UK SHORT FILM AND NEW TALENT 2020
INTRODUCTION
SUPPORTING NEW TALENT & SHORT FILMMAKERS
ABOUT BFI NETWORK
LIVE ACTION
DOCUMENTARY
ANIMATION
VR / IMMERSIVE EXPERIENCE
SUNDANCE LAB ATTENDEE’S PERSPECTIVE
INDEX OF FILMS
INTRODUCTION

Welcome to the UK Short Film and New Talent Catalogue 2020, presented by British Council and BFI NETWORK.

We’re proud to champion upcoming UK short films and VR/immersive storytelling projects to programmers and audiences around the world. British Council’s Film department is the link between UK films and international audiences. Our new talent programme (which includes a Travel Grant Fund for festivals and labs, offered in partnership with BFI NETWORK) exists to support UK-based filmmakers to show their work and develop their skills internationally. The scheme provides a platform to promote UK work to our extensive programming contacts from key international film festivals. Our Travel Grant Fund, run in partnership with BFI NETWORK, supports filmmakers’ travel to key international film festivals and development labs. BFI NETWORK is a collaboration between the BFI, national film organisations and leading cultural venues around the UK with a mission to discover and support talented writers, directors and producers at the start of their filmmaking careers. It provides funding for short films, supports the development of first features, and offers a range of professional and creative development programmes.

This catalogue includes details of UK short productions that have been supported by the Travel Grant Fund in the last year, alongside some BFI NETWORK top picks and key names to watch.
SUPPORTING NEW TALENT AND SHORT FILMMAKERS

JOIN THE UK SHORTS PORTAL

Are you a short film programmer, buyer or distributor? Sign up to our new UK Shorts Portal, powered by Cinando, to view the very latest short films from the UK, programmed in partnership with BFI NETWORK, NFTS, London Film School, Film4 and more. The platform is exclusively for short film professionals.

To request access to the UK Shorts Portal, visit: www.film.britishcouncil.org/resources/short-support-scheme

TRAVEL GRANTS FOR FESTIVALS AND LABS

We work to champion upcoming UK films and filmmakers to programmers and audiences around the world. If you are an early career filmmaker or VR/Immersive storytelling artist, we can support you with a Short Film Travel Grant to attend a key international film festival, or a Lab Grant to learn and develop new skills at an international training lab.

For more information about these grants visit film.britishcouncil.org/opportunities/short-film-travel-grant
film.britishcouncil.org/opportunities/labs-travel-grant

To learn more about the opportunities available to new and emerging filmmakers, visit: film.britishcouncil.org/opportunities

Contact films@britishcouncil.org
ABOUT BFI NETWORK

BFI NETWORK is a collaboration between the BFI, national film organisations and leading cultural venues around the UK with a mission to discover and support talented writers, directors and producers at the start of their filmmaking careers.

BFI NETWORK provides funding for short films, supports the early development of first features, and offers a range of professional and creative development programmes.

Every year NETWORK invests £2.5 million of National Lottery funding. Since September 2013 this has meant:

- Funding for hundreds of shorts and feature developments
- Award nominations, including BAFTAs and an Oscar® for supported work
- Masterclasses with world-renowned filmmakers such as Steve McQueen, Luca Guadagnino, Julie Dash & Carol Morley

The best way to get in touch with NETWORK is via the website network.bfi.org.uk where filmmakers can:

- Use the Funding Finder to discover and apply for UK-Wide funding opportunities
- Connect with their local Talent Executive and find out what events are happening in their area
- Get the latest filmmaking news, interviews and podcasts
- Watch NETWORK funded short films

Find out more about BFI NETWORK at network.bfi.org.uk
Contact bfinetwork@bfi.org.uk
LIVE ACTION
**2064**

SYNOPSIS
Looking at Africa in the future: In 2064 population growth and climate pressures have pushed the continent to the brink. Most animals are wiped out, and a federation of African states institutes an annual cull of men to restore the balance.

**Details**
Year: 2019
Running Time: 12 min
Director: Joseph A. Adesunloye
Producer: Joseph Adesunloye
Screenwriter: Joseph A. Adesunloye
Principal Cast: Donald Molosi, Thabo Rametsi

Further Credits and Production/Sales contacts

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**Affection**

SYNOPSIS
Clumsy romantic Sunny is infatuated with glitzy but deadbeat, Francophile bingo-caller Pauline Dupondt and forgets the important things in life – like his 80-year-old Grandmother Dot’s birthday.

**Details**
Year: 2019
Running Time: 19 min 38 sec
Director: Simon Warwick Green
Producer: Katie Crook
Screenwriter: Adam Gillen, Simon Warwick Green
Principal Cast: Adam Gillen, Katherine Kelly, Eileen Davies, Tony Pitts

Further Credits and Production/Sales contacts

Supported by:
An Arabian Night

SYNOPSIS
Spending his last night as a civilian in his dream-like local tennis club, Michael, a young British soldier confronts a glimpse of the near future waiting for him on the other side of the night.

Official Selection Clermont-Ferrand International Short Film Festival 2020 - International Competition

 DETAILS
Year: 2019
Running Time: 33 min
Director: Pierre Mouzannar
Producer: Marianne Hidari, Amelia Wall
Screenwriter: Pierre Mouzannar
Principal Cast: Haris Salihovic, Murat Erkek

Further Credits and Production/Sales contacts

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Anna

SYNOPSIS
Living in war-torn Eastern Ukraine Anna is an ageing single mother who is desperate for a change. Lured by a radio advertisement, she goes to a party with a group of American men who are touring the country, searching for love.

Official Selection Cannes Film Festival 2019 - Short Film Competition - World premiere

 DETAILS
Year: 2019
Running Time: 15 min
Director: Dekel Berenson
Producer: Dekel Berenson, Olga Beskhmelnitsyna, Merlin Merton
Screenwriter: Dekel Berenson
Principal Cast: Svetlana Alekseevna Barandich, Anastasia Vyazovskaya, Alina Chornogub

Further Credits and Production/Sales contacts

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As Told To G/D Thyself

SYNOPSIS
The story of the sacred youth and the stakes of a cosmic journey. Where the embodiment and the pain, pleasure and sublimation there-in are non-negotiable.

Official Selection Sundance Film Festival 2019 - US Narrative Short Films - World premiere

Attrition

SYNOPSIS
Supernatural drama set in the British trenches of WW1. Along with the rest of his platoon, young Private Edwin Childs fears imminent German gas attacks. As the dreaded attack begins, how much will Edwin give of himself in the ultimate act of compassion towards his fellow men?
Azaar

SYNOPSIS
A tribe of women await their men's return from war. Azaar, one of the last young girls in the village is intertwined between her mother, grandmother and the rest of the tribe, as she comes to learn the true cost of womanhood.

BAFTA Film Awards 2020 - Nomination - Best British Short Film

Be Still My Beating Heart

SYNOPSIS
A nightmarish contemporary vision. Two adult sisters exist dysfunctionally, each limited by illnesses affecting both body and mind – one physically and the other psychologically.

Official Selection BFI London Film Festival 2019 - Cult Strand - World premiere
**The Bicycle Thief**

*SYNOPSIS*
The simple yet charming story of a young girl’s quest to get her stolen bike back.

**DETAILS**
Year: 2018
Running Time: 7 min 50 sec
Director: Kerry Skinner, Stewart Alexander
Producer: Jo Farrugia
Screenwriter: Stewart Alexander
Principal Cast: Maisie Thorn, Richard Costello, Oliver Lang

**Further Credits and Production/Sales contacts**

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**Binge Watching**

*SYNOPSIS*
In a dystopian near-future London, a privileged white woman browses a futuristic VR streaming platform and comes across a VR film where she will experience a tense encounter with a pair of policemen... through the eyes of a black man.

**DETAILS**
Year: 2019
Running Time: 6 min 36 sec
Director: Nosa Igbinedion
Producer: Leon Mayne
Screenwriter: Nosa Igbinedion
Principal Cast: Sam Benjamin, Greg Snowden, Derek Oppong, Tamaryn Payne, Jacqueline Shepherd, Dick Daleki

**Further Credits and Production/Sales contacts**

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Birthday Girl

SYNOPSIS
Set in Manchester’s notorious Moss Side, a single mother’s 40th birthday party ends in disaster when her lover unexpectedly arrives and clashes with her overprotective son.

DETAILS
Year: 2020
Running Time: 16 min 38 sec
Director: Portia A. Buckley
Producer: Michael Lindley, Jason Maza
Screenwriter: Michael Lindley, Portia A. Buckley
Principal Cast: Rebecca Callard, David Judge, Curtis Flowers

Supported by:

Blank Shores

SYNOPSIS
After searching for her missing partner, Emily discovers an underground warehouse. Finding Connor connected to a system of unregulated equipment, she enters his mind. But before she can reconnect with him and find the answers she’s looking for, she must break the physical barrier between them.

DETAILS
Year: 2020
Running Time: 16 min
Director: Alex Kyrou
Producer: Clare Shields
Screenwriter: Alex Kyrou
Principal Cast: Georgina Campbell, Gary Beadle, James Farrar

Supported by:
**Boys Night**

SYNOPSIS
Twelve-year-old Reese must brave the mean and marvellous streets of North East Glasgow to bring his drunken father safely home.

Official Selection Edinburgh International Film Festival 2019 - World premiere

**Bunny**

SYNOPSIS
Buckley is a sensitive and troubled young man with long furry rabbit ears. He believes the ears to be a living part of him as a result of childhood trauma. He longs to escape the confines of the run-down caravan site where he assists his alcoholic grandfather.
**The Curse of the Phantom Tympanum**

**SYNOPSIS**
Time-travelling record producer Harley Byrne crash-lands in a virtual reality heritage theme park in 22nd-century France. Corrupt holograms, cyborg saints, and sentient statues haunt an absurdist Super-8 universe, digitally re-colourised for your pleasure!

**Dark Road**

**SYNOPSIS**
Two young men are compelled toward one another through a shared grief.

**Support by:**

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**details**

- **Year:** 2019
- **Running Time:** 16 min
- **Director:** Rory Gibson
- **Producer:** Douglas Cox
- **Screenwriter:** Rory Gibson
- **Principal Cast:** Ronan Doyle, Adam Greene, Niall Greig Fulton, Andrew Still, Francesco Piacentini-Smith

**Further Credits and Production/Sales Contacts**
Dawn in the Dark

SYNOPSIS
On the eve of her father’s birthday, Dawn and her fun uncle Nate struggle over her bedtime routine. A new dynamic to their relationship is explored as they navigate their way through a family crisis.

Official Selection BFI London Film Festival 2019 - Debate Strand

The Destructors

SYNOPSIS
Drawing on artist Imran Perretta’s own experience as a young man of Bangladeshi heritage The Destructors explores personal and collective experiences of marginalisation and oppression. Shot in Tower Hamlets, East London, it reconsiders the figure of alienated male youth, exploring the complexities of ‘coming of age’ for young Muslim men living in the UK.

Official Selection International Film Festival Rotterdam (IFFR) 2020 - Bright Future
**The Devil’s Harmony**

SYNOPSIS
Kiera is being bullied at school. She’s the nerdish captain of the a cappella club and an easy target. Or so it seems. In fact, her a cappella club possess a secret, supernatural power: when they sing ‘The Devil’s Harmony’, listeners are sent into a state of never-ending sleep.

Official Selection Sundance Film Festival 2020 - Shorts Programme

**Doggerland**

SYNOPSIS
Musa, an illegal immigrant and refugee, living and working on a UK car wash, takes on an underground driving job, with an unknown cargo, in order to gain freedom from his criminal employers – Doggerland.

Supported by:
**Duck Daze**

SYNOPSIS
Johnina seeks revenge on her childhood abuser and the community that enabled him, with the help of a duck.

Official Selection Edinburgh International Film Festival 2019 - World premiere
Official Selection BFI London Film Festival 2019

**Educated**

SYNOPSIS
After a strange encounter with his seemingly benign teacher, an isolated school boy must decide how to negotiate this contentious and intriguing relationship.

Official Selection Edinburgh International Film Festival 2019
**End-O**

**SYNOPSIS**
Jaq's in pain. But she also wants to have sex. Which should be relatively straightforward, but her body is out to sabotage coitus in the worst way it can think of: vaginal evacuation on an antique chair. Jaq has endometriosis.

Official Selection BFI London Film Festival 2019 - World premiere
Official Selection Clermont-Ferrand International Short Film Festival 2020 - International Competition

**DETAILS**
Year: 2019
Running Time: 15 min
Director: Alice Seabright
Producer: Alexandra Blue, Kate Phibbs
Screenwriter: Elaine Gracie
Principal Cast: Sophia di Martino, Lisa Jackson, Amit Shah, Bart Edwards

Further Credits and Production/Sales contacts

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**Evergreen**

**SYNOPSIS**
At his request, Nathan meets up with his childhood friend Edgar, still living in his childhood home. Since then they have become dichotomous, incapable of conversing honestly, but their shared past still lurks in the back of their minds.

**DETAILS**
Year: 2019
Running Time: 16 min 20 sec
Director: Dominic Curran
Producer: Ryan Early
Screenwriter: Dominic Curran
Principal Cast: Patrick Rocks, Shane McCaffrey, Adam Genockey, Toby Ferguson, Mark Murphy

Further Credits and Production/Sales contacts
**An Everyday Act**

SYNOPSIS
With one terrible act, 12-year-old Eric leaves his childhood behind in a bid to help his family survive.

**Fifteen (Quince)**

SYNOPSIS
A private video of Maria goes viral during a volleyball class in a school in Lima.
Future Perfect

SYNOPSIS
Narrated by Julian Barratt, Future Perfect follows a child’s drawing of their parents as it is placed in a time capsule until the earth dries to a husk. It’s then found by aliens who use the drawing as the blueprint for a twisted new version of humanity.

Details
Year: 2019
Running Time: 5 min 30 sec
Director: Sean Mckenna
Producer: Roxy Mckenna
Screenwriter: Sean Mckenna
Voice Cast: Julian Barratt

Supported by:

The Gallery

SYNOPSIS
At the audition, Maya loses track of who she’s performing for and why.

Details
Year: 2019
Running Time: 8 min 38 sec
Director: Anthony Ing
Producer: Catherine Bray, Anthony Ing, Charlie Lyne
Screenwriter: Anthony Ing

Further Credits and Production/Sales contacts
The Girl With Two Heads

SYNOPSIS
18-year-old Anne explores body image self-perception and her understanding being a woman today in two different worlds: that of her traditionally “feminine” mother, Céline, at home; and the gym where she trains amongst like-minded people.

Official Selection Cannes 2019 - Critics Week
Official Selection International Film Festival Rotterdam (IFFR) 2020 - Voices

Goldfish

SYNOPSIS
In the aftermath of her older brother’s death 11-year-old viola is struggling to process her grief. With only her mother and precious pet goldfish for company, her rosy view of the world is turned upside down until she finds a letter from a stranger that changes everything.

BAFTA Film Awards 2020 - Nomination - Best British Short Film
Grace on a Saturday Night

SYNOPSIS
In the wake of her parents’ separation, 10-year-old Grace spends a Saturday evening with her father, Joe. In the neon-lit world of the bowling alley, the takeaway and the roadside service station, father and daughter are confronted by the gulf opening up between them in the aftermath of change.

GUO4

SYNOPSIS
A confrontation between two swimmers in a locker room ends in tears. A collaboration with London-based musicians GUO.

Details
Year: 2020
Running Time: 12 min
Director: Jemima James
Producer: Harry Macqueen
Editor: Hoping Chen
Screenwriter: Jemima James
Director of Photography: Toby Lloyd
Production Designer: Philippa Brocklehurst
Sound: Helen Miles
Principal Cast: Jon Foster, Wilhelmina Valdés Alford

Supported by:

Further Credits and Production/Sales contacts

Details
Year: 2019
Running Time: 3 mins
Director: Peter Strickland
Producer: Dora Nedeczky
Principal Cast: Gyula Muskovics, Csaba Molnár, Bobby Schofield, Guy Henry

Further Credits and Production/Sales contacts
Hard, Cracked the Wind

SYNOPSIS
Compelled to buy an old writing case, and finding faint traces of a poem within, a young Cornish poet unknowingly calls back the previous owner from beyond the grave. Haunted into completing the poem she becomes broken and succumbs to the endless cycle of creation and death...

Official Selection International Film Festival Rotterdam (IFFR) 2020 - Voices

Home by 8.30

SYNOPSIS
A teenager tries his best to hide his involvement in a violent encounter, attempting to sneak back home after an evening out. However, his family is waiting for his arrival so that they can all eat together. While the night plays out, we follow the conflicted son of a family who is challenged by both the trauma of a recent altercation and his intentions to conceal it by any means from those who would care most, but also expect better.
Horse Play

SYNOPSIS
An elderly couple finds an unconventional solution to their dry spell in the bedroom.

DETAILS
Year: 2019
Running Time: 4 min
Director: Hansel Rodrigues
Producer: Dan Simpkins
Screenwriter: Hansel Rodrigues
Principal Cast: Simon Taylor, Rosy Fordham

Hub Tones

SYNOPSIS
A single shot companion-piece film set to Kamasi Washington’s modern jazz classic ‘Hub-Tones’. The visual reference point for the video comes from filmmaker Jenn Nkiru’s parents’ Ikwerre tribe. In their Oboni ceremony, they channel the spirit through repetition, instrumentation and movement, going deeper with each tone until it becomes transcendent. Nkiru gives the women in the video the choreography and codes to also go deeper into that spirit-space.

Official Selection International Film Festival Rotterdam 2020 - Perspectives
**Isha**

SYNOPSIS
Unable to tell his family the truth about his sexuality, Rahmi lives a double life.

Official Selection BFI London Film Festival 2018 - World premiere

**It’s Me**

SYNOPSIS
A dark tale of a game that cannot be sustained. Set over the course of an evening, a mother remembers moments from a game she played with her son throughout his childhood. Tragedy strikes when he unexpectedly returns.

**Details for Isha**
- Year: 2018
- Running Time: 15 min
- Director: Christopher Manning
- Producer: Christopher Manning
- Screenwriter: Christopher Manning
- Principal Cast: Horia Savescu, Dario Coates, Lino Facioli, Maia Morgenstern

**Details for It’s Me**
- Year: 2019
- Running Time: 14 min 35 sec
- Director: Helen Randag
- Producer: Lee Magiday
- Screenwriter: Anya Beyersdorf
- Principal Cast: Maxine Peake, Barney Harris, Russell Tovey

Supported by:
**It’s Nothing**

SYNOPSIS
Recent graduate Robin, returns to her parents’ house and obsessively starts to dig a hole, encouraged by an impossibly perfect girl; but as she digs, she heads further down a path of self-destruction.

Official Selection Toronto International Film Festival 2019 - Short Cuts - World premiere

**Jealous Alan**

SYNOPSIS
Alan, Stuart and Angela are inseparable teenage misfits. When Alan discovers Stuart and Angela are secretly going out, he deviously foils their budding union.

**Details**

**Year:** 2019  
**Running Time:** 16 min 22 sec  
**Director:** Anna Maguire  
**Producer:** Jessica Adams, Anna Maguire, Amanda Lo  
**Screenwriter:** Julia Lederer  
**Principal Cast:** Emily Piggford, Cara Gee, Niamh Wilson

**Further Credits and Production/Sales contacts**

**Year:** 2019  
**Running Time:** 16 min  
**Director:** Martin Clark  
**Producer:** James Heath  
**Screenwriter:** Martin Clark  
**Principal Cast:** Ryan Hunter, Elysia Welch, Jack Stewart, Kate Dickie

**Further Credits and Production/Sales contacts**

Supported by:
**Just Agree Then**

SYNOPSIS
Contrasting artistic visions, misplaced confidence and blatant ignorance collide on the backdrop of an increasingly fragile and divided world.

**Kingdom Come**

SYNOPSIS
A middle-class family spends the day together purchasing items in anticipation of the arrival of a new baby. We follow them into a consumerist dreamscape that soon dissolves into something nightmarish. Things take a violent turn when the patriarch of the family is confronted by a group of masked vigilantes.
Look Then Below

SYNOPSIS
Look Then Below was filmed in Somerset, a place transformed into a coloured, mist-enveloped island in an oily ocean with a cave basking in a subterranean glow. Time seems to stand still there. After Slow Action and Urth, this is the final part of a trilogy developed with American SF author Mark von Schlegell.

Official Selection International Film Festival Rotterdam (IFFR) 2020 - Bright Future - Ammodo Tiger Short Competition - World premiere

The Lost Land Girl

SYNOPSIS
Sisters, Helena and Lillian join the Women's Land Army to help Britain in its fight during WW2 but find themselves fighting a battle a little closer to home.
SYNOPSIS
Augusto Alfredo Roggen better known as the lousiest spy ever meets a swimmer on the shore of a sea loch. The work pictures a friendly and musical encounter within an awkward setting where historical past meets fictional present.

SYNOPSIS
1980s Glasgow: As his family disintegrates around him, the only thing on eight-year-old Jonjo’s mind is getting his prized He Man figure for Christmas.

Official Selection Edinburgh International Film Festival 2019 - World premiere
**Majority**

**SYNOPSIS**
Single mother and immigrant Sonia Diaconescu works at a sheltered accommodation scheme. A resident of the scheme has made an official complaint against her, rousing the elderly community into a mob of angry and fearful citizens whose intolerance is palpable.

**DETAILS**
- Year: 2019
- Running Time: 15 min
- Director: Tessa Hoffe
- Producer: Lauren Parker
- Screenwriter: Tessa Hoffe
- Principal Cast: Maria Popistasu, David Neilson, Enzo Hoffe

**Supported by:**

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**Mega Sexy Robot Dinosaur**

**SYNOPSIS**
It's all about the title.

**Official Selection Clermont-Ferrand International Short Film Festival 2020**

**DETAILS**
- Year: 2018
- Running Time: 4 min 9 sec
- Director: Paul Howard Allen
- Producer: Paul Howard Allen
- Screenwriter: Paul Howard Allen
- Principal Cast: Keith Meredith

**Further Credits and Production/Sales contacts**
Memoirs of a Geeza

SYNOPSIS
A top lad recalls fights, friends and painting his toenails with his old man.

Official Selection BFI London Film Festival 2019 - Dare Strand - World premiere

My Brother Is A Mermaid

SYNOPSIS
A social realist fairytale about a transfeminine teenager, as seen through the eyes of their 7-year-old brother. Set in a desolate and prejudiced coastal town, the film examines how a child's unconditional love can be an empowering and disruptive force for good.
**Naptha**

SYNOPSIS
Faraz’s quiet life working at an isolated petrol station is turned upside down when his ageing father Malik begins to speak in a long-forgotten language and insists on returning back home.

Official Selection BFI London Film Festival 2018 Journey Strand - World premiere
Official Selection Cannes Film Festival 2019 - Critics’ Week - International premiere

**Nimic**

SYNOPSIS
A professional cellist has an encounter with a stranger on the subway which has unexpected and far-reaching ramifications on his life.

Official Selection Locarno Film Festival 2019 - World premiere
Official Selection BFI London Film Festival 2019
Official Selection International Film Festival Rotterdam (IFFR) 2020 - Deep Focus
**A Noble Truth**

SYNOPSIS
When flat earth activist Fawn takes her alternative beliefs offline and onto the streets, frustration and rejection lead her to wrestle with her new-found ideology.

**Obsession**

SYNOPSIS
Sometimes, survival is about accepting the life you’re given... and sometimes it’s about fighting for the life you deserve.
**Olla**

**SYNOPSIS**
Olla has answered to an ad on a dating website for eastern women. She moves in with Pierre, who lives with his old mother. But nothing goes as expected.

**Official Selection**
- Cannes Film Festival 2019 - Directors Fortnight - World premiere
- BFI London Film Festival 2019 - Dare Strand
- Sundance Film Festival 2020 - Shorts Programme - Nominated, Short Film Grand Jury Prize

**DETAILS**
- Year: 2019
- Running Time: 28 min
- Director: Ariane Labed
- Producer: Lucie Borleteau, Marine Arrighi de Casanova
- Screenwriter: Ariane Labed
- Principal Cast: Romanna Lobach, Grégoire Tachnakan, Jenny Bellay, Gall Gaspard

**Further Credits and Production/Sales contacts**

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**The Pregnant Ground**

**SYNOPSIS**
After a traumatic stillbirth, a woman starts to believe the ground below her apartment becomes pregnant.

**DETAILS**
- Year: 2019
- Running Time: 24 min
- Director: Haolu Wang
- Producer: Yanling Wang
- Screenwriter: Haolu Wang
- Principal Cast: Lu Huang, Sifan Shao

**Further Credits and Production/Sales contacts**
Ralph Styles Ultra

SYNOPSIS
A satire which pokes fun at advertising and stereotypes through the lens of a faithfully recreated 1970s cigarette advert.

Reprise

SYNOPSIS
When Patrick is called to care for his ex wife, whose Pick’s disease has advanced beyond the care available to her, the last thing he expects is what he finds; and what they will share.
SYNOPSIS
*Rosalyn* is about the fears, emotions and anxieties that arise with pregnancy. Our central character, Rose, feels threatened by, and resentful of the volatility of her own body.

**Details**
Year: 2019
Running Time: 18 min
Director: Olivia Middleton
Producer: Jack Cowhig
Screenwriter: Olivia Middleton
Principal Cast: Rebecca Guinnane, Dan Fitzgibbon, Rebecca Deegan

 Supported by:

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SYNOPSIS
A troubled young man stumbles upon a creative community group and becomes acquainted with the leader.

**Details**
Year: 2019
Running Time: 15 min 45 sec
Director: Michael Mante
Producer: Jennie Scott, Jamie Gamache
Screenwriter: Michael Mante
Principal Cast: Ola Orebiyi, Michael Akinsulire
**A Screen Test for an Adaptation of Giselle**

SYNOPSIS
A screen test for an adaptation of the ballet ‘Giselle’ as an ecofeminist thriller. Reimagined in a near-future, where Giselle and her friends have moved on from a failed metropolis to her mother’s rural village to “reset society”. An invasion of their successful community sets off a contamination of their new ecosystem with old power dynamics. Giselle’s death emerges as an investigation into mutability and multiplicity as a strategy for escape. (FIAC Brochure)

**Details**
Year: 2019
Running Time: 9 min
Director: Cécile B. Evans
Producer: Cécile B. Evans
Screenwriter: Cécile B. Evans
Principal Cast: Alexandrina Hemsley, Rebecca Root, Viktoria Modesta, Lily McMenamy

**Scuzz**

SYNOPSIS
23-year-old Kim is a bassist in a Glasgow band. Playing a dingy venue surrounded by art-school snobs, her now ex-boyfriend and band frontman Lee included, Kim just wants an escape from the shallow scene. When Lee’s guitar is stolen, Kim feels responsible and gives chase. Racing past bustling traffic, clubbers and neon-bathed nightlife, they eventually come to a head. To Kim’s surprise, she discovers not a hard-faced criminal but a 14-year-old boy looking to learn how to play. Through a shared love of music, some fast food and teaching her ex a lesson, two strangers for one night find an unlikely connection.

**Details**
Year: 2020
Running Time: c. 14 min
Director: Alia Ghafar
Producer: Laura McBride
Screenwriter: Alia Ghafar
Principal Cast: Paula Nugent, Keon Crampsie, Jack Stewart
The Shift

SYNOPSIS
New drama project from Laura Carreira, the Edinburgh International Film Festival
New Visions Award-winning director of Red Hill.

DETAILS
Year: 2020
Running Time: c. 8 min
Director: Laura Carreira
Producer: Maeve McMahon, Mhairi Valentine
Screenwriter: Laura Carreira
Principal Cast: Anna Russell-Martin

Further Credits and Production/Sales contacts

Supported by:

Shiney

SYNOPSIS
Two creative but impressionable kids hatch a plan to purchase their first packet of cigarettes, whilst clinging on to their prized possession; an impossible-to-get shiny gold football sticker.

DETAILS
Year: 2020
Running Time: 15 min
Director: Paul Holbrook
Producer: Camilla Stoppani
Screenwriter: Paul Holbrook, Graeme Willetts
Principal Cast: Katie Francis, Caleb Stephens, Bruce Jones, Toby Wright

Further Credits and Production/Sales contacts

Supported by:
**Signs**

SYNOPSIS
A coming-of-age drama about a teenage carer coming to terms with the responsibility of looking after her family after a distressing incident.

**Starboy**

SYNOPSIS
A mystical young Hasidic man increasingly doubts his identity, his gender, and the nature of being as conflict between him and his pious young wife escalates with shocking consequences.
**Stray Dogs Come Out at Night**

**SYNOPSIS**
Karachi, Pakistan. Iqbal, a migrant sex worker, cannot come to terms with his illness. He convinces his uncle to take a day trip to the beach, desperate for respite. The Arabian sea beckons.

**Year:** 2019  
**Running Time:** 11 min  
**Director:** Hamza Bangash  
**Producer:** Carol Noronha  
**Screenwriter:** Hamza Bangash  
**Principal Cast:** Mohammad Ali Hashmi, Adnan Shah Tipu

**Official Selection Clermont-Ferrand International Short Film Festival 2020 - International Competition**

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**Sudden Light**

**SYNOPSIS**
As her dad lies dying in hospital, Mia (16) takes sister Squeeze (12) to walk the dog in the fields by their home. Out there, the landscape shifts around them, they become separated and Mia comes across a strange man, lurking at the edge of a dark wood.

**Year:** 2019  
**Running Time:** 14 min 54 sec  
**Director:** Sophie Littman  
**Producer:** Tom Wood  
**Screenwriter:** Sophie Littman  
**Principal Cast:** Esmé Creed-Miles, Millie Ashford, Sam Spruell

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**Supported by:**

**The National Lottery**

**NETWORK**
Sweet Mother

SYNOPSIS
A British-Nigerian man is forced to confront cultural rejection when his mother discovers his sexuality.

 DETAILS
Year: 2019
Running Time: 13 min 21 sec
Director: Zena Igbe
Producer: Rico Johnson-Sinclair
Screenwriter: Zena Igbe
Principal Cast: Tolu Ajayi, Kemi Lofinmakin, Yasmin Keita, Kyle Toussaint-Gyampo, Zorawar Waraich, Tracey Brown

Further Credits and Production/Sales contacts

Supported by:

The Thing That Ate the Birds

SYNOPSIS
Head Gamekeeper Abel discovers the thing that is eating his grouse. His blunt and violent response brings the menace back home shattering his already crumbling relationship with his wife.

 DETAILS
Year: 2020
Running Time: 11 min 35 sec
Director: Dan Gitsham, Sophie Mair
Producer: Rebecca Wolff, Jude Goldrei
Screenwriter: Sophie Mair, Dan Gitsham
Principal Cast: Eoin Slattery, Rebecca Palmer, Lewis Mackinnon, James Swanton

Further Credits and Production/Sales contacts

Supported by:
This is the Winter

SYNOPSIS
2023 – a separatist movement has ignited civil war in the North of England. The UK government has built a wall dividing the country. Trapped in a refugee camp north of the border, a teenage girl must choose between loyalty to her father and her political ideology.

Thrive

SYNOPSIS
A hook-up between two young men – they make a connection, but it quickly becomes apparent they're looking for different things.
The Trap

SYNOPSIS
When a reclusive woman falls in love, it’s easy to fall with her in this tender and sensual story of shocking self-discovery.

Official Selection BFI London Film Festival 2019 - Journey Strand
BAFTA Film Awards 2020 - Nomination - Best British Short Film

Trifle

SYNOPSIS
Drama centring on a grieving pharmacist and a trifle-loving methadone patient.
Two Sisters Who Are Not Sisters
(Deux sœurs qui ne sont pas sœurs)

SYNOPSIS
An abstract crime thriller featuring a poodle, a beauty queen, and two sisters who aren’t sisters. The film eschews conventional narrative in favour of a more dream-like montage. Based on Gertrude Stein’s eponymously named screenplay and featuring a close personal network of friends and influences as cast.

Official Selection Cannes Film Festival 2019 - Directors’ Fortnight - World premiere

Unexpected Item

SYNOPSIS
The story of a young, lonesome man whose only friend and company is his beloved hoover Ziggy. Stuck in a grim cubicle serving as his home and work place, our friend rarely ventures out; only leaving to buy lunch before returning to his desk to eat it. But what happens to him when there’s an “unexpected item in the bagging area” and his whole world is shaken?
**Verisimilitude**

**SYNOPSIS**
Bella, a struggling disabled actor, takes on her most challenging role teaching an up and coming Hollywood A-lister how to “act disabled”. Struggling with the line between reality and fantasy she begins to question the world around her.

Official Selection BFI London Film Festival 2019 - World premiere
Official Selection Clermont-Ferrand Short Film Festival 2020

**White Girl**

**SYNOPSIS**
Beth, a fifteen-year-old white girl, is seemingly lost. Over the course of an evening on the streets of East London, her interactions with the city’s dwellers take darker turns. Terror appears to lie around every corner. But Beth is the real monster lurking within our city.

Official Selection BFI London Film Festival 2019 - Official Short Film Competition - Cult Strand - World premiere
Young Mother

SYNOPSIS
A lone teenage girl roams the streets of Dublin urgently trying to buy alcohol in this intense, family drama.

DETAILS
Year: 2019
Running Time: 12 min 29 sec
Director: John Robert Brown
Producer: Danielle Harvey
Screenwriter: John Robert Brown
Principal Cast: Jordanna Jones, Aoibhinn McGuinness
3 Logical Exits

SYNOPSIS
A sociological meditation on the different “exits” that young Palestinians choose, in order to cope with life in the refugee camps.

Official Selection International Film Festival Rotterdam (IFFR) 2020 - Bright Future - Ammodo Tiger Short Competition - World premiere

Agya

SYNOPSIS
A conversation with Yaw, a father of four. Initiated with ‘intention’, Yaw delves into how he did not intend to have children - describing fatherhood as ‘an unplanned venture’ he wasn’t prepared for.
**Becoming Cherrie**

SYNOPSIS
Matthew Cavan, aka Belfast’s most-loved drag artist, Cherrie Ontop was diagnosed HIV-positive aged 19. He struggled to find acceptance in conservative Northern Irish society, leaving him feeling so isolated he tried to commit suicide. In a desperate attempt to escape his everyday reality and get back on stage, Matthew created his drag alter-ego Cherrie Ontop. A decade later, Cherrie is Belfast’s most-loved drag artist, and Matthew is a spokesperson for people living with HIV in Northern Ireland. *Becoming Cherrie* allows us inside the intimate process of transformation between Matthew and Cherrie. A portrait of resilience and reinvention.

**Black to Techno**

SYNOPSIS
Delving into the origins of the genre in Detroit – drawing parallels between the machine-like production lines of the city’s manufacturing heritage and the roots of black music in drum patterns and percussive variation. The film features contributions from pioneering spoken-word and hip-hop group The Last Poets, and Detroit DJs Stacey Hotwaxx, DJ Minx and DJ Holographic. Exploring how the music found kindred spirit in the post-reunification Berlin of the early ’90s, the film weaves together a multi-layered narrative, structured with a nod to public access television. (Vinyl Factory magazine)

Official Selection International Film Festival Rotterdam 2020 - Perspectives - World premiere
Bradford Young: Cinema is the Weapon

SYNOPSIS
Exploring Oscar and BAFTA-nominated cinematographer Bradford Young’s early works – outlining Young’s location within a lineage of visual artists who he always claims as inspirations as well as echo chambers, and who are actively formulating a new black aesthetics. (liquid blackness)

Breakfast in Kisumu

SYNOPSIS
A homage to the 20-year journey of renowned professor and activist Rok Ajulu. Filmed across six countries, in multiple formats, it follows Rok’s account of his struggles as an exiled freedom fighter of the post-colonial era. In conversation with his daughter, he tells of his numerous deportations, prison sentences, and academic career. As Rok recounts the collapse of the apartheid regime, Breakfast in Kisumu shows us a homecoming: his journey back to Africa for the transition of the African National Congress (ANC) from liberation movement to governing party, his marriage into the Sisulu Family, and the continental significance of 1994.

Official Selection IDFA 2019 - IDFA Competition for Short Documentary - International premiere
The Circle

SYNOPSIS
A bold and lyrical portrayal of two brothers, David and Sanchez, living on a Hackney council estate in East London. The film combines dance with documentary giving a compelling insight into their family and friendships, the stigmas they face daily and how they process their emotions.

Official Selection IDFA 2019 - IDFA Competition for Short Documentary - International premiere

City of Children

SYNOPSIS
What is it like to grow up in a place that has been forgotten? Tyler, a 16-year-old boy who has never attended school, guides us through an estate in the north of England.

Official Selection Visions du Réel 2019 - World premiere
Official Selection Clermont-Ferrand International Short Film Festival - International Competition
Common Ground

SYNOPSIS
An interactive VR documentary about the history and legacy of the Aylesbury Estate, the largest housing estate in Europe. Utilising 360 video, photogrammetry, 3D modelling, archive and interactive design, this VR documentary allows the audience to explore the estate and meet residents fighting regeneration.

Official Selection Tribeca Film Festival 2019 - Tribeca Immersive - World premiere

Double Ghosts

SYNOPSIS
The project takes as its starting point an unfinished film made by Chilean director Raúl Ruiz in Taiwan in 1995. Based in Paris since the late 1970s Ruiz came to Taiwan to film The Comedy of Shadows/ La comedie des ombres with a script inspired by the Taoist philosophy of Chuang Tzu’s ‘Wandering on the Way’ and Luigi Pirandello’s ‘Six Characters in Search of an Author’. The project was filmed at Chin Pao San cemetery with a Taiwanese cast and crew but never finished. Double Ghosts considers the echoes of this unrealized project to explore cinematic and political phantoms. The film is staged as a series of actions seeking to reactivate this lost film. Filmed on 35mm film in Chile and Taiwan following traces across the Pacific from Ruiz’s birthplace in Puerto Montt to the mountain cemetery in Taiwan.

Official Selection International Film Festival Rotterdam (IFFR) 2019
Official Selection New York Film Festival 2019 - Projections

Details
Year: 2019
Running Time: 30 min
Director: Darren Emerson
Producer: Darren Emerson

Further Credits and Production/Sales contacts

Details
Year: 2018
Running Time: 31 min
Director: George Clark
Producer: George Clark
Principal Cast: Valeria Sarmiento, Niles Atallah, Leonel Bahamonde, Cristóbal León, Ivan Ulloa, Rodrigo Saquel

Further Credits and Production/Sales contacts
**E-Ticket**

SYNOPSIS
A film sixteen thousand splices in the making. *E-Ticket* is a frantic (re)cataloguing of a personal archive and an opportunity for rebirth to forgotten images. 35mm photo negatives and moving pictures (taken during the artist’s formative years) are obsessively cut apart, reshuffled then tape spliced together inch by inch in rigid increments. Fragmented views swipe between a school trip to India then culminate with a protest of a 2005 World Trade Organization summit in Hong Kong. My photographs may have all be cut up and mixed around, but at least they’re all in one place now. A retelling of Dante’s Inferno for the streaming age; a freedom of movement reserved for the modern cloud.

Official Selection International Film Festival Rotterdam (IFFR) 2019 - Tiger Short Competition
Official Selection Sundance Film Festival 2020 - New Frontier Shorts Programme

**Houses (for Margaret)**

SYNOPSIS
A loving 16mm ode to Scottish poet and avant-garde filmmaker Margaret Tait. Artist filmmaker Luke Fowler circles her Orkney home surrounded by red tulips and buzzing insects, visits her films’ locations, and zooms in on her notebooks of ideas. We also listen to Tait’s poem ‘Houses’, about what it means to feel at home.

Official Selection International Film Festival Rotterdam (IFFR) 2020 - Bright Futures - European premiere
**Hydebank**

**SYNOPSIS**
Governing the Northern Irish countryside, Hydebank Wood currently houses 104 young male offenders. Ryan, currently serving a 5-year sentence, has formed an unlikely bond with the prison’s flock of sheep. Through their interactions, Ryan attempts to come to terms with the brutal act that led him here.

Official Selection Clermont-Ferrand Short Film Festival 2020

**Details**
- Year: 2019
- Running Time: 17 min
- Director: Ross McClean
- Producer: Chris Kelly
- Executive Producer: Noe Mendelle, Flore Cosquer
- Editor: Anders S. Jepsen
- Screenwriter: Ross McClean

**Further Credits and Production/Sales contacts**

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**I Have Sinned a Rapturous Sin**

**SYNOPSIS**
What cures women of sexual promiscuity? Eating lettuce, of course. Fragments of Forough Farokhzad’s poem, Sin, are read out against Islamic clergies advising women on how to control their lust.

Official Selection International Film Festival Rotterdam (IFFR) 2018

**Details**
- Year: 2018
- Running Time: 8 min
- Director: Maryam Tafakory
- Producer: Maryam Tafakory

**Further Credits and Production/Sales contacts**

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I Signed the Petition

SYNOPSIS
Immediately after a Palestinian man signs an online petition, he is thrown into a panic-inducing spiral of self-doubt. Over the course of a conversation with an understanding friend, he analyzes, deconstructs and interprets the meaning of his choice to publicly support the cultural boycott of Israel.

Official Selection Visions du Réel 2018 - International Competition - World premiere

I will make up a song and sing it in a theatre with the night air above my head.

SYNOPSIS
Egyptian architect Hassan Fathy designed New Gourna in 1954, introducing ecological principles for mud architecture to Egypt. He dreamt that rural populations might have sustainable lives. Stills and an experimental soundtrack take a haunting look at efforts from the 1940s in sustainability in the Middle East.

Official Selection International Film Festival Rotterdam (IFFR) 2020 - Perspectives
Junior Bangers

SYNOPSIS
In England banger racing isn’t just a sport, but a way of life. Junior Bangers follows 11-year-olds Finn and Harley through a cold winter race day in Birmingham.

Official Selection BFI London Film Festival 2019 - Thrill Strand - European premiere
Official Selection Sundance Film Festival 2020 - Documentary Shorts Programme - Nominated, Short Film Grand Jury Prize

Kamali

SYNOPSIS
Kamali is the only girl skateboarder in a fishing village. Her timorous mother, Suganthi takes a pilgrimage in a quest for self-discovery. Separated for the first time, they must find freedom in a man’s world.

BAFTA Film Awards 2020 - Nomination - Best British Short Film
**Learning to Skateboard in a Warzone (If You’re a Girl)**

SYNOPSIS
The story of young Afghan girls learning to read, write – and skateboard – in Kabul.

Official Selection Tribeca Film Festival 2019 - World premiere
BAFTA Film Awards 2020 - Nomination - Best British Short Film
Academy Awards 2020 - Nomination - Best Documentary Short Subject

**Lost in Translation?**

SYNOPSIS
An elderly couple search for Ausfahrt; a place they have only seen on signposts.
Making a Diagonal with Music (Hacer una Diagonal con la Musica)

SYNOPSIS
A short film about the Argentine electroacoustic composer Beatriz Ferreyra, an original pioneer of early musique concrète alongside Pierre Schaeffer during the '50s and '60s. Here she discusses her 'sound hunting' recording techniques, and other thoughts on sound montage and spatialization. Featuring creaking doors, barking dogs and rainbow hands.

Official Selection International Film Festival Rotterdam (IFFR) 2020 - Bright Future - World premiere

Mariam Jafri vs. Maryam Jafri

SYNOPSIS
The starting point for this video piece is an image of artist Maryam Jafri’s sculpture ‘Anxiety’, that has been turned into a stock photo for licensing on a major photographic agency’s website without the artist’s prior knowledge or permission. A voiceover traces the work’s trajectory from a readymade sculpture for sale at an art fair to a stock photo for licensing online and finally, to a video commissioned by a Kunsthalle, a space meant to guarantee the autonomy of art. The work reflects upon the role of originality, artist labour and copyright in our culture of sampling and remixing.

Official Selection International Film Festival Rotterdam (IFFR) 2020 - Bright Future
Missing Time

SYNOPSIS
A film that considers the effects of amnesia. Through the lens of alien abduction, mesmerism, the radio frequency detritus of cold war history, and Britain’s decolonial process in Kenya, the film weaves an expressionistic account of memory loss and the trauma often involved with its recovery.

Official Selection International Film Festival Rotterdam (IFFR) 2020 - Bright Future

the names have changed, including my own and truths have been altered

SYNOPSIS
A film of three interconnected narratives – a story of the artist’s grandfather, one of ‘the land’, and another detailing an encounter with Nigeria – which the film attempts to tell in as many ways as possible.

Official Selection International Film Festival Rotterdam (IFFR) 2020 - Bright Future - Ammodo Tiger Short Competition - International premiere
Nuraiyah

SYNOPSIS
An optimistic declaration of a young seven-year-old's truth.

Playhouse

SYNOPSIS
A couple visit a holiday home, where they re-enact scenes of powerplay and desire from classic films. Conversations and tensions explore their dynamic and how they relate to cinematic representations.
**The Qilin**

SYNOPSIS
An animated documentary about the precarious lives of African immigrants seeking their fortunes in Guangzhou, China – the centre of a booming global trade in counterfeit goods.

**Signal 8**

SYNOPSIS
A note on over-development, Simon Liu’s vision of Hong Kong carries both the marvels of modern life and its short circuits. A chaos broken only by the soft touches of natural light and flowing water captured on 16mm, one feels the tension of a city on the brink of combustion.

Official Selection International Film Festival Rotterdam (IFFR) 2020 - Bright Future - International premiere
**Sodom & Gomorrah**

**SYNOPSIS**
Documenting the everyday life of people from a town in Ghana called Jamestown - also known as ‘Sodom & Gomorrah’. A place that seems to have fallen by the wayside: brief portraits of the inhabitants reveal a life marked by hopelessness and the struggle to move forward.

Official Selection Clermont-Ferrand International Short Film Festival 2020 - International Competition

**Spring Fever**

**SYNOPSIS**
Sex education. Awkward memories, right? Boys and girls separated, a flustered teacher, the bare biological facts and a dose of shame. In the Netherlands, they do things differently. Children from the age of four learn to talk about their bodies and sexuality in an open and frank manner. This documentary observes a diverse group of pre-teens from Amsterdam, having a candid conversation about their changing bodies with an inspiring teacher. This isn’t just a sex ed class, this is an anti-shame class.

Official Selection BFI London Film Festival 2019 - Love Strand
**Tony Fraginals**

SYNOPSIS
Anthony Godby Johnson was an early 1990s New York City miracle: a boy who escaped years of horrific abuse only to discover that he was dying of AIDS. A boy who authored his own autobiography. A boy who earned friends and fans worldwide – and who did not exist.

**DETAILS**
Year: 2019
Running Time: 16 min 2 sec
Director: Ben Young
Producer: Ben Young
Editor: Theo Watkins
Screenwriter: Ben Young
Director of Photography: Junaid Iqbal
Sound: Emily Wiles
Music: Luke Seomore
Principal Cast: Oprah Winfrey, Vicki Fraginals, Ben Young

Further Credits and Production/Sales contacts

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**Vaarheim**

SYNOPSIS
Since the high school and the fish farm closed, the men and teenagers have had to leave the small northern British island of Out Skerries for Shetland’s mainland. Julie is one of the women left on the island with her youngest children. In her empty house prey to the sea winds, daily life follows a strange timescale, at the rhythm of the activities of those who left.

Official Selection Visions du Réel 2019 - International Competition - World premiere

**DETAILS**
Year: 2019
Running Time: 30 min
Director: Victor Ridley
Producer: Carol Van Hemelrijck, Jeanne Scahaise

Further Credits and Production/Sales contacts
SYNOPSIS
Zahida is the first female taxi driver in Pakistan and a local legend. A widower at 56, she is continually juggling her home life with behind the wheel. A fascinating insight into the trials faced by a determined woman carving her own path within a patriarchal society.
ANIMATION
SYNOPSIS
A woman watches her crush from across the factory floor. The moon disappears, and the world start to crumble. With our heroine struggling to hold herself together and her world in danger, she knows what she must do; build a new moon.

SYNOPSIS
Separate projections combine, unifying, becoming whole. Twelve animated projections combine to develop a rhythmic dialogue exploring the intrinsic relationship between sound and image using 16mm film, paint and a projector.

SYNOPSIS
Armstrong watches her crush from across the factory floor. The moon disappears, and the world start to crumble. With our heroine struggling to hold herself together and her world in danger, she knows what she must do; build a new moon.

Supported by:
**The Art of Reducing Noise**

SYNOPSIS
In our turbulent times, silence seems like a necessary escape. This animated film evaluates this concept, looking in particular at one important figure in history who used this in an astonishing way to evaluate the world we live in.

Official Selection VIS, Vienna Shorts Film Festival 2019

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**Bernard**

SYNOPSIS
Bernard is annoyed and flabbergasted at being called the black sheep of the family for nothing more than his lifestyle choices and drinking habits. Not happy with being labelled a boozer and a liability he is seizing this moment to unload his outrage on anyone who will listen, if it takes him all day.

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**Details**

**The Art of Reducing Noise**
- Year: 2018
- Running Time: 4 min 14 sec
- Director: Heidi Stokes
- Producer: Heidi Stokes
- Screenwriter: Heidi Stokes

**Bernard**
- Year: 2019
- Running Time: 3 min 29 sec
- Director: Paul Flannery
- Producer: Haydn Secker

Supported by:

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BRITISH COUNCIL FILM / UK SHORTS AND NEW TALENT 2020 / ANIMATION
**SYNOPSIS**
Working in a car park, tensions arise between a naïve, young cleaner and his old-timer talking brush in their differences of approach and attitude where ultimately, one cannot do their job without the other.

Official Selection Animafest Zagreb World Festival of Animated Film 2019 - Student Film Competition

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**Cleaning in Progress**

**SYNOPSIS**
Elin works in a call centre and is anxious about her health. Trefor is dead worried about the gas bill. Cari is a lonely goth preparing for the apocalypse. It’s Halloween, and as their lives traverse, things start to get better.

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**Creepy Pasta Salad**

**SYNOPSIS**
Elin works in a call centre and is anxious about her health. Trefor is dead worried about the gas bill. Cari is a lonely goth preparing for the apocalypse. It’s Halloween, and as their lives traverse, things start to get better.

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**Details**

**Year:** 2019  
**Running Time:** 11 min 11 sec  
**Director:** Lauren Orme  
**Producer:** Amy Morris  
**Principal Cast:** Adam Buxton, Ruth Madoc, Eve Myles, Richard Harrington

**Further Credits and Production/Sales contacts**

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**Details**

**Year:** 2018  
**Running Time:** 6 min 30 sec  
**Director:** Grant Holden  
**Producer:** Edinburgh College of Art  
**Sound:** Adam McCallum  
**Music:** Victoria Wijeratne  
**Voice Cast:** Alex Bird, Rod Young

**Further Credits and Production/Sales contacts**

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Supported by:
**The Doll’s Breath**

SYNOPSIS
Horacio, a former window dresser, sets up complicated charades where women and life-sized dolls change places in a web of jealousy, betrayal and murder. Inspired by Felisberto Hernández’s ‘Las Hortensias’.

Official Selection L’Étrange Festival 2019 - World premiere
Official Selection BFI London Film Festival 2019 - Special Events
Official Selection International Film Festival Rotterdam 2020 - Deep Focus

**The Fabric of You**

SYNOPSIS
Unable to show his true identity, Michael, a grieving tailor mouse, recounts and reckons with the memories of a past lover.

Official Selection Edinburgh International Film Festival 2019 - World premiere
The Flood is Coming

SYNOPSIS
A forest hermit tries to prepare for a flood, but he becomes distracted by his noisy neighbour - who happens to be the hermit’s left eye. A film exploring the growing anxiety about the state of nature, and our place in it.

Official Selection Clermont-Ferrand International Short Film Festival 2019 - Lab Competition
Official Selection Annecy International Animation Film Festival 2019 - Short Film Competition

The Flounder

SYNOPSIS
One day a humble fisherman catches an enchanted fish. Can the fish help him, and his wife improve their lot? The Flounder is an adaptation of the Brothers Grimm tale ‘The Fisherman and his Wife’, with painted animation by Elizabeth Hobbs and an original score by composer Carola Bauckholt.
**Grandad Was a Romantic**

**SYNOPSIS**
My grandad was a romantic. He once saw a picture of my granny and realised that she was the love of his life. One day he decided to go meet her.

Official Selection BFI London Film Festival 2019 - Laugh Strand
BAFTA Film Awards 2020 - Nomination - Best British Short Animation

** DETAILS **
Year: 2019
Running Time: 4 min 39 sec
Director: Maryam Mohajer
Producer: Maryam Mohajer
Screenwriter: Maryam Mohajer
Voice Cast: Maya Naraghi

Further Credits and Production/Sales contacts

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**Heatwave**

**SYNOPSIS**
In the midst of a searing heatwave, two little children find a way to cool everyone down.

Official Selection Annecy International Animation Film Festival 2019 - Graduation Short Film Competition

** DETAILS **
Year: 2019
Running Time: 7 min 14 sec
Director: Fokion Xenos
Producer: Priya K. Dosanjh
Screenwriter: Fokion Xenos

Further Credits and Production/Sales contacts
**Herman Brown is Feeling Down**

SYNOPSIS
Herman’s quiet, colourful world is suddenly interrupted by something loud and stressful. Combining digital animation with traditional ink-on-film techniques, Herman Brown is a film about life, anxiety, and learning to accept both.

Official Selection BFI London Film Festival 2018 - Thrill Strand - World premiere

**In Her Boots**

SYNOPSIS
Heidi is experiencing strange things. While her granddaughter is visiting, she suddenly embarks on a hiking journey, to the deepest parts of the Alps, revealing the reason for her devoted attachment to her hiking shoes. A story about Heidi’s attempt to retain her identity and autonomy.

BAFTA Film Awards 2020 - Nomination - Best British Short Animation
Knot

SYNOPSIS
Two creatures fall face to face balanced on a tightrope. They begin a sensual dance above the abyss confronting Blue to his deepest fear, Orange helping him go beyond and to embrace the euphoric energy of their dance.

Live a Little

SYNOPSIS
Acting a fool convinced you’re a queen. Live a Little taps into the pressures and the amounts of self-control that go into being a “good woman” in a patriarchal society by celebrating women who decide to not care.

Official Selection Annecy International Animation Film Festival 2019 - Short Film Competition
The Magic Boat

SYNOPSIS
An intimate insight into the relationship between a mother and her son in the midst of the most dangerous journey of their lives.

BAFTA Film Awards 2020 - Nomination - Best British Short Animation

My Best Friend Ends

SYNOPSIS
Two reflexive animated characters cling to sanity inside the changing parameters of their world. One of a series of three commissioned short animation films.
My Best Friend Explodes

SYNOPSIS
Two reflexive animated characters cling to sanity inside the changing parameters of their world. One of a series of three commissioned short animation films.

My Best Friend Rewinds

SYNOPSIS
Two reflexive animated characters cling to sanity inside the changing parameters of their world. One of a series of three commissioned short animation films.

Official Selection Annecy International Animation Film Festival 2019 - Commissioned Films Competition
**New Year**

**SYNOPSIS**
In 1999 a boy becomes obsessed with the Y2K bug. In the future a girl is learning to be a priest in a religion based upon the artefacts left behind by the boy.

**No, I Don’t Want To Dance!**

**SYNOPSIS**
In these dark times, you may think that every hazard has been identified, but nobody has taken in consideration how dangerous dance can be...

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**New Year**

**Details**
- **Year:** 2020
- **Running Time:** 9 min 3 sec
- **Director:** Diana Gradinaru, Rory Waudby-Tolley
- **Producer:** Becky Perryman
- **Screenwriter:** Diana Gradinaru, Rory Waudby-Tolley
- **Animation:** Ala Nunu Leszynska, Chiara Sgatti
- **Voice Cast:** Jason Forbes, Thea Gajic, Lorna Gayle, Javone Prince

**No, I Don’t Want To Dance!**

**Details**
- **Year:** 2019
- **Running Time:** 2 min 39 sec
- **Director:** Andrea Vinciguerra
- **Producer:** Georgie Beattie, Andrea Vinciguerra
- **Screenwriter:** Andrea Vinciguerra
- **Animator:** Tim Allen, Will Hodge

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**Supported by:**

[The British Council logo]

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**Official Selection Sundance Film Festival 2020 - Shorts Programme**
PHX [X is for Xylonite]

SYNOPSIS
Orbiting 3D images of plastics are collaged with hand-processed 16mm film, including scenes from the demolition of the Parkesine factory in Hackney Wick, London, where the first semi-synthetic plastic was invented. Both flickering, contingent materials allude to the history of cellulose nitrate in the development of photography and film.

Pitch Black Panacea

SYNOPSIS
Amy and Carl both have lazy eyes. Amy’s left and Carl’s right. They are strangers, volunteers for an unusual treatment that will change the course of both their lives.

Official Selection Clermont-Ferrand International Short Film Festival 2020
Red

SYNOPSIS
Traditional Chinese art forms including ink wash painting and ceramics are used to represent and rethink Red China.

Official Selection Annecy International Animation Film Festival 2019 - Perspectives Short Film Competition

Red Rover

SYNOPSIS
When a robotic rover is sent from Earth to drill for signs of life on Mars, it threatens the lives of the planet's tiny native rock creatures.
SYNOPSIS
A short, animated documentary about what it means to be conscious in a world that is becoming increasingly artificially intelligent; using hand drawn techniques to explore the human tendency to anthropomorphise simple drawings, and how we might do the same to machines.

Official Selection Annecy International Animation Film Festival 2019 - Graduation Short Film Competition

SYNOPSIS
A stop-motion animated thriller set in a world where deer are the dominant species. An alpha male deer goes for an evening car ride and has an unfortunate accident, triggering a chain of events with dire consequences for the victim.

Official Selection Cannes Film Festival 2019 - Cinéfondation - World premiere
Official Selection BFI London Film Festival 2019 - Cult Strand
**Slug Life**

SYNOPSIS
We follow a day in the life of Tanya, a curious woman who has developed a taste for non-human lovers. This time her bedroom experiments result in the creation of a beautiful giant slug. Has she finally found the formula for total perfection? If so, can such a thing survive in this gnarly world full of freaks and beffs?

Official Selection SXSW 2019 - Animated Shorts Competition
Official Selection Sundance Film Festival 2020 - Midnight Shorts - Nominated, Short Film Grand Jury Prize
Official Selection Clermont-Ferrand International Short Film Festival 2020

**Solar Plexus**

SYNOPSIS
Noah battles to overcome his grief at the death of his mother, a journey that takes him from his flat to beyond the stars. An animation in stop-motion and oil paint.

Official Selection Cannes Film Festival 2019 - Cinéfondation - International premiere
A State of Grace

SYNOPSIS
Air safety instructions can be ambiguous.

Official Selection BFI London Film Festival 2019 - Experimenta Strand
Official Selection International Film Festival Rotterdam 2020 - Perspective

These Things in My Head - Side A

SYNOPSIS
A fully hand drawn and painted visualisation of the daily thoughts and worries on my mind as they interlink with the playful sounds of a record to conjure a new journey based somewhere underneath actual events.

Official Selection Annecy International Animation Film Festival 2019 - Graduation Short Film Competition
**This is Pig Meat**

**SYNOPSIS**
I used to to be a vegetarian. Pigs used to be my friends. Now I eat them quite a lot.

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**Tomorrow I Will Be Dirt**

**SYNOPSIS**
Following his death, Lother Schramm finds himself in a disorientating and nightmarish afterlife. A short, animated sequel to Jörg Buttgereit’s 1993 film *Schramm*.

**Official Selection Clermont-Ferrand International Short Film Festival 2020**
What It Feels Like

SYNOPSIS
A short, animated documentary which investigates the commonly misunderstood mental health behaviour of voice hearing. Small boxes that contain flip book style animation are presented to show the emotion that people who hear voices feel. The documentary is experimental and expressive in its approach, where the positives and negatives combine to fully express the subversive nature of a misinterpreted and unacknowledged behaviour.

When the Silence Comes

SYNOPSIS
There are always some moments you don’t want to say a word. The world is silent, and you turn silent.
Where’s the Butter, Betty?

SYNOPSIS
I’m being serious now, Betty. Where is the butter?

Wood Child and Hidden Forest Mother

SYNOPSIS
Deep in the forest, a hunter encounters a strange creature he cannot kill.

Official Selection Sundance Film Festival 2020 - Animation Spotlight - Nominated, Short Film Grand Jury Prize - World premiere
Official Selection International Film Festival Rotterdam (IFFR) 2020 - Deep Focus - European premiere
VR / IMMERSIVE EXPERIENCE
**All Kinds of Limbo**

**SYNOPSIS**
The ceremony of live performance and the craft of theatrical staging magnificently converge with immersive technologies and the musical direction of composer Raffy Bushman to bring a communal audience into a new kind of theatrical space. *All Kinds of Limbo* is a fantastical engagement of a musical performance starring Nubiya Brandon, who sings a musical narration of her life in limbo that spans the genres of reggae, grime, classical, and calypso.

*Official Selection Sundance Film Festival 2020 - New Frontier Exhibitions*

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**Atomu**

**SYNOPSIS**
Go inside the cyclical centre of a Kikuyu tribal myth from Kenya, where man may become woman and woman may become man. Through virtual reality, dance, and music, a sacred space is created to explore many versions of yourself.

*Official Selection Sundance Film Festival 2020 - New Frontier Exhibitions*
The Collider: Chapter One

SYNOPSIS
Enter The Collider, a machine built to decode the mysteries of human relationships. Its mission: to identify the corrosive, delightful and mysterious material that passes between people – that keeps us together and pulls us apart. Created for two people at a time, the experience guides each person along a journey, directing the movements of both into a choreography that investigates their own relationship with power and control. Each participant enters separately but, soon, their journeys converge. One enters a virtual world revealing the inner vision of the machine, the other can manipulate the visions and actions of that virtual world. The experience culminates in an unmediated encounter where the pair work out, together, what has happened. The Collider moves from the political to the personal to ask: what do you do with power when you’ve got it?

Official Selection IDFA 2018 - World premiere

A Machine for Viewing

SYNOPSIS
A unique three-episode hybrid of real-time VR experience, live performance, and video essay in which three moving image makers explore how we now watch films by putting various ‘machines for viewing’ including cinema and virtual reality face to face.

Official Selection Sundance Film Festival 2020 - New Frontier
**The Seven Ages of Man**

SYNOPSIS
The Royal Shakespeare Company explores the future of theatre with Magic Leap in this sublime production of the "Seven Ages of Man" speech from Shakespeare’s As You Like It. Here they present a mixed reality experience using cutting-edge volumetric capture with Shakespearean actor Robert Gilbert and an original musical score by award-winning composer Jessica Curry. The line “all the world’s a stage” turns literal as users experience the play in multiple and simultaneous places.

Official Selection Sundance Film Festival 2019 - New Frontiers Exhibitions - World premiere

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**My Trip**

SYNOPSIS
Simulating the experience of a DMT trip, this work draws on new psychedelia, black-metal music, and internet paranoia to question existential concerns such as procreation and overpopulation. In this virtual retrospective, travel with characters such as Octo and Lightbulb Man through the dark web to unknown realms.

Official Selection Sundance Film Festival 2020 - New Frontier Exhibitions
**The Waiting Room**

**SYNOPSIS**
A VR Journey which tells the story of Victoria Mapplebeck’s breast cancer (as patient and Director) from diagnosis to recovery. *The Waiting Room* explores illness from a patient’s POV, putting under the microscope what we can and what we can’t control when our bodies fail us.

**DETAILS**
Year: 2019  
Running Time: 16 min 54 sec  
Director: Victoria Mapplebeck  
Producer: Shehani Fernando  
Screenwriter: Victoria Mapplebeck

[Further Credits and Production/Sales contacts]
Dionne Edwards

“There’s something almost mythical about the Sundance labs. When you walk into the main hall at the resort and see the likes of Dee Rees, Darren Aronofsky and Paul Thomas Anderson on the walls, you feel excited, privileged and intimidated all at once. In January 2019, I took part in the Sundance Screenwriters’ Lab in the Utah mountains. During that week, each of the fellows have meetings with established and successful screenwriters. In these meetings we’d debate and discuss the projects at length. The Lab got me to think more thoroughly about what the stakes were in my story and what I was really trying to communicate. A few months after, I had taken what I’d learned and written a better draft of the script.

You can only get into Directors’ Labs by invite and you have to have had your project go through the Screenwriters’ Lab. They call the Directors’ Lab the heart of the Sundance Institute and it really is. Only eight filmmakers are invited each year and you spend a month on the mountain, going deep into your project, working on difficult scenes from your script, shooting them and screening them to advisors and fellows. It really is a safe space to be vulnerable in, where you feel nurtured and supported and encouraged to take risks. Time is spent learning about the craft of directing, working with experienced filmmakers and bonding with the other fellows. With the help of the British Council and BFI NETWORK lab grant scheme, I was able to fly two UK actors to the labs for the workshops. Getting to work on these scenes was truly invaluable – I was able to uncover what was working and what wasn’t. Through the workshops, I found areas in my script that I needed to interrogate further, and characters that needed more development. My biggest takeaway was that I needed to trust myself more as a director and trust in the process. There really is no magical formula to directing, you just need to be in love with the story, and the keeper of the story. It’s hard to sum up how important the labs have been for me – I’m so glad that everything I learned during the labs could be processed away from the film set. Everything I learned about my project, my craft and myself – and the friendships I have made – have been nothing short of life changing.”

Dionne Edwards received a grant from the British Council & BFI NETWORK Lab Grant Fund to attend a Sundance Directors’ Lab in 2019.
# INDEX OF FILMS

| BRITISH COUNCIL FILM / UK SHORTS AND NEW TALENT 2020 / INDEX | 91 |

| 4:3 | 2064 | 3 Logical Exits | Affection | Agya | All Kinds of Limbo | Anna | An Arabian Night | Armstrong | The Art of Reducing Noise | As Told To G/D Thyself | Atomu | Attrition | Azaar | Be Still My Beating Heart | Becoming Cherrie | Bernard | The Bicycle Thief | Binge Watching | Birthday Girl | Black to Techno | Blank Shores | Boys Night | Bradford Young: Cinema... | Breakfast in Kisumu | Bunny | The Circle | City of Children | Cleaning in Progress | The Collider: Chapter One | Common Ground | Creepy Pasta Salad | The Curse of the Phantom... | Dark Road | Dawn in the Dark | The Destrokers | The Devil's Harmony | Doggerland | The Doll's Breath | Double Ghosts | Duck Daze | E-Ticket | Educated | End-O | Evergreen | An Everyday Act | The Fabric of You | Fifteen (Quince) | The Flood is Coming | The Flounder | Future Perfect | The Gallery | The Girl With Two Heads | Goldfish | Grace on a Saturday Night | Grandad Was a Romantic GUO4 | Hard, Cracked the Wind Heatwave | Herman Brown is Feeling Down Home by 8.30 Horse Play Houses (for Margaret) Hub Tones I Have Sinned a Rapturous Sin I Signed the Petition I will make up a song... In Her Boots Isha It’s Me It’s Nothing Jealous Alan Junior Bangers Just Agree Then Kamali Kingdom Come Knot Learning to Skateboard... Live a Little Look Then Below Lost in Translation? The Lost Land Girl The Loudest Spy Ever Lucky Star A Machine for Viewing The Magic Boat Majority Making a Diagonal with Music Mariam Jafri vs. Maryam Jafri Mega Sexy Robot Dinosaur Memoirs of a Geeza Missing Time My Best Friend Ends My Best Friend Explodes My Best Friend Rewinds My Brother Is A Mermaid My Trip the names have changed... Naptha New Year Nimic No, I Don’t Want To Dance! A Noble Truth Nuraiyah Obsession Olla PHX [X is for Xylonite] Pitch Black Panacea Playhouse The Pregnant Ground The Qilin Ralph Styles Ultra Red Red Rover The Redness of Red Reprise Roadkill Rosalyn Sandpaper A Screen Test for an Adaptation... Scuzz The Seven Ages of Man The Shift Shirley Signal 8 Signs Slug Life Sodom & Gomorrah Solar Plexus Spring Fever Starboy A State of Grace Stray Dogs Come Out at Night Sudden Light Sweet Mother These Things in My Head - Side A The Thing That Ate the Birds This is Pig Meat This is the Winter Thrive Tomorrow I Will Be Dirt Tony Fragnals The Trap Trifle Two Sisters Who Are Not Sisters Unexpected Item Vaarheim Versimilitude The Waiting Room What It Feels Like When the Silence Comes Where's the Butterfly, Betty? White Girl Wood Child and Hidden... Young Mother Zahida | 91 |