

BFI announce Sir John Hurt season at special event celebrating his life and work



*Clockwise from left: Sir John Hurt attends a screening on *The Naked Civil Servant* at BFI Southbank (July 2016),
Love and Death on Long Island, *The Elephant Man*, *The Naked Civil Servant**

EMBARGOED UNTIL 17:30 GMT, Sunday 25 June 2017:

At a special memorial event on Sunday 25 June, **BFI CEO Amanda Nevill** announced that **BFI Southbank** will host a film and television season dedicated to BFI Fellow Sir John Hurt, who died in January. The John Hurt season will take place at **BFI Southbank from 1 – 31 January 2018**, marking one year since the beloved actor passed away. His death resulted in a huge outpouring from the public and the film industry alike, reflecting the huge love and respect in which he was held personally and professionally. The memorial event – **Sir John Hurt: A Celebration** – was hosted by film critic **Mark Kermode**, curated by Anwen Hurt and featured some of Hurt's most celebrated moments on screen, accompanied by tributes and memories from some of the people who worked with him throughout his life including **BAFTA-winning director Sir Alan Parker**, **Oscar-winning producer Jeremy Thomas**, **writer and broadcaster Stephen Fry**, **actors Toby Jones and Penelope Wilton** and from **politics and diplomacy, Cathy Ashton**.

Sir John Hurt holds a significant place in film history and made an outstanding contribution to British film and television during his extensive career. From his early roles in **A MAN FOR ALL SEASONS** (Fred Zinnemann, 1966), **10 RILLINGTON PLACE** (Richard Fleischer, 1971), **ALIEN** (Ridley Scott, 1979) and **I, CLAUDIUS** (BBC, 1976) through to leading performances in **THE NAKED CIVIL SERVANT** (Thames, 1975), **MIDNIGHT EXPRESS** (Alan Parker, 1978), **THE ELEPHANT MAN** (David Lynch, 1980), **LOVE AND DEATH ON LONG ISLAND** (Richard Kwietniowski, 1997) and **JACKIE** (Pablo Larraín, 2016), Hurt was one of our greatest actors. We hope to include all these titles and more in the retrospective, offering audiences the chance to remind themselves of the enormous talent of the late, great Sir John Hurt.

– ENDS –

NOTES TO EDITORS:

Photos from **Sir John Hurt: A Celebration** the event which took place on Sunday 25 June at BFI Southbank will be available on Getty Images.

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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.

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 under BFI / BFI Southbank / 2018 / January / John Hurt