

CAMBRIDGE

FILM FESTIVAL 2026

22 October – 1 November

www.camfilmfest.com



I SEE BUILDINGS FALL LIKE LIGHTNING
Courtesy of Curzon Film

CAMBRIDGE
45TH
FESTIVAL

STUDIO
24



BFI FAN
BFI FILM AUDIENCE NETWORK

THE
NATIONAL
LOTTERY



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WELCOME

TO THE 45th CAMBRIDGE FILM FESTIVAL

What better reason to reflect on cinema's relationship to time than the Cambridge Film Festival's 45th anniversary?

Birthdays are an arbitrary count of time passing. Even if a year measures Earth's full circle around the Sun, we bestow symbolic value on dates because we need it. We need a reason to cheer, to toast, to look back at past achievements and to smile towards the future, and cinema offers us a beautiful way to do that, together, continuously.

At the heart of the Cambridge Film Festival has always been a desire to make the most special contemporary films shine. CFF45 is no different, whether period pieces or present-tense, this year's films tell the stories of the pasts that made us while we look firmly towards the future. And once again we celebrate and champion the work of women and non-binary filmmakers, who make up over 50% of this year's programme.

It's no surprise that history courses through our veins, and it animates the 24 frames per second projected on every cinema screen that has ever been. Perhaps this image can offer us some solace when we sigh with the realisation that history repeats itself – with wars, destruction, and regressive values taking hold. Cinema never asked to be our salvation, but we made it so nonetheless. It reminds us of what is possible when we come together: opening up new perspectives, starting conversations and giving us reasons to look forward with optimism. And that is what we celebrate today: 45 editions of the Cambridge Film Festival, where past, present and future meet in a warm-hearted embrace.

We wouldn't have made it to 45 years without our teams and staff, past and present, our incredible partners, trustees, funders, volunteers and, above all, you, our audience. Thank you for being part of the journey and our community. Here's to celebrating 45 years and to many more to come!

The Cambridge Film Festival Team

Join the conversation and follow Cambridge Film Festival #CFF45

Subscribe to our newsletter at camfilmfest.com to stay updated!

The Cambridge Film Festival is presented by the Cambridge Film Trust, a registered charity with a mission to foster and promote film culture and education for the benefit of people in Cambridge, the East of England and throughout the UK. This project is supported by the BFI Film Audience Network awarding funds from the National Lottery.



GUIDE

TO THE FESTIVAL

We're committed to making the Cambridge Film Festival a welcoming, inclusive and accessible space for everyone. Here's a quick guide to help you navigate and enjoy the Festival.

For the most up-to-date information on filmmaker Q&As, accessibility and content warnings, visit camfilmfest.com/guide, as some details are confirmed after the brochure is printed.

Screening times

Films will start promptly at the advertised times, without adverts or trailers beforehand.

Filmmaker Q&As

We're excited to host guests for Q&As after select screenings. Check our website for details.

Accessibility

We offer selected accessible screenings, including descriptive subtitles, BSL-interpreted intros and Q&As, as well as relaxed screenings for neurodivergent audiences.

All venues are wheelchair accessible.

Content guidance

We understand that films can affect people in different ways. Some films may contain themes or imagery that could be triggering. We provide age ratings for all films, as well as content and trigger warnings where necessary, while avoiding spoilers.

F-Rating

We are proud to support gender diversity and are committed to a 50/50 ratio of male to female and non-binary filmmakers across the entire Festival programme.

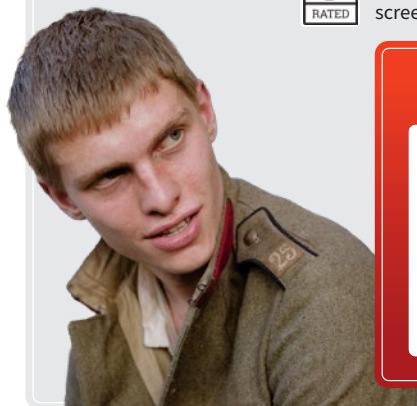
We also work in partnership with F-Rating, so look out for these icons:



F-Rating: Assigned to films directed and/or written by women.



Triple F-Rating: Assigned to films which have significant women on screen, as well as being directed and/or written by women.



Enjoy the Festival
& stay updated



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OPENING FILM

I SEE BUILDINGS FALL LIKE LIGHTNING

15

UK, FRANCE & USA 2026 109 MINS

DIRECTOR Clio Barnard

WITH Anthony Boyle, Joe Cole, Jay Lycurgo, Daryl McCormack, Lola Petticrew

PRINT SOURCE Curzon Film

“Home is a privilege,” says Patrick (Anthony Boyle) to his friend Rian (Joe Cole) in a monologue central to Clio Barnard’s mosaic portrait of friendship over time, encapsulating the message of *I See Buildings Fall Like Lightning*. We’re excited to open CFF 45 with a film so polyphonic and brave, adapted from the acclaimed novel of the same name by Keiran Goddard.

Barnard – who is also this year’s recipient of CFF’s Outstanding Contribution Award – follows up her Bradford Trilogy (*The Selfish Giant*, *The Arbor*, and *Ali & Ava*) with a Birmingham-set narrative, in which five friends grow up and grow apart in the wake of their council housing home being demolished. Joining Patrick and Rian are Oli (Jay Lycurgo), Conor (Daryl McCormack), and Patrick’s partner Shiv (Lola Petticrew), in the best British film of the year.

We are pleased to welcome Clio Barnard for an in-person Q&A on Opening Night.



CLOSING FILM

WILD HORSE NINE

CFF
15

UK, USA & CHILE 2026 118 MINS

DIRECTOR Martin McDonagh

WITH John Malkovich, Sam Rockwell, Steve Buscemi, Tom Waits, Parker Posey

PRINT SOURCE Searchlight Pictures

It is 1973 and Chile is experiencing a political revolution. Salvador Allende is the president, the first democratically elected socialist in Latin America, which has galvanised the South American nation.

American CIA agents Chris (John Malkovich) and Lee (Sam Rockwell) find themselves in the middle of it all, strategically dispatched by the bureau for a “special mission”, not before a quick detour to the scenic sights of Easter Island. There, dark personal secrets and political conspiracies begin to intertwine as the two eccentric agents have to deal with triple-crossings, paranoia and the existential angst that have become director Martin McDonagh’s trademark. John Malkovich’s unyielding central performance also won him the Best Actor Prize in Venice, and he really is at the peak of the hilarious nihilism Macdonagh revels in.





Dazzling and highly-anticipated, our Galas bring the biggest and brightest names to the silver screen. We're proud to show the new films by CFF favourites Andrew Haigh, Martin McDonagh, Jesse Eisenberg, Pawel Pawlikowski and Lukas Dhont coming in fresh from Venice and Toronto, together with this year's Palme d'Or Winner (*Fjord*), Cannes Jury Prize (*The Dreamed Adventure*), and more, including the indomitable Isabelle Huppert as a bloodthirsty, yet very gracious vampire countess.

HEADLINE GALA



SAT
24
20:00

SUN
25
18:00

A LONG WINTER

CFF
15

CANADA & UK 2026 117 MINS

DIRECTOR Andrew Haigh

WITH Fred Hechinger,
Ebon Moss-Bachrach,
Caitríona Balfe, Kit Connor,
D'Pharaoh Woon-A-Tai,
Martin Freeman

PRINT SOURCE MUBI

The voice behind *All of Us Strangers* (CFF43 Closing Film), Andrew Haigh adapts Colm Tóibín's eponymous short story into another introspective, emotional drama. Set in 1950s Colorado, *A Long Winter* follows Mike (Fred Hechinger), a young man on the cusp of adulthood whose life is upended by the disappearance of his mother, during the first blizzard of the season. As the search stretches from days into weeks, the onset of winter becomes inseparable from the family's slow reckoning with the possibility that she may never return. But are we ever truly alone in a search for our most loved one?



THE DREAMED ADVENTURE

CFF
15

DIE GETRÄUMTE ABENTEUER

GERMANY, FRANCE, BULGARIA

& AUSTRIA 2026 167 MINS

Bulgarian & German with English subtitles

DIRECTOR Valeska Grisebach

WITH Yana Radeva, Syuleyman Letifov

PRINT SOURCE The Match Factory

THU
29
20:20

SAT
31
15:55

From the director of *Western* comes this Cannes Jury Prize winner, a simmering thriller where a power struggle challenges the tight fist of the patriarchy. Set in rural Bulgaria, Valeska Grisebach's film puts its non-professional cast front and center, to untangle the web of violence gripping a small town. Local archaeologist Veska (a resplendent debut for former high school teacher Yana Radeva) is tasked with keeping the peace between opposing gangs, her even-keeled approach imprinted on the wrinkles of her chisled face. With the help of well-meaning friends (and foes), she is set to unearth the past, its secrets and violent repressions.



FRI
30
20:50

SAT
31
18:15

THE DEBUT

OFF
12A

USA 2026 105 MINS

DIRECTOR Jesse Eisenberg

WITH Julianne Moore,
Paul Giamatti, Halle Bailey,
Jesse Eisenberg,
Havana Rose Liu,
Bernadette Peters

PRINT SOURCE Lionsgate UK

Everyone is talking about Julianne Moore's astonishing performance as Mona, a meek, middle-aged housewife who auditions for a local musical production, despite her zero stage experience, in Jesse Eisenberg's follow-up to *A Real Pain*. The film boasts a brilliant Paul Giamatti as Jerry, the "biggest name in New Jersey community theatre." As he works to shake Mona out of her self-conscious shell, questions arise about where vision ends — and sadism begins. Meanwhile, as Mona comes to fully inhabit her character, she grows increasingly untethered from reality, climaxing on an astounding opening night.



MON
26
21:05

SUN
1
18:00

MINOTAUR

OFF
18

FRANCE, LATVIA & GERMANY
2026 141 MINS

Russian with English subtitles

DIRECTOR Andrey Zvyagintsev

WITH Iris Lebedeva, Dmitriy Mazurov,
Varvara Shmykova, Juris Zagars,
Anatoliy Belyi

PRINT SOURCE MUBI

Winner of the Grand Prix at Cannes Film Festival, Russian director-in-exile Andrey Zvyagintsev returns with an adaptation of Claude Chabrol's *The Unfaithful Wife*, reworked to reflect the systemic corruption in his native country amid Russia's full-scale invasion of Ukraine. *Minotaur* follows Gleb, a company director living in the suburbs with his nuclear family, who is pressured to create a draft quota sending some staff to the frontline. As he comes up with a sordid plan to avoid parting with his employees, Gleb discovers that his wife is cheating on him in this tense thriller.



WED
28
20:50

FRI
30
18:00

FJORD



**ROMANIA, FRANCE, DENMARK,
FINLAND & NORWAY 2026 146 MINS**

English, Romanian & Norwegian with
English subtitles

DIRECTOR Cristian Mungiu

WITH Sebastian Stan, Renate Reinsve,
Lisa Carlehed, Henrikke Lund-Olsen,
Vanessa Ceban

PRINT SOURCE Picturehouse Entertainment

What happens when religious norms contradict the social ones? This is the central question of *Fjord*, the Cannes Palme d'Or winner by Cristian Mungiu. He cleverly puts our contemporary biases under the microscope with the help of Mihai (Sebastian Stan) and Lisbet (Renate Reinsve), and their five children. The Gheorghius have only just moved to a small Norwegian town, but the crystal-clear waters of the surrounding fjords conceal the murky reality of how easily polarised our society is. A micro-cosmos of its own, *Fjord* asks the viewer to take a stand, or the stand, in one crucial courtroom scene.



FATHERLAND



FRI
23
20:30

**POLAND, GERMANY, ITALY & FRANCE
2026 82 MINS**

German, French, Russian & English with
English subtitles

DIRECTOR Paweł Pawlikowski

WITH Sandra Hüller, Hanns Zischler, August Diehl

PRINT SOURCE MUBI

The new offering from Oscar-winner Paweł Pawlikowski (*Ida*, *Cold War*) takes place in 1949, just as the novelist Thomas Mann returns to Germany from exile, having opposed Hitler's regime. Unfolding over the few days of a roadtrip from West to East Germany at the height of the Cold War, *Fatherland* circles around Mann (Hanns Zischler) and his children Erika (Sandra Hüller) and Klaus (August Diehl) in a spectral reflection on art during wartime.

**Join us for a special screening of *Fatherland* with
an expert panel discussion after the film.**



SAT
31
20:20

SUN
1
18:40

OFF
18

THE BLOOD COUNTESS

DIE BLUTGRÄFIN

AUSTRIA, LUXEMBOURG & GERMANY

2026 **118 MINS**

German, French & Russian
with English subtitles

DIRECTOR Ulrike Ottinger

WITH Isabelle Huppert, Birgit
Minichmayr, Thomas Schubert, Lars
Eidinger, André Jung

PRINT SOURCE Magnify

The Infamous Countess Erzsébet Báthory (Isabelle Huppert), her loyal maid and her wistful nephew Rudi Bubi bend time and space in their quest for a mystical tome that threatens the vampire realm. As they find themselves wandering from the historic sights of present-day Vienna and into Bohemia, a police inspector and enthusiastic vampirologists follow their trail, slowly realising just how much buffoonery hides behind their menacing gothic facade. As in her usual baroque campy style, legendary queer filmmaker Ulrike Ottinger intertwines belly laughs, eroticism and outrageous fashion choices in this delightfully spooky romp.



COWARD

15

TUE
27
20:50

WED
28
18:20

**BELGIUM, FRANCE
& NETHERLANDS** 2026 **127 MINS**

French & Dutch with English subtitles

DIRECTOR Lukas Dhont

WITH Emmanuel Macchia, Valentin Campagne,
Jonas Wertz, Boris Bouchat, Mathieu Carpentier,
Anaëlle Fournier, Mistral Guidotti, Jef Jacobs

PRINT SOURCE MUBI

After the heart-wrenching *Close*, writer-director Lukas Dhont takes us into the trenches of World War I, alongside his protagonist Pierre (Emmanuel Macchia) who would rather be anywhere but the army. Regimented bodies must know their place and unquestionable discipline reigns in the Belgian forces, but art still exists, in the face of Francis (Valentin Campagne) who directs vaudeville plays to boost the soldiers' morale. By blurring boundaries between the worlds of restrictions and freedom, *Coward* affirms that our concept of masculinity is frail, even when ossified.



SUN
25
20:30

TUE
27
18:35

I LOVE BOOSTERS

CFF
18

USA 2026 113 MINS

DIRECTOR Boots Riley

WITH Keke Palmer, Naomi Ackie, Taylour Paige, Poppy Liu, Eiza González, LaKeith Stanfield, Will Poulter, Don Cheadle

PRINT SOURCE Universal Pictures

Corvette (Keke Palmer), Mariah, and Sade are “boosters” who shoplift from trendy fashion chain Metro Designers and resell their items to make ends meet in the California capitalist dystopia of the Bay Area. Their antics are soon acknowledged by the nefarious visionary designer behind the brand, Christie Smith (Demi Moore), who ignites a pitched battle with the endearing outcasts in which the “integrity” of high fashion, worker conditions in Chinese factories, and global media discourse are all at stake. Boots Riley’s *(Sorry to Bother You)* sophomore feature pulls no punches as a gleefully wacky heist satire.

SURPRISE FILM

THU
29
21:10

From shocks to cheers, thrills to grumbles, the *Surprise Film* has garnered a range of reactions over the years!

Kept as a secret in the shadows until the evening of the screening, there is no telling what the night will bring. Whether it’s a dare from your mates or you want to experience a complete revelation, why not come and see for yourself?

2025 SURPRISE FILM: *Blue Moon*





INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL HIGHLIGHTS

As always, we've curated a delightful and daring selection from the Sundance, Berlinale and Cannes Film Festivals: a feast for the eyes of all cinephiles! This year, we present films that have left a mark already, led by the urgency of *American Doctor* and the reclamation of life in Aina Clotet's *Viva*, joined by emerging directors whose first and second features promise a long path of success. Meet tennis legend Billie Jean King and roam a labyrinth of wealth in the Philippines with our hand-picked discovery strand.



SAT
24
18:05

FRI
30
15:55

AMERICAN DOCTOR

USA, PALESTINE, MALAYSIA, QATAR & DENMARK 2026 93 MINS

English & Arabic with English subtitles

DIRECTOR Poh Si Teng

WITH Thaer Ahmad, Mark Perlmutter, Feroze Sidhwa

PRINT SOURCE Conic

American Doctor portrays the ongoing devastation in Gaza through the eyes of three American physicians who risk their lives caring for others. Working in ravaged hospitals—places ordinarily protected in war—they experience the conflict's catastrophic impact on healthcare. Amid relentless danger and dwindling resources, they treat injured children and adult civilians whose suffering reveals the human cost of the destruction. Their testimony illuminates not only a humanitarian crisis, but also the courage, compassion, and responsibility of those determined to preserve life in impossible conditions. Intimate and unflinching, the documentary asks what it means to heal, to bear witness, and to refuse indifference.



VIVA

SPAIN 2026 113 MINS

Catalan & Spanish with English subtitles

DIRECTOR Aina Clotet

WITH Aina Clotet, Marc Soler, Naby Dakhli, Guillermo Toledo, Lloï Bertran, Zaida Pérez

PRINT SOURCE Loco Films

FRI
30
20:35

SUN
1
15:35

We have celebrated—and welcomed as a guest—actress Aina Clotet, but it thrills us to present her directorial debut. Clotet also stars as a woman confronting life after breast cancer. Her hunger for desire, freedom, and intensity unsettles the world she has carefully built. *Viva* is a tour de force: intimate, fearless, and alive to the richness of female desire. No wonder its story demanded a woman's perspective to be told. Clotet's gaze resists the conventions of male-dominated cinema, presenting illness, sexuality, bodily autonomy, and personal reinvention as territories to be redefined, without apology or simplification.



© Gerry Cranham

SAT
24
14:25

TUE
27
14:00



GIVE ME THE BALL!

USA 2026 102 MINS

DIRECTORS Liz Garbus
& Elizabeth Wolff

WITH Billie Jean King, Elton John,
Ilana Sheryl Kloss, Larry King, Serena
Williams, Chris Evert

PRINT SOURCE ESPN Films

Sports legend. Feminist icon. Trailblazer. Billie Jean King earned it. From her start in the 1960s, to the creation of women's tennis tournaments, to "The Battle of the Sexes," she fought not only to be a champion, but a formidable warrior for all women in sports — no matter the personal cost. This witty, appreciative documentary traces King's legacy using archival footage and interviews with colleagues and those close to her, and the indomitable woman herself. Without a doubt, one of the best sports documentaries this decade. Viva Billie Jean King!



FILIPINANA



MON
26
18:50

WED
28
18:05

**SINGAPORE, UNITED KINGDOM,
PHILIPPINES, NETHERLANDS
& FRANCE 2026 100 MINS**

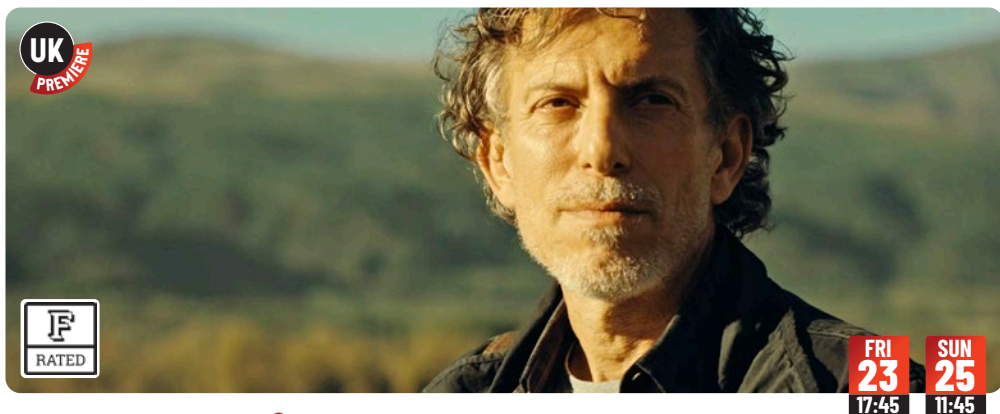
Filipino, English, and Ilokano with English subtitles

DIRECTOR Rafael Manuel

WITH Jorrybell Agoto, Carmen Castellanos,
Teroy Guzman, Carlos Siguion-Reyna, Isabel Sicat

PRINT SOURCE BFI

The Maynila Country Club is a 74-hectare compound with enough facilities to keep the creme-de-la-creme of Philippine society insulated from the country's socio-political problems. Amidst all the opulence roams Isabel (Jorrybel Agoto), a quiet and shy 17 year-old who works as a tee-girl on the golf course. Just like Alice, she follows a strange trail of signs to discover what's hidden underneath the surface of luxury and good manners. *Filipinana* is Rafael Manuel's debut feature, developed from a short film of the same name, also starring Agoto: a testament to his commitment to film form, consistency, and unravelling mysteries.



UK
PREMIERE



FRI
23
17:45

SUN
25
11:45

NINA ROZA

CFF
15

**CANADA, ITALY, BULGARIA
& BELGIUM 2026 103 MINS**

French, Bulgarian & English with
English subtitles

DIRECTOR Geneviève Dulude-De Celles

WITH Galin Stoev, Sofia Stanina,
Ekaterina Stanina, Michelle
Tzontchev, Christian Bégin

PRINT SOURCE Best Friend Forever

Single dad Mihail (Galín Stoev) returns to his homeland many years after his wife's death, estranged and gloomy. His successful life as an art dealer in Montreal sets him worlds apart from the rural Bulgarian context he encounters when searching for a six year-old painter prodigy. Nina (Ekaterina Stanina, a true discovery) commands the scene like no one else, so it's only natural for Mihail to suspect something's afoot. Is she the real deal? *Nina Roza* is Geneviève Dulude-de Celles's second feature film and Canada's submission for the Academy Awards.



THU
29
18:00

SAT
31
15:40

MOUSE

CFF
15

USA 2026 120 MINS

DIRECTORS Kelly O'Sullivan
& Alex Thompson

WITH Sophie Okonedo,
Katherine Mallen Kupferer,
Chloe Coleman, Tara Mallen,
Iman Vellani, David Hyde Pierce

PRINT SOURCE Altitude

If you miss early 2000s teen indies, look no further. Arkansas, summer 2002, and high schoolers Minnie and Callie prepare for life after graduation. Though best friends, the two appear to be polar opposites. Minnie is the upper-middle class, popular star of drama class. Callie is her shy plus one, happy to live in her friend's shadow while navigating her single mother and a foster baby in a run-down home on the wrong side of the tracks. When their friendship suddenly ends, Callie needs to discover who she is on her own in this pure slice of Americana.

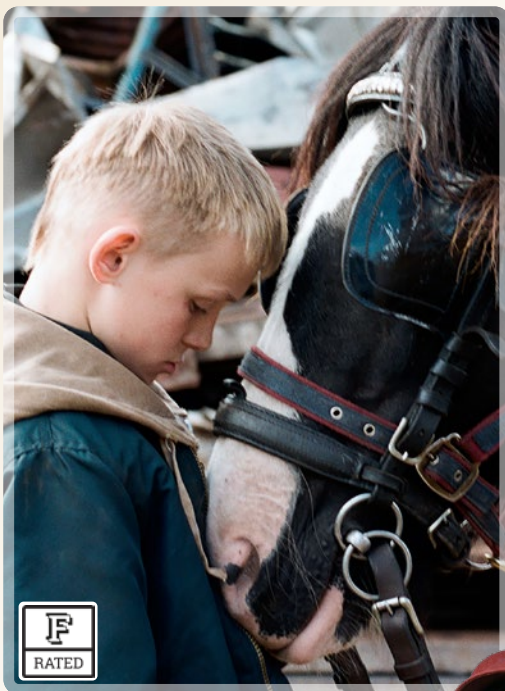
OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTION AWARD



CLIO BARNARD

We are honoured to present Clio Barnard with this year's **Outstanding Contribution Award**. As a director, writer, and video artist, Barnard has continued to demonstrate that she has one of the most distinctive voices in contemporary British Cinema. Her films, from gritty drama *The Selfish Giant*, to this year's CFF opening film *I See Buildings Fall Like Lightning*, are often set against the diverse towns and landscapes of Northern England, telling stories which explore the crackling intensity of relationships. In Clio Barnard's cinema, loyalty and love is always underpinned by the impacts of socioeconomic and cultural influences in working-class communities.





THE SELFISH GIANT 15

FRI
23
15:35

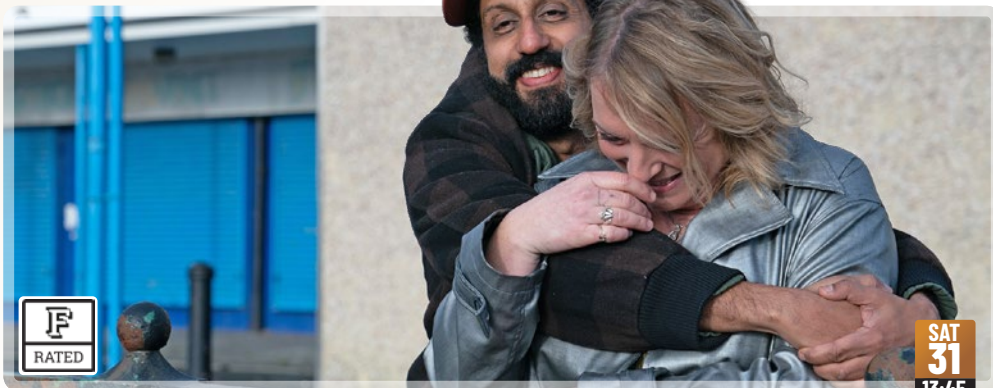
UK 2013 91 MINS

DIRECTOR Clio Barnard

WITH Conner Chapman, Shaun Thomas, Sean Gilder, Lorraine Ashbourne, Siobhan Finneran, Ian Burfield, Ralph Ineson

PRINT SOURCE Curzon Film

In this striking coming-of-age fable, two lads from the outskirts of Bradford get tangled in the world of copper theft under the influence of a local scrapdealer. Determined to make some quick cash, hyperactive Arbor and gentle Swifty bunk off school to get stuck into scrapyards politics and horse-cart racing, while evading the authorities and the malaise of their own fraught home lives. As pressure mounts from all sides, their unbreakable bond is put to the test in a moving and devastating finale in Barnard's lyrical masterpiece.



ALI & AVA 15

UK 2021 95 MINS

DIRECTOR Clio Barnard

WITH Adeel Akhtar, Claire Rushbrook

PRINT SOURCE Altitude

As the third feature in her thematic 'Bradford Trilogy', director Clio Barnard returns to the scene of *The Arbor* and *The Selfish Giant* with a familiar yet fresh take on love and loneliness. One soggy afternoon, landlord Ali (Adeel Akhtar) happens to offer a ride home to Ava (Claire Rushbrook). As initial sparks start to fly, the two bond over a love of music, sharp humor, and companionship neither knew they'd been missing. But will the remnants of Ali's hidden failing marriage and Ava's complex past be too much?



YOUTH LAB

Your Gateway to the Film Industry



Are you aged 16-24 and passionate about film or pursuing a career in the film industry? Join the Cambridge Film Festival Youth Lab!

The Youth Lab is a film education initiative designed to enhance your film knowledge and networking skills. As a member, you'll connect with like-minded individuals and build industry relationships in a friendly, supportive environment. We welcome participants from all backgrounds and provide regular film discussion groups, workshops, networking events, and talks from industry professionals, along with essential career support.



Interested in joining?





“
Joining the Youth Lab is one of my favourite things I have done in the last few years. It has allowed me to attend my first ever film festival, meet people with similar interests, and helped me with my confidence.

LOGAN BADCOCK

”



“

Through workshops, industry talks and opportunities to network, I gained a much clearer understanding of the career paths available to me.

JOE CHAPMAN

The Youth Lab has been amazing and given me so many memories, experiences and opportunities I will carry with me. It was so lovely to meet people as passionate about film as me, as well as getting a real insight into the film industry.

POLLY ELLIS

”



80% of Youth Lab members go on to employment or higher education within the industry

44% identify as LGBTQIA+

67% identify as having a disability, long-term health condition, or are neurodivergent

32% identify with an ethnic background other than White British

The Youth Lab is supported by:





ENVIRONMENT & COMMUNITY

From a group of scientists working to prevent nuclear disaster, to a community of women preserving mycelium knowledge in Mexico, to a papaya seed in the Brazilian rainforest, to polar bears in the north of Canada, this year's environmental strand explores the importance of interconnectedness and Indigenous roots.

Supported by Alchemie Technology, the films in the strand ask us to consider relationships – between humans, animals, and plants, and how they make (and break) the world we live in.

Alchemie 



FRI
23
20:00

WED
28
14:25

NUISANCE BEAR



USA, CANADA & UK 2026
90 MINS

English & Inuktitut with
English subtitles

DIRECTORS Gabriela Osio
Vanden & Jack Weisman

PRINT SOURCE MUBI

Experience life through a polar bear's eyes in this breathtakingly cinematic documentary. Dubbed “the world’s polar bear capital”, Churchill, Canada, has become a famous destination for wildlife lovers. Standing on an ancient polar bear migration route, it has been the home of Arctic peoples for millennia. Today, as the ice recedes, the number of polar bears passing through Churchill is increasing, mixing the wild animal’s world with that of humans. As people set out to deter “nuisance” bears, Vanden & Weisman adopt the perspective of a bear navigating this changing landscape, offering a unique view of a species in crisis.



DAUGHTERS OF THE FOREST



FRI
23
14:20

SAT
24
11:55

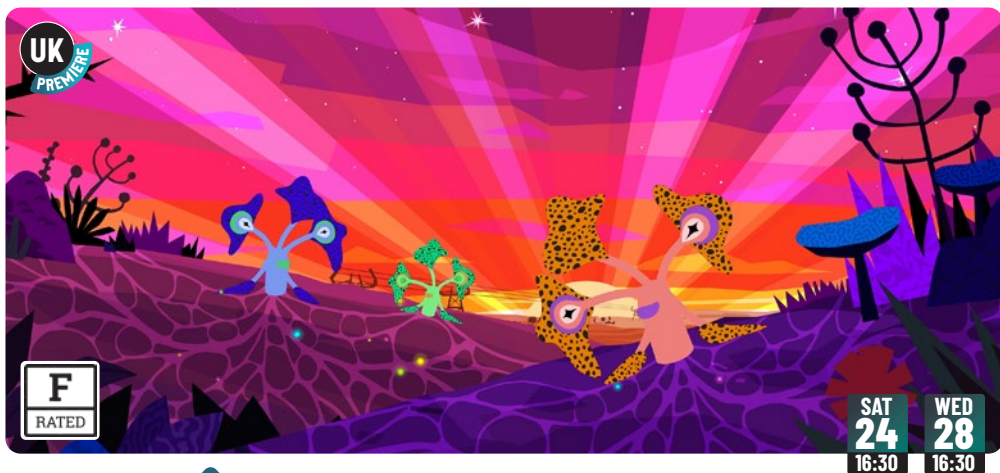
MEXICO 2026 95 MINS
Spanish with English subtitles

DIRECTOR Otilia Portillo Padua

WITH Eliseete Ramirez Carbajal, Julieta Serafina Amaya

PRINT SOURCE Oscura Producciones

Indigenous women living in Mexico’s forests have been guardians of the mycelium world for centuries. But their knowledge is now threatened by modernity, deforestation, and community loss. This poetic sci-fi documentary follows two young indigenous scientists conflicted between their ancestral connection to the mycelium world, and Western scientific methods. As they work to preserve precious knowledge, they learn from their grandmothers the wisdom encoded in an ancestral language most members of the community no longer speak. It is an immersive and playful portrayal of women who dare to reimagine the future while fighting to preserve the past.



PAPAYA



BRAZIL 2026 74 MINS
Dialogue free

DIRECTOR Priscilla Kellen
PRINT SOURCE Courtesy of
AX1 Films

Curious to explore the world, a little papaya seed refuses to conform to the laws of nature, and breaks free. Its journey will take it across the wonders of the Brazilian jungle and out of it into a barren, toxic landscape increasingly destroyed by deforestation. From refusing to take root to struggling to return back home, *Papaya* is a captivating coming-of-age tale about resistance, home, and learning to love the changes within us.

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UK
PREMIERE

F
RATED

THE PEACE PARTICLE

CFF
15

FRI
23
13:25

SUN
1
11:25

UK 2025 87 MINS

English & French with English subtitles

DIRECTOR Alex Kiehl

WITH Fabiola Gianotti, Nino Zichichi

PRINT SOURCE Telescop

Imagine if your job combined black holes, the birth of the World Wide Web, and the potential destruction of the universe. For these scientists, it does.

At the end of WWII, CERN was founded to prevent another atomic disaster from ever taking place, under the slogan “science for peace.” But upon the 2022 invasion of Ukraine, cooperation with Russia was halted, causing researchers to wonder about the role of politics in scientific cooperation. Mixing interviews with CERN scientists and archive footage, *The Peace Particle* shows the inner workings of nuclear research at a time of political instability.

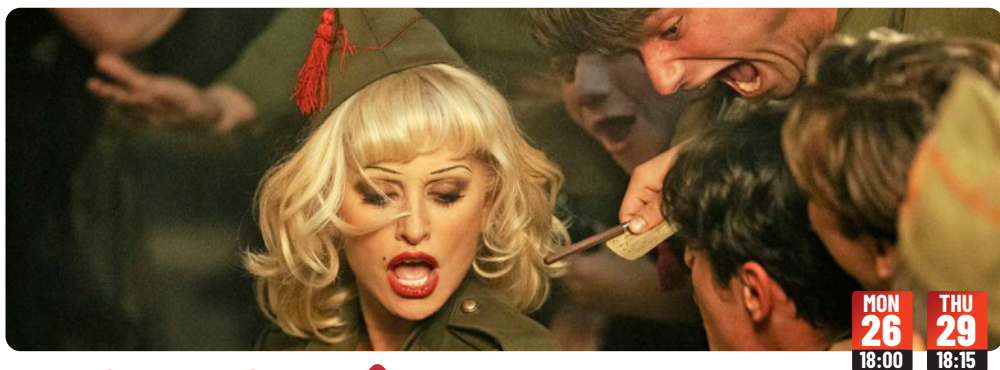
JUST THE RIGHT AMOUNT OF WILD.
CABIN. SAUNA. TUB.



Kent - Norfolk - Oxfordshire - Somerset - Suffolk
theredcabin.co.uk



Some truths only surface under a different light, which begs the need to reframe our perspectives. This new strand highlights powerful expressions of defiance and tenderness in queer experiences. From a matriarch navigating duty and desire in a trans community in rural Nepal, to a queer couple becoming themselves amidst the war in Ukraine, to a joyfully blasphemous congregation for queer rights in San Francisco, and an audacious gay epic that bounds three time periods through silent desires and memory.



LA BOLA NEGRA



SPAIN & FRANCE 2026 155 MINS
Spanish with English subtitles

DIRECTORS Javier Calvo
& Javier Ambrossi

WITH Guitarricadelafuente,
Miguel Bernardeau, Carlos González,
Milo Quifes, Lola Dueñas,
Penélope Cruz, Glenn Close

PRINT SOURCE Altitude

Winner of Best Director at Cannes, *La bola negra* confirms Javier Calvo and Javier Ambrossi's (Los Javis) ambition to create what might be called a gay blockbuster: cinema of scale, beauty, and emotional reach, placing queer lives at its centre. Spanning 1932, 1937, and 2017, the film interweaves the lives of three gay men, exploring desire, repression, and enduring silence. It takes inspiration from Federico García Lorca—murdered, mythologised, and too often removed from his homosexuality. By reclaiming Lorca as a defining gay cultural icon of Spain, Los Javis transform silenced histories into a sweeping collective memory, made for a global audience.



UK
PREMIERE



SUN
25
20:45

SAT
31
13:10

I RARELY WAKE UP DREAMING CFF 18

UKRAINE & GERMANY 2026 100 MINS

Ukrainian with English subtitles

DIRECTOR Isabelle Stever

WITH Tania Myronyshena, Markus Bright

PRINT SOURCE Outplay Films

Oleh and Olya are a young queer Ukrainian couple whose New Year's bliss is short-lived, rapidly shattered by Russian missiles and a full-scale invasion of their country. Suddenly, Oleh's gender transition collides with newfound expectations of wartime masculinity, making his connection with Olya a delicate exploration of identities, from the national to the intimate. Isabelle Stever's complex portrait of queer life during wartime swoons with tenderness, even at times of urgency and contradiction.



ELEPHANTS IN THE FOG CFF 18

TUE
27
18:00

THU
29
16:05

**NEPAL, GERMANY, BRAZIL, FRANCE & NORWAY
2026 108 MINS**

Nepali with English subtitles

DIRECTOR Abinash Bikram Shah

WITH Pushpa Thing Lama, Sahabdin Miya, Jasmine Bishwokarma, Aliz Ghimire, Aashant Sharma

PRINT SOURCE MetFilm Distribution

In a small village in rural Nepal, wild elephants roam the dense surrounding forest. Pirati (Pushpa Thing Lama) is the matriarch of a Kinnar community, a South Asian third gender identity deeply rooted in folklore and ancient traditions, but she dreams of a so-called "normal" life with the man she loves. Suddenly, one of her daughters disappears, and she's confronted by the tension between her own desires and the sense of responsibility with her chosen family. Abinash Bikram Shah's directorial debut is both a heart-wrenching story of maternal devotion and a tactful celebration of unsung queerness.



MON
26
20:50

FRI
30
13:05

HUNKY JESUS



USA 2026 85 MINS

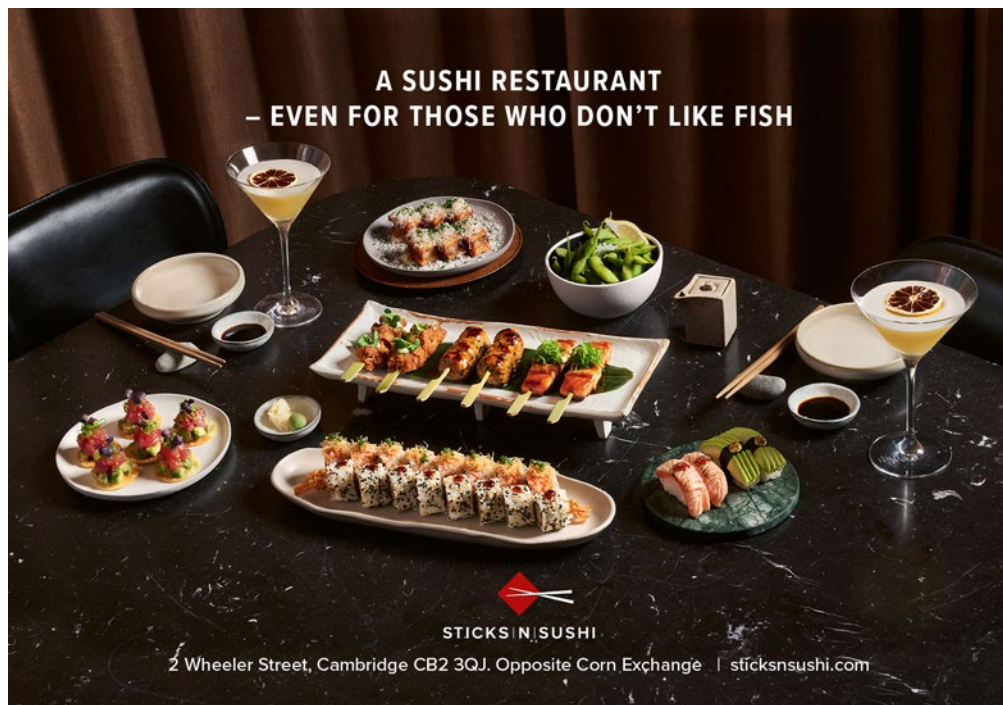
DIRECTOR Jennifer M. Kroot

WITH George Takei, Sister Roma, Honey Mahogany

PRINT SOURCE Tigerlily Pictures, LLC

Everyone's welcome to join San Francisco's annual Hunky Jesus drag competition. The only rule: Don't assume ownership over Christ. Since 1979, legendary drag activists Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence have been countered rising evangelical conservatism in San Francisco. Celebrating community, joy, and artistic expression, their unique social justice movement is a living and breathing part of the city. Tracing their history all the way back to the front lines of the AIDS crisis, this documentary celebrates the group and their Easter tradition, while also challenging ideas of religious representation, and what it truly means to embody Christian values.

A SUSHI RESTAURANT – EVEN FOR THOSE WHO DON'T LIKE FISH



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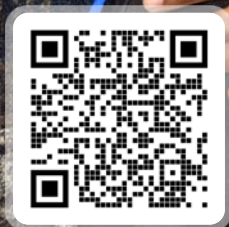
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As part of the 2026 BFI FAN UK-wide season Rip It Up, CFF presents *Out Loud*, a curated programme of three British films where coming-of-age is an act of rebellion. Taking cues from the rebels who defined our music, sports, and lifestyles, we spotlight three of Britain's most cherished films, reappraised as era-defining classics. South Asian girls, working-class Mancunians, and Black British teenagers tell their own stories in a triptych to inspire audiences young and old.



ROCKS 12A

UK 2019 93 MINS

DIRECTOR Sarah Gavron

WITH Bukky Bakray, Kosar Ali, D'angelou Osei Kissiedu, Shaneigha-Monik Greyson, Ruby Stokes

PRINT SOURCE Altitude

With descriptive subtitles.

Rocks is a typical 15-year-old teenager living in East London with her family. She suffers through school with the help of a close group of friends. Until one day she returns home to find her mother gone. In order to avoid being taken by social services, *Rocks* decides to hide the fact that she and her little brother are now on their own. Balancing the drama with a playful tone, *Rocks* was developed collaboratively with its young cast. Sarah Gavron's coming-of-age feature, which opened CFF39 in 2019, is a colourful ode to friendship and girlhood, and a touching tale of resilience.



BEND IT LIKE BECKHAM 12^A

UK, GERMANY & USA 2002
112 MINS

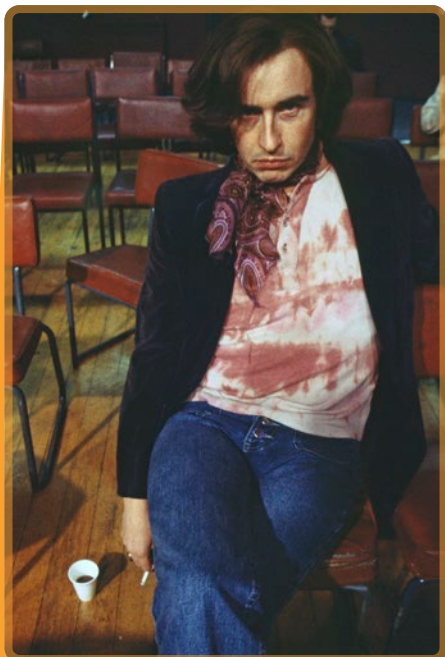
English, German & Hindi with
English subtitles

DIRECTOR Gurinder Chadha

WITH Parminder Nagra, Keira
Knightley, Jonathan Rhys Meyers,
Anupam Kher, Archie Panjabi

PRINT SOURCE Lionsgate

Gurinder Chadha's *Bend It Like Beckham* is a joyous, rebellious celebration of choosing your own path. Jess, a football-mad British Indian teenager, dreams of playing professionally, but her traditional Punjabi family expects a different future. Secretly joining a women's team, she forms a vital friendship with Jules, whose encounter with Jess's Indian culture expands their worlds. They resist expectations in different ways: Jess negotiates family loyalty and cultural identity, while Jules challenges restrictive ideas of femininity. Funny, energetic, and deeply generous, it celebrates two young women rebelling through friendship, courage, and an irrepressible determination to play on their terms.



24 HOUR PARTY PEOPLE 18

**SAT
31
19:05**

UK 2002 **117 MINS**

DIRECTOR Michael Winterbottom

WITH Steve Coogan, Paddy Considine, Danny Cunningham,
Sean Harris, Shirley Henderson, Lennie James,
Andy Serkis, John Simm

PRINT SOURCE Altitude

In 1976, television presenter Tony Wilson (Steve Coogan) experiences a life-altering epiphany at a Sex Pistols concert. His sudden transformation ignites sixteen chaotic years defined by Factory Records, the legendary Hacienda nightclub, and a local music scene that temporarily transformed Manchester into the epicenter of cultural history. From Joy Division and New Order to the Happy Mondays, disastrous business decisions culminate in artistic triumphs, as Michael Winterbottom's unruly pseudo-documentary stands as a celebration of raw creative idealism, frantic mythmaking, and the unapologetic DIY spirit that defined a generation.

OTHERWISE



Gleaned from the fringes of mainstream representation, this selection of titles that defy societal expectations offer a fresh, insightful look at what it means to be human. We're all multifaceted creatures, and with dignity and curiosity, these filmmakers surely know how to show it. You'll also discover intentional attempts to destigmatise mental health, overcome trauma through the cathartic medium of film, and celebrate the joys of being together but being different: human, nature, and everything in between.



SAT
24
16:15

SUN
1
15:00

ALL OF A SUDDEN



SOUDAIN

**FRANCE, JAPAN, GERMANY
& BELGIUM 2026 196 MINS**

French & Japanese with
English subtitles

DIRECTOR Ryūsuke Hamaguchi

WITH Virginie Efira, Tao Okamoto,
Kyōzō Nagatsuka

PRINT SOURCE Curzon Film

Oscar winner Ryūsuke Hamaguchi (*Drive My Car*)'s first film made in France is based on a correspondence between two women – a philosopher and an anthropologist – exploring illness and the sudden deterioration of health.

A fiction film nonetheless, *All of a Sudden* embodies the principles of care its protagonists Marie-Lou (Virginie Efira) and Mari (Tao Okamoto) explore in life and art, through storytelling techniques of the gentlest kind – conversations, peripatetic discussions, and mutual understanding. An utopian film perhaps, but one that urges us to care for each other in new, unexpected ways when life suddenly changes for the worse.



A SWEETNESS FROM NOWHERE



TUE
27
16:25

FRI
30
14:50

SWEDEN 2026 90 MINS

English & Swedish with English subtitles

DIRECTOR Ester Bergsmark

PRINT SOURCE Outplay Films

Filmmaker Ester Bergsmark (*Something Must Break*, CFF43) interrogates their response to a transphobic slur hurled at them following their move to Berlin, turning the threat into a multi-layered, poetic confrontation with anthropocentrism. Exploring the root of violence and its nature, this is a powerful meditation on the trans experience and a treatise on how to move forward from fear. Visually explosive imagery allows thoughts, feelings and actions to meet in this sensory exploration, finding one's way back to life, desire and oneself.

Recipient of the Isabelle McNeill Award, in memory of Dr. Isabelle McNeill, Co-founder and Former Chair of CFT.



UK
PREMIERE



TRICONTINENTAL, LETTER TO OPEN IN CASE OF

CFF
15

CUBA & SWITZERLAND 2026 97 MINS

French & Spanish with English subtitles

WED
28
16:15

SAT
31
11:30

DIRECTOR Laura Cazador

WITH Deborah Lukumuen

PRINT SOURCE DOK MOBILE - Mark Olexa

Havana's Tricontinental Conference in 1966, a landmark event for Global South anti-imperialist solidarity, is the only natural starting point for Michèle Firk's story, and that's precisely where filmmaker Laura Cazador begins. Firk was more than a political filmmaker. Her commitment to liberation struggles took her from the Algerian War's underground networks to the depths of the jungle during Guatemala's guerrilla struggle. Through an imagined correspondence between militant artists and astute uses of rich archival material, Cazador weaves together Firk's forgotten legacy as a moving tribute to a moment in time where cameras and guns were synonymous as tools against oppression.



UK
PREMIERE



SUN
25
18:15

SUN
1
11:10

BAAB

CFF
15

UAE 2025 97 MINS

Arabic with English subtitles

DIRECTOR Nayla Al Khaja

WITH Shaimaa El Fadul,
Huda Alghanem, Meera Almidfa,
Mansoor Monem Saeed Mohamed
Alnoamani

PRINT SOURCE Qube Wire

In Arabic, 'baab' means doorway, and in Nayla Al Khaja's dark fantasy, it's the threshold to familial secrets as a woman reels from the sudden death of her twin sister. Wahida (Shaimaa El Fadul) struggles with the eerie hum of tinnitus in her left ear, a condition which ropes her into a surreal world where grief takes on physical form. Soundtracked by two-time Oscar winner A.R. Rahman and helmed by the UAE's first female director, BAAB marks a milestone in Emirati cinema.



UK
PREMIERE



FRI
23
16:15

WED
28
14:40

MY FAMILY AND OTHER CLOWNS

CFF
12A

ESTONIA 2025 84 MINS

Estonian, Chinese & English
with English subtitles

DIRECTORS Heilika Pikkov
& Liina Särkinen

PRINT SOURCE Silmviburlane

For 25 years, Haide and Toomas, known as Piip and Tuut, have brought joy to people with their clowning. But as their global fame has grown, their three children are often left alone. Emma, their eldest, dreams of becoming an actress. But right now she's playing the role of a caregiver to her younger siblings, which she struggles to balance with household chores and school. Following the family across five years, this documentary offers an intimate and tender perspective on the price of following one's dreams, and the burden that children often have to carry.



UK
PREMIERE



ARTISTS IN RESIDENCE

CFF
15

FRI
23
10:55

THU
29
13:55

USA 2025 93 MINS

DIRECTOR Katie Jacobs

WITH Lois Dodd, Louise Kruger, Eleanor Magid

PRINT SOURCE Matt Greenberg

Winner of the DOC NYC Grand Jury Prize, *Artists in Residence* is a gem, owing its existence to the New York art scene and the women who shaped it during the 1950s. Director Katie Jacobs moved into a building on 30 East 2nd Street in 2017, where she met the three women who became the anchors of *Artists in Residence*. All in their nineties today, they tell Jacobs the stories of their youth and the messy beauty of cohabitating as women, as mothers, and as artists, shaping their own collective portrait as an aspirational tale of togetherness.

THU 22 OCT

ARTS PICTUREHOUSE

TTP SCREEN 1

20:20 I See Buildings Fall Like Lightning 6

FRI 23 OCT

ARTS PICTUREHOUSE

TTP SCREEN 1

10:55 Artists in Residence 35
12:50 Rocket Girl 42
14:20 Daughters of the Forest 23
16:15 My Family and Other Clowns 35
18:00 I See Buildings Fall Like Lightning 6
20:30 Fatherland 11

SCREEN 2

11:10 Bend It Like Beckham 31
13:25 The Peace Particle 25
15:35 The Selfish Giant 19
17:45 Nina Roza 17
20:00 Nuisance Bear 23

FILMTIMES

CAMBRIDGEFILMFESTIVAL2026

SAT 24 OCT

ARTS PICTUREHOUSE

TTP SCREEN 1

11:00	Beauty and the Beast	64
	Relaxed screening	
12:45	Rocket Girl	42
14:25	Give Me the Ball!	16
16:30	Papaya	24
18:05	American Doctor	15
20:00	A Long Winter	9

SCREEN 2

11:55	Daughters of the Forest	23
14:10	Rocks	30
16:15	All of a Sudden	33
20:15	Truly Naked	41



There are no adverts or trailers before the films at Cambridge Film Festival.

SUN 25 OCT

ARTS PICTUREHOUSE

TTP SCREEN 1

11:00	The Secret Garden	64
	Relaxed screening	
13:05	Cambridge Connections	44
15:20	CFF 45th Birthday Screening - Portrait of a Lady on Fire	52
18:00	A Long Winter	9
20:30	I Love Boosters	13

SCREEN 2

11:45	Nina Roza	17
14:10	The Beauty of the Donkey	42
16:10	Placido	53
18:15	BAAB	34
20:45	I Rarely Wake Up Dreaming	27

GONVILLE HOTEL

14:00	Breaking In - Screenwriting session	55
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MON 26 OCT

ARTS PICTUREHOUSE

TTP SCREEN 1

10:30	Shorts: Power Play	59
12:45	CFF's Annual State of the Industry Panel	47
14:15	Short Film Showcase with BFI NETWORK SOUTH EAST	48
15:30	Behind the Shorts: Meet the Filmmakers with BFI NETWORK SOUTH EAST	48
16:45	In Conversation with Harry Lighton (<i>Pillion</i>) with BFI NETWORK SOUTH EAST	48
18:00	La bola negra	26
21:05	Minotaur	10

SCREEN 2

10:40	Shorts: Ties That Bind	57
12:00	Shorts: Friendly Encounters	58
13:10	Shorts: Love That Remains	61
15:20	Shorts: Turning Tides	60
17:05	Shorts: Unbroken	62
18:50	Filipiñana	16
20:50	Hunky Jesus	28

GONVILLE HOTEL

11:45	FILM HUB SOUTH EAST: Film Festival Roundtable	49
11:45	BFI NETWORK SOUTH EAST: Roundtable for Filmmakers	49

TUE 27 OCT

ARTS PICTUREHOUSE

TTP SCREEN 1

11:00	Wicked	65
	Relaxed screening	
14:00	Give Me the Ball!	16
16:25	A Sweetness From Nowhere	33
18:35	I Love Boosters	13
20:50	Coward	12

SCREEN 2

11:15	Shorts: Power Play	59
13:35	El verdugo	53
15:45	The Lodger	52
18:00	Elephants in the Fog	27

WED 28 OCT

ARTS PICTUREHOUSE

TTP SCREEN 1

11:00	Ron's Gone Wrong	65
	Relaxed screening	
13:10	Shorts: Friendly Encounters	58
14:25	Nuisance Bear	23
16:15	Tricontinental, letter to open in case of	34
18:20	Coward	12
20:50	Fjord	11

SCREEN 2

11:15	Shorts: Ties That Bind	57
12:40	The Beauty of the Donkey	42
14:40	My Family and Other Clowns	35
16:30	Papaya	24
18:05	Filipiñana	16

THU 29 OCT

ARTS PICTUREHOUSE

TTP SCREEN 1

11:00	Little Women	66
	Relaxed screening	
13:30	Shorts: Love That Remains	61
15:50	My Father and Qaddafi	43
18:00	Mouse	17
20:20	The Dreamed Adventure	9

SCREEN 2

11:30	Cambridge Connections	44
13:55	Artists in Residence	35
16:05	Elephants in the Fog	27
18:15	La bola negra	26
21:10	Surprise Film	13

ARTS PICTUREHOUSE BAR

19:30	Film Quiz hosted by the CFF Youth Lab	45
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Silver Screen is aimed at over 60s and includes a free hot drink and biscuit at selected screenings that start before 17:00 on Tuesday and Thursday at the Arts Picturehouse.

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Daytime (before 5pm)

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We look forward to welcoming guests to the Festival. Please visit the website for the most up-to-date information, as well as full details about accessibility, film content and trigger warnings.

camfilmfest.com/guide

FRI 30 OCT

ARTS PICTUREHOUSE

TTP SCREEN 1

11:00	Freakier Friday	66
	Relaxed screening	
13:30	Shorts: Unbroken	62
15:55	American Doctor	15
18:00	Fjord	11
20:50	The Debut	10

SCREEN 2

11:15	Shorts: Turning Tides	60
13:05	Hunky Jesus	28
14:50	A Sweetness From Nowhere	33
16:40	Harsh Land, Distant Sky	43
18:45	Sad Girlz	41
20:35	Viva	15

SAT 31 NOV

ARTS PICTUREHOUSE

TTP SCREEN 1

11:00	Addams Family Values	67
	Relaxed screening	
13:10	I Rarely Wake Up Dreaming	27
15:40	Mouse	17
18:15	The Debut	10
20:20	The Blood Countess	12

SCREEN 2

11:30	Tricontinental, letter 34 to open in case of	
13:45	Ali & Ava	19
15:55	The Dreamed Adventure	9
19:05	24 Hour Party People	31
21:25	Truly Naked	41

SUN 1 NOV

ARTS PICTUREHOUSE

TTP SCREEN 1

11:25	The Peace Particle	25
13:30	Sad Girlz	41
15:35	Viva	15
18:00	Minotaur	10
20:45	Wild Horse Nine	7

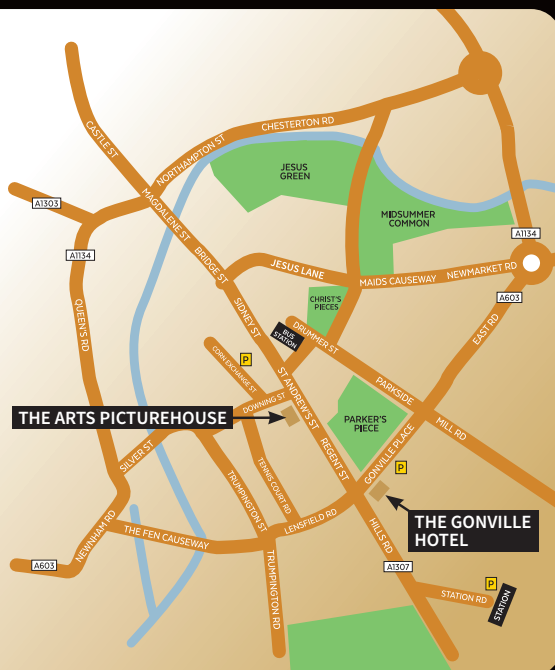
SCREEN 2

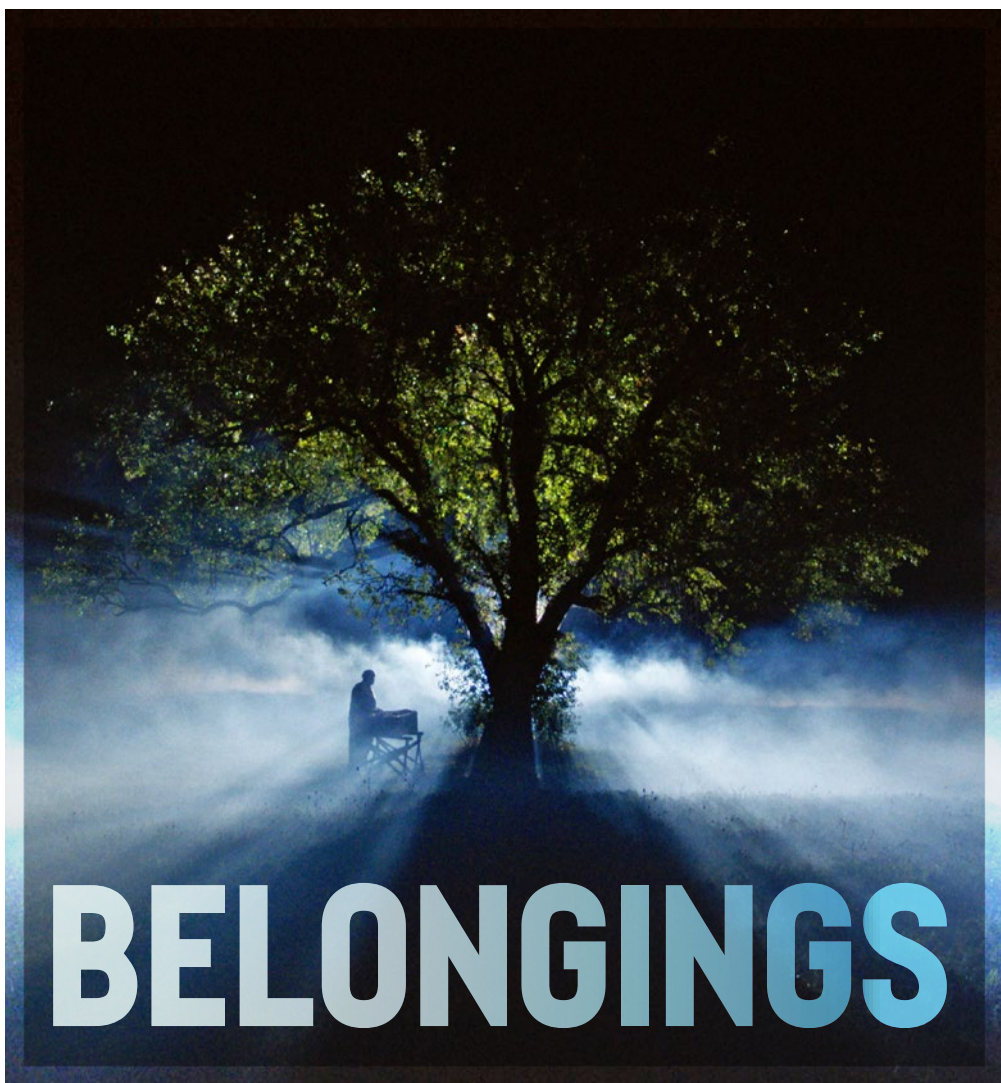
11:10	BAAB	34
13:10	My Father and Qaddafi	43
15:00	All of a Sudden	33
18:40	The Blood Countess	12
21:00	Harsh Land, Distant Sky	43



38-39 St Andrew's Street,
Cambridge, CB2 3AR
www.picturehouses.co.uk

THE ARTS PICTUREHOUSE screens a year-round programme of the best in new and classic cinema over three screens. All screens feature state of the art Barco Laser projection for Superior image quality. You do not have to be a member to view films at the Arts Picturehouse, but if you are you'll receive discounts on tickets.





As humans, we're always in search of a safe haven, on a constant journey of belonging. Trace the steps home with this rich selection of films – documentaries and fiction alike – where everything is possible. By exploring the limits of familiarity and the unknown, these characters negotiate arbitrary boundaries in the hope of shared connections. The bright example of *Truly Naked* headlines the strand, sweeping us up in a new kind of British realism – one of a gentle touch and radical intimacy.



UK
PREMIERE



SAT
24
20:15

SAT
31
21:25

TRULY NAKED

CFF
18

**NETHERLANDS, BELGIUM
& FRANCE 2026 102 MINS**

DIRECTOR Muriel d'Ansembourg

WITH Caolán O'Gorman,
Andrew Howard, Alessa Savage,
Safiya Benaddi

PRINT SOURCE Courtesy of
AX1 Films

A father and son run a family business – it's just their product is porn. Alec, a soft-spoken introvert, may shoot explicit sex with unbothered professionalism, but as *Truly Naked* shows us, tenderness hides in the unlikelyst of places. A future British classic, it's a film about vulnerability and teenagers gathering the courage to be themselves, whatever that may mean when you're arrogantly youthful – so when Alec starts falling for his fierce, feminist classmate Nina, everything shifts. Their unlikely connection evolves into a heartwarming journey towards real intimacy - and what it truly means to be seen.



UK
PREMIERE



SAD GIRLZ CHICAS TRISTES

CFF
15

FRI
30
18:45

SUN
1
13:30

MEXICO, SPAIN & FRANCE 2026 90 MINS

Spanish with English subtitles

DIRECTOR Fernanda Tovar

WITH Rocío Guzmán, Darana Álvarez, Tatsumi Milori,
Tomás García Agraz, Mónica del Carmen, Raúl Villegas,
Lucio Lemus, Luisa Almaguer

PRINT SOURCE World Sales Alpha Violet

Paula and La Maestra, two 16-year-old teenagers, are the best friends in the world, and staunch swimming competitors. Sports rivalry takes a back seat when Paula is raped at a party. After hearing about the incident, La Maestra intends to avenge her friend in her own way, and the situation quickly spirals out of control. The stakes of friendship are as high as the tensions in Mexican filmmaker Fernanda Tovar's debut feature, which won the Generation 14+ Award at Berlinale, proving that young audiences crave to see the thorny reality of their early teens on screen.



UK
PREMIERE



FRI
23
12:50

SAT
24
12:45

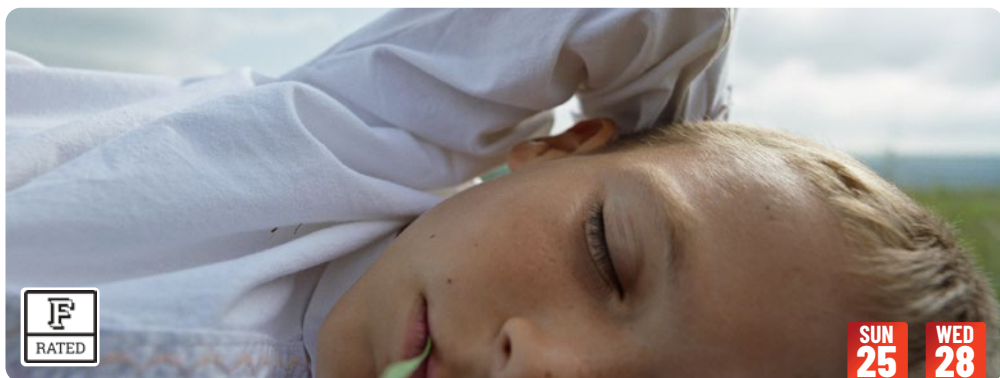
ROCKET GIRL



POLAND, SWEDEN & USA
2025 **70 MINS**

DIRECTOR Agnes Swiercz
PRINT SOURCE AS Studio

For her empowering documentary, Polish-American filmmaker Agnes Swiercz zooms in on Eleni – a young girl who, like countless women including the director herself, was told she would never be ‘as good’ as her male counterparts. Eleni pursues her passion of building rockets under the affectionate gaze of Swiercz’s camera, this one-of-a-kind portrait of girlhood within the male-dominated domain of Aerospace engineering. We can learn a lot from Eleni’s perseverance and commitment to being great. Sometimes even the sky itself isn’t the limit.



SUN
25
14:10

WED
28
12:40

THE BEAUTY OF THE DONKEY



FRANCE, KOSOVA & SWITZERLAND
2025 **77 MINS**

Albanian & French with
English subtitles

DIRECTOR Dea Gjinovci
WITH Asslan Gjinovci, Leart Gjinovci
PRINT SOURCE Astrae Productions

After six decades in exile, political activist Asslan returns to his village in Kosovo, along with his daughter Dea, to retrace his past. Accompanied by a film crew, Dea sets off to recreate the places from her fathers’ childhood that have been destroyed by time and war. Working together with Asslan, she reconstructs his childhood home, and casts family members and neighbours to bring his memories to life. The emerging scenes uncover both joy and heartbreak, as Asslan sets out to finally find out what happened to his mother during the Kosovo war in the late 1990s.



THU
29
15:50

SUN
1
13:10

CFF
15

MY FATHER AND QADDAFI

LIBYA & USA 2025

88 MINS

Arabic, English & French with
English subtitles

DIRECTOR Jihan K

PRINT SOURCE Desert Power LLC

In 1993, when Jihan was six years old, her father travelled to Cairo for a conference and never returned. Once the Foreign Minister of Libya, Mansur Rashid Kikhia was living in exile as an opposition leader against Qaddafi's regime, and was even considered a potential future leader for Libya. Now, his daughter uses her camera to retrace his disappearance. Mixing personal and state archives, her own experiences and those of her family, Jihan takes the audience on a raw, thought-provoking journey that acts as the ultimate reminder that the personal and the political cannot be separated.



HARSH LAND, DISTANT SKY

FRI
30
16:40

CFF
15

IRAQ 2025 **102 MINS**

Kurdish with English subtitles

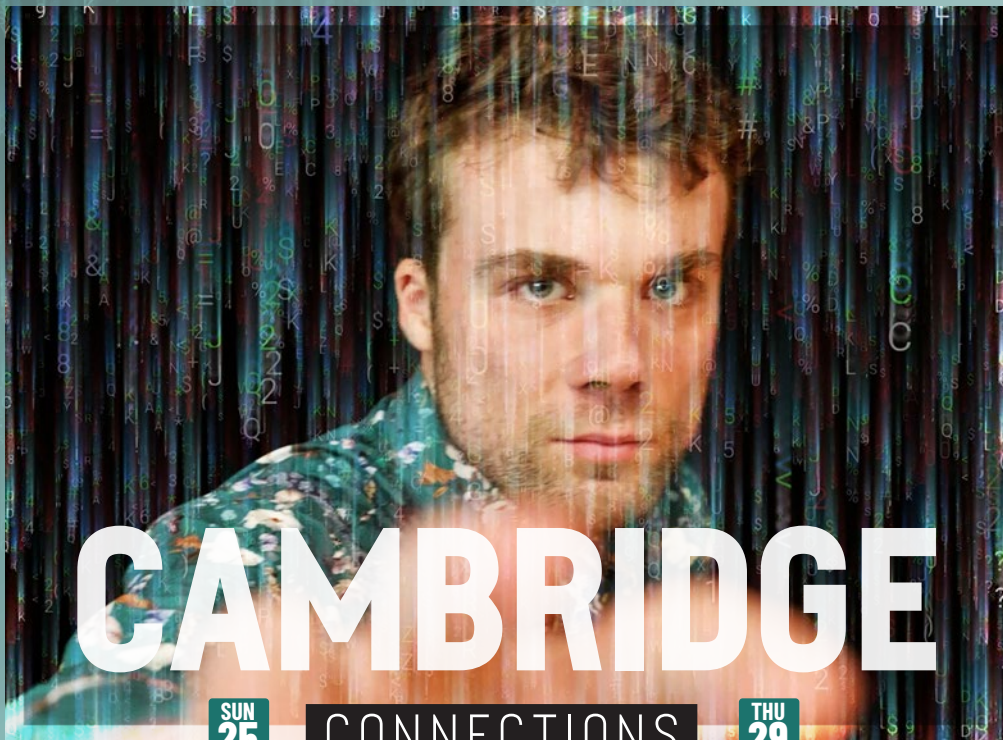
DIRECTOR Hawraz Mohammed

WITH Maryam Boubani, Diman Zandi, Bakhtiyar Panjeei, Azhdar Sazgar

PRINT SOURCE Yad Deen / Pillow Shot Productions

SUN
1
21:00

The debut film by Kurdish director and author Hawraz Mohammed tells the story of Harun, a veteran of the Kurdish Civil War, plagued by PTSD and the overwhelming guilt he like so many others, carries. Through the figure of Harun, Mohammed channels the harsh realities of a never-ending war – the one inside. To seek absolution, he must confess his darkest secrets to a traditional Kurdish tattooist who lives in a village on the borders of Iran, Iraq, and Turkey, a place once sacred, now torn, without knowing what he will find there.



CAMBRIDGE

SUN
25
13:05

CONNECTIONS

THU
29
11:30

CFF
15

Each year, we celebrate the best local filmmaking with our Cambridge Connections strand. This year, we're thrilled to present a diverse collection of short films from filmmakers across Cambridgeshire, showcasing the wealth of creativity our region has to offer. This collection highlights a range of stories, perspectives and filmmaking styles, celebrating the people and places that make Cambridgeshire such a vibrant hub for film. Discover fresh talent with a distinctly Cambridge connection.

YOUNG AND FOOLISH

2026 9 MINS

DIRECTOR Isis Cass-Clunie



LOVE IN THREE ACTS

2026 20 MINS

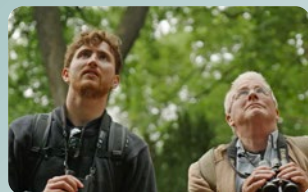
DIRECTOR Michelle Wing-Yan Siu



SEARCHING FOR GOSHAWKS

2025 17 MINS

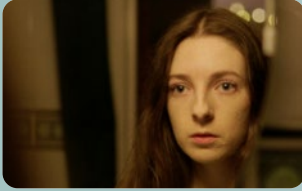
DIRECTOR Matthew Langley



BETTY

2026 10 MINS

DIRECTOR Miles Unsworth



TYING THE KNOT

2026 6 MINS

DIRECTOR Elsie Lean



NEW YEARS IN KILTS

2026 6 MINS

DIRECTOR Alessia De Caprio



EVERY TIME I SEE A YELLOW CAR

2025 14 MINS

DIRECTOR Matt Chandler



RE-SHAPING LANDSCAPES

2025 5 MINS

DIRECTORS Eva Aymami Rene
& Josh Newman



GLITCH

2025 8 MINS

DIRECTORS Peter Harmer
& Gavin Dent



FILM QUIZ

HOSTED BY THE YOUTH LAB

Join us for an evening of trivia, hosted by the Cambridge Film Festival's Youth Lab!
Expect a fun mix of questions, film-themed and beyond, with amazing prizes to be won.

All proceeds go towards the Festival's Education Programme,
helping us support the next generation of filmmakers.

ARTS PICTUREHOUSE BAR | THURSDAY 29 OCTOBER
7:30PM START | £5 PER PERSON | MAX 5 PER TEAM

CAMBRIDGE
Film
FESTIVAL

CAMBRIDGE FILM FESTIVAL INDUSTRY DAY

MONDAY 26 OCTOBER



Join us for a day packed with opportunities to network, gain insights from industry experts and create new relationships in the filmmaking world.

Whether you're just starting out or are already established in the industry, this is an event you don't want to miss!

Book your 'pay what you can' accreditation:

camfilmfest.com/industry-day



TIMETABLE

10:30 - 18:35

SHORTFUSION PREMIERES

12:45 - 14:00

CFF'S ANNUAL STATE OF THE INDUSTRY PANEL

14:15 - 15:15

SHORT FILM SHOWCASE WITH BFI NETWORK SOUTH EAST

15:30 - 16:30

BEHIND THE SHORTS: MEET THE FILMMAKERS WITH BFI NETWORK SOUTH EAST

16:45 - 17:45

IN CONVERSATION WITH HARRY LIGHTON (*PILLION*) WITH BFI NETWORK SOUTH EAST

From 17:45

NETWORKING DRINKS

In partnership with



Film Hub
South East ↘

10:30–18:35

SHORTFUSION PREMIERES

We are thrilled to premiere all of the Cambridge Film Festival's renowned short film programmes on Industry Day.

Check out ShortFusion on pages 56 to 62.



12:45–14:00

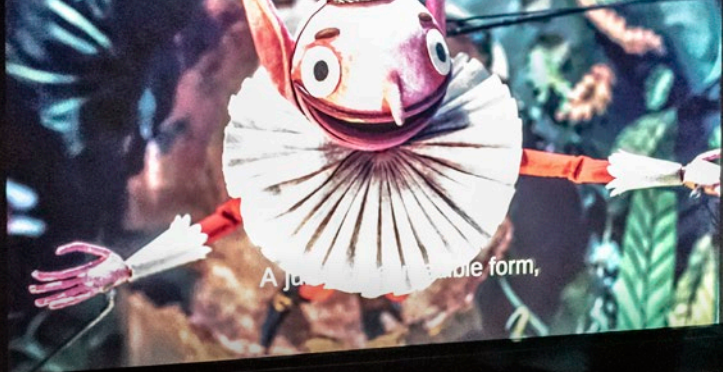
CFF'S ANNUAL STATE OF THE INDUSTRY PANEL

CFF's Annual State of the Industry Panel brings together professionals from across the sector to explore the key developments in the film industry over the past year.



With BSL interpretation.





14:15-15:15

BFI NETWORK SOUTH EAST

SHORT FILM SHOWCASE

Explore a curated lineup of recent short films backed by BFI NETWORK South East, and discover fresh talent and original storytelling.

DS All films will be shown with descriptive subtitles.

15:30-16:30

BFI NETWORK SOUTH EAST

BEHIND THE SHORTS: MEET THE FILMMAKERS

Hear directly from the filmmakers behind short films funded by BFI NETWORK South East.



With BSL interpretation.

16:45-17:45

BFI NETWORK SOUTH EAST

IN CONVERSATION WITH HARRY LIGHTON

Join us for a Q&A with Harry Lighton, director of debut feature *Pillion* (2025). Harry will share his journey into film and his experience receiving BFI NETWORK funding.



With BSL interpretation.

From 17:45

NETWORKING DRINKS

Join us to celebrate the end of another fantastic Industry Day at the Cambridge Film Festival!

MORE INDUSTRY DAY EVENTS AT THE GONVILLE HOTEL

These events are not included with your Industry Day accreditation.

Please register separately at: camfilmfest.com/industry-day

11:45 - 14:45

FILM HUB SOUTH EAST

FILM FESTIVAL ROUNDTABLE

Hosted by Film Hub South East, this event brings together the region's festival organisers to hear from guest speakers, discuss challenges and share knowledge to develop more successful festivals.



11:45-12:45

BFI NETWORK SOUTH EAST

ROUNDTABLE FOR FILMMAKERS

Hosted by BFI NETWORK Talent Executives, these roundtables are a chance to learn more about funding support and discuss your filmmaking journey.



Film and Media

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MPhil & PhD

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THE

Awards
2023

University of
the Year

TEF
2023
Gold

#OFF45

AUDIENCE AWARDS

Did you know that each year the Cambridge Film Festival presents a number of prestigious awards and YOU can vote for them?

Features premiering at the Festival, along with all our shorts, are eligible for our Audience Awards, decided by you, our audience.

If the film you're watching is eligible, a festival team member will hand you a voting card. Be sure to cast your vote and help us choose the winners!



To see past winners and explore other festival awards, visit our website.

camfilmfest.com/awards-history

A collage of images from The Gonville Hotel, including a tiered tray of Christmas cakes, a Christmas tree, a dining room, and a bedroom. The text "Christmas at The Gonville" is written in a cursive font across the center. Below this, three green boxes contain text about festive stays, afternoon tea, and Christmas parties. A QR code is located in the bottom right, and contact information is at the bottom.

GH
GONVILLE HOTEL
CAMBRIDGE

Christmas at The Gonville

Festive Stays
Make this Christmas extra special with our two and three-night stay packages. Relax in luxurious comfort, indulge in seasonal dining, and enjoy the magic of Cambridge on your doorstep.

Festive Afternoon Tea
Add sparkle to the season with our festive afternoon tea, served with seasonal treats and the option of a glass of bubbly. Perfect for catching up with loved ones.

Christmas Parties & Private Dining
From glittering party nights to intimate private dining, The Gonville offers a variety of spaces to host your celebration. Raise a glass with colleagues, friends, or family and let our team take care of every detail.

Scan QR to view our Christmas brochure

01223 366611 | www.gonvillehotel.co.uk | events.gonvillehotel@radissonindividuals.com

JURY AWARD

2024 NEBELKIND - THE END OF SILENCE

by Tereza Kotyk



2025 SLEEPLESS CITY

by Guillermo Galoe

Our jury brings together a diverse group of industry professionals and passionate advocates for cinema, who will select the recipient of the Golden Punt Award for Best Discovery Feature.

The award celebrates bold, distinctive filmmaking and films that challenge, inspire and push the boundaries of cinema.

Alongside our Audience Awards and Youth Lab Jury Award, the Golden Punt gives our jury the opportunity to shine a light on films that make a lasting impression and deserve to be discovered by new audiences.



Francesca Steele is an award-winning journalist and former senior writer at *The Times*. She is now Lead Film Critic at *The i Paper*, and a freelance journalist for outlets including *The Times*, *The Telegraph*, and *Sight and Sound*. She is a member of BAFTA and the London Film Critics' Circle, and host of the podcast, *Write-Off with Francesca Steele*.



Emma Widdis is a leading scholar of Russian and Soviet film and a professor at the University of Cambridge. Her research explores film, feeling and the senses, and she has written widely on Soviet cinema and its relationship to everyday life and culture.



Tanya Horeck is a Professor of Film and Feminist Media Studies at Anglia Ruskin University. Her research explores depictions of gender and sexual violence, with particular interests in intimacy coordination, consent cultures and online harm. She is the author of *Public Rape and Justice on Demand*, and she leads ARU's Centre for Media, Arts & Creative Technologies.

SPECIAL EVENTS

CFF 45TH BIRTHDAY SCREENING

PORTRAIT OF A LADY ON FIRE

15

SUN
25
15:20

PORTRAIT DE LA JEUNE FILLE EN FEU

FRANCE 2019 122 MINS

French with English subtitles

DIRECTOR Céline Sciamma

WITH Noémie Merlant, Adèle Haenel

PRINT SOURCE Filmbankmedia

Heralded by many as the film that rewrote the textbook on the female gaze, *Portrait of a Lady on Fire* is the film which propelled Sciamma to worldwide fame, earning her a Golden Globe nomination. The lesbian period drama, which had people flocking to cinemas to experience the most intense look-exchange in film since *Carol*, was chosen by all of us at CFF to celebrate our 45th anniversary. A love story in-the-making, the film unites two stellar French talents – Adèle Haenel and Noémie Merlant – in an entrancing, slow-burner romance on the coast of Brittany.



HITCHCOCK'S THE LODGER @100

THE LODGER: A STORY OF THE LONDON FOG

PG

TUE
27
15:45

UK 1926 90 MINS

Silent with intertitles

DIRECTOR Alfred Hitchcock

WITH Ivor Novello, Marie Ault

PRINT SOURCE Park Circus

Hitchcock himself called it “the first true Hitchcock movie”.

Subtitled “A Story of the London Fog”, and inspired by the case of

Jack the Ripper, *The Lodger* is a suspenseful serial-killer film that foreshadows all of the major themes of Hitchcock's subsequent work. The story of its making has also become a major part of the Hitchcock legend. It was shot and first shown in 1926, and to mark its centenary we are presenting it at Cambridge Film Festival with an intro from Henry K. Miller, author of *The First True Hitchcock* – and an outro revealing a shocking hidden twist.



RAFAEL AZCONA : DARK HUMOUR AGAINST CENSORSHIP

Over a prolific fifty-year career, Rafael Azcona was one of Spain's most influential screenwriters, a master observer of ordinary lives, social cruelty, and the absurd compromises demanded by survival. Beginning as a novelist and humorist, he brought to cinema a distinctive blend of dark comedy, compassion, and unsparing political insight. This collaboration with Instituto Cervantes in London commemorates his centenary with *Plácido* and *El verdugo*, two of his finest achievements and enduring landmarks in the history of Spanish cinema.



PLÁCIDO

CFF
12A

SUN
25
16:10

SPAIN 1961 85 MINS

Spanish with English subtitles

DIRECTOR Luis García Berlanga

WITH Cassen, José Luis López Vázquez, Elvira Quintilla

PRINT SOURCE Janus Films

Azcona and Berlanga's first feature-collaboration, *Plácido* turns a charitable Christmas dinner into a subversive vision of Francoist Spain. While prominent citizens publicly display compassion by inviting poor people to dine with them, Plácido desperately tries to prevent the repossession of his humble three-wheeled vehicle. Around him, generosity becomes spectacle as Christian morality dissolves into selfishness. Berlanga's crowded ensemble scenes, frantic rhythm, and dark humour expose respectable society's indifference to genuine suffering. Hilarious yet merciless, *Plácido* cleverly slips beneath the censor's gaze to reveal the hypocrisy sustaining bourgeois appearances under Franco's stifling rule.

EL VERDUGO

CFF
15

TUE
27
13:35

SPAIN & ITALY 1963 91 MINS

Spanish with English subtitles

DIRECTOR Luis García Berlanga

WITH Nino Manfredi, José Isbert, Emma Penella

PRINT SOURCE Janus Films

Co-writers Rafael Azcona and Luis García Berlanga construct a razor-sharp evasion of Francoist censorship while confronting the dictatorship's contempt for human dignity. Timid José Luis marries an executioner's daughter. Trapped by economic insecurity and a housing shortage, he reluctantly assumes his father-in-law's trade to secure a state-allocated apartment, convinced he will never have to perform an execution. Through escalating, merciless black humour, the filmmakers weaponise the mundane struggle for survival, exposing how structural poverty and bureaucracy can turn an ordinary citizen into an unwilling instrument of state violence.

REEL VOICES

A Mentoring Programme for Aspiring Film Journalists

CFF Reel Voices is dedicated to nurturing emerging talent and helping young people develop film journalism skills through:



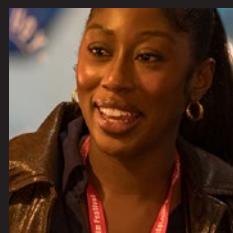
**ONE-TO-ONE
MENTORING
FROM INDUSTRY
PROFESSIONALS**



**WORKSHOPS ON
JOURNALISM
AND FILM
CRITICISM**



**FULL ACCESS TO
THE FESTIVAL
WITH PRESS
ACCREDITATION**



**PUBLISHING
REVIEWS ON
THE FESTIVAL'S
PLATFORMS**

Interested in taking part in the next edition? Please email

info@cambridgefilmfestival.org.uk

CFF Reel voices is jointly delivered by:



Read the reviews on
the Festival website:



Book here



BREAKING IN

Sunday 25 October 2-4pm **Gonville Hotel**

Establishing yourself as a professional screenwriter

Film and TV are tough, competitive industries – so how does an aspiring screenwriter get a foot in the door? Join us for a Q&A session with a panel of established industry experts who bring real-world experience to bear on this issue and many more. Expect raw truth, behind-the-scenes insights and practical tips – and possibly the occasional bizarre anecdote!

The session will be chaired by professional screenwriter and ARU lecturer Toby Venables, co-creator and co-writer (with Felicity Evans) of the BAFTA and BIFA-winning Netflix horror film *His House* (2020).



This event is delivered by Nightmare Scenario – an independent consultancy service for screenwriters.

www.nightmarescenar.io

Damn good. All day.



DISHOOM
Permit Room

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A Salute to the
Permit Rooms
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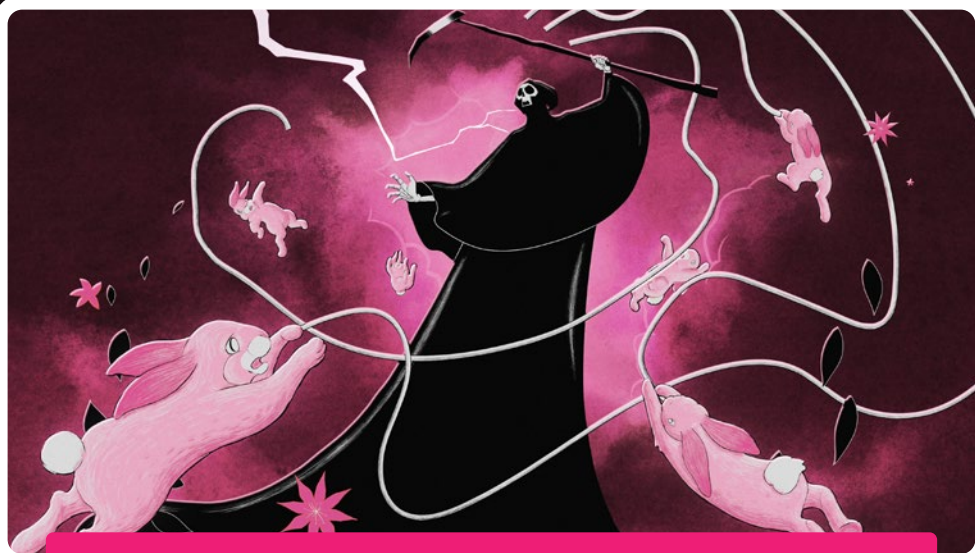
Moreish curries, seriously
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SHORTFUSION

Escape into extraordinary worlds with these captivating short film programmes. From the surreal to the heartfelt, this international selection explores belonging, resilience and identity. Whether comforting or challenging, these bold stories will stay with you long after watching them.



THESE THAT BIND

CFF
12A

The bonds we build, the people we find, and the unexpected places we call home.

65 MINS Contains themes of grief, discrimination, and brief disturbing animal imagery.

MEGUMI

UK 2026 18 MINS

DIRECTOR Hiroki Berreclough

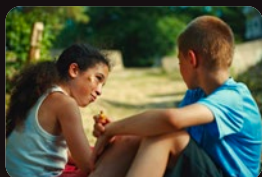


Megumi, a bullied schoolgirl who believes her isolation stems from her Japanese-ness, attempts to reconcile her fracturing identity through art.

OUR KINGDOM

UK 2026 9 MINS

DIRECTOR Chris Ross



On a long summer's afternoon, neighbours Becky and Jake offer each other a safe haven — and a promise.

SABA

USA 2026 10 MINS

DIRECTOR Liron Topaz



In an abstract and symbolic world where gravity is reversed, a unique bond forms between a grandfather and his grandson.

ARYK!

UK & KAZAKHSTAN 2026

4 MINS

DIRECTOR Ilya Wray



Two boys compete in a bottle-cap boat race, unleashing a wild chase through the city and beyond.



A LITTLE DEATH

UK & USA 2026 13 MINS

DIRECTORS Leto Meade & Jonathan Rockefeller



Death's patience is tested when his apprentice appears incapable of the task, leading him to seek professional help.

UNCLE ARTOO

UK 2025 11 MINS

DIRECTOR Zoë Whittaker



In his later years, Nosferatu has become a foster carer for children. What could possibly go wrong?

MON
26
10:40

WED
28
11:15



FRIENDLY ENCOUNTERS

OFF
15

A pigeon, needy neighbours, statues, and a psychedelic toad - unlikely friendships arrive when we need them most.

53 MINS Contains references to suicide.

THE PAINTING AND THE STATUE



UK 2025 20 MINS

DIRECTOR Freddie Fox



Two lonely strangers meet across a crowded room. With just one look, one breathless moment, they are brought alive... literally.

MON
26
12:00

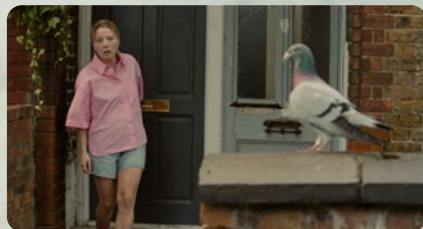
WED
28
13:10

THE PIGEON



UK 2025 12 MINS

DIRECTOR Chloe Culpin



A bereaved young woman believes her sister has been reincarnated, as a pigeon.

THE LAST INGREDIENT

ITALY 2025 8 MINS

DIRECTOR Lorenzo Cioglia



A young man, determined to end it all, is repeatedly interrupted by his elderly neighbour's increasingly absurd Bundt cake requests.

TODD AND THE TOAD



GERMANY 2025 13 MINS

DIRECTOR Julia Mücke



When a first date sends an anxious young man into panic, an unlikely hallucinatory therapist helps him confront his fears.

POWERPLAY



Who holds the power, who pays the price, and what unfolds when the balance shifts?

89 MINS Contains strong violence, themes of oppression and references to sexual coercion.

VULTURES

FRANCE & SOUTH AFRICA 2025 15 MINS

DIRECTOR Dian Weys



After a car crash, a hot-headed, desperate tow truck driver fiercely protects his tow. But the situation quickly spirals.

RAGE

SPAIN 2025 19 MINS

DIRECTORS Fran Moreno Blanco & Santi Pujol Amat



Eric, living in a juvenile center, runs away to find his mother, only to discover she's moved on without him.

JASMINE. HOME. MOTHER

LITHUANIA, UK & USA 2026

15 MINS

DIRECTOR Ugnė Skonsmanaitė



On a surreal game show where stories are currency, a woman battles censorship to reclaim her family, homeland, and jasmine.

COYOTES

FRANCE, JORDAN, PALESTINE & UK

2025 20 MINS

DIRECTOR Said Zagha



A Palestinian surgeon drives home from work, unaware that commuting through a desolate West Bank road will change her forever.

THE SECRET ASSISTANTS

FRANCE, GERMANY & UK 2025

20 MINS

DIRECTOR Katey Lee Carson



Ambitious novice, Sophie, walks a razor's edge as her interview with industry titan Henry Mann descends into squalid power play.



MON
26
10:30

TUE
27
11:15

TURNING TIDES

MON
26
15:20

FRI
30
11:15



Confronting identity, tradition, loss - these films explore resilience, transformation and courage to embrace change.

89 MINS Contains themes of discrimination and sexual abuse.

GREEN GRASS

UK 2026 17 MINS

DIRECTOR Aram Atkinson



Declan, a disengaged university coaster, confronts his long-hidden identity when forced to work with fiercely independent new Deaf student, Claire.

A TWIST OF HATE

UK 2026 10 MINS

DIRECTOR Maddy Shenai



A newlywed couple encounter an unusual lawyer who probes their motivations for love.



MURMURATION

NETHERLANDS 2025

13 MINS

DIRECTORS Janneke Swinkels & Tim Frijnsinger



An elderly man realises he's suddenly turning into a bird.



MOONCAKE

AUSTRALIA

2025 12 MINS

DIRECTORS Amanda Kaye & Shih-Yin Judy Yeh



One Moon Festival, Lydia unconventionally comes out to her family, unleashing chaos, generational reckoning, and long-buried family secrets.



THE ONE WHO PLAYS

INDIA 2025 27 MINS

DIRECTOR Shobhita Thakur



Inspired by a female village doctor, a bright young girl dares to dream beyond community limits and generations of inequality.



CIRCLE HOOK

UK 2025 10 MINS

DIRECTOR Maddy Corner



Set against Cornwall's declining fishing industry, Samuel and his grandson, Vinnie, wrestle with grief, connection and the pressures of survival.



RENTALS LOVE THAT

MON
26
13:10

THU
29
13:30

CFF
15

From sisters to fractured marriages, love rarely disappears entirely - it simply changes shape.

111 MINS Contains themes of alcoholism and domestic abuse.

DADO

BRAZIL 2026

14 MINS

DIRECTOR Milena Mendonça Décourt



On their honeymoon, Penha and Dado drift away in a VW Beetle until strange radio transmissions reveal their marriage's future.

ONE LAST NIGHT

USA & SWITZERLAND

2025 20 MINS

DIRECTOR Michael Guillod



Before leaving for college, Braden takes his younger brother away from their mother's chaos for one final, bittersweet night together.

TO CATCH A SIREN

GERMANY, SWITZERLAND

& UK 2026 20 MINS

DIRECTOR Raphaella Wagner



A young orphan desperately searches for the mermaid she believes to be her mother, before adoption sends her far away.

GRAPPLING GRACE

UK 2026 20 MINS

DIRECTORS Alexander Kiehl
& Misha Novak



A jazz-dancing Iranian-British wrestler opens a healing dojo inside a Bristol church, believing wrestling might just save the world.

CURA SANA

SPAIN 2024

18 MINS

DIRECTOR Lucía G. Romero



Jessica and Alma, sisters experiencing domestic abuse, begin treating each other with love instead of violence.

THE HARVEST

BELGIUM 2025

19 MINS

DIRECTOR Alice D'Hauwe



Since her father's death, Rosie hasn't spoken. But as harvest ends, her silence becomes a poison that refuses to leave.

UNBROKEN

CFE
15

Across borders, generations and identities, these stories refuse to be silenced, courageously standing their ground.

86 MINS Contains strong themes of political and wartime violence, suicide, and discrimination.

KRIZALIT

TURKEY 2025 17 MINS



DIRECTORS Naz Tokgöz & Aranxta Ibarra



Deniz, an enigmatic young woman in Turkey, experiences the euphoria of Melisa's love alongside the weight of identity and belonging.

IT MEANS HOPE

IRAN 2026 15 MINS



DIRECTOR Shadi Karamroudi



An encounter between two women: one forced to appear in a political confession video, the other a member of the video crew.

WELCOME TO THE TOOLSHED

USA 2025 23 MINS



DIRECTORS Daniel Talbott & Andrew Klaus-Vineyard



An in-depth, searing look at the queer senior community gathering at the Tool Shed, a long-standing gay bar and sanctuary.

JEEM 1983

LEBANON 2025 16 MINS

DIRECTOR Jorj Abou Mhaya



Set in war-torn Beirut, seven-year-old Jeem uses his imagination to bring a ceasefire to the Lebanese Civil War.

BLOW

BRAZIL 2026 15 MINS



DIRECTOR Fernanda Beling



On Rapha's seventh birthday, suffocating traditional family expectations force gender-nonforming Rapha to make a magical wish to escape.

MON
26
17:05

FRI
30
13:30



CAMBRIDGE COMMUNITY FILM PROJECT

Cambridge Film Festival is proud to support Love Mill Road in developing community film screenings and events in local communities, supporting access to film and exhibition opportunities for filmmakers.

Upcoming Events

10
OCT

6:30-9pm: Outdoor short film programme
at Ditchburn Gardens, Mill Road

4/5/6
DEC

Mill Road Winter Fair programme and
Fringe events at ARU

27/28
FEB

Community Film Weekend
at Mill Road



@cambcommunityfilmproject



cambcommunityfilmproject@gmail.com

Volunteer with us
or submit your
film for screening
consideration ->



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Working side-by-side with brilliant partners across Cambridge, we are advancing pioneering science with the aim to transform the future of healthcare.



1,000+

student visits to our STEM
Inspiration Lab in 2025

We support local economic growth and collaborate to inspire the next generation through STEM education, early careers programmes, and mentoring entrepreneurs.



55

charitable beneficiaries in 2025

We are dedicated to giving back by contributing to local causes and charities, and are proud to partner with Maggie's Cambridge as our Charity of Choice until 2027.

Learn more about AstraZeneca in Cambridge

This advert has been created and funded by AstraZeneca.



FAMILY FILM FESTIVAL

Our popular free family screenings are back with a wonderful cast of characters to discover! Journey to Oz with Elphaba and Glinda, explore Mary's Secret Garden, and discover Ron's robotic mishaps. Meet some extraordinary families: the March sisters, the body-swapping Colemans, and the all-together ooky Addams family. Plus, celebrate 35 years of Disney's *Beauty and the Beast* with us.

BEAUTY AND THE BEAST U

USA 1991 84 MINS

DIRECTORS Gary Trousdale & Kirk Wise

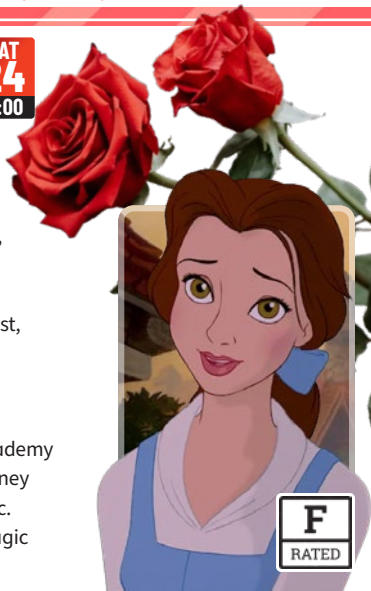
WITH Paige O'Hara, Robby Benson, Richard White, Jerry Orbach

PRINT SOURCE Filmbankmedia

Come and celebrate the 35th anniversary of Disney's beloved classic, *Beauty and the Beast*, at CFF. Belle, a studious, independent young woman, spends her days helping her inventive father Maurice, and avoiding the boastful Gaston. When Maurice becomes lost in the forest, Belle sets out to rescue him, only to discover a mysterious enchanted castle that hides far more than she ever imagined.

Beauty and the Beast remains one of Disney's most celebrated achievements. The first animated feature ever nominated for the Academy Award for Best Picture, it is widely regarded as a landmark of the Disney Renaissance and a masterpiece of animation, storytelling, and music. Experience this timeless tale on the big screen and rediscover the magic that has captivated audiences for generations.

SAT
24
11:00



THE SECRET GARDEN U

UK & USA 1993 101 MINS

DIRECTOR Agnieszka Holland

WITH Kate Maberley, Maggie Smith, Heydon Prowse, Andrew Knott

PRINT SOURCE Park Circus

When Mary Lennox is orphaned, she is sent to live with her reclusive uncle in a vast mansion on the Yorkshire Moors. As she explores her mysterious new home, she uncovers hidden secrets behind locked doors, while unexpected wonders lie in wait. Gradually, Mary's lonely and guarded nature falls away as new friendships - and a magical garden - bring warmth, hope, and happiness into her life.

Don't miss this rare opportunity to experience this beautiful adaptation of *The Secret Garden* on the big screen. A timeless family favourite, it is a captivating story of friendship, resilience and the transformative power of nature.

SUN
25
11:00



Family
Film Festival
screenings are
FREE
for all

All screenings are relaxed.

For more fun, join us in the cinema
restaurant an hour before each family
screening for arts and crafts.

WICKED

PG

TUE
27
11:00

USA 2024 160 MINS

DIRECTOR Jon M. Chu

WITH Cynthia Erivo, Ariana Grande, Jonathan Bailey,
Michelle Yeoh, Jeff Goldblum

PRINT SOURCE Filmbankmedia

How did the Witch of the West become so...Wicked?
Discover the untold story in this special screening. When
Elphaba, an intelligent young woman who is ostracised
for her green skin, enrolls at Shiz University, she has no
idea how dramatically her life is about to change. Amid
magic, mischief and an unlikely friendship, she is swept
into a journey across Oz, where she uncovers the truth
behind the legendary Wizard.

A global sensation on its 2024 release, this spectacular musical adventure bursts with unforgettable songs,
breathtaking visuals and heartwarming storytelling – the perfect half-term treat for the whole family.



RON'S GONE WRONG

PG

WED
28
11:00

UK & USA 2021 107 MINS

DIRECTORS Sarah Smith & J. P. Vine

WITH Zach Galifianakis, Jack Dylan Grazer, Ed Helms, Justice Smith

PRINT SOURCE Filmbankmedia

In a world where every child owns a digitally connected robot
companion, socially awkward Barney finally receives his
long-awaited device. However, when his robot, Ron,
arrives with faulty programming, the pair are thrust into
a series of wild adventures. As Barney and Ron navigate
friendship, school, and the pressures of social media, they
discover that genuine connection cannot be manufactured
or measured by popularity. Blending heartfelt emotion, sharp
humour, and imaginative animation, *Ron's Gone Wrong* is a
touching family adventure that explores technology's impact
on relationships while celebrating individuality, loyalty, and
the beautifully imperfect nature of true friendship.

F
RATED



LITTLE WOMEN

U

THU
29
11:00

USA 1994 111 MINS

DIRECTOR Gillian Armstrong

WITH Winona Ryder, Kirsten Dunst, Susan Sarandon, Clare Danes, Trini Alvarado, Christian Bale

PRINT SOURCE Park Circus

Meet the March sisters, Jo, Beth, Meg and Amy, in this warm and deeply affecting adaptation of *Little Women*, Louisa May Alcott's beloved classic. While the Civil War rages, the sisters navigate the challenges of growing up, balancing ambition, duty, love and family. Independent and determined, Jo dreams of becoming a writer in a society that offers few opportunities to women, while Meg, Amy and Beth each pursue their own distinct paths.

Featuring an outstanding young ensemble cast, including an Oscar-nominated performance from Winona Ryder, this acclaimed adaptation captures the joy and heartbreak of family life with warmth and humour. A timeless coming-of-age story that resonates with audiences of all generations.



FREAKIER FRIDAY

PG

FRI
30
11:00

USA 2025 111 MINS

DIRECTOR Nisha Ganatra

WITH Lindsay Lohan, Jamie Lee Curtis, Julia Butters, Sophia Hammons

PRINT SOURCE Filmbankmedia

Two decades after their first body-swap experience in *Freaky Friday* (2003), Tess and Anna Coleman are back. As Anna prepares to marry, tensions rise between her ditzy teenage daughter and uptight soon-to-be stepdaughter. When a mysterious earthquake triggers a new round of body-swapping mayhem, all four women's lives are turned upside down.

Reuniting Jamie Lee Curtis and Lindsay Lohan, *Freakier Friday* puts a fresh spin on the beloved Disney comedy. Packed with heart, humour, and plenty of laugh-out-loud moments, this long-awaited sequel celebrates family, empathy and the unexpected ways we learn to understand one another.



ADDAMS FAMILY VALUES PG

USA 1993 94 MINS

DIRECTOR Barry Sonnenfeld

WITH Angelica Huston, Raul Julia, Christina Ricci, Joan Cusack, Christopher Lloyd

PRINT SOURCE Filmbankmedia

Celebrate Halloween with the delightfully macabre Addams family in this darkly comic classic. As Gomez and Morticia welcome a new addition to the household, Wednesday and Pugsley find themselves less than thrilled by baby brother Pubert's arrival, leading to their exile at an unsuspectingly cheerful summer camp. Meanwhile, Uncle Fester falls head over heels for the seemingly perfect Debbie - but beneath her charming exterior lurks a deadly secret.

Addams Family Values has only become more beloved with time, earning cult status and inspiring countless memes. Packed with gothic wit, unforgettable characters, and wicked humour, it's the warmest welcome to your spooky season.



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The Cambridge Film Trust is proud to present the Cambridge Film Festival each year, but our work doesn't stop there.

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our free Family Film
Festival in 2025



620

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Pay What You Can
screenings



249

young people
benefited from our
free education &
youth programmes



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300**

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174 volunteers helped
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Odysseus, The Odyssey



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