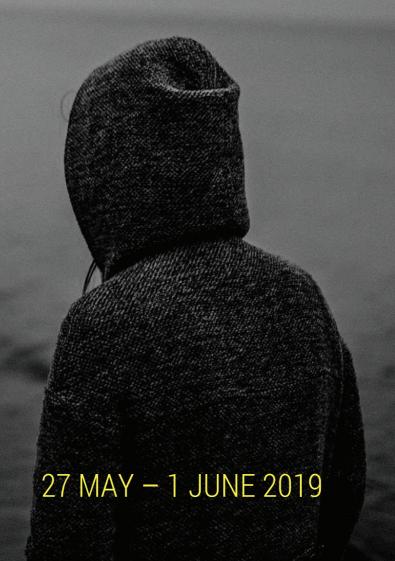
# CHELTENHAM INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL



## THANK YOU TO OUR SUPPORTERS















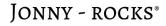
























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## **HELLO & WELCOME**

Welcome to the launch of the Cheltenham International Film Festival – a jamboree of film screenings, events, receptions and more.

The Festival seeks to provide Cheltenham with an alternative to the commercial cinema experience. Throughout the Festival we shall screen independent films – features and shorts – from emerging filmmakers who have achieved critical acclaim all over the world. We shall also pay tribute to great filmmakers, every year nominating one director; in 2019, we are proud to honour and welcome Mike Leigh to our festival. And, we shall showcase filmmaking talent from other countries near and far; every year selecting a different country. In 2019, we are delighted to screen the best of Polish cinema and welcome highly-regarded directors, cinematographers and actors from Poland to Cheltenham. We hope you enjoy our Festival.

**Leslie Montgomery Sheldon**Founder / Festival Director

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Thanks to the FilmBath team – Philip Raby, Chris Baker,
Alastair Goolden & Holly Tarquini – for all their help and support.
All information correct at time of going to print.



Simon Pegg Honorary Patron, Cheltenham International Film Festival

Registered Office: Midway House, Staverton Technology Park, Herrick Way, Cheltenham, Glos, GL51 6TQ. Info@cheltfilm.com. Box Office: 01242 522852.

# **HOW TO BOOK**

The Festival programme is available online at cheltfilm.com

### **ONLINE BOOKING:**

Available 24/7 at **cheltfilm.com**There is a transaction fee of 75p per booking.

### **IN PERSON:**

Tickets for screenings at Cineworld, Parabola Arts Centre and The Princess Hall, Cheltenham Ladies' College may be purchased from the Cheltenham Playhouse Box Office during opening hours from 10:00-16:00, Tuesday-Friday, 10:00-14:30 on Saturdays. Cheltenham Playhouse is located at 47-53 Bath Road, Cheltenham GL53 7HG. (No booking fee).

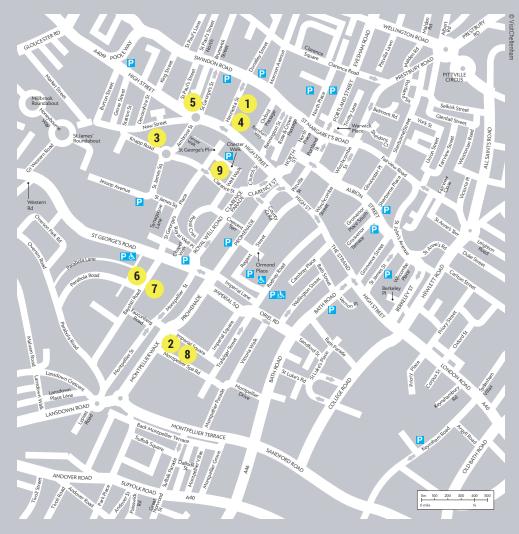
## **BY TELEPHONE:**

The Cheltenham Playhouse Box Office is open for telephone callers to book tickets for screenings at Cineworld, Parabola Arts Centre and The Princess Hall, Cheltenham Ladies' College on **01242 522852** from 10:00-16:00 Tuesday—Friday, 10:00-14:30 on Saturdays. (No booking fee).

Tickets purchased from the Cheltenham Playhouse Box Office in advance will be available for collection on the door at each specific event unless you request for them to be posted to you (75p charge applies). Any remaining tickets will also be available on the door (cash only).

Refunds will only be given in the event that a screening is cancelled.

## **VENUES**



#### 1 THE BOTANIST

The Brewery Quarter, Cheltenham GL50 4FA

#### 2 BRASSERIE BLANC

Promenade, Cheltenham GL50 1NN

#### 3 CHAPEL ARTS

☑ @CheltenhamIFF

Knapp Road, Cheltenham GL50 3QQ

#### 4 CINEWORLD

The Brewery Quarter, Cheltenham GL50 4EF

#### 5 FROG & FIDDLE

313-315 High Street, Cheltenham GL50 3HW

#### 6 PARABOLA ARTS CENTRE

10 Parabola Road, Cheltenham GL 50 3AA

#### 7 THE PRINCESS HALL

Cheltenham Ladies' College Bayshill Road, Cheltenham GL50 3EP

#### 8 THE OUEENS HOTEL

The Promenade, Cheltenham GL50 1NN

#### 9 THE WILSON

Clarence Street, Cheltenham GL50 3JT

## **HEADS UP**

### **POLISH FILM SEASON**

The history of cinema in Poland is almost as long as the history of cinematography. Roman Polanski, Andrzej Wajda, Krzysztof Zanussi, Krzysztof Kieślowski, Agnieszka Holland and more recently Pawel Pawlikowski, director of *Ida* and *Cold War*, head a list of great Polish directors; many of whom are graduates of the world famous National Film School in Łódź, Poland.

Going back more than a century the first cinema in Poland was founded in Łódź in 1899. By the end of the next decade there were cinemas in almost every major town in Poland. Moving on a few years, Poland had its first film star, Pola Negri, the femme fatale of silent cinema. Hollywood can also trace its roots to Poland, where many of the Hollywood film moguls came from: Samuel Goldwyn and Louis B Mayer, MGM, Jack Warner, Warner Brothers and Joseph Schenck, 20th Century Fox, Polish Jews who came to the new world and created a dream empire.

Today, Poland is giving the world a new wave of directors, who have achieved critical acclaim and who will make their mark for years to come. We are proud to introduce to the Festival the work of Jan Komasa, Lukasz Grzegorzek and Malgorzata Szumowksa, one of the growing number of women directors from Poland making their mark.

### **WOMEN IN FILM**

The Cheltenham International Film Festival announces its Women in Film season sponsored by the Cheltenham Film Society – one of the oldest film societies in the country.

Women in Film is a theme the Festival will continue to expand as women filmmakers continue to make films of significance that deserve a wide audience.

In 2019 and with the welcome support of the Cheltenham Film Society, we have the pleasure to screen women directors who are emerging as new talents, who have won praise and critical acclaim and, in the case of celebrated theatre director **Josie Rourke**, who have scaled the heights in other areas of entertainment. This year's Women in Film include: *Capernaum*, the Oscar-nominated film, directed by

Nadine Labaki, who also picked up the Jury Prize at Cannes Film Festival; Happy as Lazzaro, which won Best Screenplay at Cannes, directed by Alice Rohrwacher; Polina, a French-Russian co-production directed by Angelin Preljocaj and Valérie Müller; the Polish film, Mug, winner of the Jury Grand Prix at Berlin International Film Festival; and Mary Queen of Scots, director Josie Rourke.

#### F-RATED

The F-Rating originated by FilmBath at the 2014 Bath Film Festival and really grabbed public attention. There are now over 80 cinemas and film festivals in the UK and around the world which F-Rate their programme, including the Barbican, Raindance Festival and the Irish Film Institute.

The F-Rating applies to all films which are directed and/or written by women. If in addition to both of these the film also prominently features women in their own right, then it is Triple F-Rated – the gold standard.



Look out for the logo throughout the programme.

Box Office 01242 522852

### TRIBUTE TO MIKE LEIGH





Every year, the Festival will acknowledge and pay tribute to great filmmakers. In 2019 we are proud to honour Mike Leigh by featuring two of his early films, selected by their director himself, who will attend the screenings.

Mike Leigh is a director with a highly distinctive voice. Starting in television and stage drama, he moved confidently into feature films, producing a string of comedies, contemporary dramas and, more recently, period pieces.



Leigh (born 1943) has always had his own unique process: actors improvise in character for days or weeks before he writes a shooting script. In this way he has secured the loyalty of the cream of the British acting profession.

The director will be introducing two of his earliest films: Bleak Moments, based on a stage play of 1970; and the comedy Nuts in May, produced for BBC TV in 1976. In the latter part of the 1980s Leigh turned decisively to cinema, with a series of mainly domestic comedies and dramas, including High Hopes, Life is Sweet, Secrets & Lies, Naked and Happy-Go-Lucky. More recently he has embraced history and biography, with Topsy-Turvy (about Gilbert and Sullivan), Mr Turner (about the painter JMW Turner) and Peterloo (about the Peterloo Massacre of 1819).

## FILM SCHEDULE

**Monday 27 May** 

Sometimes Always Never Cineworld. 18:00. page 12

**Monday 27 May** 

Capernaum plus Held For A Moment Parabola Arts Centre. 19:30. page 12

**Tuesday 28 May** 

Maria By Callas Cineworld. 10:00. page 13

**Tuesday 28 May** 

Love Sonia plus 125/HR Parabola Arts Centre. 14:00. page 13

**Tuesday 28 May** 

Arctic plus TRIEB Parabola Arts Centre. 16:45. page 14

**Tuesday 28 May** 

Mandy Frog & Fiddle. 18:00. page 14

**Tuesday 28 May** 

Mug Parabola Arts Centre. 19:00. page 14

**Tuesday 28 May** 

Ring Frog & Fiddle. 20:30. page 15

**Tuesday 28 May** 

Mid90s plus Ready To Go Parabola Arts Centre. 21:00. page 15

**Wednesday 29 May** 

Hotel Mumbai Cineworld. 09:50. page 16

**Wednesday 29 May** 

Maiden plus Haircut Parabola Arts Centre. 13:30. page 16

**Wednesday 29 May** 

Nuts in May Parabola Arts Centre. 16:00. page 17

**Wednesday 29 May** 

Bleak Moments Parabola Arts Centre. 18:30. page 17

**Wednesday 29 May** 

The Guilty plus Parting Gifts Parabola Arts Centre. 21:15. page 18

**Thursday 30 May** 

Another Day of Life Cineworld. 10:30. page 18

**Thursday 30 May** 

Happy as Lazzaro plus The Traffic Separating Device Parabola Arts Centre. 14:30. page 18

**Thursday 30 May** 

Mary Queen of Scots The Princess Hall, CLC. 17:00. page 19

**Thursday 30 May** 

Sorry To Bother You Frog & Fiddle. 18:00. page 20

**Thursday 30 May** 

Suicide Room Parabola Arts Centre. 18:00. page 20

**Thursday 30 May** 

Blindspotting Frog & Fiddle. 20:30. page 21

**Thursday 30 May** 

Styx plus Eli Parabola Arts Centre. 21:00. page 21

Friday 31 May

A Coach's Daughter Cineworld. 09:50. page 22

Friday 31 May

Girl plus Victor Parabola Arts Centre. 14:00. page 22

Friday 31 May

Shakespeare's Heroes & Villains with Steven Berkoff Q&A Chapel Arts. 16:30. page 23

Friday 31 May

We the Animals plus My Dad Is Orange Parabola Arts Centre. 16:30. page 23

Friday 31 May

Foxtrot plus Flat Out Lie Parabola Arts Centre. 18:45. page 24

Friday 31 May

Rudeboy: The Story of Trojan Records The Wilson. 19:00. page 24

Friday 31 May

It Must Schwing! - The Blue Note Story The Wilson. 21:00. page 24

Friday 31 May

Werewolf Parabola Arts Centre. 21:30. page 25

**Saturday 1 June** 

Woman at War Cineworld. 10:00. page 25

Saturday 1 June

Birds of Passage plus Southbound Parabola Arts Centre. 14:00. page 26

**Saturday 1 June** 

Vox Lux plus Idol Parabola Arts Centre. 16:50. page 27

**Saturday 1 June** 

Polina plus Dearly Departed The Wilson. 19:00. page 27

## **SHORT FILMS**

A selection of the films will be showing a short film before the main screening, these short films have been selected to complement the main feature.



Monday 27 May, 19:30

**HELD FOR A MOMENT** screening with CAPERNAUM

Director: Edward Japp, UK, 2019, 22m

An affluent young couple blissfully anticipate the arrival of their first child, but after the birth it becomes apparent that something is terribly wrong.



Tuesday 28 May, 14:00

**125/HR** screening with LOVE SONIA Director: Andrew Owens, UK, 2018, 10m

A Polish male prostitute living in London talks candidly to camera about his high-earning gay lifestyle. Contains strong material.



#### Tuesday 28 May, 16:45

TRIEB screening with ARCTIC

Director: Diego Hauenstein, Switzerland, 2016, 3m

A couple trekking in a remote rainy landscape seem to draw close, but something comes between them.



#### Tuesday 28 May, 21:00

**READY TO GO** screening with MID90S

Director: Lynda Reiss, UK, 2018, 10m

A man decides to euthanise his cat and on the way to the vet describes to a stranger how a friend made preparations for when he was ready to go.



#### Wednesday 29 May, 13:30

HAIRCUT screening with MAIDEN

Director: Hanxiong Bo, US, 2018, 11m

A stationery, impassive camera observes the stages of a relationship, from inception to demise, delineated through a series of haircuts.



#### Wednesday 29 May, 21:15

**PARTING GIFTS** screening with THE GUILTY

Director: David Yorke, UK, 2018, 10m

A couple in the process of breaking up meet for the last time and briefly re-live some of the things, good and bad, that characterised their relationship.



#### Thursday 30 May, 14:30

THE TRAFFIC SEPARATING DEVICE screening with HAPPY AS LAZZARO

Director: Johan Palmgren, Sweden, 2018, 14m

Onlookers gather as hapless drivers ignore signs and chance their luck over a death-trap (for cars) bus gate in a Swedish town. Much incredulity and dismay ensue.



#### Thursday 30 May, 21:00

**ELI** screening with STYX

Director: Colin Gerrard, UK, 2017, 11m

A diverse group of people in a GP's surgery waiting room relate their tragic life stories, prompted by a bigoted woman's outburst against foreigners.



#### Friday 31 May, 14:00

**VICTOR** screening with GIRL

Director: Sam Tipper, UK, 2018, 4m

A Henry-style hoover fears he'll be superseded by an app-controlled super vacuum, but when it turns roque he seizes his chance.



#### Friday 31 May, 16:30

MY DAD IS ORANGE screening with WE THE ANIMALS

Director: Elle Ralph, UK, 2019, 7m

A young woman describes her experience of synaesthesia against a backdrop of swirling clouds of colour.



#### Friday 31 May, 18:45

**FLAT OUT LIE** screening with FOXTROT

Director: Ciaran Page, UK, 2018, 8m

Something of an evangelist, Daz Nez is a believer in a flat earth who presents his convictions with good humour and enthusiastically-performed music.



#### Saturday 1 June, 14:00

**SOUTHBOUND** screening with BIRDS OF PASSAGE

Director: Sam Barrow, UK, 2018, 9m

Two escaped but shackled desperados, one a naïve young gunslinger with pistols, the other a grizzled and wily old hand, make a deal to head for Mexico.



#### Saturday 1 June, 16:50

IDOL screening with VOX LUX

Director: Luisa Taraz, Germany, 2018, 8.5m

A tortured artist attempts to create his masterpiece while his muse and high-powered dealers jockey in line for the anticipated riches to come from its exhibition and sale.



#### Saturday 1 June, 19:00

**DEARLY DEPARTED** screening with POLINA

Director: Elise Martin, UK, 2018, 14m

In this mini-musical, a young woman gets ready to meet her new beau, but her preparations draw sung comment from the group of shady individuals with whom she seems to share her rambling old house.



We have given some films categories which are highlighted below.

**New Direction:** critically-acclaimed films by emerging directors from all over the world in competition.

**Tribute:** the festival will pay tribute to celebrated

directors by screening their early works. In our inaugural year, the Festival will pay tribute to Mike Leigh.

**Country Focus:** every year, the festival will showcase the work of emerging directors from a guest country. In 2019, our country in focus is Poland.

Look out for the category next to the film date on pages 12-27.

#### Monday 27 May Preview / New Direction

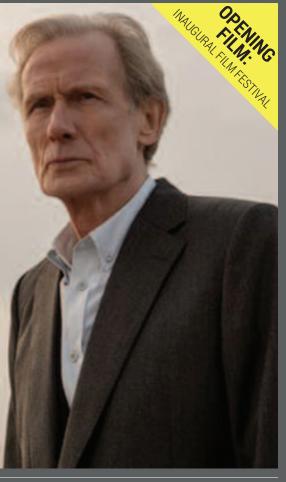
#### **SOMETIMES ALWAYS NEVER**

Scrabble-obsessed tailor turned sleuth seeks missing son.

Director: Carl Hunter Cast: Bill Nighy, Sam Riley, Alice Lowe, Jenny Agutter, Alexei Sayle UK, 2018, 91m, 12A Cineworld. 18:00, £15

Alan (Bill Nighy) has two passions: making suits and playing Scrabble. He had two sons, but Michael went missing 10 years ago after a particularly acrimonious Scrabble session. Alan and his other son, Peter, are on a quest to find Michael, and suspect a mysterious online Scrabble master holds the key to Michael's fate. Carl Hunter's debut film, based on Frank Cottrell Boyce's powerfully tragicomic script, boasts a wonderful supporting cast and explores family rifts alongside sharp wordplay and even sharper gentlemen's attire.

Followed by a **Q&A** with director **Carl Hunter**. Preview screening courtesy of **Parkland Entertainment**.





Monday 27 May

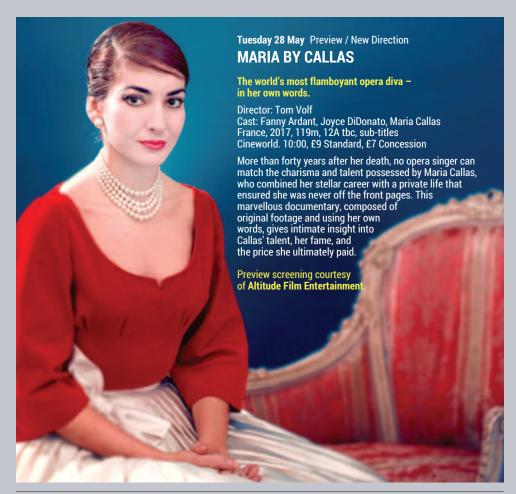
CAPERNAUM

Immersive portrayal of refugee lives in Beirut.

Director: Nadine Labaki Cast: Zain Al Rafeea, Yordanos Shiferaw, Nadine Labaki Lebanon, France, US, 2018, 126m, 15, sub-titles Parabola Arts Centre. 19:30, £11 Standard, £9 Concession

Having fled his abusive family, 12-year-old Zain is alone on the streets of Beirut. Taken in by single mother Rahil, he forms a strong bond with her baby Jonas, but the relative idyll is cut short when Rahil is jailed and Zain is faced with supporting Jonas. Inspired by realife experiences of its young cast, the film's events are bookended by an astonishing framing device: Zain's attempt to sue his parents for giving him life. Nadine Labaki's Oscarnominated third film won the Jury Award at Cannes.

plus **HELD FOR A MOMENT** Edward Japp, UK, 2019



Tuesday 28 May New Direction

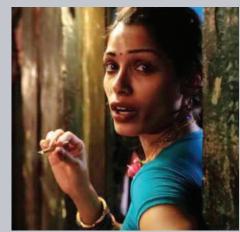
#### **LOVE SONIA**

#### Nightmarish look at the world of global sex trafficking.

Director: Tabrez Noorani Cast: Mrunal Thakur, Richa Chadha, Freida Pinto, Demi Moore India, 2018, 122m, 18, sub-titles Parabola Arts Centre. 14:00, £11 Standard, £9 Concession

The disturbing tale of a young woman's awakening to the darker realities of life when she attempts to rescue her sister, whom their father sells to a Mumbai sex trafficking ring. Mrunal Thakur gives an astonishing performance as Sonia, whose mission distances her from both her geographical and metaphorical home. Shipped first to Hong Kong then to the USA, she loses track of sister Preeti and is swallowed up by her terrifying predicament. A film that casts light on a truly terrible aspect of modern life.

plus 125/HR Andrew Owens, UK, 2018





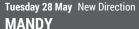
#### Tuesday 28 May New Direction **ARCTIC**

#### Mads Mikkelsen in a chilling case of survival.

Director: Joe Penna Cast: Mads Mikkelsen, Maria Thelma Smáradóttir Iceland, 2018, 98m, 12A, sub-titles Parabola Arts Centre. 16:45, £11 Standard, £9 Concession

A spare, stripped-to-the-essentials survival thriller, with a touching humanism at its heart, *Arctic* is the brilliant debut feature of a You-Tuber known for his short sci-fi films. Mikkelsen, in great form, is a pilot downed in the Arctic and pondering his options. When a further accident introduces a second human being into the isolation, his hand is forced. We never know his name, we only stare aghast at his predicament, spellbound by his super-human struggle to overcome.

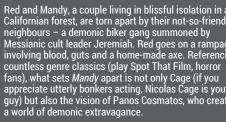
plus TRIEB Diego Hauenstein, Switzerland, 2016



#### Nicolas Cage at his mad best.

**Director: Panos Cosmatos** Cast: Nicolas Cage, Andrea Riseborough, Linus Roache US, Belgium, United Kingdom, 2018, 121m, 18 Frog & Fiddle. 18:00, £6 or £10 for 2 films on same night

Red and Mandy, a couple living in blissful isolation in a Californian forest, are torn apart by their not-so-friendly neighbours – a demonic biker gang summoned by Messianic cult leader Jeremiah. Red goes on a rampage involving blood, guts and a home-made axe. Referencing countless genre classics (play Spot That Film, horror fans), what sets *Mandy* apart is not only Cage (if you appreciate utterly bonkers acting, Nicolas Cage is your guy) but also the vision of Panos Cosmatos, who creates





Tuesday 28 May Country Focus - Poland MUG

#### Dark, satirical winner of Silver Bear Berlin FF.

Director: Malgorzata Szumowska Cast: Mateusz Kosciukiewicz, Malgorzata Gorol Poland, 2018, 91m, 15, sub-titles Parabola Arts Centre. 19:00, £11 Standard, £9 Concession

Jacek is a scruffy, heavy-metal-loving no-hoper, with a girlfriend and a family, some of whom love him. He is working on an enormous statue of Jesus when a horrific accident requires facial surgery, making him all but unrecognisable and unable to speak. The medical procedure is unique and he becomes a celebrity of sorts, but his personal isolation increases. The response of his community, family and girlfriend is what drives this extraordinary Polish comedy/drama: "Absurd... Vicious... Hilarious..." - The Upcoming.

#### **Tuesday 28 May**

#### RING

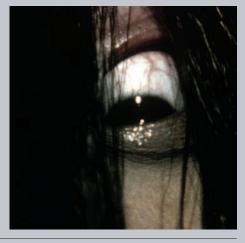
#### Twenty years since this classic revolutionised horror.

Director: Hideo Nakata Cast: Nanako Matsushima, Miki Nakatani, Yûko Takeuchi, Hitomi Satô

Japan, 1998, 96m, 15, sub-titles

Frog & Fiddle. 20:30, £6 or £10 for 2 films on same night

In 1999 horror audiences experienced new thresholds of dread and unease at screenings of an unexpectedly successful Japanese film, adapted from a cult novel and its director's second feature. Ring's very effective premise is that even modern technology is not immune to the ancient power of a curse. It sent shivers down the spine back then, and in tonight's screening of the 20th anniversary 4K restoration the shivers will be all the more tangible.



#### Tuesday 28 May

#### MID90S

#### Hollywood star Jonah Hill's directorial debut about LA street life.

Director: Jonah Hill

Cast: Sunny Suljic, Katherine Waterston, Lucas Hedges

US, 2018, 85m, 15

Parabola Arts Centre, 21:00, £11 Standard, £9 Concession

Mid-1990s Los Angeles: 13-yr-old Stevie is living with his too-young mum and a bullying older brother. So, when a gang of skateboarding kids takes him into their community, his life is complete - so he thinks. Erstwhile actor Hill conjures an unsentimental portrayal of place and time from his own script, and throws in a to-die-for soundtrack for good measure, in a coming-of-age film that is fresh and totally engaging.

plus READY TO GO Lynda Reiss, UK, 2018



#### BRASSERIE BLANC

Open every day Monday to Friday 10am to 11pm Saturday 11am to 11pm Sunday 10am to 10pm

THE PROMENADE CHELTENHAM GL50 1NN 01242 266 800







## Wednesday 29 May New Direction MAIDEN

Tracy Edwards and her all female crew were not given much chance.

Director: Alex Holmes Cast: Tracy Edwards UK, 2018, 97m, 12A

Parabola Arts Centre. 13:30, £11 Standard, £9 Concession

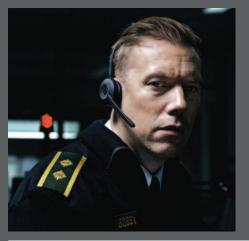
This story of Tracy Edwards's participation in the 1990 Whitbread Yacht Race is awe-inspiring. Tracy and her all-female crew were treated as a joke by the media – until they started to show that they were as good as their male counterparts. Using original footage of the race itself, this is an amazing account of the triumph of the underdog over adversity and prejudice.

☑ @CheltenhamIFF

plus HAIRCUT Hanxiong Bo, US, 2018







Wednesday 29 May New Direction THE GUILTY

Unfolding in real time, this is real edge-of-your-seat stuff.

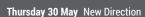
Director: Gustav Möller

Cast: Jakob Cedergren, Jessica Dinnage, Omar Shargawi Denmark, 2018, 85m, 15, sub-titles

Parabola Arts Centre. 21:15, £11 Standard, £9 Concession

Sometimes the simplest plots are the best. A policeman in a call centre is called by a woman who's been kidnapped. He is her only lifeline to the world, and he must try to help her by mobilising his colleagues from his relatively helpless position at his desk. As the situation unfolds his certainty about what is happening at the other end of the phone line starts to break down. This nail-biting Danish thriller is short, sharp and utterly compelling.

plus PARTING GIFTS David Yorke, UK, 2018



#### ANOTHER DAY OF LIFE

Brilliant animation of Polish journalist's coverage of the Angolan civil war.

Directors: Raúl de la Fuente, Damian Nenow Cast: Miroslaw Haniszewski, Vergil J. Smith, Tomasz Zietek Poland, Spain, Germany, Belgium, 2018, 85m, 12A tbc Cineworld. 10:30, £9 Standard, £7 Concession

Based on Ryszard Kapuściński's book of the same name, this mostly animated account of the time he spent in Angola in 1975 recreates the visceral experience of a hardened war correspondent coping with the daily chaos and terror of war. Kapuściński is right in the heart of darkness and

Preview screening courtesy of **Altitude Film Entertainment**.

as his situation intensifies he begins to question the ethics of his profession, a doubt that will eventually lead to his abandoning it to concentrate on writing.

#### Thursday 30 May New Direction **HAPPY AS LAZZARO**

#### Modern-day fable asks: What's the good of being good?

Director: Alice Rohrwacher Cast: Adriano Tardiolo, Sergi López, Alba Rohrwacher

Italy, Switzerland, France, 2018, 125m, 12A, sub-titles Parabola Arts Centre. 14:30, £11 Standard, £9 Concession

F Set in a timeless present, Rohrwacher's extraordinary third feature combines realism, fantasy and social commentary. Benign young Lazzaro is exploited by the aristocratic Marchesa who owns the land on which he lives and works. When the aristocrat's son Tancredi takes a shine to him, suggesting that he and Lazzaro might be brothers and enrolling him in a scheme to stage Tancredi's 'kidnapping', the status quo begins to disintegrate.

plus THE TRAFFIC SEPARATING DEVICE Johan Palmgren, Sweden, 2018



### **JOSIE ROURKE**

Josie Rourke is a leading theatre director who this year made her cinematic debut with Mary Queen of Scots.

Born and brought up in Greater Manchester, Rourke (born 1976) attended Cambridge University, where she became the first woman to direct the annual Footlights pantomime.

On graduation, she worked nights as a secretary in a City bank while working in theatre during the day. She subsequently secured leading roles at Sheffield Theatres and the Royal Court Theatre before arriving at the Donmar Warehouse in 2011 and becoming the first female artistic director of a major London theatre.

Work on *Mary Queen of Scots* began in 2007. When she came on board, Rourke broke new ground by introducing the concept of 'colour-blind casting' to cinema, with important roles for Adrian Lester and Gemma Chan.

☑ @CheltenhamIFF





EB



Thursday 30 May New Direction

#### **SORRY TO BOTHER YOU**

Wildly inventive sci-fi satire.

Director: Boots Riley Cast: LaKeith Stanfield, Tessa Thompson US. 2018. 111m. 15 Frog & Fiddle. 18:00, £6 or £10 for 2 on the same night

Cassius Green is living with his girlfriend Detroit when he gets a job as a telesales operative. His initial underperformance is turned on its head by the discovery of his 'white voice' which propels him to unexpected success, but at an orgy for 'power callers' Cash inadvertently discovers the mind-blowing truth behind the company's banal facade. Deftly blending social commentary with out-there sci-fi wackiness, Boots Riley's debut is a bolt of illuminating satire.



Thursday 30 May New Direction

#### BLINDSPOTTING

Tense, witty social commentary in this hip-hop comedy-drama.

Director: Carlos López Estrada Cast: Daveed Diggs. Rafael Casal, Janina Gavankar US, 2018, 95m, 15

Frog & Fiddle. 20:30, £6 or £10 for 2 films on same night

Collin and Miles are old buddies, totally at ease despite an obvious difference - Collin is black and Miles white. That's unfortunate in their hometown of Oakland, once a multiracial mixed-income community in which tensions grow as white gentrification increases. Miles feels the need to buy a gun and Collin witnesses a white cop shoot a black man in cold blood. Suddenly it seems that Collin will be lucky to complete the final three days of his yearlong parole period without violation.



Thursday 30 May New Direction

#### STYX

Taut moral thriller where cool self-reliance meets others' desperation.

Director: Wolfgang Fischer Cast: Susanne Wolff, Gedion Oduor Wekesa, Felicity Babao Germany, Austria, 2018, 94m, 12A, sub-titles Parabola Arts Centre, 21:00, £11 Standard, £9 Concession

Lone sailor Rieke - Western, professional, privileged is faced with a moral and practical dilemma when she comes across a drifting boat full of migrants. Instructed not to help, she realises she risks disaster if she tries. Questioning the extent of personal responsibility, Styx's camera places the viewer at Rieke's shoulder, implicating us in the crisis and creating an overwhelming sense of dread and tension. An utterly gripping cinema experience.

plus ELI Colin Gerrard, UK, 2017



#### INTO FILM PROGRAMMING WORKSHOP Thursday 30th May, 18.00-19.30 The Wilson

Cheltenham International Film Festival is delighted to be joining forces with film education charity, Into Film, to deliver a workshop on film programming for young people aged 16-19 at The Wilson.

Participants will learn about careers in cinema exhibition, how films are programmed and what goes into running a film festival. No previous programming experience is necessary, just a love of film!



THE EVENT IS FREE. FOR INFORMATION ON HOW TO BOOK, PLEASE VISIT WWW.CHELTFILM.COM

cheltfilm.com Box Office 01242 522852 cheltfilm.com

#### A COACH'S DAUGHTER

Sensitive road movie about an ambitious father and his independent teenage daughter.

Director: Lukasz Grzegorzek Cast: Jacek Braciak, Karolina Bruchnicka, Bartlomiej Kowalski Poland, 2018, 93m, 15 tbc, sub-titles Cineworld. 09:50. £9 Standard. £7 Concession

Wiktoria is a talented young tennis player, travelling the circuit with her father as she has done for some years. He is a demanding coach and parent but they are inseparable it might seem, until a young man of her age – and an older woman of his – come their way and their close bond begins to unravel. The film's treatment of perennial issues is done in a bittersweet, funny and intelligent way, and the ultimate implication is that, rather than being about an overly pushy parent and an excessively dutiful daughter, both have outgrown their bond and are desperate for freedom.





Friday 31 May New Direction GIRL

True story of young ballerina born a boy.

Director: Lukas Dhont Cast: Victor Polster, Arieh Worthalter, Oliver Bodart Belgium, Netherlands, 2018, 109m, 15, sub-titles Parabola Arts Centre. 14:00, £11 Standard, £9 Concession

In this brilliantly conceived and executed film, we follow a young person previously identified as male who now sees herself as female and is at the start of undergoing transition. She wants to be a ballerina, which means training with other girls, who do not accept her. *Girl* won the Sutherland Trophy for Best First Feature at the 2018 London Film Festival, but has attracted controversy, primarily for casting a cis-gendered actor (Victor Polster is male) in a trans role. See this marvellous film and decide where you stand.

Box Office 01242 522852

plus VICTOR Sam Tipper, UK, 2018



Friday 31 May Preview / New Direction

#### **WE THE ANIMALS**

Haunting coming-of-age, dysfunctional family drama.

Director: Jeremiah Zagar Cast: Evan Rosado, Josiah Gabriel, Isaiah Kristian US, 2018, 93m, 15

Parabola Arts Centre. 16:30, £11 Standard, £9 Concession

In documentarian Zagar's award-winning debut feature three brothers live with constantly warring parents. The two eldest harbour conventional dreams and seem destined to emulate their father. Jonah, the youngest, protected by his mother, lives a fantasy life within which he struggles to create his own reality. This beautifully lyrical film, compared to *Moonlight* and to the work of Terence Malick, skilfully mixes coming-of-age realism with escapism.

Preview screening courtesy of Eureka Entertainment.

plus MY DAD IS ORANGE Elle Ralph, UK, 2019





Friday 31 May New Direction **FOXTROT** 

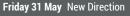
Acclaimed and reviled Israeli war film.

Director: Samuel Maoz

Cast: Lior Ashkenazi, Sarah Adler, Yonaton Shiray Israel, Switzerland, 2017, 113m, 15, sub-titles Parabola Arts Centre. 18:45, £11 Standard, £9 Concession

Again inspired by his experiences in the Israeli army, Samuel Maoz opens and closes his second film in Tel Aviv where a couple receive terrible news. The central act moves to Checkpoint Foxtrot on Israel's northern border, where four young conscripts pass the time by goofing off and casually tormenting Palestinians. This outline doesn't reveal the sudden drama, twists and subtlety of this brilliant film, which aims to understand rather than to judge and grips from start to finish.

plus FLAT OUT LIE Ciaran Page, UK, 2018



#### **RUDEBOY: THE STORY OF TROJAN RECORDS**

Iconic music of the legendary label celebrated.

Director: Nicolas Jack Davies Cast: Andre Dwayne, Marcia Griffiths, Toots Hibbert UK. 2018. 85m. 12A tbc The Wilson. 19:00, £9 Standard, £7 Concession

Trojan Records, named after one of the original 'sound youth culture which had an appetite for imported West numerous chart hits and had established a credibility for the legacy of this iconic label and features many of its

systems', emerged in 1968 to cater to a vibrant mixed race Indian sounds. Before its demise in 1975 Trojan had scored the music which went on to influence the Two-Tone artists, bands such as The Clash, and many since. *Rudeboy* explores roster of artists, as well as the great music they created.



Friday 31 May

#### IT MUST SCHWING! - THE BLUE NOTE STORY

Terrific doc about the pioneering jazz label.

Director: Eric Friedler Cast: Herbie Hancock, Quincy Jones, Sonny Rollins Germany, 2018, 115m, 12A tbc, sub-titles The Wilson. 21:00, £9 Standard, £7 Concession

Fleeing Hitler, Alfred Lion and Francis Wolff arrived in New York to discover a wealth of largely unappreciated music created by black musicians. Fascinated by these sophisticated sounds, they established Blue Note Records in 1939 to champion the likes of Miles Davis, Sonny Rollins and John Coltrane, and went on to create one of the greatest recorded music legacies of the 20th century. This amazing film traces the story of the label also responsible for some of the most schwinging record cover art in history.

Friday 31 May

Preview / Country Focus - Poland / New Direction

#### WEREWOLF

**Psychological horror, Audience Award Winner** at Tallinn Black Nights FF.

Director: Adrian Panek

Cast: Kamil Polnisiak, Nicolas Przygoda, Sonia Mietielica Poland, Netherlands, Germany, 88m, 15 tbc Parabola Arts Centre, 21:30, £11 Standard, £9 Concession

Some children are abandoned in a crumbling forest mansion after liberation from a Nazi labour camp. With only a tenuous grasp of the dangers all around (including a pack of roque camp guard dogs), survival is a lottery. A dazzling slice of allegorical horror by writerdirector Adrian Panek, whose second feature owes much to Lord of The Flies and European fairy tale traditions.

Preview screening courtesy of Eureka Entertainment.



Saturday 1 June New Direction

#### **WOMAN AT WAR**

Comedy-drama-thriller with one woman vs the authorities.

Director: Benedikt Erlingsson Cast: Halldóra Geirharðsdóttir, Jóhann Sigurðarson Iceland, 2018, 110m, 12A, sub-titles Cineworld. 10:00, £9 Standard, £7 Concession

A lone woman strides across a breath-taking Icelandic landscape with bow and arrow to declare war on the smelting plant that is damaging the local environment. A pain in the neck to the authorities, who are courting Chinese investment, this warrior is complex and sympathetic – as much choir mistress and adoptive mother as renegade. A visually stunning movie which manages to avoid tub-thumping, but gets its message across all the more effectively by presenting a heroine who has pressing everyday concerns as well as a single-minded conviction in her actions.





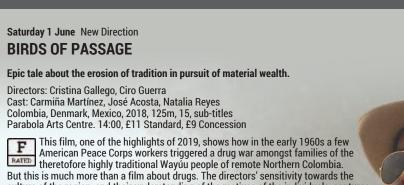
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But this is much more than a time about drugs. The directors sensitivity towars the culture of the region, and their understanding of the motives of the indigenous people, as well as exposing without demonising the delusions of grandeur that overcome those suddenly drenched in money. Vital, thrilling filmmaking.

plus SOUTHBOUND Sam Barrow, UK, 2018



### MANOR BY LAKE

WHERE HERITAGE ROCKS

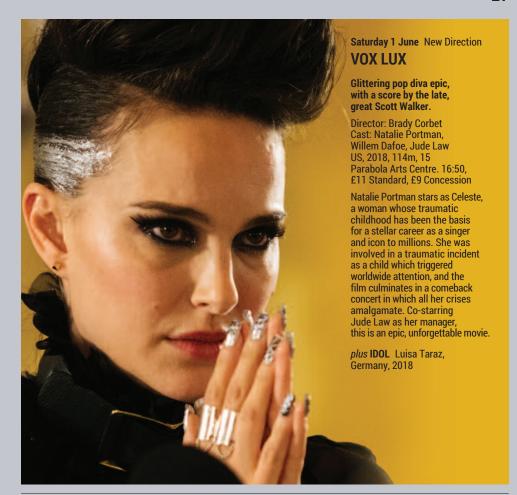
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## Saturday 1 June New Direction POLINA

Gifted Bolshoi ballerina falls for French dancer, leading to self-discovery.

Directors: Valérie Müller, Angelin Preljocaj Cast: Anastasia Shevtsova, Juliette Binoche France, 2016, 108m, 12A, sub-titles The Wilson. 19:00, £9 Standard, £7 Concession

Polina concentrates on the eponymous heroine, who is determined to be a Bolshoi dancer. Her parents are devastated when she announces her imminent departure for France to discover a more visceral and grounded form of dance under the stern tutelage of Juliette Binoche. The film is superbly choreographed by husband and wife team Valérie Müller and Angelin Preljocaj.

plus DEARLY DEPARTED Elise Martin, UK, 2018



28 29

## **MASTERCLASSES**

The Cheltenham International Film Festival is committed to supporting young people looking to film as a career. We have struck up a partnership with the University of the West of England and look forward to working with them to encourage young people studying film. To this end, we have structured two days of film masterclasses, panels, and Q&A sessions. These events are not confined, to students of film and emerging filmmakers; they are open to members of the public who wish to get a 'peek' behind the scenes to see how the magic of film is created. Everyone is welcome.

Below and on page 29 is a list of the sessions which are all taken by highly-respected figures in the film industry.

**PRICES £5** per session on each day, **£15** for all sessions on each day, **£10** (student, concession and under 25) for all sessions on each day.

Book tickets at cheltfilm.com

#### THE ART AND CRAFT OF FILMMAKING

Tuesday 28 May, Chapel Arts

10:00-10:45

#### MAKE UP/SPECIAL FX WITH MAX VAN DE BANKS

SFX make up is an integral part of film making; making an actor look older or younger; it provides reality to a scene, adding abrasions, wounds or deformities.

And, it can playfully add horror to a horror film. We have planned a special session with a leading SFX make up artist, Max Van De Banks, who will create the grotesque in front of your eyes and pass on tips and secrets of the profession. Most recently, Max has worked on The Durrells and the soon-to-be screened Chernobyl.

11:00-11:45

### COSTUME DESIGN WITH CAROLINE HARRIS

Award-winning costume designer Caroline Harris has 25 years of experience working in film and in television. Among others, she is known for *Repo Men, Legend, The Awakening* and more recently *Hunter Killer,* starring Oscar winner Gary Oldman and Gerard Butler. Her television credits include the Netflix scif drama *Black Mirror: Bandersnatch* and the TV series *Mars* and *Hard Sun* with Jim Sturgess. Caroline is a great supporter of young, emerging filmmakers and it is good to welcome her to the Festival.

12:15-13:00

## COMPOSING MUSIC FOR FILM WITH LAURA ROSSI

Laura Rossi is a composer for film, TV and concert works. Credits include *The Battle of the Somme, London to Brighton, Song for Marion, Silent Shakespeare, The Cottage, Prisoners Wives* and *The Eichmann Show.* In 2016/17 she was artistic director for Somme100 FILM, a project coordinating 100 live orchestral performances of her score for the 1916 film, *The Battle of the Somme.* The project was attended by an audience of over 37,000 people, involved over 4,200 musicians, and was televised live on BBC1 with the BBC Symphony Orchestra.

13:15-14:15

## THE ART OF CINEMATOGRAPHY WITH PIOTR SOBOCIŃSKI JR

A graduate of the world-famous Film, Television and Theatre School, in Łódź, Piotr comes from a long line of great cinematographers, starting with his grandfather, Witold Sobociński, who worked with Roman Polanski and Andrzej Wajda. He is also the son of Piotr Sobociński, who, among others was Director of Photography on Kieślowski's *Three Colours: Red.* Piotr Jr carries on the tradition and is recognised as one of Poland's leading cinematographers — always in demand and working with Poland's best directors on films such as *Gods* (*Bogowie*) one of the country's most successful films in recent years.

#### THE BUSINESS OF FILM PRODUCTION

Thursday 30 May, The Queens Hotel

10:30-11:15

#### BFI FUNDING – NETWORK FUNDING WITH ALICE CABANAS, TALENT EXECUTIVE SOUTH WEST, BFI NETWORK

Alice Cabanas looks after and encourages local talent in the South West region of England. Her experience with young filmmakers goes back to her time with the British Council's Film Team, where she was Film Programme Manager, responsible for short film and new talent. Prior to that, Alice headed up communications, strategy and development for the Encounters Festival in Bristol where she ran year-round training and development initiatives for new and emerging filmmakers. Alice has also been mentor for new talent schemes within the creative sector, including Guiding Lights Scheme.

11:30-12:30

### INDEPENDENT FILM PRODUCTION WITH GAIL EGAN, PRODUCER – POTBOILER PRODUCTIONS

Gail Egan established Potboiler Productions in 2000, one of the leading independent production companies in the UK, producing and executive producing over 20 films. Alongside Potboiler, Gail continues to collaborate with Mike Leigh's Thin Man Films, executive producing *Vera Drake, Happy-Go-Lucky, Another Year, Mr Turner* and most recently, *Peterloo*. Among others, Gail is known for producing *The Constant Gardener*, starring Ralph Fiennes and Rachel Weisz and *A Most Wanted Man*, starring Philip Seymour Hoffman. More recently, Potboiler has produced the eagerly awaited *The Boy Who Harnessed The Wind*, directed by the actor, Chiwetel Ejiofor, and *Yuli* about Carlos Acosta, the first black principal guest at the Royal Ballet.

11:30-12:30

# FILM FINANCE, SALES & DISTRIBUTION WITH PHIL HUNT, MANAGING DIRECTOR OF BANKSIDE FILMS. FOUNDER/MD HEAD GEAR FILMS

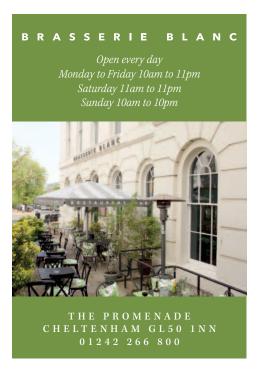
Getting your film financed is only the beginning. Next up is sales and distribution. Phil Hunt's companies have invested in over 50 films in the past decade and he continues to pour finance into films. Phil is a leading source of finance for producers and provider of international distribution through Bankside.

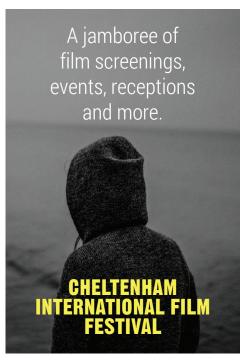
Most recently the company financed *Animals* which premiered at Sundance 2019 and *Papi Chulo*, which premiered at Toronto International Film Festival – both to praise and positive reviews. Phil is also a BAFTA voting member; mentor to National Film and Television producing students; regular speaker on the industry circuit.

12:45-13:30

#### WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT FILM FESTIVALS, WITH RICH WARREN, DIRECTOR, ENCOUNTERS FILM FESTIVAL

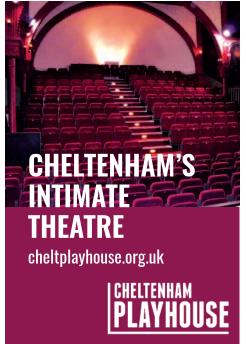
Rich Warren is Festival Director for Encounters Film Festival, the UK's leading short film, animation and virtual reality festival, based in Bristol, UK. The festival showcases and supports the progression of new and emerging talent in film and animation. Rich began working for the festival in 2008 but he also continues to support new and emerging talent with roles such as the Talent Scout for the National Film and Television School, UK. His role requires him to attend festivals across Europe and he spends hours of his life embedded in the short form searching for new talent and emerging trends.

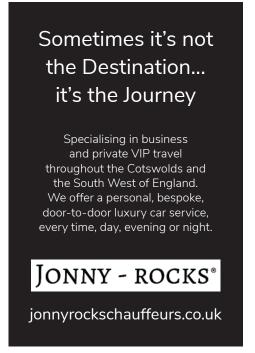


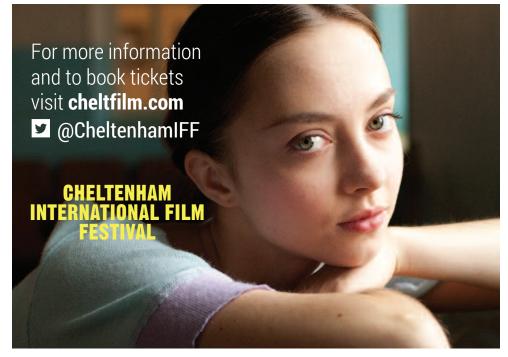














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