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TV Preview + Discussion
Faster, Higher, Stronger: The Ultimate Race.
at BFI Southbank / May 14 / 18:15



With the Olympic Games coming to London in less than 100 days, **BFI Southbank** presents a preview screening of the upcoming BBC documentary **Faster, Higher, Stronger: The Ultimate Race**. The screening will be followed by a very special on-stage discussion with the filmmakers and some of Britain's past Olympians who will be revealed in upcoming weeks.

This new documentary tells the story of the 1500m – the Blue Riband event of any Olympics. **The Ultimate Race** reveals how the 1500m was the platform for the most famous chapter in British athletics history. In the 1980 and 1984 Games, three British runners – **Sebastian Coe**, **Steve Ovett** and **Steve Cram** – battled it out for Olympic Gold in dramatic races that gripped the nation.

Part of the new BBC2 series **Faster, Higher, Stronger**, the film uses rarely-seen Olympic archive material to show how these British athletes are also part of a global tradition. Since the modern Games began in 1896 the 1500m has always attracted the most creative, innovative and exceptional athletes from unexpected corners of the world, from the 'Flying Finns' of the 1920s to today's African high-altitude champions. These runners devised groundbreaking training regimes, pushed human endurance to the limit, and emerged with an unquenchable will to win this most demanding Olympic event. Shot in Kenya, Morocco, Finland, Australia and the UK, the film features new interviews with Olympic 1500m champions including **Sebastian Coe**, **Hicham El Guerrouj**, **Kipchoge Keino**, **Peter Rono**, **Peter Snell** and **Herb Elliott**.

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NOTES TO EDITORS

TV Preview + Discussion: *Faster, Higher, Stronger: The Ultimate Race*

BBC 2012. Dir Francis Welch. 60min

Mon 14 May 18.15 NFT1

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 £10.00, concs £6.75 Members pay £1.50 less on any ticket. Website www.bfi.org.uk/southbank

Tickets for FREE screenings and events must be booked in advance by calling the Box Office to avoid disappointment

BFI Filmstore

The BFI Filmstore 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 / May 2012