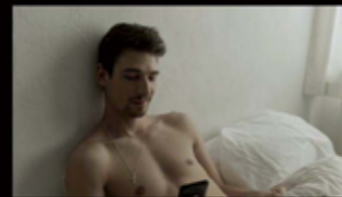
A young apprentice craftsman is not only dazed by the noise at work. In a chaotic world, among dominant colleagues, an inaccessible father as well as a demanding girlfriend, the young man seeks closeness. In the process, he crosses a boundary and gets to know himself a bit better. - Filmakademie Baden-Württemberg

THE OTHER SIDE

Luca Peres-Bota (Belgium)

A Romanian immigrant helps of his cousin get a job in a restaurant in Belgium so he can provide some support for his new born child and girlfriend who still live in Romania. But while on the job he gets a phone call with awful news.

RITCS School of Arts



STAGNANT

Konrad Kultys (Poland)

Tough skinhead Adam ignores his disability, despite it he tries to dominate his loved ones. A decision by his caring brother to change jobs pushes Adam to reconsider his situation and face up to his own limitations. - Łódź Film School



WIDOW & ORPHAN

Niklas Pollmann (Germany)

Two lost souls in London. Connected through a poem in German and the question of how they will meet. - Filmakademie Wien



I REMEMBER IT RAINED

Connor Simpson (USA)

An experiential descent into chaos following a wayward teenager's search for catharsis. - Columbia University School of the Arts



Student 2

Thursday
12:10pm - 1:40pm
Bolton Museum



DEEP CLEAN

B Welby (UK)

Maddie is tasked with cleaning the house of a hoarder, an old woman who recently died. As she starts to become increasingly paranoid that she is not alone, Maddie has to face the horrifying reality of what her life might become. - NFTS



SAM

James Litchfield (Australia)

Tim has presented his girlfriend, Martine, with a mysterious jigsaw puzzle and is impatient for her to finish it. But Tim's elaborate plans begin to unravel when a childhood teddy, named Sam, accuses him of being incapable of love. Victorian College of the Arts



PART OF THE FURNITURE

Jaina Liu (UK)

When an office worker discovers the ability to turn into a chair, he falls for a woman who turns into a lamp and must decide if he would like to be a chair or a human being. - London Film School



TWICE MY BROTHER

Mickey Broothaerts (Belgium)

After a misunderstanding, Damien ends up sheltering a young Sudanese exile, Abdo. Their cohabitation had just begun when they guess themselves as homosexual and homophobic respectively. - IAD (Louvain-la-Neuve, Belgium)



BOY MEETS GIRL

Kaelo Iyizoba (Nigeria)

Set against the backdrop of the rustic North-Eastern Nigerian town of Gamboru, the film follows Musa, a 15 year old boy whose life is irrevocably altered after a chance encounter with a young girl on a bus. - Columbia University



WHERE DO WE GO?

Barbara Lervig (Faroe Islands)

A woman consumed by grief ventures into the mountains with no intention of returning, but an encounter with an enigmatic, old postwoman sets her life on a new path. - Northern Film School



SONG OF THE SEA

Simon Nilsen (Norway)

Leif encounters a strange creature at sea that drives him insane. - Noroff School of Technology and Digital media



Student Undergraduate

Friday
10:40am - 12:20pm
Light Cinema 3



FIRST ONE AWAY
Zak Harney (UK)

Paul desperately tries to get away from a lads night out. But in order to do so, he must play by the 'rules' and tell the group a story. He tells a morbid story of an abandoned grave that he decided to tend, and the unexpected journey this took him on.
[Ravensbourne University](#)



WOODS
Luther Ford (UK)

A young woman desperately tries to escape childhood memories of a twisted past.
[Arts University Bournemouth](#)

THE SPACE I OCCUPY
Colleen Bell (UK)

This video essay explores eating disorders, self-criticism and a woman's relationship with her body. A combination of childhood photos, hand-drawn animation and live footage depicts the journey from childhood to adulthood and the process of unlearning the male gaze. - [Royal Conservatoire of Scotland](#)



WATERTIGHT
Finley John (UK)

After receiving a harrowing call from her brother, a woman must decide whether to attend to the deathbed of her mother whilst battling a flood that threatens to submerge her home. - [University of West of England](#)



SEE ME
Brychan Elis Probert (UK)

Owain, a grieving tenant farmer, must save his ancestral home from development into soulless holiday homes. - [University of Gloucestershire](#)



CHOCOLATE TRONCHETTO
Nicole Favarelli (UK)

When a lonely grandma faces the ignorance of her estranged granddaughter, she has to re-invent the wheel to uphold a long family tradition - making Chocolate Tronchetto together on Christmas Eve. - [Met Film School](#)



BEACHED
Chloe Ireland (UK)

Stuck between an internet famous friend and a partner content with life under the radar, Izzy must choose between the riches of the social media spotlight and the stability of a loving relationship. - [University of West of England](#)



DANIEL'S SET FOR LIFE
Jake McKenna (UK)

After waking up in an apartment not his own, Christian discovers its inhabitant has recently won the lottery but wishes not to keep it. - [Arts University Bournemouth](#)



EDEN
Charlie Bush (UK)

This documentary follows Eden's extraordinary story as a transgender woman, who by taking on science managed to break the rules and find a new passion at the same time. - [University of West of England](#)



HEART FAILURE
Will Wightman (UK)

In this EDM musical, Frank does everything he can to avoid another horrible breakup. He does not do a good job. - [Falmouth University](#)



Closing Night

Saturday
8:00pm - 9:30pm
Light Cinema 1



BRUTES
Raoul Kirsima (Estonia)

Uku's passions are travel, food and sex. His last day starts out with all 3 in mind and as luck would have it, he meets Briis, who has very similar tastes. If only we all had more time to do what we love.



THE PAINTER AND THE POET
Dan Thornburn (UK)

Set in a world where the marker of success is having one's art go viral, what and who are you willing to sacrifice to quench the thirst for success?

Thu 06 Oct	10.00	11.00	12.00	13.00	14.00	15.00	16.00	17.00	18.00	19.00	20.00	21.00	22.00	23.00
Network									Networking @ Unit Base Gallery				Party @ The Division	8/9
Light Cinema Screen 5														Futureworks Showcase Doc 60 - 3 Bolton University Showcase
Light Cinema Screen 1														Doc 60 - 3 Bolton University Showcase
Light Cinema Screen 2														Student Animation 2 Black Cinema Student 2 Animation 2 International 2
Light Cinema Screen 3														Doc 60 - 5 UK Shorts 4 Nahemi Showcase
Bolton Museum														LGBTQ+ UK Shorts 2 Best of the Fest (1) Horror
Unit Base Gallery														7 Grams On the morning you wake Promenade Nyssa Goliath
Unit Base Gallery (VR)														Samsara Starry Sandy Beach Childhood Revisited Last Dance
Unit Base (360)														Family Animation Environmental 2
Unit Base (VR)														50 21
Unit Base														

Fri 07 Oct	10.00	11.00	12.00	13.00	14.00	15.00	16.00	17.00	18.00	19.00	20.00	21.00	22.00	23.00
Network														Industry Talks & Events
Light Cinema Screen 1														UK Shorts 5
Light Cinema Screen 2														Student Undergraduate
Light Cinema Screen 3														I'm Fine - Guest Programme Doc 60 - 4
Bolton Museum														Animation 3 International 3 Archive Film
Unit Base Gallery														Doc 60 - 2 FFF - Rated Women in Film UK Shorts 3
Unit Base (VR)														Salford University Showcase Animation 1 Experimental Dance
Unit Base (360)														Best of the Fest (2) Sci-Fi & Fantasy 7 Grams
Unit Base (VR)														On the morning you wake Promenade Nyssa Goliath
Unit Base														Samsara Starry Sandy Beach Childhood Revisited Last Dance

Sat 08 Oct	10.00	11.00	12.00	13.00	14.00	15.00	16.00	17.00	18.00	19.00	20.00	21.00	22.00	23.00
Network														Industry Talks
Light Cinema Screen 1														Doc 60 - 2
Light Cinema Screen 2														Animation 3 International 5
Light Cinema Screen 3														International 3 FFF-Rated Family Animation
Bolton Museum														Doc 60 - 4 Animation 4 International 4
Unit Base Gallery														UK Shorts 4 Thriller Doc 60 - 1
Unit Base (VR)														Comedy UK Shorts 1 Music & Fashion
Unit Base (360)														Doc 60 - 3 Closing Night Marmite
Unit Base (VR)														7 Grams On the morning you wake Promenade Nyssa
Unit Base Gallery (Cinema)														Goliath Samsara Starry Sandy Beach Childhood Revisited Last Dance
Unit Base														Environmental 1 & 2

Sun 09 Oct	10.00	11.00	12.00	13.00	14.00	15.00	16.00	17.00	18.00	19.00	20.00	21.00	22.00	23.00
Network														UK Shorts 3
Light Cinema Screen 1														International 4 Comedy
Light Cinema Screen 3														UK Shorts 2 UK Shorts 6 International 5
Bolton Museum														UK Shorts 5 International 1 Animation 2
Unit Base Gallery														Award Ceremony 7 Grams
Unit Base (VR)														On the morning you wake Promenade Nyssa
Unit Base (360)														Goliath
Unit Base (VR)														Samsara Starry Sandy Beach Childhood Revisited Last Dance



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