



FilmBath Festival 2023

20 – 29 October

See the world through another lens,
with 10 mind-expanding days of film



FILM
BATH ORG.UK

Join us for 10 days while we screen over 40 films across our city, showcasing a wonderfully diverse selection of cinema from around the world, many of which were exhibited at this year's London Film Festival.

FilmBath prides itself on its very own 'F-Rating' status, which guarantees that a minimum of 50% of the films shown have been directed and/or written by women. This year's programme has developed a natural theme around the female gaze and the relationships women have with their bodies, with titles such as **How to Have Sex, Your Fat Friend** and **Is There Anybody Out There?**.

As always, there is something for everyone at the 2023 FilmBath Festival... including bold new previews such as **Poor Things** with Emma Stone and **All of Us Strangers** with Claire Foy and Paul Mescal; mind-expanding documentaries about life, photography, memory, music and more; as well as a mix of drama, romance, comedy and thriller features. Plus a surprise film that will knock your socks off.

Many of these films will never be screened in the Bath area again, so don't miss this wonderful opportunity to see them.

We look forward to seeing you there!

Jasmine Barker Festival Director
Philip Raby Creative Director

Welcome to the 33rd FilmBath Festival

Pay what you can

Watching remarkable films together is the reason FilmBath Festival exists. We all love the feeling of being in a venue with others, sharing the communal experience of being moved, inspired and changed by movies. We are determined to ensure this experience is available to everyone so, after the feedback from last year, we are continuing our Pay What You Can ticket scheme.

£20 I am financially secure and I have the means and desire to contribute towards making the film festival affordable for others.

£15 (Recommended ticket price) I have access to a regular and disposable income/savings and I can afford the recommended ticket price.

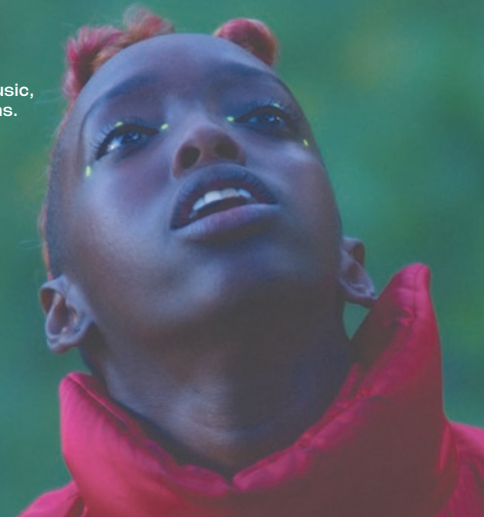
£10 I receive or have access to regular income and have access to some disposable income. I would normally select a concession rate.

£8 I have access to income but it is low and unstable and I worry about meeting my basic needs.

£5 I am unemployed, underemployed or unable to work and regularly worry about meeting my basic needs.

See filmbath.org.uk
for more information

Neptune Frost
Monday 23 October, 21:10
This Burundi-based film is in a genre of its own, combining music, dance, poetry, sci-fi and dreams.





More than meets the eye!

Watch trailers, browse the films and buy tickets at filmbath.org.uk



Spectacular awards night

Not to be missed by cinema enthusiasts of all ages, every year we are delighted to host the IMDb New Filmmaker Award, showcasing the freshest new talent in film! Film fanatics and industry judges come together to watch the finalists' short films and cast their votes to decide the winner. The judging panel for this year includes the CEO of IMDb, Col Needham, producer Shelley Williams and the Head of Screen Acting at Bristol Old Vic Theatre School, Emily Smith.

2023 Finalists are:

Pupils Should Know Abi Peszel
Dying To Meet You Ava Bounds
Solo Amy Hope
Fly Tipping Gareth Malone
Goodbye Goodbye Goodbye Annie Hammond

IMDb New Filmmaker Awards

Monday 23 October, 18:30
 Komedia Bath
 Plus a special screening of 2023 IMDb Script to Screen Award winner Jamie Benyon's film **Two Minutes** featuring Annette Badland, Samuel Bottomley and Ashley Mangolis.



Halloween vibes

With Halloween nearly upon us, we are bringing you films to kick off your spooky season with a bang (or even a boo)! Korean psychological horror **The Other Child** will keep you guessing at every turn, while Hirokazu Koreeda's **Monster** will leave you questioning who the real 'monster' is. Both our big preview films **Poor Things** and **All of Us Strangers** are guaranteed to send a shiver down your spine as they both see the dead come back to life.



Special guests

We have interviews with several directors and writers, including Carol Morley (**Typist Artist Pirate King**), Paul Sng (**Tish**) and Sheila Hayman (**Fanny: The Other Mendelssohn**). With a triple-bill of films by director Danny Boyle and writer John Hodge being screened at the festival this year, we are also hosting a Q&A with these industry legends following a screening of **Trainspotting**.

Look out for the Q&A symbol.



From around the world

Every year our programmers go "globetrotting" to find the best international films for you. We have Italian drama **L'immensità** featuring Penelope Cruz; Mexico's entry for the Oscars this year, family drama **Totem**; the heartbreaking and touching Japanese film **Love Life** (with authentic snacks from Izakaya and Sake Bar, Budō); and, in partnership with the local Museum of East Asian Art, entangled mystery thriller **Lost In The Stars**.

We've also teamed up with Afrika Eye to bring you Burundi-based film **Neptune Frost**, a mash-up of genres, ideology, poetry and dream imagination. What's more, we have a couple of fantastic French films for you, including the mouth-watering **The Pot-au-Feu**, which centres on a chef in a late 19th-century restaurant, as well as comedy-drama **The Innocent**, featuring director and star Louis Garrel. We will give you a flavour of the world and you don't need your passports!



Enlightening documentaries

We have a fascinating collection of documentaries for you this year. Rev your engines ready for **Women Behind The Wheel**, which follows two young women as they drive the length of the Pamir Highway. Is **There Anybody Out There?** follows Ella's search to find someone with a body like hers. The struggle of trying to keep the memory of your loved one alive when they themselves are suffering from Alzheimer's disease is illustrated beautifully in **The Eternal Memory**.

The greatest female composer you've never heard of is revealed to be **Fanny: The Other Mendelssohn** (below). **Fantastic Machine** gives an unprecedented insight into the way our relationships with film, TV and phones have undermined as well as enhanced our lives. **On The Adamant** is the latest film from Nicholas Philibert, who wowed the world with **Être Et Avoir**, and observes a boat moored on the Seine in Paris where people with mental health conditions can find safety and comfort.



Previews & premieres

Come awards time, these films are going to be out there in the public gaze, and you can be one of the first to see them! Following his film **The Favourite**, we have the new title from Yorgos Lanthimos, **Poor Things** (above right), which features Emma Stone and is guaranteed to be on all the awards lists. There's also an intriguing and eerie film, **All Of Us Strangers**, featuring Claire Foy, Jamie Bell and Paul Mescal, as well as one extra surprise film – yes, you won't know what you will be watching until you get there. All we can tell you is that it's a big one!



Unmissable LGBTQ+

This year we are excited to team up with Queer Vision Film Festival to tell the stories of LGBTQ+ people from around the world, including the struggles of a Russian queer performance artist turned activist in **Queendom**; the intense love affair between two Jehovah's Witnesses in **You Can Live Forever**; and the lives of black trans sex workers with **Kokomo City**, which is told with amazing frankness, humour and insight.



F-Rated

As always, we are committed to a minimum of 50% of our programme being directed and/or written by women: **Rodeo**, **20,000 Species of Bees**, **Blackbird Blackbird Blackberry**, **How to Have Sex**, **Smoke Sauna Sisterhood** and many more.

#FindYourFilm
filmbath.org.uk



FilmBath Festival Programme 20 – 29 October 2023

f X @ i n y d @FilmBathUK

Friday 20 October



Poor Things 18:00
The new Yorgos Lanthimos film is a major event, and this preview promises to deliver something very special.

Sponsored by **The Group of Seven**



Blackbird Blackbird 18:30
A single Georgian woman finds passion with a married man in this award-winning story about desire and independence.



The Bikeriders 21:00
Who can resist a biker movie with the amazing Jodie Comer, Austin Butler and Tom Hardy in full Brando mode?

Saturday 21 October



The Pot-au-Feu 17:30
A mouth-watering French film with Juliette Binoche about a chef in a late 19th-century restaurant.



Women Behind the Wheel 18:00
Two young women drive the length of the Pamir Highway in this lovely and unexpected documentary about how women live on the other side of the world. **Plus Q&A** with directors Hannah Congdon and Catherine Haigh
Sponsored by **The Nordic Trust**



20,000 Species of Bees 20:30
Eight-year-old Altor was born a boy, but is convinced that a mistake has been made and that she is really a girl in this beautiful, gentle feature.



Smoke Sauna Sisterhood 20:40
Estonian women gather in a sauna and open their hearts and minds to each other in this funny and beautiful account of their lives, dreams and disappointments. **Plus Together**, 9m

Sunday 22 October



Typist Artist Pirate King 17:30
An amazing and inventive feature from one of the UK's greatest directors, about a very eccentric artist on a road trip with her reluctant social worker. **Plus Q&A** with director Carol Morley and producer Calvo Cannori
Sponsored by **Hawkins Johnny**

Sunday 22 October contd.



Queendom 19:00
Agnia Galdanova documents the courageous journey of Gena, queer performance artist-turned-activist fighting for creative and personal freedom in Putin's Russia. **Plus Rickshaw**, 9m

In partnership with **Queer-Vision Festival**



Is There Anybody Out There? 20:30
Wonderful documentary exploring one woman's relationship with her unique body and with the rest of the world. **Plus virtual Q&A** with director Ella Glendining



Kokomo City 21:20
Black trans sex workers talk about their lives with amazing frankness, humour and insight. **Plus The Eyeshah**, 7m

Monday 23 October



IMDb Film Awards 18:30
Every year we are delighted to host the IMDb New Filmmaker Award, showcasing the freshest new talent in film!

Sponsored by **IMDb, Visual Impact and QWR**



The Innocent 19:00
French romantic comedy thriller with director/star Louis Garrel trying to undermine his mother's marriage to an ex-con. **Plus Non-Negotiable**, 9m



Neptune Frost 21:10
Unique, original, bursting with energy and ideas, this Burundi-based film is in a genre of its own, combining music, dance, poetry, sci-fi and dreams.

In Partnership with **Afrika Eye Film Festival**

Tuesday 24 October



How to Have Sex 18:00
Three young women go on a clubbing holiday and discover the limitations of freedom and sexuality in an amazing UK debut feature.



The Eternal Memory 19:00
One of the most profound, tender and irresistible films we have seen, about a Chilean journalist losing his memory while his amazing wife tries to keep him (and his memory) alive. **Plus Fabula Rasa**, 7m

Tuesday 24 October contd.



You're Fat Friend 20:15
An amazing documentary by and about a self-proclaimed 'fat person', whose (so far successful) mission is to change the perception of people who are 'overweight'. **Plus virtual Q&A** with director/writer Jeanie Finlay



The Other Child 21:00
A scary and unsettling yet profound meditation on life, death, loss, and grief in this excellent Korean movie

Wednesday 25 October



On the Adamant 18:00
Unmissable new documentary by the director of Être et Avoir about a boat on the Seine where adults with mental health conditions go for support and calm.



Surprise Film 20:30
It's a surprise, remember? What we can say is that it will be a BIG hit when it comes out.

Sponsored by **Malory's Jewellery**

Thursday 26 October



Lilo & Stitch 10:30
Hailed for his charm, originality and vibrant visuals, the film, which is set in Hawaii, revolves around the orphaned Lilo and the extraterrestrial creature she adopts as a pet and renames Stitch.



Dust to Data 18:00
Fictional Explorations of the Digital Afterlife
Cross the divide and envision a future where digital immortality becomes a reality in this interactive event around our digital footprint.

In partnership with **Dorothy House, Kilter Theatre, University of Bath and University of Bristol**



Love Life 18:00
Heartbreaking and touching story of a Japanese family whose challenges are magnified after a tragedy.

Includes authentic Japanese snacks from Bath's only Izakaya & Sake Bar, **Budo**



Fanny: The Other Mendelssohn 20:15
The greatest woman composer you've never heard of is revealed to be... Mendelssohn's sister in this new documentary complete with live music. **Plus Q&A** with Sheila Hayman
In Partnership with **Bath Spa University**

Thursday 26 October contd.



Rodeo 20:40
A terrific and thrilling debut French feature about a young woman trying to be accepted by an (all-male) world of biker outlaws.



Chicken Run 15:00
This beloved stop-motion classic from Bristol-based studio Aardman Animations follows a flock of chickens who attempt to escape the clutches of Mr and Mrs Tweedy, who plot to turn them into chicken pies.



Fantastic Machine 18:00
This is a film for everyone who has watched films or television on YouTube or taken pictures with their phone - a radical examination of the relationship between us and that flickering screen. **Plus The Discarded Cat**, 3m



Totem 18:00
Naïma Sentles shines as seven-year-old Sol, whose experience of a celebratory and noisy family party thrown for her dying father is joyous, sad and life-changing.



Brother 20:15
Superb film about two black brothers in Toronto trying to make something of their lives, with all the odds against them.



L'immensità 20:30
Penelope Cruz dazzles as the Spanish/Italian mother of a pre-teen transgender son in 1980s Rome. **Plus Disappointment**, 10m

Saturday 28 October



A Life Less Ordinary/ Alien Love Triangle 17:30
Director Danny Boyle and writer John Hodge's follow up to *Trainspotting*, with Ewan McGregor and Cameron Diaz under pressure from angels to find true love. **Plus Alien Love Triangle**, 30m



You Can Live Forever 18:00
A young lesbian, sent to her Jehovah's Witness aunt when her dad dies, finds unexpected love in this delightful and sensitive debut. **Plus Dust**, 9m

Saturday 28 October contd.



Lost in the Stars 20:30
A tense, twisty and terrific Chinese thriller with an unreliable narrator and a gripping story designed to hook you till the end.

In partnership with **Museum of East Asian Art**



Trainspotting 20:20
One of the most famous and influential British films of the last 30 years. **Plus Q&A** with director Danny Boyle and writer John Hodge.

Sunday 29 October



The Old Oak 17:30
Centred on a pub that is threatened with closure, Ken Loach's (last?) film explores the relationship between the locals and the Syrian refugees who have recently arrived in the area. **Plus Q&A** with director Ken Loach
In partnership with **Bath City Football Club Foundation**



Monster 18:00
Hiroyasu Koreeda's new film takes a Rashomon-like look at events in a school where a boy claims he has been assaulted.



Tish 20:40
A great documentary about a trailblazing photographer whose work is only now being appreciated. **Plus Q&A** with director Paul Spig



All of Us Strangers 20:40
Special preview starring Andrew Scott, who finds his parents alive and at the same age as they were when they died.

Sponsored by **TSL Consulting**

Genre key

- Documentaries
- Horror/Thriller
- Family film
- Drama
- Sci-fi/Fantasy
- Romance
- Comedy

Venues

- Rondo Theatre**
St Saviours Road, BA1 6RT
- Widcombe Social Club**
Widcombe Hill, BA2 6AA
- Komedia**
Westgate Street, BA1 1EP
- Bath City Football Club**
105 High St, Twerton, BA2 1DB
- Odeon Bath**
Kingsmead Leisure Complex, James Street West, BA1 2BX
- The Little Theatre**
St Michaels Place, BA1 1SG

Watch trailers,
browse the films
and buy tickets
at filmbath.org.uk



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With thanks to all our brilliant volunteers, programmers, trustees, office staff, supporters, champions and you, the audience: without you there is no film festival.



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