



# **BFI LONDON FILM FESTIVAL**

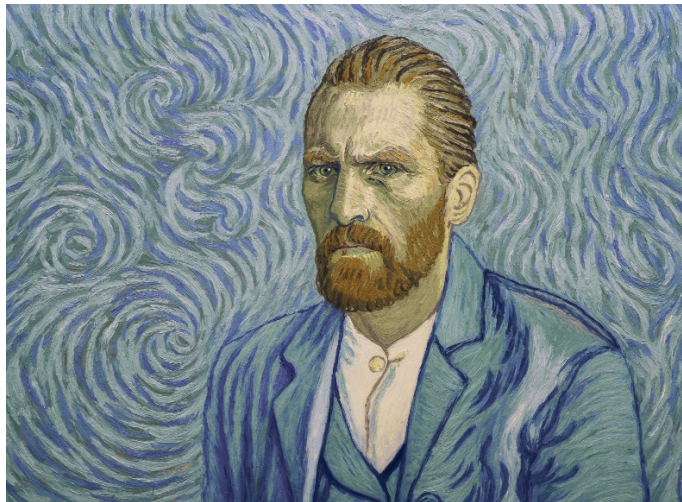
4–15 October 2017

in partnership with



**61ST BFI LONDON FILM FESTIVAL ANNOUNCES THE  
NATIONWIDE UK PREMIERE OF**

## **LOVING VINCENT**



**VINCENT VAN GOGH'S PAINTING STYLE BROUGHT  
VIVIDLY TO LIFE IN ANIMATED FEATURE  
FILM WILL BE BROADCAST LIVE FROM  
THE NATIONAL GALLERY TO CINEMAS ACROSS THE UK**

**Embargoed until 9.30am on Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> August.**

**LONDON – 23 August 2017:** The 61st BFI London Film Festival in partnership with American Express® is delighted to announce the UK Premiere of *LOVING VINCENT*. Broadcast live from the National Gallery on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> October, audiences in cinemas across the country are invited to experience the film premiere and the following Q&A with special guests. Tickets go on-sale from Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> August at [LovingVincent.Film](http://LovingVincent.Film).

LOVING VINCENT is a stunning, fully painted animated feature, starring Douglas Booth and Oscar-nominated Saoirse Ronan and directed by Dorota Kobiela and Hugh Welchman. LOVING VINCENT explores the life and controversial death of Vincent Van Gogh, told by his paintings and by the characters that inhabit them. The intrigue unfolds through interviews with the characters closest to Vincent and through dramatic reconstructions of the events leading up to his death.

LOVING VINCENT stars Douglas Booth, Jerome Flynn, Chris O'Dowd, Oscar-nominee Saoirse Ronan, Aiden Turner, Helen McCrory, Eleanor Tomlinson and John Sessions. Dorota Kobiela and Hugh Welchman co-directed the feature with Hugh Welchman also producing alongside Sean Bobbitt for the Oscar-winning BreakThru Films (*Peter and the Wolf*) and Ivan MacTaggart for Trademark Films (*Shakespeare in Love*). David Parfitt and Silver Reel's Claudia Bluemhuber and Ian Hutchinson served as executive producers. The film's musical score was composed and arranged by Grammy nominated Clint Mansell (*Black Swan*).

**Tricia Tuttle, Deputy Head of Festivals for the London Film Festival, says:** "It's a pleasure to be presenting Dorota Kobiela and Hugh Welchman's inventive, visually arresting film as part of the BFI London Film Festival, with the premiere screening broadcast live from the National Gallery to audiences around the UK. Loving Vincent encapsulates the troubling myths surrounding Vincent van Gogh's death so elegantly - an absorbing story about a great artist, delivered through pain-staking, beautifully hand-painted frames in the style of the painter himself."

**Hugh Welchman, co-director of Loving Vincent, says:** "The London Film Festival programmes great films, and The National Gallery has one of the great painting collections of the world, so we couldn't be happier that they have partnered up to do a very special premiere for Loving Vincent."

The 61st BFI London Film Festival in partnership with American Express® takes place from Wednesday 4 October-Sunday 15 October 2017. The full Festival programme will be announced on Thursday 31 August 2017. LOVING VINCENT will be released in the UK and Ireland by Altitude Film Distribution on 13 October.

- Ends-

### **Festival Information & Ticket Booking**

BFI Members' priority booking opens 10.00am, 7 September - join at [www.bfi.org.uk/join](http://www.bfi.org.uk/join)

Amex priority booking opens at 10.00am, 12 September

Public booking opens 10.00am, 14 September

Telephone Bookings: 020 7928 3232 between 10:00 – 20:30

Online: [www.bfi.org.uk/lff](http://www.bfi.org.uk/lff)

In person: BFI Southbank Office: 10:00 – 20:30

## **LOVING VINCENT Assets & Information**

UK Publicist: Sarah Gutierrez

Email: [Sarah.gutierrez@waytoblue.com](mailto:Sarah.gutierrez@waytoblue.com) | Tel: +44 207 749 8444

Images are available from Imagenet.

Trailer and video assets are available on the DMS Panther service.

## **For further press information and general enquiries about the 61st BFI London Film Festival**

*Please note separate DDA and Four Colman Getty details for the BFI LFF sections:*

### **OPENING/CLOSING AND HEADLINE GALAS, SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS and ASSOCIATED SCREEN TALKS:**

DDA Email: [LFFPress@ddapr.com](mailto:LFFPress@ddapr.com) | Tel: +44 207 932 9800

Head of Press: Kate Hudson. Festival Publicity Assistant: Yasmin Purves

### **For Headline Gala Red Carpet Media Enquiries:**

DDA Media Manager: Hannah Proudlock

Email: [Hannah.Proudlock@ddapr.com](mailto:Hannah.Proudlock@ddapr.com) | Tel: +44 207 932 9800

### **ACCREDITATION TO THE FESTIVAL, MAIN FESTIVAL PROGRAMME AND STRAND GALAS, LFF AWARDS and EVENTS:**

Four Colman Getty Email: [LFF@fourcommunications.com](mailto:LFF@fourcommunications.com) | Tel: + 44 20 3697 4262

Accreditation: [laura.steele@fourcommunications.com](mailto:laura.steele@fourcommunications.com) | +44 20 3697 4241

Project Lead: Matt Railton. Title PR Lead: Jon Rushton

### **GENERAL ENQUIRIES**

61st BFI London Film Festival enquiries

BFI London Film Festival PR Manager: Mia Farrell

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## **NOTES TO EDITORS**

### **About the BFI**

The BFI is the lead organisation 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.

### **The BFI London Film Festival**

BFI London Film Festival is Britain's leading film event and one of the world's best film festivals. It introduces the finest new British and international films to an expanding London and UK-wide audience and attracts significant international film industry participation. LFF is a compelling combination of diverse films, red carpet glamour, friendly audiences and vibrant exchange. LFF provides an essential profiling opportunity for films seeking global success; promotes the careers of British and international filmmakers through its industry and awards programmes and positions London as the world's leading creative city.

### **Clare Stewart Biography**

Clare Stewart's 21 year programming career has encompassed leadership roles as Festival Director, Sydney Film Festival (2006-2011) and the inaugural Head of Film Programs at the Australian Centre for the Moving Image in Melbourne (2002-2006) as well as various roles at the Australian Film Institute (1996-2001), including Exhibition Manager, and programmer and

Committee Member of the Melbourne Cinémathèque (1995-2002). She has been BFI Head of Festivals and BFI London Film Festival Director since October 2011.



### **About American Express® Company**

American Express is a diversified worldwide travel, financial and network services company founded in 1850. It is a leader in charge and credit cards, Travellers Cheques, travel and insurance products.

Through American Express Invites, Cardmembers have access to enriched experiences at some of the UK's most sought after entertainment events, including best seats, exclusive offers and early-on-sale tickets. The company has multi - year partnerships with a range of entertainment institutions including AEG, Live Nation, Ticketmaster, Somerset House, The British Film Institute and National Theatre.

For more detail on the enriched service American Express offers its Cardmembers, please visit [www.amex.co.uk/potential](http://www.amex.co.uk/potential) or connect with AmericanExpressUK on Facebook or Twitter @AmexUK