



BFI LONDON FILM FESTIVAL

7 – 18 October 2015

in partnership with



SCREEN INTERNATIONAL AND BFI LONDON FILM FESTIVAL LAUNCH NEW STARS OF TOMORROW PARTNERSHIP

CANNES, Monday, May 18 2015: Screen International joins BFI London Film Festival, held in partnership with American Express, to launch its celebrated **Stars of Tomorrow** during the autumn festival (7-18 October) as part of a continuing collaboration between the two organisations. For the first time jointly unveiling the UK and Ireland's newest and most exciting actors, directors, writers and producers, Screen and the LFF will present the 2015 Stars of Tomorrow at a high-profile industry event to take place during the festival.

Screen International's Stars of Tomorrow will celebrate its 12th anniversary this year. A highly-respected showcase of the UK and Ireland's hottest talent, it has a significant track record in identifying future stars. A-list names introduced for the first time in the magazine include James McAvoy, Benedict Cumberbatch and Emily Blunt in the first-ever edition in 2004. They were followed by 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) and Taron Egerton, Sam Keeley and Olivia Cooke (2014).

Filmmakers spotlighted have included Andrea Arnold (2004), writer Abi Morgan (2005), Ben Drew aka Plan B (2008); Tom Harper and Gabriel Range (2006), Andrew Haigh (2008), Corin Hardy, John Maclean and Scott Graham (2011), Daniel Wolfe (2012) and Stephen Fingleton (2013).

Launching its 59th edition this year, the BFI London Film Festival continues to build on a long history of successfully identifying and nurturing new and emerging talent in the UK and Ireland, providing them with significant opportunities to connect with the international film industry and with audiences. The partnership with Screen International, which expands on a successful joint pilot project hosted at LFF last year and supported by British Council and the Casting Society of America (CSA), augments other recent new talent initiatives, including Net. Work@LFF. Managed and delivered by Creative England on behalf of the BFI and the LFF, Net.Work@LFF is a unique, intensive and internationally focussed three-day talent 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.

The Festival will continue to support the work of directors, writers, producers, sales agents, distributors and exhibitors, by providing a rich programme of creative and business events, extending its support for the industry's economic and cultural development and enhancing opportunities for sales and networking. Other industry programme partnerships include Power to the Pixel, specialising in finding new ways for content creators and businesses to create and finance stories and engage with audiences across multiple platforms, and the Film London Production Finance Market which brings together international producers and financiers during the festival to build relationships and help source financing for specific projects.

The presentation of this year's Stars of Tomorrow will take place at a high-profile event in London's West End during the first weekend of the LFF. Following last year's successful collaboration, it will be followed by an exclusive industry dinner hosted by British Council with support from the CSA to introduce the Stars to leading lights from the international film industry in town for the Festival, including US casting directors, European and US producers, international festival programmers, executives from prestigious filmmaker Labs and a selection of leading UK producers. Screen's Chief Film Critic Fionnuala Halligan curates the stars after considering hundreds of names each year. Halligan will continue to independently liaise with industry experts including casting directors, talent agents, managers, producers and directors to find the hottest rising talents in Britain in 2015.

Clare Stewart, Festival Director, BFI London Film Festival said:

"There is great synergy between Screen International's Stars of Tomorrow initiative and the BFI London Film Festival's track record as a festival that identifies emerging talent and supports the career development of the best new British actors, directors, producers and writers. There is a lot of

cross-over in our alumni and this new partnership means that together, we can create real impact, expanding the networks, profile and the experience of the UK and Ireland's future stars."

Matt Mueller, Screen International's Editor, added:

"I'm thrilled that we will be unveiling this year's Stars of Tomorrow at the BFI London Film Festival. It offers a fantastic showcase for the rising British and Irish talent chosen by our inestimable Stars of Tomorrow curator Fionnuala Halligan during one of the most important events on the British film calendar."

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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 twenty 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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