

Cornwall Film Festival Press Release

For Immediate Release

Boundaries

New meeting points in film

The Cornwall Film Festival is delighted to announce BOUNDARIES, the 15th Edition of the Cornwall Film Festival in partnership with The Poly, Falmouth and new Newlyn Filmhouse. November is fast becoming the film month in Cornwall, with events across the County. Audiences will gather at the The Poly art center in Falmouth on the 2nd to the 9th November and the Newlyn Film House on the 11th-13th for the best International, Independent, World and Cornish film making talent.

Cinema highlights include Bafta nominated Rachel Tunnard *Adult Life Skills*. A charmingly offbeat comedy drama featuring Jodie Whittaker as Anna, a young woman approaching 30 who has refused to deal with life after the death of her twin. Baz Luhrmann's now iconic *Romeo + Juliet* will also be shown. Starring Oscar winners Leonardo DiCaprio and Claire Danes as the tragic couple, the film takes a modern approach of the classic tale, using a modern setting of Verona Beach with a updated style while maintaining all the classic power of the original masterpiece. the premier of local production company The Oddbodies' *Diary of a Madman* will also be played with terrific performances from the ensemble cast that brings a darkly comedic, ultimately heartbreaking tale of one man's journey into insanity to the screen.

Director of Cornwall Film Festival Louise Fox says:

'In a time of new European nationalism, of razor-wire fences and renewed border controls, of mass immigration and homegrown terror, of fear and insecurity where the proponents of closed national societies seem to be gaining ground against those favouring liberal, open regimes, the concept of boundaries seems more pertinent now than ever. The 15th edition of the Cornwall Film Festival responds critically to these issues of identity, immigration and location through a curated programme with the theme: BOUNDARIES. By bringing communities together we aim to encourage the visual, theoretical and practical exploration of ideas through film culture. We hope to open up new possibilities to rethink personal & political spaces, investigating new meeting points in film that are positioned outside the boundaries of any clearly defined place, characteristic, jurisdiction and control.'

The festival will provide a multi-layered environment of plural narratives, which audiences read differently in relation to their own experiences, offering attendees the unfamiliar and unpredictable, the Avant-Garde and occasionally provocative viewing experience. With audiences having a whole range of experiences, the issues of connection, diversity and quality sit at the heart of the Festival programme for 2016.

Festival Producer Michael Roberts said:

"The Cornwall Film Festival continues to be the best! It encompasses all that is great about film: New and cutting-edge talent, enthusiastic and engaged audiences, and a warm and welcoming vibe. It's a must for filmmakers and movie enthusiasts alike and there is nothing like it in the County."

On top of our classic film showings at the Newlyn Film House and The Poly we will also be doing a local showcase on the 5th November, featuring the best of Cornish short film. Amongst these films is Joel Duddell's *Wet Dream*. a feel good film following Stan who is sick of the monotonous city life and has moved to Cornwall

to counter this. Adventures and magical encounters ensue. Another exciting local film we will be showing is David Lea's *On a Sunday*, a dark thriller in which an old man and his dog make their routine walk of cornish hilltops but this time, they are not alone.

The festival will also welcome this year's new BFI Cornwall Film Academy participants. Cornwall Film Festival Beacon, media education and training projects have teamed up with BFI, School of Film & Television at Falmouth University and Truro & Penwith College to deliver professional filmmaking workshops to young people in the region. Cornwall Film Academy aims to help train and inspire the next generation of British filmmakers, supporting talented and committed young people aged 16-19 to develop the knowledge and skills to help make a career in film a reality.

For those who are more interested in learning the essential skills of the industry the festival will also be holding a number of industry events. Highlights of these events include Paul and Tanya Morel's Shooting in one room talk. This will focus on the immense challenge they took on to film an entire feature length movie in one small room, the challenges they faced and how they pulled it off. For those more interested in a industry writing talk, John Yorke, former head of channel 4 drama, will be making an appearance to give a storytelling writing masterclass. His approach to storytelling is based on the premise that there is a unifying shape to all narrative forms that comes from within. Where previous teachers of story have concentrated on "how" stories work, John looks at "why". Along with these two talks there will be a number of other networking and industry events, all of which should not be missed.

The festival will also be hosting a number of Galas celebrating film, each displaying a unmissable screening. The first one will be the School of Film and Television opening Gala at Falmouth University where *Adult life skills* will be screening on the 11th November. This will be followed by a gala showcasing The British Council's Shakespeare Lives programme of nine contemporary short films celebrating William Shakespeare's work on the occasion of the 400th anniversary of his death. Independent producer Anne Beresford will be introducing her work with the Shakespeare Lives programme. She has a long track record of producing award-winning music and arts films, recently producing the film version of *Hamlet* starring Maxine Peake. The Galas will finish with the Truro College closing Sunday Gala showcasing the Winner of the 2014 CFF Audience Award *Hunt for the Wilderpeople*. Director Taika Waititi of cult vampire comedy *What We Do In the Shadows* returns with the utterly hilarious *Hunt for the Wilderpeople*, which screened to acclaim at Sundance. An utterly unmissable film from a rising director.

Along with the many films that will be playing throughout the festival there will also be a set of film installations under our elemental dialogues project. Elemental Dialogues is a long running project which explores what happens when a short film is handed over to a network of writers and sound artists with the original soundtrack removed. Each contributor produces an interpretation of the film, through their own diverse practice. These interpretations are then re-embedded into the film, creating new works each of which tells a different story. 'Air', the third in the series, was installed last year in the Skyspace and then toured nationally. This year the element is 'Water'. The first event in this area will be held on Thursday 10th November in Penzance and will be a projection and live performance. The second half of the event will be held on Wednesday 9th November in Helston and will be a screening of a number of interpretations of the film followed by a talk on morality by Jos Hadfield.