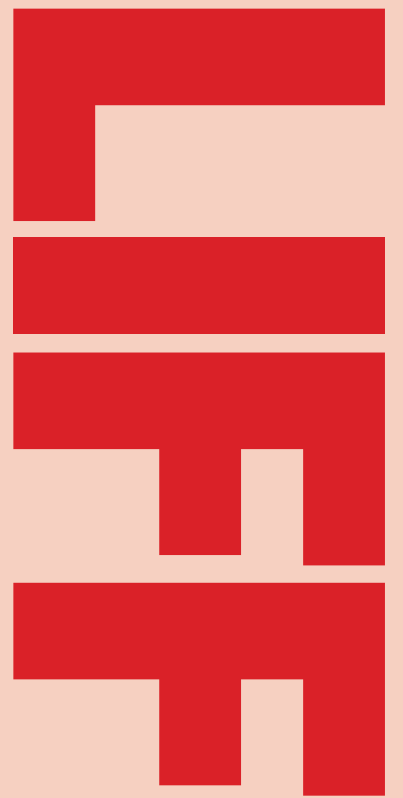


LEEDS INTERNATIONAL
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November



2024

Free Guide

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LEEDS ARTS EVENTS & VENUES | Leeds CITY COUNCIL





All the Long Nights - LIFF 2024 Closing Film, Page 15

Welcome to the LIFF 2024 programme!

From our opening premiere The Ties That Bind Us to our closing premiere All the Long Nights, you can take an epic journey through film over 17 days at the 38th edition of Leeds International Film Festival. As a guide to many of the best new films of the year, from established filmmakers or exciting new talent, we have created the new main programme section Constellation. For fans of fantastic film genres like fantasy, sci-fi and horror, we have expanded the Fanomenon programme section, including new competitions for features and shorts, and the retrospective The Weird of Oz. We have also extended the screening schedule for our LIFF SHORTS competitions, and curated two unique spotlights, focusing on Indian film icon Smita Patil and Leeds artist and filmmaker Stuart Croft.

There is so much to see at LIFF 2024, and if you want to book for multiple films, the best value option is to buy a LIFF Pass, with great discounts on tickets and most passes can be shared with others too.

See you at LIFF 2024!

Visit leedsfilm.com

- Full LIFF programme online
- Sign up for LIFF newsletter
- See the latest updates
- 📧📷📺 @leedsfilmfest
- #LIFF2024

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Venues & Accessibility

Hyde Park Picture House
73 Brudenell Road,
Leeds LS6 1JD

VUE in The Light
22 The Light,
The Headrow,
Leeds LS1 8TL

Pictureville
National Science & Media Museum
Bradford

Theatre in the Mill
Bradford

Stockroom Cinema
Keighley

Keighley Picture House
Keighley

Everyman Leeds
Level 4, Trinity,
Albion Street,
Leeds LS1 5AT

Howard Assembly Room
46 New Briggate,
Leeds LS1 6NU

Cottage Road Cinema
Cottage Road,
Leeds LS6 4DD

Keighley Creative Stockroom Cinema
Keighley Creative,
3-7 Cooke Street,
Airedale Centre,
Keighley BD21 3PF

The Old Fire Station
Gipton Approach,
Leeds LS9 6NL

Pictureville
National Science & Media Museum
Pictureville, Bradford
BD1 1NQ

St. Lukes Cares
246-252, 246
Dewsbury Road,
Leeds LS11 6JQ

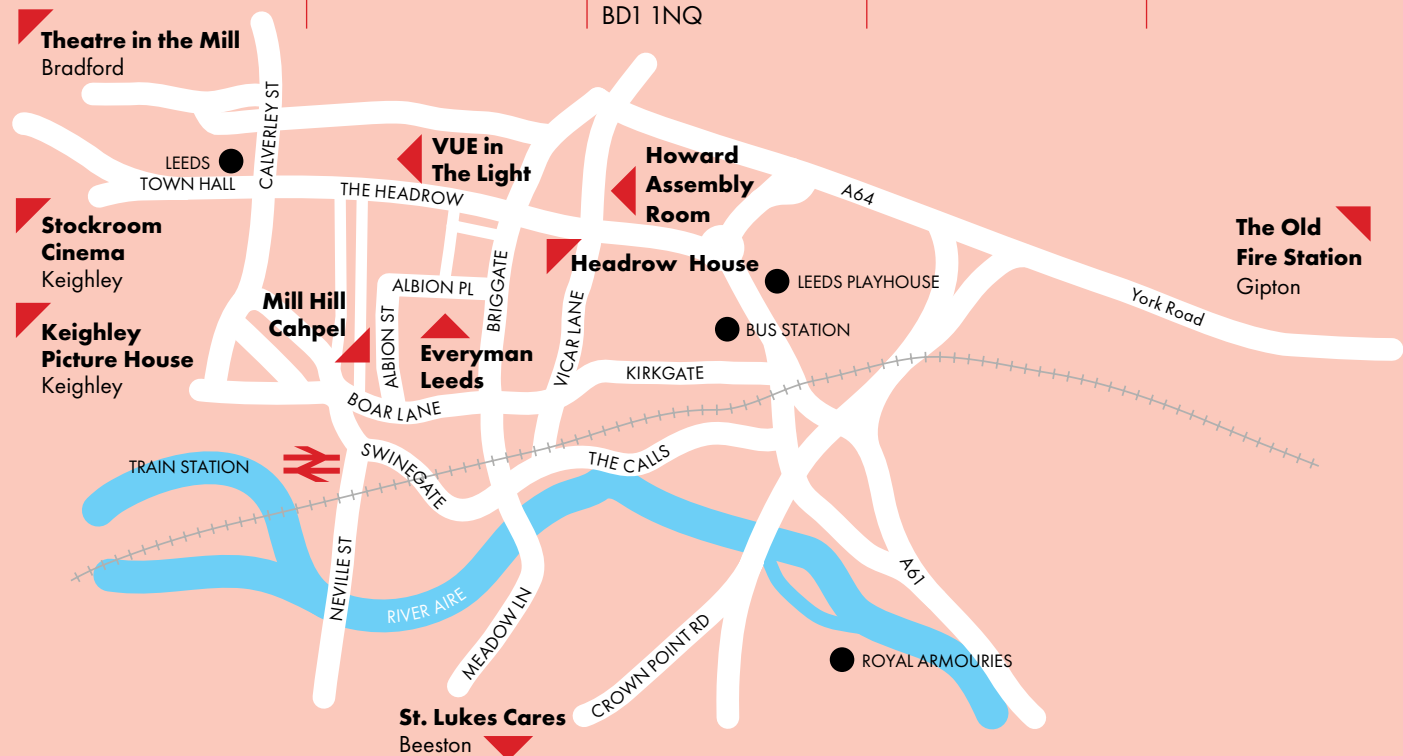
Chapel FM Arts Centre
Old Seacroft Chapel,
York Road, Seacroft,
Leeds LS14 6JB

Mill Hill Chapel
City Square,
Leeds LS1 5EB

Theatre in the Mill
University of Bradford
Bradford BD7 1DP

Headrow House
19a The Headrow,
Leeds LS1 6PU

Keighley Picture House
132 North Street,
Keighley BD21 3AF



Accessibility at Venues

For detailed accessibility information for all our venues, please see the individual venue pages on leedsfilm.com, or you can call, email or visit us (see details on page 5). We offer free entry for essential companions and accept the CEA card: seats can be booked with Leeds Ticket Hub.

If you have any specific access requirements and you would like to discuss them, please email leeds.film@leeds.gov.uk, or call or visit Leeds Ticket Hub (see details on page 5).

Accessible Screenings

For LIFF 2024, we have more screenings with on-screen captions or descriptive subtitles, including descriptions of non-dialogue audio, and with an audio-description soundtrack. We have two autism-friendly screenings - Flow on 10 November and The Stimming Pool on 15 November. Details about all accessible screenings are on leedsfilm.com, or you can call, email or visit us (see details on page 5).

We also have more free screenings, including an expanded programme at community venues, and we have a wide range of pass options with great value offers for seeing multiple films at LIFF 2024.

Tickets & Passes

Tickets

Feature films £10.50/£8.50*
Unless otherwise stated. No booking fee is applied.

Short film programmes £9.50/£7.50*
Unless otherwise stated. No booking fee is applied.

*Concession price: students, ages 60 and over, ages 16 and under, disabled, unwaged.

Passes

We offer a wide range of passes for seeing multiple films at LIFF 2024. Please check individual pass summaries and the pass pricing table below for the different options. No booking fee is applied. Pass information is also online on leedsfilm.com, and you can call, email or visit us (see opposite).

LIFF LITE PASS £54/£45*

LIFF LITE gives you 6 tickets that can be used in any combination: e.g., one person for 6 screenings or two people for 3 screenings. You can buy a second LIFF LITE once you use up the first one.

LIFF BUZZ PASS £36 (FOR AGES 25 AND UNDER)

LIFF BUZZ is for ages 25 and under and gives you 6 tickets that can be used in any combination: e.g., one person for 6 screenings or two people for 3 screenings. Proof of age required. You can continue buying LIFF BUZZ passes after you use up each one.

LIFF EXPLORER PASS (SEE PRICE OPTIONS IN TABLE)

You can choose 10, 20, 30 or 40 ticket options for LIFF EXPLORER, with increasing discounts. Tickets can be used in any combination: e.g., with LIFF EXPLORER 30, one person for 30 screenings, or two people for 15 screenings.

LIFF EXPLORER GOLD PASS £325/£300*

For film fans who want to see 50 or more films, LIFF EXPLORER GOLD is the best value option. There are no limits on what you can see and the pass includes all events and Fanomenon marathons. You will also receive a free LIFF 2024 tote bag and poster. LIFF EXPLORER GOLD is for individual use only.

How to book with Leeds Ticket Hub

Online
Visit leedsfilm.com

Over the phone on 0113 376 0318
Lines open from Monday to Saturday, 10am to 4pm.

In person at Carriageworks Theatre on Millennium Square, Leeds city centre

Open every Tuesday until 29 October, 1pm to 6pm, and then daily from 30 October to 17 November, 1pm to 6pm. We also sell tickets at our venues during LIFF, but advanced booking is recommended.

Screening start times

There are no trailers or adverts before films at LIFF. Films start on or just after the advertised start times where possible. There are often introductions by LIFF Team members and guests, or promotional videos or slides from LIFF partners at the start, but these are short. If there is a longer talk before the start of a film, this is mentioned with the film information in the guide or online.

Film certification

Most films presented at LIFF are only available to those aged 18 or over due to local licensing requirements. If a film has a BBFC rating, this is listed with the film information in the guide or online.

Programme updates

There may be occasional updates to the programme, including extra screenings, and these are announced on our social media @leedsfilmfest and on leedsfilm.com where you can also sign up to our newsletter to receive the latest information.

Pass Name	Tickets	Full Prices	Price Per Ticket (PPT) With Pass	Concession Prices	PPT with Concession Pass
BUZZ (25 & under)	6	£36	£6.00	NA	NA
LITE	6	£54	£9.00	£45	£7.50
EXPLORER 10	10	£85	£8.50	£70	£7.00
EXPLORER 20	20	£160	£8.00	£135	£6.75
EXPLORER 30	30	£225	£7.50	£195	£6.50
EXPLORER 40	40	£280	£7.00	£250	£6.25
EXPLORER GOLD	UNLIMITED	£325	£6.50 (50 FILMS)	£300	£6.00 (50 FILMS)

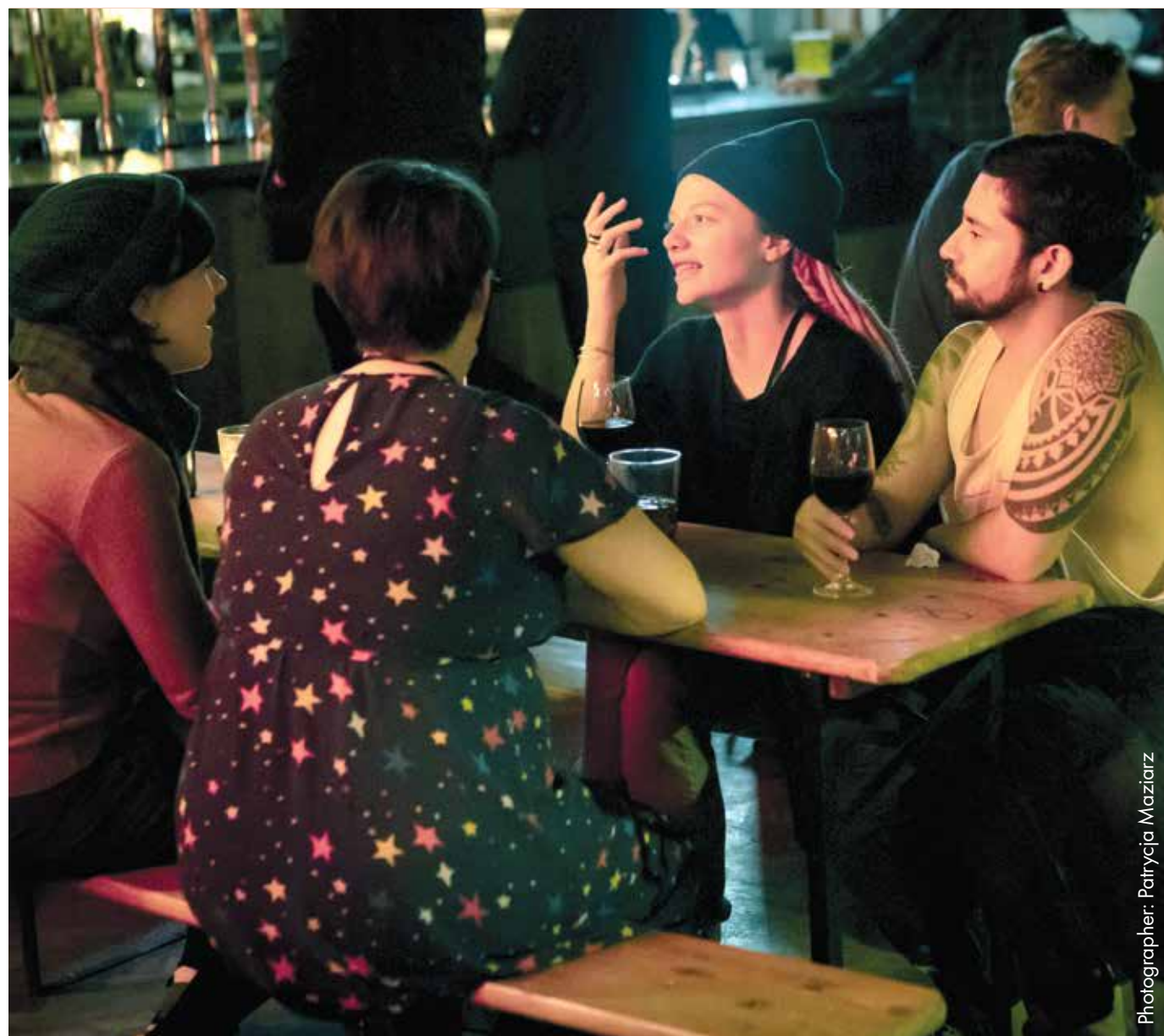
Pass Discounts

Leeds is a vibrant city full of food, drink and fun to explore during the festival. Whether grabbing a coffee before a morning film, grabbing dinner with friends that you bumped into at a screening or topping off the evening with a few drinks; this year we wanted to highlight some of our favorite spots as well as provide an exclusive discount for our festival passholders to explore. Find out more about our passholder discounts and see an updated list at leedfilm.com.

How to use

The discounts will be available for the duration of the festival, November 1-17.

To validate any discount or special offer, please show your physical festival pass (Gold Passholders) or an email confirmation of the pass on your phone. If there are any issues redeeming your discount please get in touch with us on social media or email – leeds.film@leeds.gov.uk



Photographer: Patrycja Maziarz

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@bundobust

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@grindhouseleeds

Headrow House

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27-29 Headingley Lane, Leeds, LS61BL
hydeparkbookclub.co.uk
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Twitter: @HPBCLeeds

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Coffee, breakfast & brunch.

10% off all 'dine-in' food during LIFF.

12-16 New Station Street (next to Leeds Train Station)
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24 New Briggate, LS16NU
facebook.com/northbarleeds
@northbardrinks

Sela Bar

Late night bar & pizzeria.

House drink & pizza for £12.

20 New Briggate, Leeds. LS1 6NU
selabar.com
@selabarleeds

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21 Merrion Street, LS2 8JE
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LAYLA
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SISTER MIDNIGHT
Director – Karan Kandhari



HARD TRUTHS
Director – Mike Leigh



HOMEWORK (SHORT)
Director – Jamie Di Spirito

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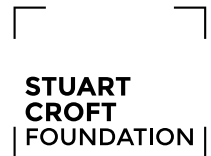
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Partner opportunities with Leeds Film

LIFF is organised by the Leeds Film team at Leeds City Council. Based at Leeds Town Hall, Leeds Film also organises Leeds Young Film Festival, Independent Directions Film Festival, and year-round film and education programmes, and operates leedsfilm.com.

All our activities are made possible by our partnerships and if you would like further information about opportunities with Leeds Film, please email leeds.film@leeds.gov.uk or call +44(0)113 378 5999

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The Ties That Bind Us

LIFF 2024 Opening Film

Vue Screen 12, Fri 1 Nov 18:30 & Sun 3 Nov 11:15

UK Premiere | Carine Tardieu | France, Belgium | 2024
106 minutes | French with English subtitles

The Ties That Bind Us from French writer/director Carine Tardieu is a compassionate, emotionally engaging film about what brings people together in times of adversity and the new kinds of family ties that can bloom unexpectedly. When the reluctant Sandra (Valeria Bruni Tedeschi), a fifty something feminist bookshop owner, is suddenly charged with looking after her neighbours' five-year-old son when his mother's waters break, she has no idea how their lives will change when tragedy strikes. With a superb ensemble cast of natural performers led by Tedeschi and Pio Marmai, The Ties That Bind Us has an irresistible, lived in feel that is universally relatable.

"Carine Tardieu crafts a delicate, humanist film about the unpredictable emotional ties we randomly forge through dramas, loving encounters and the merry-go-round of life."

– Fabien Lemercier, Cineuropa



Earth with New Score Live

LIFF 2024 Central Classic Film

Howard Assembly Room, Sun 10 Nov 13:00

Aleksandr Dovzhenko | Soviet Union | 1930 | 65 minutes
Russian intertitles with English subtitles | BBFC Rating PG

A visually stunning masterpiece of the silent era, Alexander Dovzhenko's Earth is a stirring paean to nature and rural life in Ukraine. Opening with lyrical shots of grain fields under a vast sky, the film transcends its origins as a propaganda piece on agricultural collectivization and evolves into a poetic meditation on nature's cycle of life and death. This special screening is accompanied by live music from Ukrainian musicians Misha Kalinin (guitar) and Roksana Smirnova (piano), who have created a new jazz-based score, blending impressionistic soundscapes with improvisations that enhance Dovzhenko's sweeping landscapes and iconic close-ups.

This event is organised with the financial support of the UK/UA Creative Partnerships programme designed by the British Council and the Ukrainian Institute.

UK/Ukraine
Creative
Partnerships



All We Imagine As Light

LIFF 2024 Central Film

Vue Screen 12, Fri 8 Nov 18:30 & Sat 9 Nov 13:15

Payal Kapadia | India, France, Netherlands, Luxembourg, Italy | 2024 | 110 minutes | Malayalam, Hindi, Marathi with English subtitles

Winner of the 2024 Cannes Grand Prix, Payal Kapadia's sophomore feature is a luminous portrait of the lives, loves, and longings of three women in Mumbai. Prabha and Anu are roommates and nurses working at Mumbai Hospital. Prabha throws herself into her work, a distraction from the fact that her husband living abroad hasn't called in over a year. Anu cultivates a clandestine romance with her Muslim boyfriend, while hospital cook Parvaty returns to her village after being forced out by property developers. With exquisite cinematography and captivating performances, All We Imagine as Light is a heartfelt and poetic depiction of hope, desire and sisterhood.

"This fiction debut from a talented documentarian brings to mind the work of Lucrecia Martel or Alice Rohrwacher, yet there's a strong romantic streak that also calls to mind Wong Kar-wai's great love affair with the city of Hong Kong."
– Fionnuala Halligan, Screen International



All the Long Nights

LIFF 2024 Closing Film

Hyde Park Screen One, Sun 17 Nov 17:30

Vue Screen 11, Sun 17 Nov 18:30

Vue Screen 12, Sun 17 Nov 18:45

UK Premiere | Shō Miyake | Japan | 2024 | 119 minutes
Japanese with English subtitles

This hopeful and radiant ode to friendship by Shō Miyake, one of Japan's most exciting new filmmakers, provides a fitting finale to LIFF 2024. The film follows Misa (Mone Kamishiraishi), a young woman with debilitating PMS that manifests in volatile outbursts. When she leaves her corporate job for a gentler workplace, a company making scientific toys, she encounters Takatoshi (Hokuto Matsumura), a co-worker struggling with panic disorder. Through mutual support and kindness, the two discover a world outside themselves, and a shared project on a portable planetarium culminates in a tender moment of stargazing. With luminous cinematography shot on 16mm, Miyake has crafted a poetic work of great beauty.

"The chemistry between Kamishiraishi and Matsumura, who played a married couple on the NHK morning drama Come Come Everybody, creates a mood of radiant warmth and, finally, joy."

– Mark Schilling, The Japan Times

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Constellation

Constellation is the new name for our main programme section where we preview many of the most talked about films of the year and present UK Premieres of films from exciting new filmmakers in our feature film competition. The opening and closing films of Constellation this year are both much-anticipated comedy dramas, featuring stand-out lead performances with Kieran Culkin in Jesse Eisenberg's *A Real Pain* and Amy Adams in Marielle Heller's *Nightbitch*.

New British films in Constellation this year include Andrea Arnold's *Bird*, the director's first fiction feature made in the UK since *Wuthering Heights*, and Mike Leigh's latest film *Hard Truths* starring Marianne Jean-Baptiste, who also starred in the director's *Secrets & Lies*. Other films from established filmmakers include *I'm Still Here* from Brazilian director Walter Salles, and hilarious satire *Rumours* from Evan Johnson, Galen Johnson and Guy Maddin.

Constellation is full of great new discoveries too, including Nelicia Low's gripping thriller *Pierce*, Leonardo Van Diji's powerful drama *Julie Keeps Quiet*, Raam Reddy's political allegory *The Fable*, beautifully shot in the Indian Himalayas, and Duong Dieu Linh's surreal marital drama *Don't Cry, Butterfly*.





A Real Pain

Constellation Opening Film

Hyde Park Screen One, Fri 1 Nov 20:45
Cottage Road, Thu 7 Nov 19:30

Jesse Eisenberg | USA, Poland | 2024 | 90 minutes | English

A whip smart road movie, blending rapid fire comedy with poignant emotional drama, A Real Pain marks out Jesse Eisenberg as a great director as well as an accomplished actor. He stars alongside Kieran Culkin as odd couple Jewish cousins, David and Benji, getting back together for a tour through Poland to honour their beloved grandmother, a Holocaust survivor. David is an uptight, responsible family man and Benji is a slacker and a motormouth, quick witted but entirely lacking a filter. A deftly balanced film of genuine wit and wisdom.

"It's a delight and a revelation — a deft, funny, heady, beautifully staged ramble of a road movie..."
– Owen Gleiberman, Variety

Nightbitch

Constellation Closing Film

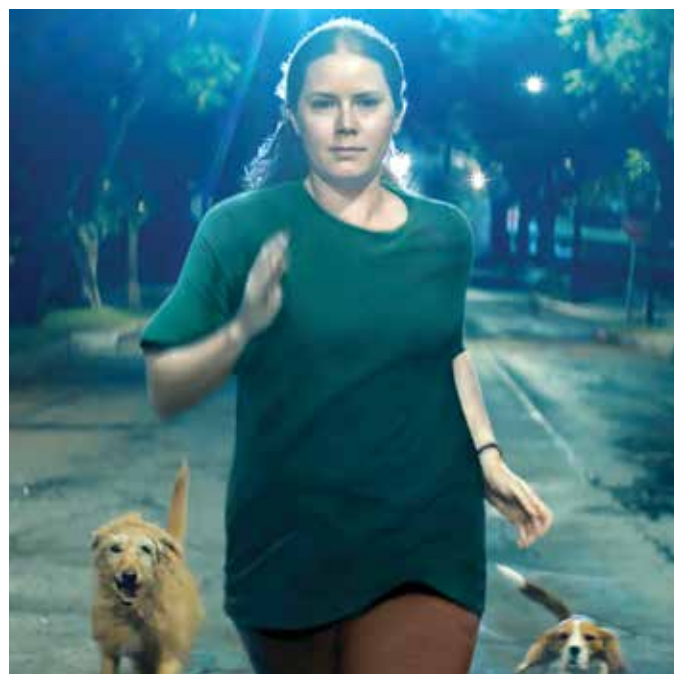
Hyde Park Screen One, Sat 16 Nov 18:00
Vue Screen 11, Sun 17 Nov 11:45

Marielle Heller | USA | 2024 | 98 minutes | English

This genre-bending exploration of motherhood and identity stars Amy Adams as a stay-at-home mum who becomes convinced she's turning into a dog. A former artist in the big city, Mother has moved to the suburbs with her son while her husband travels the world with work. Feeling exhausted and struggling to connect with other parents in the neighbourhood, she starts to experience feral impulses inside her and a desire for liberation from her cage. Adapted from Rachel Yoder's acclaimed 2021 novel, Marielle Heller's fearless direction puts a fierce Adams at the forefront in a career-defining performance, that uniquely examines the dark aspects of motherhood we rarely discuss.

"It is piercingly honest, remarkably sardonic, and breathtakingly brave in the way it lays bare some of women's deepest struggles and truths. But it is not a film that is anti-motherhood. It celebrates it as well, in all of its primal, animalistic, savage contradictions and complexities."

– Maureen Lee Lenker, Entertainment Weekly



All Shall Be Well

Vue Screen 11, Fri 1 Nov 15:45 & Sun 3 Nov 21:00
& Wed 6 Nov 13:30

Ray Yeung | Hong Kong, China | 2024 | 93 minutes
Cantonese with English subtitles

Winner of the Teddy Award for queer filmmaking at this year's Berlin Film Festival, Ray Yeung's latest film is a deeply affecting portrait of love and grief. Long-term partners Angie and Pat have lived together for over three decades, sharing Pat's Hong Kong flat. When Pat dies unexpectedly, Angie is thrown into precarity, discovering that she has no legal right to the home she lives in. As the bond that Angie once shared with Pat's family begins to disintegrate, Angie must turn to her chosen family for support as she weathers the storm. Yeung's film is a beautifully crafted and nuanced look at resilience in the older queer community.



Betânia

Constellation Competition

Vue Screen 12, Fri 8 Nov 14:00 & Sat 9 Nov 10:45

UK Premiere | Marcelo Botta | Brazil | 2024 | 120 minutes
Portuguese, French with English subtitles & English

The beautiful first feature from Marcelo Botta, a rising star in contemporary Brazilian cinema, follows Betânia, family matriarch and local 65-year-old midwife, who in the wake of her husband's death, reluctantly leaves her remote village at the request of her family. Under the backdrop of the otherworldly sand dunes of the Lençóis Maranhenses National Park in northern Brazil, the film navigates the clashing of tradition and modernity and a landscape threatened by an ever-changing climate and growing tourism. It offers a captivating and joyful insight into a family pulling together against the challenges of a new way of life.



Anora

Vue Screen 12, Sat 2 Nov 20:15, Sun 3 Nov 18:00,
Tue 5 Nov 20:15 & Wed 6 Nov 15:00

Sean Baker | USA | 2024 | 139 minutes | English
BBFC Rating 18

Sean Baker returns with his Palme d'Or winning drama Anora, starring a breakthrough Mikey Madison as young sex worker Ani who falls for Russian heir Vanya at the club where she dances. The spoilt son of a Russian oligarch, Vanya introduces Ani to a lavish lifestyle resulting in a whirlwind marriage. But when news gets back to his parents of their son's new wife, their disapproval sets in motion a dizzying adventure that's fiercely entertaining yet heartbreaking in equal measure. Continuing Baker's themes of highlighting the lives and work of marginalised people, Anora is a raucous tragicomedy that refuses to judge its subjects.



Bird

Hyde Park Screen One, Sun 3 Nov 17:30
Cottage Road, Wed 6 Nov 19:30

Andrea Arnold | UK, USA, France, Germany | 2024
119 minutes | English | BBFC Rating 15

Andrea Arnold (Fish Tank, American Honey) returns to LIFF with an enchanting social drama. Trapped in a squat with her hapless father (Barry Keoghan), Bailey (Nykiya Adams) often escapes to the fields surrounding her estate to comfort herself in nature. After her dad announces he's marrying his new girlfriend, and also milking a toad of its psychedelic bodily fluids to pay for the wedding, she encounters the ethereal Bird (Franz Rogowski) in the fields searching for his long-lost family. As the two connect through their lack of familial roots, Bailey finds strength to confront the violence in her life and discovers her wings.



Christmas Eve in Miller's Point

Hyde Park Screen One, Mon 4 Nov 20:30
Vue Screen 11, Fri 8 Nov 15:45 & Sat 9 Nov 20:45

Tyler Taormina | USA | 2024 | 106 minutes | English

Gathering for what could be the last Christmas in their ancestral home, four generations of the Balsano family intertwine, as tensions boil and relatives reconnect. Taormina's camera glides between the family members following no solid narrative; exploring the family web through the eyes of overexcited children, rebellious teenagers and bickering adults. At once charming and uncomfortable, Taormina masterfully captures the feelings of anticipation and disappointment of the festive season. With an ensemble cast of indie darlings including Michael Cera and Francesca Scorsese, this debut is a rich and nostalgic gift and a love letter to American suburbia.



Conclave

Hyde Park Screen One, Tue 12 Nov 20:15
Cottage Road, Thu 14 Nov 19:30

Edward Berger | UK, USA | 2024 | 120 minutes | English
BBFC Rating 12A

Ralph Fiennes and Stanley Tucci lead a brilliant ensemble cast in All Quiet on the Western Front director Edward Berger's stunning adaption of Robert Harris' high-stakes drama, in which Cardinals gather at the Vatican to elect a new Pope. When the Pope unexpectedly dies, Cardinals from all over the world rush to the Vatican, where they immediately sequester themselves. Digital devices are stashed, doors are locked, and windows are shuttered as they prepare for the election of a new leader – one who will not only provide spiritual guidance for the world's Catholics, but set the tone for the future.



The Code

Vue Screen 11, Fri 1 Nov 17:45 & Tue 5 Nov 20:45
& Thu 7 Nov 11:30

European Premiere | Eugene Kotlyarenko | USA | 2024
98 minutes | English

The paranoia of a sexless couple's relationship is explored through a collage of surveillance video in this absurd dark comedy from Eugene Kotlyarenko (Spree, Wobble Palace). Early-pandemic, Jay and Celine (Peter Vack and Dasha Nekrasova) head to a rental house to reconnect. While Celine films a documentary on their disintegrating relationship, a recently 'cancelled' Jay becomes increasingly paranoid about his portrayal, setting up hidden cameras to spy on Celine. Using footage from over 70 cameras, memes and TikTok reels, Kotlyarenko presents a voyeuristic exploration of the attention economy and our vapid relationship with technology in a staggering feat of filmmaking.



Don't Cry Butterfly

Vue Screen 12, Sat 2 Nov 11:15 & Mon 4 Nov 13:45
& Thu 7 Nov 18:45

Duong Dieu Linh | Vietnam, Singapore, Indonesia, Philippines
2024 | 97 minutes | Vietnamese with English subtitles

In the early 2000s in a town near Hanoi in Vietnam, Tam, a diligent wedding venue staffer, discovers her husband's affair on live TV. Rather than confronting him, she enlists a powerful spell master to win back his love. Tam's daughter, Ha, pours her frustration into vivid fantasies of a brighter future abroad. Meanwhile, a mysterious House Spirit, visible only to the women, lurks beneath their cracked, leaky ceiling. Winner of the Grand Prize at Venice Critics' Week in September, Duong Dieu Linh's offbeat feature debut freshly explores modern Vietnamese society in wry and magical ways.



East of Noon

Constellation Competition

Vue Screen 11, Fri 8 Nov 11:15 & Sun 10 Nov 13:15

UK Premiere | Hala Elkoussy | Egypt, Netherlands, Qatar
2024 | 109 minutes | Arabic with English subtitles

East of Noon is a vividly imaginative Egyptian fable and a clever political satire, beautifully shot in luminous black and white 16mm. Hala Elkoussy's second feature is set in a confined, isolated community where the citizens are subject to a bizarre and oppressive dictatorship. Shawky is an eccentric old showman who rules with a mix of performance and fear, while Abdo is a teenage prodigy who uses music to rebel against his elders, and storyteller Jalala provides relief with stories of the Sea. East of Noon is a sumptuous cinematic spectacle.



The Fable

Constellation Competition

Vue Screen 12, Wed 6 Nov 18:00

Vue Screen 11, Sat 9 Nov 13:00

UK Premiere | Raam Reddy | India, USA | 2024 | 119 minutes
Hindi with English subtitles & English

Raam Reddy's second feature is both a magical realist tale and an incisive political allegory, beautifully shot in 16mm in the Indian Himalayas. Dev owns a sprawling colonial style estate where he lives with his family. He tinkers in his shed to maintain human-sized wings, which he uses to soar over his woodlands and orchards. Everything is tranquil until one morning he finds a single burnt apple tree. Soon after, more trees are burnt and he engages his staff and the local police to investigate the mystery though it fuels local tensions and he begins to lose control.



The Editorial Office

Constellation Competition

Everyman Screen 4, Wed 6 Nov 20:45

Vue Screen 12, Tue 12 Nov 15:00

UK Premiere | Roman Bondarchuk | Ukraine, Germany, Slovakia,
Czech Republic | 2024 | 127 minutes | Ukrainian with English
subtitles & English

Roman Bondarchuk's inventive satirical drama skewers post-truth politics in Ukraine in the days before the Russian invasion. Yura, a young biologist searching for an endangered species of marmot on the wild steppes of Southern Ukraine, witnesses arsonists starting a forest fire. Taking his photographs to the editorial office of the local newspaper, he realises that no one is interested in pursuing justice. His worldview is upended by encounters with fake news, electoral fraud and cryptocurrency get-rich schemes and all the while, war is looming on the horizon.



Familiar Touch

Vue Screen 12, Sun 10 Nov 20:45 & Wed 13 Nov 18:30

Sarah Friedland | USA | 2024 | 90 minutes | English

One of the highlights of this year's Venice Film Festival, Sarah Friedland's Familiar Touch won three top awards in the Horizons section - Best Debut, Best Director, and Best Actress for Kathleen Chalfant as Ruth. Familiar Touch is a refreshing, funny and very moving coming of (old) age film about octogenarian Ruth and her transition to life in assisted living as she contends with her conflicting relationship to herself and her caregivers amidst her shifting memory, age identity, and desires. Ruth disavows not only the roles expected of her - Mother, Patient, Old Lady - but also her "appropriate" age identity, sliding between feeling 85 and 25.



Flow

Hyde Park Screen One, Sun 10 Nov 11:00 & Sun 10 Nov 13:00 | Vue Screen 11, Sat 16 Nov 15:45

Gints Zilbalodis | Latvia, Belgium, France | 2024 | 84 minutes
No language | BBFC Rating U

After animating his acclaimed debut feature *Away* entirely by himself, Latvian filmmaker and animator Gints Zilbalodis assembled a team for his follow-up *Flow* and created a magical, thrilling, wordless animated adventure for all that received a rapturous reception at Cannes. Inspired by his experience of working alone on *Away*, *Flow* is all about teamwork. The world seems to be coming to an end, teeming with the vestiges of a human presence. Cat is a solitary animal, but as its home is devastated by a great flood, he finds refuge on a boat populated by various species – including a capybara – and will have to team up with them despite their differences.



Gloria!

Vue Screen 12, Sat 2 Nov 13:30 & Mon 4 Nov 20:15

UK Premiere | Margherita Vicario | Italy, Switzerland | 2024
106 minutes | Italian with English subtitles

Composer Margherita Vicario's joyful debut feature is a soaring musical reimagining of history that tells the story of a group of young women musicians who invent pop music in 18th century Venice. *Gloria!* is set in a convent boarding school for girls and follows Teresa who has visionary musical abilities but whose gift remains unsung. Together with other extraordinary young women musicians, Teresa breaks through and leaps across the centuries to defy the dusty old regime by inventing a rebellious, light, and modern music: pop! A shoutout to the erased history of women in music.



The Girl with the Needle

**Vue Screen 12, Sat 9 Nov 20:30 & Mon 11 Nov 20:30
Cottage Road, Wed 13 Nov 19:30**

Magnus von Horn | Denmark, Poland, Sweden | 2024
115 minutes | Danish with English subtitles

Inspired by the horrific true crime of baby murders in 1920s Denmark, Magnus Von Horn's *The Girl with the Needle* tells the story of Karoline (Vic Carmen Sonne, *Godland*), a young worker struggling for survival in 1918 Copenhagen. When she becomes pregnant, she meets Dagmar (Trine Dyrholm, *Festen*), a woman who runs a clandestine adoption agency, and Karoline takes a job as a wet-nurse. Filmed in black-and-white and with haunting period settings, *The Girl with a Needle* is a chilling and gripping crime thriller that immerses you in a historic hell. Features scenes that may disturb viewers.



Good One

**Vue Screen 12, Fri 8 Nov 16:30 & Wed 13 Nov 16:30
& Fri 15 Nov 18:30 | Hyde Park Screen One,
Mon 11 Nov 20:45**

India Donaldson | USA | 2024 | 89 minutes | English

One of the most acclaimed breakout films of the year, India Donaldson's debut feature is an unconventional coming of age story that shows an intuition and maturity which matches its 17-year-old protagonist. Sam (Lily Collias) embarks on a three-day backpacking trip in the Catskills with her dad, Chris (James Le Gros) and his oldest friend, Matt (Danny McCarthy). The two men bicker and ruminate over mid-life crises leaving Sam to mediate the dueling egos until lines are crossed. Three beautifully modulated performances, a witty and insightful script and lovely cinematography combine to create a relatable drama with real emotional resonance.



Grand Tour

**Vue Screen 12, Thu 14 Nov 12:15 | Vue Screen 11,
Fri 15 Nov 20:15**

Miguel Gomes | Portugal, Italy, France, Germany, Japan, China
2024 | 128 minutes | Portuguese with English subtitles

A beautiful Asian odyssey from Portuguese director Miguel Gomes, *Grand Tour* is an eccentric and playful story, combining period drama and contemporary documentary in a highly original style. In colonial Burma during the First World War, civil servant Edward abandons his fiancée Molly on their wedding day. Molly will not give up on her betrothal so easily and follows him doggedly across Asia. Drifting through China, Japan, the Philippines and Vietnam, the film shows the very different perspectives and adventures of the two characters, probing the influence of colonial history on the modern world.



How to Make Millions Before Grandma Dies

**Cottage Road, Sat 2 Nov 17:00 | Vue Screen 12,
Tue 12 Nov 17:45 & Thu 14 Nov 15:00**

Pat Boonitipat | Thailand | 2024 | 125 minutes | Thai with English subtitles

From film production company GDH, the Thai hit maker behind LIFF audience favourites *Bad Genius* and *Fast & Feel Love*, *How to Make Millions Before Grandma Dies* has been a box office smash across South-East Asia where audience's emotional reactions to the tear-jerking comedy drama went viral on TikTok. Thai megastar Billkin plays M, a college dropout who becomes full-time caregiver for his irascible, cancer-stricken grandma as he vies for her substantial inheritance with the rest of his dysfunctional family. But M begins to question his motives as his bond with his grandma grows.



Hard Truths

**Hyde Park Screen One, Wed 13 Nov 18:00
Vue Screen 12, Fri 15 Nov 16:15 & Sun 17 Nov 16:15**

Mike Leigh | UK, Spain | 2024 | 97 minutes | English

Mike Leigh returns with an unflinching and darkly humorous portrait of a woman full of fury and teetering on the edge. Marianne Jean-Baptiste (Oscar-nominated for *Secrets & Lies*) gives an outstanding central performance as Pansy, a woman whose emotional and physical health issues have spiralled into deep, uncontrollable anger. This rage affects everyone around her—from her husband and grown-up son to her doctor, dentist and supermarket cashier. In contrast, Pansy's sister Chantelle is a compassionate spirit who balances her struggles with the ability to find and embrace joy. *Hard Truths* is a candid yet moving and empathetic portrayal of untreated suffering.



I'm Still Here

**Vue Screen 12, Thu 14 Nov 20:15 & Fri 15 Nov 13:30
& Sat 16 Nov 15:15**

Walter Salles | Brazil, France, Spain | 2024 | 136 minutes
Portuguese with English subtitles | BBFC Rating 12A

Acclaimed director Walter Salles (*Central Station*, *The Motorcycle Diaries*) returns with a compassionate drama depicting the devastating true story of a family torn apart under the Brazilian military dictatorship. When leftist congressman Rubens Paiva is kidnapped by the military junta, his wife Eunice must find the strength to guide her family in the fight for justice. Fernanda Torres gives a phenomenal performance as the tenacious yet dignified Paiva matriarch. Adapted from Marcelo Rubens Paiva's best-selling memoir, Salles' film offers a deeply emotional and powerful portrait of resilience in the face of injustice.



Ivo

Constellation Competition

Vue Screen 11, Thu 7 Nov 16:00 & Sun 10 Nov 11:00

UK Premiere | Eva Trobisch | Germany | 2024 | 104 minutes
German with English subtitles & English

Eva Trobisch's masterful follow-up to her debut feature *All Good* (LIFF 2018) is another intimate character study, this time centring on a palliative home-care nurse. Ivo spends her days driving around in her old Skoda visiting patients in their final days. Caring for her close friend Solveigh, their relationship is complicated by the fact that Ivo is having an affair with her husband Franz. Minna Wünderich gives an exceptional lead performance as the complex, empathetic and sometimes chaotic Ivo, struggling to navigate everyday life whilst working in proximity to death.



La Cocina

Vue Screen 12, Sat 9 Nov 17:45 & Sun 10 Nov 18:00 & Mon 11 Nov 15:30

Alonso Ruizpalacios | Mexico, USA | 2024 | 139 minutes
Spanish with English subtitles & English

Brimming with frenetic energy, Alonso Ruizpalacios' thrilling adaptation of Arnold Wesker's acclaimed 1957 play plunges the viewer into the chaotic heart of a bustling Times Square kitchen. During a lunchtime rush at The Grill, money is discovered missing from the till. Suspicion falls on Pedro, an undocumented Mexican chef entangled in an affair with an American waitress, Julia. Featuring exquisite black-and-white cinematography and a superb ensemble cast, including Rooney Mara and Raúl Briones, *La Cocina* is a heady cinematic experience and a searing critique of the restaurant industry's exploitation of the often invisible labour of immigrant workers.



Julie Keeps Quiet

Vue Screen 11, Mon 11 Nov 18:00 & Wed 13 Nov 16:15 & Sat 16 Nov 17:45

Leonardo Van Dijl | Belgium, Sweden | 2024 | 100 minutes
Dutch, French with English subtitles

The standout first feature film from director Leonardo Van Dijl is the gripping story of Julie (Tessa Van den Broeck, stunning in her first role), a star player at an elite tennis academy in Belgium whose coach is suspended after allegations of abuse. The players and staff are all encouraged to give evidence, while Julie decides to stay quiet. Her decision and struggle with the truth are reflected in the muted cinematography, and a haunting score plays out alongside the back and forth of the tennis court. Leonardo Van Dijl expertly crafts his film through silence and absence to portray Julie's trauma.



Layla

Everyman Screen 4, Sat 2 Nov 15:15 & Mon 4 Nov 17:45

Amrou Al-Kadhi | UK | 2024 | 100 minutes | English, Arabic
BBFC Rating 15

Captivating audiences at Sundance and BFI Flare, Amrou Al-Kadhi's debut feature is an exhilarating depiction of self-acceptance set in the vibrant East London queer scene. Layla follows the journey of a struggling British-Palestinian drag queen whose bold exterior masks a deep yearning for love. After a performance at a corporate Pride event, Layla unexpectedly catches the attention of Max, an advertising executive. Swept up in an intoxicating romance, Layla is soon faced with difficult choices, as they begin changing themselves to keep Max's affection. This semi-autobiographical queer love story marks the arrival of an exciting new filmmaking talent.



Loveable

Constellation Competition

Vue Screen 12, Sat 9 Nov 15:30 & Mon 11 Nov 18:15 & Wed 13 Nov 20:30

UK Premiere | Lilja Ingólfsdóttir | Norway | 2024 | 101 minutes
Norwegian with English subtitles

Years after a whirlwind second marriage, Maria (Helga Guren) finds herself lost and confused when her husband (Oddgeir Thunn) files for divorce. As she struggles to understand what went wrong, everyone around her - her ex, her children, and even her mother - gives her the impression that she was the cause. Featuring an outstanding, vulnerable performance from Guren, Lilja Ingólfsdóttir's debut feature takes a fresh and nuanced approach to contemporary ideas of romance, relationship equality, and the power of womanhood.



Nickel Boys

Vue Screen 11, Fri 1 Nov 20:00, Sun 3 Nov 11:00 & Wed 6 Nov 15:30

RaMell Ross | USA | 2024 | 140 minutes | English
BBFC Rating 12A

RaMell Ross, director of the beautiful *Hale County, This Morning, This Evening* directs this deeply moving adaptation of Colson Whitehead's Pulitzer Prize winning novel. The Nickel Academy is a brutal reformatory for troubled teens in the Southern States in the early 60s where the Jim Crow laws of racial segregation still hold sway. Two young men form an alliance there. The clever, idealistic newcomer Elwood gets survival tips from the toughened and savvy Turner. Far removed from the Civil Rights Movement, they find their own ways to face up against a savagely oppressive system.



Matt and Mara

Everyman Screen 4, Fri 1 Nov 20:45 & Sat 2 Nov 20:45 & Sun 3 Nov 12:00

Kazik Radwanski | Canada | 2024 | 80 minutes | English

Working again with creative collaborators Deragh Campbell and Matt Johnson, Kazik Radwanski follows up *Anne at 13,000 Ft.* (LIFF 2020) with a compelling indie drama about two university friends reconnecting years later. Mara is now a creative writing professor, married with a young child, while Matt is a renowned author. When a chance encounter leads them to rekindle their friendship, the nature of their relationship begins to stray into ambiguous territory, teetering dangerously close to an affair. This light, naturalistic, and nuanced drama has echoes of *Éric Rohmer* and *Hong Sang-Soo*, while cleverly subverting romantic comedy tropes.



On Becoming a Guinea Fowl

Hyde Park Screen One, Thu 14 Nov 18:30

Rungano Nyoni | UK, Zambia, Ireland | 2024 | 95 minutes
English, Bemba with English subtitles

Winning Best Director at Cannes, acclaimed writer-director Rungano Nyoni follows up her striking debut *I Am Not a Witch* with a bold and visionary work of grief and restitution. Driving home from a party at night, Shula happens upon the body of her Uncle Fred lying in the road. As the family begin to mourn, a wave of collective anger slowly rises among Shula and her cousins, as they reckon with long-suppressed past traumas. Blending surrealism with dark humour, Nyoni sharply critiques the societal traditions that work to hide abuses of power. *On Becoming a Guinea Fowl* solidifies Nyoni as one of today's most distinctive filmmakers.



The Other Way Around

Vue Screen 12, Fri 1 Nov 16:00, Sun 3 Nov 20:45 & Tue 5 Nov 13:15

Jonás Trueba | Spain, France | 2024 | 114 minutes | Spanish with English subtitles & English

The latest film from Spanish auteur Jonás Trueba is a witty and subversive meta-comedy about a couple who decide that separations are just as worthy of celebration as unions. After 14 years together, Ale and Alex agree to amicably part ways, but not before hosting a big party to celebrate the ending of their relationship. Like a wedding, but the other way around. As they share the news with family and friends, what starts as an optimistic and unconventional plan quickly proves more difficult than anticipated. This anti-romantic comedy is a refreshing take on the messy complexities of breaking up.



Pierce Constellation Competition

Vue Screen 11, Thu 7 Nov 20:30 & Sat 9 Nov 16:00 & Tue 12 Nov 16:00

UK Premiere | Nelicia Low | Singapore, Thailand, Poland 2024 | 109 minutes | Mandarin Chinese with English subtitles

In Nelicia Low's unsettling and gripping thriller, the question of guilt lurks in every frame. Against his mother's advice, Jie excitedly anticipates the release of his older brother Han, who has served seven years in prison for brutally murdering his fencing opponent. Jie has always wrestled with his brother's innocence, conflicted between his idolisation and evidence of the crime. As Han supports Jie's exploration of his sexuality and coaches his fencing, Jie duels with his commitment to his brother and his family's safety as the story lunges towards an explosive finale.



Paul and Paulette Take a Bath

Vue Screen 12, Sat 2 Nov 17:45 & Mon 4 Nov 18:00

UK Premiere | Jethro Massey | UK | 2024 | 109 minutes
English & French with English subtitles

A young photographer and a woman with a taste for the macabre embark on a darkly comedic journey through France's history with violence in this unique debut from Jethro Massey. Paul is a photographer who has given up his art for a soulless job. Paulette walks around Paris exploring its violent history. After the two meet on the spot of Marie Antoinette's execution, an unusual relationship forms around a dark game - re-enacting crimes at the sites they occurred. Whilst Paul longs to get closer to Paulette, Paulette uses their trips to escape her past trauma. But as their morbid road trip approaches recent events, the game becomes more uncomfortable.



Rent Free

Vue Screen 12, Sat 2 Nov 15:45, Mon 4 Nov 16:00 & Wed 6 Nov 13:00 | Mill Hill Chapel, Thu 14 Nov 18:00

European Premiere | Fernando Andrés | USA | 2024
93 minutes | English & Spanish with English subtitles
Screening on 14 Nov is FREE

Rent Free is a fresh and witty American comedy drama exploring a messy and unpredictable queer male friendship. Ben and Jordan are two best friends from Austin, Texas. After their plans of staying in New York self-destruct, they decide to try and spend a whole year not paying rent in their hometown, staying with family, friends and strangers. Their behaviour makes this rent-free challenge even more difficult, and they can't stay in the same place for long. In his confident second feature, Fernando Andrés nimbly and humorously navigates the ups and down of friendship, work and love.



Rumours

Vue Screen 12, Sun 3 Nov 15:45, Tue 5 Nov 18:00 & Thu 7 Nov 14:00

Evan Johnson, Galen Johnson, Guy Maddin | Canada, Germany, USA | 2024 | 109 minutes | English & French, Swedish, German with English subtitles

The US election will dominate the news in November, and while you're escaping from it all at LIFF, don't miss this wildly entertaining sci-fi satire about an earth-threatening encounter of world leaders at a G7 summit with undead bog people and a giant brain. As the leaders gather alone by a lake on a German countryside estate to prepare their joint statement, they lose all communication with the rest of the world as a thick fog descends. Co-produced by Ari Aster and co-directed by Guy Maddin, Rumours stars Cate Blanchett as German Chancellor and Charles Dance as US President.



Sex

Vue Screen 11, Mon 11 Nov 20:15 & Fri 15 Nov 12:00 & Sat 16 Nov 20:15

Dag Johan Haugerud | Norway | 2024 | 125 minutes
Norwegian with English subtitles

Norwegian auteur Dag Johan Haugerud places male sexuality and identity under the microscope in this candid and thought-provoking comedy drama. Set in contemporary Oslo, the film centres on two friends who work as chimney sweeps, both married and ostensibly heterosexual. During a casual coffee break chat, one reveals that he had sex with a male client, while the other confesses to recurring dreams where he is perceived as a woman. These disclosures lead them to unexpectedly confront their sexual identities. This first part of the 'Sex Dreams Love' trilogy provides thoughtful, refreshing, and humorous interrogation of heteronormativity.



The Seed Of The Sacred Fig

Vue Screen 11, Thu 14 Nov 19:30 & Fri 15 Nov 14:30

Mohammad Rasoulof | Iran, France, Germany | 2024
168 minutes | Persian with English subtitles

Shot entirely in secret, The Seed of the Sacred Fig is an epic and searing anti-patriarchal thriller from director Mohammad Rasoulof, a target of Iran's government for his films' criticism of the state. The film centres on a family thrust into the public eye when the father Iman is appointed as an investigating judge in Tehran. As political unrest erupts on the streets, Iman realizes his job is even more dangerous than expected, making him increasingly paranoid and distrustful, even of his own wife Najmeh and their daughters Sana and Rezvan. When his gun disappears, his family breaks apart.



Simon of the Mountain Constellation Competition

Vue Screen 11, Thu 7 Nov 13:45 & Sat 9 Nov 10:30

UK Premiere | Federico Luis | Argentina, Chile, Uruguay | 2024
96 minutes | Spanish with English subtitles

Federico Luis' debut feature Simon of the Mountain is a playful and provocative drama about a young man who befriends a group of disabled teenagers, all played by disabled actors. His parents are increasingly frustrated with odd changes in his behaviour, he has become more withdrawn and appears to be affecting a strange, facial tic. But his new friends accept him as one of them, which clearly gives him a new sense of belonging. The film deftly questions societal attitudes and social boundaries and reinvents familiar scenes from a more conventional coming of age drama, with a fascinating new twist.



Stranger Eyes

Vue Screen 12, Tue 12 Nov 20:15 & Thu 14 Nov 17:45

Yeo Siew Hua | Singapore, Taiwan, France, USA | 2024
125 minutes | Mandarin Chinese with English subtitles & English

Singaporean director Yeo Siew Hua's *Stranger Eyes* begins as a gripping surveillance thriller before it morphs into an enigmatic, psychological drama interrogating themes of intimacy and responsibility. After the unexplained disappearance of their baby daughter, a young couple receives strange videos documenting their daily lives, even in their most intimate moments. Initially they go to the police who set up their own surveillance system to identify the voyeur assuming his culpability as the kidnapper. But secrets are revealed and nothing is as it seems. The family begins to fall apart under the pressure.



Universal Language

**Howard Assembly Room, Sat 9 Nov 17:00
& Sun 10 Nov 17:15 | Vue Screen 11, Sun 17 Nov 14:00**

Matthew Rankin | Canada | 2024 | 89 minutes | Farsi,
French with English subtitles

Winner of the Directors' Fortnight Audience Award at the 2024 Cannes Film Festival, Matthew Rankin's follow-up to the audacious *The Twentieth Century* (LIFF 2019) is a delightfully off-beat exploration of cultural identity set in a reimagined Canada. Iranian culture is transplanted into the snowy surroundings of Winnipeg, where Tim Hortons is a Persian Tea House, and Farsi and French are the national languages. Paying loving homage to the masters of Iranian cinema, Rankin evokes the films of Abbas Kiarostami and Jafar Panahi, while creating a unique cinematic language, making *Universal Language* one of the most original and distinctive films of the year.



Toxic Constellation Competition

**Vue Screen 12, Fri 8 Nov 20:45 | Vue Screen 11,
Sun 10 Nov 15:30**

UK Premiere | Saulė Bliuvaitė | Lithuania | 2024 | 99 minutes
Lithuanian with English subtitles

A sobering reminder of the punishing standards put on teenage girls, Saulė Bliuvaitė's Locarno winner is a brutally beautiful drama that finds light in the strength of female friendships in hopeless situations. In a crumbling industrial town, a teen is mercilessly bullied for her limp. With no social options but to connect with her bullies, she eventually finds an ally in spiky Kristina. When a modelling agency offers the chance of a contract to aspiring locals, the girls will do anything to their bodies to escape the confines of their town.



When The Light Breaks

**Vue Screen 11, Sat 9 Nov 18:30 & Wed 13 Nov 18:45
& Sun 17 Nov 16:30**

Rúnar Rúnarsson | Iceland, Netherlands, Croatia, France | 2024
82 minutes | Icelandic with English subtitles

Against the warm glow of sunset, students Una and Diddi plan their future, now Diddi is going to break up with his girlfriend at home. But by the next sunset, Una's life is upturned as tragedy strikes. With their relationship remaining a secret, Una is forced to deal with her intense grief internally. Made harder by the arrival of Diddi's girlfriend, Una must grapple with her need to grieve fully and shattering someone else's life. With a captivating lead performance from Elín Hall and striking 16mm cinematography, Rúnarsson's fourth feature is a captivating look at grief and acceptance of life's complexities.



Christmas with...

Legendary soul singer
Madeline Bell
and Ian Shaw
Tue 10 Dec, 7.30pm

UK drag royalty
Danny Beard
and Special Guest
Fri 13 & Sat 14 Dec, 7.30pm
+ Late Night Piano Bar (Fri)

Folk music's finest
Eliza Carthy
and Friends
Thu 19 & Fri 20 Dec, 7.30pm
+ Open Session (Fri)

**HOWARD
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32 New Briggate, Leeds



Image: Danny Beard

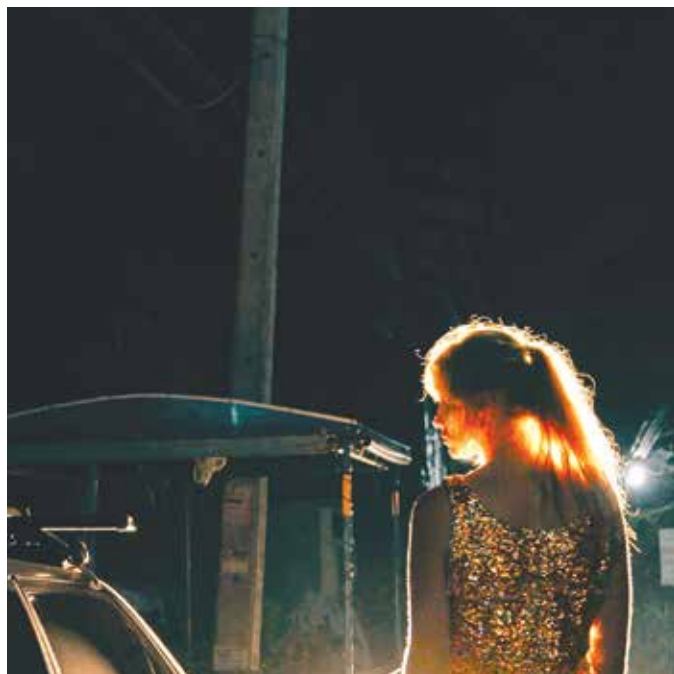


Cinema Versa

Cinema Versa brings you some of the most exciting and innovative documentaries of the year representing a broad range of styles and subjects. We present UK premieres of Trans Memoria, Swedish artist and filmmaker Victoria Verseau's poetic and perceptive diary film about her experiences of gender-affirming surgery in Thailand. How to Build a Truth Engine interrogates the information battlefield in a post-truth world with a diverse range of different experts.

Two very different films use archive footage in innovative ways, Billy, an intimate and complex portrait of a man with schizophrenia, and It Was All a Dream, a feminist music journalist's inside view of the formative years of hip hop. Elsewhere, in Grand Theft Hamlet two out of work actors try to stage a version of Hamlet entirely within the video game, Grand Theft Auto. Alex Ross Perry pushes the boundaries with the music documentary in Pavements and The Stimming Pool is a startlingly original artistic representation of the way neurodivergent people interact with the world.





Trans Memoria Cinema Versa Opening Film

**Everyman Screen 4, Fri 1 Nov 17:00
& Mon 4 Nov 16:00**

UK Premiere | Victoria Verseau | Sweden, France | 2024
72 minutes | Swedish with English subtitles

In 2012, conceptual artist Victoria Verseau underwent long-awaited gender-affirming surgery in Thailand. In this radically personal piece, she revisits the memories of that year, opening a metaphorical time capsule. After much anticipation for the surgery, then came feelings of uncertainty, amplified by the death of a close friend she met at the hospital. Through challenging conversations with friends awaiting their own operations, they openly discuss the need to reframe the idea of surgery as an end goal. Laying bare hidden wounds alongside intense joy, Verseau creates a brazenly beautiful debut film of loss, identity and hope.

"Honest and heartfelt, and never afraid to push boundaries, Trans Memoria is an exceptionally daring and insightful film and one of the year's great discoveries."
– Matthew Joseph Jenner, ICS Film

It Was All a Dream Cinema Versa Closing Film

Howard Assembly Room, Sun 10 Nov 19:30

UK Premiere | dream hampton | USA | 2024
83 minutes | English

A powerful memoir constructed from the personal archive of leading director and music journalist dream hampton, *It Was All a Dream* shines a light on the early hip hop scene through a Black feminist lens. From the studio to the street, filmed on handheld cameras, the film gives intimate access to some of the biggest names in hip hop including The Notorious B.I.G., Wu Tang's Method Man, Mobb Deep, Snoop Dogg, and many more. Hampton's narration gives a fresh insight into a key musical genre, reframing the way it is viewed and its treatment of women.

"More than a time capsule of an exciting moment in hip-hop, *It Was All a Dream* makes a compelling case for fastidious documentation and preservation, especially in music journalism. The film is a trove of information about some of the earliest days in a genre some people thought wouldn't survive."
– Lovia Gyarkye, Hollywood Reporter



Billy

Everyman Screen 4, Sat 2 Nov 13:00 & Mon 4 Nov 13:45

UK Premiere | Lawrence Côté-Collins | Canada | 2024
107 minutes | French with English subtitles

In this unparalleled depiction of what it's like to live with schizophrenia, director Lawrence Côté-Collins composes an intimate and complex portrait of her friend Billy Poulin. An aspiring Montreal filmmaker, Billy obsessively filmed himself, unknowingly amassing footage that would years later give striking insight into his deteriorating mental health. During a violent psychosis, Billy left two people dead, and it was not until several years into a life sentence that he received a diagnosis of schizophrenia. Drawing from a vast archive of films shot by Billy himself, Côté-Collins' film also speaks of friendship, creative collaboration and redemption, and leaves a lasting impression.



How to Build a Truth Engine

**Everyman Screen 4, Mon 4 Nov 20:00
& Sat 9 Nov 20:45 & Wed 13 Nov 14:15**

UK Premiere | Friedrich Moser | Austria | 2024 | 109 minutes
German, Spanish with English subtitles & English

An urgent new documentary on one of the key problems of our time, how to safeguard factual information in a post-truth era of disinformation, conspiracy theories and rapidly changing communications technology. *How to Build a Truth Engine* assembles a diverse team of contributors from different backgrounds: technology, journalism, folklore and neuroscience. The consensus emerges that if you hack the information feed, you can hack somebody's mind. We are taken from the information battlefields into the inner workings of the human brain and show how - through us - a web of lies can change reality.



Grand Theft Hamlet

**Howard Assembly Room, Fri 8 Nov 15:30
& Sat 9 Nov 12:30**

Sam Crane, Pinny Grylls | UK | 2024 | 89 minutes | English
Licensing Rating 15

A staging of Shakespeare's *Hamlet* unlike any other you've seen before. This hilarious documentary follows two unemployed theatre actors as they take on the seemingly impossible challenge of staging a production of *Hamlet* within the violent world of the *Grand Theft Auto* video game. Filmed entirely within the game, the intrepid actors set out to find willing participants for their Shakespearean tragedy, holding in-game auditions, rehearsals and finally inviting the audience to an unforgettable performance. The results are surprisingly poignant and endlessly entertaining. One of the year's most innovative and must-see documentaries.



No Other Land

**Howard Assembly Room, Fri 8 Nov 17:45
& Sun 10 Nov 15:00**

Yuval Abraham, Basel Adra, Hamdan Ballal, Rachel Szor
Occupied Palestinian Territory, Norway | 2024 | 95 minutes
Arabic with English subtitles | BBFC Rating 15

Co-created by a Palestinian-Israeli collective, *No Other Land* is a profound expression of creative resistance under brutal military occupation. Basel Adra is a young Palestinian activist from Masafer Yatta, a village in the occupied West Bank subjected to mass expulsion by the Israeli occupation since his childhood. Yuval, an Israeli journalist and fellow activist joins his struggle. Their bond is haunted by extreme inequality but together they work to find a path towards equality and justice. *No Other Land* is presented in partnership with the Leeds Palestinian Film Festival.



Pavements

Hyde Park Screen One, Tue 5 Nov 20:15

Alex Ross Perry | USA | 2024 | 128 minutes | English

Director Alex Ross Perry pushes the boundaries with the music documentary form to bring us the story of the influential cult band Pavement. Pavements combines the standard biographical and archive elements with excerpts from a hit stage musical about the band and an imaginary biopic, deftly staged within the documentary, complete with voice coaching sessions for actor Joe Keery to emulate idiosyncratic vocalist Stephen Malkmus. All the surviving band members appear in the film too, all of which contributes to a multifaceted portrait of a fascinating and complex band with a discography that just seems to get better with age.



Rising Up at Night

Hyde Park Screen One, Sat 2 Nov 16:30
Vue Screen 11, Tue 12 Nov 14:00

Nelson Makengo | The Democratic Republic of Congo, Burkina Faso, Belgium, Germany, Qatar | 2024 | 96 minutes | Lingala with English subtitles

Darkness has descended over the capital of the Democratic Republic of the Congo. In Nelson Makengo's debut feature documentary, the residents of Kinshasa struggle to access electricity and many live with the consequences of extensive flooding in submerged homes. Despite the multiple hardships facing the city, a community rallies together, and the film becomes a powerful portrait of strength and resilience in the face of crisis. Shot mostly at night, with careful observation and impressionistic cinematography, Makengo paints a striking and immersive picture of those surviving, finding beauty and hope in alternative sources of light.



Rising Up at Night

The Stimming Pool + A Body Called Life

Everyman Screen 4, Thu 7 Nov 20:30
The Old Fire Station, Fri 15 Nov 18:00

Sam Ahern, Georgia Kumari Bradburn, Benjamin Brown, Steven Eastwood, Robin Elliot-Knowles, Lucy Walker | UK 2024 | 85 minutes (total for feature + short) | English
Licensing Rating 15 | Screening on 15 Nov is FREE

A fascinating hybrid feature film, co-created by a collective of autistic artists, the Neurocultures Collective, and filmmaker Steven Eastwood, *The Stimming Pool* explores the possibilities of a world informed by autistic perspectives and perception. This wildly imaginative film celebrates each individual's creativity and authorship and invites audiences into a neurodiverse world within the often-challenging structures of neurotypical environments. Screening with *A Body Called Life* (dir. Spencer MacDonald), about a young human who delves into the hidden world of microscopic organisms.



Union

Vue Screen 11, Sun 3 Nov 13:45 | Mill Hill Chapel,
Thu 14 Nov 20:00 | Theatre in the Mill, Fri 15 Nov 19:30

Stephen Maing, Brett Story | USA | 2024 | 100 minutes | English
Screenings on 14 & 15 Nov are FREE

An extraordinary documentary about the gargantuan struggle of the Amazon Labor Union (ALU) to win the election to become the first officially unionised Amazon workplace in America. The film is made at the heart of the campaign following the ordinary workers, whose persistence and solidarity eventually pay off against an infinitely better resourced employer, absolutely committed to preventing them from reaching their goal. Described by ALU President Christian Smalls as the 'N.W.A. of the organizing world,' the group's persona and strategies are highly unconventional: from wearing Money Heist costumes at press conferences to distributing free marijuana to workers.

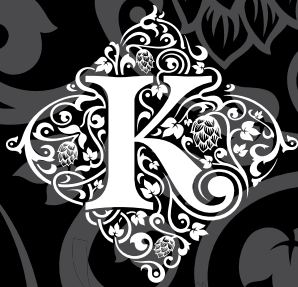


Witches

Vue Screen 11, Tue 5 Nov 16:00
Howard Assembly Room, Sat 9 Nov 14:45

Elizabeth Sankey | UK | 2024 | 90 minutes | English

Following her acclaimed documentary *Romantic Comedy* (2019), Elizabeth Sankey turns her attention to society, and the film industries, fascination with witches. From the witch trials of the 1600s to the themes of *Rosemary's Baby*, Sankey draws parallels between historical prejudice against women, motherhood and mental health, and contemporary screen representations of witches. Reflecting on her own experiences with postpartum depression and psychosis, *Witches* is simultaneously a visual ode to cinema, a deeply personal essay and a stark reminder of the lack of mental health support available to pregnant women in the UK.



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Fanomenon

Fanomenon is the home at LIFF for fantasy, sci-fi, horror, dark comedy, cult films, the unclassifiable, and much more. This year we present an expanded programme of new films, two new competitions, and a retrospective, The Weird of Oz.

Fanomenon is packed with acclaimed new films that have wowed, shocked, thrilled, mesmerised, moved and entertained audiences at film festivals around the world. This year's highlights include Thibault Emin's psychedelic body-horror *Else*, John Hsu's madcap ghost hit *Dead Talents Society*, a thrilling anthology from South Korea inspired by the Hemingway story *The Killers*, and Joel Potrykus' *Vulcanizadora*, a raw and darkly comedic exploration of outcasts and misfits.

We are delighted to launch two new competitions for Fanomenon at LIFF 2024 – one for feature films with seven UK Premieres, and one for short films which has grown from our very popular selection of fantastic genre shorts. Also very popular, our Fanathon film marathons return for LIFF 2024 with Sci-Fi day on 2 November, Day of the Dead on 9 November, and Night of the Dead on 15 November, this year opening with the world premiere of Aidan Leary's *Monkey's Magic Merry Go Round*.



Escape from the 21st Century

Fanomenon Opening Film

Vue Screen 12, Fri 1 Nov 20:45
Cottage Road, Sun 3 Nov 17:00

UK Premiere | Yang Li | China | 2024 | 98 minutes
 Mandarin Chinese with English subtitles

In the year 1999, on a planet very much like our own - only 3,000 light years away - three teenagers find themselves exposed to chemical waste that gives them a unique ability: when they sneeze their consciousness travels 20 years into the future. With their sinuses now propelling them to and fro in time, they come to realise that the future sucks and they have power to change it. Writer-director Yang Li maintains a breakneck momentum, uses a dizzying array of special effects, and choreographs kinetic action that brilliantly integrates comic-book animation with magnificent martial art prowess.

“Escape From the 21st Century is the gorgeous, energetic, and completely unpredictable love child of Scott Pilgrim, The Terminator, and a John Hughes movie... The video game Street Fighter II plays an important part in the story and the game’s classic tone, style, and look permeate pockets of the movie.”
 – Germain Lussier, Gizmodo



The Killers

Fanomenon Closing Film

Vue Screen 12, Sat 16 Nov 20:30 & Sun 17 Nov 13:45

UK Premiere | Kim Jong-kwan, Roh Deok, Chang Hang-jun, Lee Myung-Se | South Korea | 2024 | 119 minutes | Korean with English subtitles

This wildly inventive and entertaining collection of four crime stories refreshes the hitman genre and levels up the anthology film format. Inspired by Hemingway’s 1927 short story *The Killers* and Edward Hopper’s 1942 painting *Nighthawks*, these four takes on contract killing in our chaotic times include a vampire thriller oozing sexy splatter and undead subversion; an assassins-gone-foolishly-awry black comedy like Quentin Tarantino karaoke; a dangerously seductive neo-noir drenched in triple-cross betrayals; and a whiplash-inducing mash-up in gloriously assaultive monochrome. Each contributing their own distinctive style and vision, the quartet of South Korean filmmakers includes Lee Myung-Se (*Nowhere to Hide*). Versatile actress Shim Eun-kyung stars in three of the stories.

“Sleek, sexy and a lot of fun, *The Killers* is one of the tightest feature film anthologies we’ve seen in recent years.”

– Alexandra Heller-Nicholas, Alliance of Women Film Journalists

“The film is brimming with style, captivating visuals, and alluring narratives.” – Emma Vine, Loud and Clear Reviews



The A-Frame

Fanorama

Vue Screen 11, Sat 2 Nov 14:00 & Mon 4 Nov 12:45

Calvin Lee Reeder | USA | 2024 | 82 minutes | English

The A-Frame is a mind-bending sci-fi tale about an ambitious inventor who accidentally discovers a cancer treatment while opening a portal to a subatomic universe. Donna, a young and cynical cancer patient, is preparing for an amputation to stop the disease’s spread. She meets Sam, a stranger who claims to be a quantum physicist with a possible cure. Convinced there may be hope, Donna believes she can help others in her cancer support group. But as events unfold, she begins to question whether she’s offering help—or just recruiting test subjects for Sam’s dangerous experiments.



Chainsaws Were Singing

Night of the Dead

Hyde Park Screen One, Fri 15 Nov
(part of Night of the Dead)

UK Premiere | Sander Maran | Estonia | 2024 | 117 minutes
 Estonian with English subtitles

Eleven years in the making, this deliberately trashy, DIY musical splatterfest recently won Best Picture in Horror Features at Fantastic Film Fest. Hopeless romantics Maria and Tom have just fallen in love when they find themselves on the run from a blood-soaked chainsaw killer. After Maria is kidnapped, it’s up to Tom to rescue her, with the help of Jaan, an eccentric stranger he meets along the way. With absurdist humour, cartoon logic, and plenty of gore, this film is destined to become a cult classic with genre fans after making waves in the festival circuit.



Animalia Paradoxa

Fanomenon Feature Film Competition

Everyman Screen 4, Sun 3 Nov 13:45 & Fri 8 Nov 15:45

UK Premiere | Niles Atallah | Chile | 2024 | 80 minutes
 Spanish with English subtitles

In a post-apocalyptic world, *Animalia*, a mutant creature, wanders through the ruins of a city. To survive it requires immersion in water, but the sea is out of reach. Director Niles Atallah, an American filmmaker and artist based in Chile, has created an astonishingly rich world, combining visual arts, dance, animation, puppetry and film. Atallah questions how much of ourselves we may be prepared to give to exist in an unforgiving world, whilst exploring class inequalities against the backdrop of a climate catastrophe. A truly unique, original, and poetic piece that’s unexpectedly poignant.



Chlorophyll

Fanomenon Feature Film Competition

Everyman Screen 4, Fri 8 Nov 18:30 & Sun 10 Nov 18:15

UK Premiere | Ivana Gloria | Italy | 2023 | 75 minutes | Italian with English subtitles

In Ivana Gloria’s tender and mesmerising fairy tale, green-haired Maia (Sarah Short) is tired of city life and, driven by a desire to be among nature, she decides to spend the summer picking oranges. In the orchards she is greeted by the gardener, an eccentric loner called Teo (Michele Ragno), who notices that Maia isn’t like everyone else. In the same way he tends his plants, he devotes his time and energy to her, too, and the young woman starts to blossom, literally. Their burgeoning friendship, however, is unsettled by the arrival of Teo’s father and older brother Arturo.



Cloud

Fanorama

Vue Screen 12, Sat 16 Nov 18:00 & Sun 17 Nov 11:00

Kiyoshi Kurosawa | Japan | 2024 | 123 minutes
Japanese with English subtitles

Kiyoshi Kurosawa has one of the most extensive filmographies in modern Japanese cinema, including '90s cult classics like *Cure* and *Pulse*, and multi-award-winning dramas like *Tokyo Sonata* from 2008. Kurosawa has added three more films to his filmography alone in 2024, and his third *Cloud* was launched at Venice and Toronto film festivals. *Cloud* is a suspenseful thriller in which a young internet reseller, Ryosuke Yoshii (Masaki Suda) ignites a cyber-fuelled storm of malice. Blurring digital and physical threats, *Cloud* is a chilling dive into the dark side of modern connectivity.



Dead Mail

Fanorama

Hyde Park Screen One, Sat 9 Nov 21:00

Joe DeBoer, Kyle McConaghy | USA | 2024
106 minutes | English

This surreal horror thriller blends retro analogue aesthetics with a twisted tale of obsession, murder, and electronic keyboards. In a 1980s Midwestern post office, a bloodstained letter arrives with a desperate plea for help from someone claiming to be kidnapped but without any clear address. The mysterious letter catches the eye of Jasper, a 'dead mail' expert, who begins trying to trace the source. But someone else is trying to hunt down the letter, determined to keep his dark secret hidden and recover the letter at any cost.



Dark Match

Night of the Dead

**Hyde Park Screen One, Fri 15 Nov
(part of Night of the Dead)**

Lowell Dean | Canada | 2024 | 94 minutes | English

A team of pro wrestlers accept a gig from a mysterious client played by Chris Jericho in this high-octane tribute to 80s wrestling from *WolfCop* director Lowell Dean. Miss Behave is a small-time but ambitious wrestler trying to escape her villainous "heel" persona and navigate a growing relationship with veteran wrestler Joe (Stephen Ogg). However, when their sleazy manager strikes a shady deal for a private show in a backwater town with an interest in the occult, the team is plunged into a living nightmare where their wrestling skills are put to the ultimate test.



Dead Talents Society

Fanorama

**Hyde Park Screen One, Sat 9 Nov 18:45 &
Sun 10 Nov 15:00 | Vue Screen 11, Wed 13 Nov 20:45**

John Hsu | Taiwan | 2024 | 105 minutes | Min Nan, Mandarin
Chinese with English subtitles

Being dead isn't easy. Spirits must prove themselves worthy of becoming ghosts through a rigorous selection process of auditions and contests. A newly deceased young woman known as "The Rookie" quickly learns that it's a dog-eat-dog underworld. To avoid being condemned to eternal damnation she falls in with a troupe of misfit haunters, led by a phantom diva determined to revitalize her own fading career. From Taiwanese director John Hsu (*Detention*, LIFF 2019), *Dead Talents Society* is a hilarious dark comedy and a heartwarming tale about friendship, family and encouragement.



Drone

Fanorama

**Vue Screen 11, Sun 3 Nov 18:45 & Tue 5 Nov 13:30
& Wed 6 Nov 20:30**

UK Premiere | Simon Bouisson | France | 2024 | 110 minutes
French with English subtitles

French writer-director Simon Bouisson brings the haunting and unsettling immersion of his interactive TV thrillers to his first feature film *Drone*. Émilie has just arrived in Paris to study, secretly working nights as a cam girl to make ends meet. One evening, a drone appears at her apartment window. From then on, whenever she is alone, the drone appears and follows her. Émilie is initially intrigued about who is hiding behind this machine and starts to form an unconventional relationship with it. When she eventually tries to escape the drone's grip, the trap closes in on her.



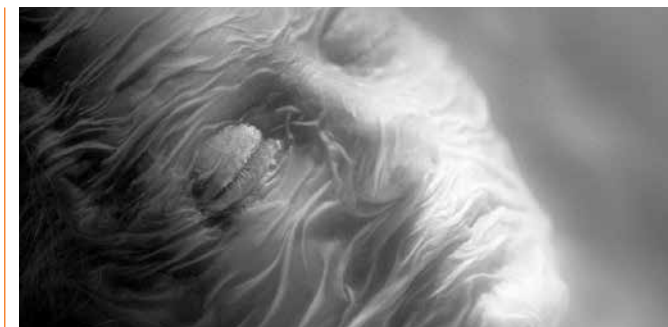
Fanomenon Short Film Competition 1

Fanomenon X LIFF SHORTS

Vue Screen 12, Sun 10 Nov 11:30 & Mon 11 Nov 13:30

5 short films | France, Netherlands, UK, USA | 2023/2024
86 minutes

Relationships are at the heart of this programme of fantastic shorts where tensions often rise high. A sunny Sunday afternoon game of *Scrabble* takes a turn when the board comes to life, siblings must wrestle with dark truths to break free of a malevolent cycle, and a young woman finds herself truly alone when a government error separates her from her now-fish family. Elsewhere, a woman's grief turns into addiction in a post-masculine world. And finally, a couple's attempt to spice up their relationship with an AI sex robot, ends up uncovering the long-buried cracks in their marriage's foundations.



Else

Fanomenon Feature Film Competition

**Hyde Park Screen One, Sat 9 Nov 13:30 | Everyman
Screen 4, Wed 13 Nov 12:00 & Thu 14 Nov 18:00**

UK Premiere | Thibault Emin | France, Belgium | 2024
100 minutes | French with English subtitles

Anx and Cass's new relationship is catapulted to the next level when a strange new disease begins to spread that gradually merges living beings into whatever object they come into contact with. When lockdown is imposed, Anx and Cass find themselves confined into Anx's apartment. As their romance blooms, they become surrounded by a building taking new forms and lives but soon the walls are literally closing in. Thibault Emin's feature film debut is a psychedelic body-horror like no other.



Fanomenon Short Film Competition 2

Fanomenon X LIFF SHORTS

Vue Screen 12, Sun 10 Nov 14:00 & Tue 12 Nov 13:00

7 short films | Australia, Canada, France, Spain, UK, USA
2023/2024 | 93 minutes

This programme tackles everything from lovers' quarrels and pregnancy to the danger of making deals with mermaids. A daughter wonders whether the thing knocking on the door is really her mother, while a couple can't go on a trip until they've remembered everything (and we mean everything). A pregnant woman hears something strange on a wilderness camping trip, a couple have an argument with a bloody twist, and an app to help you sleep seems to have summoned something. Finally, a man turns to a sea-devil to get urgently married, and we see a paralyzed woman's terror through her eyes.



Fanomenon Short Film Competition 3

Fanomenon X LIFF SHORTS

Vue Screen 12, Sun 10 Nov 16:00 & Wed 13 Nov 14:30

7 short films | Netherlands, Spain, UK, USA | 2023/24 | 87 minutes

We hope you're ready to be scared, tickled, moved and provoked, because this programme has it all. An A.I.'s assistance turns into chaos, a man's encounter with a missing woman has him pondering his own existence, whilst a woman wakes up to a disturbing figure stalking her apartment. Elsewhere, 65-year-old Lucita is dying to visit her son in hell, while a couple hides from a menacing group in a Twilight Zone-like world. On a burnt-up Earth, a mother must confront the strange changes affecting her son, and finally, a husband's breakthrough in reaching his catatonic wife has disturbing consequences.



The Gesuidouz Fanorama

The Gesuidouz: Everyman Screen 4, Fri 1 Nov 18:45 & Sun 3 Nov 15:45 | Vue Screen 11, Sat 16 Nov 11:00

UK Premiere | Kenichi Ugana | Japan | 2024 | 93 minutes
Japanese with English subtitles

Rising cult filmmaker Kenichi Ugana's offbeat, lo-fi *The Gesuidouz* is the story of a misfit horror-themed punk band that moves to the Japanese countryside to write the greatest punk anthem in the world. Hanako has a dream: her band *The Gesuidouz* will perform at Glastonbury Festival and that, just like her heroes Jim Morrison and Kurt Cobain, she will die at 27. With a year left until her deadline, Hanako makes a desperate appeal with a power drill to her apathetic manager's cranium, and he offers the band a rural farm where they can buckle down and focus on writing a bonafide hit.



Fantastic Planet

Fanomenon Retro: René Laloux

Hyde Park Screen One, Sun 3 Nov 13:45

René Laloux | France, Czechoslovakia | 1973 | 72 minutes
French with English subtitles | BBFC Rating PG

This year we are delighted to present two cult animated features by director René Laloux, *Fantastic Planet* and *Time Masters*. Nothing else has ever looked or felt like Laloux's surreal animated marvel *Fantastic Planet*, a politically minded and visually inventive work of science fiction, with a brilliant psychedelic jazz score by Alain Goraguer. The film is set on a distant planet called Ygam, where enslaved humans (Oms) are the playthings of giant blue native inhabitants (Draags). After Terr, kept as a pet since infancy, escapes from his gigantic child captor, he is swept up by a band of radical fellow Oms who are resisting the Draags' oppression and violence.



How to Make a Killing Fanorama

Vue Screen 12, Sun 3 Nov 13:30 & Tue 5 Nov 15:45 & Wed 6 Nov 20:45

UK Premiere | Frank Dubosc | France | 2024 | 109 minutes
French with English subtitles

In Frank Dubosc's dark comedy, in which he co-stars with Laure Calamy (*Call My Agent!*), Michel and Cathy lead a quiet but monotonous married life in the mountains. When a bear bursts out in front of Michel's car, accidentally killing two drug dealers and revealing a €2 million loot in the process, their life takes an unpredictable turn, especially when they decide to cover up the incident and keep the money. But their plan leads them to stumble upon an unexplained trail of dead bodies. More used to being honest than crooked, Michel and Cathy's clumsy cover-up efforts soon get unwanted attention.



Jupiter

Fanomenon Feature Film Competition

Vue Screen 11, Sat 2 Nov 16:00 | Vue Screen 12, Thu 7 Nov 16:15 | Everyman Screen 4, Sun 10 Nov 20:00

UK Premiere | Benjamin Pfohl | Germany | 2024 | 100 minutes
German with English subtitles

In this dark sci-fi drama, a teenage girl grapples with her family's deepening devotion to a cosmic cult that promises a higher existence on Jupiter. Teenager Lea struggles to find her own path, torn between the pressures of adolescence, caring for her younger autistic brother, and her family's cosmic beliefs. As the comet Calypso nears Earth in a rare celestial event, her family retreats to the cult's remote compound in the woods. There, Lea begins to question their faith, wondering if this journey is truly about salvation—or a one-way trip to another plane of existence.



A Samurai in Time Fanorama

Vue Screen 11, Sat 2 Nov 11:00 & Mon 4 Nov 14:45 & Sat 16 Nov 13:00

Jun'ichi Yasuda | Japan | 2023 | 131 minutes | Japanese with English subtitles

A sleeper hit in Japan, this heartfelt fish-out-of-water comedy pays homage to samurai cinema and was made in memory of Seizo Fukumoto, Japan's leading *kirareyaku* ('sliced-up actor') who died more than 50,000 times on camera. With one strike of lightning, samurai Kosaka Shinzaemon is teleported to modern day Japan, landing on a period drama film set. Mesmerised by the world of showbiz, he starts to make a living as a *kirareyaku*. Will Kosaka adapt to his new reality, or will the grudges of the Edo period war slice his life apart?



Monkey's Magic Merry Go Round Night of the Dead

Hyde Park Screen One, Fri 15 Nov (part of Night of the Dead – limited individual tickets available)

World Premiere | Aidan Leary | USA | 2024 | 91 minutes | English

Late Night with the Devil meets *Blue's Clues* in this unsettling, existential horror that will forever change the way you see safety scissors. The presenter of a children's TV show spends his days smiling, singing songs, and playing with his puppet pals Beaver, Bird and his best friend Monkey. That's until he realises that he seems to have lost all his memories and his puppet co-stars are dead set on keeping it that way. Ready for a ride on the Magic Merry-Go-Round?



She Loved Blossoms More Fanomenon Feature Film Competition

Everyman Screen 4, Sat 9 Nov 18:00 & Tue 12 Nov 20:30

UK Premiere | Yannis Veslemes | Greece, France, New Zealand 2024 | 86 minutes | French, Greek with English subtitles

In an attempt to try and bring their mother back from the dead, three brothers are working on an unusual time machine in a dilapidated house. Pressured by their father and seemingly working against the clock, they skip a step or two with devastating consequences. Yannis Veslemes manages to balance humour and body horror perfectly, crafting a stunning sci-fi that's visually unforgettable. With grief at its heart, *She Loved Blossoms More* feels like an acid-induced 90s fever dream that asks us to confront our relationship to loss and memory.



Sister Midnight

Fanorama

Everyman Screen 4, Sun 3 Nov 20:30 & Tue 5 Nov 18:15
Vue Screen 12, Fri 8 Nov 11:30

Karan Kandhari | UK | 2024 | 110 minutes | English & Hindi with English subtitles

Karan Kandhari's debut feature *Sister Midnight* is a genre-bending comedy about a frustrated, misanthropic newlywed who discovers certain feral impulses that land her in unlikely situations. A newly arranged marriage. An oddball couple shoved together in a small Mumbai shack with paper-thin walls. Unpredictable Uma does her best to cope with the heat, her total lack of domestic skills, nosy neighbours, and her bumbling spouse until the nocturnal world of Bombay lead her to face her own strange behaviours.



Tim Travers and the Time Travellers Paradox

Fanorama

Vue Screen 11, Sat 2 Nov 20:30 & Mon 4 Nov 20:30
Hyde Park Screen One, Fri 8 Nov 20:30

Stimson Snead | USA | 2024 | 110 minutes | English

In this wildly comedic, time-traveling adventure an eccentric inventor embarks on a quest to unravel the mystery of time – mostly because he's bored. Mad scientist Tim Travers has built a time machine to test a paradox: can you really travel two minutes back in time and kill your younger self? When the experiment fails he decides to team up with his younger versions to solve the paradox while evading gangsters (lead by Danny Trejo) trying to retrieve their stolen plutonium.



Time Masters

Fanomenon Retro: René Laloux

Hyde Park Screen One, Sun 3 Nov 15:30

UK Premiere of 4K Restoration | René Laloux | France, Switzerland, West Germany, UK, Hungary | 1982 | 78 minutes | French
 BBFC Rating PG

Directed by visionary animator René Laloux and designed by the legendary Jean Giraud (a.k.a. Moebius), *Time Masters* is a visually fantastic foray into existentialist space adventure, presented in its new 4K restoration. After his parents are killed on the dangerous planet Perdide, young Piel survives by maintaining radio contact with Jaffar, a pilot transporting the exiled Prince Matton and Princess Belle. Along the way, they encounter the Time Masters, mysterious beings who can bend reality and reveal to the heroes their secret origins and destinies.



U Are the Universe

Fanomenon Feature Film Competition

Vue Screen 11, Sat 2 Nov 18:30
Vue Screen 12, Thu 7 Nov 21:00 & Fri 15 Nov 20:30

UK Premiere | Pavlo Ostrikov | Ukraine | 2024 | 90 minutes
 Ukrainian with English subtitles

U Are the Universe is a captivating genre-bending journey touching the most universal aspects of life - love, loneliness, joy, sadness. Ukrainian filmmaker Pavlo Ostrikov's debut feature follows Andriy on his space mission to transport nuclear waste from Earth to Jupiter's moon Callisto, accompanied by a robot named Maxim to keep him company. Maxim has a joke for every occasion, which comes in handy when Earth explodes in the far distance and Andriy believes he is now the last living person in the universe - until a French woman named Catherine calls him from a faraway space station.



Tim Travers and the Time Travellers Paradox



Vulcanizadora

Fanomenon Feature Film Competition

Vue Screen 11, Fri 8 Nov 13:45 & Sun 10 Nov 21:00
& Fri 15 Nov 18:00

UK Premiere | Joel Potrykus | USA | 2024 | 85 minutes | English

Director Joel Potrykus presents a darkly comedic and unpredictable exploration of two aging slackers intent on carrying out a disturbing pact on a camping trip. Martin and his man-child friend Derick wander through the woods, armed with fireworks, glowsticks and a mysterious metal contraption. As ill-equipped for survival as they are for the world itself, their pact soon unravels and one of them has to face the consequences. Shot on 16mm, *Vulcanizadora* blends Potrykus' signature "metal slackerism" with offbeat dark humour focused on outcasts and misfits.



The Weekend

Fanorama

Hyde Park Screen One, Sat 9 Nov 15:45

Daniel Oriahi | Nigeria | 2024 | 117 minutes | English

A smart, suspenseful horror-thriller from Nigerian director Daniel Oriahi, rooted in family values and culture but with a deliciously dark twist. Orphaned Nikya is close to having the life she's always dreamed of - engaged to her partner, Luke, with hopes of starting a family. However, she has never met Luke's estranged parents or sister. Desperate to complete her family, she convinces Luke to reconnect and they arrange a visit to his childhood home. But soon, Nikya begins to uncover disturbing secrets, realising that every family has its baggage - and Luke's may be harder to stomach than she has ever imagined.



Day of the Dead

Hyde Park Screen One, Sat 9th Nov 13:00
Day of the Dead Pass £34/£28
 (tickets for individual films also available)

Day of the Dead is back for LIFF 2024 on 9 November at Hyde Park Picture House with four acclaimed new horror films from Belgium, Nigeria, Taiwan and USA. Passes for the whole day are available.

In the opening film *Else* (UK Premiere) at 1.30pm, a couple's very new relationship is catapulted to the next level when a strange new disease begins to spread that gradually merges living beings into whatever object they come into contact with. Following at 3.45pm is *The Weekend*, a smart, suspenseful horror-thriller, rooted in family values and culture but with a deliciously dark twist.

After an hour's break for stocking up on supplies, Day of the Dead continues at 6.45pm with *Dead Talents Society*, a hilarious dark comedy about a contest for ghosts in the underworld where they must compete to avoid eternal damnation. The closing film at 9pm is *Dead Mail*, a surreal horror thriller that blends retro analogue aesthetics with a twisted tale of obsession, murder, and electronic keyboards.

Night of the Dead

Hyde Park Screen One, Fri 15 Nov 23:00
Night of the Dead Pass £34/£28

The ultimate all-night horror marathon returns to Hyde Park Picture House with a new mix of wild films guaranteed to deliver plenty of thrills, gore, and chills. Kicking things off is the world premiere of *Monkey's Magic Merry Go Round* following the amnesiac host of an increasingly unsettling children's television show. Next, we crank up the adrenaline with *Dark Match*, an action-packed horror that puts a small-time group of '80s pro-wrestlers in a desperate battle for survival.

Then prepare yourself for the outrageous, DIY splatterfest *Chainsaws Were Singing*, followed by the finale screening with *Body Melt*, a non-stop, gooey, adrenaline-fueled fever dream (part of *The Weird of Oz* retrospective). Plus, NOTD features a collection of fantastic shorts including *Dream Creep*, *God's Anus*, *Make Me a Pizza*, *Meat Puppet*, *Pocketman* and *We Joined A Cult*. Book early to get your favourite seat for the whole night, and we will have security on the door at all times.



Sci-Fi Day

Vue Screen 11, Sat 2 Nov 14:00
Sci-Fi Day Pass £34/£28
 (tickets for individual films also available)

Our Sci-Fi Day film marathon returns for LIFF 2024 on 2 November at Vue in The Light with four new features, including two UK Premieres. Passes for the whole day are available.

Opening the day at 2pm is *The A-Frame*, a mind-bending sci-fi tale about an ambitious inventor who accidentally discovers a cancer treatment while opening a portal to a subatomic universe. Following at 4pm is *Jupiter* (UK Premiere), a dark sci-fi drama about a teenage girl who grapples with her family's deepening devotion to a cosmic cult that promises a higher existence on Jupiter.

After an hour's refuelling break, Sci-Fi Day continues at 6.30pm with *U Are the Universe* (UK Premiere), a moving and comic story about an astronaut's search for connection after he is left alone in space when Earth explodes. Closing the day at 8.30pm is *Tim Travers and the Time Travellers Paradox*, a wildly comedic, time-traveling, and universe-breaking adventure about an eccentric inventor who embarks on a quest to unravel the mystery of time - mostly because he's bored.



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The Weird of Oz

In the early 1970s, Australian cinema bloomed into life after decades of desert-like silence. All manner of movies appeared to express the contradictions of Australia; then barely seventy years old as a modern nation yet superimposed unthinkingly over the planet's oldest living culture. As its cinema woke up and cried out, Australia began to describe its own weirdness: its extremely plural cultures, vast and mysterious environment, laconic humour laced with bite, an elastic sense of time. Australian ideas, themes and character all emerged quickly, to be captured with vigour by both popular and art cinema.

In this special Fanomenon programme, you'll see Australian ideas repeat themselves in various ways: the highway adventures of Mad Max 2, Road Games and Stone; the hyperreal pop images styles of BeDevil and Razorback; vengeful nature in Lost Weekend and The Last Wave; individuals against the world in Celia and Wake in Fright. For about 20 years the Australian new wave of cinema was wild and distinctive, expressing the growing pains of the country and garnering attention around the world. And 53 years since the production of the first of these films (Wake in Fright), Australia remains confident, conflicted, contrarian, and still pretty weird.

Introduction by Tom Vincent, Programme Curator





BeDevil

Everyman Screen 4, Wed 13 Nov 21:00
& Thu 14 Nov 14:00

Tracey Moffatt | Australia | 1993 | 90 minutes | English

Multifaceted creator Tracey Moffatt is Australia's leading visual artist of the last 40 years, and with *BeDevil*, the first Aboriginal woman to direct a feature film. Her film interlaces several different modes of cinema and 1990s TV to retell three ghostly folk tales, all of which suggest the haunted barriers of place and time between Aboriginal and settler Australia. The first story, *Mr Chuck*, recounts a drowned American G.I. haunting a cinema built on swampland, *Choo Choo Choo Choo*, is about an absconded train driver, and *Lovin' The Spin I'm In* shows that some spirits can never be evicted in the name of a quick buck.



Celia

Everyman Screen 4, Wed 13 Nov 18:45
& Thu 14 Nov 11:30

Ann Turner | Australia | 1989 | 102 minutes | English
BBFC Rating 15

For the general population in straight-laced 1950s Melbourne there were two rampant scourges that supposedly threatened civilisation: Communism, and rabbits. Young Celia has affiliations to both; her recently departed grandma was a Communist, so is the next-door neighbour, and Celia nags her uptight dad for a bunny of her own. Celia's horror-tinged fantasies help her process an adult world which she finds bizarre, and eventually the violence of her dreams starts to creep into the real world. Director Ann Turner's debut feature is a highly distinctive mix of social drama and fantasy, a quizzical view of Australian conformity.



Body Melt

Hyde Park Screen One, Fri 15 Nov
(part of *Night of the Dead*)

Philip Brophy | Australia | 1993 | 81 minutes | English
BBFC Rating 18

In this bizarre body-horror comedy, an unsuspecting suburban community becomes the testing ground for a dangerous experimental drug. Residents of a quiet Australian neighbourhood begin taking a mysterious health supplement designed by a shady pharmaceutical company, only to experience horrific and grotesque transformations. Soon the gruesome and deadly side effects wreak havoc on the town and local health spa. With its outlandish practical effects, *Body Melt* combines over-the-top gore, genre-bending horror and a pulsing techno score with satirical commentary on consumerism, corporate greed and "healthy living".



The Last Wave

Everyman Screen 4, Mon 11 Nov 18:30
& Tue 12 Nov 12:00

UK Premiere of 4K Restoration | Peter Weir | Australia | 1977
106 minutes | English & Pitjantjatjara with English subtitles

Extreme weather across Australia seems to announce a coming apocalypse: fist-sized hailstones, torrential rain, and frogs falling from the sky. Meanwhile, urban lawyer David is asked to represent a group of Aboriginal men accused of a motiveless murder. Though he is scrupulously rational and logical, David's dreams predict the future, and it slowly dawns on him that his knowledge is by no means the only truth out there. *The Last Wave* mixed two of Australia's great anxieties; nature (see also *Lost Weekend*), and the trauma of all that was left buried in colonial genocide. Smart, sombre, and prescient cinema.



Long Weekend

Everyman Screen 4, Mon 11 Nov 20:45
& Tue 12 Nov 14:15

Colin Eggleston | Australia | 1978 | 97 minutes | English
BBFC Rating 15

'The Bush' takes a cosmic revenge on a Sydney couple taking an ill-advised camping trip to the coast up north. Peter and Marcia have some unfinished business to resolve, and with Peter flagrantly careless around nature, the stage is set for a bloody showdown. An eagle, dugong, spider and (incongruously), a Tasmanian Devil all appear as hostile beasts in a kind of upside-down *Bambi*. Though it was, like many great Australian films, ignored at the time of release, this haunting ecological thriller embodies Australian terrors about an untamed interior, the unknowable entity that sits between the nation's coastal cities, ready to wreak havoc.



Razorback

Vue Screen 11, Wed 13 Nov 14:00 & Thu 14 Nov 17:30

Russell Mulcahy | Australia | 1984 | 95 minutes | English
BBFC Rating 18

A giant boar is marauding near a country town, killing and eating people. When an American journalist arrives to study the hunting of Australian wildlife for the pet food industry, she finds that people can be as threatening as wild animals. *Razorback* is a world in which city dwellers are mistrusted by country folk, women don't mix with men, and endless space creates claustrophobia. A very down-under take on *Jaws* which taps into Australian fears of the wild outback (the opening is a riff on the famous Azaria Chamberlain 'dingo baby' case), and renders them in high-end 1980s pop style.



Mad Max 2: The Road Warrior

Vue Screen 11, Tue 12 Nov 20:45 & Thu 14 Nov 15:15

George Miller | Australia | 1981 | 96 minutes | English
BBFC Rating 15

The return of Max Rockatansky cemented director George Miller's vision of bizarre, post-apocalyptic Australia, where people have peculiar names ('Lord Humungus', 'The Toadie'), and everything is recycled from something else. Years after World War III, gasoline is the most valuable commodity and loner Max strikes a cold, hard bargain with a besieged community of settlers who strive to find a secret utopia. The *Mad Max* films have created a world all of their own, yet they still speak of a real outlaw spirit of the outback, places of speed, distance and scarcity.



Roadgames

Vue Screen 11, Tue 12 Nov 18:30 & Thu 14 Nov 13:00

Richard Franklin | Australia | 1981 | 101 minutes | English
BBFC Rating 15

Long-distance truck driver Patrick Quid is moving his cargo from Melbourne to Perth, over 2,000 miles to the west. On long, lonely stretches of road, on which one might encounter the same characters repeatedly, Quid becomes convinced that a serial killer is travelling alongside him. Director Richard Franklin was a sincere student of Alfred Hitchcock, and here he refits the suspenseful paranoia of *Rear Window* to Australia's endless roads. This time the voyeur's window is always in motion, never quite trusting what it sees.



Stone

Fanomenon Vault: The Weird of Oz

Everyman Screen 4, Sun 10 Nov 16:00
& Mon 11 Nov 14:00

Sandy Harbutt | Australia | 1974 | 99 minutes | English

Australia's bike gangs are known for their steadfast loyalty and outlaw status. Stone, a precursor to Mad Max, is very much their movie. In Sydney, members of the Satan-worshipping Gravediggers gang are being assassinated. Undercover cop Stone poses as a bikie member of the gang to infiltrate the scene and investigate the killings. Among a vivid ensemble cast, Stone features Hugh Keays-Byrne, later to appear as both The Toecutter and Immortan Joe in Mad Maxes 1 and 4. He helps create an arcane psychedelic subcultural scene in which the gang is everything, totally separate from straight society.



Wake in Fright

Fanomenon Vault: The Weird of Oz

Vue Screen 11, Sun 10 Nov 18:45
Everyman Screen 4, Mon 11 Nov 16:15

UK Premiere of 4K Restoration | Ted Kotcheff | Australia | 1971
109 minutes | English | BBFC Rating 18

A 'cultured' teacher who yearns to return to the sophisticated city finds himself stranded in an eternally boozy limbo, where being someone's 'mate' means drinking beer until all sense has gone. A classic film, Wake in Fright was the precursor to the 1970s explosion of Australian cinema, and unpacked so much of the country's shadowy side. Could it have been made by an Australian? Canadian director Ted Kotcheff seems to see something that locals couldn't, and the fictional town of Bundanyabba represents much that urban Australia prefers not to face.



Wake in Fright





short story from
Sean Baker

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- 20.09 BMH **GREEN GARDENS**
- 21.09 BMH **JERU THE DAMAJA**
- 21.09 HH NS. **JACQUES GREENE**
B2B **NOSAJ THING**
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- 28.09 BMH **WELCOME PARTY**
FT. RUSHY, DOWNTOWN KAYOTO & MORE. FREE ENTRY.
- 28.09 HH VARIATIONS **GREG & MORE**
- 04.10 PH **COSMO SHELDRAKE**
- 05.10 BMH **BESS ATWELL**
- 06.10 BMH **JOAN AS POLICE WOMAN**
- 10.10 HH **QUINN OULTON**

- 21.10 BMH **SKINSHAPE**
- 22.10 BSC **ADULT JAZZ**
- 22.10 HH **MILLIONZ**
- 24.10 BMH **WARRINGTON - RUNCORN NEW TOWN DEVELOPMENT PLAN**
- 24.10 HH **JAAKO EINO KALEVI**
- 25.10 HH **WILD PINK**
- 26.10 HH **MIU ZYU**
- 26.10 HH NS. **BIMINI DJ**
- 27.10 HH **FREAK HEAT WAVES**
- 29.10 BMH **TALIB KWELI**
- 29.10 HH **FREYA BEER**
- 30.10 BMH **ART BRUT**

- 07.11 PH **EZRA COLLECTIVE**
- 08.11 HH NS. **ARTHI**
- 09.11 PH **IBIBIO SOUND MACHINE**
- 24.11 HH VARIATIONS **DUSKUS**
- 09.11 BMH **EDDIE CHACON**
- 10.11 BMH **OKAY KAYO**
- 11.11 HH **CORTO.ALTO**
- 12.11 HH **AVANTDALE BOWLING CLUB**
- 13.11 PH **REJJIE SNOW**
- 13.11 HH **LUSTSICKPUPPY**
- 18.11 BMH **SEUN KUTI**
- 19.11 HH **MELENAS**

SR | Super Friendz (presents)

- 12.10 BSC **ADULT DVD**
- 12.10 HH VARIATIONS **TAAHLIAH**
- 13.10 HH **VIDEO AGE**
- 15.10 PH **UNKLE**
- 15.10 BMH **MABE FRATTI**
- 15.10 HH **HUMANIST**
- 16.10 HH **KESSENCODA**
- 17.10 PH **SAINTÉ**
- 19.10 HH **HOUSE GOSPEL CHOIR** DJ
- 21.10 PH **KAMASI WASHINGTON**

- 30.10 HH **DJ HARAM**
- 01.11 PH **JOHN GRANT**
- 01.11 HH VARIATIONS **PXSSY PALACE**
- 02.11 BMH **DARK ARTS : OPUS KINK, HONEYGLAZE AND MORE**
- 02.11 HH **DORIAN ELECTRA** (DJ)
- 03.11 HH **HYPNOSIS THERAPY**
- 05.11 HH **MAN MAN**
- 06.11 HH **DAME AREA**
- 07.11 HH **BIG WETT**

- 21.11 BMH **THE DARE**
- 22.11 PH **PALACE**
- 22.11 HH **DEARY**
- 23.11 PH **JYOTY**
- 24.11 HH VARIATIONS **DJ PYTHON**
- 29.11 BMH **THE MOUSE OUTFIT**
- 29.11 HH **DESIRE**
- 30.11 HH NS. **AHADADREAM**
- 06.12 PH **MAX COOPER**
- 06.12 HH VARIATIONS **GERD JANSON**

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LIFF SHORTS

We love short films so much at LIFF that we have a whole programme section dedicated to them, with eight competitions. This year we welcomed an expanded new team of programmers (see page 91 for details) who have considered 1000s of short films between them and made the final selections you can see at LIFF SHORTS 2024.

We have a new opening event for LIFF SHORTS this year on 6 November with a special selection of favourite short films from the programming team. From 6 to 9 November, we present the eight competitions including the Academy Award®-qualifying Louis le Prince International Short Film Competition – named after the Leeds pioneer who made the world’s first moving images in 1888 – and the World Animation Competition. The other competitions include those for British and Yorkshire shorts, documentaries, screendance, queer shorts and music videos.

The competitions culminate on 9 November with an awards event at Howard Assembly Room when the juries will announce the winning films which will all be screened on the night too. A separate printed guide for LIFF SHORTS will be available from our venues during the film festival.

LIFF Shorts is sponsored by Stewarts. **STEWARTS**



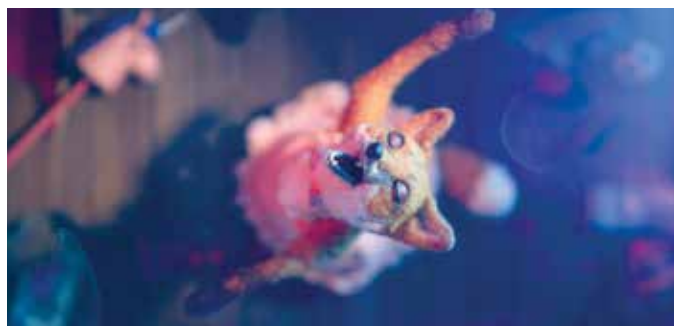


LIFF SHORTS 2024: Opening Selection

Everyman Screen 4, Wed 6 Nov 19:00

Approximate running time 75 minutes

Join us for the launch of LIFF SHORTS 2024 with a screening of favourites from this year's short film selection, specially chosen by the programming team. The selection will include team picks from the Louis le Prince, World Animation, Documentary, British, Yorkshire and Queer short film competitions. There will also be an introduction to LIFF SHORTS 2024 and you can pick up our free printed guide for all short films showing this year. Don't miss the Award Winners event on 9 November at Howard Assembly Room and see if the competition juries selected any of our programming team's favourites.



British Competition 1

Everyman Screen 4, Sat 9 Nov 11:00
& Sun 10 Nov 12:00

9 short films | UK | 2023/24 | 95 minutes

In the first British Short Film Competition programme we explore themes of self-reflection, family and growth, with an eclectic and quintessentially British collection of shorts. We examine the complexities of parent-child relationships with Run Like We and Homework, then journeying through, and understanding lost recollections, with My Exploding House and Memory. Bathsheba takes a more introspective path, following a lost, grieving cello player, whilst we also take a look inwards with some light-hearted tales tackling sex and relationships in Talking Heads, or coming to terms with disability in Sleepyhead.



LIFF SHORTS 2024: The Award Winners

Howard Assembly Room, Sat 9 Nov 19:30
Everyman Screen 4, Thu 14 Nov 16:00 & Thu 14 Nov 20:15

Approximate running time 90 minutes

Always a popular event at LIFF, the Award Winners is the culmination of a year of shortlisting and selecting short films from over 120 countries to include in our eight competitions. Taking place in the historic setting of Howard Assembly Room on 9 November, the event starts with the announcement of the award winners by the competition juries, and then all the winning films are screened together. The duration of the event depends on the length of the winning films, but it is normally around 90 minutes. The programme of winning films is repeated twice at Everyman on 14 November.



British Competition 2

Everyman Screen 4, Sat 9 Nov 13:30
& Sun 10 Nov 14:00

8 short films | UK | 2023/24 | 94 minutes

The second British Short Film Competition programme continues our trip around these shores and far beyond. From the void of outer space where a child is born in Space Plug to the fast and furious streets of Northern Ireland in We Beg to Differ. Friendship and solidarity forms amongst migrants over canal fishing in Karavidhe, and on the dance floor amongst queer people of colour in Midnight Rising. These moving tales will shock and delight before a chance encounter at a rural petrol station ends our tales, where we began, with A Good Start.



Documentary Short Film Competition: Vantage Points

Everyman Screen 4, Thu 7 Nov 18:30

6 short films | Argentina, France, Taiwan, USA | 2023/24
80 minutes

In the first ever competition programme for documentary short films at LIFF we traverse five continents, reach into the past, race through the present, and peer into the future. Observe cities from unfinished tower blocks, as bodies of water, and through maps of militant bombing sites. Delve into the mind of a child who yearns to squeeze reality, another trapped in the past, and a woman with strange dreams of American cryptographer Hal Finney. Including experiments with collective filmmaking, psychogeography and mixed material techniques, our selection offers an expansive view of what documentaries can be.



Leeds Music Video Competition

Headrow House, Sat 9 Nov 13:00 | Chapel FM, Thu 14
Nov 19:30

15 music videos | Canada, Chile, China, France, Germany,
Norway, UK, USA | 2023/24 | 67 minutes | Screening on 14
Nov is FREE

From otherworldly animation to barrier-breaking love stories, thought-provoking to delightfully silly, this special selection from the unique world of music videos will get you thinking, dreaming and adding artists to your playlists. This year's Leeds Music Video Competition brings together an eclectic selection of styles, genres and collaborations, featuring tracks from Public Service Broadcasting, Terry Blade, Chappel Roan, Okay Kaya, Steakblake and more. The filmmakers represent a range of backgrounds, from Yorkshire animators Jess Cope & Venkatram Viswanathan to feature filmmaker Sebastián Lelio (A Fantastic Woman).



Documentary Short Film Panorama: Movements

Everyman Screen 4, Wed 13 Nov 16:45

4 short films | Belgium, Brazil, Iran, UK | 2023/24 | 96 minutes

Witness first-hand the story of Radio Muda, Brazil's longest running-free radio station. Join Iranian filmmaker Elahe Esmaili's family gathering, where she makes a daring choice influenced by the Women-Life-Freedom movement. Follow the picaresque tale of eccentric Ukrainian refugee Vadym as he tries to make a home in the Chernobyl Exclusion Zone. Then settle in for our grand finale: a 'strange musical' celebrating loves and losses in a Belgian café. Exploring movements of people, politics, and of music, our panorama is sure to move, inspire and entertain you along the way.



Leeds Queer Short Film Competition 1

Hyde Park Screen One, Wed 6 Nov 18:30

8 short films | China, Colombia, Mexico, Netherlands, Tunisia,
USA | 2023/24 | 107 minutes

Leeds Queer Film Festival are delighted to present this year's Leeds Queer Short Film Competition at LIFF. Our first programme will transport you from a first date at a Mexican ice cream parlour in ¡Beso de lengua! through a Chinese reunion of old lovers in Manting to the politically charged resistance and joy of Floridian black queer and trans people in Shade in the Sunshine State. Body horror lovers are sure to enjoy the closing film of this programme, Belly Belly, a deliciously sexy meal featuring lots of blood, gore and severed fingers!



Leeds Queer Short Film Competition 2

Hyde Park Screen One, Thu 7 Nov 18:30

8 short films | Canada, Cuba, France, Iran, Netherlands, UK, USA | 2023/24 | 106 minutes

The second programme of the best queer short films from around the world, selected by Leeds Queer Film Festival (LQFF), presents remarkable tales of queer resilience in the most challenging circumstances. A beautiful cinematic romance between two incarcerated women in *The Blurring of Trees*, a non-binary child who just wants to play football in *Inside* and concluding with the feminised and emotional labour that a black trans woman gives to her community in *Blue Pandora*. Queer film lovers can find more amazing LGBTQ+ cinema at LQFF's 20th Anniversary festival in March 2025.



Louis le Prince International Short Film Competition 1

Everyman Screen 4, Thu 7 Nov 11:15

6 short films | China, France, Italy, Nepal, Philippines, Ukraine 2023/24 | 107 Minutes

The opening programme of our international short film competition, named after Louis le Prince who made the world's first moving images in Leeds in 1888, offers a powerful social commentary on autonomy, loss, compliance, memory, and identity. *The Witness Tree* and *Nostalgia* present compassionate observations of cultural norms, generational trauma, malady, and societal conventions while eschewing melodrama. *L'Avance* and *Vox Humana* urge us to examine our role in cultural erosion, classicism's cognitive dissonance, and the oppression global majority peoples often face. *Mother* and *Uroboro* reflect on the profound impact of tragedy, collective grief, and shared humanity.



Leeds Screendance Competition

Everyman Screen 4, Fri 8 Nov 20:30
& Mon 11 Nov 12:15

12 short films | Canada, Denmark, Estonia, France, Lebanon, USA | 2023/24 | 67 minutes + 30 minutes for panel on 8 Nov

Celebrating its 10th anniversary, LIFF's Screendance competition spotlights international dance films that navigate the countless ways a moving body can drive a narrative: from the softness of a solo male negotiating his brutalist urban location to the eco-rage of a solo woman battling an underwater plastic-waste monster. Whether explicitly narrative or more abstract in perspective, these innovative shorts all share a particular engagement with choreography, offering an alternative take on this experimental form. A panel discussion with filmmakers will follow the screening on 8 November.



Louis le Prince International Short Film Competition 2

Everyman Screen 4, Thu 7 Nov 14:00

5 short films | Belgium, France, Germany, Kosovo, Poland 2023/24 | 93 minutes

Our second Louis le Prince programme creates a cinematic tapestry of how violence transforms our definitions of home. In *Happiness is Close*, ageing changes a man's relationship with his apartment and body. In *Zanatany*, When soulless shrouds whisper, *On the way*, and *Aïda* Neither, government failings lead to death and desecration, severing each protagonist's ties to their hometown and histories. With humour and heartbreak, these visually rich stories ask us to examine the invisible brutalities that exile us from ourselves and, by concluding with the irreverent *Honey Bunny*, what it takes to reacquaint with tenderness.



Louis le Prince International Short Film Competition 3

Everyman Screen 4, Fri 8 Nov 11:15

5 short films | Brazil, Denmark, France, Iran, Martinique 2023/24 | 89 minutes

Unveiling temporal realities from diverse corners of the globe, our third programme captures the universal challenge of accepting differences. The theme emerges from complex familial, societal, historical, religious, and political relationships woven throughout the films. Sensitive yet daring *Amarela* and *Takeaway* illustrate the struggles of navigating cultural appreciation and appropriation in an alienating environment. *An Orange from Jaffa* confronts entrenched antagonisms, underscoring the vital need to coexist and reconnect on a human level. Together, selected stories offer a compelling cinematic commentary on our collective journey toward understanding and acceptance.



Ukraine, Displaced

Everyman Screen 4, Tue 12 Nov 16:30

6 short films | Ukraine with Belgium, France, Germany, Hungary, Poland, Portugal, | 2022-24 | 74 minutes

In this special short film programme, we bring you a selection of powerful stories of displacement and resilience from filmmakers working inside and outside of Ukraine. These films thoughtfully explore the emotional journeys of individuals forced to escape the devastation of war, highlighting the experience of being thrust into a new life unwillingly. From Ukrainian children exploring their new home in a former German military barracks to a young woman returning to Kyiv to see her family, these tender and poignant films examine the struggles of adjusting to unfamiliar circumstances while striving to maintain a connection to one's home.



Louis le Prince International Short Film Competition 4

Everyman Screen 4, Fri 8 Nov 13:45

5 short films | Austria, Canada, China, Malaysia, Slovenia 2023/24 | 83 minutes

These five captivating films – each employing a unique visual language and emotional tone – weave threads across geographies and histories to bring the weight of expectations to the fore. The protagonist of *A Dying Tree* casts off embodied patriarch and individualistic norms through a haptic journey of self-acceptance, *A Summer's End Poem* deals with disappointed expectations on the threshold between childhood and adolescence, while in *The Man Who Could Not Remain Silent* different cinematic and humanistic gazes are at play to challenge the viewer's perception. Intimate yet universal, these shorts will resonate within you long after they've ended.



World Animation Competition 1

Vue Screen 11, Fri 8 Nov 18:00 & Mon 11 Nov 13:45
St Luke's Cares, Wed 13 Nov 19:30

10 short films | Belgium, China, Croatia, Czech Republic, Finland, France, Japan, South Korea, Switzerland | 2023/24 98 minutes | Screening on 13 November is FREE

The first World Animation Competition programme at LIFF 2024 includes animated gems from Belgium, China, Croatia, Japan and South Korea. This programme offers LIFF audiences the chance to be inspired by the creative possibilities and beauty of the form. From the edgy, comic genius of the Czech film *Hurikán*, to the delicately crafted Chinese short *Bergamot*, and the intricate stop motion in *Nina Gantz's Wander to Wonder*, this selection has magic at its core. These animations will make you think, feel and laugh, adding sparkle to a November day.



World Animation Competition 2

Vue Screen 11, Fri 8 Nov 20:30 & Mon 11 Nov 16:00
Keighley Creative, Sat 16 Nov 12:30

10 short films | Austria, Brazil, France, Iran, Jordan, Netherlands, Portugal, Switzerland, USA | 2023/24 | 94 minutes | Screening on 16 November is FREE

The second World Animation Competition programme features 10 more visionary shorts from across the globe, spanning skilful artistry in 2D, stop-motion and experimental forms of the genre. From the awe-inspiring depths of Brazilian folklore to serene Portuguese seashores, each film encapsulates something uniquely profound within the animated art-form, celebrating an array of International talent and storytelling. The programme is bookended by the work of animation industry icon Florence Miailhe and her elegant yet sorrowful new film Papillon, as well as the multi-award-winning festival favourite Tennis, Oranges by Sean Pecknold.



Yorkshire Short Film Competition

Howard Assembly Room, Fri 8 Nov 20:15
Chapel FM, Tue 12 Nov 19:30
The Old Fire Station, Fri 15 Nov 20:00
Keighley Creative, Sat 16 Nov 10:30

7 short films | UK | 2023/24 | 80 minutes | Local Licensing
 Rating 12A | Screenings on 12, 15 & 16 Nov are FREE

One of the annual event highlights at LIFF, this competition takes a celebratory survey of Yorkshire short filmmaking from the past year. Our programme unsurprisingly reflects the wonderfully diverse stories that cover the personal and local, yet world-facing nature of the county we call home. Insightful social dramas such as Predators and House Phone nestle comfortably alongside deeply honest and inspiring documentaries Paula Says Hi and From Lagos to Leeds. At different stages of their careers, what all the filmmakers in our competition share is the passion and vision to bring their work to the big screen for us to enjoy, together.



Predators – World Animation Competition 2



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SPICE & FIRE

THE FILMS OF SMITA PATIL

LEEDS INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL
1st - 17th NOVEMBER 2024



Smita Patil



This specially curated season delves into the world of Smita Patil, an iconic actress whose work transcends the boundaries of Indian cinema, engaging with universal themes of identity, activism, and social justice. Smita Patil was only 31 years old when she suddenly passed away but left behind a rich body of work. Patil's performances, marked by a blend of vulnerability and defiance, are essential to understanding the story of Indian Parallel Cinema, one of South Asia's first post-colonial film movements.

From her collaborations with filmmakers like Shyam Benegal and Ketan Mehta to her unflinching portrayals of women grappling with societal constraints, Patil's filmography offers a compelling study in both the politics of feminism and art of screen acting. Join us as we revisit some of her best films, many of which have never been screened in the UK before, in this first UK retrospective of her work.

Introduction by Dr. Omar Ahmed (moviemahal.net), programme advisor for the spotlight, and a UK based film scholar, teacher, writer and international curator of South Asian Cinema.



Chidambaram

Pictureville Cinema, Sun 3 Nov 13:30
Vue Screen 11, Wed 6 Nov 18:15
Keighley Picture House, Sat 16 Nov 14:30

Govindan Aravindan | India | 1985 | 103 minutes
 Malayalam with English subtitles

In her brief yet impactful career, Smita Patil worked with many of Parallel Cinema's finest filmmakers, including Kerala auteur Govindan Aravindan. Their only collaboration, *Chidambaram*, tells the story of Shankaran (Gopi), a cowherd whose attraction to his friend's wife, Shivagami (played by Patil), leads to tragic consequences. Set in the picturesque hill regions of Tamil Nadu, the film explores themes of guilt, redemption and caste hierarchies. Patil's evocative portrayal of Shivagami is full of nuance while Aravindan uses religious imagery to conjure something tantalisingly supernatural and allegorical.



Debshishu

Vue Screen 11, Thu 7 Nov 18:15

Utpalendu Chakrabarty | India | 1987 | 100 minutes
 Hindi with English subtitles

Bengali director Utpalendu Chakrabarty's *Debshishu* is a stark and unflinching portrayal of superstition and fanaticism in rural India. The film follows a couple, played by the incomparable Smita Patil and Sadhu Meher and their encounter with a miracle-performing child god. Patil delivers a tour de force performance, embodying the strength and despair of a woman forced to endure unimaginable hardship. The muddy rural landscapes create a sense of desolation that is palpable throughout the film. Made on a low budget, *Debshishu* was one of Patil's last roles.



The Churning

Vue Screen 11, Sun 3 Nov 16:00

Shyam Benegal | India | 1976 | 134 minutes
 Hindi with English subtitles

Now restored in 4K, *The Churning* is a landmark film that tells the story of a rural cooperative milk movement in Gujarat, India. It was one of Smita Patil's earliest roles, leading to a series of collaborations with director Shyam Benegal, many of which examined feudalism, gender and the politics of mobilization. The financing was raised by 500,000 farmers who contributed two rupees each to the final budget. With powerful performances by Girish Karnad, Smita Patil, and Naseeruddin Shah, *The Churning* is a compelling tale of local grassroots initiatives.



In Search of Famine

Pictureville Cinema, Sun 3 Nov 16:00
Vue Screen 11, Mon 4 Nov 17:30

Mrinal Sen | India | 1981 | 155 minutes
 Bengali with English subtitles

A self-reflexive meditation on filmmaking, director Mrinal Sen explores the haunting legacy of the 1943 Bengal famine that resulted in the deaths of at least three million people. The story follows a film crew that arrives in a small village in an attempt to make a film on the Bengal famine. Smita Patil delivers a mesmerising performance as a young actress grappling with the blurred lines between art and reality. This is one of the great statements on film making, comparable to Kiarostami's *Life*, and *Nothing More* (1990) and Wenders' *The State of Things* (1982).

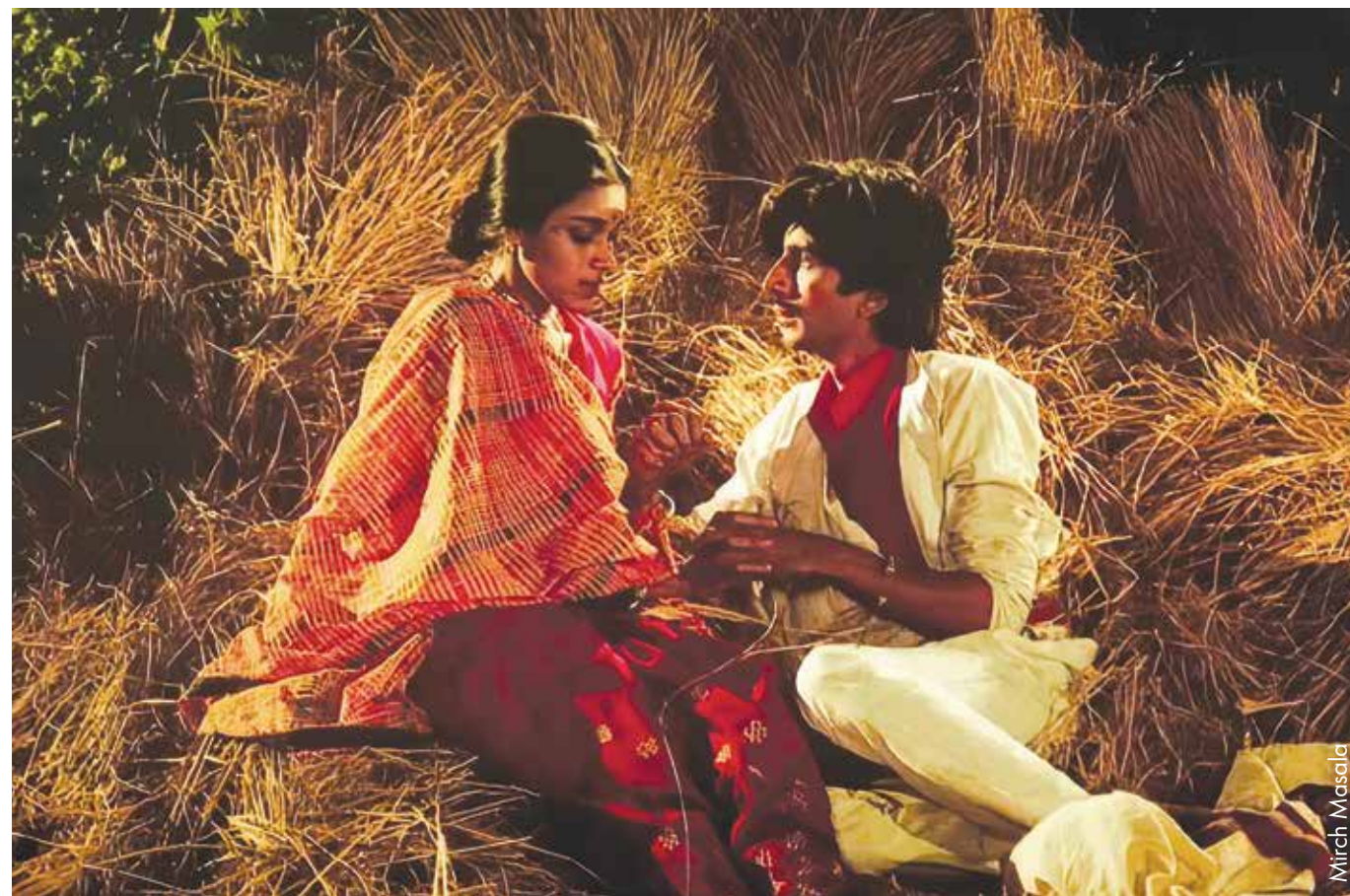


Mirch Masala (+ Introduction to Smita Patil on 2 Nov)

Hyde Park Screen One, Sat 2 Nov 13:30
Vue Screen 11, Tue 5 Nov 18:00

Ketan Mehta | India | 1986 | 128 minutes + 15 minutes intro at start of screening on 2 Nov only | Hindi with English subtitles

Ketan Mehta's *Mirch Masala* is set in India during British colonial rule. The film portrays the struggles of women in a small, traditional village, detailing the patriarchal oppression they face. The backdrop of the story focuses on a system of colonial officials, embodied by a tax collector (Naseeruddin Shah), and the resistance of local women, particularly around the spice factory where they work. Where resistance comes most forthright is in the iconic figure of Sonbai played by Smita Patil in what was arguably her most iconic role, imbuing the film with a memorable feminist and anti-colonial power.



Mirch Masala



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Stuart Croft

Stuart Croft (1970-2015), a talented artist-filmmaker from Leeds, imaginatively collapsed the boundaries between the art gallery and cinema. His journey took him from Lawnswood School in Leeds to exhibitions in New York, Venice, and Beijing. Croft's work subverts genre conventions and narrative expectations in a playful and thought-provoking way.

LIFF presents a spotlight on films that inspired Croft's unique vision, paired with his own looping moving image works. His film set murder mystery Century City screens with Luis Bunuel's classic confined narrative The Exterminating Angel. His shapeshifting noir revenger Hit pairs with Jean Pierre Melville's ice cool thriller Le Samourai, and his neverending ghost story The Death Waltz accompanies William Greaves's reflexive cinema landmark Symbiopsychotaxiplasm: Take One. Croft's other influences range from classic Hollywood genre films like Singin' in the Rain to the nested narratives of Wojciech Has's The Saragossa Manuscript.

Presented in partnership with Leeds Art Gallery and the Stuart Croft Foundation, this spotlight is designed to complement the immersive exhibition Stuart Croft: Eternal Return at Leeds Art Gallery (8 November – 6 April).



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The Breakfast Club

Free Breakfast Screening

Hyde Park Screen One, Sat 9 Nov 8:30 | FREE

John Hughes | USA | 1985 | 97 minutes | English | BBFC Rating 15

Join us for our second free breakfast screening to revisit the iconic '80s classic film from director John Hughes, with an all-star cast including Molly Ringwald and Emilio Estevez. The Breakfast Club follows five high school students with apparently nothing in common who find themselves frustratingly stuck together in Saturday detention. After initial irritation, they end up sharing stories and gradually realise they may have more in common than they first thought. The Breakfast Club is one of the most memorable coming-of-age stories on film that still resonates with audiences today. The Hyde Park Picture House Café Bar will be open for all your early-morning coffee, tea and snack needs!



The Exterminating Angel + Century City

Everyman Screen 4, Sat 2 Nov 10:45 & Mon 4 Nov 11:30

Luis Buñuel | Mexico | 1962 | 108 minutes (includes short film)
Spanish with English subtitles | BBFC Rating 18

In this surrealist black comedy from the daring mind of director Luis Buñuel, a group of wealthy friends are invited to a mansion for dinner by Edmundo Nobile after a night at the opera. Surreal events follow and they find themselves unable to leave, leading to chaos. Buñuel's comic masterpiece exposes the fallacy and frivolity of the upper classes. Screening as part of the Stuart Croft season with the artist's short film Century City in which the murder of an actress prompts an illogical, circular phone conversation between a Cape Town detective and a Los Angeles movie director.



The Draughtsman's Contract

Everyman Screen 4, Tue 5 Nov 20:45 & Thu 7 Nov 16:00

Peter Greenaway | UK | 1982 | 108 minutes | English
BBFC Rating 15

Peter Greenaway's breakthrough feature takes a sumptuous 17th century Wiltshire as its setting for this erotic, stylised country house murder mystery. It follows an ego-driven young draughtsman, Mr. Neville, who arrives at an elegant estate to produce a series of drawings of the house and grounds. Not all however is straightforward with payment including sexual favours, and curious details start to emerge in his drawings that may reveal a murder. Flamboyant costumes and a rich Purcell-inspired score from Michael Nyman creates a dizzying plot with sumptuous cinematography. Now all gloriously remastered in 4K by the BFI National Archive.



Le Samourai + HIT

Everyman Screen 4, Sun 3 Nov 17:45 & Tue 5 Nov 13:15
Vue Screen 12, Thu 7 Nov 11:15

Jean-Pierre Melville | France | 1967 | 127 minutes (includes short film)
French with English subtitles | BBFC Rating 12A

An elegant and exciting tribute to the classic American noir film, transplanted to 60s Paris and boasting an iconic role for the late, great Alain Delon as the samurai-like contract killer Jef Costello. After carrying out a flawlessly planned hit, Jef finds himself caught between a persistent police investigator and a ruthless employer, and not even his armour of fedora and trench coat can protect him. Screening as part of the Stuart Croft season alongside the artist's short film Hit, where three actors play two shape shifting characters in a circle of noirish revenge.



The Saragossa Manuscript

Everyman Screen 4, Sat 2 Nov 17:30

Wojciech J. Has | Poland | 1965 | 175 minutes
Polish with English subtitles | BBFC Rating 15

Wojciech Has's extraordinary 1965 cult classic is a labyrinthine story about storytelling, much admired by David Lynch. During Napoleon's invasion of Spain, two soldiers discover a strange manuscript at an Inn. The book chronicles the adventures of Alfonso van Worden. Alfonso's passage through the dangerous Sierra Morena mountains is repeatedly interrupted by seemingly random encounters with an assortment of larger-than-life figures. Each character's story adds an intricate layer to the puzzle-like plot. Showing as part of the Stuart Croft season in tribute to the artists' own circular narratives.



Stuart Croft: Eternal Return Exhibition + Introduction

Leeds Art Gallery, Fri 8 Nov 11:00

Eternal Return (at Leeds Art Gallery from 8 November to 6 April) is an exhibition of films by the talented Leeds-born artist-filmmaker Stuart Croft, the first since his untimely death in 2015. The films transport us from the bedroom a gothic mansion, to the passenger seat of a car on an endless road trip, and from the abandoned film-set of a 50's musical, to the claustrophobic vault of a spacecraft. On 8 November, the gallery will host an introductory talk and screening event in partnership with the Stuart Croft Foundation, exploring the playful and thought-provoking ways Croft's films imaginatively collapse the boundaries between art and cinema.



Singin' in the Rain

Free Breakfast Screening

Hyde Park Screen One, Sat 2 Nov 8:30 | FREE

Gene Kelly | USA | 1952 | 103 minutes | English
BBFC Rating U

Join us early on a Saturday morning for the first of our annual free breakfast screenings – and coffee will be brewed ready for you! In one of the most enduring musicals of all time, Gene Kelly and Lina Lamont star as silent movie actors working at the advent of the all-singing-and-dancing talkie era. Studio bosses grapple with the new technology and the suitability of their actors, and the arrival of a new young actress played expertly by Debbie Reynolds. It is hard not to sing along to this joyous film and the breath-taking musical numbers, offering an example of the musical genre at its most iconic.



Symbiopsychotaxiplasm: Take One + Death Waltz

Everyman Screen 4, Tue 5 Nov 16:00 & Sat 9 Nov 15:45

William Greaves | USA | 1968 | 97 minutes (includes short film)
English | BBFC Rating 15

A unique and innovative fiction-documentary by pioneering filmmaker William Greaves that breaks filmmaking conventions and storytelling boundaries. Overlooked when first realised, it is now considered an iconic work and championed by Steve Buscemi and Steven Soderbergh. Set in New York's Central Park, a film crew headed by Greaves try and figure out what film they are making, slipping in front and behind the camera, and through different genres. Screening as part of the Stuart Croft season with the artist's short film The Death Waltz in which a guest at a dinner party recites an endless, gothic ghost story.

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Betânia

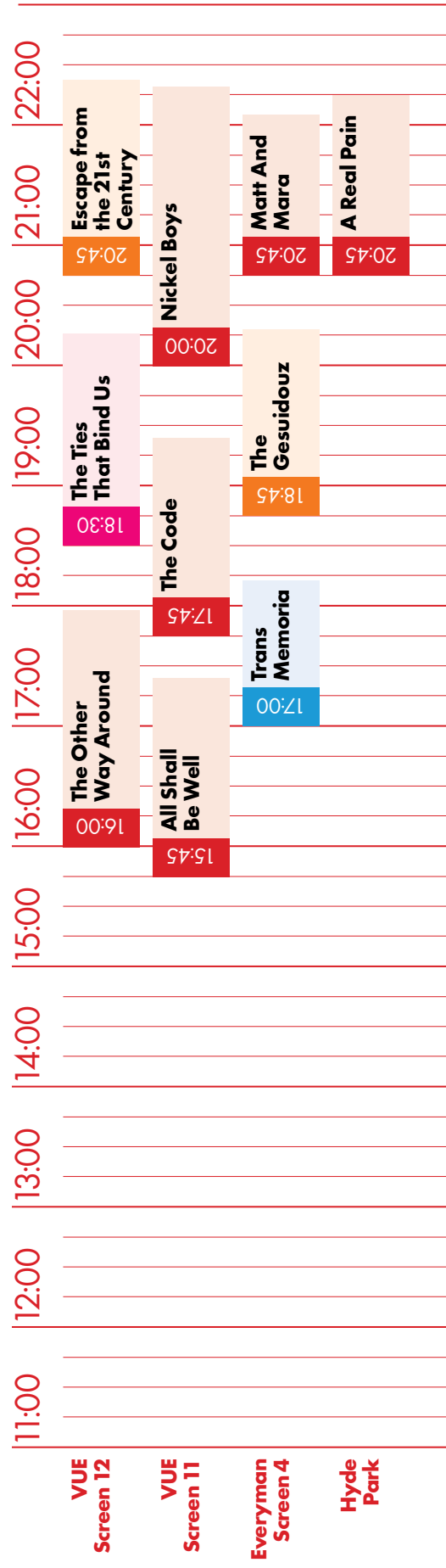
PRODUZIDO POR salvatore FILMES

SALVATORE FILMES PRESENTS A FILM BY MARCELO BOTTA "BETÂNIA" DIANA MATTOS MICHELLE CABRAL NADIA DE CÁSSIA BENEDITO RODRIGUES TIÃO CARVALHO
 DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY BRUNO GRAZIANO PRODUCTION DESIGNER MARIANA CRISTAL HUI EDITOR MARCIO HASHIMOTO SOUND DESIGNER RAONI GRUBER COSTUME DESIGNER CRIS QUARESMA
 EXECUTIVE PRODUCER LUCIANA COELHO PRODUCED BY GABRIEL DI GIACOMO WRITTEN AND DIRECTED BY MARCELO BOTTA

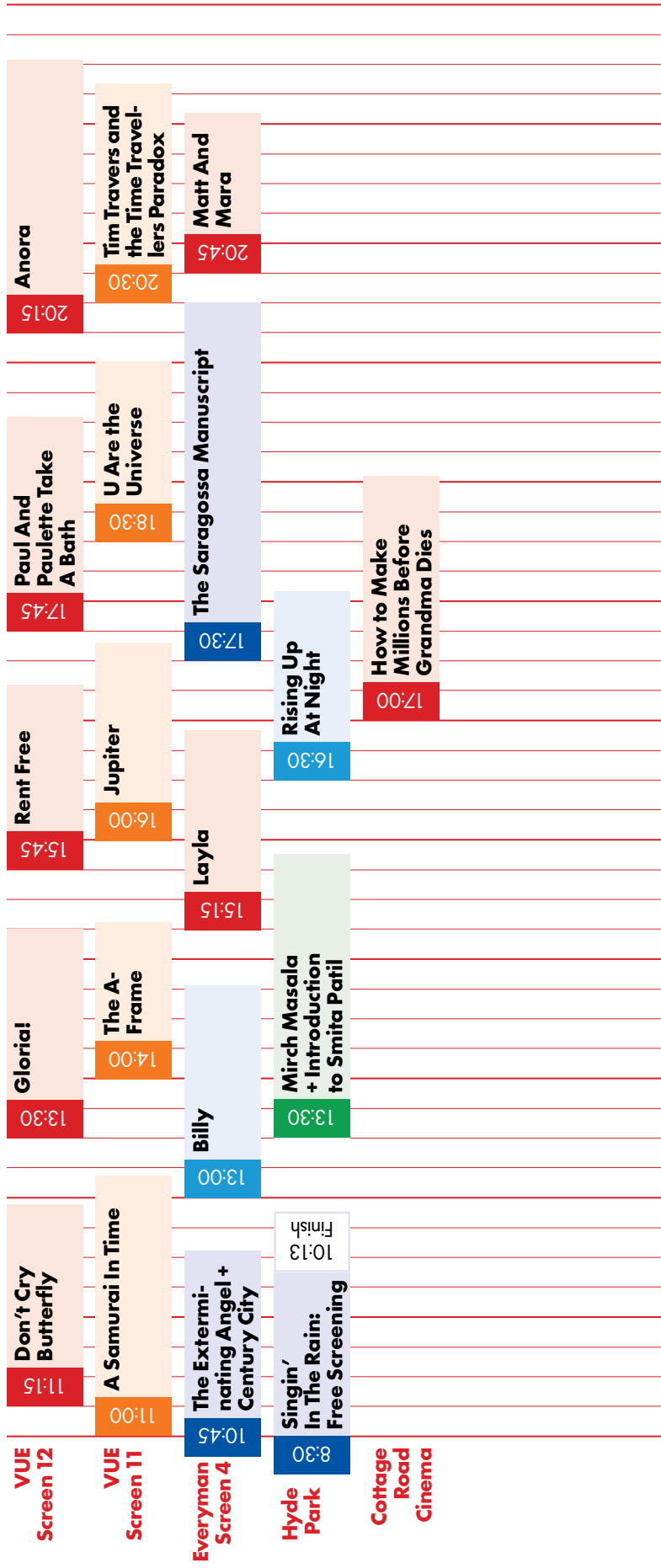
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Friday 1 November

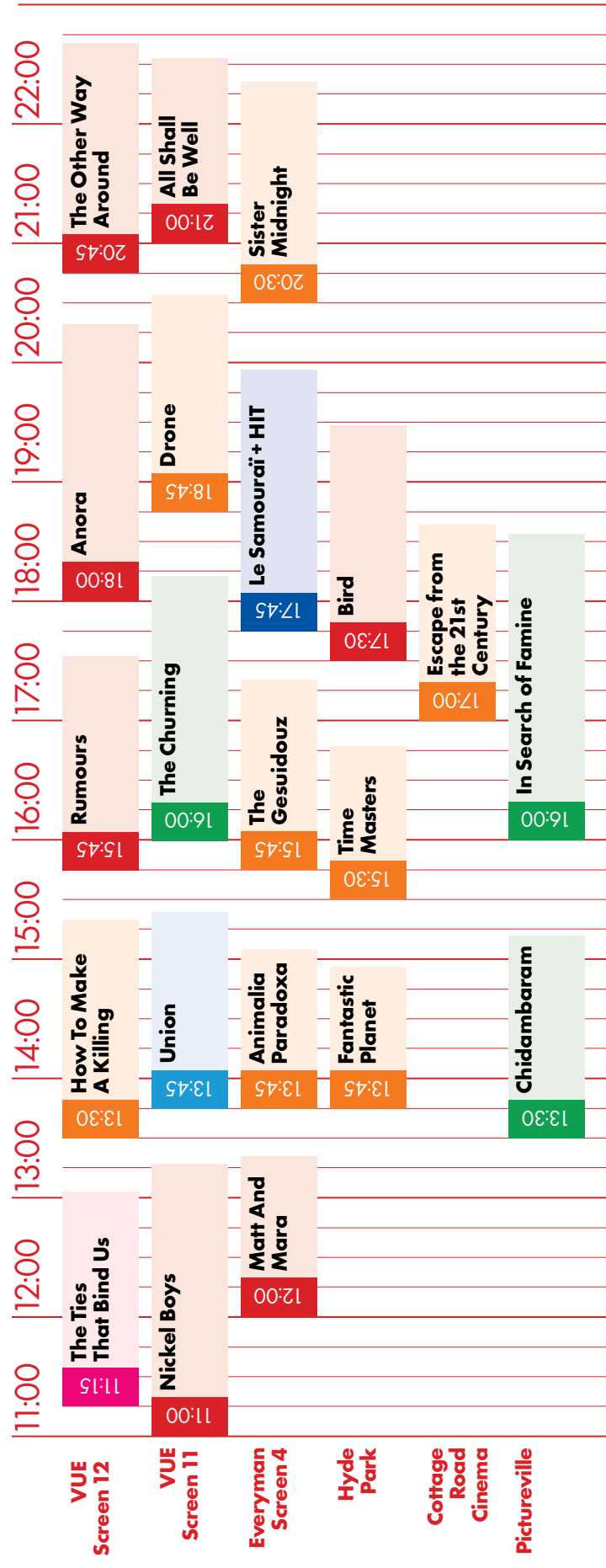
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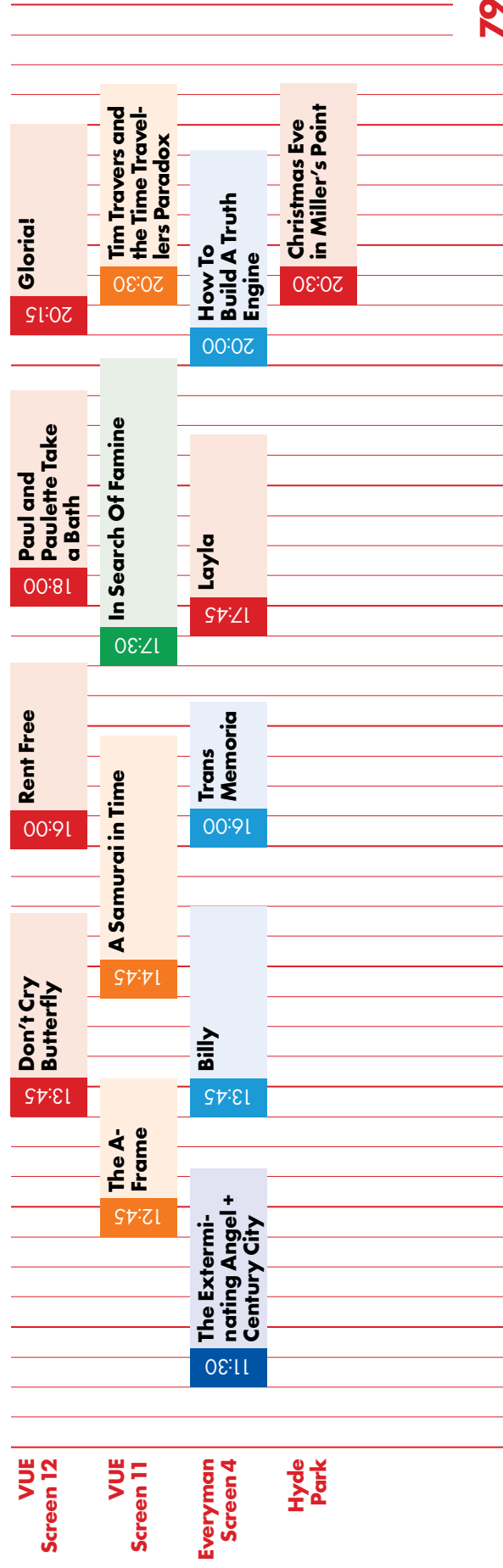
Saturday 2 November



Sunday 3 November



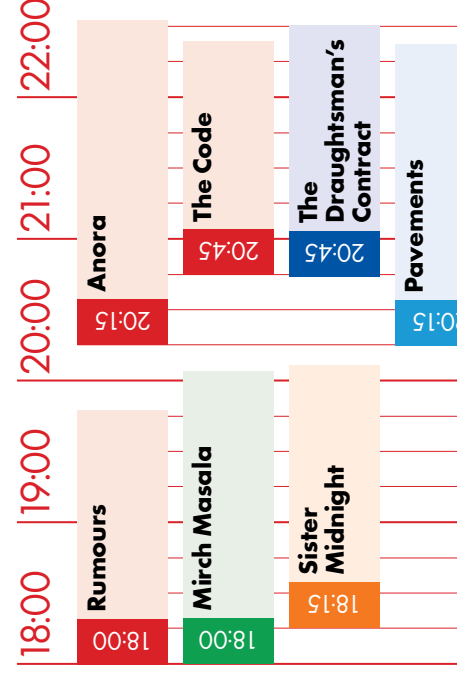
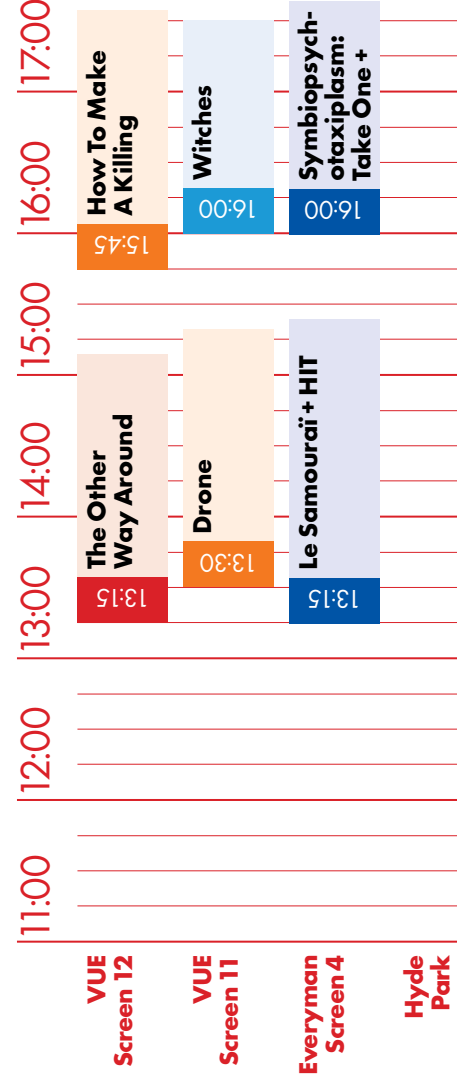
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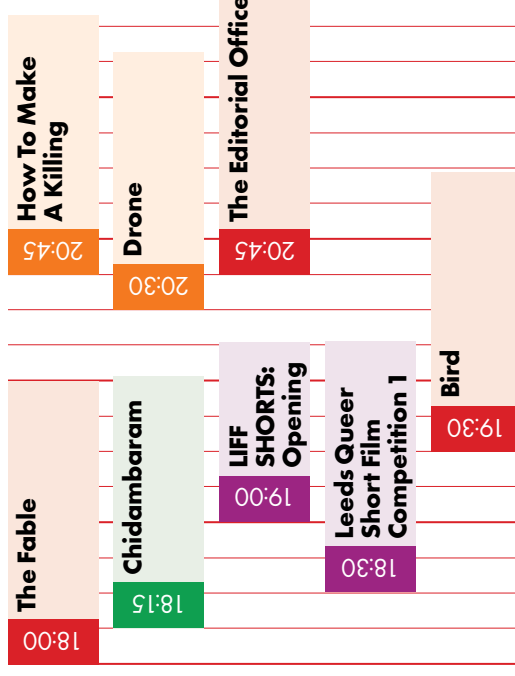
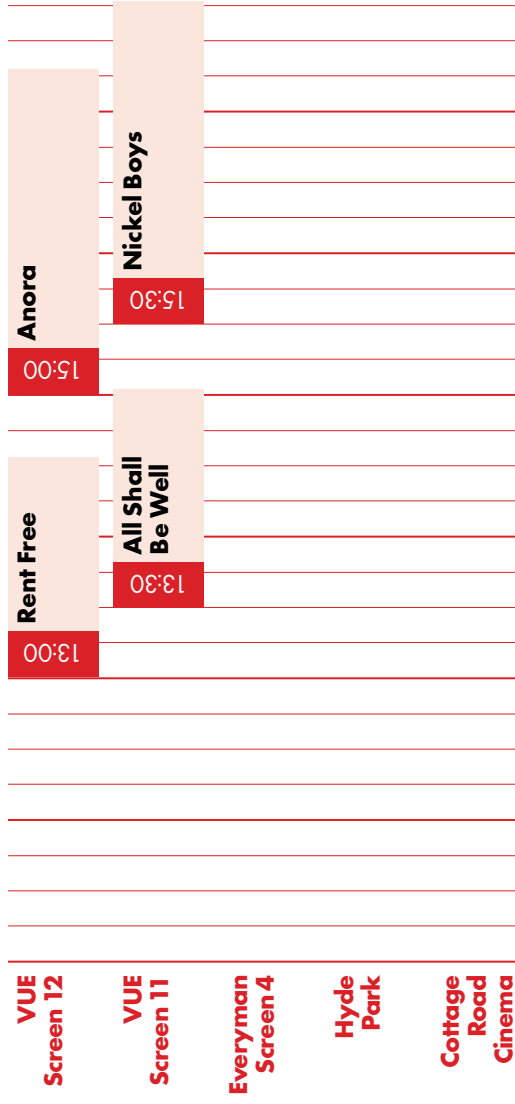
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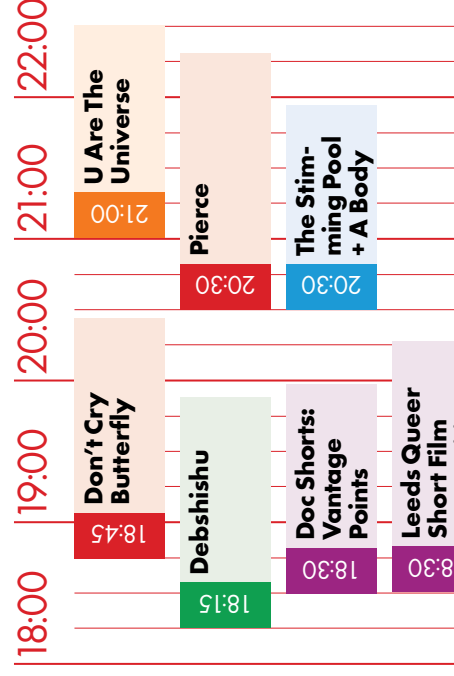
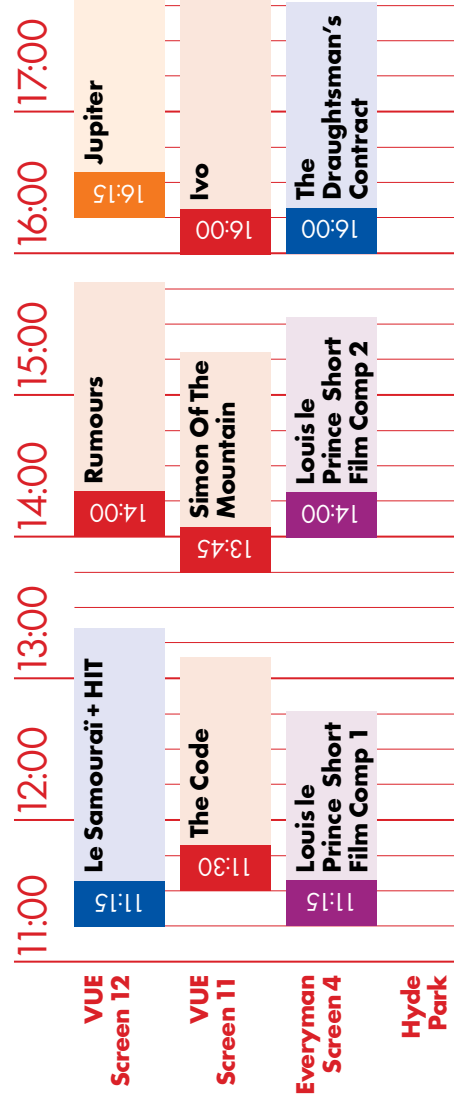
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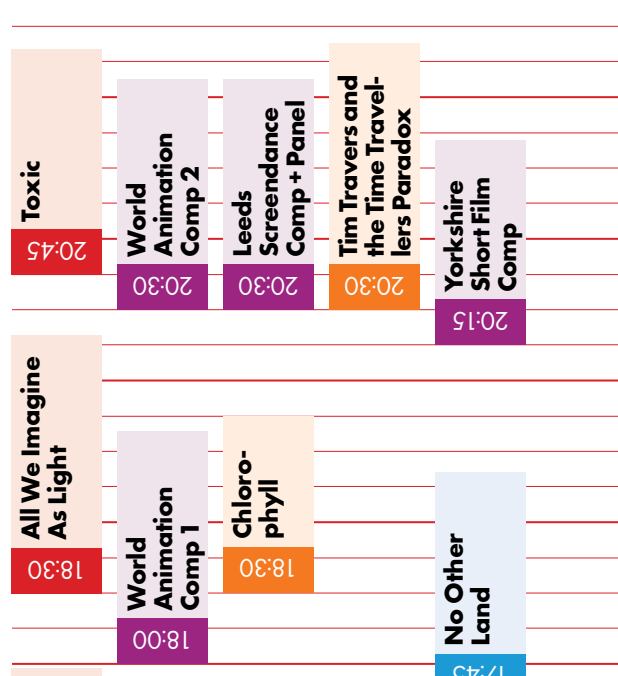
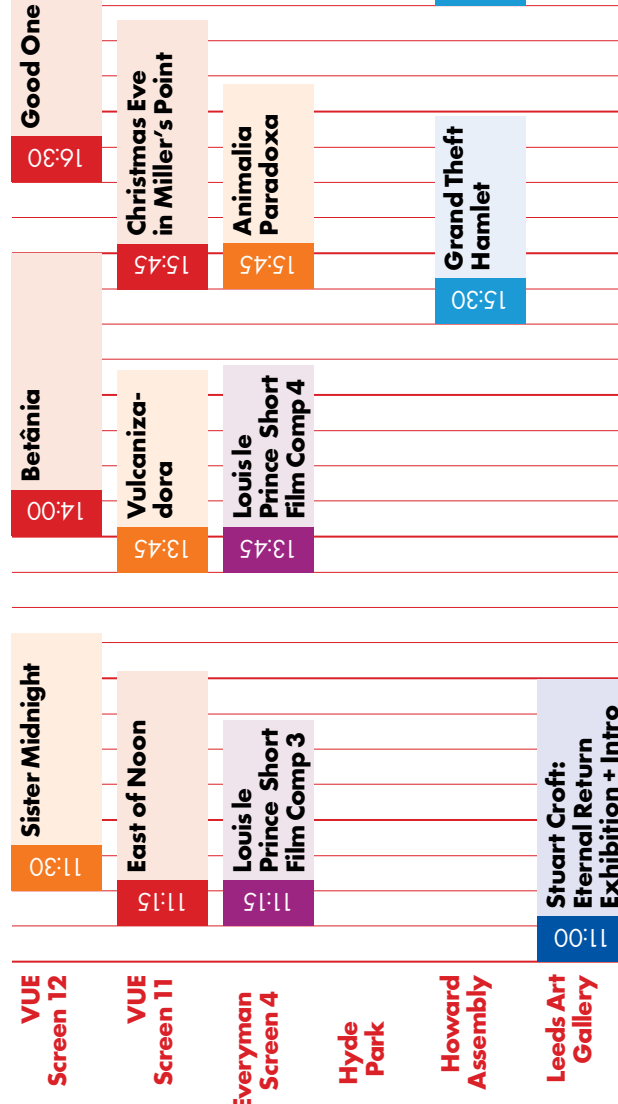
Wednesday 6 November



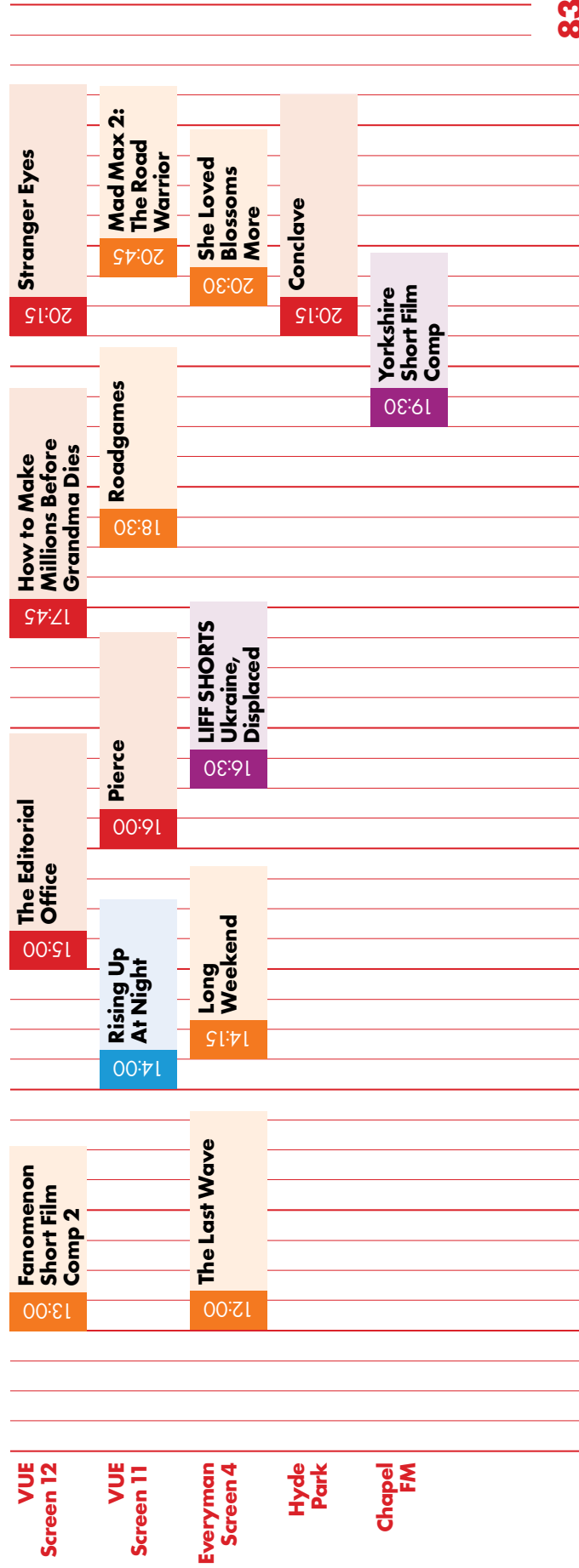
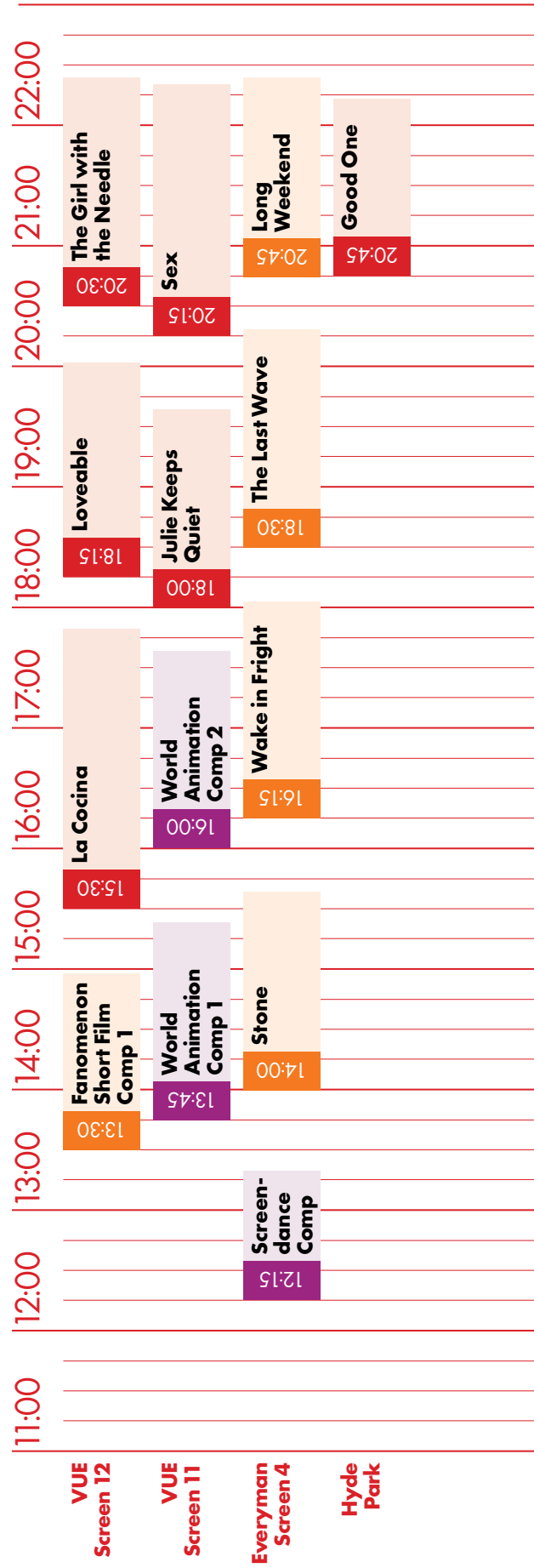
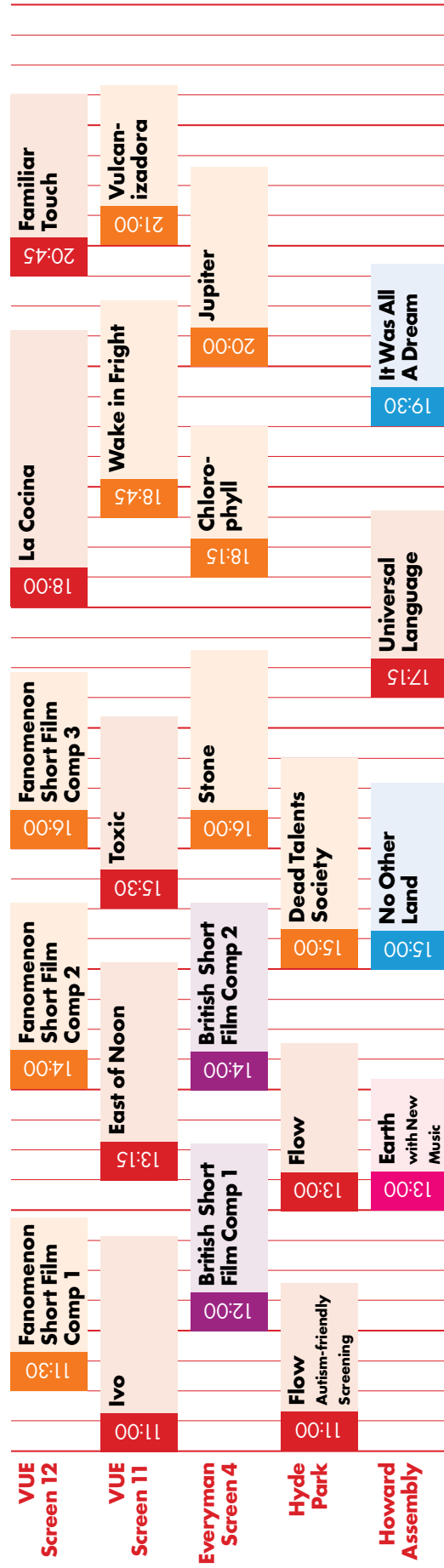
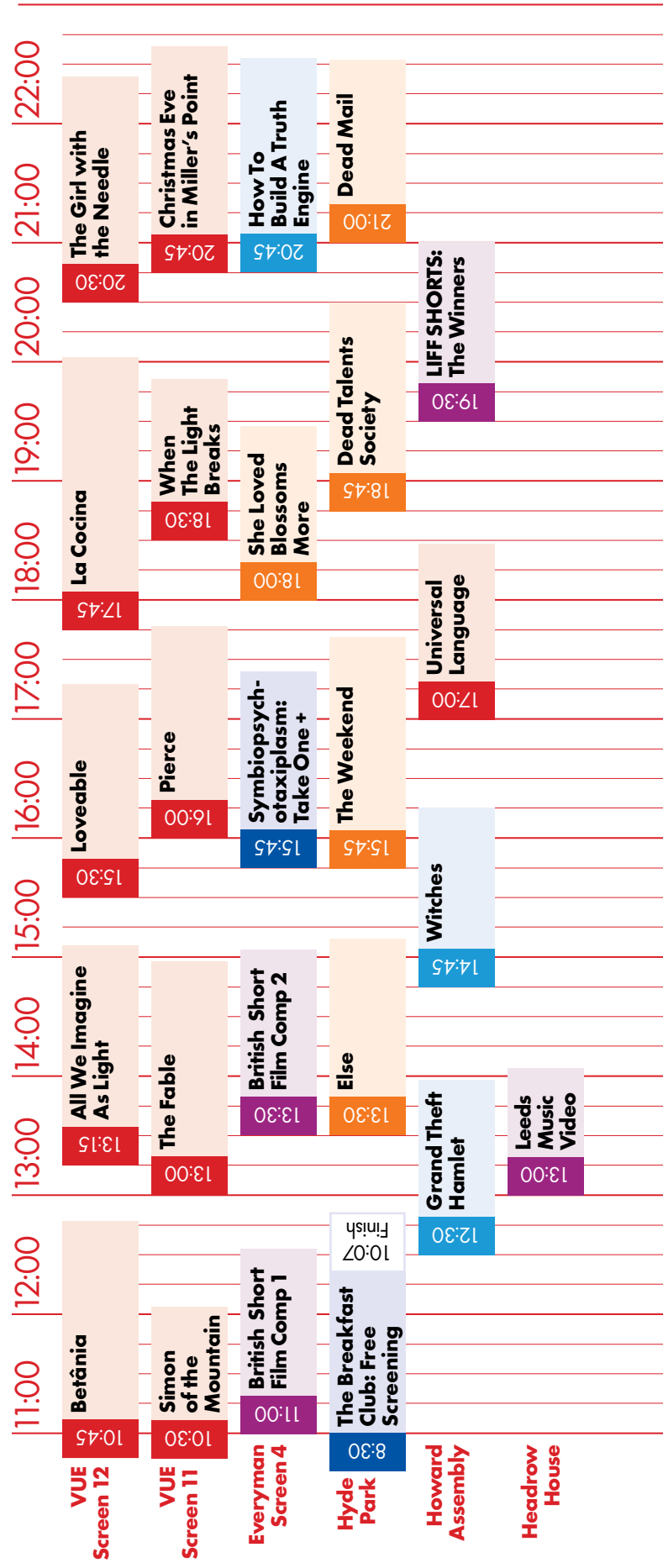
Thursday 7 November



Friday 8 November

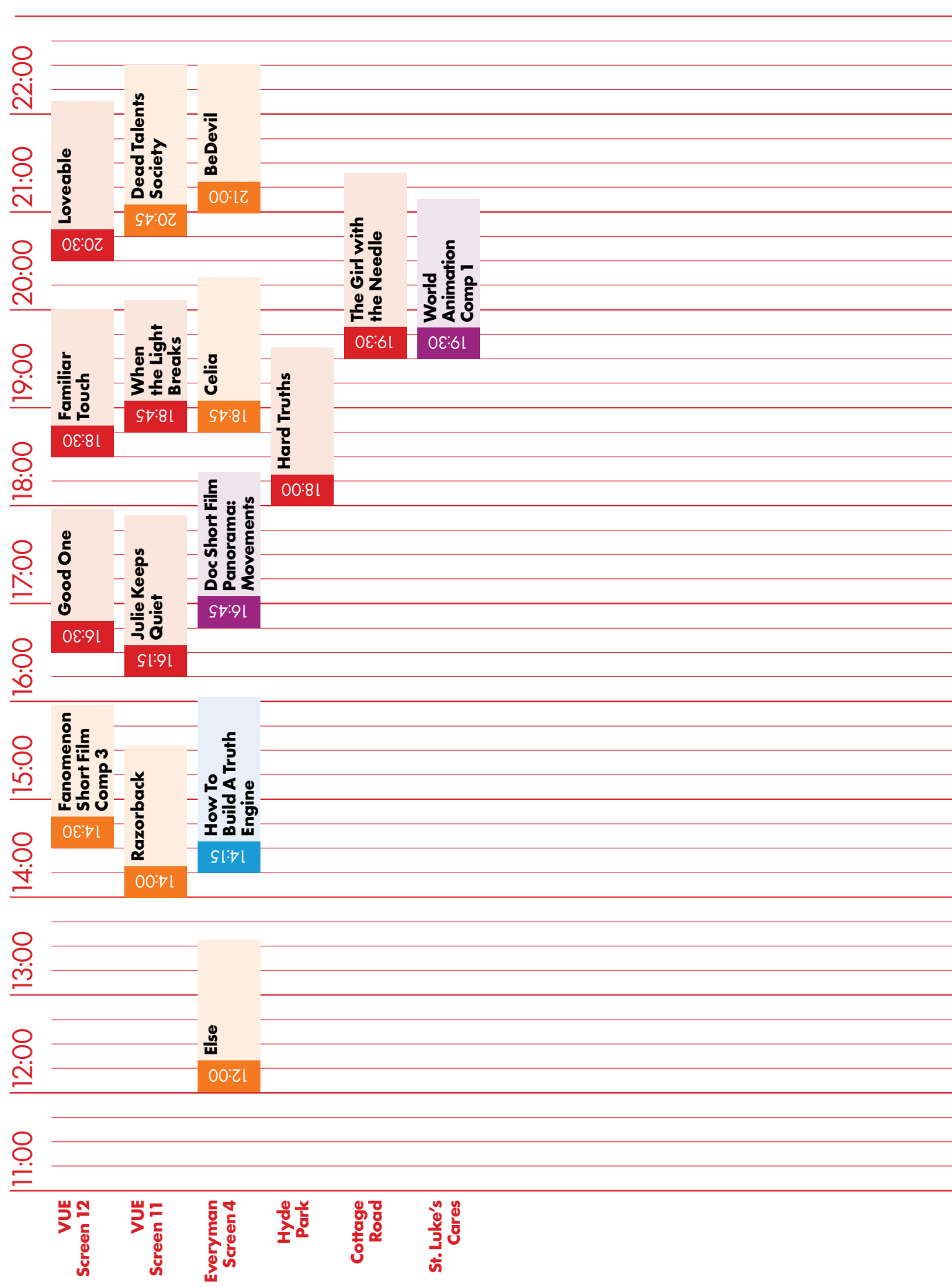


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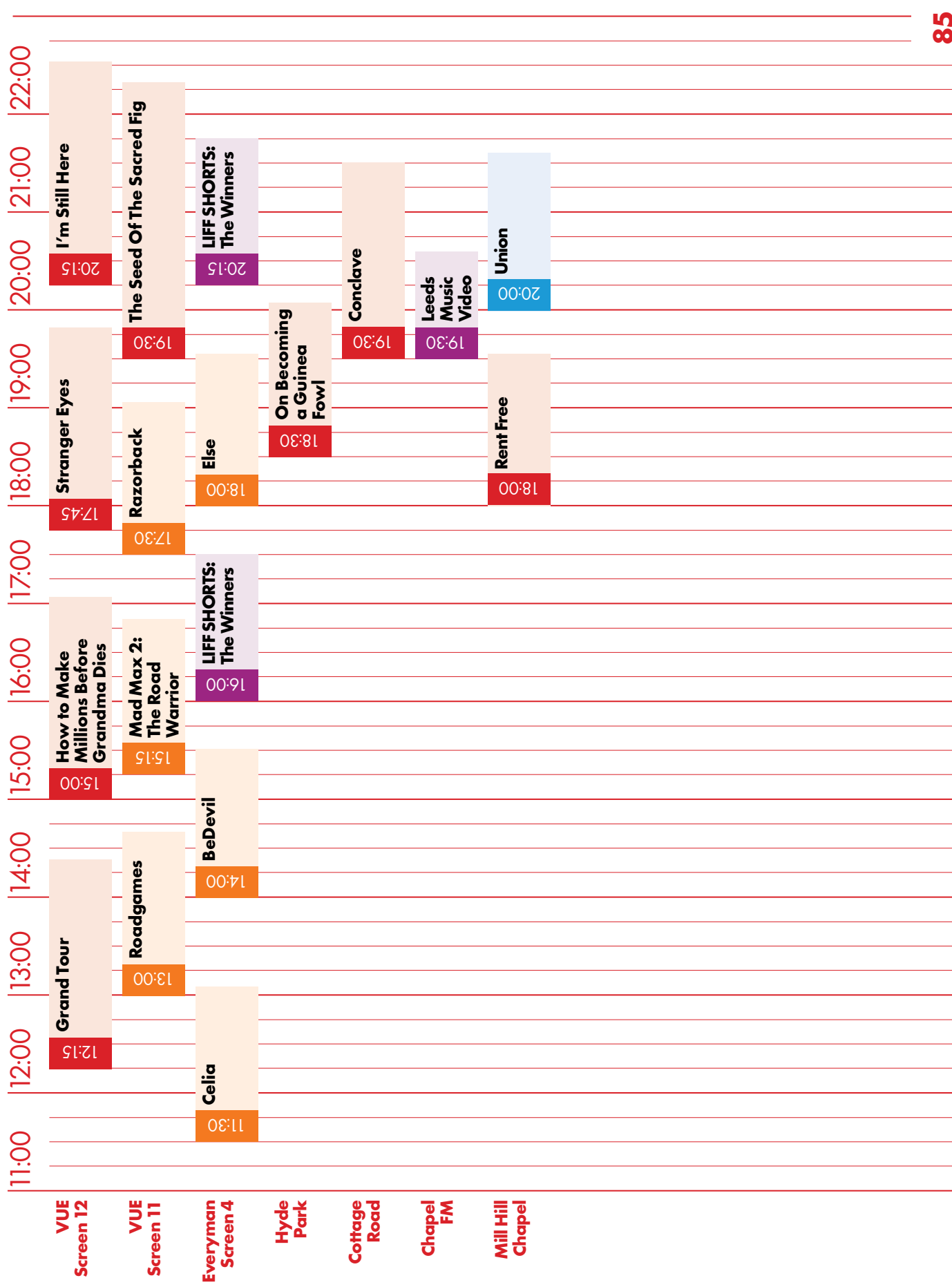


Wednesday 13 November

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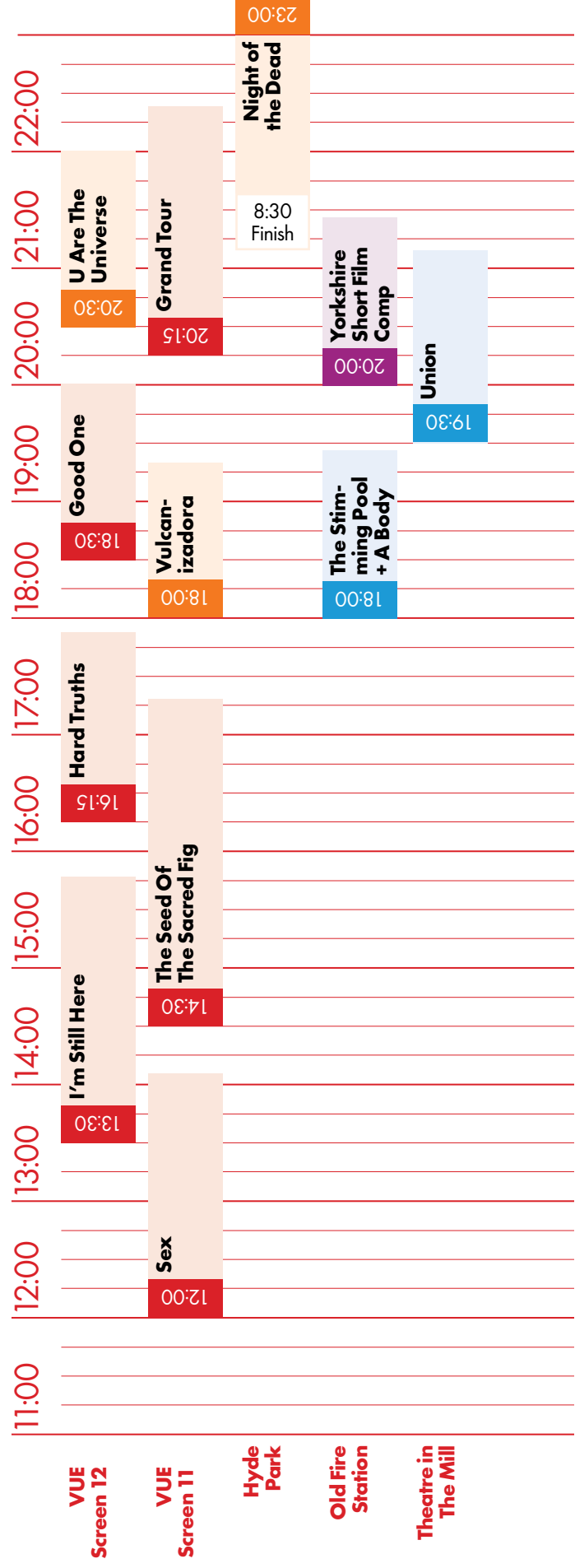
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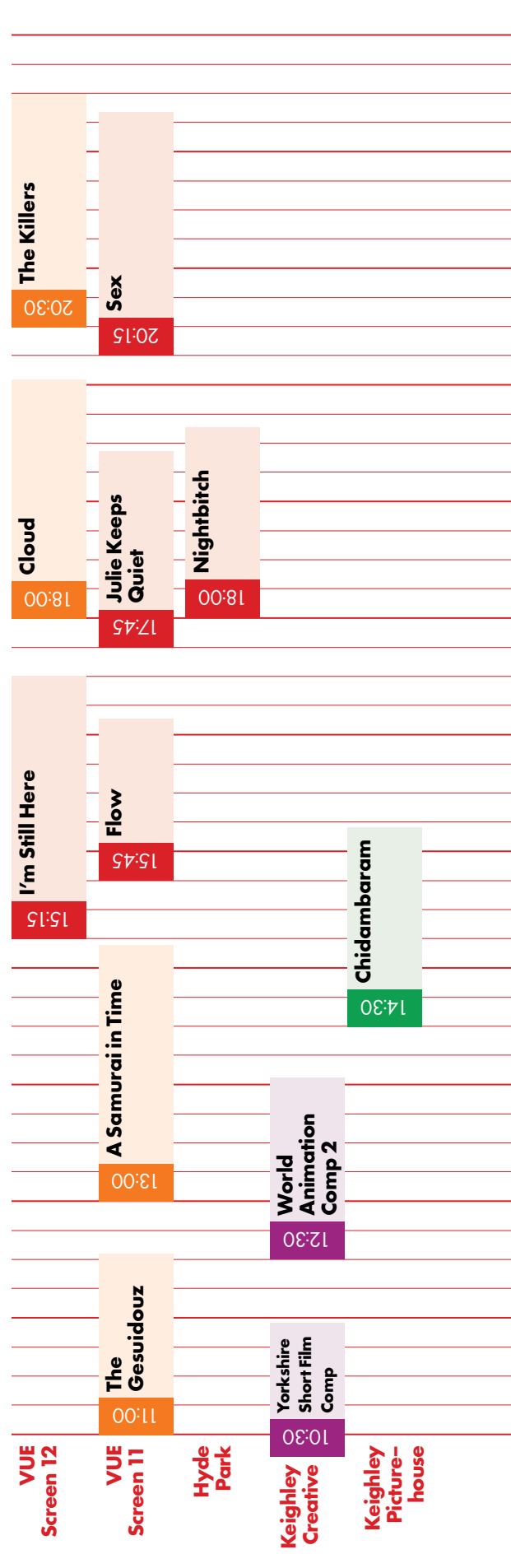
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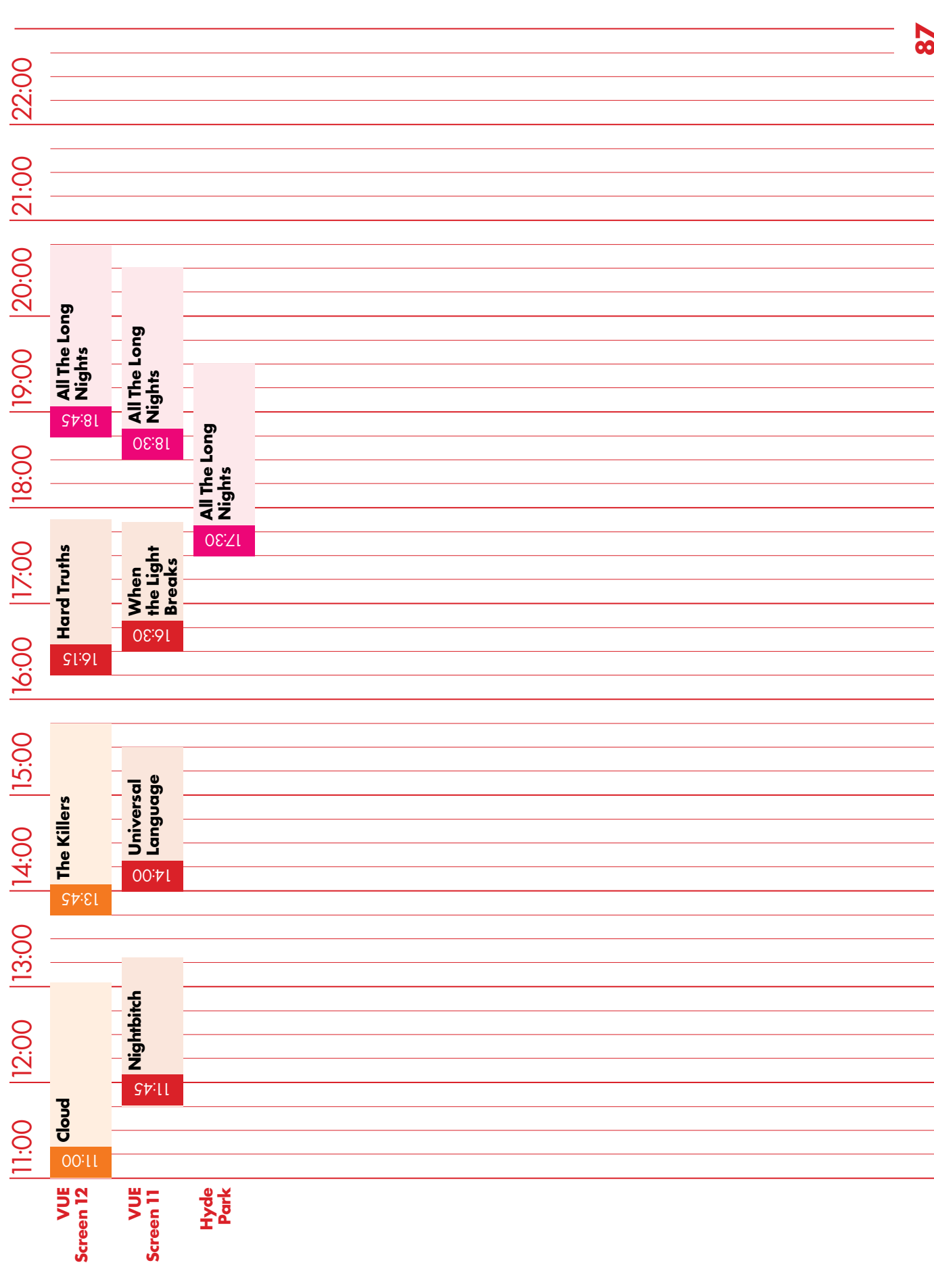
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Team

Leeds International Film Festival (LIFF) is organised by Leeds Film at Leeds City Council, part of the Leeds Arts, Events and Venues (LAEV) service which also organises Leeds International Concert Season, Leeds International Beer Festival, Light Night Leeds, Summer Series on Millennium Square, Breeze in the Park and many more citywide events for all. LAEV also operates many of the city's leading venues including Leeds Town Hall, Carriageworks Theatre and Millennium Square.

Leeds Film also organises year-round events including LIFF Spring Film Weekender and Cinema on the Square. Leeds Young Film organises Leeds Young Film Festival (LYFF) every Easter for families, Independent Directions Film Festival (INDIs) for ages 16 to 25 every March, and year-round programme, education and training activities. The Leeds Young Film Manager and LYFF/INDIs Director is Debbie Maturi and the Youth Programme and Engagement Coordinator is Eleanor Hodson.

LIFF Team

Director – Chris Fell
 Programme Manager – Alex King
 Development and Production Manager – Jamie Cross
 Development and Communications Officer – Lee Bentham
 Programme and Outreach Officer – Ellie Hales
 Programme and Outreach Officer – Martha Cattell
 Features Programmer – Alice Miller
 Communications Coordinator – Molly Harman
 Volunteers Coordinator – Matthew Chambers
 Guest Services Coordinator – Sofia Azevedo
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Programmers

Alex King, Alice Miller, Ellie Hales, Martha Cattell, Chris Fell, Lee Bentham, Melissa Gueneau

Programmer for The Weird of Oz

Tom Vincent

Programmer Advisor for Spice & Fire: The Films of Smita Patil

Dr. Omar Ahmed

Special thanks to Tim Brown for support on Ukrainian films and events.

Night of the Dead Team

Lee Bentham, Matthew Chambers, Daniel Johnson, Evangeline Spachis, Amber T



LIFF SHORTS

International Short Film Consultant

Céline Roustan

Louis le Prince International Short Film Competition

Lead Programmer – Liz Chege

Programmers – Allegra Bell, Gurnesha Bola, Jason Liwag, Kristen Harding, Miranda Bentley, Saulė Savanevičiūtė

British and Yorkshire Short Film Competitions

Lead Programmer – Robb Barham

Programmers – Khara Linton-Salmon, Olivia Thomas

World Animation Competition

Programmers – Heather Bradshaw, Georgia Dixon-Lynch

Documentary Shorts

Lead Programmer – Jenna Isherwood

Programmer – Ted Steptoe

Fantastic Shorts

Programmers – Melissa Gueneau, Zoë Wren Boyd

Leeds Queer Short Film Competition

Programmers – Leeds Queer Film Festival

Leeds Music Video Competition

Programmer – Robyn Lawrence

Leeds Screendance Competition

Lead Programmer – Andy Wood

Programmer – Gitta Wigro

New LIFF Freelance Programmers

Pictured above, top left to bottom right: Alice Miller, Ellie Hales, Martha Cattell, Khara Linton-Salmon, Robb Barham, Céline Roustan, Miranda Bentley, Allegra Bell, Georgia Dixon-Lynch, Jason Tan Liwag, Heather Bradshaw, Saulė Savanevičiūtė, Ted Steptoe, Olivia Thomas, Gurnesha Bola, Jenna Isherwood, Kristen Harding, Zoë Wren Boyd, Liz Chege, Robyn Lawrence and Melissa Gueneau.

Leeds Ticket Hub

Ticketing Manager

Juliet Moore

Ticketing Assistants

Elisha Cotter, Fran Talbot, Shirley Shortall, Dan Jones, Dean Ramsden, Hannah Booth, Helen Richmond, Alice Duggan, Ellie Hales

LIFF Venue Teams and Volunteers

LIFF wouldn't be possible without the invaluable contribution of our Venue Supervisors, Venue Coordinators, Festival Trainees, Venue Assistants and Digital Volunteers. These roles are not fully recruited in time for the print deadline for this guide, but all their names will appear on the team page on leedsfilm.com.

Volunteer Team Leeds

Volunteering Manager – Jess Woodall

