



BFI LONDON FILM FESTIVAL

5 – 16 October 2016

in partnership with



UNDER EMBARGO UNTIL 06.00AM (LONDON) SUNDAY 15 MAY 2016

SCREEN INTERNATIONAL AND BFI LONDON FILM FESTIVAL ANNOUNCE THREE-YEAR PARTNERSHIP TO PRESENT THE UK AND IRELAND'S 'STARS OF TOMORROW'

- ***New three year partnership sees Screen International's brightest and best future film industry stars unveiled at the BFI London Film Festival***
- ***The 'Stars of Tomorrow' will benefit from profile-building and high level networking opportunities throughout the BFI London Film Festival***

CANNES, Sunday 15 May 2016: Building on the success of a new partnership which saw the Screen International Screen Stars of Tomorrow launch during the 2015 BFI London Film Festival held in partnership with American Express, the two organisations today announced a three year partnership to jointly unveil the UK and Ireland's newest and most exciting actors, directors, writers and producers, to the industry at the Festival.

Clare Stewart, Festival Director, BFI London Film Festival said: "The collaboration between BFI London Film Festival and Screen International's Stars of Tomorrow creates a unique opportunity through the festival for the UK and Ireland's future stars to build their knowledge and networks. LFF is proud to identify and support the career of the best new British directors, producers, writers and actors and we are thrilled to be expanding on our partnership with Screen International to break new British talent and introduce them to the international industry."

Matt Mueller, Screen International's Editor, added:

“I am thrilled that we are expanding our successful partnership with the BFI London Film Festival to present Screen International’s Stars of Tomorrow for a further three years. With Clare Stewart and her festival team demonstrating great commitment to supporting nascent careers, the LFF offers a fantastic platform for unveiling these rising UK and Irish actors, directors, writers and producers, as selected by our inestimable Stars of Tomorrow curator Fionnuala Halligan.”

Screen’s Stars of Tomorrow is presented at BFI London Film Festival supported by the British Council and Creative Skillset.

Screen International’s Stars of Tomorrow celebrates its 13th anniversary this year at the BFI London Film Festival (LFF). The highly respected talent showcase, which has an established track record in identifying future stars, is curated by Screen’s Chief Film Critic Fionnuala Halligan and informed by industry experts including casting directors, talent agents, managers, producers and directors.

The presentation of this year’s UK Stars of Tomorrow will take place at a high-profile event in London’s West End during the first weekend of the LFF followed by an exclusive industry dinner hosted by the British Council and the Casting Society of America (CSA). The dinner will see the stars introduced to leading lights from the international film industry who are gathered in London to attend the LFF, including US casting directors, European and US producers, international festival programmers, executives from prestigious filmmaker Labs and a selection of leading UK producers.

The 2016 stars will also take part in a special feature photoshoot at BFI Southbank.

A-list on-screen talent who were previously named Stars of Tomorrow include:

- James McAvoy, Benedict Cumberbatch and Emily Blunt in the first-ever edition in 2004;
- Dominic Cooper, Robert Pattinson, Eddie Redmayne and Sophie Okonedo (2005);
- Riz Ahmed, Dan Stevens, Hayley Atwell, Rebecca Hall and Andrea Riseborough (2006);
- Matt Smith, Andrew Garfield and Gemma Arterton (2007);
- Carey Mulligan, Michelle Dockery, Tom Hiddleston, Aaron Johnson and Jack O’Connell (2008);
- Zawe Ashton, Holliday Grainger and Luke Evans (2009);
- Sam Claflin (2010);
- Vanessa Kirby, Richard Madden, Douglas Booth and Phoebe Fox (2011);

- George McKay and Nico Mirallegro (2012);
- James Norton and Cush Jumbo (2013);
- Taron Egerton, Sam Keeley and Olivia Cooke (2014); and,
- Adelayo Adedayo (*Unlocked*), Alex Lawther (*The Imitation Game, Departure*), Barry Keoghan (*Mammal*), Bebe Cave (*Tales of Tales*), Ben Hardy (*X-Men: Apocalypse*), Billy Howle (*The Seagull*), Charlie Heaton (*As You Are*), Charlotte Spencer (*Bypass*), Ellie Bamber (*Nocturnal Animals*), Jess Barden (*The Lobster*), Joe Alwyn (*Billy Lynn's Halftime Walk*), Naomi Scott (*Power Rangers Movie*), Nicholas Galitzine (*The Beat Beneath My Feet*), and Osy Ikhile (*In The Heart Of The Sea*) in 2015.

Filmmakers spotlighted have included Andrea Arnold, in Cannes' Official Competition this year with *American Honey*, in 2004; Abi Morgan (2005) writer of *Suffragette* which opened LFF last year and *The Iron Lady*; Ben Drew aka Plan B (*Ill Manors*) in 2008; Tom Harper (*The Woman in Black 2: Angel of Death*) and Gabriel Range (*I Am Slave*) in 2006; Andrew Haigh (*Weekend, 45 Years*) in 2008, Corin Hardy (*The Hallow*), John Maclean (*Slow West*) and Scott Graham (*Shell*) in 2011; Daniel Wolfe (*Catch Me Daddy*) in 2012; and Stephen Fingleton (*The Survivalist*) in 2013.

Last year's stars behind the camera were writer-directors Aleem Kahn (*Three Brothers*), Dan Kokotajlo (*Apostasy*) and Jorn Threlfall (*Over*); directors Ben Aston (*Russian Roulette*); Nick Rowland (*Dancing in the Ashes*), Oscar Sharp (*The Karman Line*) and Rachna Suri (*Playing Ball*); writers Charlie Covell (*Burn, Burn, Burn*), Joy Wilkinson (*Killer Résumé*), Marnie Dickens (*Thirteen*), Matthew Orgon (*Clean*) and Richr Galazka (*Matinee Idol*); and producers Andy Brunskill (*Phone Book*), Daniel Emmerson (assoc producer *Assassin's Creed*), Emily Morgan (*Invention*) and Farhana Bhula (*Bonobo*).

Celebrating its 60th anniversary this year, the BFI London Festival (5-16 October 2016) has a long history of identifying and nurturing new and emerging talent in the UK and Ireland, and has introduced a number of talent focussed activities to give overseas delegates new opportunities to connect with British talent.

In 2016, as part of its emerging British talent strategy, the Festival also launches the inaugural IWC Schaffhausen Filmmakers Bursary Award in association with the BFI, which offers a £50,000 award to benefit an outstanding British writer, director, or writer/director whose first or second fiction feature film premieres at the BFI London Film Festival. The unique internationally focused programme [NET.WORK@LFF](#) is a three-day development programme of masterclasses, one-to-ones and

networking sessions designed for 15 emerging UK writers, directors and producers, some of whom may be previous Stars of Tomorrow, to meet and learn further from international filmmakers and executives attending the Festival. Another high point within the festival is its Sutherland Award for best directorial debut which is open to all new talent.

The Festival continues to expand its rich programme of creative and business events supporting the industry's economic and cultural development. Last year's Festival collaboration with the Geena Davis Institute on Gender in Media and Women in Film and Television sparked national and international debate on gender inequality in media. In addition, the Festival's introduction of the LFF Connects high profile and thought-provoking audience discussions explore how film engages with other the creative industries of television, art, music, games and creative technologies, with guest speakers in 2015 including Christopher Nolan, Tacita Dean, Alex Horwath, Laurie Anderson, Brian Eno, Louis Theroux, Simon Chinn, Chris Milk, Guy and Alistair Hope.

- Ends-

PRESS CONTACTS:

Judy Wells, Head of Press and PR, BFI

Tel: 020 957 8919 / 07984 180 501 / judy.wells@bfi.org.uk

Emma Hewitt, Deputy Head of Press and PR, BFI

Tel: 020 7173 3256 / 07584 264 618 / emma.hewitt@bfi.org.uk

Tina McFarling, Media Advisor, Corporate, Partnerships and Industry, BFI

Tel: 020 7957 4797 / 07879 421578 / tina.mcfarling@bfi.org.uk

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 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.

The BFI London Film Festival

BFI London Film Festival is Britain's leading film event and one of the world's best film festivals. It introduces the finest new British and international films to an expanding London and UK-wide audience and attracts significant international film industry participation. LFF is a compelling combination of red carpet glamour, friendly audiences and vibrant exchange. LFF provides an essential profiling opportunity for films seeking global success; promotes the careers of British and international filmmakers through its industry and awards programmes and positions London as the world's leading creative city.

BFI London Film Festival 2015

The 2015 BFI London Film Festival opened with the European premiere of Sarah Gavron's agenda-setting *Suffragette*. The film kicked off a festival focusing on and celebrating strong women, including a keynote address from campaigner Geena Davis as part of the Global Symposium on Gender in Media, hosted by the LFF in collaboration with the Geena Davis Institute on Gender in Media and Women in Film and Television (WFTV). The festival closed with the European Premiere of Danny Boyle's *Steve Jobs*, and saw 164,000 attendances across 568 screenings in 16 London venues and Opening and Closing night cinecasts to 45 venues across the UK.

The festival welcomed leading lights from across the international film industry in 2015, Acting talent supporting films at the Festival included: Carey Mulligan, Meryl Streep, Michael Fassbender, Kate Winslet, Johnny Depp, Benedict Cumberbatch, Saoirse Ronan, Emory Cohen, Cate Blanchett, Rooney Mara, Tom Hiddleston, Sienna Miller, Elizabeth Moss, Mohammed Assaf, Maggie Smith, Alex Jennings, Alan Bennett, Rachel Weisz, Colin Farrell, Ben Foster, Chris O'Dowd, Brie Larson, Agyness Deyn, Peter Mullan, Bryan Cranston, Helen Mirren, John Goodman, Adewale Akinnuoye-Agbaje, Michael Caine and Harvey Keitel.

Directors presenting their work included Lenny Abrahamson, Hany Abu-Assad, Sean Baker, Mir-Jean Bou Chaaya, Danny Boyle, Esther May Campbell, Scott Cooper, John Crowley, Jonás Cuarón, Terence Davies, Stephen Frears, Cary Fukunaga, Sarah Gavron, Luca Guadagnino, Davis Guggenheim, Lucile Hadžihalilović, Todd Haynes, Nicholas Hytner, Yorgos Lanthimos, Guy Maddin, Deepa Mehta, László Nemes, Jerzy Skolimowski, Simon Stone, Ondi Timoner, Johnnie To, Athina Rachel Tsangari, James Vanderbilt, Apichatpong Weerasethakul, Ben Wheatley and S. Graig Zahler.

Clare Stewart biography

Clare Stewart's 20 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 Festivals and BFI London Film Festival Director since October 2011.

About American Express®

American Express is a diversified worldwide travel, financial and network services company founded in 1850. It is a leader in charge and credit cards, Travellers Cheques, travel and insurance products.

Through American Express Invites, Cardmembers have access to enriched experiences at some of the UK's most sought after entertainment events, including best seats, exclusive offers and early-on-sale tickets. The company has multi - year partnerships with a range of entertainment institutions including AEG, Live Nation, Ticketmaster, Somerset House, The British Film Institute and National Theatre.

For more detail on the enriched service American Express offers its Cardmembers, please visit americanexpress.co.uk/whyamex or connect with AmericanExpressUK on Facebook or Twitter @AmexUK