

## **UK-MADE FILMS TOP \$9.4 BILLION AT THE WORLDWIDE BOX OFFICE IN 2015, A 26% SHARE OF THE GLOBAL CINEMA-GOING MARKET**

- Films made in the UK took a record-breaking \$9.4 billion at the worldwide box office in 2015, a 26% share of the global box office and a 13% increase on 2014
- Independent UK films grossed \$1.1 billion worldwide, a 2.8% share of the global box office led by *Paddington*, *Shaun The Sheep Movie* and *The Imitation Game*, the second highest level since 2002\*
- *Paddington* is the UK's biggest independent film export in 2015 taking \$112 million \*\*
- The UK-made *Star Wars: The Force Awakens* is the highest performing film earning \$1.951 billion worldwide

**London, Friday 18 March 2015.** Figures published today by the BFI show that films made in the UK grossed \$9.4 billion worldwide, achieving the highest market share ever of the global box office\* with 26% and an increase of 13% on 2014.

UK-made films which contributed to the record-breaking box office and market share results range from the studio blockbusters *Star Wars: The Force Awakens* and *Avengers: Age of Ultron* to independent UK films led by *Paddington* and including *Shaun The Sheep Movie*, *The Imitation Game* and *Brooklyn*. Independent UK films broke the £1 billion box office market for the second year running, and accounted for a 2.8% share of the worldwide box office, the second highest share since 2002\*.

**Amanda Nevill, CEO of the BFI**, said, "The worldwide box office numbers once again underline the vital role played by our fantastic talent, crews and production facilities in making films here in the UK that are seen by audiences worldwide."

**Ed Vaizey, Minister for Culture**, said, "The UK is home to world-leading creative talent, and so it's no surprise that 2014 was another record-breaking year for British film. From blockbusters like *Star Wars* to independent award winning productions like *Paddington*, British made films continue to excite audiences far and wide."

In what was a record-breaking year for UK-made films, *Paddington* grossed \$112 million, generated mostly in the USA and Canada; when added to revenues from its release in other countries in 2014 the film has achieved a combined worldwide box office revenue of \$249 million. Hot on the tail of *Paddington* is another family film, Aardman Animation's *Shaun the Sheep Movie* which earned \$103 million followed by *The Imitation Game* which grossed \$102 million worldwide. More recent releases such as *Brooklyn* grossed \$45 million and *Legend* \$39 million. The top 10 independent UK films grossed \$679 million worldwide.

Internationally, the UK's box office share combined across studio and independent films varied from continent to continent and country to country, from 32% in the Russia to 21% in France; 24% in six Latin American territories; 18% in the six Asian territories; and 33% and 39% in Australia and New Zealand respectively.

For UK independent films only, the market share in the USA and Canada is 3.2%. In Europe the market share ranges from 6.6% in Portugal, 5.5% in the Netherlands, 3.4% in Germany, 3.1% in France to 2.4% in Russia. Asia's average includes 2.1% in South Korea, 2.0% in Hong Kong and 1.5% in Malaysia. China, an emerging market for UK-made films has a limit on the amount of foreign film slots and has remained at a consistent market share of 0.6%. Across the Latin American countries analysed, UK independent films had a 1.3% market share. Oceania has two of the strongest markets for UK independent films; Australia with 6.5%, and with 9.2% New Zealand has highest market share of any of the territories analysed.

\* highest share since the reporting period started in 2002

\*\**Paddington* was released in different countries in 2014 and 2015; film's lifetime gross worldwide is \$249 million

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**About the BFI**

With over £50 million of Lottery funding to invest each year, the BFI is the UK's largest public investor in film, and the BFI Film Fund supports first-class British filmmaking from talent and project development, through production, to audience development across exhibition, distribution and international sales.

Films supported by the BFI include Sarah Gavron's critical and box office hit, *Suffragette*; John Crowley's BAFTA and Oscar® nominated *Brooklyn*; Sean McAllister's *A Syrian Love Story*, which won the Grand Jury prize at Sheffield Doc/Fest and has been nominated for a BAFTA; Yorgos Lanthimos' BAFTA nominated *The Lobster* which premiered In Competition at Cannes 2015; Andrew Haigh's *45 Years* which won Silver Bear awards for Charlotte Rampling and Tom Courtenay at the Berlin Film Festival and was nominated for a BAFTA and an Oscar®.

Highly anticipated films backed by the BFI include Ben Wheatley's *High-Rise* being released on 18 March; Andrea Arnold's *American Honey*; John Michael McDonagh's *War On Everyone* which screened in the Panorama strand at this year's Berlin Film Festival; Amma Asante's *A United Kingdom*; James Spinney and Peter Middleton's *Notes on Blindness*, which premiered at the Sundance Film Festival; Colm McCarthy's *The Girl With All The Gifts*; Gurinder Chadha's *Viceroy's House*; and Pete Travis' *City of Tiny Lights*.

The **BFI Vision Awards 3** are aligned with the BFI NET.WORK, a UK-wide initiative working with a range of partners including Creative England, Ffilm Cymru Wales, Film London, Northern Ireland Screen and the Scottish Film Talent Network to discover and support the next generation of feature filmmaking talent.

The BFI is the lead organisation 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 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 Josh Berger

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