

18th Berwick Film & Media Arts Festival

Friday 3 — Sunday 5 March 2023



Welcome to 18th Berwick Film & Media Arts Festival

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bfmaf.org
@berwickfilmfest
#BFMAF2023

Join us for the **18th Berwick Film & Media Arts Festival** and a celebration of new cinema and artists' film.

The festival is a place for audiences and filmmakers to come together, and a moment to explore both cinema and Berwick-upon-Tweed from a fresh and fun perspective. There are screenings, talks, free exhibitions and club nights taking place all across our historic home town. We hope you enjoy delving into the programme and look forward to welcoming you at our 18th Festival!

New Cinema Awards

Celebrating some of the most distinctive works of new cinema being made around the world today. The 23 New Cinema Award winners were selected by our team of 6 programmers from 918 films researched and entered via an open call. What all New Cinema Award Winners hold in common is that their films push against boundaries of genre, form, and convention, disarming expectations and enlivening our relationship with cinema.

Essential Cinema

A pluralist retrospective series, proposing revisions and additions to what might be considered canonical cinema. This year's selection includes new restorations from a pioneer of feminist political cinema in Brazil, a journey into the 'green hell' of an open-air penal colony in the Peruvian Amazon, and a maximally irreverent slice of early 90s punk culture.

Propositions

A discursive setting - a screening, a discussion, or performance. Filmmakers and critics offer first-hand perspectives and interesting complications, expanding their work and contextualising aspects of their research and practice.

Exhibitions

Creating productive frictions inspired by buildings' current and historic use, artists present new moving image works in Berwick's Gymnasium Gallery, Town Hall, Visitor Centre, an 18th century ammunition store and a former Thorntons shop on Marygate.

Festival Club

Join us on Friday and Saturday night at the Magdalene Fields Golf Club to decompress from the day's cinematic adventures, meet up with pals, and cut loose on the dance-floor with Miss Mobile Disco and Noodle.

Filmmakers in Focus

Presenting the first UK retrospective of acclaimed film-making duo Markku Lehmuskallio (born 1938, Rauma, Finland) & Anastasia Lapsui (Nenets, born 1944, Yamal Peninsula, USSR). Their narrative and documentary features made across four decades centre people, stories and perspectives indigenous to the Arctic Circle, particularly the Nenets, a nomadic tribe living for centuries in regions of the Extreme North.

Screentime

Filmmaking and cinema programming with and for young people. The festival presents *In10ded Ten: The Fate of The Middle Place* and *Everyday Apocalypse* produced by Berwick Young Filmmakers with Kimberley O'Neill, plus the world premiere of *Bridge to the Future* a collaboration between Berwick Youth Project, Union Chain Bridge: Crossing Borders, Inspiring Communities and Kathryn Elkin. If you are interested in participating in future Berwick SCREENTIME projects, get in touch at info@bfmaf.org.

Opening Film

Friday 3 March, 19:30, Maltings Main House

Filmmakers in Focus

12+

UK Premiere

Anerca, Breath of Life

Markku Lehmuskallio
& Johannes Lehmuskallio

Finland | 2020 | 90 mins | Finnish, Swedish, Sámi, Tlingit, Yupik, Inuit, Nenets, Selkup, Chukchi with English subtitles



In Inuit, the word meaning to bring forth a poem is the same as the word to breathe - an act that inspires Finnish filmmaker Markku Lehmuskallio's poetic ethnography, co-directed with his son Johannes Lehmuskallio. A beautifully expansive film centred on performance and the importance of song, *Anerca, Breath of life* was shot over several decades with the indigenous peoples of the Arctic Circle. People and cultures spanning the borders of Finland, Sweden, Norway, Greenland, Canada, Alaska and Russia, the filmmakers are clear to point out, "It wasn't these cultures that drew up these borders, rights have been violated." Speaking against these continued infractions, the film magnificently expresses the joy, pain and energy of these individuals and communities through fleeting, magical moments of performance, conversation and cinema.

Closing Film

Sunday 5 March, 19:30, Maltings Main House

New Cinema Awards

12+

UK Premiere

Arnold is a Model Student

Sorayos Prapapan

Thailand, Singapore, Philippines, The Netherlands,
France | 2022 | 100 mins
Thai with English subtitles



Inspired by the Bad Student movement calling for educational reform in Thailand, *Arnold Is a Model Student* follows the titular protagonist as he joins forces with the rebellious Bee and an underground syndicate of misfits helping students cheat on their exams. This accessible yet subversive debut feature from Sorayos Prapapan pivots deftly between moments of absurdist humour and heartfelt, urgent gestures of cinematic protest. Combining dramatic details from his own childhood with footage from contemporary news and social media, Prapapan acknowledges a continuum of generational experience and the interplay between reality and fiction.

A perfect balance between outrage and irreverence. Its satire on the elite and the privileged is subtle but hits the bullseye.

Jury Statement, Hong Kong Asian Film Festival

Friday 3 March

12:30 Maltings Main House

12+

Filmmakers in Focus

New Film Restoration

Nedarma

Markku Lehmuskallio & Anastasia Lapsui

Finland | 2007 | 85 mins

Nenets with English subtitles

Nedarma (Travelling) is a documentary focusing on the Nenets, a nomadic tribe in the northern tundra of Siberia which Anastasia Lapsui was born into. Sumptuous 35mm black and white cinematography captures the atmosphere and landscapes of the Yamal Peninsula and the daily activities of its inhabitants with patience, visionary perspective, and a captivating soundtrack. The film begins by illustrating the Nenets cosmology as a way of leading into a filmic structure that portrays the arc of life from birth to death.

14:30 Maltings Henry Travers

12+

New Cinema Awards

Life on the CAPS

UK Festival Premiere

Meriem Bennani

United States, Morocco | 2022 | 75 mins

English subtitles

Meriem Bennani's playful sci-fi trilogy mixes live action, day-glo animation, and a kaleidoscopic score by Fatima Al Qadiri to explore the entangled politics of immigration, state control, and the border zone. Episodes focus on inhabitants of the fictional island of CAPS (short for 'capsule'), a magnetically sealed megalopolis created to intercept refugees attempting to teleport illegally into the US. Citizens work together to develop new modes of defiance and resistance, harnessing not only emergent biotechnologies but also the liberatory potential of joy and humour.

15:00 Maltings Main House

12+

New Cinema Awards

Let us flow

World Festival Premiere

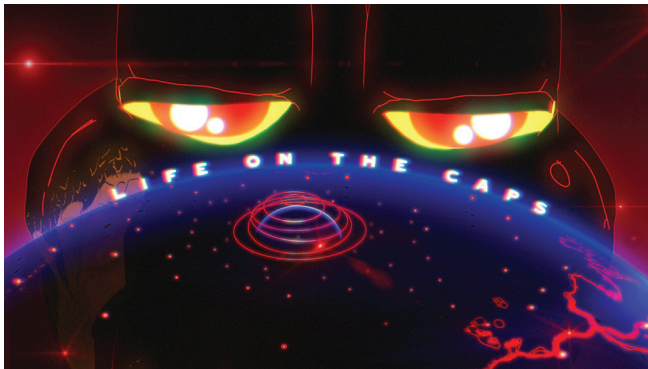
Sophio Medoidze

United Kingdom | 2022 | 65 mins | English and

Georgian with English subtitles

The isolated mountainous region of Tusheti, in Northeast Georgia, is the site for a reflection on the importance of ritual, the maintenance of community ties, and how modernisation and migration are transforming rural landscapes. Shot over several years, *Let Us Flow* uses innovative audio-visual techniques to make visible the symbolic and physical division of sacred spaces within the community and offers a nuanced perspective on a culture where ancestral shrines are only accessible to men.

Nedarma
Markku Lehmuskallio
& Anastasia Lapsui



Life on the CAPS
Meriem Bennani

Let us flow, Sophio Medoidze



The emotions were feminine.



Maid, Lucrecia Martel



FEARDEATHLOVEDEATH, Basim Magdy



Who Is Afraid of Ideology? Part 4: Reverse Shot
Marwa Arsanios



Fighting Looks Different 2 Me Now, Fox Maxy

17:00 Maltings Main House

12+

New Cinema Awards

Maid

UK Premiere

Lucrecia Martel

Argentina, Mexico | 2022 | 12 mins | Spanish with English subtitles

Celebrated Argentinian filmmaker Lucrecia Martel explores themes of class, labour and gender violence through the story of a woman who applies for a job as a maid, haunted by an unspecified family trauma. Inspired by forms of contemporary dance, the film probes a kind of audio-visual choreography, focusing on the continuous movement of the body in space and the disruptions that occur offscreen and in the interplay between linear and nonlinear time.

FEARDEATHLOVEDEATH

Basim Magdy

World Festival Premiere

Switzerland | 2022 | 17 mins | English subtitles

Egyptian artist Basim Magdy crafts an immersive, hallucinatory audio-visual dreamscape reminiscing on the absurdity of death without trying to understand it. His associative universe of sounds and signifiers imagines a present moment suspended between traces of the mythic past and spectres of uncertain futures. Harnessing the live, organic qualities of super 16mm, the film builds a singular, dissonant energy that stalks the outer boundaries of science fiction, horror, and nature documentary.

Who Is Afraid of Ideology?

Part 4: Reverse Shot

Marwa Arsanios

UK Festival Premiere

Germany, Lebanon | 2022 | 34 mins | Lebanese Arabic with English subtitles

This fourth chapter of Arsanios' *Who is Afraid of Ideology?* series continues a collaborative investigation of anti-capitalist ideas around property and land ownership in Lebanon. The film's figurative reverse shot reflects land as an autonomous, living object that inherently resists notions of

property. Instead, matter and land become witness to the interconnectedness of the geological, the historical, the legal and the agricultural - generating an ecology of thought centred around land as a site of communalisation and rehabilitation.

F1ghting Looks Different 2 Me Now

Fox Maxy

European Premiere

United States | 2022 | 17 mins | English subtitles

Fox Maxy's vertiginous montage documents the artist's homecoming to Mesa Grande, California, ancestral lands of the Mesa Grande Band of Lipay/Kumeyaay/Diegueño Mission Indians in what is now called San Diego County. An exuberant mixtape of songs; portraits of friends, family, animals, and landscapes; and documents of confrontations with tribal cops, *F1ghting Looks Different 2 Me Now* is an exhilarating, joyful, and relentless disruption. No more drama.

Friday 3 March

17:30 Maltings Henry Travers

12+

SCREENTIME

Bridge to the Future

World Premiere

Berwick Youth Project and Kathryn Elkin

United Kingdom | 2023 | 9 mins | English subtitles

Bridge to the Future was made as part of a wider community project around the conservation of the Union Chain Bridge, celebrating its rich history and relationship to contemporary life. Built in 1819, the suspension bridge spans the border between England and Scotland. Artist Kathryn Elkin worked collaboratively with participants from the Berwick Youth Project, responding to the group's ideas to fashion a joyful, playful work that reflects on movement between time and place and dreams for the future.

In10ded Ten: The Fate of The Middle Place

Christopher, Ebba, Lara, Violet
with Kimberly O'Neil

United Kingdom | 2021 | 8 mins | English subtitles

A collaborative film made by young filmmakers in Berwick (a group of local 12–14 year olds). The film was produced over five days of workshops led by artist Kimberley O'Neill, which introduced the group to digital filmmaking and documentary techniques. The film that the Berwick Young Filmmakers have produced together, explores the theme 'Reworld'—speculating on what life in the year 2031 could be like and imagining how people, technology and nature may change in the near future.

Everyday Apocalypse

Kyra, Sam, Jaimee, Ben
with Kimberly O'Neil

United Kingdom | 2020 | 8 mins | English subtitles

Everyday Apocalypse is a new short film made by four local young people, developed in collaboration with artist Kimberley O'Neill, exploring our shared experiences of lockdown. Over a three week period in August, the group met via Zoom to share stories and develop the

film. Through a series of online workshops, the young people were introduced to lo-fi mobile-phone filmmaking techniques and used writing exercises to generate ideas—expanding their personal quarantine anecdotes into subjects and locations for the film.

In10ded Ten: The Fate of The Middle Place and *Everyday Apocalypse* also screen as part of the Screentime exhibition at Berwick Visitors Centre. See page 27 for details.

19:30 Maltings Main House

12+

Filmmakers in Focus

Anerca, Breath of Life

UK Premiere

Markku Lehmuskallio
& Johannes Lehmuskallio

Finland | 2022 | 90 mins | Finnish, Swedish, Sámi,
Tlingit, Yupik, Inuit, Nenets, Selkup, Chukchi with
English subtitles

See page 3 for details.



(above left) *In10ded Ten: The Fate of The Middle Place*, Christopher, Ebba, Lara and Violet
 (above) *Bridge to the Future*, Kathryn Elkin
 (left) *Everyday Apocalypse*, Kimberley O'Neill

22:00 Magdalene Fields Golf Club

Festival Club: Miss Mobile Disco

After a day at the movies, it's time to get up, get down, and get on out to party with Miss Mobile Disco - Edinburgh's finest Mobile DJ, serving up killer cocktails of disco, funk, soul, 80's and feel good party gems!



Saturday 4 March

10:30 Maltings Henry Travers

12+

Propositions

The Pleasures of Unbelonging

Christopher Ulutupu

World Premiere

New Zealand, United Kingdom | 2023 | 60 mins

Samoan and English with English subtitles

Christopher Ulutupu is an artist of Samoan/Niuean/German descent currently residing in Wellington. Through a richly pop, queer and celebratory Pacific lens he creates new narrative forms opening up conversations around collaboration, connection, and disconnection. The Pleasures of Unbelonging is a new commission presented by CIRCUIT with support from TAUTAI, Creative New Zealand and BFMAF. Following its world premiere screening Christopher will be in conversation with May Adadol Ingawanij, Professor of Cinematic Arts at University of Westminster.

11:00 Maltings Main House

12+

Filmmakers in Focus

The Blue Mammy

New Film Restoration

Markku Lehmuskallio

Finland, Sweden | 1985 | 100 mins | English subtitles

With understated precision, Markku Lehmuskallio's *The Blue Mammy* focuses on the sensitive interplay between sound and image while unfurling a story surrounding Joel, a deaf painter who lives in a small village in Lapland. While he has trouble fitting in with the community of people around him, Joel communes with nature and speaks nonverbally with a spirit. The film distils a wealth of provocative ideas—around artistic creation, alternative forms of communication and the importance of the natural world to human animals—into a stunning filmic tone poem.

12:00 Maltings Henry Travers

New Cinema Awards

Hello Dankness

UK Premiere

Soda Jerk

Australia | 2022 | 70 mins | English subtitles

Renegade remixologists Soda Jerk return with *Hello Dankness*, a bent

suburban musical comprised entirely of pirated film samples that bears witness to the psychotropic cultural spectacle of the period 2016 to 2021. Set in the American suburbs, the film follows a neighbourhood through these years as consensus reality disintegrates into conspiracies and other political contagions. Part political satire, zombie stoner film, and Greek tragedy, the work is also informed by the encrypted memetics of contemporary internet culture.

13:15 Maltings Main House

New Cinema Awards

False Wife

UK Festival Premiere

Jamie Crewe

contains strobing

United Kingdom | 2022 | 16 mins | English subtitles

False Wife is a work that leads its visitors through an ordeal of transformation. A poppers training video is typically a user-made compilation of pornographic clips paired with text, hypnotic music, voice-overs, and instructions for action. *False Wife* is a poppers training video, but its material is ambiguous and obscure. Its narrative, drawn from a variety of folk tales in which transformation occurs, reflects on themes of desire, shame, transgression, and the longing for change.

Signal to Noise

World Festival Premiere

Anya Tsyrlina & Sid Iandovka

USSR, Switzerland | 2023 | 35 mins

English subtitles

Signal to Noise concludes a number of projects related to the surviving videotapes of schwimmen - an early 1990s teenage experimental industrial/noise band from the (then-Soviet) city of Novosibirsk. The film creates a dialogue between the established archival record and the slippery poetics of an esoteric culture that inherently resists attempts to be (re)represented or deconstructed - celebrating the grand utopian impulses of marginal artistic practices and forms of life lived otherwise.

Terror Has no Shape **International Premiere**

Luis Arnías

United States, Venezuela | 2021 | 10 mins
English subtitles

At night in Boston, a bodega cat is the only witness to an alien rock crash-landing in an empty parking lot. A viscous white humanoid, rendered in crude special effects,

12+

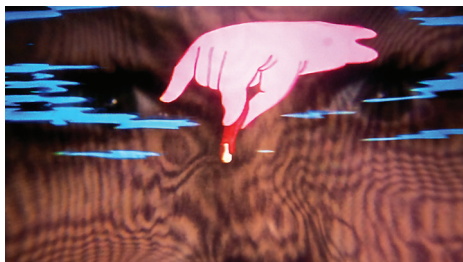
is stalked by a figure on a motorcycle, and the encounter ends in ritual fire. A burning effigy and a Senegalese call to prayer usher modes of Afro-Venezuelan spiritual resistance into an ambiguous present - condensing the experience of colonialism into a series of fragments from first encounter to long haunted aftermath.



The Pleasures of Unbelonging, Christopher Ulutupu



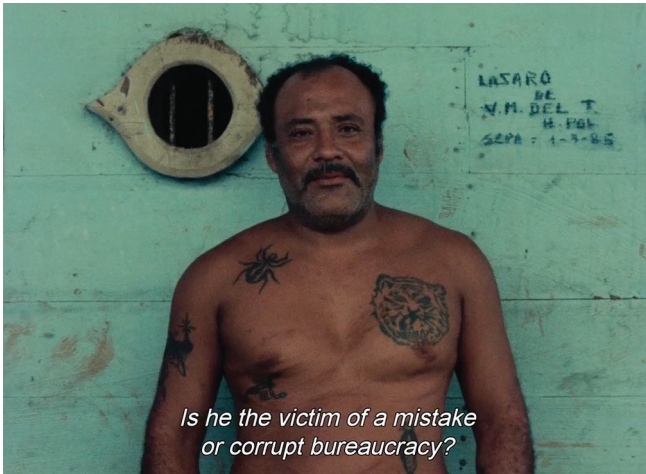
The Blue Mammy, Markku Lehmuskallio



(above left) *False Wife*, Jamie Crewe
(above) *Signal to Noise*, Anya Tsyrlina & Sid landovka
(left) *Terror Has no Shape*, Luis Arnías



Hello Dankness, Soda Jerk



*Is he the victim of a mistake
or corrupt bureaucracy?*

(left) *Sepa: Our Lord of the Miracles*, Walter Saxer

(right) *After The Dust*, Colectivo Silencio



(left) *Last Things*, Deborah Stratman



(right) *Helena Solberg: Breaking Mirrors*

13:45 Maltings Henry Travers

Essential Cinema

Sepa: Our Lord of the Miracles

Walter Saxer

UK Premiere

Peru, Germany, Switzerland | 1987 | 77 mins

Spanish and English with English subtitles

18

A rare UK screening of Walter Saxer's little-seen documentary about an experimental open-air penal colony in the Peruvian Amazon described by inmates as the 'green hell'. With echoes of the work of frequent-collaborator, Werner Herzog, Saxer's film stands as the only in-depth public record of a controversial facility that existed between 1951-1993 as a dumping ground for both hardened criminals and political prisoners. The film's restrained, observational approach gives rise to a surprising and complex meditation on forms of justice, liberty and rehabilitation.

After The Dust

Colectivo Silencio

International Premiere

Peru | 2022 | 25 mins | English subtitles

12+

A set of memories, a series of readings. After two hundred years as an independent nation, Peru has many forgotten struggles in different territories and from different times. Marking the country's bicentennial anniversary, this super 8mm film brings together activists and families in a compilation of speeches from history's B-side. A beautiful, stirring expression of liveness, agency, resistance, and the intergenerational obligation to renew and refresh our communal commitment to rights and democracy.

15:15 Maltings Main House

12+

New Cinema Awards

Last Things

UK Premiere

Deborah Stratman

France, Portugal, United States | 2023 | 50 mins

French and English with English subtitles

Science meets speculative fiction in artist Deborah Stratman's poetic, associative reflection on evolution and extinction from the point of view of rocks and various future others. Loosely based on two short stories

by J.-H. Rosny, considered one of the founding figures of modern science fiction, and thinking with figures from Roger Caillois to Donna Haraway, Stratman troubles the limits of human perception, mining the farthest reaches of the biosphere for (im)material traces that bind past, present, and future.

16:15 Maltings Henry Travers

12+

Essential Cinema

Helena Solberg: Breaking Mirrors

Presented with Cinelimite

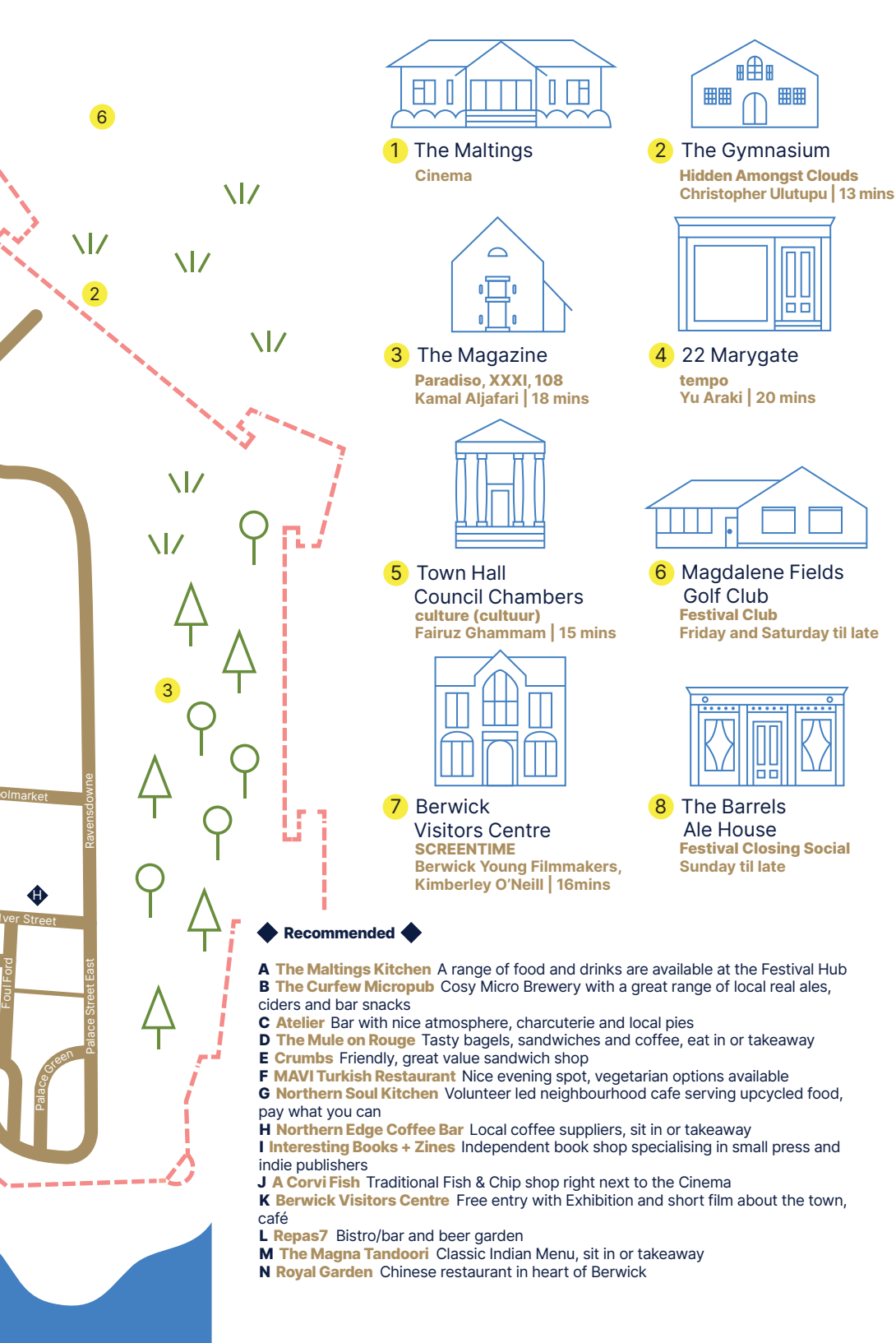
Brazil, Nicaragua | 1966, 1969, 1982 | 95m

English subtitles

A presentation of Helena Solberg's debut short films *The Interview* (1966) and *Noon* (1969) alongside her 1982 feature *From the Ashes: Nicaragua Today* which brings a multi-layered feminist perspective to a political and societal portrait of the country following the 1979 insurrection that overthrew the Somoza dictatorship. Her shorts, made during one of the most repressive moments of the Brazilian military dictatorship, examine the unliveable conditions experienced by communities under oppression and emphasise women's agency as active protagonists in the living and telling of their own stories.



Berwick
Train
Station



Saturday 4 March

17:00 Maltings Main House

New Cinema Awards

Love & Revenge

Anhar Salem

12+ UK Premiere

France, Saudi Arabia | 2021 | 30 mins | Arabic and English with English subtitles

A teenage girl tries to escape her reality using an Instagram filter. But her desire to exist freely as an image collapses when she loses control over her avatar. Casting family and friends as fictionalised versions of themselves, Anhar, who studied computer science at the Arab Open University, stages a participatory and reflective exploration of technologies and social media in Saudi Arabia – probing the dynamics between real and virtual, public and private, space.

Bigger on the Inside

Angelo Madsen Minax

18 European Premiere

United States | 2022 | 12 mins | English subtitles

Outer and inner space collapse in Angelo Madsen Minax's cosmic essay film, which diffracts feelings, memories, and longings during a blurry sojourn in a remote cabin in the woods. Looking at the stars, flirting with guys on dating apps, taking ketamine (or not), and watching YouTube lecture videos, Minax draws a warped cartography of desire and distance. A humorous, psychedelic and deeply moving work, *Bigger on the Inside* is the latest in Minax' transcendent cinema of trans embodiment.

Cabbage

Holly Marie Parnell

12+ UK Premiere

United Kingdom, Ireland, Canada | 2022 | 28 mins English subtitles

An intimate film made in collaboration with Parnell's family, *Cabbage* looks at the complexities of bodily autonomy within an ableist paradigm. Focusing on her brother's writings using eye tracking technology, and her mother's memories, she explores how we shape a sense of self under the pervasive weight of unspoken assumptions,

categories and fixed definitions that get placed onto bodies. Dissecting layers of language, agency and power, the film is a subtle examination of how a human life is measured and valued.

19:30 Maltings Main House

12+

New Cinema Awards

Wolf and Dog

Cláudia Varejão

UK Premiere

Portugal, France | 2022 | 115 mins | Portuguese with English subtitles

Cláudia Varejão's debut fiction film is a luminous ode to queer communities on the Azores island of Sao Miguel. Culturally specific and delicately nuanced, *Wolf and Dog* follows protagonist, Ana, as she navigates the stifling forces of religion and tradition in pursuit of the passions and butterflies of new desire. Mirroring Ana's journey of self-discovery, Varejão's initially observational style slowly gives way to something more lush and experimental, capturing the gentle unfolding of young love finding its first voice.

19:45 Maltings Henry Travers

12+

New Cinema Awards

Home Invasion

Graeme Arnfield

UK Premiere

United Kingdom | 2022 | 95 mins | English subtitles

What is to be done when our homes and our dreams have been invaded? Graeme Arnfield's nightmarish plunderphonics trace the curious history of the doorbell, from its invention and reinventions through 19th century labour struggles, to the nascent years of narrative cinema and contemporary smart technologies. *Home Invasion* paints a sensory portrait of technological ideologies and imaginaries shaping our everyday lives, staging a confrontation with the reality of machines and systems that work against us, hindering the emergence of radical futures.



(above) *Love & Revenge*, Anhar Salem
 (above right) *Bigger on the Inside*, Angelo Madsen Minax
 (right) *Cabbage*, Holly Marie Parnell



(left) *Home Invasion*,
 Graeme Arnfield



(right) *Wolf and Dog*,
 Cláudia Varejão

Essential Cinema

Terminal USA

New Film Restoration

Jon Moritsugu

United States | 1993 | 60 mins | English subtitles

Funny, gross and outrageously over-the-top, Jon Moritsugu's cult classic is a maximally irreverent slice of early 90s punk culture satirising representations of the Japanese-American family unit. Newly restored from eyeball-scorching Panavision, this is Moritsugu's Asian freak-out magnum

opus that shocked America when it was broadcast on television in the mid-90's. The director himself plays twins (a drug-dealing bad-ass and a closeted math nerd) in a radically dysfunctional family that completely obliterates the noble myth of the "model minority".



Festival Club: Noodle

Subterranean Sound and GRDN's off-kilter DJ, event organiser and party-pusher, Noodle, invites you to show your bones on the dance floor and work your way through a loose, playful, potent hit of minimal, bouncy, bass-driven breaksy sounds.





10:30 Maltings Henry Travers

12+

Propositions

**In Focus: Markku Lehmuskallio
& Anastasia Lapsui**

60 mins

An open discussion with Markku Lehmuskallio & Anastasia Lapsui who will speak about their collaborative, award-winning filmmaking practice and their personal histories. Prior to filmmaking, Lehmuskallio was a forester, while Lapsui was the first Indigenous radio broadcaster in her region. Since their first work together in 1992, they have forged a collaborative "Fourth Cinema" approach to filmmaking through documentary and fiction forms. This conversation will explore beyond the four titles in our retrospective, towards a richer picture of their filmmaking oeuvre.

12:00 Maltings Main House

12+

Filmmakers in Focus

New Film Restoration

Seven Songs from the Tundra

Markku Lehmuskallio & Anastasia Lapsui

Finland | 2020 | 90 mins | Nenets and Russian
with English subtitles

Perhaps Lehmuskallio & Lapsui's most celebrated film, *Seven Songs from the Tundra* is an anthology of seven vignettes set in a historical present, demonstrating the clash of cultures between the Nenets and Soviet-Russians. Through humour, poetry and snow-driven beauty,

the film recalls of the best moments Aki Kaurismäki or Jim Jarmusch, infused with an Indigenous perspective. As the first narrative film made in the Nenets language, it is both a landmark of Indigenous cinema and a timely intervention into continuing calls for decolonization in Russia.



Seven Songs from the Tundra,
Markku Lehmuskallio
& Anastasia Lapsui

Sunday 5 March

12:30 Maltings Henry Travers

12+

Propositions

UK Premiere

Code Names, a screening-performance

Iran, United Kingdom | 2022

Persian (Farsi) and English with English subtitles

An in-person screening-performance by award-winning Iranian artist, Maryam Tafakory, whose textual and filmic collages interweave poetry, documentary, archival, and found material.

"To the outsiders, the bystanders, the virtual onlookers, to the disaster capitalist, the hopeless, the failed revolutionist—from wherever you are standing, come a step closer and listen as we try to rewind, to fast forward, to pause, to look away..."

14:00 Maltings Henry Travers

12+

New Cinema Awards

Wisdom Gone Wild

UK Premiere

Rea Tajiri

United States | 2022 | 90 mins | English subtitles

Rea Tajiri's vibrant, tender cine-poem is fashioned in collaboration with her mother, Rose, as together they confront the painful, curious reality of wisdom "gone wild" in the shadows of dementia. Made over sixteen years, the film blends fact and fiction, humour and sadness, to stage a fragmented, dream-like encounter between mother and daughter that blooms into an affectionate portrait of love, care, and a relationship transformed.

14:15 Maltings Main House

12+

New Cinema Awards

A mother's love for her baby

Éiméar McClay & Cat McClay **World Premiere**

United Kingdom | 2022 | 17 mins | English subtitles

Using a combination of 3D animation and experimental prose, *A mother's love for her baby* explores the corruption and conditions endemic in the Magdalene Laundries and mother and baby homes run by the Catholic church in Ireland throughout the 20th century. Influenced by Saidiya

Hartman's concept of "critical fabulation" - the use of storytelling to fill the gaps left in historical records - the film advocates for a bottom-up form of historiography: centring historically marginalised voices of Irish women and critiquing the structures of power that (re)produce their dispossession.

Is it a knife because...

International Premiere

Sirah Brutmann & Eitan Efrat

Belgium | 2022 | 25 mins | Hebrew and French with English subtitles

A film made at home; an uncompromising look at ways in which parenthood and the process of filmmaking crush into each other. Through a collection of family videos, the film challenges the dynamics of agency that children and grown-ups have over their images. Different forms of entangled love and violence are rendered visible and audible within the household setting in an honest attempt to understand where light comes from — and all the while, the police are outside the window.

Music for Solo Performer

Jenny Brady

World Premiere

Ireland | 2022 | 20 mins | Spanish with English subtitles

Part-homage, part-sequel, *Music for Solo Performer* is a filmic reimagining of composer Alvin Lucier's work for amplified brainwaves, drawing connections between the 1969 composition, speech synthesis and the passing of the filmmaker's mother. Brady's disparate assemblage of found sound and image - including EEG analysis, a Jerry Lewis Telethon and the first pizza ordered via synthesized voice - combines to form a densely concentrated transmission of cinematic pleasure, meditating on the relationship between illness and technology with pathos and care.



*Code Names,
a screening-performance*



Wisdom Gone Wild, Rea Tajiri



Response: no time to say goodbye.



*(above) A mother's love for her baby,
Éiméar McClay & Cat McClay
(above right) Is it a knife because...,
Sirah Brutmann & Eitan Efrat
(right) Music for Solo Performer, Jenny Brady*

Sunday 5 March



(right) *Being in a Place - A
Portrait of Margaret Tait,*
Luke Fowler



Maputo Nakuzandza
Ariadine Zampaulo



Ungentle, Huw Lemmey & Onyeka Igwe



AQUERONTE, Manuel Muñoz Rivas

16:00 Maltings Main House

12+

New Cinema Awards

Being in a Place - A Portrait of Margaret Tait

Luke Fowler

World Festival Premiere

Peru, Germany, Switzerland | 2022 | 60 mins

English subtitles

Drawing on a wealth of unseen archival material and unpublished notebooks, the film weaves a complex and personal portrait of Margaret Tait's life from the perspective of a fellow artist sensitive to the potential she envisaged for film as a poetic medium. At the centre of the work is an imagining of an unrealised script for a feature film discovered amongst Margaret's documents in Orkney titled, Heartlandscape: Being in a place - a document of a landscape, and of a journey through it.

16:30 Maltings Henry Travers

12+

New Cinema Awards

Maputo Nakuzandza

UK Premiere

Ariadine Zampaulo

Brazil, Mozambique | 2021 | 60 mins

Portuguese with English subtitles

Translating as "Maputo, I Love You", Brazilian filmmaker Ariadne Zampaulo's hybrid cine-poem stitches together elements of documentary, fabulation, performance, and soundscape to produce a polyphonic portrait of Mozambique's capital city. Her camera beautifully captures the flow and rhythms of urban life unfolding over the course of a single day: Revellers spill from nightclubs as workers board commuter trains; tourists and joggers vie for position in the city's ancient streets; and a local radio station announces the disappearance of a bride.

17:30 Maltings Main House

12+

New Cinema Awards

Ungentle

UK Festival Premiere

Huw Lemmey & Onyeka Igwe

United Kingdom | 2022 | 37 mins

English subtitles

John le Carré meets Derek Jarman in this subtle reflection on the complex

relationships between the development of British espionage and male homosexuality. Based on extensive research and voiced by actor Ben Whishaw, *Ungentle* draws on the life stories of famous historic operatives from the mid-20th century, from Anthony Blunt and Guy Burgess to Noël Coward and Hardy Amies, exploring the tensions between loyalty and lust that ran parallel in the lives of spies and gay men.

AQUERONTE

UK Premiere

Manuel Muñoz Rivas

Spain | 2023 | 25 mins

Spanish with English subtitles

Onboard a ferry, a group of passengers cross a river from one side to the other. Manuel Muñoz Rivas' reflexive, oneiric cine-voyage unfolds as a series of elliptical vignettes in a gently shifting landscape of light and shadows. Through a vaporous fog and half-heard voices we encounter a cast of characters suspended in a floating space. On the water time is expanding and the destination is deferred - motion itself, and the transporting power of images becoming, perhaps, the only certainty.

19:30 Maltings Main House

12+

New Cinema Awards

UK Premiere

Arnold is a Model Student

Sorayos Prapapan

Thailand, Singapore, Philippines, The Netherlands, France | 2022 | 100 mins | Thai with English subtitles

See page 3 for details.

22:00 The Barrels Ale House

Festival Closing Social

Join us after the final screening for the Festival Closing Social - a relaxed get-together around the corner at The Barrels Ale House

Exhibitions Free entry | 10-17:00 daily

Town Hall Council Chamber

culture (cultuur)

Fairuz Ghammam

Belgium | 2022 | 15 mins



Belgian filmmaker and cinematographer Fairuz Ghammam's warm, generous work explores aspects of (auto)biography, shared authorship, and collaborative practices.

Staged as a walk through her hometown, Kortrijk, *Culture* riffs on these themes, sewing kernels of family history through a narrative, and a gaze, that oscillates between private and public space. How many memories and storylines can coexist?

The Magazine

Paradiso, XXXI, 108

Kamal Aljafari

Palestine, Germany | 2022 | 18 mins



As chilling as it is absurd, Kamal Aljafari's *Paradiso* repurposes found footage from Israeli military propaganda and turns it into a fictional drama of men playing at war. Aljafari takes the title from a short story by Borges and describes the work as a "cinematic self-portrait" - questioning our interpretation of screen violence, its relationship to real-world horrors, and troubling our positionality as spectators.

The Gymnasium

Hidden Amongst Clouds

Christopher Ulutupu

New Zealand | 2021 | 13 mins



Drawing on the filmmaker's experiences growing up in a large Samoan family in the largely Pākehā populated region of Nelson, *Hidden Amongst Clouds* newly imagines stories of Samoan mythology and questions the moral virtues they uphold. The work embraces a 1990's aesthetic, harking back to supernatural fantasy television series and their embedded symbolisms, reflecting Ulutupu's ongoing interest in themes of belonging and the importance of recontextualising and reimagining narratives of colonial stereotypes.

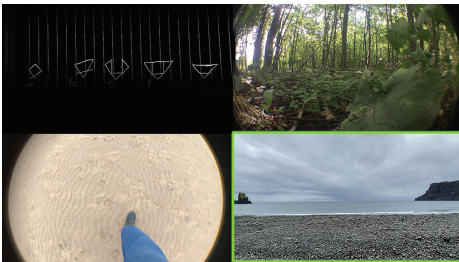
Berwick Visitors Centre

SCREENTIME

Kimberley O'Neill,

Young Filmmakers from Berwick

United Kingdom | 16 mins



22 Marygate

tempo

Yu Araki

Japan | 2022 | 20 mins



A quiet, atmospheric portrait of an elderly store owner in the small town of Yagi, Kyoto Prefecture. Yu Araki's camera carefully observes the curiously named Mr. Yagi's daily routine and interactions with local customers during the last autumn season for this shop, which is no longer in business. Documenting the passage of time in parallel with processes of depopulation, the title *Tempo* conjures a double meaning; playing on the Japanese word "tenpo (店舗)" which means "store".

SCREENTIME brings together two commissioned short works made with artist Kimberley O'Neill and young filmmakers in Berwick. Through a series of online and in-person workshops, the filmmakers experimented with digital filmmaking and documentary techniques to produce films exploring the relationship between people, technology, and the local environment.

Thank you to English Heritage, Berwick Visitors Centre, Edwin Thompson and The Freeman of Berwick-Upon-Tweed for allowing us the use of their spaces for exhibition venues.

Schedule

Friday 3

Maltings Main House

10:00

11:00

12:00

13:00

14:00

15:00

12:30 | 85 mins
Nedarma

15:00 | 65 mins
Let us flow

Maltings Henry Travers

14:30 | 75 mins
Life on the CAPS

Other Venues

10:00 - 17:00
Exhibitions

Saturday 4

Maltings Main House

10:00

11:00

12:00

13:00

14:00

15:00

11:00 | 100 mins
The Blue Mammy

13:15 | 65 mins
False Wife
Signal to Noise
Terror has no Shape

15:15 | 50 mins
Last Things

Maltings Henry Travers

10:30 | 60 mins
The Pleasures of Unbelonging

12:00 | 70 mins
Hello Dankness

13:45 | 105 mins
Sepa: Our Lord of the Miracles & After the Dust

Other Venues

10:00 - 17:00
Exhibitions

Sunday 5

Maltings Main House

10:00

11:00

12:00

13:00

14:00

15:00

12:00 | 90 mins
Seven Songs from the Tundra

14:15 | 75 mins
A mother's love for her baby
Is it a knife because...
Music for Solo Performer

Maltings Henry Travers

10:30 | 60 mins
In Focus: Markku Lehmuskallio & Anastasia Lapsui

12:30 | 60 mins
Code Names, a screening-performance

14:00 | 90 mins
Wisdom
Gone Wild

Other Venues

10:00 - 17:00
Exhibitions

16:00	17:00	18:00	19:00	20:00	21:00	22:00	23:00	00:00
	17:00 80 mins Maid FEARDEATHLOVEDEATH Reverse Shot Fighting Looks Different 2 Me Now		19:30 90 mins Opening Film: Anerca, Breath of Life					
	17:30 60 mins SCREENTIME							
						22:00 - 00:00 Festival Club: Miss Mobile Disco Magdalene Fields Golf Club		
16:00	17:00	18:00	19:00	20:00	21:00	22:00	23:00	00:00
	17:00 60 mins Love & Revenge Bigger on the Inside Cabbage		19:30 115 mins Wolf and Dog			22:00 60 mins Terminal USA		
16:15 95 mins Helena Solberg: Breaking Mirrors			19:45 95 mins Home Invasion					
						22:00 - 00:00 Festival Club: Noodle Magdalene Fields Golf Club		
16:00	17:00	18:00	19:00	20:00	21:00	22:00	23:00	00:00
16:00 60 mins Being in a Place - A Portrait of Margaret Tait	17:30 65 mins Ungentle AQUERONTE		19:30 100 mins Closing Film: Arnold is a Model Student					
16:30 60 mins Maputo Nakuzandza								
						22:00 - 00:00 Festival Closing Social The Barrels Ale House		

Berwick Film & Media Arts Festival 2023

Friday 3 — Sunday 5 March 2023

Festival Exhibition Programme: Free

3-5 March, 10-17:00 daily

Festival Passes

Festival Passes give access to the full cinema programme across the Festival weekend.

Following purchase of a festival pass you will be able to create an account within our online ticketing system which will then allow you to book your chosen tickets when they go on sale in early February.

The Weekender £55

Access to all films. That works out at less than £2 per film!

£25 for under 25's

Open to anyone under the age of 25 interested in film. Get full access to all films. less than £1 a cinema screening!

Day Tripper £20

Access to the full cinema programme on the day of your choice.

Friends of the Festival £70

Support the Festival

Professional accreditation

Get insider access to the full programme of events across the Festival weekend and exclusive access to our digital online programme.

Accreditation is suitable for anyone actively engaging in the field of film, media art and the moving image in order to develop networks, promote discussion and encourage deeper participation with the Festival's programme.

Accreditation £50

For professional access includes:

- Festival catalogue
 - exclusive access to the online screening room for a month after the Festival
 - Delegation list
 - Invite to industry events.
-

Individual Film Tickets: £8/5

(Concessions include Student/ Pensioner/ Under 18s)

All full price tickets and passes can be purchased online from bfmaf.org or in person at The Maltings Box Office.

Berwick Bundle

Buy two tickets and get a third for free

Please note that The Maltings charges a £1 booking fee on all transactions.

Berwick-upon-Tweed

Berwick Film & Media Arts Festival is based in England's most northerly town, Berwick-upon-Tweed, in rural north Northumberland and on the borders of Scotland.

There's plenty more to do in Berwick-upon-Tweed whilst visiting the Festival. Soak up the surroundings with river and coastal walks....

Getting here

Berwick-upon-Tweed is situated in the North East of England, just south of the Scottish Border. The town has great transport links to the rest of the UK by train, bus and airline services. The Maltings Theatre and Festival Hub is a short 10 minute walk from the Train station.

By Train: Train prices from cities in the UK such as London, Glasgow, Manchester and Newcastle vary between £20-100 (return trip) and take around 45m to 3h 30m.

By Bus: There are a number of buses from Newcastle, Durham and other towns in Northern England that go to Berwick.

By Car: Free short and long stay parking is available at various locations across the town.

We encourage visitors to use public transport or to car share where possible to minimise the environmental impact.

Accessibility

Berwick Film & Media Arts Festival strives to be as accessible as possible.

Our main venue is **The Maltings** and we use a variety of additional venues around Berwick-upon-Tweed which have various levels of accessibility. Please do contact us directly at info@bfmaf.org if you have any individual access requirements and we will do our best to assist.

Large print and **text only** versions of our Programme Guide and Catalogue are available from our website, with physical copies at our welcome desk in The Maltings.

English subtitles will be in place for all titles in the festival programme.

All films contain **content notes/trigger warnings** viewable on our website.

We welcome Guide dogs, hearing and registered assistance dogs in all our venues.

The Maltings

The venue has **disabled parking, ramped access** and **power assisted doors**.

Disabled seating is available in both the Main House and Henry Travers Studio. Please let us know when booking your tickets so we can reserve these spaces.

All floors are accessible by the **lift**.

Adapted toilet facilities and **baby changing** facilities are located on floor -3.

We accept the **CEA Card**.

The festival aims to be a **safe and inclusive space**, if you experience behaviour which makes you feel uncomfortable when using our facilities, please let a member of staff know.

Please see our website bfmaf.org for more information on exhibition venues.

18th Berwick Film & Media Arts Festival

Friday 3 to Sunday 5 March 2023

bfmaf.org
[@berwickfilmfest](https://twitter.com/berwickfilmfest)
[#BFMAF2023](https://twitter.com/BFMAF2023)

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**CREAM**

**THE  
MALTINGS**



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## Venue Partner

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### Address:

Berwick Film & Media Arts Festival, The Maltings, Eastern Lane, Berwick-upon-Tweed, TD15 1AJ

Berwick Film & Media Arts Festival is an independent charity, and a member of Arts Council England's National Portfolio. The Festival fundraises for the entirety of its cinema and visual arts programme, as well as its outreach and education activity. To find out how you can make a donation to support BFMAF, please contact us at [info@bfmaf.org](mailto:info@bfmaf.org), or by phone +44 (0) 1289 303 355.

Please note that all information is correct at time of going to print and may be subject to alteration. Tickets are subject to availability. The certifications used in the programme are a mix of BBFC classifications and recommended age ratings suggested by the Festival, and are certified 12A unless otherwise noted.