



# BFI LONDON FILM FESTIVAL

5 – 16 October 2016

in partnership with



## SHORTLISTING PANEL ANNOUNCED FOR IWC FILMMAKER BURSARY AWARD IN ASSOCIATION WITH THE BFI

### IWC DEDICATES SPECIAL EDITION TIMEPIECE TO THE BFI

London, 19 July 2016 – Swiss luxury watch manufacturer IWC Schaffhausen is launching a limited-edition timepiece in celebration of its partnership with the BFI (British Film Institute). The launch of the special edition coincides with the 60th anniversary of the BFI London Film Festival in partnership with American Express®, which runs from 5–16 October this year. IWC is delighted to be once again supporting the festival as Official Time Partner, a partnership that began in 2014 and is set to for years to come.

The exclusive Pilot's Watch Spitfire Chronograph Edition "BFI London Film Festival 2016" (Ref. IW387812) will be a limited edition of just 60 timepieces in stainless steel on an elegant blue strap. Each model is numbered on the case back, alongside the inscription "BFI Film Forever", increasing their appeal to collectors. The timepiece features an IWC in-house 89365-calibre movement alongside a chronograph and flyback function and is available from July 2016 at the IWC Boutique London, 138 New Bond Street, as well as selected retailers in the United Kingdom.

This year, for the first time, the partnership with the BFI London Film Festival (LFF) also includes the IWC Filmmaker Bursary Award in Association with the BFI, a £50,000 bursary given to a UK-based writer and/or director and has a first or second feature-length fiction film premiering in the Official Selection at the LFF. This award is the only one of its kind in the British film industry.

With shortlisting currently underway, a prestigious panel including director **Gurinder Chadha** (*Bend It Like Beckham* and upcoming *Viceroy's House*), **Joe Oppenheimer**, Commissioning Executive of BBC

Films, and **Rose Garnett**, Head of Creative at Film4, will join **Clare Stewart**, Director of the BFI London Film Festival and **Ben Roberts**, Director of the BFI Film Fund in selecting the three filmmakers for consideration. These three finalists will be announced at the BFI on 20 September 2016.

**Amanda Nevill**, CEO of the BFI, **Georges Kern**, CEO of IWC Schaffhausen, and a key representative of the UK film industry, to be announced soon, will decide which filmmaker benefits from this extraordinary opportunity and will award them the bursary at the IWC Gala Dinner in honour of the BFI held on 4 October 2016.

The IWC Schaffhausen Filmmaker Bursary Award in Association with the BFI follows a long tradition of the brand's commitment to and support of the film industry – evidenced by its established partnerships with the Tribeca Film Festival, the Dubai International Film Festival, Zurich Film Festival, the Beijing International Film Festival and the Singapore International Film Festival, as well as the brand's long-standing relationships with high profile film talent, including Christoph Waltz and Cate Blanchett, all of which demonstrates IWC's ongoing passion for film.

*Ends.*

## **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.

## **THE BFI**

The BFI is the leading body for film in the UK, with the ambition of creating 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 present and future generations

- Championing emerging and world-class filmmakers in the UK – Investing in creative, distinctive and entertaining work
- Promoting British film and talent to the world
- Expanding the next generation of filmmakers and audiences

The BFI is now a government arm's-length body and distributor of National Lottery funds for film. The BFI serves a public role that covers the cultural, creative and economic aspects of film in the UK. It performs this role:

- As the UK-wide organization for film, a charity core-funded by government
- By providing National 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 a 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 2016**

The 60th BFI London Film Festival (LFF) will open with the European Premiere of Amma Asante's *A UNITED KINGDOM*, starring David Oyelowo and Rosamund Pike. The festival will also include, as a Headline Gala, the European Premiere of Mira Nair's *QUEEN OF KATWE*, also starring David Oyelowo alongside Lupita Nyong'o and newcomer Madina Nalwanga.

The 2016 LFF will feature an agenda-setting Global Symposium event bringing together leading international filmmakers and industry professionals from both sides of the Atlantic to question why opportunities for black actors to shine on screen in the US and the UK remain limited and ask what more can be done to effect positive change, in line with the BFI's recently announced BLACK STAR season.

The full programme for the 60th LFF will be announced on 1 September 2016.

### **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](http://americanexpress.co.uk/whyamex) or connect with AmericanExpressUK on Facebook or Twitter @AmexUK

#### FURTHER INFORMATION

##### **IWC UK**

Amy Turner

UK PR and Communications Manager

Tel. +44 (0)203 810 52 01

Mobile +44 (0)7760 505 758

E-mail [amy.turner@iwc.com](mailto:amy.turner@iwc.com)

##### **IWC Schaffhausen**

Clemens von Walzel

Department Manager Public Relations

Mobile +41 (0)79 173 27 58

E-mail [clemens.vonwalzel@iwc.com](mailto:clemens.vonwalzel@iwc.com)

Internet [www.iwc.com/press](http://www.iwc.com/press)

##### **BFI**

Judy Wells

Head of Press and PR

Tel. +44 (0)207 957 89 19

Mobile +44 (0)79 84 18 05 01

E-mail [judy.wells@bfi.org.uk](mailto:judy.wells@bfi.org.uk)

Emma Hewitt

Deputy Head of Press & PR

Tel. +44 (0)20 7173 3256

Mobile +44 (0)7584 264 618

E-mail [emma.hewitt@bfi.org.uk](mailto:emma.hewitt@bfi.org.uk)

#### INTERNET AND SOCIAL MEDIA

Web [www.iwc.com](http://www.iwc.com)

[IWC & BFI Partnership](#)

[www.iwc.com/en/experiences/iwc-schaffhausen-official-time-partner-of-the-bfi/](http://www.iwc.com/en/experiences/iwc-schaffhausen-official-time-partner-of-the-bfi/)

Instagram [www.instagram.com/iwcwatches](https://www.instagram.com/iwcwatches)

[www.instagram.com/iwcwatches\\_uk](https://www.instagram.com/iwcwatches_uk)

Facebook [www.facebook.com/IWCWatches](https://www.facebook.com/IWCWatches)

Twitter [www.twitter.com/iwc](https://www.twitter.com/iwc)

YouTube [www.youtube.com/iwcwatches](http://www.youtube.com/iwcwatches)

LinkedIn [www.linkedin.com/company/iw-schaffhausen](http://www.linkedin.com/company/iw-schaffhausen)

Pinterest [www.pinterest.com/iwcwatches](http://www.pinterest.com/iwcwatches)