



RAINDANCE FILM FESTIVAL ROUNDS OUT LINE-UP

THE FESTIVAL ANNOUNCED ITS CO-PRODUCTION & INDUSTRY FORUMS, MUSIC STRAND AND REMAINING JURY MEMBERS

LONDON - TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2016: The Raindance Film Festival today announced the remainder of its line-up, which will feature at **Vue Piccadilly Cinema** in London from **September 21st – October 22nd, 2016**.

With a record-breaking number of **submissions** this year from **98 countries**, the Festival will screen **108 feature films** and **85 short films**. A champion of independent filmmaking, Raindance is the largest independent film festival in Europe.

Selecting winners from the Festival's competition slate - **Olivia Colman** (*The Night Manager, Tyrannosaur*), **Billie Piper** (*Dr. Who, Secret Diary of a Call of Girl*), **Jeremy Irvine** (*War Horse, The Railway Man*) and **Matthew Lewis** (*The Harry Potter series, Me Before You*) will join previously announced celebrity jury members, Joanna Lumley, Imelda Staunton, Stephen Fry, Jodie Whittaker, Anna Friel, Nicholas Pinnock, Johnny McDaid and Jack Davenport.

Additional jury members include a combination of filmmakers, industry professionals and journalists: **WIZ** (*Weekender, The Young Victorians*), **Kate Muir** (*Chief Film Critic at The Times*), **Fionnuala Halligan** (*Chief Critic and Reviews Editor at Screen Daily*), **Tim Robey** (*Film Critic at The Daily Telegraph*), **Martin Roberts** (*Homes Under The Hammer, Wish you Were Here*), **Maria Ingold** (*FilmFlex Movies, mireality*) **Ivan Corbisier** (*Director of Brussels Film Festival*), **Jon Salmon** (*Byte Entertainment, Talk Talk*), **Estrella Araiza** (*Vendo Cine, Guadalajara International Film Festival*), **Mike Gamble** (*Epic Games*), **Mária Rakušanov** (*VR Lead at Samsung Mobile*) and previously announced contemporary artist, **David Datuna**.

This year, Raindance will also dedicate a day to building relationships with the Chinese film industry. **China Day** will take place on **Thursday, September 22nd** and will be attended by the Shanghai Governor as well as delegates from the China Film Group Corporation and the Beijing Film Academy.

China Day will include panels on virtual reality and 3D films and the rise of these platforms in the film industry, as well as screenings of the European Premiere of Johnnie To's **Three**, starring Louis Koo, Wallace Chung and Zhao Wei, about a thug who will do anything to escape police arrest and the European Premiere of Guang Zeng's short film, **Farewell, My Love** starring Dan Liu and Zheng Wang.

Five films have been selected to participate in this year's **Co-Production Forum**, which is a partnership between Raindance and the Guadalajara Film Festival (FICG), focusing on the **relationship between the UK and Ibero-American film industries**.

The films are currently in-development and filmmakers will have the opportunity to try and secure funding and UK co-productions for their projects. Films include, Jesús Magaña Vázquez's *Human Resources*; Eduardo Naranjo's *I Faust*; Sonia Albert-Sobrino and Miriam Albert-Sobrino's *Melita*; Tiahoga Ruge's *The Bicycle*; and Horacio Alcalá, Aitor Echevarría's *The Icarus*.

The Festival's **Industry Forum** includes a plethora of opportunities for filmmakers to gain more insight into the independent film industry and identify ways in which they can progress their careers.

A panel on **Brexit** will look at what leaving the EU means for the UK film industry; **The Film in my Mind: Women Filmmakers** will include a panel of female directors discussing the challenges and successes they faced while making their first features; **The Market for LGBT Films** will look at the growing presence of these films globally and how visibility can be maximized in the international film festival circuit; and a panel on **Successful Crowdfunding** will look at how Web Series can capitalize on this source of revenue.

The Festival's annual **Live! Ammunition!** event provides participants with the chance to pitch an idea for a film to a panel of top film executives. Participants drop a fiver in the hat and have two minutes to convince the panel to read their script or develop their film.

Raindance Founder Elliot Grove commented, *"We are always striving to showcase innovative and leading edge work, but we also know how important it is to provide independent filmmakers with opportunities to get their projects made. This year's co-production and industry forums are impressive in their selection, special guests, panels and events."*

Each year, Raindance showcases a selection of **Music Videos** to screen within its Music Strand. Five music videos will compete for this year's **Best Music Video Award: *Denim***, by Matthew Hamett, a round-the-world Disney princess adventure featuring five drag queens, five countries, two Chihuahuas and a waterfall; ***Joy's Apartment***, by Pontus Johansson, Johanna Hanno, Emil Nyström, Kim Karlsten and Maja Jakobsson, which tells the story of everyday places and of the odd feeling of standing on the sidelines in solitude, watching it all; ***Norma and Jessica*** featuring SadGirl, by David Gantz and Theo Cohn, which follows a man let loose from prison, who sets out on a path of revenge against the cult that set him up; ***Through my Street*** featuring Rio Wolta, by Piet Baumgartner, where two workers arrive to their job site and their working day turns into an unexpected artistic event; and ***Voodoo in my Blood*** – Massive Attack featuring Young Fathers, by Ringan Ledwidge, exploring our uneasy relationship with technology.

The Festival has also partnered with the [Radar Awards](#) to screen a selection of the winning music videos submitted by unsigned directors worldwide to this year's inaugural event, held at London's YouTube Space. Videos include ***Celebrity Reduction Player***, by Ryan Calavano, a humorous critique of modern celebrity-obsessed culture; ***Queens Speech 4***, by Amir Mekkaoui, which accompanies Lady Leshurr's track of the same name; ***Y*** by Lavinia Noel takes us through Cova Da Moura in Lisbon, one of Europe's most notorious ghettos;

and **Royal Republic – Baby** by Leo Åkesson is a super-speed-roller-disco-thunder-show performed by the rock quartet Royal Republic. Please note this is a free screening.

The Festival announced last week that legendary British filmmaker **Ken Loach** will receive the first **Raindance Auteur Award** and will participate in an **'In Conversation With...'** discussion on **Tuesday, September 27th, 2016**.

Previously announced **Opening & Closing Night Films**, Manu Riche's ***Problemski Hotel*** and Dominik Moll's ***News From Planet Mars***, will screen at Picturehouse Central on **September 21st & October 2nd**, respectively.

Main partners of the 24th Raindance Film Festival include Lexus, Strand Palace Hotel, Aon, Vue and Century Club.

A full list of Music Videos and Industry Forum Events can be found below.

INDUSTRY FORUM

Brexit Panel

What will Brexit mean for the film industry? We know it is going to change the way films are financed and produced. This panel will give you the keys to understanding and succeeding beyond this complex situation.

With Tony Morris and Andres Espinosa, chaired by Elliot Grove.

From Book To Film: Finding A Story

Most of the leading box office films are book adaptations. In the uncertain times of the changing economy, adaptation seems to be a safe bet. Learn about the process of transforming a beloved book into a successful film.

With Tony Morris, Rosalind Ramsay, and Tom Leggett.

Hacking The Film Marketing Strategy: Guerrilla Marketing And Advertising

Social media has democratised local and international film marketing. It has changed the primary currency from the size of your media budget, to the strength of your marketing ideas. Discuss five film marketing hacks that can help you create and manage a successful marketing strategy for your film.

With Nicola Piggott.

Pitching Skills

It's not enough to have a million-pound idea, you have to be able to sell it. When often all you have is 15 minutes with a producer it is vital to learn how to hook anyone and get your movie made.

With Elliot Grove.

Product Placement

Funding is always the trickiest part of making a movie. Aaron Wileman will show us how to apply product placement to your project, to make brand relationships profitable and bring value to your brand partner.

With Aaron Wileman.

Red Carpet Techniques, Walk & Talk Like A Movie Star

PR means everything in business, and what is a red carpet but a path to success? Be the best version of yourself and learn how to make a big entrance.

With Catherine Lyn Scott.

The 5 Mistakes That Will Sabotage Your Script

What do you do when you can already write good scripts, but still want to improve? Explore the five fatal mistakes that experienced writers, directors and producers fall into and how to avoid them.

With award-winning writer-director, Charles Harris.

The Film In My Mind: Women Filmmakers

Hear from three accomplished female artists working across the creative industries, on the good, bad and ugly of that first feature.

With Nicky Benthon, Suhalya El-Bushra, and Marnie Dickens, chaired by Georgina Bednar.

The Market For LGBT Films

The growing presence of LGBTQ films and the evolution of their own festival circuit has changed the sources of revenue. How do you get valuable exposure? Is being in a film festival equal to promotion?

With Murray Dibbs, Aitor Eche, and Horacio Alcalá.

TV Series vs. Films

Between VOD platforms, VR screenings, TV series more expensive than movies and the overwhelming number of films, the audiovisual market has been changing rapidly. Learn what companies are buying and what the audience is really looking for.

With Bobby Allen, Head Of Content at MUBI.

What Does Green Cinema Mean?

Until recently, the film industry was considered non-threatening to the environment, but between flights, equipment and red carpets, in reality this is not the case. What does film's carbon footprint mean for us and how can we help to preserve our world?

With Ivan Trujillo, Director of Guadalajara International Film Festival.

Working With Sales Agents: Reach The Global Audience

Who is an independent producer's best ally? A sales agent. Learn how to find one and set your film on the path to becoming global.

With Callum Grant, Director of International Sales and Acquisitions at IM Global.

MUSIC VIDEOS

***Celebrity Reduction Prayer*, Ryan Calavano, USA**

"Watch me smash all of these idols / Got my own heavyweight title / There's no upper tier, we're all peers / Unless y'all want to be rivals". This music video is a humorous and infectious critique of modern celebrity-obsessed culture.

Clap Track, Max Palmer, UK/New Zealand, UK Premiere (Music Video)

Classic 1940s Jazz-Swing dancing footage is juxtaposed with this modern and heavy DnB banger to create an addictively amusing official music video that is both harking back to golden eras of music and making a statement of defiance, rebellion and invention.

Denim, Matthew Hammett Knott, UK

A round-the-world Disney princess adventure featuring five drag queens, five countries, two Chihuahuas and a waterfall, and referencing the high camp and low/high production values of classic 90s music videos from acts such as the Spice Girls, Aqua and Peter Andre.

Give Up Give Out Give In, Melvin J. Montalban/Dylan Duclos, Australia

A mesmerizing and simplistic music video for White Shadows' song, which combines minimalist styles, dance and lighting to create a strangely beautiful and sometimes surreal visual spectacle.

Joy, Pontus Johansson/Johanna Hanno/Emil Nyström/Kim Karlsten, Sweden, World Premiere

What you get in this poetic wonder of a stop motion is a bouquet of thrashed cardboard boxes, photography, a paper cut, paint and music by artist Joy's Apartment. Telling the story of everyday places and of the odd feeling of standing on the sidelines in solitude watching it all.

Paul, Bob Gallagher, Ireland

Dealing with romantic rejection, career failure and the death of his father all gets on top of one man. Spending his day filming in a pig suit, playing a background character on a children's TV show, he eventually suffers a breakdown on set.

Cast: Jim Roche, Kate Finegan, Cait O'Riordan, Liam Butler, Ste Murray

Queens Speech 4, Amir Mekkaoui, UK, UK Premiere

This music video accompanying Lady Leshurr's track of the same name is the fourth installment of her 'Queen's Speech' series of freestyles, which went viral earlier in 2016. A simple but playful video conveying the humour, spirit and spontaneity of the musician.

Rowdy Badd, Joe Vickers/Richard Reason, UK

A lively music video to 'Rowdy Badd' from LEVELZ's critically-acclaimed 'LVL 11' mixtape. The video makes use of a Bullet Rig, like the ones used in the ground-breaking 'Matrix' films, the first music video to do so.

Royal Republic - Baby, Leo Åkesson, Sweden

A super-speed-roller-disco-thunder-show performed by the rock quartet Royal Republic in a venue breathing sweat, lust and fifth grade gym class. With a mirror-ball mightier than Frankenstein and a swing better than Tarzan's this homage to the 80's will make you wanna roll - forever.

SadGirl - Norma and Jessica, David Gantz/Theo Cohn, USA, UK Premiere

A man is let loose from prison and with the help of his lady, sets out on a path of revenge against a twisted cult that set him up. Their only chance at true freedom is to get to the cult before the cult gets to them.

So Happy, Marin Nekic, Brazil, UK Premiere

This music video for DRVORED follows various characters as they go about their daily routine. Showcasing gorgeous landscapes and authentic musicianship along the way, this is a film conveying a sense of longing and contentment at the thought of regaining a lost love.

Sometimes, Bryan Schlam, USA

With British pop-rocker Oscar's video for the song 'Sometimes', he takes what is billed in the video's title card as a 'fantastic journey through the West', exploring some of the quirkiest niche communities of America, from a lawn bowling club to a group of model train enthusiasts.

Taken, Ewan Jones Morris, UK

A music video for Anna Meredith's song of the same name. It visually explores rhythm through everyday objects and actions with a split screen format containing 18 different perspectives. These different viewpoints are also used to explore the musicians' performances with a nod to Hockney's 'joiners'.

The House, Michael Parks Randa, USA, European Premiere

A stereotypical high school nerd, teased by his classmates decides to reinvent himself and his childhood through a wildly embellished school presentation that transforms him into a local high school god to the bemusement of his peers.

Through My Street, Piet Baumgartner, Switzerland

Digger Love: A couple of workers get ready for the usual routine. He fills a sandwich while she sings a song in front of the TV. But, once they arrive to their job site, their working day turns into an unexpected artistic event.

Voodoo In My Blood, Ringan Ledwidge, UK

Ringan Ledwidge explores our uneasy relationship with technology. With the seductive devices we covet, which in turn exert immense control over our lives. It was inspired by the notorious subway scene in 'Possession', the extreme and bizarre horror masterpiece and the intimidating floating metal orb from 1979 cult-classic horror, 'Phantasm'.

Witch Doctor, Studio Smack/Floris Kaayk/Torre Florim, Netherlands

In this intense music video for De Staat's song, a massive horde of humans obey a mesmerizing and charismatic figure to perform a strange ritual dance, forming a primitive sea of movement.

Y, Lavinia Noel, UK, UK Premiere

Exploring one of Europe's most notorious ghettos, Cova Da Moura in Lisbon. This music video captures the energy of this place, the architecture, street art and the beautiful essence from the good-natured people in a place that is near enough unheard of to the rest of the world.

Industry members can apply for accreditation [here](#).

Festival passes can be purchased [here](#)

Festival tickets can be purchased [here](#).

~ENDS~

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ABOUT RAINDANCE FILM FESTIVAL

Discover. Be Discovered.

Listed by Variety as one of the world's top 50 'unmissable film festivals', Raindance showcases features, shorts, music videos, virtual reality films and web series' by filmmakers from the UK and around the world celebrating and supporting independent, new and alternative filmmakers not just during our 12 day festival but throughout the year.

Raindance Film Festival is officially recognised by the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences USA, the British Academy of Film and Television Arts and the British Independent Film Awards. Selected shorts will qualify for Oscar® and BAFTA nominations. British short films that play in competition and all British features that play in 2016 will be eligible for entry for the 2016 British Independent Film Awards BIFA.

ABOUT RAINDANCE - THE VOICE OF INDEPENDENT FILM

Raindance is dedicated to fostering and promoting independent film in the UK and around the world. Based in the heart of London, Raindance combines [Raindance Film Festival](#), [Training Courses](#), the prestigious [British Independent Film Awards](#) .

ABOUT THE RADAR AWARDS

Hosted by Radar Music Videos, which connects rising music video directors with record labels, managers and artists, the [Radar Awards](#) celebrate great work by independent, unsigned video directors worldwide. Prizes include mentorships with the very best music video production companies on the planet."