

BEESTON FILM FESTIVAL

THE MIDLANDS' BIGGEST INTERNATIONAL SHORT FILM FESTIVAL

FESTIVAL GUIDE

13-16 APRIL 2023 At the Arc, beeston

THE BIGGEST INTERNATIONAL SHORT **FILM FESTIVAL IN THE MIDLANDS**

Greetings, readers!

Welcome to the 9th annual Beeston Film Festival!

We've come such a long way in the last nine years. From a cosy room at the top of The White Lion pub, to sessions in The Berliner and on the University of Nottingham campus. Now here we are, once again bringing a fine crop of short films to Beeston's doorstep.

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And what a bounteous crop it is, on both the national and international fronts! Our BIFA accreditation has seen an influx of the best shorts coming our way, and this year we had submissions from every continent in the world - except for Antarctica, of course. Those penguins are really slacking. We've even had our very first submission from Kazakhstan!

As always, narrowing the films down to the best of the best has been a Herculean task, and I'd like to acknowledge the efforts of my fellow Selection Team members and everyone on the Programming Team - it's no easy feat, but you now hold in your hands a guide to the very best of the year's short films.

There's something for everyone across this weekend, whether you're after belly laughs or chills 'n' thrills. There's thought-provoking documentaries, hard-hitting drama, gritty crime tales and even a few music videos thrown in for good measure!

I'm happy to say that big plans are afoot for next year's festival, our 10th anniversary, though they're top secret and if I told you then struct! Suffice to say, we're growing again and will be able to offer even more than ever before.

In the meantime, the pages of this programme will tell you everything you need to know about the wonderful films we've selected for you, along with when and where you catch them. Feel free to step out of your comfort zone and sample different genres; you never know if a new favourite film is waiting to be discovered!

Thank you to all the film-makers, especially those who have made the effort to be here with us for the event - if you see them, let them know how much you loved their film!

Thank you to our generous sponsors, we literally couldn't do this without you!

And of course, thank you to YOU, yes YOU, for coming along and for supporting independent film. You're a star!

Enjoy the films!

Sam Kurd **Communications Lead** Selection Team Member

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NOW ON SALE!

GUIDE

TIME	THURSDAY Screen 3	FRIDAY Screen7	FRIDAY Screen 8	SATURDAY Screen7	SATURDAY Screen 8	SUNDAY Screen7	SUNDAY Screen 8
12:00							
13:00						UNSPOKEN (variety pack)	CHAOS THEORY (variety pack)
14:00							
15:00				PARENTING (Women's voices)	BREAKING BOUNDARIES (Non-Fiction)	OVERSTIMULATED (variety pack)	FULL CIRCLE (FAMILY)
16:00							
17:00		MANY SPIRITS (non-fiction)	GUARDIANS (drama)	TURNING TIDES (Women's voices)	LIFE'S A GAMBLE (crime)	CASUALLAUGHTER (Comedy)	BLAMELESS (DRAMA)
18:00							
19:00		SEE THE STARS (DRAMA)	MEMORIES (Science fiction & Fantasy)	FUTURE DANCE (Science fiction & Fantasy)	LET'S SCREAM (PRIDE)		
20:00							
21:00	BEESTON & BEYOND	RELATIONSHIPS (women's voices)	GAMES WEPLAY (Horror)	FAMILIAR FEARS (Horror)	HOME TEAM (East Mids Focus)	AWARDS SCREEN 3	
22:00							

SCREEN7 / THURSDAY 13TH / 19:00-22:00 BEESTON & BEYOND

Opening night of the 9th Beeston Film Festival



SUBURBAN FANTASY PETER MANCUSO US

It's Rocco's last day in his hometown before leaving for New York to study photography. But during the night Rocco starts having doubts about what he really wants. Through music, Rocco's struggle comes to life around him.



PIROUETTE CIARA BORGARDS GERMANY

A metal ballerina stuck to a frame support inside a music box suddenly sees her support breaking and is terrified. But what if it was for the best? The film shows how a misfortune can be necessary to transform our lives for the better.



CHILDREN OF WILD ORCHID FARSHAD MOHAMMADI IRAN

A very young girl, who is joyous despite her being a victim of child labour, faces the darker realities of her life while she tries her best to touch its beauties when encountering them.



SINCEREALITY ARUFA JAPAN

.....

"sincereality" is a coined word of "sincerity" and "reality". The meaning is « Be sincere in your own thoughts, even if things don't go as you planned keep smiling and living your life.





COSMO JONATHAN HAWES UK

An obsessive man conducts an investigation to find the animal who keeps pooping on his lawn.



GOOD GRIEF ROBERT SHARP UK

Four mothers experience the agony of child loss in a film that highlights the importance of grief. Featuring BAFTA winner Vicky McClure (This is England)

......



FULL FULL HALF HALF DAWN REEVES





A LAST RESORT LEANNE DAVIS

.....

UK

It's Rose's birthday and she's desperate to celebrate like it's 1999. However her daughter Genevieve is struggling to ignore some tragic revelations about her Mum. This film is a humorous and honest look at mother/daughter relationships. Grief seen from the outside can't convey the inner turmoil and sadness. This film describes almost perfectly how intense and raw those feelings are and how they take over everything. Great work from a respected filmmaker.

Simon Pryce on Good Grief

SCREEN 7 / FRIDAY 14TH / 16:00-18:00 MANY SPIRITS (NON-FICTION)



Excellent documentary about being human and being yourself and why acceptance is a human right.

Christie Sietos on Two-Spirit



REVITALIZING CITIES JOSE MIGUEL GARCIA SANCHEZ, TAIWAN

.....

This documentary explores the case of Taichung, Taiwan's second largest city, where an ambitious urban renewal plan seeks 'to revive the tarnished jewel' of its Green River.



ADRIFTING UP JACOB LEE UK

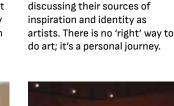
It will take the film's director, Jacob Lee, six long weeks to come off his anti-depressants. To help him get through it, he decides to dance on the streets of Bristol and London and to produce a visual diary.



GODMOTHER-I'LLNEVER Learn

MATÍAS BOETTNER, GERMANY

Godmother describe themselves as critical theory in pop-music drag. In this Argentinian clip, they ask questions such as: Is it possible not to be corrupted by the system we live in? Can pain be a source of connection and community?



IN.SPI.RA.TION

WHITE, UK

PATRICK CRELLIN, BETHANY

•••••

This documentary follows

three Isle of Man artists as

they complete a piece of work,



COST OF LIVING STEVEN RAWLE UK

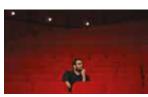
Curated from more than half a century of archive footage, 'Cost of Living' reveals our collective memories of past crises, and the cries for social and economic justice that continue to ring so loudly in the UK today.

.....



TWO-SPIRIT MÓNICA TABOADA-TAPIA COLOMBIA

For Georgina, an indigenous transgender woman, life is lonely and cruel. In her small village in Colombia, no one understands who she is.



BAD HOMBREWOOD GUILLERMO CASARIN US

'Bad Hombrewood reveals the racism of Hollywood's history and the challenges Latinx filmmakers face while trying to succeed in the film industry.



DOWN & OUT MELISSA SKIRBOLL US

Alyssa Joanlanne singing the blues classic "Nobody Knows You When You're Down and Out" by Jimmy Cox. Filmed on the set of OVERDUE.

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SCREEN8 / FRIDAY 14TH / 16:00-18:00 GUARDIANS (drama)

SCREEN7 / FRIDAY 14TH / 18:00-20:00 SEE THE STARS (DRAMA)



CLOSE TOM GENTLE UK

30-somethings Sam and Jamie just want to ditch their raggedy old sofa and go for brunch. But when they lock themselves out in the communal stairwell, they're forced to consider that maybe they aren't as close as they thought.

.....



THREE AMELIA SEARS

A weekend away at the seaside is Ellie's first family holiday since she and Nick had Harry. But holidays are not like they used to be. Neither is her marriage or her body.

.....



IL VESPISTA FRANCESCO CRIVARO ESTONIA

.....

An unruled Italian writer living in Bali has his life changed when he receives a very unusual gift.



THE TREE OLIVER BLAIR UK

.....

Reeling from the recent death of their widower father, James and younger sister Yasmin arrange to meet and empty the boxes from his old place of work. They are going to confront their past emotions and learn how to cope with it together.



CHEAP HUGS SARAH BASKIN CANADA

Two strangers, reeling from the loss of their mutual friend, find themselves in an unexpected moment of connection on the streets of Montreal.



MAKEUP AYOUB TEYMOURI IRAN

Sarah is going to get married to Amir. She has to go to the beauty salon for her bridal makeup. But things are not going to go as planned.



THE RED BALL GEORGE MORGAN UK

Clinging onto his red ball, Bamike leaves the big city of London for a small town where his family can get a fresh start after a family tragedy.



CHARTER EL HOUSSINE HNINE MOROCCO

Asso is a religious man in his forties, he's an extremist. He loves his wife and his daughter but has to face the dilemma of choosing between his wife and the Islamic strict and extreme rules.



YOUR GUARDIAN MIMI VLAOVIC SERBIA

Belgrade, 1992, Yugoslavia is falling apart. Freshly graduated Mina and her soon-to-berecruited boyfriend plan to leave the country that night. The only thing left is to tell her conservative family, at a Saint Guardian celebration.



SUBS JOE WARNER UK

.....

Mason is a young lad on the cusp of adulthood. With his family in a financial crisis, he tries to convince his boxing coach that he is ready to become a top fighter. He soon learns the dark secrets of the sport's world.



NAZLI HASSAN MAQSOUDI AFGHANISTAN

.....

Two little sisters lost their mother in the war. The younger sister loves playing with the doll their mother made for them : Nazli. However the older one would prefer to keep it preciously as a souvenir of their mum.

Ű



THIS WILD ABYSS THOMAS MENDOLIA US

.....

A former graduated cowboy postulates to be a janitor in an Observatory. An unlikely friendship begins with the astronomer Edwin Hubble and Mr Hamison ends up working with him at the Observatory and together they make a wonderful discovery.

SCREEN 8 / FRIDAY 14TH / 18:00-20:00 **MEMORIES** (science fiction & fantasy)

SCREEN7 / FRIDAY 14TH / 20:00-22:00 **RELATIONSHIPS** (women's voices)



ABDUCTED VINCENT AUGUSTO US

Through flashbacks, an alleged alien abductee reveals details of her traumatic experience to a detective, until the horrifying truth explodes.

.....



THAT'S OUR TIME ALEX BACKES US

.....

Danny's stuck in a dead-end job. It keeps him focused on the clock and unable to connect with those around him. His therapist tries to help him realize the importance of focusing on the time you have left rather than the time you've spent.



A SONG OF THELAND CÉSAR VELASCO US

While attempting to cross the border from Mexico to the US, Enrique meets a mysterious figure who teaches him what it really means to be an immigrant.

•••••



RICH BITCH MARGARYTA LUKICH UKRAINE

.....

Sasha is 13 years old. She hates school, her parents' fancy house, salmon sandwiches, and her mum telling her what to wear. The only one she likes is a new girl at school. Sasha decides to invite her for the weekend.



.....

STILL ALEX SHIPMAN UK

An experimental documentary using real testimonies from women about their experiences in night clubs. Visualized through an interpretive dance piece.



MADEOFFLESH FLORENCE ROCHAT, SÉRÉNA ROBIN, FRANCE

.....

Lucie is getting ready to start her training day to become a hostess at a car show. A lifelong car enthusiast, she has the secret hope of being noticed by the EBBE brand. However, the training has only one goal: to make her a premium woman.



CHIMERA ANDREW LEE RYAN US

.....

Set in a not too distant future small town, a VR life simulation junkie goes on a mission in reality to get a new dopamine game cartridge before she goes through happiness withdrawal.



REST STOP NOAH SELLMAN US

.....

In the near future, where automated and electric vehicles dominate the highways, a young auto mechanic struggles to keep his family's roadside rest stop afloat and find his place in a newly mechanized world.



CARRION YVONNE ZHANG US

In an isolated desert motel, a young girl digs up a rotting carcass. Later that night, something mysterious is unearthed in her mother.



READ ME: UNHEARD NARRATIONS POURIA NOORI, IRAN

.....

This film highlights one human library near Harandi. Human libraries are libraries where people choose a person to talk to instead of a book. Here we understand how much of a safe place it is for local women victims of sexual harassment.



ITCHING CATHERINE MARRIOTT-BROWN UK

.....

A young woman is feeling desperately lonely. She actually misses someone to hug but especially to itch her. Everyday she's going on the beach trying to resolve this problem. Will she succeed?



CARCERAL SCRIVINGS MAUREEN WOLLOSHIN UK

.....

An account of a collaborative free improvisation undertaken as part of Space 21 Festival in the women's cells in the abandoned Red Prison, Sulayamniah, Iraq in September 2022 and the emotion it invoked.



SCREEN7 / FRIDAY 14TH / 20:00-22:00 **RELATIONSHIPS** (WOMEN'S VOICES)

SCREEN 8 / FRIDAY 14TH / 20:00-22:00 GAMES WE PLAY (HORROR)



PROXIMITY JAMIE MILLER CANADA

A woman living in a small Newfoundland town labours all day on land while she awaits her husband's boat to return from sea.

......



MY EYES ARE UP HERE NATHAN MORRIS UK

A cute love story featuring a disabled woman. My Eyes Are Up Here offers a deep insight into the life of under-represented disabled people while highlighting the stereotypes and the difficulties they face everyday.



Beautifully realized. Such a subtle, emotionally deft film. Imbued with a meditative stillness, 'Itching' combs humans' yearning for social connectedness and intimacy. Exquisitely filmed

Simon Leyden on Itching



BADPENNY TONY HIPWELL UK

.....

An antiques dealer is haunted by a cursed object that won't take no for an answer.



RHYMEORDIE MAX LINCOLN UK

Five kidnapped strangers are forced to rhyme to their captor's funky beats - or die.

.....



THE HUNTER REUBEN VICK UK

A hunter walks alone through what seems to be a familiar forest, but he is unprepared for what he will encounter there... A surreal horror short.

......



SUCKER ALIX AUSTIN

force dry.

.....

To her horror. Sam discovers her

sister Caitlin has been infested

by a monstrous leech creature

that is slowly sucking her life

HIDEOUS Yann gonzalez UK

Popstar Oliver Sim is the main guest of a talk-show that soon slides into a surreal journey of love, shame and blood. A threepart musical short.

.....



PROGEDIA - WE ARE THE NIGHT ALESSANDRO AMADUCCI ITALY

A journey into the world of nocturnal paintings. A dancing celebration of the night.

.....



SCREEN8 / FRIDAY 14TH / 20:00-22:00 **GAMES WE PLAY** (HORROR)

SCREEN7 / SATURDAY 15TH / 14:00–16:00 **PARENTING** (women's voices)



ERIC DAVID YORKE UK

Joshua finally gets to meet Eric, the beloved dog of a girl he's been dating. As the evening evolves, Josh begins to get a sneaking suspicion that Eric isn't your typical house pet.

.....



SARANGI TARUN THIND UK

A young boy is lured by the sound of a mysterious stringed instrument, only to discover that the ominous figure that plays it has a hold on more than just his ears.



THE FORFEIT JOSIE CHARLES, PHOEBE BROOKS, UK

A girl meets her wealthy boyfriend's eccentric family for Christmas. She takes part in their traditional game and struggles to keep up with the in-jokes and rules. Round after round she starts to understand it and discovers a dark secret.



HELLO, MUSCLES MARNIE BAXTER UK

.....

An emotional glimpse of a mum and her daughter living with a carer. This is a brilliant representation of the courage proof some youngsters are demonstrating and is also making us think of what it really means to be strong.



BIENVENIDOS A LOS ANGELES LISA COLE, US

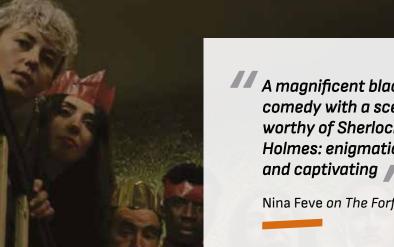
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Inspired by true events and shot on location at LAX airport, "Bienvenidos a Los Angeles" tells the timely story of Imani, a Nigerian single-mother living in Los Angeles, who offers to help a perfect stranger reunite with her son.



SUPERVISION SOPHIE COLOUHOUN UK

Bea, a psychologically abused girl, decides that rather than turn into her mother, she will become a spider. This decision propels her through an otherwise empty existence until she discovers that her mother too tried to do the same.



A magnificent black comedy with a scenario worthy of Sherlock Holmes: enigmatic funny and captivating

Nina Feve on The Forfeit



THIS LITTLE GIRL ANNETTE WESTWOOD UK

......

A mother with a substance misuse issue, has to prove herself on her path to recovery, to prevent her child from being taken away from her and placed into care.



THE CUNNING AI FXANDRA MAHER UK

1724, a teenager with Down's syndrome helps herself, and others, to escape from accusations of witchcraft.

.....



BLUEBOTTLE JENNY WRIGHT UK

A story of Independence, about a hot water bottle who learns to embrace the cold

SCREEN7 / SATURDAY 15TH / 14:00-16:00 **PARENTING** (WOMEN'S VOICES)

SCREEN8 / SATURDAY 15TH / 14:00-16:00 BREAKING BOUNDARIES (NON FICTION)



MILK ADAM ETHERIDGE UK

A single Mum collects her teenage son from hospital following a suicide attempt, but quickly finds herself trapped between the medical advice she receives, and her fundamental instincts as a parent.



NOT MY SISTER JESSICA COURTNEY LEE IRELAND

Chris comes home to Cork from London for her sister Zara's 13th birthday, a buried family secret begins to find its way to the surface.



An immersive, imaginatively staged experimental film. A powerful portrayal of a deeply dysfunctional motherdaughter relationship.

Simon Leyden on Supervision



SHCOOL KIMIA RAHMANI GHANE IRAN

.....

At a girls' high school in a deprived part of Tehran, a group of female students courageously talk about their hopes, dreams, and frustrations of living as teenage girls in present day Iran.



PARTICLES PAOLO SODI

ITALY

Take a deep breath. Particles is the second single of a journey that is free of constraints. It sings of a dream of endless freedom in the style of a ballad that evolves from simple to complex, graceful to explosive, ethereal to impetuous.



YELLOWSTONE 88 – SONG OF FIRE JERRY VAN DE BEEK, BETSY DE FRIES, US

.....

In the summer of 1988 dry lightning sparked a fire in the parched and drought ridden landscape of Yellowstone Park, igniting a blaze that would scorch over 1.5 million perimeter acres of the park.



LOVELANGUAGES JASON OSBORNE

.....

Six black men share their personal experiences of love and loss in an Afro-Caribbean barbershop in Brixton, South London, whilst challenging perceptions of their own identity and black masculinity.



THELOSTLIBRARY EVY BARRY UK

.....

'I was well aware how much our roles had been reversed.' A devoted daughter strives to respect her increasingly forgetful, elderly father's desire for independence, while still trying to keep him safe. Shot on the film-maker's I-Phone.



ATLAS DUNCAN EWAN CAMERON MACLEOD, UK

ATLAS follows eco-conscious, ocean wildlife artist Olivier Leger as he begins to grapple with the plan for his latest painting 'Atlas'. Can art inspire someone to change?

SCREEN8 / SATURDAY 15TH / 14:00-16:00 BREAKING BOUNDARIES (NON FICTION)

SCREEN7 / SATURDAY 15TH / 16:00-18:00 TURNING TIDES (WOMEN'S VOICES)



UNHINGED JEAN-LUC MCMURTRY US

Cenza explores release from the routines and product oriented mindset of everyday life as she transforms into influential film characters from the 20th century.



JOY UNCENSORED NATASHA HAWTHORNTH-WAITE, UK

64-year-old Joy France attempts to break gender and age stereotypes by competing in the brutal, youthful, maledominated world of battle rap. A story of one woman's daring attempt to embrace life.



Shot on a smartphone, this imbued the film with a close-up, naturalistic quality elevated by some beautiful visual and verbal metaphors; an Alzheimer's mind likened to a library of missing books.

Simon Leyden on Lost Library



STAY YU SUN UK

Needles are used to repair damage. Stay is a short animated film made using hand embroidery on tracing paper, depicting the relationship between a daughter and her absent father. A film to make you remember to spend time with loved ones.



BONA VACANTIA SHEZAH SALAM UK

Council worker Nadia Basheer investigates the homes of Liverpool's recently deceased while battling her own severe death paranoia.



DEADCAT FILM JOSIE CHARLES, NATHAN MILLER, UK

A young woman becomes increasingly attached to the taxidermied corpse of her housemate's cat. A dark comedy starring Will Gao (Heartstopper/ Netflix), Josie Charles and featuring the voice of Hugh Bonneville (Downton Abbey, Notting Hill).



SPOON ARTHUR CHAYS FRANCE

To escape from everyday life, it's very simple: you need a ladder and a spoon. But is it really that easy?



MEDAMA ANNA YAMAMOTO JAPAN

Once upon a time, an eyeball born from a tree embarked on a journey of adventures. The eyeball never stopped walking in spite of the many challenges it faced. Every time it overcame a difficulty, the eyeball came upon beautiful scenery.

.....



GRANNY FRANCIS CASTELLI UK

Preston, 1972. This true story explores the secrets we keep within and why. A young boy reluctantly visits his Granny for the afternoon unknowingly helping her to pack away a significant part of her life.

.....



SCREEN7 / SATURDAY 15TH / 16:00-18:00 **TURNING TIDES** (women's voices)

SCREEN8 / SATURDAY 15TH / 16:00-18:00 LIFE'S A GAMBLE (CRIME)



ALICIA ARMSTRONG LARRAIN

PAULA ARMSTRONG, CHILE

An email reveals to Paula Amstrong, the existence of a 1926 Chilean director named Alicia, who surprisingly bears her last name. Paula will try to recover everything about Alicia's movie, realizing that something deeper is hidden behind it.



TIDAL CHLOE VAN LANDSCHOOT, NIAMH WILSON, CANADA

Tidal externalizes the life of a nurse over a year focusing on workplace trauma and the difficulty of the nursing profession. Overwhelmed she is no longer able to connect to the world and to separate hospital life from herself.



BUFFLEHEAD STEVE BRETT UK



In a dystopian near future, a patient seeking medical treatment finds that support isn't as smooth as they might have expected.





TOMB FAN YANG CHINA

.....

ChaCha, a house mover dreams of getting rich.

One day, he was lured by Tang and walked into the dark road of tomb-robbing. The flame of desire illuminated the funerary treasures in the tomb, as well as his future...



LAPSE IMOGEN HARRISON UK

Lara's husband and son went out of town. After having had some after-work drinks Lara spent the night with Bert. For Lara it was a mistake but Bert has other ideas. He desperately wants more and starts being intense and frightening.



SMOKING DOLPHINS SEAN LYONS

UK

A classic afternoon in a British bar : drinking beers, playing billiards and spilling the tea. Would you believe in smoking dolphins?



UNDERS BERT DIJKSTRA UK

friends.

in Glasgow, a strong-willed

teenager struggles to cope

with the behaviour of her male

GIACOMO ESPOSITO UK At an under-18s club night

SEEN

A struggling artist becomes concerned that something sinister is happening between the couple next door, much to the exasperation of his longsuffering girlfriend.



HEADLIGHTS NICK USHER UK



Joe is having an affair and getting away with it, until he witnesses a brutal attack. Will he drive away from the scene, or will he do the right thing? Either way, his life will never be the same again

SCREEN8 / SATURDAY 15TH / 16:00-18:00 LIFE'S A GAMBLE (CRIME)

SCREEN 7 / SATURDAY 15TH / 18:00-20:00 **FUTURE DANCE** (science fiction & fantasy)



THEGAMBLER MARK POPPLE UK

The Gambler is a black comedy about the battle of wits between an inveterate gambler and the two less-thanintelligent heavies who have been tasked with making him disappear.



Sexy, tense, full of deceit, lust, and the innate human ability to mess up, loved it!

John Currie on Lapse



LE VAROU MARIE HEYSE FRANCE

.....

Gaby is a nomadic hunter living in the countryside. Just after the death of her brother, her neighbours' sheeps curiously start being attacked... Is there a link between the death of her brother and the attacks?



IT GOT ME IN NOVEMBER SOPHIE BROADGATE UK

.....

Emma is convinced a mysterious parasite is taking over her body and mind. Her sister comes to visit with the hope of helping Emma out of her depressive episode



AMINDCANNOTTOUCH GEOFFREY PRATHER US

This short film is about loss and how one grieving mother could do anything to get her daughter back. What if you could bring a loved one back after their physical



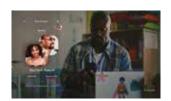
BABY BOOM THOMAS LUNDE NORWAY

The middle-aged alcoholic Runar believes he has scored the perfect date. Things take a strange turn when he realizes he's impregnated with her alien eggs.



DEADLINE SHIHAN SHOUKATH UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

A disturbed 811 operator navigates through connecting grieving callers amid another troubling day of disclosures and realizations.



DATELEAP IACK EVANS UK

body has died?

Amidst media controversy, a virtual reality dating app whisks Callum and Rachel back to the 1930s. But when their swinging fling takes an unexpected turn, any hope of a future together hangs in the balance.



SCREEN 8 / SATURDAY 15TH / 18:00-20:00 LET'S SCREAM! (PRIDE)

SCREEN7 / SATURDAY 15TH / 20:00-22:00 FAMILIAR FEARS (HORROR)



RIVER TAKE ME EDIE DEFFEBACH UK

Over the course of one long wintry day, two very different women fight to salvage a troubled relationship



MAGMA ARTHUR FANGET FRANCE

Adil, 20, has a date with a girl tonight downtown. Time to show everybody on social media, especially Sabri, his best and only friend, that he can seduce.



TELL TYLER FRANKIE JOE GOMMON UK



To complete his coming out journey, Adam must tell his childhood best friend, Tyler, that he is gay. Slight problem: Adam is in love with Tyler, and Tyler has a girlfriend



AKILLEROUTSIDE JOE ZALIAS UK

.....

Suffering from agoraphobia and believing she is being tormented by an alien entity, Caroline must distinguish between reality and mental illness. With the help of her therapist, she summons the strength to leave the confines of her home.



AMY&I **BASTIAAN ROOK** NETHERLANDS

.....

When Amy and her boyfriend have a nice dinner in a restaurant where they first met, it turns out there's some pressure on their relationship.



EARTHWORM GRACE GREGORY US

When 22 year old Claire finds out she's pregnant, she knows she wants to have an abortion. With confidence in her choice and support everything should be fine. That is what she thought before the hallucinations started...

.....



THE FISHING NET ANNA PALINKAS HUNGARY

Budapest, 1953. A man was killed. Andras, a prestigious doctor and family man, is interrogated by the Secret Police. This is the era of spies. Freedom is relative. And being gay is a punishable offense. Andras has much to fear.



EMPRESS CLAWSCREAM STEPHEN T LALLY UK

Two friends go to a comics and science fiction convention but end up being mocked because of their originality. This joyful love story is highlighting the right of everyone to be respected regardless of their differences.

A heartwarming coming of age story, and a love letter to queer and nerd cultures

Abi on Empress ClawScream



0 DOMINIK BALKOW GERMANY

lasmin sees a fist-sized hole in a brick wall. She's hypnotically drawn to it and can't focus on anything else. A morbid obsession begins, until the hole suddenly disappears. '0' is a surreal film about the horrors of addiction.



HIDDENMOTHER JEROEN VAN DUYVENBODE NETHERLANDS

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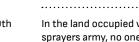
A business woman in late 19th century England arrives at the estate of her latest client where she discovers a deeply unsettling secret.



THE SPRAYER FARNOOSH ABEDI IRAN

In the land occupied with the sprayers army, no one has the right to grow any kind of plants either in public or private. Most people don't even know how plants grow or what they look like, until one day one of the soldiers finds a seed buried deep down in the dust...

B'Oscar Nominated () Best on Festival Nomination





SCREEN7 / SATURDAY 15TH / 20:00-22:00 FAMILIAR FEARS (HORROR)

SCREEN8 / SATURDAY 15TH / 20:00-22:00 HOME TEAM (EASTMIDS FOCUS)



INTERRUPTED DREAM GILLES TIMMS US

A dreamscape drifts the viewer in and out of a familiar, yet unfamiliar, urban setting. A world that offers moments of escape and insight. Windows into the given world that allow us to see beyond the terrific absurdity of modern life.



SHINY NEW WORLD JAN VAN GORKUM NETHERLANDS

.....

Fifty-year-old Barry is a special kind of cleaner: he cleans crime scenes where demons have wreaked havoc. While making a corporate film about his work, a normal working day for Barry gets out of hand in a bloody way.



FAMILIAR david j. ellison uk



1942, Pennsylvania, Richard Mason is the Familiar to a hideous ancient vampiric creature living in the bowels of an isolated mansion. Every day he must bring a new victim for it to feed on and tolerate its physical and mental abuse.



WHO'S COUNTING? BEN LANKESTER UK

.....

'Who's Counting?' tells the story of a couple as they endure the pain and trauma of successive miscarriages.



BOY IN THE BACKSEAT SCOTT PICKUP UK

1986, a young boy is left in the car while his volatile dad takes care of some 'business' in a dodgy local pub. What could possibly go wrong? A bold and edgy film about toxic masculinity and the damage we pass on to the next generation.



FIFTY-FOUR DAYS CAT WHITE, PHOEBE TORRANCE, UK

.....

When tragedy strikes, a spirited young woman turns to wild swimming in search of answers. By swimming each day at dawn and forming an unlikely friendship, she learns to accept her grief and the grief of those around her.





KIDDO BRETT CHAPMA UK

.....

On a rickety bus trundling through wilting countryside, a mysterious older woman named 'Kiddo' and a cohort of overexcited teenagers meander towards Wonderland, a theme park like no other.



MACAQUE KANE WILSON US

Macaque is a story about Aaron & Skyler, two animal rights activists trying to expose pharmaceutical companies and their mistreatment of monkeys.

.....



YOU'RE ABSOLUTELY RIGHT THEO GEE, IAN BOUSHER UK

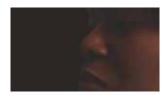
......

A paranoid hoarder is seduced into doing the unthinkable by a hotline that only tells its customers that they're right.

physical and mental abuse.

SCREEN 8 / SATURDAY 15TH / 20:00-22:00 HOME TEAM (EAST MIDS FOCUS)

SCREEN7 / SUNDAY 16TH / 12:00-14:00 UNSPOKEN (VARIETY PACK)



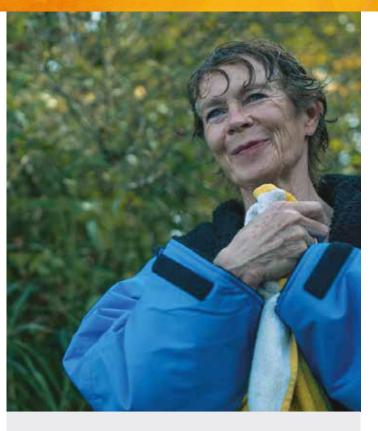
VOID STANLEY ROUBAIX UK

A homeless woman breaks into the house of a recently deceased man looking for food and shelter, but after lighting a candelabra, a series of disturbing events is set into motion.



SPOOKY BASTARD MICHAEL BIRD, RAFE BIRD UK

A loud crash in the middle of the night, a cloaked figure in the garden... Jamie has found himself in a horror movie. Now he and his girlfriend must find how to get rid of the Spooky Bastard so that they can just get a good night's sleep...



The film was blessed with a stellar cast and topnotch acting. There were several well-directed, well-observed, tenderly affecting scenes.

Simon Leyden on Fifty-Four Days



BUS DRIVER AMAR SINGH SETHI UK

.....

The usual journey of a London bus driver transforms into a living nightmare as he finds himself in the middle of a terrorist stand-off. Lives hang in the balance as he desperately tries to negotiate his way out of the quagmire.



MY DEAR SON LILIAN FU HONG KONG

Rose unexpectedly gives birth to a cat son and she struggles to love him. Rose tries her best to change him. However, to find a connection she will need to learn to love him for who he is whilst remembering who she is.



MERGEN RAIYMBEK ALZHANOV KAZAKHSTAN

.....

On the strife-torn Central Asian steppe, a young boy, Mergen must defend his family in the place of his absent father. He will do so with courage, cunning, and above all, a mystical gift from his grandmother.



SMOKEDFISH JENNY XUEER WAN UK

Chinese Grandma Yu's visit to see her granddaughter in the UK is disrupted when she is racially attacked and beaten to the ground. Family members come together to help each other understand and recover from this traumatizing incident.



HUSH EMILIE BECK NORWAY

Martin seems like a normal 12 year-old boy, but at home he faces a harsh reality. With an alcoholic father, and a mother who barely manages to handle the situation, Martin is forced to do what it takes to keep the family together.

A drama that deftly manages to build character, create tension, thoroughly involve the viewer and reach an easy conclusion all in under 15 minutes.

Karen Stainer

on Bus Driver



SCREEN8 / SUNDAY 16TH / 12:00-14:00 CHAOS THEORY (VARIETY PACK)

SCREEN7 / SUNDAY 16TH / 14:00-16:00 OVERSTIMULATED (VARIETY PACK)



ORANNAH-EALA STEVE EXETER UK

.....

A vivid dream exploration of Moira Shearer's heart and mind, just before and after she agreed to star in Powell and Pressburger's beloved cinema classic "The Red Shoes", a decision that would change her life forever.



THE MOUNTAIN CLARE MACDONALD UK

.....

Matthew is tired of feeling down. He wants to get help, get milk, and get back to normal. But his relentless inner voices are not going to make things easy. In fact, they're going to make sure it's an ice-cold uphill struggle.



40TH HAMED GHASEMI IRAN

Saghar lost her father 40 days ago and now lives with her stepmother and her daughter and her aunt. A suitor is going to come to her tonight but Saghar does not want to see him. She is hiding a huge secret.

••••••



ELPIDA BILLY SOULIS GREECE

.....

Elpida is the sad and affecting story of a 35 years old homeless girl who is obsessed with lids and numbers. Tired, hungry and lonely she is trying her best to survive in the streets of Athens.



SAMURAI FROG GOLF BRENT FORREST JAPAN

.....

A retired frog samurai wants nothing more than to be left alone and spend his remaining years in peace on the golf course. But when he unwillingly becomes the protector of a baby turtle he must draw his club for one more round.



XTOX LILY GWYNNE-THOMAS UK

.....

Meeting her estranged famous twin becomes a young housewife's chance at a better life.



OUT OF CHAOS GEORGE O'REILLY UK

Jon struggles with the stressful nature of life but his friend Tommy convinces him to reject the status quo. Together, they thus enter into an appreciative euphoric state of chaos until they face the brutality of the latter.



BAHAR MARYAM HAMIDI UK

A lonely widow's home is infested by the manifestation of her dead daughter's spirit, but when her son returns from university and confronts her emotional entombment and deep guilt she's forced to choose between the living and the dead.

.....



SIDETRACKING MARCO DE ROSSO UK

Going separate ways after a rough break-up, two young hitchhikers each talk to the strangers they meet on the road and reflect on whether to get back together or not.



LOVEISFREE HANNAH RENTON

.....

"Love is Free" is a triptych

relationship with love and

telling the story of one woman's

how it has been shaped by her

relationship with her eccentric

UK

father.



SNOWCONEIOUS SAM OSBORN US

A man buys a snow-cone machine from a wizard, and regrets it when he is transported to the land of SnowConeious - a cold and evil place.

.....



MOUSTACHEMAN SEAN JOSEPH YOUNG UK

.....

Moustache Man follows a son, Jack, taking care of his Mother after the passing of his Father. His absence left a mother dealing with grief and her own mental illness, and a son trying his best to care for her.



SCREEN 7 SUNDAY 16TH 14:00-16:00 **OVERSTIMULATED** (VARIETY PACK)

SCREEN8 / SUNDAY 16TH / 14:00-16:00 FULL CIRCLE (FAMILY)



WAKE REBECCA ROSE UK

A family of farmers suffer from a tragic loss. WAKE raises awareness of the underreported social issue of mental health in rural settings and how conversations about feelings prevent from suicide.

.....



SIP DURU AZUBUIKE NIGERIA

Kolo started taking coffee in order to achieve its tasks quicker but became addicted and started seeing its bad side. This animation shows the deep spiritual work that takes a dive into the internal battles of the mind.



As a coffee-addict... yeah, I know, the struggle is real!

Sam Kurd on SIP



FORHEIDI LUCY CAMPBELL UK

.....

Thirteen-years-old Heidi is sent home from school for breaking the rules because of her hair style. Furious, Heidi arrives home accompanied by her best friend. Her supportive dad finds a loophole to challenge the school.



NON-NEGOTIABLE MIKE DOXFORD UK

.....

A couple in a cafe nervously await their harshest critic and most important confidant... their nine-year-old daughter! She will soon set out the terms and conditions she requires for the arrival of her new sibling.



BROTHERNESS DAVID POWER ROMANIA

Learning of their mother's accident, two young brothers, Miha and Stefi, escape on an adventure. They soon find out they will need to rely on each other to overcome their fears.

.....



TREASURE SEAN PATRICK HEALY UK

.....

Sunny talkaholic Pip can't remember when people started to ignore her. In addition to her health issues Pip is also suffering from being seen but not noticed. That was until she met this seven year old girl.



THE WELL PETER STANLEY-WARD UK

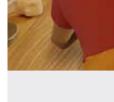
.....

Known as the outsider. Trish leads three 'friends' to a secret well in the hope to build friendships. When they realise the potential of the well, they get a terrifying reminder to always be careful what you wish for ...



FREE AASHISH GADHVI UK

A woman intervenes when a fishmonger corners a refugee girl for stealing a fish - shot in Catania, Sicily on 35mm film.



SCREEN 8 / SUNDAY 16TH / 14:00-16:00 FULL CIRCLE (FAMILY)



TALIA CARA BAMFORD UK

Talia is curious and loves nature. She enjoys slipping out of the house to explore the world. But her father discovers it and forbids her to leave the house. Hopefully she finds out that her neighbour is sharing the same passion.



THE JENNIE SHOW SUPERDOG, KEVIN LEE TAIWAN

••••••

Jennie is what they call an ABT girl (American-Born Taiwanese). She is in Taiwan to connect with her roots, but it's much more difficult that she imagined. This film details Jennie's journey in learning the culture and customs of Taiwan.



BETWEEN WINGS AND SWINGS

YUYANG YAN CANADA

.



Through an unexpected turn of events, a young girl must learn to let go.



THE LAST CLOUDWEAVER ANNA-ESTER VOLOZH UK

.....

High above the clouds, a Dragon is teaching his granddaughter Cloud Weaving : a magical art form. It takes time and patience to learn, and Skye still needs practice.



THE MOON FOLLOWED ME **TO FALMOUTH** IOEL GIBBS

..... A seafarer sings the story of how he, as a young man, left Falmouth looking for a new life on the High Seas. During his voyage, he recounts how the moon began to follow him, watching his every move.

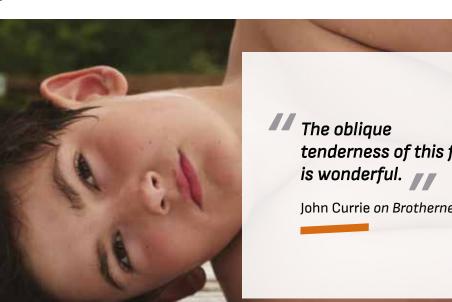


SEM **IOKE DUWAERTS** BELGIUM

In a world where water has special powers, a couple picks flowers throughout the forest to put them in a very precious place.

.....





tenderness of this film

John Currie on Brotherness

PRISONER OUTSIDE IGOR MEDVEDEV

..... Locked up and isolated, a

prisoner starts to merge his

imagination with the real world

and tries to escape the prison

with his newly found powers.

GERMANY

US

B'Oscar Nominated



SCREEN7 SUNDAY 16TH 16:00-18:00



CRUISE SAM RUDYKOFF CANADA

A hapless telemarketer tenaciously tries to give away a free cruise. But if he fails, there will be dire consequences.



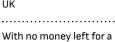
WORK IT CLASS! POL DIGGLER SPAIN

During a fancy New Year's Eve party, two dancers will try to mock the upper class audience by changing the song of their performance.

.....



WORLDS APART CAMERON STRACHAN UK



With no money left for a train, Danny has to walk from Glasgow's West End to the East End. A comedy/romance which deals with the difficult subject of class divide.



SWAT SAM COOMBES UK

.....

An explosive, territorial brawl erupts between man and beast. But who will be victorious?





THE FIRST CIRCLE MAXIMILIAN DOBBYN, ANTHONY LE, UK

When Death (and his head of research and development) stage an intervention for a fake news-peddling journalist, she ends a doomed relationship to save her soul. The fate of her soul, however, is the least of Death's worries.



YOU'RE ALRIGHT HUN KATIE-ANN MCDONOUGH IRELAND

Orla is on the brink caring for her terminally ill Dad, Darragh. While waiting in the pharmacy for his pain medicine, all hell breaks loose when Orla's ex-girlfriend shows up to return a potted succulent.



PETNAME DAN BOADEN UK

.....

Sophie has spent weeks planning a special day out to celebrate her partner's birthday. Searching for a lighter for his birthday candle, she discovers that James's 'unique' pet name for her may not be quite as original as she first thought...



THEMAGICFLUTE

GEORDI COUTURIAU FRANCE

Deep in debt and with his mother dying, Arnaud meets Momo, an eccentric magician from his neighbourhood. Is his luck about to change and will the discovery of a magic flute bring them both good fortune?

.....

Once again, Pol Diggler shows how much fun it is to play with the medium and with audience expectations - hilarious!

Sam Kurd on Work It Class!

SCREEN 8 / SUNDAY 16TH / 16:00-18:00 BLAMELESS (DRAMA)

SCREEN 3 / SUNDAY 16TH / 19:00-22:00

Awards night of the 9th Beeston Film Festival



MANTOMAN Shehroze khan UK

Malcolm brings his son Dion to a boxing ring to 'make a man' out of him. Tensions fly high as Dion refuses to learn how to fight. Malcolm and Dion finally let it all out to decide: what it means to be a man in today's world?



BLUE RAIN JET KRAGT NETHERLANDS

After giving birth, Saar flees into what could have been her future. When the safe delusion is overtaken by harsh reality, everything becomes unbearable.



VOICES ABBIE LUCAS UK



When moving into their new home, Tara and Drew are alarmed when they overhear their neighbours arguing. As the voices get louder and more violent, they must decide if it's their responsibility to act.



Our Beeston Oscar, known as the B'Oscar, is designed by talented local artist, Bec Joy.

Welcome to the annual Film Award Event! Join us for an unforgettable evening of glamour, excitement, and celebration of the best films and performances of the year.

Our red carpet event will begin at 7pm, where you'll have the opportunity to mingle with industry professionals and fellow film enthusiasts. Our hosts at the Arc will indulge the audience in bubbly and cinema tapas – popcorn and nachos glory!

After a robust selection process and rigorous adjudication by our international jury, at last the winners of the 2023 B'Oscars will be announced. The nominations are listed overleaf.



BAGGAGE ANTTI AHOKOIVU FINLAND

After dating for a good while, Vilja and Olavi decide to move in together. They start conversing about their past relationships while carrying around a bed. Difficult emotions arise as they learn new details about one another's past.



MASKED LUKAS REVZIN UK

Diamond, a single mum living on benefits in London, is trying to earn some extra money to buy a gymnastics competition dress for her daughter during the lockdown.



WOMENOF VIRTUE STÉPHANIE HALFON FRANCE

Etel, a 9-year-old Jewish French girl, gets her period for the first time. Her mother is finally considering her as a woman. Etel is blessed, until she finds out that in her religion, women are considered impure when they have their period.

B'Oscar Nominated Best on Festival Nomination



SCREEN 3 / SUNDAY 16TH / 19:00-22:00 **B'OSCARS NOMINATED FILMS**

Awards night of the 9th Beeston Film Festival

BESTINFESTIVAL • Shcool • Pirouette • SIP • The Forfeit • Women of Virtue • Hello, Muscles • Empress Clawstream Mu Free Are the Hore	COMEDY • Pet Name • The Circle • Worlds Apart • SWAT • Non-Negotiable • Close	SCIENCE FICTION • Mergen • Carrion • DEADLINE • That's Our Time • DATELEAP • Rest Stop	WOMEN'S VOICES • Hello, Muscles • My Eyes Are Up Here • Bona Vacantia • Alicia Amstrong Larrain • Bufflehead	MUSIC • The Moon Followed Me To Falmouth • Sincereality • PROGedia - We Are the Night	CINEMATOGRAPHY • Familiar • Mergen • SUPERVISION • Children of Wild Orchid • Who's Counting • My Dear Son
 My Eyes Are Up Here Mergen A Last Resort DRAMA Women of Virtue Not My Sister Voices Baggage NAZLI Lapse Blue Rain 	HORROR • The Forfeit • Familiar • Sarangi • Shiny New World NON-FICTION • Shcool • Joy Uncensored • Bad Hembrewood • Two-Spirit	ANIMATION • My Dear Son • Pirouette • SIP • Stay • The Moon Followed Me To Falmouth • Blue Bottle • THE SPRAYER	 STUDENT Pirouette Unders Sem Love is Free CHILDREN'S JOY Between Wings and Swings Talia Free 	EAST MIDLANDS FOCUS • A Last Resort • ATLAS • Fifty-Four days • Full full, half half • Spooky Bastard SCRIPT • Baggage • Bona Vacantia • Hello, Muscles • Man To Man	PERFORMANCE • Familiar (Hugo Nicolau) • Milk (Laura Aikman) • River Take Me (Edie Deffebach & Elea- nor Wyld) • Women of Virtue (Lou Bennett as Etel) SOUND TRACK & DESIGN • Cheap Hugs • Sarangi
CRIME Headlights The Gambler Tomb Smocking Dolphins Seen 			PRIDE • Empress Clawstream • Magma • The Fishing Net • River Take Me • Tell Tvler	DIRECTION • Women of Virtue • Hello, Muscles • Blue Rain • Familiar • Lapse	• Suburban Fantasy • SUPERVISION

 Lapse Unders

BISTRO 66 / THURSDAY-SATURDAY 16TH / 22:00 ONWARDS FESTIVAL CLUB

STARSIN THE FESTIVAL





THE BISTROCLUB

A welcoming place to meet in an exclusive environment (for film-makers, festival organisers & festival goers to discuss the films of the day).

Pick up your membership cards after the film sessions from the festival volunteers !

66 High Rd Beeston Nottingham NG9 2LF

www.bistro66.co.uk

A sample of some of the stars blessing this year's festival.



GEMMA ARTERTON (The King's Man) In "The Cunning"



MELISSA FUMERO (Brooklyn 99) In "Bad Hembrewood"



DAVID HAREWOOD (Homeland) In "Man to Man"



MARK GATISS (Doctor Who) In "Moustache Man"



KATE DICKIE (Game of Thrones) In "Hello, Muscles"



TANYA REYNOLDS (Sex Education) In "X to X"



GUILLERMO DEL TORO (Filmmaker of Shape of Water) In "Bad Hombrewood"



CELIA IMRIE (Bridget Jones) In "Fifty Four Days"



VICKY MCCLURE (This Is England) Voice in "Good Grief"

WORKSHOPS

SATURDAY 15[™] APRIL

2PM-B'OSCAR BLOCKBUSTERS!

Speakers – Rob Sharp, Leanne Davis, Jonathan Hawes, & Dawn Reeves The wealth of filmmaking talent within Beeston itself is amazing. These four filmmakers, whose films dazzled on our opening night, will share their unique stories.

4PM-RAISING FINANCE FOR FILMMAKERS

Speaker - Peter Storey, CEO & Founder Greenlit

Peter's knowledge and expertise in raising funds for filmmaking, vital information for any budding film maker or producer

SUNDAY 16TH APRIL

2PM-FILMFESTIVAL STRATEGIES

Speaker - Mark Brennan, Festival Formula

Mark is a Festival Liaison at Festival Formula and brings a wealth of film making experience to the role. Mark will discuss those vital strategies and tactics every filmmaker needs to know to ensure a successful festival run.

4 PM-QUEER HORROR CINEMA

Speaker - Evangeline Spachis, Independent Festival Programmer

Evangeline draws upon her wealth of cinematic knowledge to introduce the amazing world Queer horror cinema and the connection between the LGBT community and the genre. The session will include clips and subsequent Q & A.



TICKETS & MAP

FESTIVAL TICKETS

WHERE TO FIND THEM?

You can buy your tickets for both the film sessions and the workshops via links available on our website: www.beestonfilm.com

You can also directly buy your film session tickets on the Arc website and your Workshop tickets on Eventbrite.

USEFUL MAPS



2 Yellow Wood Cafe







