

**BFI ANNOUNCES SUPPORT FOR  
DEBBIE TUCKER GREEN'S *SECOND COMING* AND  
ESTHER MAY CAMPBELL'S *LIGHT YEARS*  
IN FIRST ROUND OF FIRST FEATURE AWARDS**

**London, Tuesday April 9 2013:** The BFI Film Fund today announces Debbie Tucker Green's *SECOND COMING* and Esther May Campbell's *LIGHT YEARS* as the feature debuts they intend to support through the first round (January – March) of a new editorial process giving first time directors working with budgets under £2million the chance to be considered every three months.

Debbie Tucker Green is a BAFTA (Best Single Drama for *Random*, Channel 4) and Olivier (Most Promising Newcomer) award winning writer and director, best known as one of the UK's foremost playwrights and a talented screenwriter for television. Her first feature film *SECOND COMING*, produced by Hillbilly Films and developed and co-financed by Film4, is set in present day London and tells a poignant story about family, the impact of pregnancy and a woman struggling with her mental state.

Esther May Campbell is another BAFTA award winner (Outstanding Short Film for *September*, 2009), and internationally acclaimed with ten other major awards. With a prolific career directing shorts, music videos and TV drama, including *Skins* and *Wallander*, *LIGHT YEARS* is her first feature. *LIGHT YEARS*, produced by Third Films, follows a day in the life of an 8 year old girl in an intense journey to find her mother that is steeped in atmosphere, explores complex familial, socio-cultural and environmental issues, and has a pointed relevance to our time.

A commitment to new and emerging talent is outlined in the BFI's future plan *Film Forever*. This new editorial process, in which the BFI Film Fund continues to welcome applications year round, but now considers them collectively, is designed to create a level playing field

and provide equal opportunity for every first feature, allowing fresh and exciting voices from a diverse range of filmmakers to shine through.

Ben Roberts, Director of the BFI Film Fund, comments: *"Given the volume of applications we receive for projects with first time directors, we wanted to make a commitment to regular reviews of emerging filmmakers that is fair, open and inclusive. Debbie's and Esther's films are brilliant examples of the type of new work we hope to champion - bold, unique films from filmmakers who are prepared to take risks."*

As is now standard practice for the BFI Film Fund, applicants who receive a positive decision in principle will be issued with a Letter of Intent, enabling some of the projects to secure the final stage of their funding by demonstrating the Film Fund's commitment and endorsement.

The closing date for round 2 awards is 31 May 2013, and subsequent deadline dates will be published at [bfi.org.uk/filmfund](http://bfi.org.uk/filmfund).

– Ends –

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**NOTES TO EDITORS**

**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 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.

