



# LUMINOUS

CELEBRATING BRITISH FILM AND BRITISH FILM TALENT

in partnership with

**IWC**  
SCHAFFHAUSEN

## **STARS GATHER TO CELEBRATE AN EVENING OF FILM AT BFI LUMINOUS FUNDRAISING GALA**

### **Over £430k raised so far to protect the UK's film heritage**

Tom Hiddleston, Jenna Coleman, Joan Collins, Guy Ritchie and Jacqui Ainsley, Erin O'Connor, Geena Davis, Natascha McElhone, Lily Cole, Anna Friel, Julian Fellowes, Jonathan Pryce, Steve Coogan, Jonathan Ross, Sienna Guillory, Terry Gilliam, Sir John Hurt, Ben Wheatley turned out tonight for the BFI LUMINOUS Gala



Tom Hiddleston arrives at the BFI LUMINOUS Gala dinner in partnership with IWC Schaffhausen with crystals by Swarovski

#### ***LONDON, 00.01 OCT 7 2015***

Last night (Tuesday October 6<sup>th</sup>) stars from the UK's film and television industries gathered in support at London's Guildhall for the BFI's LUMINOUS fundraising gala, in partnership with IWC Schaffhausen. The evening celebrated the best of British film and film talent, and guests helped to raise **over £430k so far** to support the BFI National Archive by bidding on once in a lifetime lots including a private audience with Al Pacino and a walk on part in *Paddington 2*. The evening also marked the launch of the BFI's new year-long fundraising campaign **Film is Fragile** that aims to raise £1million to help secure the future of the BFI National Archive – the UK's National Collection of film and TV and one of the greatest heritage collections in the world.

BFI CEO Amanda Nevill and LUMINOUS Chair and President & Managing Director, Warner Bros. Entertainment UK, Ireland and Spain, Josh Berger hosted the evening, with on stage entertainment and comedy from Master of Ceremonies Jonathan Ross. Guests included Tom Hiddleston, Jenna Coleman, Joan Collins, Guy Ritchie and Jacqui Ainsley, Erin O'Connor, Geena Davis, Natascha McElhone, Lily Cole, Anna Friel, Julian Fellowes, Jonathan Pryce, Steve Coogan, Jonathan Ross, Sienna Guillory, Terry Gilliam, Sir John Hurt and Ben Wheatley. LUMINOUS also featured captivating projections and visuals by The Light Surgeons, using the riches of the BFI National Archive and inspired by the BFI's forthcoming LOVE Blockbuster season. Guests were also treated to an intimate live performance by The Staves.

**Newly announced BFI Ambassador, Tom Hiddleston said:** *"Film is an art form – one of the most powerful, accessible, democratic and transformative in our society. It allows us to see the world around us, and the lives of others. It plays a vital role in establishing our national identity and gives us confidence as a nation. The BFI looks after the most significant collection of film and television in the world. It should be treasured and protected, in the same way we treasure and protect all our great cultural collections, from art and music, to libraries and museums. The BFI's mission is to ensure that our film culture is kept alive, and to inspire the next generation of film talent. It's the reason the BFI exists and why I am committed to being a BFI Ambassador."*

**LUMINOUS Gala host, Jonathan Ross said:** *"I'm here because I love film. In the words of Audrey Hepburn, 'everything I learned I learned from the movies'. The BFI National Archive is a vital part of our cinema history and our national culture."*

**Steve Coogan, addressing guests at the BFI LUMINOUS Gala, said:** *"One day, when everyone in this room is dead, the BFI National Archive – with your help – will still be here. It connects us with our future."*

**CEO of the BFI, Amanda Nevill said:** *"It was a wonderful night and I'm utterly thrilled at the way the film industry itself, and our fantastic supporters worked so generously with us to support the vital work of the BFI National Archive."*

LUMINOUS' charity auction was led by renowned Sotheby's auctioneer Lord Dalmeny who guided guests through a range of incredible once-in-a-lifetime prizes and experiences. These included a behind-the-scenes visit to Pixar studios in San Francisco and a visit to the set of the new JK Rowling film, plus a specially created unique IWC Schaffhausen timepiece. All prizes were generously donated by a range of BFI supporters.

This year, for the first time, the auction was opened up to bidders all over the world ahead of the night via a new online bidding process, allowing many more people with a passion for film the opportunity to win one of an additional 37 extraordinary lots on offer. These included a **unique and one-of-one IWC Schaffhausen timepiece:** the Portugieser Annual Calendar Edition 'BFI London Film Festival 2015' IWC timepiece, **Martin Scorsese's** signed director's chair and HUGO script; the chance to **enjoy the 2016 Emirates FA Cup Final from the comfort of the Royal Box** as the guest of Greg Dyke, Chairman of the BFI and the Football Association; and the opportunity to **join renowned British filmmaker, Ken Loach** (*The Wind That Shakes The Barley, Kes*) in the edit suite as he and long-time editor Jonathan Morris cut Ken's new film.

The **BFI National Archive** looks after the UK's national film collection, which includes priceless and irreplaceable items including the original negatives and materials of some of the greatest British films ever made, from Hitchcock's silent films to Danny Boyle's *Trainspotting* (1996) via *Brief Encounter* (1945), *A Hard Day's Night* (1964) and *Chariots of Fire* (1981).

But film is a fragile medium, restoring and preserving it is expensive, and as a charity the BFI relies heavily on the generosity and support of donors and sponsors to enable it to continue this culturally important work on behalf of the nation. Through FILM IS FRAGILE, all donations up to £400,000 will be matched by a generous supporter – making all donations go twice as far to protect the UK's film heritage. Donations are now open at [www.bfi.org.uk/filmisfragile](http://www.bfi.org.uk/filmisfragile)

**IWC Schaffhausen CEO, Georges Kern also commented:** *“LUMINOUS offers a unique platform to give back to this extraordinary industry. We share the BFI's vision to offer the world better access to - and understanding of – the art and history of film. Sharing a strong passion for cinema, we are proud to support the BFI in their exceptional work to preserve and restore vast collections of film and television footage that allows future generations to enjoy film and the art of filmmaking, while also investing in new film talent.”*

Ahead of the event, the BFI revealed the names of leading film industry talent from around the world who came together as LUMINOUS Gala Champions, in support of the Gala and FILM IS FRAGILE campaign, including Tom Hiddleston, Dame Judi Dench, Martin Scorsese, Emma Watson, Dame Maggie Smith, Colin & Livia Firth, Romola Garai, David Oyelowo, John Hurt, Paul Greengrass, all of whom were proud to voice their support of the work carried out by the BFI.

**-ENDS-**

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Notes to editors:

**\*\*\* PICTURE DESK \*\*\***

A selection of images for journalistic use from the LUMINOUS Gala can be accessed at:

<http://ftp.premiercomms.com>

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**NOTES TO EDITORS**

**LUMINOUS GALA CHAMPIONS 2015**

John Boyega  
Danny Boyle  
Mel Brooks  
Sir Michael Caine  
Terence Davies  
Dame Judi Dench  
Lord & Lady Fellowes  
Ralph Fiennes  
Colin & Livia Firth  
Tom Ford  
Stephen Frears  
Romola Garai  
Terry Gilliam  
Paul Greengrass  
David Heyman  
Tom Hiddleston  
Tom Hooper  
Sir John Hurt  
Asif Kapadia  
Peter Kosminsky  
Damian Lewis  
Ken Loach  
John Madden  
Helen McCrory  
David Morrissey  
David Oyelowo  
Dev Patel  
Lord Puttnam  
Nicolas Roeg  
Martin Scorsese  
Thelma Schoonmaker  
Dame Maggie Smith  
Jeremy Thomas  
David Walliams  
Emma Watson  
Harvey Weinstein

**LUMINOUS Committee:**

**Chair: Josh Berger**

**Felicia Brocklebank**

**Hani Farsi**

**Gerry Fox**

**Georges Kern**

**Lynn Lewis**

**Caroline Michel**

**Beatrix Ong**

**Katrina Pavlos**

**Betsy Ryan**

**Sue Whiteley**

**Kate Driver**

**Eric Fellner**

**Amy Gardner**

**Serra Kirdar**

**Isabella Macpherson**

**Beth Mill**

**Sir Alan Parker**

**John Reiss**

**Joana Schliemann**

**Louis Elson**

**Daniel Friel**

**Kathryn Greig**

**Rena Kirdar Abboud**

**Jo Malone**

**Iliane Ogilvie Thompson**

**Sharan Pasricha**

**Joyce Reuben**

**Colin Walsh**

**LUMINOUS SPONSORS, PARTNERS AND CONTRIBUTORS**

All at the BFI express their sincere thanks to the many sponsors, partners, auction contributors and individuals who have helped make LUMINOUS possible:

IWC Schaffhausen for their vital support as headline sponsor, Official sponsor DJI, Italian luxury car marque Maserati,, Auction partner Sotheby's and Media partner Vanity Fair. We are very grateful to Corbis Entertainment, Corniche Pictures, RBC Wealth Management and Warner Bros. – our corporate table partners, and our Official hospitality partners: Billecart-Salmon, Casamigos Tequila, Charbonnel & Walker, Gran Clos wines, Neuschwansteiner Beer, Warner Music, Christie Digital and all our wonderful auction contributors.

**FILM IS FRAGILE Partners**

We are very grateful to a number of organisations for supporting the campaign: the Mohamed S. Farsi Foundation and the David Lean Foundation.

**About the BFI National Archive**

For over 80 years the BFI has been an international leader in film preservation, guardian of Britain's unparalleled film and TV heritage and an innovator in presenting films to audiences in new and dynamic ways, from cinemas to film festivals to outdoor events to online video-on-demand. At the heart of all its activities is the BFI's central aim to ensure that everyone in the UK has access to the widest possible range of film and their own film heritage.

That heritage includes all time great British directors Alfred Hitchcock, David Lean and Powell and Pressburger; modern masters including Mike Leigh, Stephen Frears, Lynne Ramsay and Steve McQueen; the earliest pioneers of silent filmmaking in Britain; and the rich vein of documentary filmmaking, in which Britain led the world, with the works of Humphrey Jennings and government funded departments creating astonishing art on film. Keeping this precious archive alive can only be achieved through the time consuming, expensive and expert-led process of film preservation and digitisation – ensuring not only access for all, but the safeguarding of film for future generations.

**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 is now 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 Greg Dyke.

#### **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.