

# LUMINOUS

CELEBRATING BRITISH FILM AND BRITISH FILM TALENT

## **BFI ANNOUNCES FUNDRAISING GALA LUMINOUS 6 OCTOBER 2015 IN PARTNERSHIP WITH IWC SCHAFFHAUSEN**

***FILM INDUSTRY GATHERS TO CELEBRATE BRITISH FILM AND TALENT  
AND RAISE VITAL FUNDS FOR THE BFI NATIONAL ARCHIVE***

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

**London, April 22, 2015:** Britain's top film talent will join forces on October 6<sup>th</sup> 2015 for the BFI's fundraising gala LUMINOUS, in partnership with IWC Schaffhausen. LUMINOUS is a unique event that celebrates British film and film talent whilst helping to secure the future of the BFI National Archive - the UK's National Collection of film and TV and one of the greatest heritage collections in the world.

The BFI will host its second LUMINOUS fundraising gala presented by Jonathan Ross in the gothic splendor of the Guildhall in London on the eve of the Opening Night of the BFI London Film Festival. The event follows the hugely successful and star studded inaugural LUMINOUS gala in 2013, which raised over £250,000 towards the BFI National Archive and saw stars including Jude Law, Sienna Miller, Helen McCrory, Damien Lewis, Romola Garai, Olivia Colman, Richard E. Grant, Julian Fellowes, Ray Winstone, Michael Gambon, Emilia Fox and David Morrissey turn out in force to celebrate UK film.

LUMINOUS's charity auction is led by renowned auctioneer Lord Dalmeny and feature exclusive once-in-a-lifetime film prizes donated from a range of BFI supporters and filmmakers. This year, for the first time, this exclusive auction will be opened up to bidders all over the world via a new online bidding process, giving film lovers everywhere the chance to enjoy incredible film experiences and own extraordinary film artefacts. In 2013 lots included a fully operational replica formula one car used in Ron Howard's *Rush*, walk-on parts in new British film productions and editing *Jimmy's Hall* with director Ken Loach. The LUMINOUS guests at Guildhall

will also have the opportunity to enjoy uniquely commissioned live and filmed content created exclusively for the event.

As British film enjoys unprecedented success at home and around the world, the BFI's commitment to supporting this success is as strong as ever. Understanding, accessing and enjoying the UK's rich film and television heritage is essential to inspire the filmmakers and audiences of the future. LUMINOUS aims to raise the essential funds required to preserve and digitise the UK's National Collection of film and TV for future generations; painstaking and costly work that will help safeguard Britain's precious and fragile film and television heritage and make it available for the public to enjoy.

LUMINOUS is steered by a committee of film industry heavyweights, Chaired by Warner Bros. President & MD, Josh Berger to ensure that stars from the world's film industry shine at the event in support of the BFI.

The BFI is delighted to welcome leading Swiss watch manufacturer IWC Schaffhausen as headline sponsor of LUMINOUS in 2015, marking the second year of a unique partnership between the two organisations. The BFI is also delighted to welcome luxury Italian automotive manufacturer Maserati as the Official Car for the 2015 LUMINOUS Gala.

**Amanda Nevill, CEO BFI, said:** *'LUMINOUS celebrates the extraordinary film talent that we have in the UK and shines a light on the vital role that the BFI National Archive plays in preserving our film culture for future generations. We were overwhelmed by the incredible support from the film industry for LUMINOUS's inaugural year and I'm so excited that the event returns this year.'*

*We want the world to have access to, and understand more about, our film heritage – the BFI National Archive has one of the greatest collections in the world and limitless possibilities to inspire and delight audiences and filmmakers and that is why raising funds for it has to be our priority.*

*We are so grateful for all the support we receive, to our dedicated Chair and committee members, alongside the Gala's ambassadors and we warmly welcome new partners IWC Schaffhausen as this year as headline sponsors for LUMINOUS.'*

#### **About the BFI National Archive**

For over 80 years the BFI has been an international leader in film preservation, guardian of Britain's unparalleled film and TV heritage and an innovator in presenting films to audiences in new and dynamic ways, from cinemas to film festivals to outdoor events to online video-on-demand. At the heart of all its activities is the BFI's central aim to ensure that everyone in the UK has access to the widest possible range of film and their own film heritage.

That heritage includes all time great British directors Alfred Hitchcock, David Lean and Powell and Pressburger; modern masters including Mike Leigh, Stephen Frears,

Lynne Ramsay and Steve McQueen; the earliest pioneers of silent filmmaking in Britain; and the rich vein of documentary filmmaking, in which Britain led the world, with the works of Humphrey Jennings and government funded departments creating astonishing art on film. Keeping this precious archive alive can only be achieved through the time consuming, expensive and expert-led process of film preservation and digitisation – ensuring not only access for all, but the safeguarding of film for future generations.

As the funding environment for arts organisations remains challenging, LUMINOUS is at the heart of the BFI's ambitious fundraising strategy to ensure the UK's rich heritage of film and television is protected and made available for the enjoyment of audiences everywhere.

– Ends –

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#### **NOTES TO EDITORS**

#### **LUMINOUS Committee:**

**Chair: Josh Berger**

**Felicia Brocklebank**

**Hani Farsi**

**Gerry Fox**

**George Kern**

**Lynn Lewis**

**Beth Mill**

**Beatrix Ong**

**Katrina Pavlos**

**Betsy Ryan**

**Sue Whiteley**

**Kate Driver**

**Eric Fellner**

**Amy Gardner**

**Serra Kirdar**

**Isabella Macpherson**

**Caroline Michel**

**Sharan Pasricha**

**John Reiss**

**Joana Schliemann**

**Louis Elson**

**Daniel Friel**

**Kathryn Greig**

**Rena Kirdar Abboud**

**Jo Malone**

**Iliane Ogilvie Thompson**

**Sir Alan Parker**

**Joyce Reuben**

**Colin Walsh**

#### **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 Greg Dyke.

### **IWC SCHAFFHAUSEN**

With a clear focus on technology and development, the Swiss watch manufacturer IWC Schaffhausen has been producing timepieces of lasting value since 1868. The company has gained an international reputation based on a passion for innovative solutions and technical ingenuity. One of the world's leading brands in the luxury watch segment, IWC crafts masterpieces of haute horlogerie at their finest, combining supreme precision with exclusive design. As an ecologically and socially responsible company, IWC is committed to sustainable production, supports institutions around the globe in their work with children and young people, and maintains partnerships with organizations dedicated to climate and environmental protection.