

BFI Future Film Festival 2014

With special guests Oscar winning VFX Supervisor Neil Corbould (*Gravity*), Cast of Crew of *We Are the Freaks* and many more



Image – The winning design from The Future Film Design Workshop by Dhiren Patel.

“The BFI Future Film Festival is an essential experience for aspiring young filmmakers” - Nicholas Hoult

17 January 2014, London.

The hugely popular **BFI Future Film Festival** returns for the 7th year from **21-23 February 2014**, with a packed line-up of workshops, masterclasses, networking opportunities, screenings and Q&As at **BFI Southbank**. This year’s festival will welcome a variety of industry figures to discuss their careers and offer participants a valuable insight into the industry. A highlight of the weekend will be a **Q&A** with **Oscar and BAFTA winning** Visual Effects Supervisor **Neil Corbould** (*The Fifth Element*, *The Day After Tomorrow*), who has just been nominated for an Oscar and a BAFTA for Best Visual Effects for his work on *Gravity* (Dir. Alfonso Cuarón, 2013). *Gravity* is a towering British technical achievement, as well as being one of the most popular films of the year, and will be screened alongside Corbould’s Q&A. Also screening will be *We Are the Freaks* (Dir. Justin Edgar, 2013), a fresh and funny coming-of-age flick starring *Skins*, *Fresh Meat* and *This is England* alumni, which was nominated for the Best British Film award at the 2013 Edinburgh International Film Festival. The screening will be followed by a **Q&A** with members of the cast and crew.

For the second year the festival will be divided into three themes; **Friday 21 February** will focus on documentary, **Saturday 22 February** is all about fiction and on **Sunday 23 February** animation takes its turn. All three days of the Festival will feature workshops hosted by the **BFI Film Academy**, giving participants the chance to learn about the incredible opportunities on offer across the country, as well as showcasing work by recent talented Film Academy graduates. The festival will also host the **Future Film Awards**, with categories for documentary, fiction and animation in short and feature categories. The 2014 festival marks the highest number of film submissions by young filmmakers since its inception, 400 in total, as well as being the first year the festival has been able to offer cash prizes; £500 will be awarded to the winner of each of the Short Film Awards, made possible by the support of the Chapman Charitable Trust. The festival is open to everyone aged 15-25, with ticket

prices kept to a minimum so that everyone has a chance to attend. Aspiring filmmakers will be able to take part in sessions designed to inspire and develop their knowledge and skills and help them find their own pathway into the world of film.

Day 1, Friday 21 February – FOCUS ON DOCUMENTARY

Day one of the Festival will focus on documentary filmmaking. The day will be packed with practical insights and information for budding documentary and factual filmmakers. Workshops will cover everything from pitching and planning your film to documentary presenting and making docs on mobile phones. A session highlight will be **DocNext: Radical Democracy**, which will look at documentary's relevance as a tool for social change and political commentary, using recent films such as **Blackfish**, **The Act of Killing** and **Pussy Riot: A Punk Prayer** as a platform for debate. There will also be guest speakers from the industry such as Director of Programming at **Sheffield Doc/Fest Hussain Currimbhoy**, a live VJ performance of **DocNext: European Souvenirs** and a preview of **Mark Cousins' The Story of Children and Film**.

Day 2, Saturday 22 February – FOCUS ON FICTION

Day two of the Festival will be dedicated to fiction storytelling. As well as a selection of amazing shorts and feature films by talented new directors, there will be workshops and panel discussions aimed to equip participants with the tools they will need to take their fiction filmmaking to the next level. Highlights will include masterclasses for budding production designers, casting directors and cinematographers with industry talent such as Casting Director **Jeremy Zimmerman** (*Moon*, *Hellboy*). Workshops will focus on finding the perfect soundtrack, no-to-low budget filmmaking and writing for female characters. There will also be special screenings of features including one of the year's most talked about films **Gravity** (2013), followed by a **Q&A** with Visual Effects Supervisor **Neil Corbould**, and new UK coming-of-age flick **We Are The Freaks** (2013) plus a **Q&A** with cast and crew.

Day 3, Sunday 23 February – FOCUS ON ANIMATION

The third and final day of the Festival sees animation take centre stage. Whether participants are a bedroom animator or a recent animation graduate there will be masterclasses for all abilities to help with everything from scripting and cinematography to sound design and acting for animation. A highlight of the day will be **Getting in the VFX Industry**; as the 2014 Academy Award nominations for VFX category demonstrate, the UK has some of the leading companies working at the cutting edge of this exciting sector of the film industry. This workshop will offer participants the chance to hear from those in the know, recruiters, HR advisors and industry professionals about what the VFX landscape offers for new entrants, how to get noticed and what the rewards are in this fast moving environment. There will also be events covering funding and commissioning and networking sessions to encourage collaborations, collectives and partnerships. Plus screenings with talent Q&As – including a special preview of British produced animation feature **Saving Santa** (2013).

To accompany the Festival there will also be an exhibition of work by students who have been taking part in [The Future Film Design Workshop](#), a practical workshop for design students with the final aim of creating the marketing campaign for this year's Festival. Running over two weeks in November, the workshop consisted of introductory lectures by workshop tutor **Piccia Neri**, and was followed by discussions, presentations, peer-to-peer assessments and a presentation of the students' final piece of artwork in the form of a poster launching the 2014 edition of the Festival. The concept selected, by student **Dhiren Patel**, has been developed into the marketing campaign for the Festival.

Sessions throughout the *BFI Future Film Festival* will be suitable for people of all levels and abilities - from beginners to those more experienced - with plenty of opportunities to network too! The Festival is designed for budding directors, writers, producers and those interested in other key roles

to gain experience across animation, documentary and fiction filmmaking. Whether you take part in one day or all three, Future Film Festival is an essential weekend for the next generation of filmmakers.

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Event Listings:

The 7th BFI Future Film Festival

Fri 21 – Sun 23 Feb

BFI Southbank, various venues from 11am each day.

Tickets:

15 – 18 year olds: £6 per day or come to all three days for just £12

19 – 25 year olds: £10 per day or come to all three days for just £20

It's going to be another bumper weekend of film screenings, masterclasses, Q&As, practical workshops and networking events for 15-25 year olds at this year's 7th BFI Future Film Festival. Our packed line-up of activities will help you develop your own unique pathway into the world of film, with practical advice and insights into animation, fiction filmmaking and documentaries over three days. We'll be screening and giving awards to the best short films made by young filmmakers and animators, and providing inspirational sessions with industry partners and experts to nurture your creative aspirations in film and television.

Documentary Day

Our documentary day offers budding and experienced filmmakers of documentary and factual film the chance to network and gain valuable insights into the industry. Practical workshops and masterclasses will cover everything from pitching and planning your film to developing transmedia projects. We'll have guest speakers from the industry alongside emerging documentary talent; a live VJ performance of *DocNext: European Souvenirs*; and a preview of Mark Cousins' *The Story of Children and Film*.

See bfi.org.uk/futurefilm for updates on special guests

Fri 21 Feb from 11:00

Fiction Day

Telling stories on film has never been easier... and with our fantastic line-up of guest speakers, practical storytelling workshops, and inspirational screenings of shorts and feature films you'll be armed with all the tools you need to take your fiction filmmaking to the next level. Whether you're just starting your journey as a filmmaker or if you already have a showreel of films under your belt, there's something for everyone, from writers, directors, and producers, to DOPs, technicians and production designers. There'll also be special screenings of features including new UK teenflick *We Are The Freaks* (2013) plus a Q&A with cast and crew.

Sat 22 Feb from 11:00

Animation Day

Animation doesn't have to be a solitary business. Come and join hundreds of experts and independent young animators at our dedicated animation day. Whether you're a bedroom animator or a recent animation graduate there'll be masterclasses and workshops for all abilities to help you with everything from scripting and cinematography to sound design. We'll have events covering funding and commissioning; networking sessions to help you form collaborations, collectives and partnerships; plus screenings with talent Q&As – including a special preview of British animation feature *Saving Santa*.

Sun 23 Feb from 11:00

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NOTES TO EDITORS:

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 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 £11.00, concs £8.50 Members pay £1.50 less on any ticket. Website www.bfi.org.uk/southbank

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 BFI Shop is offering 10% off on all non-promoted items for the duration of the Future Film Festival + Mark Cousins Story of Film DVD at £24.99 and the book at £20.00

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 / February 2014 / Future Film Festival