

# LONDON SHORT FILM FESTIVAL ANNOUNCES 2019 PROGRAMME

**Feat. Nkisi (UIQ), John Lurie, Stephen Mallinder (Cabaret Voltaire, Wrangler), Natalie Sharp (Lone Taxidermist), Cosey Fanni Tutti, Xana**

**LSFF 2019 INTERNATIONAL JURY MEMBERS ANNOUNCED AS WENDY IDE (The Guardian, Screen), JACQUI DAVIES (Ray & Liz) AND SAMIR KARAHODA (Dokufest)**

**11-20 January 2019**

The **London Short Film Festival (LSFF)**, running from **11-20 January 2019**, returns as the first vital moment of the new year's film calendar, retaining its status as the UK's premiere destination for the best in UK and international independent short film. For its sixteenth edition, the festival will see a focus on alternative '80s culture, a moment bringing outsider art across to the mainstream.

LSFF is a beacon of inclusive and groundbreaking filmmaking from a diverse range of backgrounds; in 2019 the Festival will show a huge selection of UK and international short films across music, politics and culture.

2019 will see a celebration of the '80s agitprop **Scratch Video** movement with live music from electronic supergroup **Wrangler**, a rare screening of cult figure **John Lurie's Fishing with John**, and a programme of film and performance devised for **Air Draft**, the industrial barge-turned-inflatable venue which won the 2018 Antepavilion commission, curated by **Lone Taxidermist's Natalie Sharp**.

Further highlights include LSFF's Official **UK and International Competition programmes**, **Cosey Fanni Tutti: On Film and In Conversation**, a retrospective looking back over 40 years of sonic and visual exploration.

**Now! That's What I Call '80s Short Film**, screens the formative calling cards of the decade's graduating class, now established prolific British directors among the industry's greats, including **Clio Barnard, Andrew Köttig, Sally Potter**, and *Harry Potter's* **David Yates**. Meanwhile, **Nasty Stuff: Basket Case** curated by **Prano Bailey-Bond** in association with Cigarette Burns Cinema screens the 1982 low-budget horror, which was caught up in the UK's Video Nasty scare, shown on 35mm for extra scares.

**Behind the Wall: Short Films from the GDR**, commemorates 30 years since the fall of the Berlin Wall and **SUPAKINO: Turbans Through Time** presents a potted history of the changing representation of Sikhs. Closing night will celebrate the black women redefining Afrofuturism through their electronic experimentation in **No Woman Is An Island** where **Nkisi (UIQ)** will be performing an exclusive live premiere ahead of her album launch (*7 Directions*) in January 2019.

New programming partnerships include **Africa Is A Country**, the **Stuart Hall Foundation** and **London Migration Festival** looking to the self-authored black British presence on screen and taking stock of academic **Stuart Hall's** televisual legacy with the event **'It (still) Ain't Half Racist Mum!**

Elsewhere, LSFF looks to the kaleidoscopic music videos of iconoclast **Derek Jarman** for the likes of The Smiths, Pet Shop Boys and Marianne Faithful, the visual history of underground label **Hyperdub** with **Cooly G, Club des Femmes** revisit **Pratibha Parmar's** seminal document of black, queer resistance *A Place of Rage* in the context of Trump and **New Queer Visions** deliver LGBTQ+ short gems and docs from the world afar.

LSFF's International Jury 2019, supported by the British Council welcomes programmer Samir Karahoda (Dokufest) and producer Jacqui Davies (Ray & Liz), with Wendy Ide (Screen International,

The Guardian) to award key prizes at the festival. LSFF competition features 48 exceptional UK and International short films across eight programme hosted at ICA, Curzon Soho and Rich Mix.

Public audiences will have two chance to see the full Award Winners programme including Best UK Short, Best International Short, Best Animation and Best Documentary, with two screenings on the final Sunday of the festival at Curzon Soho and Rio Cinema in Dalston.

**Of the programme, LSFF Artistic Director Philip Ilson said:** “The democratisation of short filmmaking hit its peak in the 1980s with DIY ethics sweeping living rooms and the art world, film stock usurped by inexpensive tape and affordable camcorders. This novel cheapness of making art opened space for experimentation - whether recycling daytime television into politicised Scratch Video as showcased in our Opening Night, or the gentler subversions of documenting an East Germany anticipating the fall of the Berlin Wall (see our 30th anniversary GDR triptych).

“Elsewhere, we look to the legacy of public art, taking up residency on the Air Draft. An inflatable theatre sat atop a repurposed industrial barge, we’re mooring on Hackney Wick’s canal for a programme of film and live performance utilising the structures polymorphous shape to full effect. Expect rubber appendages and disturbing plastic people, both on screen (in the works of Rachel MacLean and others) and on stage (Lone Taxidermist), alongside pneumatic-themed docs”.

As a champion of diverse and inclusive film, LSFF continues to see a huge contribution from young people, women, LGBTQ+ and BAME filmmakers, and once again includes a programme led by and for the D/deaf community, also supported by the British Sign Language Broadcasting Trust. With an established network of sponsors and supporters who help champion the Festival, LSFF strives to become more accessible and inclusive with the support of the **BFI**, awarding funds from the **National Lottery**. LSFF is also proud to have been awarded the Screen Diversity mark of good practice for meeting the BFI Diversity Standard, which recognises the Festival’s commitment in this endeavour.

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### **About the BFI**

The BFI is the lead body for film in the UK with the ambition to create a flourishing film environment in which innovation, opportunity and creativity can thrive by:

- Connecting audiences to the widest choice of British and World cinema
- Preserving and restoring the most significant film collection in the world for today and future generations
- Championing emerging and world class film makers in the UK - investing in creative, distinctive and entertaining work
- Promoting British film and talent to the world
- Growing the next generation of filmmakers and audiences

The BFI is a Government arm’s-length body and distributor of Lottery funds for film. The BFI serves a public role which covers the cultural, creative and economic aspects of film in the UK. It delivers this role:

- As the UK-wide organisation for film, a charity core funded by Government
- By providing Lottery and Government funds for film across the UK
- By working with partners to advance the position of film in the UK.

Founded in 1933, the BFI is a registered charity governed by Royal Charter.

The BFI Board of Governors is chaired by Josh Berger CBE.