



**For immediate release**

## **AWARD-WINNING FILMMAKER PETER KOSMINSKY JOINS BFI BOARD OF GOVERNORS**

***Film and television writer/director Peter Kosminsky voted new member  
representative on BFI's Board of Governors***

LONDON – **Friday 10 February 2012:** Peter Kosminsky, the award-winning writer and director behind some of the most important and revelatory television of the past three decades will join the BFI's Board of Governors with immediate effect. Kosminsky was appointed to the Board of Governors following an election in which all BFI members were invited to participate.

BFI Chair Greg Dyke said: "As well as a wealth of filmmaking experience across film and television, drama and documentary, Peter has a long history with the BFI with almost 30 years of membership, involvement with our Education Programme and even a retrospective season of his work at the BFI Southbank. He is therefore incredibly well placed to make valuable contributions across the full range of our activities."

Peter Kosminsky said: "I'm absolutely thrilled and delighted to be joining the BFI Board at such an exciting and challenging time, especially as a result of a membership election. I will do my best to contribute a practising filmmaker's eye as the Board gets to grips with the policy and production remits with which it is now charged."

Peter Kosminsky is a Fellow of the Royal Television Society and a recipient of the BAFTA Alan Clarke Award for Outstanding Creative Contribution to TV. He served on the BAFTA TV Committee from 2003–2007 and on the board of Directors UK from 2007–2010.

Kosminsky began his directing career working for the BBC's Nationwide news magazine programme. Moving to Yorkshire Television's highly respected documentary department, he began to work on a series of meticulously researched documentaries in the First Tuesday strand that would make his name, including the definitive Falklands documentary *The Falklands War – The Untold Story* (1987), *Afghantsi* (1988) and the two-part drama *Shoot To Kill* (1990) about the Stalker affair.

Since 1995 Kosminsky has worked as a freelance drama director, often utilising the research methods employed in his factual television to tackle challenging subjects, including the psychological trauma of British peacekeepers who witnessed genocide in Bosnia in *Warriors* written by Leigh Jackson (winner of the BAFTA for Best Drama Serial in 2000), and the devastating effects of child abuse in *No Child of Mine* written by Guy Hibbert, (winner of the BAFTA for Best Single Drama in 1999).

As a writer/director Kosminsky has used the emotional power that drama can provide to examine subjects inspired by real events, including the life of Dr. David Kelly and the lead-up to the Iraq War in *The Government Inspector* (winner of the BAFTAs for Best Single Drama, Best Actor for Mark Rylance and Best Writer in 2006), the lives of second generation Muslims in contemporary Britain in the two-part drama *Britz* (winner of the BAFTA for Best Drama Serial in 2008), and British responsibility for the Palestinian/Israeli conflict in the recently transmitted four-part drama *The Promise* (2011).

Kosminsky has also directed two feature films for Hollywood studios: *Wuthering Heights* (Paramount Pictures 1992) starring Ralph Fiennes and Juliette Binoche, and *White Oleander* (Warner Bros 2002), starring Michelle Pfeiffer and Renée Zellweger. He is currently developing a feature script with Film4.

**Notes to editors:**

As an organisation with a UK-wide remit the BFI's Board decided that one of the two places for elected Governors should be reserved for someone who ordinarily lives and/or works outside London and the south-east. Following this decision four members were nominated for election by the whole BFI Membership: Peter Kosminsky, Mark Cosgrove, Sylvia Harvey and Donna Anton. The Governor election was managed by Electoral Reform Services on behalf of the BFI.

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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