

## BFI to mark Ingmar Bergman's centenary with major retrospective at BFI Southbank and UK-wide film releases



**Monday 18 September 2017, London.**

As part of the global celebrations of the centenary of world-renowned Swedish filmmaker **INGMAR BERGMAN** (1918 – 2007), the BFI today announces that it will embark on a major season of his work at its flagship London venue **BFI Southbank** from **Monday 1 January – mid-March 2018**. This comprehensive retrospective will include everything Bergman wrote for the screen, taking in well-known features such as **THE SEVENTH SEAL** (1957), **WILD STRAWBERRIES** (1957) and **PERSONA** (1966), as well as lesser-known works such as his English language film **THE TOUCH** (1971), starring Elliot Gould, Bibi Andersson and Max von Sydow. Also screening will be ground-breaking TV series like **SCENES FROM A MARRIAGE** (1973) starring frequent collaborator Liv Ullmann and the award-winning **FANNY AND ALEXANDER** (1983). Bergman transformed the way people thought about film as an expressive and profound art form rather than as mere entertainment; his great cinematic works of art are deeply personal films that no one else could have made.

Screenings will be accompanied by an ambitious programme of discussions, talent-led events and immersive experiences, bringing Bergman and his work to life for a new generation. The season will be programmed thematically, so as to better offer audiences a route into Bergman's huge back-catalogue, with strands dealing with such themes as romantic relationships, families, women and the injustices of the world.

Also included will be a UK-wide re-release of his version of Mozart's much-loved opera **THE MAGIC FLUTE** (1975). Light, funny and charming, it was originally made for Swedish television, but was so popular that a theatrical version was in high demand, and the film was released worldwide to huge acclaim including an Academy Award nomination. The release of **THE MAGIC FLUTE** in February will follow previews in December at BFI Southbank. More theatrical releases will be announced in due course. The season will offer audiences a chance to reappraise, or discover for the first time, the work of the ultimate auteur; a hugely influential and distinctive writer-director who worked in film, theatre and television.

More details about the season and UK-wide releases will be announced towards the end of the year.

– ENDS –

## **NOTES TO EDITORS:**

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### **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

The BFI is a Government arm's-length body and distributor of Lottery funds for film. The BFI serves a public role which covers the cultural, creative and economic aspects of film in the UK. It delivers this role:

- As the UK-wide organisation for film, a charity core funded by Government
- By providing Lottery and Government funds for film across the UK
- By working with partners to advance the position of film in the UK.

Founded in 1933, the BFI is a registered charity governed by Royal Charter.

The BFI Board of Governors is chaired by Josh Berger CBE.

The BFI Southbank is open to all. BFI members are entitled to a discount on all tickets. BFI Southbank Box Office tel: 020 7928 3232. Unless otherwise stated tickets are £12.10, concs £9.70 including Gift Aid donation. Members pay £2.00 less on any ticket - [www.bfi.org.uk/southbank](http://www.bfi.org.uk/southbank).

Young people aged 25 and under can buy last minute tickets for just £3, 45 minutes before the start of screenings and events, subject to availability - <http://www.bfi.org.uk/25-and-under>.

**Tickets for FREE screenings and events must be booked in advance by calling the Box Office to avoid disappointment**

### **BFI Shop**

The BFI Shop is stocked and staffed by BFI experts with over 1,200 book titles and 1,000 DVDs to choose from, including hundreds of acclaimed books and DVDs produced by the BFI.

### **The benugo bar & kitchen**

Eat, drink and be merry in panoramic daylight. benugo's décor is contemporary, brightly lit and playful with a lounge space, bar and dining area. The place to network, hang out, unpack a film, savour the best of Modern British or sip on a cocktail.

There's more to discover about film and television through the BFI. Our world-renowned archival collections, cinemas, festivals, films, publications and learning resources are here to inspire you.

**\*\*\* PICTURE DESK \*\*\***

**A selection of images for journalistic use in promoting BFI Southbank screenings can be found at [www.image.net](http://www.image.net) under BFI / BFI Southbank / 2018 / Jan / Ingmar Bergman**