



BFI LONDON FILM FESTIVAL

8 – 19 October 2014

in partnership with



THE 58TH BFI LONDON FILM FESTIVAL ANNOUNCES A PROGRAMME ADDITION WITH THE UK PREMIERE OF CITIZENFOUR



London, 17 September, 2014: – The 58th BFI London Film Festival in partnership with American Express® is privileged to announce that the UK Premiere of CITIZENFOUR the new film by Academy Award® nominee, Pulitzer prize-winner Laura Poitras will be presented as a Documentary Special Presentation at this year's Festival, screening on Friday 17 and Saturday 18 October.

In January 2013, filmmaker Laura Poitras was several years into the making of a film about abuses of national security in post-9/11 America when she started receiving encrypted e-mails from someone identifying himself as “citizen four,” who was ready to blow the whistle on the massive covert surveillance programs run by the NSA and other intelligence agencies. In June 2013, she and reporter Glenn Greenwald flew to Hong Kong for the first of many meetings with the man who turned out to be Edward Snowden. She brought her camera with her. The film that resulted from this series of tense encounters is absolutely unique in the history of cinema: a 100% real-life thriller unfolding minute by minute before our eyes.

Clare Stewart, BFI London Film Festival Director, comments: “*We are committed to building and expanding our documentary selection at BFI London Film Festival and are thrilled to be bringing audiences this bitingly relevant film that speaks to the political consciousness of our times. Laura Poitras has built a body of work that balances political urgency with striking filmmaking and she demonstrates that again with the hugely significant CITIZENFOUR*”

CITIZENFOUR is a Praxis Films feature presented by BRITDOC and Artificial Eye in association with Bertha Foundation and Channel 4. Directed by Laura Poitras (*My Country, My Country, The Oath* – previous films of her 9/11 trilogy), edited by Mathilde Bonnefoy (*Run Lola Run*), produced by Laura Poitras, Mathilde Bonnefoy, Dirk Wiltzky, featuring Edward Snowden.. Executive producers are Steven Soderbergh, David Menschel, Jeff Skoll,

Diane Weyermann, and Sheila Nevins. It was filmed by Laura Poitras, Kirsten Johnson, Katy Scoggin and Trevor Paglen.

Made possible by support from Bertha / BRITDOC, Vital Projects Fund, Sundance Institute Documentary Fund, Channel 4, Cinereach, Deutsche Film Förderfonds (DFFF), Participant Media, Ford Foundation, Nord Deutscher Rundfunk (NDR) / Bayerischer Rundfunk (BR)

The film is being co-distributed in the UK by Artificial Eye and BRITDOC Foundation to be released in cinemas from Friday 31 October, 2014 as a Film4 co-production. Channel 4 will play the film in early 2015.

The 58th BFI London Film Festival in partnership with American Express runs from Wednesday 8 October to Sunday 19 October. Public booking opens 10.00am 18 September.

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For further press information about the 58th BFI London Film Festival:

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Image for CITIZENFOUR is available via the LFF Press Team

Twitter @citizenfour

Festival Information & Ticket Booking

BFI Members' priority booking open - join at www.bfi.org.uk/join

Public booking opens 10.00am, 18 September

Telephone Bookings: 020 7928 3232 between 09:30–20:30

Online: www.bfi.org.uk/lff

In person: BFI Southbank Office: 11:30–20:30

NB. Last minute tickets are available to be purchased on the day about 30 minutes prior to the screening at Festival venues

Twitter - @bfi #lff

Facebook - facebook.com/londonfilmfestival

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 filmmakers in the UK
- Investing in creative, distinctive and entertaining work
- Promoting British film and talent to the world
- Growing the next generation of filmmakers and audiences

About 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.

Clare Stewart biography

Clare Stewart's nineteen 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).



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