

BOLTON FILM FESTIVAL

thelight
cinema experience

20th / 21st September 2017

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BOLTON FILM FESTIVAL



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

"For me short films are essential whether it's drama, comedy or documentary. They are a wonderful way for directors, actors and creatives in the industry to experiment and find their voice. They are also an invaluable vehicle to get messages over quickly and succinctly. They have all the ingredients of a feature but won't take as much of your time! When Bolton, the town where I was born, announced they were launching a film festival I welcomed their invitation to become a patron. Bolton Film Festival gives film-makers and actors in the area an opportunity to celebrate the talent in and around the town, to share their work to a wider audience and to meet industry experts and other film-makers from across the North West and across the UK. Manchester offers so much, but it's fantastic that Bolton now has an annual film event of it's own."

As a proud Boltonian nothing could make me more proud than bringing a film festival to the town. Over the two days 20th/21st September we will be screening over 50 films from independant film-makers, animators, students and community groups. The genres range from short feature, documentary, comedy, animation or experimental work.

Short film was once seen as a chance to showcase a film-makers talents but today it is seen as a unique art form in it's own right. The genre enables experimentation, offering an opportunity of true freedom to it's creators yet all the while constrained by a tight canvas of limited minutes. Perhaps it's because they are "short" that these films seem to have the ability to stay with us, enduring in our memories long after we've seen them.

Once a film-maker would complete their film and send a video tape (or DVD) off in the post, but now the internet means entries to film festivals can be attracted from film-makers anywhere in the world and it's our judges who've have had the difficult task of scrutinising and deliberating over hundreds of entries to come up with the final line up that you'll witness on the big screen here at BFF.

As well as great films we're also bringing top industry speakers to share their extensive knowledge and expertise, these include home grown talent such as Horwich born writer Chris Lunt. Nominated for a BAFTA for the TV series "PREY". Chris walked out of an engineering shop with his redundancy package and rolling the dice knocked on the doors of production companies with his scripts. To his delight Nicola Shindler at Red Productions recognised his talent and commissioned one of them, the series "PREY" later led to Chris being recognised as BAFTA breakthrough brit in 2014 Julie Foy a Bolton born producer will be sharing one of her films "Silent Child" directed by Chris Overton. Wrote by the actress Rachel Shenton it highlights the issues of deaf children and the need for sign language to be more commonplace. Julie, Chris and Rachel will be screening their film and delivering a Q & A to over 100 students from across the North West.

I hope you have a great time at the festival, and if you do, please tell your friends about it - spread the word... there is a new film festival on the scene.

Adrian Barber
Festival Director



Judges



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. His debut series, PREY was produced by Red Productions and was broadcast on ITV to great critical acclaim in April and May of 2014, it was followed by season two in December 2015. Chris was nominated for two Baftas and two RTS awards for his work on PREY, he was also named a Bafta Breakthrough Brit of 2014. Chris has a number of projects in development including his latest work "The Devils" a ten part series commissioned by Lux Vide / Sky Italia and scheduled for worldwide release soon.

David Thacker (Theatre, Film and TV Director)

David Thacker was Artistic Director of the Octagon Theatre Bolton for six years until 2015 when he stepped down to become Professor of Theatre at the University of Bolton. A leading theatre, film and television director, David has directed over 150 productions throughout the UK and internationally. In television drama he directed more than 30 films for the BBC, ITV, Channel 4 and WGBH Boston (USA) including his critically acclaimed film of The Mayor of Casterbridge and a feature-length BBC film, Faith set in the 1984/5 Miners' Strike.



George Newton (Actor)

Probably best known as "Banjo" in the Bafta winning feature film "This is England" George Newton is not from a privileged background, nor did he attend drama school. Yet he has landed roles in some of the biggest British films and TV series. Drawing on his own experience and looking within, he acts instinctively to bring realism to his roles. Credits include Dead Mans Shoes, Control, Burnt Toast, Soldier Bee, Blood Loyal and many more.

DJ Clark (Multi Media Journalist)

Dave is a multi media journalist who has 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. In 2006 he moved to China as a base for covering Asia where he continues to live with his growing family. In 2017 DJ was chair of the World Press Photo Short Form Digital Story Telling jury.



Iain Mckee (Actor)

Best known for his role as Frank Gadney in BBC1 drama series "Lilies" and for his starring role as Michael in BBC sitcom "The Visit", Iain is originally from Bolton but now lives in North London. Iain appears as Victor Joubert in the current series of the BBC's 'Musketeers'. He is about to complete filming on Matthew Vaughn's 'Kingsman 2' and recently completed filming on 'Peter Kay's Car Share 2'. Other recent TV credits include: Higgy in 'Castles in the Sky' (BBC), Arnold Huxton in 'Mr Selfridge' (ITV), DS Brady in 'Murder on the Homefront' (ITV), Lionel Balfour in 'Endeavour' (ITV), Charlie Wilson in 'Mrs Biggs' (ITV), Anthony Stainfiel in 'Scott and Bailey' (ITV), The Karim Twins in 'Sinbad' (SKY).

Anita Pandolfo (Writer)

Anita began her career as a television actress. After writing her first screenplay she was invited to work on ITV's "Peak Practice". She was on the original writing/creating team of World Productions / BBC2 "The Cops". The show went on to win two Baftas, an RTS and a Writer's Guild Award. She created her own series "Picking Up The Pieces" for ITV and was part of the team of writers who created 'Spooks'. Recent credits include "Not so super", "Casualty", "Red Rock", "The Bill" and "Holby City".



Steve Southern / Gary Hilton - GAS Music

Based at Media City, GAS is a trans-media music and tv production company. GAS Music compose music and sound design for commercials, television, film, radio, gaming and B2B. Recent credits include the Umbro campaign and Cbeebies Magic Door. Creating musical content that combines great composition ideas with the highest production values their clients include BBC, Chief, Dock10, Foundry Film and many more. Gas film and TV are currently engaged in producing pilot shows for BBC, ITV, Channel 4 and most TVOD streaming services.

Ben Thornley (Director - Sitcom Soldiers)

Ben's work has been viewed by tens of millions of people, his creative team at Sitcom Soldiers have produced award winning Music Videos and TV Commercials across a global network. With a prolific volume of projects spanning more than 1000 films they have become widely recognised in the media industry, working with a range of artists including, Thrive, Circa Survive, Glassjaw, The Saturdays, Sleeping With Sirens, Feeder, Of Mice & Men, Bars & Melody, Brian Molko, Johnny Marr, The Ghost Inside, All Time Low, Juliette Lewis and many, many more.



David Whitney (Film-maker)

Bolton Filmmaker David Whitney began his career directing TV commercials and corporate films, winning a Silver Award at the New York Film & Video Festival in 2005. He also directed broadcast programmes for Sky TV in Afghanistan and Russia, before moving into drama with his short film Taken Out, which led to his nomination for the BBC New Filmmaker Award. David's debut feature film Kandahar Break, filmed in Pakistan and Tunisia, was released worldwide and won Best Film awards at the Philadelphia Independent Film Festival and The Thrillspys Film Festival

Caroline Eccles & David Pownall - Huckleberry Films

Huckleberry Films have been making live action and animated short films since 2008. Projects include: documenting the National Commemoration of the Battle of the Somme for HM Gov, creating a series of animated resources for the Co-operative College and making an animated/live action short film with women and girls from the Gypsy Roma Traveller community around Lancaster. They have worked closely with the 'Every Action Has Consequences' charity to develop live action and animated resources for an education pack, which has been used by more than half a million young people in the North West of England so far.



Meryl Edge (Animator)

With over 25 years in the industry Beryl has worked on some of the most well know animations in both television and feature film. She spent the first seventeen years at Cosgrove/Hall Films working on Dangermouse, Duckula, The Avenger Penguins, and Alias The Jester. She also animated on two feature-length films, The Talking Parcel, and Roald Dahl's The BFG. In 1993 she co-founded a freelance animation team and for the next seven years produced work not only for Cosgrove/Hall, but also many other clients including the BBC, Ocean, and TVC films. With Tell Tale Productions she was an animator on the childrens' series called BB3B. Beryl continues to freelance with many diverse clients.

Liza Ryan-Carter (Editor)

Liza's editing career spans twenty years and has seen her work on everything from feature length documentaries and independent films to music videos and television work for most major terrestrial and satellite channels. It was her work on the 2008, feature-length documentary "Of Time and the City" - shown at the Cannes Film Festival and winner of the New York Film Critics best documentary award which brought her to worldwide attention. Other credits as an editor include "A Very Sicilian Justice" (Aljazeera), "Accrington Stanley...Exactly" (TV Series Documentary) and "Naked Science" (TV Series - 3 Episodes).



Industry Talks

Wed 20th September 1pm - 4.45pm

Our host is Neil Dougan, a University Lecturer and Assistant Teaching Professor at Bolton University Neil was an RTS award-winning Series Producer & Senior Producer/Director for BBC, ITV, Channel 4 and Sky with 24 years experience in British network television. Neil produced and directed: long-form documentaries; drama/docs; theme nights; comedy sketches; ob docs; archive and magazine programmes.



1:00pm "VOOR" by Douwe Dijkstra 11:39 mins

From the perspectives of a selection of diverse viewers this documentary short explores the peculiar ritual of watching film. How is the medium experienced by people with sensory impairments, strong religious beliefs, or love sickness? A story about moving images and their audience.

1:12pm "White Riot: London" by Rubikah Shah 09:00 mins
Screening followed by keynote and audience Q & A

"White Riot: London" is one of many collaborations between director Rubikah Shah and producer Ed Gibbs. The experimental music documentary explores how a generation united against the Neo-Nazi National Front in 1970's Britain through a punk fanzine "Temporary Hoarding", with black and white communities coming together through popular culture at a terrifying time of turmoil and division. Disquietingly similar to the issues facing us now in 2017, the short documentary explores Britain in 1977 as the country finds itself divided by immigration tensions.

1:45pm "Mustapha the Weaver" by Sam Lardner 09:36 mins
Official Selection Undergraduate Film (followed by short Q & A)

In the Moroccan city of Sefrou there were once 274 weavers but now only four remain. "Mustapha the Weaver" invites people to step inside the walls of an old city and meet a craftsman who embodies the life and soul of Morocco. Mustapha's skill as an artisan may be dying out as the younger generations look to seek better paid jobs.



2:00pm A conversation on Documentary with Aaquil Ahmed and Paul Sapin

Aaquil Ahmed former head of religion at the BBC and Channel 4 will be talking about his work with the channels on programming as a commissioning editor, producer and television executive. Now a professor of the University of Bolton his high-profile TV projects include Panorama, Everyman and BBC news specials such as "The Funeral of Diana, Princess of Wales." He is also responsible for award winning programmes such as "Saving Africa's Witch Children", "The Qur'an", "Inside the Mind of a Suicide Bomber", and "Christianity: A History."

Internationally acclaimed producer / director Paul Sapin will join Bolton Film Festival to speak on his award winning documentaries. Emmy Award nominated Paul will be

discussing his latest production 'A Very Sicilian Justice' which recently won "Best Documentary" at Manchester International Film Festival. The film commissioned by Al Jazeera follows Sicilian judge Antonino Di Matteo, the chief prosecutor in the Mafia court case which was described by the media as Italy's 'Trial of the Century'. Paul will also talk about his extensive journey and progression as a film-maker directing and producing films including "Justice", "The Spice Trail", "Fault Lines", "Vanilla and Saffron", "An Islamic History of Europe", "Rageh Inside Iran", "Everyman" and many more in a career in television that has spanned thirty years.



3:00pm In conversation - Chris Lunt (writer) and Jason Wingard (director)

Screenwriter Chris Lunt will be speaking about his journey into the TV industry, revealing insights into the development and realisation of some of his work including PREY which won him two BAFTA's and two RTS nominations, and also saw him named one of the BAFTA "Break through BRIT's of 2014". He will be speaking about his latest work "The Devils" a ten part series based on the book "I Diavoli" by Guido Maria Brera. Working alongside writer Michael A. Walker the series is commissioned by Lux Vide / Sky Italia and scheduled for worldwide release soon.



Jason Wingard is a multi-award-winning director based in Manchester. Accolades have included Best Animation, Best Drama and Audience Awards at Exposures Film Festival, the People's Choice Award at Virgin Media Shorts 2010, the Grand Prize Virgin Media Shorts 2011. "Going To Mecca", his BFI-funded short film, played at Palm Springs, LSFF and LA Comedy Festival. In 2014, he produced 'How to Disappear Completely' for Creative England's iShorts scheme which won the Youth Award at Aesthetica. His first feature film 'In Another Life' is currently playing the festival circuit and his second 'Eaten By Lions' is in post production.



3:45pm "The Silent Child" (20 mins)
followed by Q & A with Director Chris Overton, writer/actress Rachel Shenton and Bolton born producer Julie Foy

Inspired by real life events. The Silent Child film tells the story of a profoundly deaf child born to hearing parents and the unequivocal power of communication. The director Chris Overton, the writer Rachel Shenton (actress from Hollyoaks and Holby City) and Bolton born producer Julie Foy will be joining BFF to screen the film and to discuss its making.

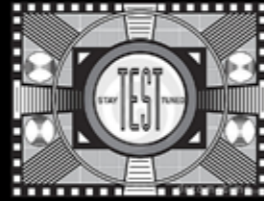


4:20pm Screening: "The Family Portrait"
(15 mins) Followed by Q & A with director Kelly Holmes

"Family Portrait" is a short film about life, death, and duty. It's a gothic Victorian drama about death portrait photography, but it's also a family drama about taking responsibility. The intense and dark screenplay by Nils Gustenhofen was shot on location at Pollock house in Glasgow and supported by Screen Academy Scotland, Creative SkillSet Film Academy and Edinburgh University.

Community Shorts

Wed 20th September 5:00pm - 6:00pm



"Men in Sheds"
Directed by Ed Pink

Social isolation and suicide rates especially in older men are very high in the local and wider community. There is also a lack of social activities in the local area which isolated men and people with physical and mental illnesses can get involved with. Men in Sheds project has been established to provide practical hands on social sessions five days per week.



"Cocaine - Bobby's Story"
Directed by Gino Evans

A Short film created and produced by Mr One Million exploring cocaine addiction. Mr One Million is a social enterprise that delivers arts and media projects with unemployed young people from Bolton.

"Three Sisters Community Garden"
Directed by Zach Greenleaf

Zachary Greenleaf, a young Mi'gmaq from Gesgapegia in Quebec, Canada, tries to reintroduce the "Three Sisters" (the traditional white corn, squash and beans used in native gardens) in his own community with the help of others around him.



"Fathers Tools"
Directed by Heather Condo

In honor of his father, Stephen continues the production of traditional Native Indian baskets of Canada. He thus finds peace in his studio, in connection with the man who taught him the work.



"See What I See"
Directed by Robbie Nash

A short documentary starring New Openings Self Advocacy Group explaining the importance of accessible information for people with learning difficulties, the systems that are in place and the "do's and don'ts" of dealing with vulnerable adults.



"Scooterboys"
Directed by Hannah Hull

The Bolton Roadrunners originally formed in June 1970 and still meets today. In this documentary they discuss the founding principles of the Mod movement, and how it is still a core part of their lives forty seven years on. This film was created by Hannah Hull and Bobby Williams as part of the One Thousand Homes: An Artist Residency on the Johnson Fold Estate in Bolton.



"Fallen Angels"
Directed by Kathryn Berry

Fallen Angels Dance Theatre was established specifically to support those in recovery from addiction as they explore, through dance and movement, personal and emotional issues in a bid to transform their lives.



"Addiction"
Directed by Nicolay Armando

Dramatic Action is a community group based in Bolton. The group are a diverse group of people including asylum seekers, homeless, those with learning /mental health disabilities and those who had/ have suffered with addiction. The group decided they wanted to create a short film to help other people who may be involved in addiction whether it be gambling, drugs or alcohol. They worked with Nicolay from Bolton University to create a personal encounter of their true experiences not only from the addicts point of view but from family members and friends.

MY FIRST JOB IN FILM

As you will no doubt know production assistants/runners are at the bottom of the pile when it comes to job hierarchies. If you've just graduated and found yourself working as a runner be prepared to work some very long days for very little money. We teamed up with My First Job in Film and asked them for some top tips on how to stand out as a runner - the first step on your career ladder.

If you don't understand, ask

Being a runner means you're new to the world of film-making, it's better to ask if uncertain and complete the task correctly. ADs will mind though if you waste time doing something else because you have misunderstood or made an assumption.

Write instructions down.

The physical act of writing instructions down will imprint the job in your mind, and let the person know that you have understood and shall be actioning their request.

Always be ready

Listen to conversations from senior crew members on the production channel (don't be tempted to click over to the private channel), be prepared to move or lend a hand when the crew are setting up or breaking down the set-up.

Turn off your phone as you get to set

Don't forget to turn it on again if sent on an errand. Make sure your phone is off, not on silent or vibrate as it can mess with the audio if the Sound Department are using radio mics.

Get a P.A kit.

Most PA's who have worked on a variety of jobs carry a basic kit with them in the back of their car, some carry a pouch for pens, notebook, roll of camera/gaffer tape, cable ties and a multitool. Having a belt in your kit would also be useful, you can be forgiven if you leave the house at four in the morning wearing clothes you cannot attach your walkie to. Keep one in the back of the car just in case.

Learn how to wrap a cable.

If you are unsure how to wrap a cable correctly ask the camera trainee/assistant, or a member of the Lighting or Sound Department. Make sure you have been asked to help coil cables first - and please, please don't use your elbow to wrap the cable around.



On the set of "Nimmer"
Screening Wed 20th at 8pm



Behind the scenes of "The Attendant"
Screening Wed 20th at 8pm

Stay out of any on-set politics

When shoots go wrong, someone, or a department always seems to take the flack. This can be because the HoD isn't particularly pleasant, or they are consistently running behind due to staff/overload etc. So, while everyone is waiting around it often leads to gossip, whatever you do don't embroil yourself in it. Indiscreet words spoken in front of a producer who is standing behind you do not go down well at all. Extricate yourself from the conversation and get on with your jobs, when you are just starting out you will need to use your eyes and ears before you use your mouth.

Learn names

More importantly, learn what the owners of those names do. Know the job titles and their nicknames. This is where your coffee runs come in handy: you'll be connecting names and faces, and if you're lucky a few people learn yours too.

Be busy - always

The truth is no one likes to see a junior member of production sitting down whilst other people are working. Even if it's a break, you should be providing drinks and passing around the biscuits (or fruit bars depending what type of shoot you're on. Always ask if you can help but also take the initiative when it comes to making work for yourself. If in doubt tidy something up, or rearrange the craft services/snack table.

Be friendly and approachable

We can't stress this enough. When you finally get on set it might not be what you expected, working on a set is a grind, and there is very little glamour to be seen - despite many people thinking otherwise. If you start to complain, or in any way show negativity, you won't be hired again. By week six everyone will be exhausted and slightly irritable, anyone would be working six day weeks, fourteen hours a day. The key to professional is not letting that show; especially when you are starting out as you will need to tread very carefully. So when approached by an AD to add yet another task to your list ten minutes before the wrap, smile, write it down, share a joke and get it done.

Insider View

Adrian Barber (Festival Director), "If your aiming to enter your film into a short film festival then "Keep it short!" It's a fine balance what you take out, but the aim of every film-maker should be to cut out whatever is self indulgent. That should be the case even if it means cutting your best friend out of "that scene you wished you'd never put into your film". Be brutal - cut whatever feels wrong, it doesn't matter if it took you all morning to get the shot, if it doesn't work in the edit then loose it. Screen your films to strangers, not family or friends, often strangers will be bolder and tell you where it's not working. If a viewer reaches for a brew, a cigarette, or at worst starts checking their phone that should tell you that your losing them. If they ask you a question about the film, you need to ask yourself what would happen if you were not there to answer it?"



On the set of "Cautionary Tales"
screening on Thursday 21st



On the set of "Cautionary Tales"
screening on Thursday 21st

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MY FIRST JOB IN
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Student Shorts

Wed 20th September 6:30pm - 7:30pm

"To the Moon" 01:42 mins

Directed by Rhea Hanlon, Philip McDowell, Ryan Beatty and Gianni Francesco De Giuseppe

In this short collaborative animation by students at University of Ulster the film-makers describe their work as a visual representation of emotion. There is a sense of ambiguity to the narrative, underlining a major theme, Death. This is a story of a long life and a lasting journey to a man's dream and the realization of it.

University of Ulster



"Epilation" 02:00 mins

Directed by Liam Springthorpe

On the cusp of a romantic evening Wendy makes a startling discovery. She hasn't shaved her legs. Suddenly her date is at the front door and while her mother stalls, she escapes upstairs to deal with the unwanted body hair. Finding a distinct lack of razors in the bathroom disaster strikes again and again as she becomes more and more desperate.

UCLAN Preston



"The Tale of Little Red" 04:57mins

Directed by Ash Podda

A girl enters a mystical and magical world upon reading a book, little does she know however, this book is no regular book. Inspired by The Grimm Brothers - "Red Riding Hood"

Kendal College



"CANDY" 03:37mins

Directed by Beth Stokes

A non-fiction short following drag queen Candy Fierce, promoting a message of self-love and body positivity; defying social expectations and traditional norms surrounding body image.

Staffordshire University



"The Awakening" 03:46

Directed by Rosemarie Nelson

This is the story Blake who lives through a bunch of different experiences over the course of a week whilst trying to live an ordinary life. But when he realizes what is truly is, what really happened to him a week ago, he accepts himself and is "awoken".

UCLAN Preston



"Phill" 05:10 mins

Directed by Shervin Shirazian (Bolton University)

A short film about the strange dimension Phill finds himself within. Reflections on self identity, fashion, the soul and life choices are all themes that run through this quirky, colourful and illuminating film.



"Fade to Grey" 06:53 mins

Directed by Nick Butterworth

An office worker wakes up to a series of unlucky events, bouncing from one bad situation to another the film's central character Tommy is blinded by his own misfortune.

UTC Media City



"Stalemate" 00:10:58 mins

Directed by Kieran Stringfellow (Falmouth University)

As Christmas comes to an end, Liz the head of a small distant family attempts to recover what has been a cheerless holiday with a good old board game. However what was meant to be a night of family fun soon turns into all out war.



"The Gentleman" 07:18mins

Directed by Hannah Bowler and Liam Lyall

The Gentleman follows an older man spending a lot of time keeping the countryside around his home clean. On his daily walks he witnesses people dropping litter and disrespecting the area



"Adventures of Lucy" 14:40 mins

Directed by Teddy Valentovich

In order to defeat the dark manifestation of her cancer, a young girl must use the power of imagination to overcome her fears.

California State University Long Beach



"Light Sight" 07:34 mins

Directed by Seyed M. Tabatabaei

M.E., the imprisoned character in a room is attracted to a hanging light and tries to catch it. But the room itself becomes an obstacle in his way.

Tehran University of Art





"Best of the Fest (Pt 1)"

Wed 20th Sept 8:00pm - 9.45pm



"The Attendant"

Directed by Oliver Cullen & Jake Cullen

Starring Rob James-Collier (Downton Abbey) and Isy Suttie (Peep Show), The Attendant tells the story of Alex, a hapless and hopeless romantic, who has worked the graveyard shift of an isolated petrol station, longer than he cares to remember.

The time spent on his own, fighting against boredom, has forced Alex to seek out new and increasingly elaborate ways of entertaining himself; all the while longing for just one, meaningful, human interaction.

UK Short



"Green Screen Gringo"

Directed by Douwe Dijkstra

Behind a green screen, a foreigner finds his way in an enchanting and yet turbulent - Brazil. Where the streets are a stage for politics, art and affection, a gringo can only watch. The result is a mixtape-portrait on modern day Brazil seen through the eyes of the visitor.

Experimental



"How Mr & Mrs Gock saved the Kumara"

Directed by Felicity Morgan-Rhind

When New Zealand gave two young Chinese refugees citizenship in the 1940's they found an unlikely way to return the gift - by saving the almighty kumara. Fay and Joe Gock fell in love in 1950's New Zealand. And it seems that nothing, even the fact that owning land was illegal for the Chinese at this time could stop these two from becoming the largest kumara growers in New Zealand.

International Documentary



"Annie Waits"

Directed by Marnie Paxton-Harris (UK)

We've all waited for 'the one'. The one who catches our eye, the one who keeps our interest, the one who won't expect us to trudge down that conventional path. Annie Waits tells the story of lust and disappointment, as a twenty-something waits for her adult life to begin....

Comedy



"Broken - The Womens Prison at Hoheneck"

Volker Schlect & Alexander Lahl (Germany)

Based on interviews with former prisoners, this animated documentary provides a glimpse into the most notorious women's prison in East Germany. A film about political imprisonment, forced labour, and enormous profits on both sides of the Iron Curtain.

Animation / Documentary



"Nimmer"

Directed by Lieven Vanhove (Belgium)

The fragile world of a couple is torn apart by a turbulent storm on the coast, as the land crumbles around them Orville is seperated from his love. Meanwhile, she sends him her sadness through birds in this VFX extravaganza.

International Short Feature

"TWAT"

Directed by Antony Morris (UK)

An adaptation of a poem by the great Dr. John Cooper Clarke. A volatile couple argue across the course of a night out.



"Partner"

Directed by Giorgini Antoine (France)

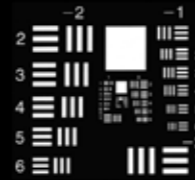
Today, Tony is supposed to audition for a drama school. But Steven, his best friend and reading partner, hasn't showed up.

International Short



Animation

Wed 21st September 5:15pm - 6:15pm



"Spring Jam"
Directed by Ned Wenlock

A young stag, lacking impressive antlers, knows he needs to improvise sweet music if he's to have any chance during the mating season.

(New Zealand)



"Pencil Case"
Directed by Magdalena Pilecka

Pencil Case is a history of feeling different and the consequences of standing up to this feeling. We meet our protagonist when he decides to cross the boundaries of his everyday loneliness, and to finally be among people, which turns out to be a ride between happiness and madness. We face a rather surrealistic confrontation with the belief that someone else's crayons (that, surprisingly, are not meant for drawing) are better.

(Poland)

"Au Revoir Balthazar"
Directed by Rafael Sommerhalder

A scarecrow, a storm, a broken leg. The resonant sound of a sea shell. Leaving forever.

(Switzerland)



"Perched"
Directed by Liam Harris

Hamish Fint, a crotchety old man used to a life of seclusion inside his submarine balanced precariously atop a mountain, struggles to maintain equilibrium when an unwelcome visiting seagull rocks his world.

(England)



"Where have all the flowers gone"
Directed by Sin-Hong Chan

Piggy is pursuing a dream, working in a big factory in reality all his efforts seem powerless. The concept is inspired by the classic movies of the silent era, Metropolis and Modern Times. The title is coming from the song 'Where have all the flowers gone?'. The original song uses the disappearing flowers, telling of disappearing people in the war. Here it is a symbol of piggy losing his mind in the city.

(Hong Kong)



"Sore Eyes For Infinity"
Directed by Elli Vourinen

An optician grows tired of seeing the world too clearly and her inevitable involvement in its defects.

(Finland)



"Bald Future"
Directed by Paul Cabon

Being a bald man sucks. Knowing you'll become one is worse.

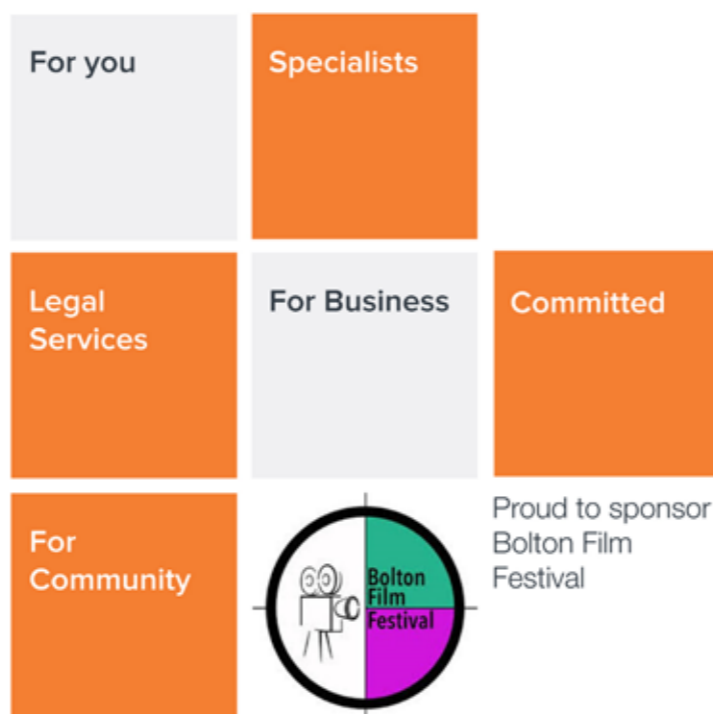
(France)





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From buying a house to selling a business, we pride ourselves on providing clear and straightforward advice. Our commitment to excellence means we don't cut corners, we tick all the boxes and we always go that extra mile.



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"Best of the Fest (Pt 2)"

Thurs 21st September 7.00pm - 9.45pm
 Interval at 8.10pm for pasties and a tippie

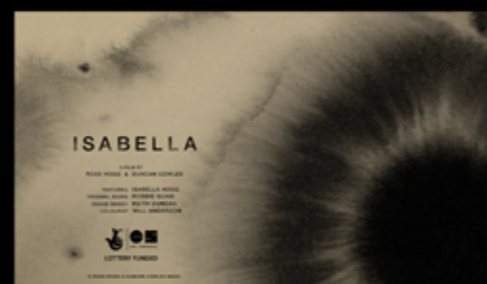


"Cautionary Tales"

Directed by Chris Barrett & Luke Taylor

A bizarre incident as a young boy left Aaron with an unusual facial disfigurement that has plagued him all his life. Isolated and vulnerable, Aaron seeks comfort in the friendship and understanding of an unexpected group of outcasts.

(UK Short)



"Isabella"

Directed by Duncan Cowles

At the age of ninety-one, Isabella struggles to remember... As she becomes ever fragile and her short-term memory begins to falter, her past is explored, questioned and brought to life. Isabella takes us on a disjointed yet immersive journey that provides us not only a window into her life, but shows us a mirror to reflect upon our own. How much of your life do you need to remember to remain yourself?

(Experimental/Documentary)

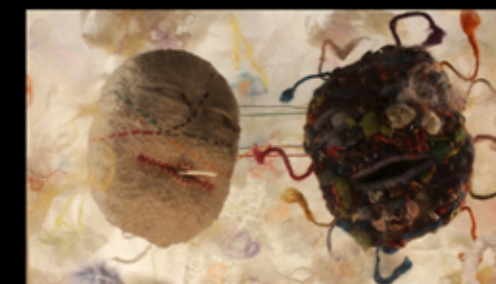
"A Love Story"

Directed by Anushka Naanayakkara

2017 BAFTA winning animation.

A powerful tale about love faced with darkness.

(Animation)



"The Aria of Babyface Cauliflower Brown"

Directed by Tim Grant

An independent professional wrestler philosophizes on the craft, narrative, and possible meaning found in what some consider a fake sport.

(Documentary)





"Anxiety - Ellis's Story"

Directed by Gino Evans

A short film created and produced by Mr One Million exploring anxiety. Mr One Million is a social enterprise that delivers arts and media projects with unemployed young people from Bolton.

(Community)



"Bad News"

Directed by Alicia MacDonald

When some people are unable to switch off from work, it can be fairly noticeable. We see one particular group of friends who are suffering more than most and hear how it has even started affecting one of the group's home life.

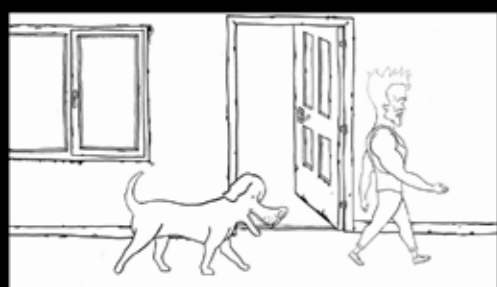
(Comedy)

"Rabbit Punch"

Directed by Keith Farrell

Rabbit Punch is a redemption tale, based on a true story. Job is a teenage boy who has come to Manchester, UK as a refugee from the Congo. However, his search for a new life has come at a price. Brutalised at home and bullied at school, his only answer is to lash out at the world around him.

(North West Short)



"Dog Shat Dan"

Directed by Luke Bourne

Short animation about a NHS training day that took an unexpected turn for the worse. Created by Luke Bourne who describes himself "a mature student studying Film and Animation at Birmingham City University after having enough of my crappy day job."

(Student Undergraduate)

"Gina"

Directed by Wendell Cooke / Jeremy Macey

A cruel genetic illness has left Gina bed-bound for years; sound and light cause her body further damage, and she is unable to talk. Through the film, Gina expresses her belief that she should have the right to choose if, and when, and how she might die.

(Documentary)



"Unlock"

Directed by Nirmalan Nadarajah

In the war-torn interiors of Sri Lanka a few young boys are just looking for a peaceful place to play their imaginary game of combat, naïve to the continuing danger surrounding them.

(International)



Interval : 8.10pm - 8.30pm

Interval for Bolton's famous Carrs Pasties (complimentary) either meat & potato or cheese & potato.



"Edith"

Directed by Christian Cooke

Since his wife, Edith's, death four months ago, Jake has fallen into a life of drinking and isolation. He believes that Edith is haunting him and now she appears in his local pub.

Starring Peter Mullen (Trainspotting, War Horse) and Michelle Fairley (Game of Thrones, Harry Potter)

(UK Short)



"The Kidnapping of Richard Franco"

Directed by Dan Clark

A young married couple try to solve their relationship problems by kidnapping a has been movie star. Starring Daniel Rigby (Eric and Ernie, Black Mirror, Flowers), Kelly Wenham (Merlin, Double Date) and Patrick Baladi (The Office, Stella).

(UK Short / Comedy)



"The Devil is in the Detail"

Directed by Fabien Gorgeart

1859. Alexina, a trainee school teacher in the young girl's convent where she grew up, suffers from unbearable pains. Secret rendezvous with her closest friend Henriette are only discovered when the doctor is called and the truth becomes apparent of their relationship.

(International Short)





**Presentation of the "Kudos" awards
9.30pm - 9.45pm
Thursday 21st September**

**Best International Short
Best UK Short
Best North West Short
Best Documentary
Best Comedy
Best Animation
Best Student Film (M.A/Postgraduate)
Best Student Film (B.A/Undergraduate)
Best Student Film (Sixth Form/College)
Best Film For Change
Best Community Short**

Time permitting there will be a short Q & A with the film-makers representing their films at Bolton Film Festival

After Party

Our after party will be downstairs in The Vaults from 9.45pm - until late



www.biggerpicturearts.com

**Bolton Film Festival was brought to you
by the Bigger Picture Arts community group.**

The Bigger Picture Arts aims to bring communities together through the creative arts and creative industries to express a shared voice and vision, bringing new skills and training to a broad and diverse spectrum of the public. Engaging people to develop their individual artistic skills as well as using those same skills in a collective form to create community artwork in public areas.

The Bigger Picture executes this work by working in partnership with many agencies including schools, local authorities, colleges, youth and community centres, local businesses and universities across the North West.

If you are interested in supporting The Bigger Picture Arts either in the form of a donation, as a volunteer or a practitioner please contact Adrian Barber at biggerpicturearts@yahoo.co.uk

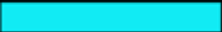
www.biggerpicturearts.com

Special thanks to

Zoe the "Jyoti" for all her hard work, positive energy and constant encouragement
To all the judges for volunteering their time and expertise
Jamie and his team for opening the doors and inviting us to the Light Cinema Bolton
Jon Lord for picking me up and giving me that much needed boost when I was at my lowest point
Paul Blinkhorn for his support from start to finish
Steve and Gary at GAS for their work on the BFF Animation and music
Joseph Richardson for his photography : <https://www.josephianphotography.co.uk/>
Robbie Nash for manning the video cameras
All the volunteers - we could not do this without you
and of course to our sponsors who made this financially possible.



www.boltonfilmfestival.com



Presented by the Bigger Picture Arts

