

## **BFI ANNOUNCES NEW DEPUTY HEAD OF FESTIVALS TRICIA TUTTLE**

### **NEW BFI FESTIVAL AND EXHIBITION TEAM COMPLETE**

**London 21 August 2013**

The BFI announces today that Tricia Tuttle is to take on the newly created role of Deputy Head of Festivals. After 5 years at BAFTA and 15 years experience in the film industry, Tricia brings a wealth of expertise across programming, development and events. Reporting directly to Clare Stewart, the BFI's Head of Cinemas and Festivals, Tricia will be responsible for delivering the annual programmes for the BFI London Film Festival and the BFI Lesbian and Gay Film Festival. Tricia will manage a team of programmers and programme advisors to drive the Festival's ambition to increase audience reach, attendance, participation and satisfaction and ensure its cultural and commercial objectives are achieved.

*Tricia Tuttle said "I'm joining the BFI Festivals team at such an exciting time. The LFF and LLGFF have long delivered respected programmes bursting with style, passion and of course, cine-literacy; both are rightly applauded around the world. Under Clare Stewart there is new focus, freshness and vision to the BFI's programmes and I'm ecstatic to be part of helping to realise this vision alongside her and a massively talented team of programmers."*

Clare Stewart, BFI Head of Cinemas and Festivals said 'Tricia is a terrific addition to our team – creative, tenacious and driven – she has a proven track record of making a difference and brings great energy and smarts to our expanding Festivals activity and our newly structured Exhibition department. She will be a great colleague for our senior team, joining Helen de Witt (Head of Cinemas), Stuart Brown (Head of Events and Production) and Anne-Marie Flynn (Head of Business and Industry) in their new and expanded roles'

Tricia joins the BFI from BAFTA where she was the Senior Manager, Film & Skills. During her 5 years with the Academy she was responsible for the film programme including the International Screenwriters Lecture Series, annual David Lean Lecture and the inaugural Brits to Watch: The Screenings, a talent development programme introducing exceptional UK talent to the US industry. Tricia was previously Screenings and Events programmer for filmmaker training body The Script Factory and she co-programmed the BFI London Lesbian & Gay Film Festival; and programmed the talks and special events for the LFF. She edited Filmmakers' Yearbook for A & C Black, *Get Your Short Film Funded, Made and Seen for Shooting People*. Prior to working in film, Tricia had a career as a rock musician, with her US-based band June, signed to Beggars Banquet in the UK.

Tricia's appointment completes the BFI's four new teams within its Exhibition department ensuring a joined-up approach to programming, production, business management, and filmmaker and industry engagement, across BFI Southbank, the BFI London Film Festival and the BFI London Lesbian and Gay Film Festival. The new teams are Cinemas, Events and Production, Festivals and Business and Industry and the four key newly created roles which now lead each team will report into the BFI's Head of Cinemas and Festivals, Clare Stewart. The changes are a part of the overarching BFI strategy *Film Forever* and reflect the BFI's holistic approach to its multi-faceted role as the UK's lead organisation for film across industrial and cultural activity.

Helen de Witt, previously the BFI's Festivals Producer, has taken on the new position of Head of Cinemas and Stuart Brown, the BFI's previous Head of Events, takes on the expanded role of Head of Events and Production. Anne-Marie Flynn, previously the BFI's Head of Projects and Development, has been appointed Head of Business and Industry and is responsible for identifying, securing and managing effective industry partnerships that enhance the business outcomes.

The new teams follow extensive consultation with staff from 1 March to 19 April 2013.

## **PRESS CONTACTS:**

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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 now 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 Greg Dyke.



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