24-27 AUGUST 2023



**SCREENING ROOM** 

3 MILLS STUDIOS LONDON E3 3DU



BE EPIC! LONDON INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL





**16:30 - 18:30** 

Beauty out of Ashes Jisei Final Step Visions in the Dark

21:00-21:30

**Q&A Session with producer:** 

Michael Potter (Tracks) & director Mark Elliott (Our Journey) **19:00 - 21:00** 

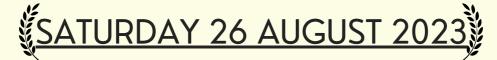
Our Journey The Can Tracks The Photo Beat It Memory Swim Vegan Apocalypse Kamathipura





Safely Feel The Real World You Have Won Night Ride from LA Good Evening Raise Your Hand 19:30 - 21:30

Der Bruder Cornerboy Precious Cargo Can You Hurry Amy & I Culicidae How I Blew It The External-Internal Monologue of an Interdependent Insomniac Cloud Boy





Amadou When In Doubt Get It Checked Out

> Found iGilbert

#### 18:30 - 19:15

**Q&A Session with directors:** 

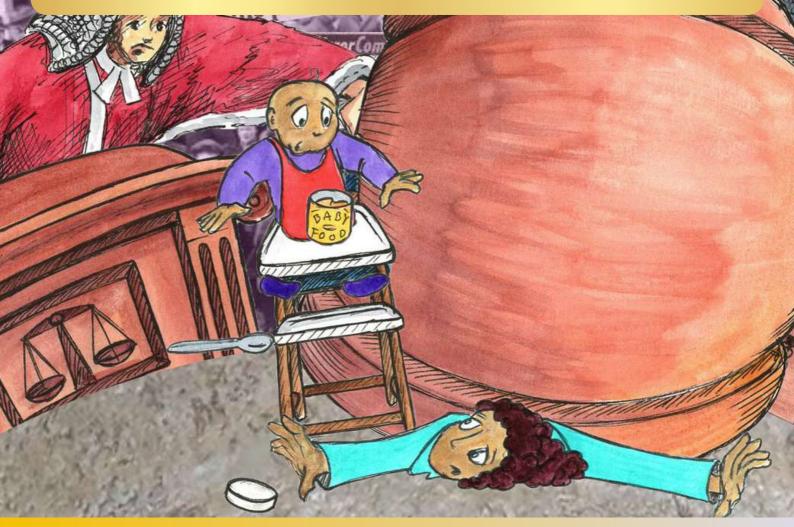
Adrian Martinez (iGilbert) and Caleb Aaron Brumley (Amadou) **19:30 - 21:30** 

Hush Blue Love EndLess Uncensored To Say Goodbye Is To Die A Little Driving Force No Other Gods But Me The Art of Crossing Brearth Rise Of Apollo - Mr. Sunshine



THURSDAY 24 AUGUST 2023 16:30-18:30

# BEAUTY OUT OF ASHES



Directed by Niki Gibbs "Beauty out of Ashes" ~ The Holloway Women's Building Story. Following the closure of HMP Holloway, London's only female prison, this animation aims to show what a transformative legacy Women's Building might look like, to encourage fundraising and petition support for the campaign; to bring women's organisations together in the proposed 'Women's Floor' and ultimately for women to obtain their own legacy 'Women's Building'.

UK, 2022 Animation



THURSDAY 24 AUGUST 2023 16:30-18:30

# JISEI



Directed by Dominik Reisel "Jisei" is a poem of death, written by a samurai before committing his ritual suicide.

This film tells the story of a son of an abusive kendo teacher, who has lost control of his life in a never-ending cycle of violence, harm, regret and trauma.

Slovakia, 2023 Student, Experimental



#### FINAL STEP

THURSDAY

24 AUGUST 2023

16:30-18:30



Directed by Ida Mirzaee "Final Step" is an animated drama that follows the transformative journey of a courageous woman as she confronts her painful past and embarks on a path towards forgiveness. Inspired by a true story, this poignant tale explores themes of forgiveness, empathy, love, and faith. This poignant tale follows a woman's tumultuous journey, unveiling the harrowing events that have unfolded in her life.

UK, 2022 Animation



#### THURSDAY 24 AUGUST 2023 16:30-18:30

### VISIONS IN THE DARK



Directed by Flavia Moraes

US, 2022 Documentary In "Visions in the Dark", the relationship between horses and trainers is a metaphor to demonstrate how our disconnection from nature has led us to contemporary blindness. Limited to our perspective, we lost touch with intuitive ways of communication, narrowing our vision. Visions in the Dark intends to recover our ability to see the world for the first time. Because reconnecting with nature is reconnecting with ourselves. And the closer we get, the further we see.





### OUR JOURNEY



Directed by	"Our Journey" was created by patrons of The Dragon Café, a project for mental well-being. The rhythm of film is
Mark Elliott	the timeless cycle of renewal, contrasted with their experience of daily life, during the extraordinary UK Covid
	19 lockdown.
	"Every day, we looked and listened, and discovered
	something new. The days blended into one and we
	became separate. Slowly we zoomed together; words and
UK, 2022	music, pictures and paint. Then, every day, we looked and listened, and discovered something new.
Animation	This is our journey."





# THE CAN



Directed by Shadow C. LaValley, Danielle Purdy

US, 2022 Drama, Romance A broken-spirited Tim struggles to navigate love and loss, only to find the extraordinary beauty of life from an ordinary can.

"The Can" represents the survival of addiction, depression and suicidal thoughts. This story hopes to connect with those who've had or may be going through similar struggles and inspire them in a positive way. Having that one voice to help guide you through it all, makes all the difference.





### TRACKS



Directed by Maclovia G Martel

Netherlands, 2022 Documentary "Tracks" explores the laying of "Stolpersteine" memorial stones honoring Holocaust victims, installed in front of the homes along the central canals in Amsterdam.

A central theme of this film is the power and importance of remembrance. In the Jewish tradition, as long as a person is remembered they continue to live.





### **THE PHOTO**



Directed by Alberto Martín-Aragón

Spain, 2023 Experimental The life of a married couple is deeply disturbed when the man abandons his obligations because he believes that strange forces are going to destroy his home.

The woman, meanwhile, takes refuge in contemplating a photo of her dead son, and in writing.





### BEAT IT



Directed by Thomas Lorber

Canada, 2022 Drama, Comedy, Action A lonely teenager uses the power of dance to face his fearsome bullies.

"Beat it" is a short film following the journey of a young man who relies on his passion for music and dance, for his daily routine and general wellbeing. As he gets challenged by some bullies at school, his passion ends up giving him the confidence and rhythm to embrace his true self, beat his fears and overcome his bullies with style.





### MEMORY SWIM



Directed by Erwin Alejandro Ordóñez A professional swimmer, Jake, through his memories connects to a time where his younger self trains for a big race and also tries to court his sweetheart, but he is disrupted by voices and visions which feel real and far at the same time. Jake wonders who these unwelcome guests are as he also tries to enjoy his time with the love of his life.

US, 2022 Drama, Romance





### VEGAN APOCALYPSE



Directed by Patrick Poe, Lolo Loren

US, 2022 Sci-Fi, Comedy The apocalypse has finally come - and it's made getting a good meal really, really hard.

Following the story of a group of people determined to survive, their dietary restrictions and relationship with food is put under pressure by the new dramatic context.





#### KAMATHIPURA



Directed by Aayushman Pandey

India, 2022 Animation, Horror After a night of heavy drinking, a twenty year-old virgin stumbles into Mumbai's oldest brothel, where he encounters a mythical creature who turns his first sexual encounter on its head.

This short is a fulmination-through-fantasy, against the normalcy of Kamathipura's systemic sexual violence.





Q&A



with Producer Michael Potter about the documentary "Tracks".



with Director Mark Elliott and producer Vivien Ellis about the animation "Our Journey".





#### SAFELY FEEL THE REAL WORLD



Directed by Jody Xiong

China, 2023 Animation, Commercial "Safety feel the real world" is a short film collaboration between Durex 001 and Volvo XC40. Colored in signature Durex 001 colors (black and gold), the animation follows a couple who wakeup from a VR simulated dream and escape to a safe reality on "001 Island." In the visual narrative between the two brands, safety is a sexy and apparent benefit, one that allows us to approach intimacy and embrace reality. At the most critical moment in this film, in a very original way, a glass-like stomach and a metal esophagus are used to emphasize Volvo's strong four-wheel drive, ground grip and other safety features.





#### YOU HAVE WON



Directed by Sebastian Nozon

Germany, 2022 Music Video The song "You Have Won", is about the loneliness many people suffer from, although in the age of social media, everyone can constantly be connected. It's a fake world though, that always shows the optimum. What doesn't go well is hardly present. The filtered, candycolored world on Instagram and Co doesn't exist.

Anyone who tries to measure themselves against it can only fail.





### NIGHT RIDE FROM LA



Directed by Martin Gerigk

Germany, 2023 Music Video, Experimental 'Night Ride from LA' is based on a real car ride at night from downtown LA to the desert near Palm Springs a few years ago. The footage was taken from the car by continually shooting single long exposure photos to document the ride of about two hours without any break. This technique condensed the whole trip to a flickering twirl of time-stretched movements and night light graffiti, causing a kind of psychedelic trance. A love letter to the energy and vibe of the Californian way of life.





## GOOD EVENING



Directed by Alexey Belkin, Vsevolod Alekhin

Russian Federation, 2023 Music Video Six men wake up early on a cold, dark winter's morning in a hunting cabin. Two ladies serve them breakfast. After that, the men go hunting. They overcome deep snowcovered fields, an endless frozen lake and then have breakfast in nature, where they meet a court hunter. One of the men falls behind. Five men continue their trip and descend from a huge snowy mountain. The sixth member hitchhikes a ride from a passing sleigh driver.

Meanwhile, worried that the men are so late, the two ladies go to search for them. Eventually, they find the boys in a glade with a Christmas star. Finally, the boys and girls sing a carol at the gas station and continue their endless trip.





# RAISE YOUR HAND



Directed by Jessica Rae Gia and her best friend Lila survived a rough childhood in a neighborhood where every kid has a sad story to tell.

Now, as teenagers, Gia struggles to use her gift of writing to reclaim what the world has brutally taken away.

US, 2022 Drama





#### DER BRUDER



Directed by Jeremias Zeh After the death of his parents, Heinrich reunites with his sister Susanne in the abandoned childhood home. But his childhood guilt floats through the silent rooms of the house, and the chance for reconciliation is hard to grasp.

Austria, 2022 Drama, Student



#### FRIDAY 25 AUGUST 2023 19:30-21:30

## CORNERBOY



Directed by Kai Kurve Cornerboy" is a short experimental film following the internal struggle of a man infused in a life of crime, as the Devil (in the form of a fly), feeds his reality back to him, in a purgatorial experience. As his body moves to the sounds of the voice he hears and to the beat of his memories, he is yet to find his resolution or peace.

Germany, 2023 Experimental





## PRECIOUS CARGO



Directed by Janet Paxton Gardner

US, 2021 Documentary Born in South Vietnam, they were transported into American homes almost overnight in cities and suburbs, nationwide. They soon became the beloved sons and daughters of close-knit American families.

They wanted to belong but knew they were somehow different. Strangers stopped them and asked of their origins.

In many cases they were unable to answer. And it hurt.





### CAN YOU HURRY



Directed by Igor Lewicki This is the story of Mia, a woman in her thirties about to commit an act of suicide by jumping off a roof in Chicago. She hesitates for a moment when she hears the voice of a man (Thomas) who asks her: "Can you hurry?"

US, 2023 Drama





#### AMY & I



Directed by Bastiaan Rook When Amy and her boyfriend have a nice dinner in the restaurant where they first met, it turns out there's some pressure on their relationship.

Netherlands, 2022 Drama, Thriller





### CULICIDAE



Directed by Greg Moran

Australia, 2021 Drama A late night intrusion leads to a life and death struggle.

This short film is inspired by the true story of the director:

"I've been a high-level quadriplegic since I was 15 as a result of a rugby accident. I have had many late night, frustrating battles with mosquitoes, and I thought it would be a good concept for a short film, as it is high stakes, a universal subject matter and a window into a world that not many people get to see."





### HOW I BLEW IT



Directed by Charlene Marrie

US, 2022 Comedy, Drama, Student "How I Blew It" is a campy dark comedy about a girl, Willa who is trying to navigate a toxic relationship. As a shy and naively in love girl (well, who thinks she's in love), she struggles to realise that she needs to break up with Mati, her toxic, manipulative and sexually inappropriate boyfriend. Mati throws Willa a birthday brunch at his bitchy girl friend's house, where he only invites his friends and none of Willa's. Willa feels like a total outsider, struggling to enjoy the party among the oddly campy, rude and overly sexual guests. As the brunch develops, so does Willa and Mati's relationship.





#### THE EXTERNAL-INTERNAL MONOLOGUE OF AN INTERDEPENDENT INSOMNIAC



Directed by Julian Felix Aaronson

US, 2022 Comedy, Drama, Student Fraught with insecurities over sexuality, self-acceptance, and gender, a sleep-deprived teenager explains various smells.

Director: "THE EXTERNAL-INTERNAL MONOLOGUE OF AN INTERDEPENDENT INSOMNIAC is what I've been trying to tell everyone for the last 18-some-odd years. Through a series of mini-character studies, the world inside an overthinking teenager unleashes his honest perspective of homophobia, gender dysphoria, and finding self-acceptance. Being the writer, lead actor, director, cinematographer, and editor - every moment in this film was truly an expulsion from my heart."



#### CLOUD BOY: AN AUTISTIC JOURNEY

FRIDAY

**25 AUGUST 2023** 

19:30-21:30



Directed by Kieran Firth-Bernard **Cloud Boy journeys through his insecurities and issues growing up. But as college approaches, he decides to become a more independent person.** 

A semi-autobiography about the experiences of living with Autism.

UK, 2021 Animation, Student





#### WHEN IN DOUBT GET IT CHECKED OUT



Directed by Dennis Hanse A Prostate Cancer Awareness Film.

A black man mysteriously walks through the boggy marshland of Saddleworth Moors, looking lost and confused.

UK, 2022 Commercial





#### AMADOU



Directed by Caleb Aaron Brumley Amadou's commitment to serving his community as a healthcare professional, transcends his own health condition.

But when a hospital ship provides surgical intervention, Amadou's community extends an incredibly enthusiastic celebration of hope realized.

US, 2022 Documentary





#### FOUND



Directed by Natalie Rochacelli

UK, 2022 Drama, Student Found is a short drama about a loving father that doesn't always recognise what's happening around him, but today he's here to support his daughter and that's what matters. Confused, he slips out for an unscheduled adventure. On his journey he becomes lost. Across the city a young mother is on her own journey, feeling overwhelmed and under pressure. Near a busy road her child could be in danger. We watch as these two characters' journeys intertwine with compassion and kindness. Two lost souls who find each other, and in turn find themselves.





#### iGilbert



Directed by Adrian Martinez

US, 2020 Drama, Experimental Gilbert Gonzalez (Adrian Martinez), feels isolated from the world. He is 39, a virgin, obese and lives with his sarcastic, overprotective mother, who owns the Manhattan brownstone. Fearful of life and people, yet starving for human connection, Gilbert secretly takes photos of women, wherever and whenever he can. Jana, (Dascha Polanco), his tenant and the source of innumerable dreams, is beautiful but haunted by her own insecurities that inhibit her from standing up to her ex-boyfriend Tony, (an Iraq war vet with PTSD). Gilbert dreams of rescuing Jana but doesn't believe she could ever love him. This love triangle becomes a battle for human connection in our digital and disconnected world.





Q & A



with Director Adrian Martinez about his film "iGilbert".



with Director Caleb Aaron Brumley about his film "Amadou".





#### HUSH



Directed by Samar Qupty

State of Palestine, 2021 Drama, Student When Nadine hears about her best friend's fear of an unwanted pregnancy, she takes the lead of the rescue. Together they embark on a confidential, frustrating and sometimes funny journey getting pregnancy-tested, while their conservative reality turns the simple act into an actual threat, they have to be creative.

Through Nur's tragedy, Nadine finds herself searching for her own truth, independence and freedom.





### BLUE LOVE



Directed by Sylvain Bes A man, underwater... is fighting against his past.

A short film exploring internal, existential and emotional tumults, in an unconventional and metaphoric context.

France, 2021 Drama





## EndLess



Directed by Nara Karapetyan Woman and man.

An impossible being without each other and an endless struggle in eternity.

Armenia, 2022 Drama





## UNCENSORED



Directed by Noah Ottersen Parker

UK, 2022 Drama A mysterious TV signal sends everyone into an outpouring of uncontrollable swearing.

Director: "I chose to make this project because it was an opportunity to let loose in a time where censorship and political correctness is so prevalent nowadays. Inspired by Gaspar Noé's cathartic surrealism work, I thought I would break the rules and have fun with it along the way."





#### TO SAY GOODBYE IS TO DIE A LITTLE



Directed by Michele Ly "To Say Goodbye"... follows a late night ride-share, where their journey is the same but their destinations are very different.

USA, 2023 Drama





## DRIVING FORCE



Directed by Max Wolf Friedlich A young man can't seem to just get in the car and go.

Exploring themes such as grief, family and depression, the short film gives a glimpse into the personal journey of a Jewish man who faces his emotions in the face of losing someone dear.

US, 2022 Drama





## No Other Gods But Me



Directed by Alex Spott In the midst of a sexual awakening, a religious teen finally musters up the courage to kiss her crush, but will lust send her straight to h-e-double-hockey-sticks?

US, 2022 Dark Comedy





## ART OF CROSSING



Directed by Tobiasz Wałkiewicz Corporate employee and Student follow the same path, but in opposite directions. A collision is inevitable. Passing by is the obvious solution to this problem. Only that despite their best efforts, they cannot do it. So they try harder. Kung fu - harder.

Poland, 2023 Comedy, Action





## BREARTH



Directed by Julio del Alamo

Spain, 2022 Experimental, AI An evolutionary journey through a contaminated human dystopia, packed in plastic waste that suffocates you.

The future is the present. The Earth is dying. The human being decomposes and recycles, perishable material until now...

An experimental animated film created with AIgenerated visuals that will take your breath away.



**3 MILLS STUDIOS** 

ROOM

SATURDAY 26 AUGUST 2023 19:30-21:30

## RISE OF THE APOLLO



Directed by Dimitri William Moore

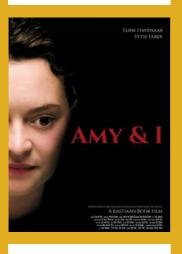
UK, 2023 Music Video The official "Mr. Sunshine" music video.

A young band attempts to lure the Light of Apollo toward them. The light is fickle and playful. Upon gaining its trust they become rock gods.

## **BEST SHORT FILM**



#### UNCENSORED



**AMY & I** 



#### TO SAY GOODBYE IS TO DIE A LITTLE



**ENDLESS** 



#### NO OTHER GODS BUT ME



#### **DRIVING FORCE**



www.beliff.co.uk

### **BEST FEATURE**



**iGILBERT** 



**RAISE YOUR HAND** 



VISIONS IN THE DARK

#### **BEST FEATURETTE**



**DER BRUDER** 



HUSH



**THE CAN** 

## **BEST ANIMATION**



KAMATHIPURA

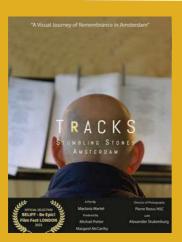


**FINAL STEP** 

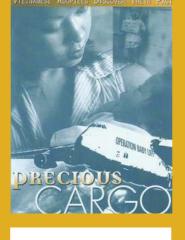


**CLOUD BOY** 

### **BEST DOCUMENTARY**



TRACKS



**PRECIOUS CARGO** 



**VISIONS IN THE DARK** 

## **BEST ACTOR**



**Gregg Daniel** 

TO SAY GOODBYE IS TO DIE A LITTLE



**DRIVING FORCE** 

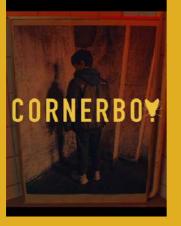


**iGILBERT** 

### **BEST ACTRESS**



#### BEST CINEMATOGRAPHY



CORNERBOY





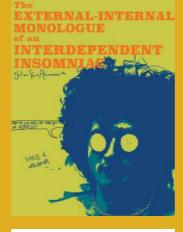


**AMY & I** 

## **BEST STUDENT FILM**



**HOW I BLEW IT** 



THE EXT.- INT. MONOLOGUE OF AN INTERDEPENDENT INSOMNIAC



FOUND

#### **BEST SCRIPT**



**iGILBERT** 







**ENDLESS** 

### **BEST MUSIC VIDEO**



**RISE OF APOLLO** 



**GOOD EVENING** 



**YOU HAVE WON** 

#### BEST COMMERCIAL or AWARENESS VIDEO



SAFELY FEEL THE REAL WORLD



WHEN IN DOUBT GET IT CHECKED OUT





BEAUTY OUT OF ASHES

#### **BEST DIRECTOR**



iGilbert ADRIAN MARTINEZ



UNCENSORED NOAH OTTERSEN PARKER



RAISE YOUR HAND JESSICA RAE

Book, watch, join the indie community

www.beliff.co.uk

BELIFF 2023 is screened at 3 Mills Studios as well as online

DON'T FORGET TO RATE YOUR FAVOURITE FILMS AND HELP THEM WIN THE PUBLIC AWARD BOTH ONLINE AND AT THE CINEMA!













24-27 AUGUST

