

Revamped programme launches at BFI Southbank from April 2016

**Includes a specially curated range of new releases
and a daily programme of 'Big Screen Classics'**



Seasons in April: BFI Presents: Shakespeare on Film, Alan Clarke, Agnieszka Holland, LOCO London Comedy Film Festival

WITH ONSTAGE APPEARANCES FROM: ACTORS IAN MCKELLAN, RAY WINSTONE (TBC), TIM ROTH (TBC), LESLEY SHARP, HUGH BONNEVILLE (TBC), DIRECTORS AGNIESZKA HOLLAND, RICHARD LONCRINE, LÁSZLÓ NEMES, DOMINIC COOKE, MARK COUSINS, VISHAL BHARDWAJ AND TOM GEENS, BROADCASTER MARK KERMODE, WRITER CHRISTOPHER HAMPTON

April 2016 sees the launch of a revamped programme at BFI Southbank, which now features a specially curated range of brand new film releases, alongside a new series of **Big Screen Classics**, with a classic film playing every day for the special price of £8. The new programme will complement the existing range of high-profile film and TV previews, star-studded special events and monthly seasons that make BFI Southbank such a unique and beloved cinema, as well as one of the only cinemas in the UK that still shows films on celluloid on a daily basis.

Stuart Brown, BFI Head of Programme and Acquisitions said: "We've rebooted the programme for BFI Southbank to provide a refreshed offer that combines big screen classics, specially curated seasons of film and television, vibrant live events and previews, and must-see new and retrospective releases. We'll be placing emphasis upon the dialogue between the historic and the contemporary, reappraisal, and discovering new forms - and continue our commitment to celluloid, which is at the heart of what we do. We'll also be engaging with and provoking debate around current issues in our culture and society, and having some fun along the way too!"

New releases at BFI Southbank will range from award-winning World Cinema and new British films from home-grown talent, to the latest hotly anticipated films from both established and up and coming directors. Selected new releases will be available day-and-date on the BFI's VOD service BFI Player; the service also extends selected BFI Southbank seasons by offering additional films for those wishing to explore further, and for audiences across the UK. April's selection of new releases comprises the Coen Brothers' studio-era set Hollywood romp *Hail, Caesar!* (2016), Alice Winocour's stylish psychological drama *Disorder* (2015), the Oscar-nominated *Son of Saul* (2015) – screening on 35mm as director László Nemes intends it to be seen – and Mark Cousins' lyrical portrait of his hometown *I Am Belfast* (2015), also released in selected UK-wide cinemas by the BFI and on BFI Player on **Friday 8 April**. The latter two films will be previewed, with a **Q&A** with director **Mark Cousins** following the screening of *I Am Belfast* on **Thursday 7 April**.

BFI Southbank will continue to help audiences rediscover great re-releases, many of which have been recently restored; this month Akira Kurosawa's epic reimagining of *King Lear*, *Ran* (1985), will be screened in a 4K restoration from **Friday 1 April**, and a new digital restoration of *Calamity Jane* (1953) starring Doris Day in the title role will open on **Friday 8 April**.

BFI Southbank's brand new series **Big Screen Classics** will feature timeless films that demand the big-screen treatment, with at least one screened daily, at a special price of £8 per ticket. The series will be grouped thematically and April and May's selection of films, in keeping with **BFI Presents: Shakespeare on Film**, our season celebrating the world's greatest playwright, all have exceptional writing in common; they include *Chinatown* (Roman Polanski, 1974), *The Big Sleep* (Howard Hawks, 1946), *Hidden* (Michael Haneke, 2005), *Get Carter* (Mike Hodges, 1971), *The Big Lebowski* (Joel Coen, 1998) and *Jules et Jim* (Francois Truffaut, 1962).

SEASONS

SHAKESPEARE ON FILM

- **Wed 6 Apr, 18:30 – TALK: *Shakespeare on Stage, Screen and Elsewhere, with Ian McKellen* / Onstage: Ian McKellen**
- **Thu 28 Apr, 19:30 – SCREENING + Q&A: *BFI Presents: Richard III* (Richard Loncraine, 1995) / Onstage: Ian McKellen and Richard Loncraine**
- **Thu 31 Mar, 19:00 – SCREENING WITH LIVE MUSIC: World Premiere: *Play On! Silent Shakespeare on Film* + Live Score / Onstage: The Globe Players**
- **Thu 14 Apr, 18:10 – TV PREVIEW + Q&A: *All the World's a Screen: Shakespeare on Film* (BBC Arena-Film London, 2016) / Onstage: Sir Derek Jacobi (work permitting), Arena series editor Anthony Wall, director David Thompson and writer/co-producer Adrian Wootton**
- **Tue 29 Mar, 18:00 – TV PREVIEW + Q&A: *The Hollow Crown: The Wars of the Roses: Henry VI* (Neal Street Productions-BBC-Carnival-NBC Universal-Thirteen, 2016) / Onstage: director Dominic Cooke, adaptation writer Ben Power and actors Hugh Bonneville (work permitting) and Tom Sturridge**
- **Fri 29 Apr, 18:50 – SCREENING + Q&A: *Maqbool* (Vishal Bhardwaj, 2003) / Onstage: Vishal Bhardwaj and screenwriter Abbas Tyrewala**
- **Sat 30 Apr, 14:00 – SCREENING + Q&A: *Omkara* (Vishal Bhardwaj, 2006) / Onstage: Vishal Bhardwaj and screenwriters Robin Bhatt and Abhishek Chaubey**
- **Sat 30 Apr, 18:40 – SCREENING + Q&A: *Haider* (Vishal Bhardwaj, 2014) / Onstage: Vishal Bhardwaj and screenwriter Basharat Peer**

As the world celebrates Shakespeare 400 years after his death, the BFI, the British Council and Ian McKellen will embark on **BFI Presents: Shakespeare on Film**. With no other writer impacting so greatly on cinema, this programme explores on an epic scale how filmmakers have adapted, been inspired by and interpreted Shakespeare's work for the big screen. The BFI Southbank programme during April will focus on classic adaptations of Shakespeare's work including Laurence Olivier's *Henry V* (1944) and *Hamlet* (1948), Peter Brook's *King Lear* (1970), Roman Polanski's *Macbeth* (1971), Kenneth Branagh's *Much Ado About Nothing* (1993) and Richard Loncraine's *Richard III* (1995) starring Ian McKellen.

The programme launches on 31 March with the premiere of ***Play On! Shakespeare in Silent Cinema*** with the score performed live by the Shakespeare's Globe musicians. This new film is a playful compilation of scenes from the best surviving Silent Shakespeare adaptations held by the BFI National Archive, including the first ever Shakespeare film *King John* (1899) and a rare discovery of a 20-year old John Gielgud's earliest appearance on film in *Romeo* (1922). The BFI has commissioned

the musicians and composers of Shakespeare's Globe to write a score for the film which will premiere at BFI Southbank, play UK-wide in cinemas, and will be available in the summer on BFI DVD and BFI Player.

Ian McKellen, who is spearheading the project, will appear on stage at BFI Southbank for two very special events during the season. Firstly, on **Wednesday 6 April**, he will present ***Shakespeare on Stage, Screen and Elsewhere, with Ian McKellen***, a one-off talk to share his unique insights into the problems and joys of interpreting Shakespeare for the theatre, television, radio and cinema. ***Richard III*** will also be simulcast, in partnership with Park Circus, across UK cinema on **Thursday 28 April** with a special post-film on-stage discussion between **Ian McKellen** and his co-adaptor and director **Richard Loncraine** live from BFI Southbank.

International adaptations include a focus on **Indian Shakespeare** from 29-30 April, featuring three films from Indian director **Vishal Bhardwaj**; ***Maqbool*** (2003), ***Omkara*** (2006) and ***Haider*** (2014), based on *Macbeth*, *Othello* and *Hamlet* respectively with Bhardwaj himself discussing the films on stage with the scriptwriters. BFI Southbank's regular ***African Odysseys*** programme will feature a discussion event looking at ***Representation and Race in Shakespeare*** as well as a screening of ***O*** (Tim Blake Nelson, 2001) starring Mekhi Phifer, Josh Hartnett and Julia Stiles, and based on *Othello*.

BFI Southbank will also be previewing, with on-stage cast and crew interviews, ***The Hollow Crown: The Wars of the Roses, Henry VI part 1 & 2*** starring Tom Sturridge, Hugh Bonneville, Sophie Okonedo and Sally Hawkins, on **Tuesday 29 March** – due to be broadcast on BBC Two in April. A new BBC *Arena* Documentary ***All the World's a Screen: Shakespeare on Film*** previews on **Thursday 14 April** which will look at the complex history, artistic contradictions and cultural achievements of Shakespeare, as translated into moving image.

LIGHTING FIRES: THE FILM & TV OF AGNIESZKA HOLLAND

- **Tue 12 Apr, 18:30 – TALK: Agnieszka Holland in Conversation**
- **Wed 13 Apr, 18:00 – SCREENING + INTRO: *A Woman Alone* (1981) / Onstage: Agnieszka Holland**
- **Wed 13 Apr, 20:40 – SCREENING + INTRO: *Europa Europa* (1990) / Onstage: Agnieszka Holland**
- **1 – 30 April – EXHIBITION: The Faces of Agnieszka Holland**

As part of the 14th KINOTEKA Polish Film Festival 2016 BFI Southbank will present a season of work by the award-winning Polish filmmaker **Agnieszka Holland**, who will be onstage at BFI Southbank for a special **In Conversation** event on **Tuesday 12 April**. Currently Chairwoman of the European Film Academy, Holland was a former assistant to Andrzej Wajda and Krzysztof Zanussi, and has gone on to become one of Poland's most eminent and commercially successful filmmakers, producing award-winning feature films such as ***In Darkness*** (2011) as well as directing for major US dramas such as ***The Wire*** and ***House of Cards***. Multi-lingual and three times Oscar® nominated, Holland has avoided categorisation while maintaining integrity with films that are personal, entertaining and politically charged.

Key film titles being screened during the season will include the Golden Globe-winning ***Europa Europa*** (1990), the once-banned ***A Woman Alone*** (1981), her first English language film ***The Secret Garden*** (1993) and the Oscar-nominated ***In Darkness*** (2011). Over the past decade Holland has also become a regular director for US Networks including HBO and Netflix; directing her first episode of ***The Wire*** in 2004, Holland established a firm collaboration with David Simon, working with him again on her Emmy-nominated pilot for his series ***Treme***, and last year she guest-directed on ***House of Cards***. The season will include very rare screenings of some of her television work – on the same night as the **In Conversation** event, audiences will be able to see her pilot for ***Treme*** (HBO, 2010),

based in New Orleans three months after the devastation of Hurricane Katrina. There will also be a complete screening of the mini-series *Burning Bush* (HBO Europe, 2013), based on real events, *Burning Bush* focuses on the aftermath of a protest by Prague student, Jan Palach, who set himself on fire in 1969 in protest against the Soviet occupation of Czechoslovakia. From **1 – 30 April** there will also be a display of international posters for films by Holland. The exhibit, **The Faces of Agnieszka Holland**, will feature posters taken from the Archives of the Film Museum in Łódź which display varied graphic styles, the diverse priorities of different cultures and the compelling nature of poster art.

In Partnership with:



DISSENT & DISRUPTION: THE COMPLETE ALAN CLARKE

- **Wed 30 Mar, 18:15 – PANEL DISCUSSION** following a screening of *The Firm (Director's Cut)* (Screen Two, BBC 1989) / **Onstage: actor Ray Winstone (work permitting), producer David M Thompson, writer David Leland and Clarke's daughter Molly Clarke**
- **Wed 13 Apr, 18:30 – SCREENING + Q&A: Made in Britain** (ITV 1982) / **Onstage: Tim Roth (TBC)**
- **Thu 21 Apr, 18:10 – TV PREVIEW + Q&A: Alan Clarke: Out of His Own Light** (2016) / **intro by director Andy Kelleher**
- **Sat 23 Apr, 15:15 – MISSING BELIEVED WIPED SPECIAL: Alan Clarke Half Hour Stories**
- **Wed 27 Apr, 18:10 – PANEL DISCUSSION: Alan Clarke's Women** / **Onstage: producer Margaret Matheson, writer Jehane Markham and actors Lesley Sharp and Eleanor Bron (TBC)**

From Monday 28 March, the BFI will present the entire BBC and ITV drama, and film productions of the great director/producer/writer **Alan Clarke** with a season at BFI Southbank, DVD and Blu-ray releases, via VOD on BFI Player and in BFI Mediatheques across the UK. Although best remembered for three controversial and groundbreaking dramas – *Scum* (1979), *Made in Britain* (1982) and *The Firm* (1989) – the breadth of Clarke's radical, political, innovative, inspirational work, with actors including **Gary Oldman, Ray Winstone, Tim Roth** and even **David Bowie**, and his influence on directors like **Gus Van Sant, Paul Greengrass** and **Harmony Korine**, should see him rightly regarded as one of Britain's greatest ever filmmaking talents. While much of his work was documentary-like in its gritty realism, and in the way he focused on society's marginal groups and underdogs, his versatility saw him turn his hand to comedy (*Rita, Sue and Bob Too*) and near-silent minimalism (*Elephant, Christine*).

After a screening of the recently discovered director's cut of *The Firm*, critic and broadcaster **Danny Leigh** will host an on-stage discussion on Clarke's uncompromising style, looking at his legacy and the filmmakers he has inspired with actor **Ray Winstone** (work permitting) producer **David M Thompson**, writer **David Leland**, and daughter **Molly Clarke**. Great female writers and producers also played a key part in Clarke's career; in *Alan Clarke's Women*, collaborators including producer **Margaret Matheson**, writer **Jehane Markham** and actors **Lesley Sharp** and **Eleanor Bron** will be on-stage to discuss his handling of feminine and feminist subjects. A *Missing Believed Wiped Special: Alan Clarke Half Hour Stories*, will reveal **three once-thought-lost episodes** from Associated Rediffusion's *Half Hour Story* strand where Clarke cut his directorial teeth in the late 1960s. There will also be a preview of the forthcoming BBC documentary *Alan Clarke: Out of His Own Light* (2016)

For full details of the season including BFI Blu-ray and DVD releases, a BFI mediatheque collection, and a BFI Player collection, please refer to the dedicated [Alan Clarke press release](#).

LOCO LONDON COMEDY FILM FESTIVAL

The LOCO London Comedy Film Festival returns to BFI Southbank for the fifth year, with more new British films than ever. This year's festival will open with the **UK premiere** of the dazzling dark comedy debut *Set The Thames on Fire* (Ben Charles Edwards, 2016); the premiere will be followed by a Q&A with **director Ben Charles Edwards, producer Sadie Frost** and members of the stellar cast which includes Max Bennett, Sally Phillips and Noel Fielding. Other programme highlights include the **World Premiere** of Creative England's iShorts+ Funny Girls collection of short films by Britain's most promising new female comedy talent and three programmes of new British comedy short films. Other new British films include this year's LOCO Discovery Award nominees (to be announced in due course).

Other highlights include the **UK Premieres** of *Gaby Baby Doll* (Sophie Letourneur, 2015) and *Et Ta Soeur* (Marion Vernoux, 2016), both with director **Q&As**, part of *Liberte Egalite Hilarite*, a programme of new French comedy cinema in partnership with the Institut Francais. There are also two programmes of silent comedy, including *The Roaring Twenties*, hosted by the BFI's Silent Film curator **Bryony Dixon**, celebrating British silent comedies of the 1920s, and an introduction to silent film for children, both with new live music by The Lucky Dog Picturehouse. LOCO's **Kickstart Your Comedy Career course** also returns with two days of masterclasses, screenings and workshops for young British-based comedy film-makers.

The full programme will be announced by LOCO in March.



EVENTS, PREVIEWS AND REGULAR STRANDS

- **Sun 17 Apr, 15:00 – SPECIAL EVENT: 25th Anniversary 70mm Presentation: *Lawrence of Arabia*** (David Lean, 1962)
- **Mon 18 Apr, 18:10 – SPECIAL EVENT: Mark Kermode Live in 3D at the BFI**
- **Mon 4 Apr, 18:30 – SPECIAL EVENT: London Games Festival / LGF@BFI**
- **Tue 5 Apr, 20:30 – PREVIEW + Q&A: *Couple in a Hole* (2015) / Onstage: director Tom Geens**
- **Thu 7 Apr, 20:30 – PREVIEW: *Our Little Sister* (Hirokazu Kore-Eda, 2015)**
- **Thu 7 Apr, 18:10 – PREVIEW + Q&A: *I am Belfast* (2015) / Onstage: director Mark Cousins**
- **Wed 27 Apr, 18:10 – PREVIEW + Q&A: *Son of Saul* (2015)**
- **Sun 3 Apr, 11:30 & 13:30 – SHAKESPEARE ON FILM FUNDAY WORKSHOP & SCREENING: *The Lion King* (1994)**
- **Sun 17 Apr, 20:10 – AUDIENCE CHOICE on the theme of **Films About Writers****
- **Wed 27 Apr, 20:50 – EXPERIMENTA – LMFC 50: *The Hands Are Also Hers* – a collection of films curated by Marina Vishmidt on the invitation of Lis Rhodes (LMFC Cinema Organiser 1975-76)**
- **Wed 13 Apr, 20:45 – CULT SCREENING + Q&A: *Symptoms* (Jose Ramon Larraz, 1974) / Onstage: editor Brian Smedley Aston (TBC)**
- **Mon 11 Apr, 20:20 – BFI MEMBERS EXCLUSIVES: Christopher Hampton introduces *Chimes at Midnight* (Orson Welles, 1965) / Onstage: writer Christopher Hampton**
- **Fri 29 Apr, 10:30 - BFI MEMBERS EXCLUSIVES: Tour of the BFI National Archive**

NEW RELEASES

- **Opens Mon 28 Mar: *Disorder* (Alice Winocour, 2015)**
- **Opens Mon 28 Mar: *Hail, Caesar!* (Joel and Ethan Coen, 2016)**
- **Opens Fri 8 Apr: *I Am Belfast* (Mark Cousins, 2015)**
- **Opens Fri 29 Apr: *Son of Saul* (László Nemes, 2015)**

RE-RELEASES

- **Opens Fri 1 Apr: *Ran* (Akira Kurosawa, 1985)**

- **Opens Fri 8 Apr: *Calamity Jane*** (David Butler, 1953)

PLEASE SEE ONLINE FOR FULL EVENTS LISTINGS FOR APRIL

– ENDS –

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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 - www.bfi.org.uk/southbank.

Young people aged 25 and under can buy last minute tickets for just £3, 45 minutes before the start of screenings and events, subject to availability - <http://www.bfi.org.uk/25-and-under>.

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 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 / Southbank 2016 / April