

VIRTUAL

fisheye film festival **2021**

23rd April to 2nd May 2021
fisheyeilmfest.uk



@fishefestival



@FisheyeFilmFestival



@fisheyeilmfest

fisheyeilmfest@gmail.com



Welcome to the virtual fisheye film festival 2021

23 April - 2 May 2021 | Tickets: £2 (pay what you can) | Passes: from £15

Book Tickets: www.fisheye.eventive.org/welcome

Fisheye film festival aims to “bring the world of films to our screens” and capture the imagination of our community, introducing novel films and new talent within the film industry to a growing fan base. Through the International Film Competition, the festival promotes the work of up-and-coming filmmakers from the UK and around the world, providing a platform for a diversity of films to be shown. In addition, the festival holds a variety of film related events that are interactive, entertain, challenge perceptions, but most importantly are enjoyable and bring people together.

The festival is in its sixth year and, to bring you the best of both worlds within CoVid-19 constraints, the 2021 festival will take place in two halves beginning with a 10 day online International Film Competition between Friday 23 April - Sunday 2 May. In November, we plan to bring people together again to see films in venues, as well as online.

The virtual programme includes seven short film showcases and three feature films, and also offers the chance to be involved in discussions about the showcases (Q&A) and the Awards Night event.

Each showcase offers contrasting dark and light moods to vary your viewing experience. Each also contains one or two films submitted by rising young talent. Some films have Mature content and the programme is aimed largely at an audience aged over 16 years.

All in all, with developing community cinema, arts and heritage strands coming later in the year, fisheye film festival offers filmmakers and film fans alike the chance to “experience the bigger picture”.

We hope you find something in our programme you want to be a part of, and look forward to seeing you at the festival!

fisheye film festival team



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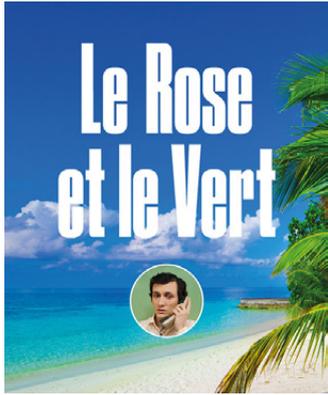
01

Best of the 2020 Festival: Short Films

Friday 23rd April | Q&A on Sunday 25th April at 7pm | Films available for 4 days

Everyone's a winner, here! We show a selection of 8 award-winning films from the 2020 competition. See what you think.

Le Rose et Le Vert



Dir. Julien Chavaillaz
(Switzerland) 14m 54s

BEST SOUND DESIGN

Baptiste, a lonely outsider, is in love with Mina, the girl from the sex hotline. One day, Baptiste gathers his courage and succeeds in convincing the young woman to accept a rendezvous at a café in town...

In the Hut of Mr Van Den Brink



Dir. Björn Renner
(Germany) 15m 0s

**BEST DIRECTOR:
BEST SCREENPLAY
BEST ACTOR (Rainer Kuhn)
BEST HAIR & MAKEUP DESIGN**

Two small-time crooks Heiko and Marcello end up in the hut of Mr. van den Brink. Having fled the police they hide in a garden house but then wake up with their hands and feet bound. From now on the owner of their hiding place, Mr. van den Brink, is calling the shots.

2.3 x 2.6 x 3.2



Dir. Jiaqi Wang
(China) 3m 47s

BEST SHORT DOCUMENTARY

The filmmaker chose an object from the Wellcome Collection Museum and made a film based on it. A Kareau is a wooden figure from the Nicobar Islands. It was set up, put outside a sick person's house to scare and drive away from the bad spirits thought to be causing the disease.

Panic Attack!



Dir. Eileen O'Meara
(USA) 3m 0s

BEST MICRO SHORT FILM

Do you ever wonder "did I leave the coffee on?" or "am I pregnant with a devil-baby?" This hand-drawn animation explores anxiety, obsession, and one woman's slippery hold on reality.



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The Clock Strikes One



Dir. Fabian Gruber
(Germany) 13m 39s

BEST SHORT FILM

1954, End of the First Indo-China War. Based on a play by Carl Zuckmayer, the film tells the story of a father who is allowed to pay a last visit to his death-condemned son in his cell at a detention centre in France.

Color Work



Dir. Marina Nasekina,
Andrey Klementyev
(Russian Federation) 9m 27s

**BEST FILM BY FILMMAKER
AGED UNDER 22**

A young couple enjoying each other on a regular evening. Suddenly, a car pulls up to their house. Four gangsters appear and kill the hero with a wrench. Will these events break a girl who has lost love or make her stronger?

Bus Stop



Dir. Vanessa Bailey
(UK) 9m 27s

BEST BRITISH SHORT FILM

Two very different people find themselves waiting together at a bus stop, late at night. Reluctantly forced into conversation by circumstance Rachel and Liam embark on a journey neither of them could have foreseen.

The German King



Dir. Adetokunboh M'Cormack
(USA) 20m 0s

BEST PRODUCTION DESIGN

Set in 1914 at the start of World War I, this is the unbelievable true story of King Rudolf Douala Manga Bell; a German raised African prince who becomes king after his father's death. Upon returning home to Cameroon, he sees his people being subjugated and enslaved under Kaiser Wilhelm II's oppressive colonial rule. He realizes the only way to put an end to his people's suffering, is to lead a rebellion against the man he once considered his brother.



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03

Showcase Reel One: Short Films

Saturday 24th April | Q&A on Monday 26th April at 8pm | Films available for 4 days

A compilation of eleven dramatic, experimental and comedy shorts from the 2021 competition. Fate, chance, existence, destiny and choice are explored. Films include historical and contemporary drama; black humour; outlandish characters.

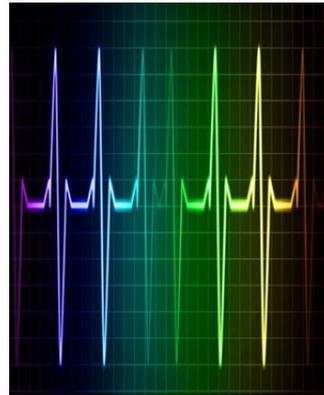
The Saverini Widow



Dir. Loïc Gaillard
(France) 19m

Bonifacio 1883, extreme south of Corsica. The widow of the late Saverini lives in an isolated house near the cliffs, with her only son Antoine, and her dog. During the day, she assists women giving birth in town. One night her son is killed in a clash. The murderer flees to Sardinia. Her world falls to pieces.

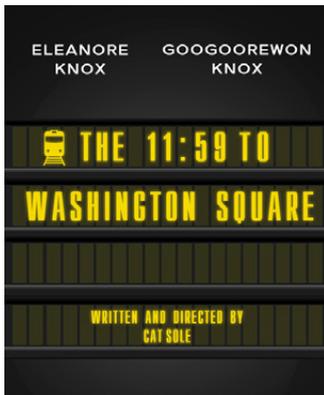
Stroke of Fate



Dir. Aharon Jinjhashvili
(Canada) 11m 45s

In a hospital waiting room, family wounds are exposed as a mother and son wait for news of their loved one's prognosis.

The 11:59 to Washington Square



Dir. Cat Sole
(Australia) 4m 37s

Raven and Otto have come to the train station to meet their end - and meet each other instead.

Stardust



Dir. Marion Christmann
& Amélie Prévot
(France) 2m 20s

Some things are difficult to share. Tom and Charlie will experience it through a funny adventure!

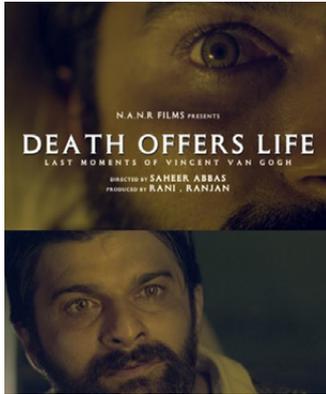


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Death Offers Life - last moments of Vincent Van Gogh



Dir. Saheer Abbas
(India) 19m

The fictional account of the last five minutes of the acclaimed painter Vincent Van Gogh - a failure in his lifetime. Death has come to take him, but makes an offer instead...

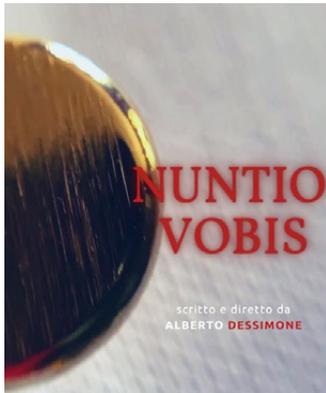
Le Songe de B. Soares (The Dream of B. Soares)



Dir. Thibault Chollet
(France) 6m

I am like a pendulum that can't stop waving, always moving, never reaching.

Nuntio Vobis



Dir. Alberto Dessimone
(Italy) 1m

The moments preceding the proclamation of the new pope.

Beth



Dir. Ava Bounds
(UK) 12m 26s

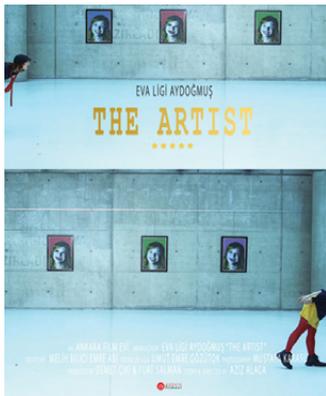
A true story of one asylum patient's struggle as her focus on returning home does not go as she planned. A period piece that highlights the travesty of those resting in unmarked graves from barbaric treatments.

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The Artist



Dir. Aziz Alaca
(Turkey) 4m

An actress has her bag stolen – and then finds that she's stuck in the camera's frame - can she find a way out?

The Choice



Dir. Manuel Juri Vitali
(Italy) 13m 28s

A seemingly simple choice, like that of a dress to wear on a date, can sometimes turn out to be very difficult to make. After falling prey to her own many doubts and thoughts, the protagonist will find a solution by relying on her instinct.

Eat the Rainbow



Dir. Brian Benson
(USA) 19m 31s

An odd yet kind man named Bayani moves into a conservative suburban neighbourhood and disrupts the otherwise comfortable homogeny. He doesn't look or act like anyone else which causes fear and panic and eventually a demand for him to leave the neighbourhood. Cousin Wonderlette befriends Bayani and together they take on the opposition led by manipulative and unscrupulous realtor, Lobelia Gerber.

Show Off Your Shorts! Films and Q&A 'Live'!

Saturday 24th April | Starts at 7.30pm | Watch films during the show and for 48 hours afterwards

Join our hosts Mark Singer and Jamie Terry, virtually 'live' in your living room!

Enjoy a watch-along and Q&A with the filmmakers and crew. The Zoom link will be made available for ticketholders.

The Rape Clause



Dir. Jared Watmuff
(UK) 14m

In order to claim welfare support for her son, Angela is forced to reveal the harrowing story of how the child was conceived. Inspired by real events and based on current government legislation, this is a short film about "one of the most inhumane and barbaric policies ever to emanate from Whitehall" and how it weaponises shame and trauma.

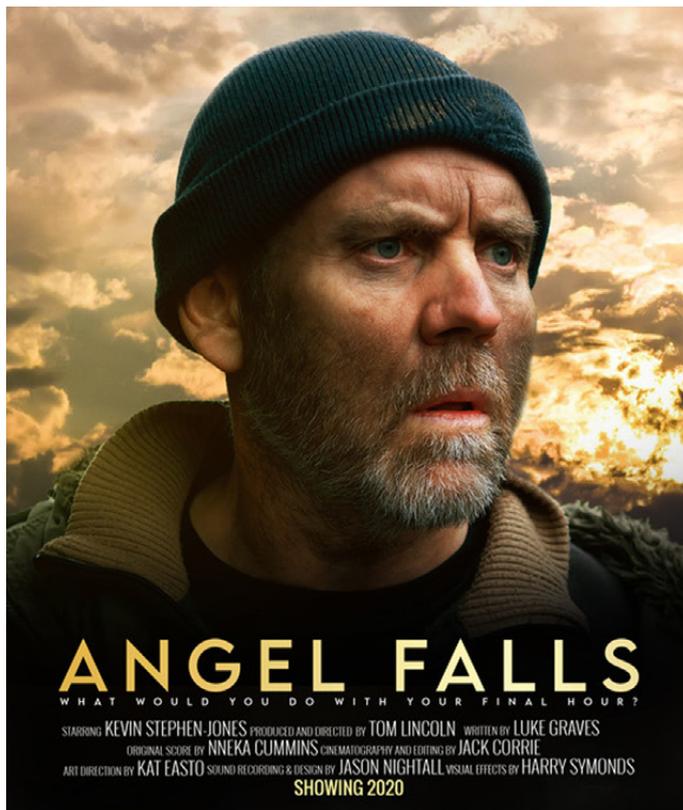
Let Rip: a personal history of seeing & not seeing



Dir. Lee Campbell
(UK) 7m 52s

Made with sound, stills and moving image recordings created using a mobile phone between 2005-2019 & drawings and paintings from 2005-2019, this film is set within the context of a gay male adolescent reaching sexual maturity in 1990s British suburbia. A narrative which is both honest, personal, painful and humorous.

Angel Falls



Dir. Tom Lincoln
(UK) 8m

What would you do with your final hour?

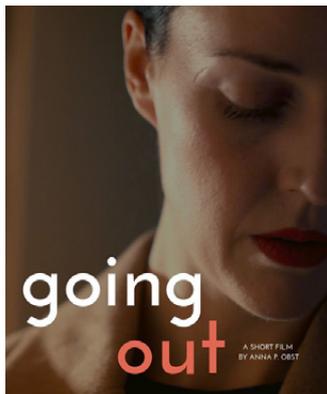
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Going Out



Dir. Anna P Obst
(UK) 6m 6s

Julie must battle her family's expectations and her own insecurities to get out of the house. Going Out is a short drama about social anxiety and its impact on even the most mundane aspects of life.

Kill All Your Friends



Dir. Judyta Potocka
(UK) 9m 40s

Kill All Your Friends is a twisted fairy tale borne from the madness of Abel's adolescent infatuation. Years lovelorn, he hopelessly draws the lives of his friends into his sickish fantasy.

Epilogue



Dir. Daniel Elkin
(UK) 11m 51s

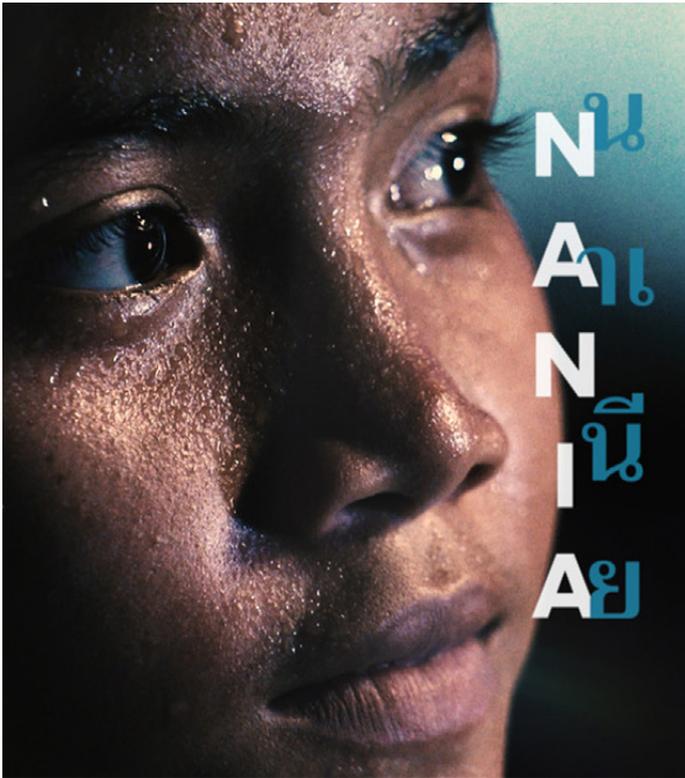
The decay of a relationship between two lovers, told through their first and last ever conversation with each other.

Short Documentaries

Sunday 25th April | 8pm | Q&A on Tuesday 27th April at 8pm | Films available for 4 days

Nine of the best documentaries made by filmmakers from Australia, France, Ireland, Italy, Netherlands and the UK. Here are stories about people facing challenges, both personal and environmental.

Nania



Dir. Nicolas Vasseur
(France) 15m 13s

Nania is a thirteen year old Muslim female Thai-boxer, trained by her father in Bangkok. We experience her reality and the lead-up to a big fight.

Cambia Tutto



Dir. Ana Mouyis
& Fox Schwach
(Italy) 4m 24s

Comprised of over 2500 images that, when brought together in sequence, take the viewer through the small Italian village of Cavaso del Tomba - a place that has changed from a cultural epicentre of its rural region to a sleepy town surrounded by industrial sites.

Foreplay



Dir. Anne van Campenhout
(Netherlands) 15m

Here we see children receiving their most memorable lesson yet: sex education. Their faces are flushed with embarrassment and curiosity, but what's going on in their minds?



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In Dept(h)ford



Dir. Mary Livesey
& Linda Cipoloni
& Niamh Fitzgerald
& Samya Bachani
(UK) 1m 58s

Documentary about the non-profit and volunteer run community cinema situated in Deptford, South East London.

When better letters met...Barbara Enright



Dir. Lewis Eyers-Stott
(Australia) 10m 38s

Short biopic of Australian sign, showcard and ticket writer Barbara Enright. This is the fourth short film in the 'When Better Letters Met' series.

Mind Mending



Dir. Markus Schröder
(UK) 16m 31s

Filipe is only 36 when he suffers a stroke performing on stage with his heavy metal band. Believing that live music will help his recovery, and frustrated by his aphasia, a communication disorder brought on by stroke, Filipe attempts to reconnect with the world by visiting music festivals dressed as a bunny rabbit.

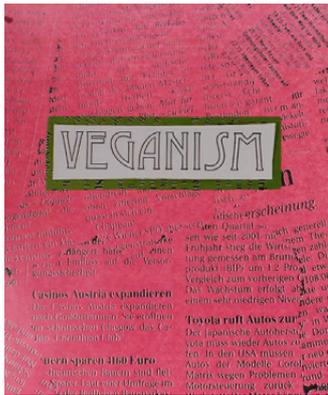


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Boomers to Zoomers: Veganism



Dir. Mary Livesey
& Stephen Hak
& Ji Hoon Kim
(UK) 3m 17s

Is going vegan just another trend or a climate changing lifestyle?

Olive Harvest



Dir. Lane Shipsey
(Republic of Ireland) 10m 35s

A short doc about small scale olive growing in Western Greece, an area where olives have been grown for centuries.

Big Pink Dress



Dir. Chris J Allen
(UK) 10m 28s

Colin, a 50-year-old, 6'6" "bloke" from the North East has been an inspiration to thousands, raising money running marathons in extravagant handcrafted dresses. Big Pink Dress gives an insight into Colin's fundraising journey, the highs and lows he has faced along the way, and why he believes it may be time to hang up the dress.



Showcase Reel Two: Short Films

Monday 26th April | Q&A on Wednesday 28th April at 8pm | Films available for 4 days

Nine more drama and comedy films with a little dash of horror mixed in. Sounding out conflict, trauma, trust and identity, not necessarily in that order!

I Hear You



Dir. Alex Chua
(UK) 16m 20s

Helen Wilkinson, an HR professional, is married to her job, but after an unexpected phone call, she faces the unprecedented challenge of investigating one of her colleagues for sexual harassment. As the investigation goes on, she soon finds herself struggling to maintain relationships with her fellow co-workers as well as keeping her own personal bias outside of the case.

Dog's Life



Dir. Edoardo Brighenti
(UK) 1m 30s

The grass is always greener on the other side... What happens when a cat dreams of being a dog instead?

Toffee



Dir. Eden Quine-Taylor
(UK) 12m 49s

A short film set in a beautiful Welsh town about a young boy called Noah struggling to find friendship. After witnessing an upsetting event, Noah finds himself face to face with a new companion who helps him discover what friendship is all about.



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Flashback to the Pool



Dir. Lucas Stanton
& Peter Roads
(Australia) 4m 7s

Peter's casual swim at the local pool turns into a traumatising flashback of being terrorised by a childhood swimming instructor.

Shear



Dir. Riyadh Haque
(UK) 20m

Yasmin, an impressionable South Asian teen, finds herself trapped between her strict, traditional family and the man she is in love with. One night, when Yasmin sneaks out to a party, she inadvertently starts a chain of events that changes her life forever.

Reprise



Dir. Stanley Xu Ruiyang
(Taiwan) 14m

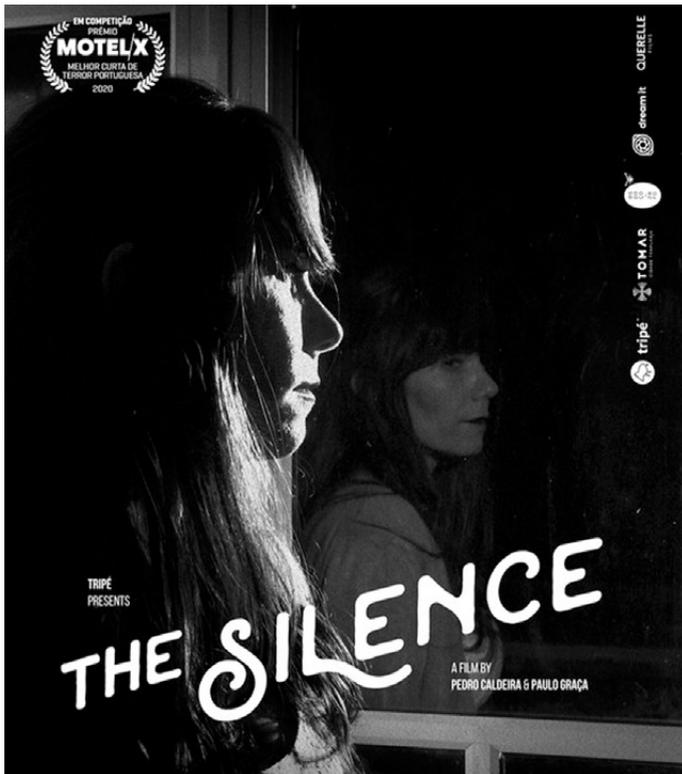
A man and a woman run into each other on a film set. They were lovers in the past. As they play the roles of a couple in the movie, they think about the relationship they had.

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The Silence



Dir. Pedro Caldeira & Paulo Graça
(Portugal) 6m 50s

The silence drew the walls, covered the tables, framed the portraits, sculpted the volumes. And then the scream came.

Majority



Dir. Tessa Hoffe
(UK) 15m

Single mother and immigrant; Sonia works in sheltered accommodation. When a resident makes an official complaint against her, she must continue to face each one of them without bias.

Fortissimo



Dir. Janine Piguët
(Switzerland) 20m

A pianist arrives in her new flat. But as soon as she rehearses, her neighbour tries everything possible to stop her from playing. Soon enough, a sound war starts between the two women, very rapidly involving everyone in the building.



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Showcase Reel Three: Short Films

Tuesday 27th April | Q&A on Thursday 29th April at 8pm | Films available for 4 days

Another group of ten drama and comedy shorts portraying situations, real or imagined. Discovering the truth. Daring to act.

Ad Lib



Dir. Joseph Catté
(France) 11m 6s

Max and Julie are very much in love. Julie is rather jealous but Max knows nobody's perfect. Certainly not himself. Ad Lib is a romantic drama in the world of karaoke. A multi-faceted short movie, a story of appearances.

121 Days



Dir. Livio Bondi
(UK) 2m

Four months into lockdown, the mind starts moving faster than the body.

The Bostonians



Dir. Amir Kiani
(Canada) 11m 27s

As he copes with his sorrow and pain, a Boston Marathon survivor saves a Muslim woman from 2 white supremacists, only to realize that she looks like his lost daughter.

Three Days



Dir. Olli Slatter
(UK) 15m

Holly embarks on a three day road trip across the country to visit her terminally ill grandmother. On the road she meets Lewis, a runaway with a concealed past. They join forces to get to Holly's grandmother before time runs out. –

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Cargo



**Dir. Christina Tournatzés
(Germany) 14m 59s**

The true story of people smuggling that happened in August 2015 in Hungary and Austria. Based on the published cell phone protocols of the smugglers, whose phones were being monitored by the Hungarian Government, it gives a shocking insight into the organized smugglers network in Europe.

Moody



Dir. Donell Atkinson-Johnson (UK) 14m 6s

A teen, frustrated with his school and family life takes action by kidnapping his teacher. An exploration of 'fatherlessness'.

A Minute's Silence



**Dir. Jo Lane
(UK) 2m 53s**

One man's misguided patriotism leads him to attempt to 'take back' control in a destructive and harmful manner.

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Match



Dir. Martin Geisler
(France) 10m

Tom and Max have opposing views on how best to approach a girl. While Tom is secretly attracted to Lucie, Max, keen on dating apps, flirts openly with her when they meet for the first time. And so the match begins.

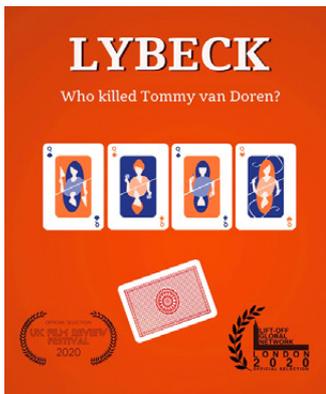
Super-Cahuete



Dir. Nicolas Gueniot
(Réunion) 10m

Little power implies little responsibility... Rachid is a solitary character who is often the object of mockery of all kinds. But he has a special power ... and he will prove it!

Lybeck



Dir. Anton Kudrov
(USA) 13m 30s

When a wealthy young bachelor is found dead in his mansion, the prime suspects become the four women he had over for dinner that very evening: Annie, his girlfriend, Donna, his dominatrix, Tess, his dance instructor, and Donna, his personal chef. Famous Detective Lybeck is hired to take on the case...

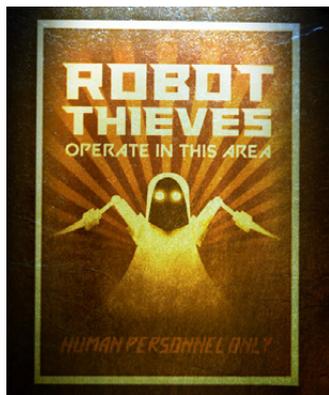


Short Genre Films

Wednesday 28th April | Q&A on Friday 30th April at 8pm | Films available for 4 days

Ten short films in the horror, sci-fi and comedy genres, with animation and a touch of experimentation, too. Fears transcend into fantasies. And back again, if you'll let them!

Not a Robot



Dir. George Summers
(UK) 1m

A robot tries to break into a human facility, and is asked a security question...

Fearfully Made



Dir. Jamie Foreman
(UK) 19m 27s

When Arthur's wife is taken into a nursing home, his daughter buys him a care robot. Frustrated by his lack of independence, Arthur is no fan of his new 'carer', but things take a darker turn when she begins to block his attempts to call Maggie.

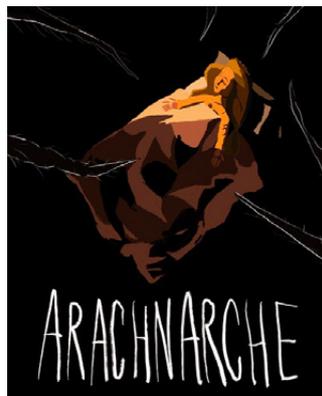
Council House and Violent



Dir. Ross Graham
(UK) 4m 51s

A young pregnant woman discovers that her landlord is part of a satanic cult planning to possess her unborn child with a demon.

Arachnarche



Dir. Emma Jordan
(UK) 3m 57s

A doll faces her fears when a spider invades her dollhouse. However, something far more terrifying lies beneath the surface.

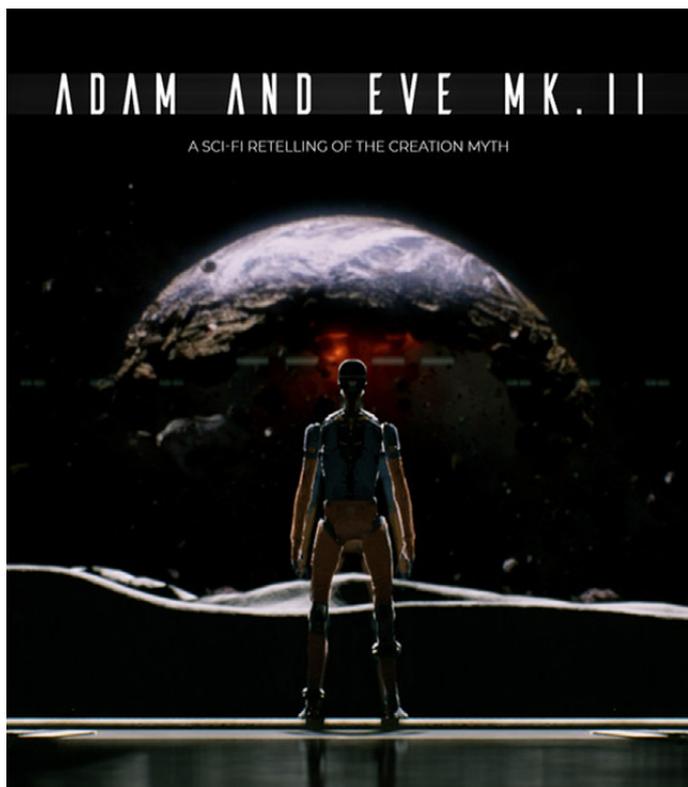


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Adam and Eve Mk II



Dir. Sebastian Kuder
(UK) 4m 13s

In a post-apocalyptic future, human memories from the now-extinct species homo sapiens are loaded into the artificial brain of a robot.

Sins of the Father



Dir. Peter Mckeirnon
(UK) 9m 49s

Trapped with no way of escape, a priest must come to terms with a life of sin.

Ascension



Dir. Anaïs Honvault
Zborowski
& Bob Fokoua
(France) 3m 40s

A minister calls for a tender for future strategic government investment. He meets two businessmen. They will do everything to obtain the government contract. An unforeseen event will, however, change the situation...



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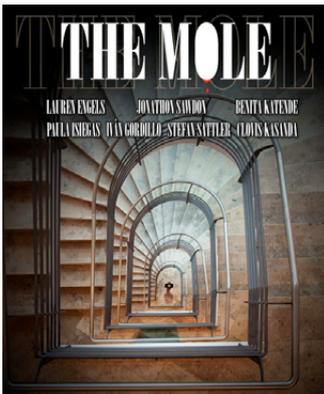
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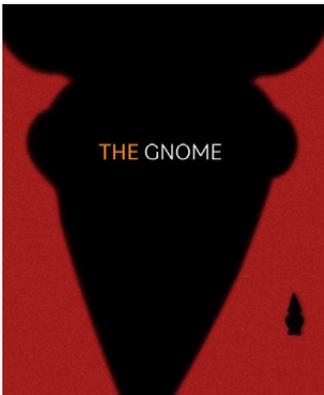
The Mole



Dir. Ambrose Smoke
(Belgium) 19m 50s

Corporate climber Angie, affected by a disfiguring condition, is hired by The Global Corporation. Offered the professional opportunity of a lifetime, she faces an existential dilemma. Will she accept her physical appearance, or immolate herself on the altar of perfection and corporate success?

The Gnome



Dir. Rory Hern
(UK) 1m

Something sinister awaits Gary on his nightly run...

Malediction



Dir. Thomas Bauer
(Germany) 17m

After a nightly confrontation with an alluring beauty, a reformed adulterer struggles with the aftermath of this encounter, which ultimately tests his fidelity.

Feature Films

Help



Wednesday 28th April

Dir. Blake Ridder
(UK) 1h 35m 45s

A young woman's life turns chaotic when she uncovers a deadly secret about her friend.

Blake Ridder is an award-winning director, writer and actor. He is best known for writing and directing and starring in the multi award-winning drama short film *The English Teacher* (2020) and the first ever filmmaker to have made a film about COVID-19 titled *Coronavirus* (2020).

Blake was born in Shanghai, China, later moved to UK with his parents at the age of nine. He began his acting career in 2017 and wrote and directed his first short film a year later.

Pilátus (Pilate)



Thursday 29th April

Dir. Linda Dombrowszky (Hungary) 1h 13m 43s

Anna, an elderly, village woman, is widowed. Her daughter, a big city doctor, believes that the best thing would be to take her mother in. But the relationship between Anna, torn from her own environment, and Iza, living her city life, doesn't work out; Anna slowly withers in their life together lacking genuine love.

Linda Dombrowszky graduated from the Academy of Drama and Film in Hungary and since 2013 has been creating short films and documentaries. *Pilate* (2019) is her first feature film, which is based on the novel of Magda Szabó.

Toprak



Friday 30th April

Dir. Sevgi Hirschhäuser (Turkey) 1h 45m 53s

Toprak is the dramatic story of a simple family in rural Turkey dealing with poverty, family traditions, and religious heritage. Since the death of his parents, the teenage Burak has lived with his uncle Cemil and grandmother in a remote Turkish village. The small family unit has been trying to make a living by selling fruits. While the religious Cemil is satisfied to live his life in poverty, Burak struggles to leave for the city and attend university. When grandmother falls sick, both Burak and Cemil have to make tough decisions that will change their lives forever.

Sevgi Hirschhäuser is a Turkish director, writer and editor based in Munich, Germany. She has experienced working on film sets in different departments: She started as an editor, then began to write stories. Finally, she filmed this, her first feature film, in Antalya, Turkey.



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Awards Night 'live'

Saturday 1st May | 8pm

Grab a glass of something you enjoy, and celebrate together with us at the Awards night 'live'!

We'll be announcing the Award Winners in each category e.g Best Short Film, Best Director etc.

All films selected for the festival are included in the Audience Award.

We look forward to finding out which is their favourite film.



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Acknowledgements

fish-eye film festival could not happen without the team of volunteers who work tirelessly behind the scenes to plan, organise and market events, then run the festival! Huge thanks to:

**Mariko Francombe • Richard Rowntree • Jerry Joseph
Rodney Willott • Simon Kearey • Robert Digby
Barbara Muston • Mark Singer • Jamie Terry
Alex Vander Borcht**

In addition, our grateful thanks go to our panel of assessors for the film competitions, who diligently watch and judge the films to decide which go through to our specialist Awards Jury whose judgements determine the winners in each category.

Thanks to our Supporters and Sponsors

Founder sponsors:

**Bucks New University • BFI Film Audience Network
Wycombe District Council • Heart of Bucks
Competition platform: Film Freeway**

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Awards Jury

James McConnell

Award winning composer for more than 100 TV documentaries and dramas

Linda Mason

Independent filmmaker and editor

Glen McCoy

Award-winning screenwriter

Tony McHale

TV writer, director and producer

Vivienne Zheng

Blogger and Chinese film distributor

Jo Southwell

Award Winning Film Director

Alan Green

Course leader in Sound Design at Bucks New University

Carson Black

Multi-award-winning TV producer

Dominique Unsworth

Producer and experienced developer of diverse emerging talent

Sheena MacBrayne

Writer, producer, director specialising in international co-productions

Sarah @Caution Spoilers

Film writer and Rotten Tomatoes approved critic

Amita Shankar

Festival programmer, events curator, actor

Richard Rowntree

Writer, producer, director of shorts and features.
Festival Competition director

Mariko Francombe

Co-founder and current leader of the festival



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