



## **BFI LONDON FILM FESTIVAL ANNOUNCES 2014 DATES AND OPENS FOR FILM SUBMISSIONS**

**For immediate release – Monday 10 February 2014:** The BFI London Film Festival in partnership with American Express® announced today that its 58<sup>th</sup> edition will run from 8-19 October 2014 at venues across the UK capital. Submissions for both Feature and Short Film also opened today.

Under the stewardship of BFI's Head of Cinemas and Festivals, Clare Stewart, the LFF continues to build on the striking success of its recent editions. The 2013 Festival, which included 22 world premieres, 13 International and 29 European premieres, was widely regarded as an outstanding line-up. Many LFF 2013 gala presentations have emerged as the year's most celebrated films, including four of the five BAFTA nominations for Best Film – *12 Years a Slave* and *Captain Phillips* both of which had European Premieres at LFF, whilst *Gravity* and *Philomena* had UK premieres in high profile positions. There are also 16 films with Oscar® nominations from the LFF 2013 programme, cementing the Festival's strategic position in the Award season calendar and capitalising on the city's high population of BAFTA and AMPAS members.

The 2013 addition, which opened with the European Premiere of *Captain Phillips* and closed with the World premiere of *Saving Mr. Banks* attracted audiences of 151,000 across a footprint of 20 screens across the UK's capital, showing 235 fiction and documentary features from 74 countries, with more than 600 filmmakers attending to present their work. The Opening and Closing night films were also beamed into 50 cinemas across the UK with live highlights from red carpet arrivals of Paul Greengrass, Tom Hanks for *Captain Phillips* and John Lee Hancock, Emma Thompson, Tom Hanks, Colin Farrell and Ruth Wilson for *Saving Mr. Banks*. These screenings reached a further 11,200 people.

The Festival benefits from both the deep cultural heritage of the BFI and the strength of the UK market (the world's fourth largest box office territory) as well as the desirability of the capital as a premiere location with its iconic Leicester Square cinemas and the cultural hub of the BFI Southbank.

Feature and short films for the 2014 edition can be submitted through the BFI London Film Festival website at [www.bfi.org.uk/lff](http://www.bfi.org.uk/lff) with the final deadline for shorts on 13 June 2014 and for features on 20 June 2014.

**Attending the Berlinale for BFI London Film Festival are:**

Clare Stewart, Head of Cinemas and Festivals  
Tricia Tuttle, Deputy Head of Festivals  
Michael Blyth, Festival Programmer  
Andrea Bigger, Filmmaker and Industry Manager

- Ends -

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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 London Film Festival**

BFI London Film Festival is an iconic international film festival that supports London's position as the world's leading creative city. It presents the best new British and international films to an expanding London and UK-wide audience. It provides career-enabling opportunities for British and international filmmakers through its industry and awards programmes.

### **Clare Stewart biography**

Clare Stewart's nineteen year programming career has encompassed leadership roles as Festival Director, Sydney Film Festival (2006-2011) and the inaugural Head of Film Programs at the Australian Centre for the Moving Image in Melbourne (2002-2006) as well as various roles at the Australian Film Institute (1996-2001), including Exhibition Manager, and programmer and Committee Member of the Melbourne Cinémathèque (1995-2002). She has been BFI Head of Cinemas and Festivals since October 2011.



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