

28TH BFI LONDON LESBIAN AND GAY FILM FESTIVAL CONFIRMED FOR SPRING 2014

"London Lesbian & Gay Film Festival. Never afraid to shake things up"
Guardian Guide

"Stuffed with treats" **Gay Times**

"Showcasing the best in queer cinema" **Time Out**

*"Never have I experienced such volume in attendance and or appreciation from an audience", Selena Blake,
director, **Taboo...Yardies (winner Derek Oyston CHE Film Prize 2013)***

The BFI has confirmed that the 28th BFI London Lesbian & Gay Film Festival (LLGFF) will present eleven days of the best in queer cinema from around the world from Thursday 20th March – Sunday 30th March 2014 in one of the most eagerly anticipated events in the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender (LGBT) cultural calendar. The LLGFF will take place right across BFI Southbank, the heart of cultural cinema in the UK, with all screens dedicated to LGBT content in a packed programme including Opening Night and Closing Night gala screenings, celebrations, sponsored galas, and a full supporting programme of special on-stage events, weekend late bars, DJs and more. New for this festival will be a special fund-raising event and a dedicated LLGFF channel on the BFI Player the BFI's new VOD platform ensuring audiences all over the UK can enjoy the riches of the festival. Full details of the programme will be released at a public preview event on 19th February 2014 at BFI Southbank and via the website www.bfi.org.org.uk

The 2013 edition of the LLGFF took place over 11 days and enjoyed an extraordinary audience response with 22,000 attendances, an increase of 1,000 on the 2012 festival, across 130 programmes of screenings and events. Over 300 international delegates (press, film-makers and industry) attended the festival. Visiting directors included Jeffrey Schwarz (*I Am Divine* – Opening Night gala), Dominique Cardona and Laurie Colbert (*Margarita* – Closing Night gala) Negar Azarbayjani (*Facing Mirrors*), Myriam Fougere (*Lesbiana*), Kevin Hegge (*She Said Boom*), Michael Mayer (*Out in the Dark*), Oscar-nominated David France (*How to Survive a Plague*) and many more. Directors Mark Ravenhill & Jeremy Jeffs and their subject attended the world premiere of *Bette Bourne: It Goes With the Shoes*, a new documentary about a living legend of British gay cultural life. Other highlights included the UK premiere of Travis Matthews' and James Franco's *Interior. Leather Bar* attended by actor Christian Patrick and the first screening in a generation of the newly rediscovered earliest British gay themed television drama, *South* (1959). Evan Davis hosted a reunion of the team from *Framed Youth* (1983) with a youth film-making workshop, and a series of discussion events were held on Pasolini, Chantal Akerman and Global Queer Space.

Led by BFI Head of Cinemas and Festivals, Clare Stewart, and BFI Deputy Head of Festivals Tricia Tuttle, the festival is programmed by a team of five programmers Brian Robinson, Emma Smart, Jason Barker, Michael Blyth and Nazmia Jamal.

Accenture and the BFI

The festival is delighted to continue its long term relationship with Accenture and in 2014 we welcome them back as Principal Sponsor. We also look forward to welcoming back a number of other long term supporters to the Festival, to be announced.

Accreditation

Applications for press accreditation open on the 19 February 2014, please visit the website to apply online. For any accreditation enquiries please contact: Lucy Aronica 020 7 957 4833 lucy.aronica@bfi.org.uk

NOTES TO EDITORS

About the BFI

The BFI is the lead body for film in the UK with the ambition to create a flourishing film environment in which innovation, opportunity and creativity can thrive by:

- ☑ Connecting audiences to the widest choice of British and World cinema
- ☑ Preserving and restoring the most significant film collection in the world for today and future generations
- ☑ Championing emerging and world class film makers in the UK
- ☑ Investing in creative, distinctive and entertaining work
- ☑ Promoting British film and talent to the world
- ☑ Growing the next generation of film makers and audiences

About Accenture

Accenture has enjoyed a longstanding relationship with the BFI (British Film Institute) and was delighted to extend the connection to become An Official Partner of the BFI for the next three years. As part of this partnership, Accenture is proud to continue as principal sponsor of the BFI's London Lesbian and Gay Film Festival. The partnership aligns Accenture's global leadership in digital and information technologies with a strong, trusted and contemporary brand full of creativity, innovation and passion for the world of film and television. Last year, Accenture Interactive supported the BFI as it worked to define its vision for the future of the BFI National Archive access and respond to the changing needs of the film watching public. The BFI worked with Accenture experts across digital strategy, customer experience and digital video services on how a BFI branded player would be able to robustly serve a growing video-on-demand audience with an evolving catalogue of old and new content, while retaining the BFI's unique curatorial values. Accenture is delighted to continue to support the BFI and its vision for the future of UK film.

Accenture is a global management consulting, technology services and outsourcing company, with approximately 281,000 people serving clients in more than 120 countries. Combining unparalleled experience, comprehensive capabilities across all industries and business functions, and extensive research on the world's most successful companies, Accenture collaborates with clients to help them become high-performance businesses and governments. The company generated net revenues of US\$28.6 billion for the fiscal year ended Aug. 31, 2013. Its home page is www.accenture.com.

<http://www.accenture.com/bfi>

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