



inverness
film
festival

11–15 Nov 2009

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www.invernessfilmfestival.com

EDEN
COURT



welcome

to the 7th Inverness Film Festival. This year has seen the welcome return of the auteur filmmaker, and I hope you will join in our celebration of the work of both established and upcoming auteur in this year's festival.

There will be Scottish premieres of films by the Coen Brothers (*A Serious Man*, page 4), Steven Soderbergh (*The Informant*, *The Girlfriend Experience*, page 5), Steven Poliakoff (*Glorious 39*, page 6), Nicolas Winding Refn (*Valhalla Rising*, page 3) and Warwick Thornton (*Samson and Delilah*, page 12).

We'll have a retrospective look at the work of, arguably Scotland's greatest director, a true auteur and a visionary, Bill Douglas. The theme of authorship runs through the festival in other ways too, as several of our films are based on books; *The Girl With The Dragon Tattoo* from the novel by Stieg Larsson, *The Boys Are Back* from the memoir by Simon Carr and *The Informant!* from the novel by Kurt Eichenwald.

Scottish writer, director and patron of the arts Richard Jobson (director of the brilliant *16 Years of Alcohol*, and *New Town Killers*) will be back with us at Eden Court – offering a masterclass in digital filmmaking. Richard will reveal everything you need to know to make a low-budget, high-quality digital film. There will also be workshops on how to read a script, which should be invaluable for the directors, writers, producers and actors out there.

As well as screening 12 Scottish premieres, showcasing the best new British and international films and documentaries, the Inverness Film Festival continues to celebrate both Scottish and Highland filmmaking. We will screen two new Scottish features by up and coming young Scottish directors; *One Day Removals* by Mark Stirton and *Dark Nature* by Marc de Launay.

There's something new and different on every day of the festival – I'm sure there'll be something for you, and I hope to see you here.

Paul Taylor
Inverness Film Festival Director

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SUPPORTED BY





OPENING GALA SCREENING

The Boys are Back^(12A)

WED 11 NOV | 19.30 | SCOTTISH PREMIERE | Australia/UK, 2009 | 104 mins

Director: **Scott Hicks** | Starring: **Clive Owen, Laura Fraser, Nicholas McAnulty, George Mackay**

Inspired by a true story, the opening film of the 2009 Inverness Film Festival is a deeply moving, wryly confessional tale of fatherhood highlights the fragility and wonder of family life.

It follows a witty, wisecracking, action-oriented sportswriter Joe Warr (Academy Award® nominee and Golden Globe® winner CLIVE OWEN) who, in the wake of his wife's tragic death, finds himself in a sudden, stultifying state of single parenthood. With turbulent emotions swirling just below the surface, Joe adopts the only child-rearing approach he thinks might bring joy back into the lives of his two boys; "just say yes."

Raising two children – a curious six year-old (NICHOLAS MCANULTY) and a rebel teen (GEORGE MACKAY) from a previous marriage - in a household devoid of feminine influence, and with an unabashed lack of rules, life becomes exuberant, instinctual, reckless . . . and constantly teetering on the brink of disaster.

United by unspoken love, conflicted by fierce feelings and in search of a road forward, the three men of the Warr household must each find their own way of growing up.

Academy Award® nominee Scott Hicks (Shine) directs from a screenplay by Allan Cubitt based on the acclaimed 2001 memoir by Simon Carr.

www.boysarebackmovie.com



CLOSING GALA SCREENING

Valhalla Rising ^[18]

SUN 15 NOV | 20.00 | SCOTTISH PREMIERE | Denmark/UK, 2009 | 109 mins

Director: **Nicolas Winding Refn** | Starring: **Mads Mikkelsen, Gary Lewis, Jamie Sives**

Filmed throughout the Highlands, Nicolas Winding Refn's Viking spectacle is a truly visionary film featuring a spectacular performance from Mads Mikkelsen (Casino Royale) who plays 'One Eye' – a fearsome fighter, enslaved by the chieftain Barde who is only let out to fight either for money or for land.

With the help of a young boy, One Eye escapes his captor and joins a group of 'Christian Vikings' on their way to Jerusalem and the Promised Land.

Danish director Nicolas Winding Refn (*The Pusher Trilogy, Bronson*) is one of the most exciting at work today, his use of colour and the camera is impressive. The Scottish countryside has rarely looked so dark and ominous.

highlights



Cold Souls (15 tbc)

THU 12 NOV | 21.00 | SCOTTISH PREMIERE | USA/France, 2009 | 101 mins

Director: Sophie Barthes | Starring: Paul Giamatti, Emily Watson, Dina Korzun, David Strathairn

Paul Giamatti's (Giamatti) soul is getting in the way of his performance of Uncle Vanya; but what can you do about a troublesome soul? A newspaper article in leads him to a 'Soul Storage' lab run by Dr Flintstein (Straithairn), who has devised a way of removing the soul and replacing it with another. Paul decides that the soul of a Russian poet will help his acting, but it has unfortunate effects on his marriage. Paul's only option is to retrieve his soul. To do this he enlists the assistance of Nina (Korzun), a 'soul mule' in a Russian mob-run transport racket, together they travel to St. Petersburg to claim back what is rightfully his. Part meta-physical thriller and part comedy, *Cold Souls* is French director Sophie Barthes debut, with a cast of superb actors this is sure to be one of the finds of the year.

www.coldsoulsthemovie.com

Preceded by the short **Steel Homes** UK, 2009 | Director: Eve Weber

A touching portrait of life in a self-storage warehouse, *Steel Homes* explores the fragmented nature of memories, set in the stark aesthetic of a modern industrial world. The unit is a silent cell, filled with discarded objects, dust-covered furniture, people's hopes and dreams and lives we cannot let go off.



A Serious Man (15 tbc)

SAT 14 NOV | 17.00 | SCOTTISH PREMIERE | USA, 2009 | 105 mins

Director: Ethan Coen, Joel Coen | Starring: Michael Stuhlbarg, Richard Kind, Adam Arkin,

Two years after the Inverness Film Festival hosted the Scottish premiere of the Coen Brothers Oscar winning *No Country For Old Men*, I am delighted to be able to bring you their new film before anyone else in Scotland.

Larry Gopnik (an excellent performance from Stuhlbarg) is a good husband and father, and a hard working university professor. But his wife decides to leave him for someone a little too close to home, his son is acting suspiciously and his career may be in some trouble. With all this happening he can't even make it to see his Rabbi. What will Larry do?

A Simple Man sees the Coens back on top form with another brilliantly quirky comedy.

highlights



The Informant! ⁽¹⁵⁾

THU 12 NOV | 19.00 | FIRST SCOTTISH SCREENING | USA, 2009 | 108 mins

Director: Steven Soderbergh | Starring: Matt Damon, Clancy Brown, Tony Hale, Melanie Lynskey, Scott Bakula

Matt Damon stars in this hugely funny movie based on the true story of Marc Whitacre; the biggest whistle-blower in American corporate history. Whitacre was slowly but surely moving up the ladder at the headquarters of the giant agricultural firm ADM, but when he uncovers an illegal price fixing scam he decides to become the saviour of corporate America by going to the FBI with what he knows. Thinking that he can become a secret agent (I'm 0014...twice as good as James Bond) he hides a tape recorder in his briefcase and starts dishing the dirt for the feds.

Damon (who put on a lot of weight and grew a moustache for the role) is extremely entertaining as the hapless Whitacre. With a great supporting cast, including Buster from 'Arrested Development', Steven Soderbergh shows that he can do mainstream just as well as he does art-house cinema.

www.theinformantmovie.warnerbros.com



The Girlfriend Experience ^(18 tbc)

FRI 13 NOV | 18.15 | USA, 2009 | 78 mins

Director: Steven Soderbergh | Starring: Sasha Grey, Chris Santos, Peter Zizzo

Set in the days leading up to Barack Obama's 2008 election, Chelsea (Sasha Grey - making her first 'straight' acting performance) is a high-class call girl, who earns \$2,000 an hour. Unlike most call girls she doesn't just sell sex, she sells the full 'Girlfriend Experience'. She's looking to move from her personal trainer boyfriend onto one of her more well off clients.

There are two sides to Steven Soderbergh; the mainstream side, which produces films like *Oceans 11* and *The Informant!* (also playing at IFF 2009) and there's the low budget digital experimental side, with films like *Bubble* and *The Limey*.

The Girlfriend Experience is one of the latter, and is an elegantly shot drama which features a terrific performance from Sasha Grey.

www.girlfriendexperiencefilm.com

Preceded by the short **Silence** USA, 2008 | Director: Ava Lanche

Our present, too, is going to be history- to be remembered and examined by those who will come after us. And silence, as we all know, speaks louder than words.

new british cinema



Glorious 39 (12A)

THU 12 NOV | 18.00 | SCOTTISH PREMIERE | UK, 2009 | 125 mins

Director: Stephen Poliakoff | Starring: Romola Garai, Bill Nighy, Eddie Redmayne, Julie Christie, David Tennant, Jenny Agutter

Steven Poliakoff is one of Britain's finest writers of both television (*Shooting The Past*, *Joe's Palace*) and film (*Close My Eyes*). In *Glorious 39* Poliakoff has made his first film for 15 years.

Set in the summer of 1939, just before the Second World War, this absorbing, thought provoking thriller shows how the dark secrets at the heart of a wealthy and influential family can tear it apart. Sir Alexander Keyes (Nighy) is a Conservative MP and the head of the family, his daughter Anne (an excellent performance from Romola Garai) is a promising actress, but when she starts to investigate the death of one of her closest friends she comes to believe that the British establishment may be involved.

Preceded by the 10 minute short **Pollphail** UK, 2009 | Director: Matt Lloyd

A deserted village in limbo on the west coast of Scotland where two men share an obsession with an imagined future.



Don't Worry About Me (15)

SAT 14 NOV | 19.30 | UK, 2009 | 80 mins

Director: David Morrissey | Starring: Helen Elizabeth, James Brough, Kate Henry

Don't Worry About Me is the extremely impressive feature directing debut from one of the UK's finest actors, David Morrissey (*Hilary and Jackie*, *State of Play*, *Red Riding*).

Twenty-something London lad David (Brough) travels to Liverpool hoping to track down the girl he met last night. He finds her, but when she gives him his marching orders, David finds himself walking the streets of a strange city with no money and just his thoughts to keep him company.

Seeking shelter in a betting shop, sales assistant Tina (Elizabeth) gives him a hot tip on a dog. As a thank you, David invites Tina out and persuades her to skive off work to show him around Liverpool. Romance begins to grow between them with music as the food of love.

David Morrissey will be making a very special guest appearance at IFF 09 where he will introduce the screening and take part in a Q&A session afterwards.

new british cinema



44-inch Chest (18)

SAT 14 NOV | 21.30 | SCOTTISH PREMIERE | UK, 2009 | 94 mins

Director: Malcolm Venville | Starring: Ray Winstone, Joanne Whalley, John Hurt, Ian McShane, Tom Wilkinson, Stephen Dillaner

From the writers of *Sexy Beast*, *44 Inch Chest* is the excellent debut feature from promising director Malcolm Venville. When Colin's (Winstone) wife leaves him for a younger man he descends into a drunken mess. Emerging from his sorry situation, he hatches a plan to kidnap his wife's lover, exacting his revenge and restoring his self-respect.

With an all-star cast, all on top form, in this darkly funny tale, which is in parts violent and inept.

Preceded by the 12 minute short **Smith** UK, 2009 | Director: Mark Jackson

When an old age pensioner begins to be terrorised by a group of youths he starts to consider his revenge.



London River (15 tbc)

SUN 15 NOV | 17.15 | SCOTTISH PREMIERE | Algeria/France/UK, 2009

94 mins | In French and English with subtitles

Director: Rachid Bouchareb | Starring: Brenda Blethyn, Sotigui Kouyaté, Roschdy Zem

Set immediately after the 2005 London bomb attacks, Elizabeth Sommers (the always wonderful Brenda Blethyn) leaves her farm on Guernsey, travelling to London to make sure that her daughter, who is studying in the capital, is safe. Also in London is Ousmane (the great Malian actor Sotigui Kouyaté), looking to reconcile things with his estranged son. Elizabeth and Ousmane move in different directions, but after the same information, so it can't be long before they meet eachother.

Director Rachid Bouchareb (director of *Days Of Glory*) has made a powerful, sparse and engaging drama, which never falls upon racial clichés to make its point.

Preceded by the 21 minute short **Believe** UK, 2009 | Director: Paul Wright

Lewis has lost his lifetime partner Janice. The only way he can deal with the loss is by listening to the tapes she left behind for him and to keep believing. *Believe* was filmed near Ardrross.

new scottish cinema



One Night in Emergency (15 tbc)

FRI 13 NOV | 20.30 | UK, 2009 | 59 mins

Director: Michael Offer | Starring: Kevin McKidd, Michelle Ryan, James Cosmo, Ewen Bremner

One Night In Emergency marks the television debut of critically-acclaimed playwright, Gregory Burke (*Black Watch*). Inspired by Homer's *Odyssey*, this hard-hitting drama charts one man's journey through the wards of an overrun, inner-city hospital.

Peter (McKidd) and Penny (Ryan) are an ordinary middle class couple: childless, career-minded and cosseted. But when Penny is admitted to A&E with a minor complaint, their world is turned upside down. Peter arrives at the hospital. It's a busy night, and the ER is full. Frustrated by the lack of help, Peter decides to track his wife down alone. Deep inside the building, a series of encounters divert him from his search and he is slowly drawn into a world of officious security guards, social outcasts and drug-addicted hospital staff. Will he escape in time to see the woman he loves and atone for past mistakes?



One Day Removals (18)

SUN 15 NOV | 17.00 | UK, 2008 | 85 mins | In Doric without subtitles

Director: Mark Stirton | Starring: Patrick Wright, Scott Ironside

Andy (Wright) and Ronnie (Ironsides) are two Aberdeen based white van men who take a job moving an angry wife's possessions out of her marital home. But little do they know that this job will be their last as the bodies keep filling up their van.

One Day Removals is the dark and funny (and very swearsy) tale of two men who just happen to be in the wrong place at the wrong time.

The director, Mark Stirton and members of the cast will introducing the screening and conduct a Q&A afterwards.

www.stirtonproductions.com



Dark Nature (15)

FRI 13 NOV | 22.00 | UK, 2009 | 80 mins

Director: Marc de Launay | Starring: Vanya Eadie, Imogen Toner, Tom Carter, Niall G Fulton

Jane (Eadie) and Chloe (Toner) play a mother and daughter whose already tense relationship is put under further stress during their holiday in a remote Highland location. Like lambs to the slaughter, a series of shocking events lead the women into a violent and unexpected situation they could never have anticipated.

Dark Nature is a modern eco-thriller that inspired by the zeitgeist of 1970's, and is reminiscent of great films such as *Deliverance* and *Long Weekend*.

www.darknature.net

documentaries



Film ist a Girl and a Gun ⁽¹⁸⁾

SAT 14 NOV | 18.15 | SCOTTISH PREMIERE | Austria/Germany 2009 | 93 mins

Director: **Gustav Deutsch**

Using images from the first 40 years of cinematography, taken from archives across the world, Gustav Deutsch has constructed a musical film drama in five acts, with the film held together with quotes from ancient Greek mythology.

The film uses documentary, fictional, pornographic, scientific and propagandist images in ways which are completely at odds with their original purpose.

This is a poetic and mesmerising film, the like of which you may never have seen before; a unique work of art.

<http://www.sixpackfilm.com/>



Bloody Mondays and Strawberry Pies ⁽¹⁵⁾

SUN 15 NOV | 15.30 | UK | Netherlands, 2008 | 80 mins

In English, Arabic and Dutch with subtitles

Director: **Coco Schrijber** | Narrator: **John Malkovich**

Beauty, love, work... sometimes it just isn't worth getting out of bed for.

Bloody Mondays & Strawberry Pies is an extraordinary work, which examines the role of boredom in the human condition. John Malkovich narrates, using excerpts from Bret Easton Ellis's *American Psycho* and Dostoyevsky's *Notes from the Underground* to give voice to the inner 'bored' human being – the one many of us are most of the time. This fascinating work gets under your skin and asks 'How many people in the world are like me?'



Departures *Okuribito* (15)

THU 12 NOV 20.30 | SCOTTISH PREMIERE | Japan, 2008 | 130 mins

In Japanese with subtitles

Director: Yōjirō Takita | Starring: Masahiro Motoki, Ryoko Hirose, Tsutomu Yamazaki

Departures is one of the finest films you are ever likely to see. It was winner of the Best Foreign Language Film Oscar, where it beat *The Class*, *Waltz With Bashir* *Revanche* and *The Baader Meinhof Complex*, (which shows you how good this film actually is). It also won 10 Japanese Academy Awards.

Daigo Kobayashi (Motoki) is a young, newly married and devoted cellist in a Tokyo orchestra, which has just been disbanded. Suddenly on the street without a job, Daigo decides to move back to his hometown and begins to work for a 'Nokanshi', preparing deceased bodies for burial and entry into the next life. His wife and others dislike his job choice, but Daigo takes his work as a gatekeeper between life and death seriously. The film follows this profound and sometimes comical journey with death as Daigo uncovers the wonder, joy and meaning of humanity.

www.departures-themovie.com

Preceded by the 5 minute short **Siublachan *The Traveller*** UK, 2008 | Director: Uisdean Murray | In Gaelic with subtitles

Sgeul smaointeachail nu dheidhinn nighean òg, Seonag, a tha siubhal air ais ann an tìm agus a tadhal air a Seanair nach maireann.

A poignant tale about a young girl, Seonag, who travels back in time to visit her recently deceased Grandfather.



Give Me Your Hand *Donne-moi la main* (15)

SAT 14 NOV 14.00 | France/Germany 2008 | 80 mins | In French with subtitles

Director: Pascal Alex-Vincent | Starring: Victor Carril, Alexandre Carril, Samir Harrag, Katrin Saß

Twin brothers Quentin and Antoine escape from their father's bakery to attend the funeral of the mother they never knew. Hitchhiking to Barcelona, old grudges between the two teenagers resurface. Antoine resents the friendships that his brother makes on the road, while sensitive Quentin is frustrated by his brother's jealous and possessive behaviour. Increasingly hostile, Antoine ditches Quentin but soon realises that he can't make it to Spain without his brother by his side.

A tense yet haunting account of brotherly love and independence, *Give Me Your Hand* is Pascal-Alex Vincent's first feature film – his short *Baby Shark* won the Palme d'Or Short Film at the Cannes Film Festival – is a wistful debut from one of France's most promising young directors.

Preceded by the 10 minute short **Peter in Radioland** UK, 2009 | Director: Johanna Wagner

A carefully observed study of the director's father Peter, who stubbornly remains in an analogue world, whilst all around him the digital world is taking over.



Rabbit Without Ears *Keinohrhasen* (15)

FRI 13 NOV | 18.00 | Germany, 2007 | 116 mins | In German with subtitles

Director: Til Schweiger | Starring: Til Schweiger, Nora Tschirner, Matthias Schweighöfer

Ludo Decker, played by Til Schweiger (*Inglorious Basterds*) is a paparazzi reporter always on the lookout for stories for his trashy magazine. When he gatecrashes the wedding of one celebrity too many – a judge sentences him to work for 200 hours in a children’s nursery. How will he keep up with the stars if he has 20 screaming kids to look after, and will the sexy teacher (Tschirner) be the salvation that he doesn’t know he’s looking for?

Rabbit Without Ears was a huge hit in Germany on its release. More than 5 million people went to see it. It is a wonderful romantic comedy, the kind that Hollywood is always on the lookout for; see it before the inevitable remake appears.

www.warnerbros.de/keinohrhasen/ (German language site)

Preceded by the 12 minute short **Saltmark** UK, 2008 | Director: Robin Haig

In a small Scottish town, a teenage girl is forced to visit her grandfather. When his infirmity turns the outing from a chore into outright humiliation, she must make a stark choice: his dignity or hers?



The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo *Män som hatar kvinnor* (18)

FRI 13 NOV | 20.15 | SCOTTISH PREMIERE | Sweden/Denmark/Germany, 2009

152 mins | In Swedish with subtitles

Director: Niels Arden Oplev | Starring: Michael Nyqvist, Noomi Rapace, Sven-Bertil Taube

Mikael Blomkvist (Nyqvist) is a reporter who has just been sued for libel and quit his job as a result. So when 82 year-old industrialist Henrik Vanger comes knocking and offers Mikael a large pay-check to look into the disappearance of his niece 40 years ago there’s nothing to stop him. With the help of the enigmatic, and darkly secretive, computer hacker Lisbeth Sander, he uncovers the shocking truth that lies behind the influential Vanger family.

Based on the best-selling and thoroughly enjoyable novel by Stieg Larsson, this big screen adaptation has been a box office sensation all around Europe. You’ll be on the edge of your seat throughout this powerful action packed thriller. Dan Brown was never this good!

www.millenium-lefilm.fr (French Site)



Samson and Delilah (15 tbc)

SAT 14 NOV | 20.30 | SCOTTISH PREMIERE | Australia, 2009 | 101 mins

In Warlpiri and English with subtitles

Director: Warwick Thornton | Starring: Marissa Gibson, Rowan McNamara, Scott Thornton

Award-winning shorts director Warwick Thornton has made a superb debut feature with this low budget Aboriginal drama. This is sure to be a film that you will hear a lot about when the awards are being handed out; see it first at IFF 09.

Samson and Delilah's world is small – an isolated community in the Central Australian desert. When tragedy strikes they turn their backs on home and embark on a journey of survival. Lost, unwanted and alone they discover that life isn't always fair, but love never judges.

www.samsonanddelilah.com.au

Preceded by the 10 minute short **Karelian Cowgirls Oudoille Oville** UK/Finland, 2008 | Director: Minttu Mäntynen
In Finnish with subtitles

In 1939, at the start of the bitterly cold Winter War the Soviet Red Army invaded Finnish-Karelia forcing hundreds of thousands of civilians deep into Finland. With men at warfront and women looking after the small children, the responsibility of driving the family cattle through deep snow and hostile lands was forced upon the oldest girls.

At IFF 08 Minttu Mäntynen held a cinematography masterclass, so we are delighted to screen her wonderful short this year.



American Primitive (12A)

SUN 15 NOV | 13.00 | UK PREMIERE | USA, 2009 | 95 mins

Director: Gwen Wynne | Starring: Tate Donovan, Danielle Savre, Adam Pascal

American Primitive takes place in 1973 – the year that the Watergate crisis opened the floodgates on American cynicism and created a generation of distrust towards government and politicians.

Everybody in Dennis, Cape Cod thinks that Harry Goodhart (Donovan) is quite the catch. He has just moved to this seaside town with his teenage daughters, Madeline (Savre) and Daisy, who are determined to keep their recently widowed father away from the swarm of female suitors. Madeline's friends take to an underground disco in Provincetown. Through the throngs of drag queens and gay men, she sees her father dancing with a man. The double shocker is that the man is Mr. Gibbs (Pascal), recently introduced by her father as his new business partner and who just moved into the back of their house... Soon, however, Madeline's family secret becomes the talk of the town, when she mistakenly confides in her new boyfriend, Sam.

Alternately funny and heartbreaking, this thought provoking family comedy is as relevant today as when America was in the midst of social upheaval in the 1970s.

Producer Suzan Crowley, who is originally from Speyside, will be introducing this screening and holding a Q&A afterwards.

Preceded by the 9 minute short **The Sporrans Makers** UK, 2009 | Director: Jane McAllister
Mr Scott's traditional sporrans workshop is under threat as he battles against cheap foreign imports.

short films



Echo Wall (12A tbc)

FRI 13 NOV | 17.00 | UK, 2008 | 43 mins | Tickets for shorts are £3

Director: Claire Macleod | Starring: Dave Macleod

Dave MacLeod is looking for the hardest challenges in traditional rock climbing, finding his nemesis on the north face of Ben Nevis. His wife Claire films his training, thoughts and eventual success over the course of a year, including one of the hardest free solo climbs in the world (the Darwin Dixit 8c).

Echo Wall is possibly the hardest 'trad' route in the world, set in around the beautiful, dramatic areas of Ben Nevis and Lochaber; this is an atmospheric and thrilling story about triumph of will and strength over nature.

www.rarebreedproductions.co.uk



The Solitary Life of Cranes (PG)

SAT 14 NOV | 17.15 | UK, 2009 | 28 mins | Tickets for shorts are £3

Director: Eve Weber

Part city symphony part visual poem, *The Solitary Life of Cranes* explores the invisible life of a city, its patterns and hidden secrets, seen through the eyes of the crane drivers working high above the streets. From their airy towers they have the best view of the city, looking down onto the streets and across into the buildings surrounding them.

This is a stunning, quiet and affecting film with panoramic views across London looking out onto a world most will never see.

<http://cityofcranes.com>

SHORT CUTS 1

SAT 14 NOV, 12.00

KARELIAN COWGIRLS OUDOILLE OVILLE

UK/Finland 2008/ 10mins
(In Finish with subtitles)
Director: Minttu Mäntynen

THE BEDFORDS

UK 2009/ 10 mins
Director: Henry Coombes
Starring: Ewan Stewart,
Katy Barker, Hugh Ross

STEEL HOMES

UK 2009/ 10 mins
Director: Eve Weber

POLLPHAIL

UK 2009/ 10 mins
Director: Matt Lloyd

SIUBHLACHAN THE TRAVELLER

UK 2008/ 5 mins
In Gaelic with subtitles
Director: Uisdean Murray

THE SPORRAN MAKERS

UK 2009/ 9 mins
Director: Jane McAllister

SHORT CUTS 2 SUN 15 NOV, 11.00

SALTMARK

UK 2008/ 12 mins
Director: Robin Haig

PETER IN RADIOLAND

UK 2009/ 10 mins
Director: Johanna Wagner

BELIEVE

UK 2009/ 21 mins
Director: Paul Wright

SMITH

UK 2009/ 12 mins
Director: Mark Jackson

SILENCE

USA 2008/ 3 mins
Director: Ava Lanche

Bill Douglas Retrospective

SAT 14 NOV | FROM 10.30



Lanterna Magicka – Bill Douglas & the Secret History of Cinema

UK, 2009 | 60 mins

Director: Sean Martin & Louise Milne | Starring: Robin Soans, Mick Audsley, Alex Norton, Imelda Staunton, Ian Christie, Peter Jewell, Bill Douglas (Archive footage)

What many people do not know about Bill Douglas was that he was also a passionate collector of cinema memorabilia and pre-cinema optical devices. He used early optical devices to magical effect in his final film, *Comrades*. *Lanterna Magicka* recounts the story of Douglas's collection, the making of *Comrades* and the remarkable legacy Douglas left us with. This documentary explores the poetic vision expressed in that film and in his astonishing collection of pre-cinema artifacts.

Bill Douglas: Intent on Getting the Image

UK, 2006 | 65 mins

Director: Andy Kimpton-Nye | Starring: Peter Jewell, Mamoun Hassan, Phil Davis, Imelda Staunton

In career spanning nearly 20 years, Bill Douglas only made 4 films, three of which were shorts. Yet he was highly acclaimed, winning the Silver Bear at Venice for his first film, garnering praise from the likes of Lindsay Anderson, Francois Truffaut and Satyjit Ray, and picking up the 'film of the year award' in a poll in the Independent newspaper for *Comrades*. This documentary explores Bill Douglas's remarkable struggle from childhood poverty to becoming a truly great, and unique, filmmaker.

This screening is ticketed and priced at £3, but tickets are free if you have bought one for either Bill Douglas's Trilogy or *Comrades*.

The directors will be present for Q & A session after the screening.



13.00

Bill Douglas Trilogy (*My Childhood*, *My Ain Folk* & *My Way Home*) ⁽¹⁵⁾

UK, 1972/1973/1978 | 166 mins

Director: Bill Douglas | Starring: Stephen Archibald, Hughie Restorick, Jean Taylor Smith, Bernard McKenna, Paul Kermack

Bill Douglas was born in Newcraighall in Edinburgh - where the films are set, and is one of the finest directors that Scotland has produced. This restored print of these films is a great way to discover of Scotland's greatest artists. Douglas' trilogy of semi-autobiographical films tells of his impoverished childhood in a small Scottish mining town. In *My Childhood* he lives with his brother and grandmother, his mother is in a mental hospital, but when his grandmother dies he realises he can only rely on himself. *My Ain Folk* tells how after his grandmother's death he is sent to live with his uncle and other grandmother, where his life is filled with rejection and silence. And in *My Way Home* he moves to Egypt where he is conscripted in the RAF, where he forms a lasting friendship and develops his creative talents.

Bill Douglas Retrospective

SUN 15 NOV | 11.30



Comrades ⁽¹⁵⁾

SUN 15 NOV | 11.30 | UK, 1986 | 182 mins

Director: Bill Douglas | Starring: William Gaminara, Philip Davis, Vanessa Redgrave, Edward Fox, Michael Hordern, Barbara Windsor, Robin Soans, Keith Allen

In the 1830s a group of six Dorset farm workers formed a union in an attempt to win a fair wage for a fair day's work. When they called a strike and downed tools they were arrested and transported to Australia for seven years of hard labour. They became known as the Tolpuddle Martyrs.

Bill Douglas' long awaited film is concerned with the characterisation of those involved in the strike, which was central in the history of trade unionisation in Great Britain. Filming in both the UK and Australia was difficult as Douglas struggled in attaining financing and the correct conditions in order to get the film that he wanted made without compromising. One of the best British films of the 1980's and a testament to a great, and unique, director.

Comrades will be followed by the 15 minute short: **Visions of: Comrades** UK, 2009 | Director: Andy Kimpton-Nye
An informative and interesting short documentary about the making of Comrades.

Special Event



Nosferatu ^(PG)

THU 12 NOV | 19.30 | Germany, 2002 | 80 mins

Director: DF. W. Murnau | Starring: Max Schreck, Greta Schroder-Matray, Gustav Von Wangenheim

Murnau's horror film is based on Bram Stoker's *Dracula* is set in Germany and Transylvania – but there's a good reason for David Allison's live soundtrack to have a distinctly Celtic twist, and a for a Scottish voice to lead us through the narrative. Back in 1888 Emily Gerard, a travel writer from Airdrie, was the first person to bring the word "nosferatu" or "undead" into western european awareness when she wrote about Transylvanian superstitions in her essay *The Land Beyond The Forest*. Bram Stoker read Emily Gerard's account and subsequently wrote *Dracula*.

Using live music, samples, sound effects and "the voice" of Emily Gerard as narrator (played by Anne Marie Watson), David Allison's version of *Nosferatu* is an entertaining, eerie and original take on one of cinema's true classics.

website.com

masterclass



Masterclass

Richard Jobson: Role of the Director

THU 12 NOV | 09.00

For the past 5 years writer director Richard Jobson has been working on converging moving image with stills. Award winning films such as *16 Years of Alcohol* and *A Woman in Winter* alongside the short *I AM DIGITAL* have broken new ground using small budgets to create high production value. The introduction of the Canon 5D MK11 to the market place has been the answer to a dream and is now being used by the director on high profile

projects such as the sex trafficking docudrama *THE JOURNEY* with Emma Thompson as well as upcoming feature film *HELTER SKELTER*. Jobson will explain how the camera along with software such as Final Cut Pro and After Effects have re-defined what is possible in cinematic terms with limited resources. He will give a real insight into how the camera is redefining the way film makers think about their work and how the work flow is simple and clear. He says "This is all about being inspired and understanding the incredibly liberating feeling of creating striking visual images without worrying about the cost."

Jobson will show his work; the process he goes through to attain high end visual imagery; and an insight into how to create an ambitious narrative that suits a small budget using this new breakthrough technology.



The Journey (tbc)

THU 12 NOV | 17.45 | UK PREMIERE | UK, 2009 | 21 mins

Director: Richard Jobson

I'm working with the actress and writer Emma Thompson on a project about sex trafficking called *THE JOURNEY*. Over the past couple of years we have created a series of controversial viral campaigns as well as the exhibition of containers outside the National Gallery.

We have now put together a drama documentary to capture the experience of a young woman being trafficked from eastern Europe to the UK. Our take on this is violent, confrontational and uncompromising. The decision was made early to bypass the usual talking head style waffle that TV spits out and go for something that might get people to sit up and notice for the all the right reasons.

The story line revolves around the container which evolves into her windowless home – which she will never leave. We have mixed the real space with a 3d animated environment where the young woman sinks further into the Hell that has become her life.

masterclass

The Script Factory: Assessing Scripts

FRI 13 & SAT 14 NOV

Fri 13 14.00 – 17.30 **premise/structure/genre** | Sat 14 09.30 – 13.00 **character/craft**

This specially designed short course offers an intensive practical approach to assessing the potential of screenplays and preparing a feedback report for writers.

Reading a script in advance, participants will consider what makes a good screen story and learn to identify the potential within a script and recognise screenwriting talent. As with all Script Factory training, this course focuses on how to translate your analysis into constructive feedback for writers so that the script report becomes the first stage of script development. However, participants will also be advised on how to structure script reports to meet the requirements of production companies, distributors and funders.

Ideal for anyone who is new to the industry or for those who have some experience but are keen to move into a development role, this course provides a valuable insight into the essential beginnings of the filmmaking process.

<http://www.thescriptfactory.co.uk>

➤➤➤ **Please book early, as places are very limited.**



Animatronic Monsters & Creatures

SUN 15 NOV | 13.00

Tom Lauten, Inverness' very own Hollywood special effects wizard will take participants through the methods and materials used to bring fantastic creatures to life for the silver screen. You'll quite literally see the nuts and bolts of famous cinematic creatures from the early days of cinema to the most up to date. You'll also have an opportunity to ask "How did they do that?" during a question and answer session. Finally, everyone will come face to face with one of Tom's own "beasts" and get a unique insight into how these fascinating creations actually work.

www.nimbacreations.com

education programme

WED 11 NOV

17:30 – 19:00 12 – 17yrs

SGL ROOM

19:30 – 21:00 18+

SGL ROOM

Acting for Camera

Ever wanted to be in a film? Gain expert techniques in acting for film and TV with Eden Court's Drama Artist, John Batty. No experience is required, but an interest in acting and film making is essential.

THU 12 NOV

19:00 – 20:00 9 – 17yrs

SGL ROOM

Make-up for Camera

Come along and learn the techniques in make-up behind the camera. Try out ageing your friend, or creating a bruise or a black eye. A fun and interesting session.

SAT 14 & SUN 15 NOV

10:30 – 16:00 12 – 17yrs

DIGI ROOM

Film in a Weekend – Creative Identities

Come along and join in the fun with the Creative Identities project at Eden Court Theatre. Make a film from start to finish in one weekend with a professional film maker. Bring your own ideas and we'll show you how to bring them alive with the latest in film technology. No experience required, but an interest in acting and film making is essential.



CashBack – Creative Identities is a fantastic scheme that reinvests the ill-gotten gains seized from organized crime back into Scotland's communities, making a real difference to the lives of our young people. Eden Court Theatre is delivering a great programme of creative arts and media activities for young people across the Highlands. As well as learning the technical skills, participants will learn how to tell the stories they want to tell – through dance, drama and film – and through that develop their self confidence and communication skills.

schools programme



Lost and Found (3+)

THU 12 NOV | 10.00, 11.30 | UK, 2008 | 40 mins

Director: Philip Hunt

The magical tale of friendship and loneliness, based on the popular picture book by Oliver Jeffers, which tells the story of a little boy who one day finds a penguin on his doorstep. Although at first he is unsure what to do, the boy becomes determined to help the penguin find his way back home, even if that means rowing all the way to the South Pole. Narrated by Jim Broadbent.

There will be a short teaching resource available with this and also we're hoping to facilitate a teachers Q&A with Oliver Jeffers via Glow.

www.discoveryfilmfestival.org.uk

Lost and Found is screening with 8 minute short film; **The True Story of the Three Little Pigs**

USA, 2008 | Director: Konstantin Bronzit

Another award winning book animated for the big screen. The classic story told from the wolf's point-of-view. Was he really as bad as everyone thinks he was? A very funny film that challenges perceptions. Narrated by Paul Giamatti.



Fighter (13+)

FR1 13 NOV | 10.30 | Denmark, 2007 | 90min | Danish language English subtitles

Director: Natasha Arthy | Starring: Semra Turan, Nima Nabipour, Cyron Bjørn Melville

A Turkish girl living in Denmark, Aicha is a tomboy with a handful of anger issues who bristles both at the racist attitudes of native Danes and her parents' traditional beliefs. This is the story of a young girl adrift in a foreign culture who finds reconciliation with her family and romance to boot by playing a forbidden sport. It may ring bells with Bend it Like Beckham, except set in Copenhagen and starring a Muslim girl who wants to do kung fu instead of soccer, *Fighter* is essentially the same culture clash story, but dramatic in all the places Beckham was light. *Fighter* follows a traditional trajectory, as Aicha trains for the big tournament and inevitable big face off, but it shies away from a cut-and-dry happy ending, choosing instead to realistically portray the challenges facing Muslims in Western Europe.

www.discoveryfilmfestival.org.uk

Both schools screenings are just £1.00 per pupil,
with accompanying teachers going free

audience award



INVERNESS FILM FESTIVAL AUDIENCE AWARD

This year, for the first time, everyone who attends the Inverness Film Festival will be asked to vote for the film that they feel is the best in the festival. Every screening will be eligible for the award, which has been specially designed by the Harris based artist Steve Dilworth.

HOW TO VOTE

To vote you will be given a slip of paper before each screening, you just need give the film you've seen a rating (by marking, or tearing the slip) and then hand it back to a member of Eden Court's staff to ensure that your vote will count.

ABOUT THE ARTIST AND THE AWARD

'At the centre of this bronze sculpture is a glass phial containing air drawn from an ancient landscape, the same landscape Stanley Kubrick filmed using a red filter to depict Mars in his masterpiece, '2001, a Space Odyssey'. It seems to me that this captured air, a primal token from the Outer Hebrides, is as ephemeral as the flickering light of a film projected. This award is a measure of appreciation and gratitude.'

Steve Dilworth 2009

booking info

Eden Court, Bishop's Road, Inverness IV3 5SA

Box Office **01463 234234** 10.00am – 9.00pm Monday – Sunday

www.invernessfilmfestival.com www.eden-court.co.uk

TICKET PRICES

Festival Gala Screenings: Festival opening and closing premier screenings: **£7.50**

All other film screenings: **£6.00**

Reduced rate: **£5.50**

Under 18s: **£4.00**

Eden court Friends: **£1.00 off above prices**

All Film Festival workshops and masterclasses are free of charge.

Tickets can be booked or reserved in person, by phone or post, or from early November 2008 – online at www.eden-court.co.uk

Our ticket office is located just inside the front doors of Eden Court and is open every day from 10.00 until 21.00. We also have a booking counter in the Eastgate shopping centre, located on the ground floor beside the café. The booking counter is open Monday to Saturday from 11.00 until 17.00, and from 12.00 to 16.00 on Sundays.

Reserved tickets will be held for 3 days. Latecomers will not be admitted.

Thanks to Matt Lloyd, Sarah MacDonald, Lucy Scher, Ludo Smolski, John Maxwell, David Morrissey, Tom Bishop & Gemma Cox at Disney, Katherine Simpson at Discovery Film Festival, Tom Batchelor at Warner Bros., Colin Birch & Elliot Binns at Verve, Tommy Delcher & Moira McDonagh at Momentum, Andy Leyshon & Sarah Hatton at Universal, John Bullen at The Works, Elizabeth Gault at Park Circus, Karen Smyth, Andrew Youdell at BFI, Michael Waites at Vertigo, Robin Grbich at Trinity Filmed Ent., Robert Beeson at New Wave Films, David Shear at Revolver, Doina Kocherhans at Barefoot Films, Michaela Grill at sixpack, Rhianna Andrews, Suzanne Crowley, Ina Rossow, Dan Hine, Minttu Mäntynen, Claire McLeod, Samantha Zarzosa, Laurie, Jeni and Teresa, Colin Marr, Emma the lovely designer, Scottish Screen and everyone else at Eden Court

timetable

Wed 11	19.30	The Boys Are Back (12A) SCOTTISH PREMIERE Opening Night Gala
Thu 12	09.00	Digital Film making with Richard Jobson
	10.00, 11.30	Lost & Found (3+) Schools Screening
	17.45	The Journey UK PREMIERE
	18.00	Glorious 39 (12A) SCOTTISH PREMIERE
	19.00	The Informant! (15) FIRST SCOTTISH SCREENING
	19.30	Nosferatu (PG)
	20.30	Departures (12A) SCOTTISH PREMIERE
	21.00	Cold Souls (15) SCOTTISH PREMIERE
Fri 13	10.30	Fighter (13+) Schools Screening
	14.00	Screen Writing Workshop Part One
	17.00	Echo Wall (12A tbc)
	18.00	Rabbit Without Ears (15)
	18.15	The Girlfriend Experience (18)
	20.15	The Girl With The Dragon Tattoo (18) SCOTTISH PREMIERE
	20.30	One Night In Emergency (15 tbc)
	22.00	Dark Nature (15)
Sat 14	09.30	Screen Writing Workshop Part Two
	10.30	Bill Douglas Documentaries
	12.00	Short Cuts 1
	13.00	Bill Douglas Trilogy (15)
	14.00	Give Me Your Hand (15)
	17.00	A Serious Man (15) SCOTTISH PREMIERE
	17.15	The Solitary Life of Cranes (PG)
	18.15	Film ist; a Girl and a Gun (18) SCOTTISH PREMIERE
	19.30	Don't Worry About Me (15) SCOTTISH PREMIERE
	20.30	Samson & Delilah (15) SCOTTISH PREMIERE
	21.30	44 Inch Chest (18) SCOTTISH PREMIERE
Sun 15	11.00	Short Cuts 2
	11.30	Comrades (15)
	13.00	Animatronic Monsters and Creatures
	13.00	American Primitive UK PREMIERE (12A)
	15.30	Bloody Mondays and Strawberry Pies (15) UK PREMIERE
	17.00	One Day Removals (18)
	17.15	London River (15) SCOTTISH PREMIERE
	20.00	Valhalla Rising (18) SCOTTISH PREMIERE Closing Night Gala