

# SCOTTISH QUEER INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL

SQIFF

6-10  
OCTOBER  
2021

[SQIFF.ORG](https://sqiff.org)





#SQIFF

SQIFF is back! We have a completely new programming team, who have worked really hard to get things up and running this year. Most of our events will be in person though a few screenings will also be available online to open them up to more folks.

Our 2021 Opening Night Shorts showcase queer Scottish work, the heart of our festival with a second programme packed with locally-made movies later on in the fest. We also have events such as Horror Hour with Final Girls Berlin and Sci-fi Happening, which explore queer genre fiction at its most powerful. Other screenings include Aspects of the Embodied Self and Spill Your Kinky (kink), which analyse body image, self-expression, and the poetics of bodies as art. And we're really excited for our classic film night featuring joyous lesbian comedy *D.E.B.S.*.

Outside of your film viewing, come join us for workshops in art, music production, and documenting identities. Alongside all this, we invite people to stay for some COVID-safe socialising with all events taking place at CCA (Centre for Contemporary Arts) this year and spaces to chill out and talk to others at the bar. See you soon!

**Indigo Korres,**  
*Programme Coordinator*

## SQIFF 2021 TEAM

CURATORS:

**Nat Lall and Jamie Rea**

PROGRAMME COORDINATOR:

**Indigo Korres**

CO-PRODUCERS:

**Jessie Moroney and Helen Wright**

ACCESS & ENGAGEMENT COORDINATORS:

**Kiana Kalantar-Hormozi and Charlotte Little**

ENGAGEMENT COORDINATOR:

**Solomon Bright Adebayo**

TECHNICAL COORDINATOR:

**Marc David Jacobs**

TECHNICAL TEAM:

**Emilia Beatriz, A.B. Silvera, and Ania Urbanowska**

PR & MARKETING COORDINATOR:

**Ruth Marsh**

DIGITAL MARKETING COORDINATOR:

**Rabindranath A Bhose**

DISTRIBUTION ASSISTANT:

**Eve McShannon**

DESIGN:

**Susie McConnell**

ARTWORK:

**Maria Stoian**

FESTIVAL TRAILER:

**Claire Clark and Nicole O'Reilly**

PHOTOGRAPHY:

**Tiu Makkonen**

SQIFF VOLUNTARY COMMITTEE:

**Robert Fox, Marc-David Jacobs, Ruth Marsh,  
Alison Smith, Helen Wright**

With thanks to Sarah Cochrane, Samar Ziadat, Quiplash, and our amazing team of access support workers!!



# VENUE

## CCA

350 Sauchiehall Street, G2 3JD

[www.cca-glasgow.com](http://www.cca-glasgow.com)

0141 352 4900



If you need any more information about CCA, please feel welcome to get in touch. You can call the CCA Box Office on **0141 352 4900**, or contact the SQIFF team by emailing [info@sqiff.org](mailto:info@sqiff.org).



## TICKETS AND HOW TO BOOK

See [www.sqiff.org](http://www.sqiff.org) for full film and event listings. Tickets can be booked online in advance or bought on the door. Reserved tickets must be collected 20 minutes before the advertised start time or they will be made available on the door.

**Please arrive a little before the start time to allow for signing in and possible queueing for COVID safety.**

Tickets for most events are on a sliding scale of FREE, £2, £4, £6, or £8. Choose what to pay based on your circumstances. If you can afford more, it helps us out if you pay more. This allows us to have free or cheap tickets for those who most need them and keep the festival going as well as support queer filmmakers.

Booking can also be done in person at the Box Office, via the CCA website - [www.cca-glasgow.com](http://www.cca-glasgow.com) - or on the phone by calling **0141 352 4900**.

If you work for a charity or community organisation and would like to bring a group along to an event, please contact [info@sqiff.org](mailto:info@sqiff.org) to reserve free tickets.

**Because the festival is a lot smaller than usual and events are only at 60% capacity, if you book a ticket and can no longer use it, please contact the CCA Box Office to let them know.**

# ACCESSIBILITY



The CCA has access for wheelchair users and people with other mobility issues. This includes wheelchair accessible toilets on each floor, level access at the front entrance, and lift access to all public areas.



All films have English language captions.



All our events will have BSL-English interpretation. We will also have BSL-English interpreters at the box office before events and for socialising after events.



All our events will have live captioning.



Induction loops are available at the CCA Box Office and in all event spaces we are using at CCA.



We have audio description available for some of our film programme. Headsets can be collected from the CCA box office before an event or please ask a member of staff. Film screenings with audio description are marked in the brochure.



Support animals and service animals such as guide dogs are welcome at CCA.

**The lights will be slightly up during all screenings and people are welcome to come and go during events as they need to. Disposable ear-plugs will be available. These can be collected from the CCA Box Office before an event.**





There is a designated Quiet Room on the 1st Floor of CCA that will be open from one hour before the first event each day until half an hour before the building closes.

Comfy bean bags are available in all event spaces. Seating can be reserved on request, please email us at [info@sqiff.org](mailto:info@sqiff.org) for this.

Films not certified by the BBFC are marked N/C and accompanied by an age recommendation, e.g. N/C 16+ (suitable for ages 16 and over - no-one under 16 will be admitted). Events may also have a specified age limit, e.g. ages 18+, due to overall content.

Content notes and access notes for films are available to download from [www.sqiff.org](http://www.sqiff.org) and will be read out at the start of events.

We will have a photographer for some events at the festival. If you would prefer your photo isn't taken or shared publicly, please let the photographer or a member of our team know.

We have an Audience Access Fund and can support any audience member with travel costs or internet data top-ups. Please get in touch by emailing [info@sqiff.org](mailto:info@sqiff.org) or speak to our team at the festival if you require this. You do not need to give a reason for accessing the fund.

There is limited street parking available outside the CCA.

Glasgow Taxis has a range of accessible vehicles including Euro 7 and some Euro 8 taxis with flat board ramps. You can contact them by telephone on **0141 429 7070**, or book through their app.

We aim to create a generally safe and inclusive environment at the Festival and ask people to respect each other and be sensitive to the diversity of identities within LGBTQIA+ communities. If you feel unsafe at any point, please feel welcome to speak to a member of the team.

There are downloadable, text-only, and audio versions of the brochure available on [www.sqiff.org](http://www.sqiff.org).

**A large print version of this brochure is available at the CCA Box Office.**

For more information or any questions about the above, please contact [info@sqiff.org](mailto:info@sqiff.org). We have team members available to get back to you directly and discuss your access requirements. If you need to contact by phone, please call the CCA Box Office on **0141 352 4900**. You can also contact CCA using Contact Scotland BSL.



# COVID SAFETY

We are working closely with our venue, the CCA, to make the festival as safe as possible for everyone involved.

Everyone will need to sign in using a QR code or paper sign-in when they arrive at the venue. Please allow for extra time to do so before event start times.

We encourage people coming along to the festival to take COVID tests regularly and get vaccinated. Please do not come to events if you have any COVID symptoms - stay home and get tested.

We ask everyone to wear a mask when they are inside the building unless you are unable to. There will be a supply of clear masks available at the main entrance for anyone who needs one.

We won't ask you to put on a mask if you are not wearing one. We will have a supply of Sunflower Lanyards for anyone who would like one. These are worn by people to let others know they have a 'hidden disability' and this may be a reason for not wearing a mask.

Hand sanitiser will be available at the CCA entrance and around the building. Please use this when you arrive.

Our events will only be booked 60% full and seating will be spaced out, so that distancing will be possible whilst watching films or taking part in workshops.

We ask people to try to keep a reasonable distance from others as is possible whilst in the CCA. Staff will be available to manage any queues or assist people if they have any questions or concerns about this.

We ask that after you come out of an event that's finished, you either leave the building straight away or go to the Saramago Terrace Bar on the 1st floor, where SQIFF audiences will have a space to gather after events if you want to stay and talk to others.

All CCA staff and the SQIFF team will be wearing clear masks for easier communication.

We will have BSL-English interpreters and general Access Support team members at the CCA entrance and Box Office to assist with any questions people have about COVID safety or anything else.





## SQIFF 2021 Opening Night Shorts

CCA Theatre, 6.30pm (60m), Various directors, N/C 12+, English and Portuguese audio

Our festival opens this year with the first of our 2021 Scottish Shorts programmes (see page 11 for Part 2!), including multiple works giving a taster of the many themes to expect from the festival.

Featuring a poetic film in British Sign Language (*Affirmation #6*), selections from queer Black artists from *Fringe of Colour* (*Ixwa Blue*, *Space 2: We've Come A Long Way*, *black queer nature poem for khadijah (and all of us)*), sweet musings on trans life in Glasgow (*You can run*), and lots more. We hope that there will be something for everyone in our multifaceted queer community on our opening night.

Curated by Nat Lall. We hope to welcome several of the filmmakers for a Q&A. All ticket holders are invited to join us for a drink at CCA after the screening.

## Queer Asia

CCA Cinema, 6pm (70m), Various directors, China, India, Korea, N/C 16+, Chinese, English, Hindi, Korean, and Urdu audio

This event hosts films that provide insight into contemporary queer Asian life. The films present tender moments of love and acceptance as well as conflict. We are often shown the pain, protest, and fear of being queer in Asia in the media. This is important - the global queer community should be aware of such intersectional struggles. But there are moments of humanity too. Even though this screening depicts vulnerability, it also explores queer joy.

Featuring three short films about queer Asian people, including Faraz Arif Ansari's *Sheer Qorma*.

Curated by Nat Lall.





### **LUX Scotland Presents: After the Ice, the Deluge**

CCA Theatre, 6.30pm (90m), Dir: Linda Stupart, N/C 16+, English audio

Artist, writer, and educator Linda Stupart screens their new experimental moving image work *After the Ice, the Deluge*, a mostly diptych film which consists of both Linda's performance as well as their research in the Arctic. The work also makes use of degraded film to enhance its theme of traumatised bodies and climate change. The screening will be followed by a discussion with Linda Stupart about their work and the way it engages with queer theory and environmental crises.

In partnership with LUX Scotland, a non-profit agency dedicated to supporting, developing, and promoting artists' moving image practices in Scotland.

### **Rollick/Dance: From dirty to sensuous**

CCA Theatre, 9pm (67m), Various directors, Spain, USA, N/C 18+, English and Spanish audio

Join us for an evening of music videos that will have you glad to be alive! In this screening, we present music videos and dance interpretations that encourage us to be carefree, to frolic, and to ponder the links that bind us all together as a Queer community. Prepare to be challenged, entertained, and to fight the urge to join in the dance: express yourself!

Featuring Miguel Ángel Romero Yepes' exploration of drag queen cabaret in *The Red Pearl Queen*.

Curated by Jamie Rea.







## Queer Brazil

CCA Cinema, 6pm (79m), Various directors, Brazil, N/C 16+, Portuguese audio

This screening is a raw look into various Brazilian queer cultures. Despite the challenges faced by queer people in Brazil, this event was curated to primarily celebrate queer joy and community love. *Tattoo*, *BEAT 97* and *From time to time, I burn* show the powerful connections between queer relationships. And whilst *The Uninhabitable Ones* takes an experimental approach into documenting queer Black diaspora, *Unliveable* explores the love and empathy in intersectional communities.

Curated by Indigo Korres.

## Spill your Kinky (kink)

CCA Theatre, 6.30pm (59m), Various directors, Austria, Chile, Greece, Italy, Ukraine, USA, N/C 18+, English, Italian, Russian, and Spanish audio

Join us to talk about all things kinky. This screening includes films which focus on how we view and experience sex in an age of technology from the seemingly simple to the more extreme. These filmmakers offer us a space to consider our own understanding of sex and the journey we have been on or could take, as well as an openness about accepting our own sex preferences. With love stories across genders and sexual identities, these films are funny and disturbing as well as erotic and profound. Sex is a story waiting to be told.

Curated by Jamie Rea. Followed by a conversation with trans artist Ivor MacAskill and non-binary artist Rosana Cade about the themes in the films.





## Reimagining Filmmaking

CCA Cinema, 8.30pm (65m), Various directors, Iran, Taiwan, and UK, N/C 18+, English audio

This screening brings together a diverse range of work with each artist taking a unique approach to what it means to make a film. From videography to animation, these films play with the technical and artistic aspects of filmmaking. They offer provocations around the idea of experience and what we might think makes for exciting and intriguing viewing.

Featuring various innovative experimental films such as Clodagh Chapman's *First Kiss (With a Girl)*; Grace Whitfield's *We Two*; and Shantel Liao's *One Middle Ground*.

Curated by Jamie Rea.

## Horror Hour with Final Girls Berlin

CCA Theatre, 9pm (57m), Various directors, Australia, Canada, Korea, UK, N/C 16+, English and Korean audio

Prepare yourselves for an hour of very spooky and very queer cinema. In partnership with the feminist horror film collective, Final Girls Berlin, we have put together a selection of otherworldly shorts. The screening is an amalgamation of the best queer horror submissions sent in to the SQIFF open call as well as FGB's open call. Expect screaming dykes and plenty of bloodshed!

Featuring the likes of furry-legged lesbians (*Lone Wolf*), crazy cat ladies (*The Elephant Joke*), and bloodsucking lust (*You are a Lesbian Vampire*), this thrilling selection is one not to be missed.

Curated by Nat Lall and Final Girls Berlin.





## Workshop: Queer Sounds in Music Production with TAAHLIAH

CCA Cinema, 12pm (120m), all ages

Local legend TAAHLIAH will lead an electronic music production workshop for members of the queer Black and people of colour community. Attendees will be given an introduction as to how she created her experimental pop project, *Angelica*. There will also be opportunities for one-on-one advice. An exciting event feeding TAAHLIAH's skills and expertise back into the community she dearly loves.

Curated by Nat Lall. **Please note this workshop is open to Black people and people of colour only.**

Please get in touch by emailing [info@sqiff.org](mailto:info@sqiff.org) if you have any access requirements to attend this workshop.



## Category Is...

CCA Theatre, 12.45pm (100m), Various directors, Germany, Spain, Sweden, UK, USA, N/C 18+, Arabic, English, German, Spanish, and Taiwanese audio

Come and join us for some quality filmmaking from the Queer community. An eclectic mix of genres from horror to love stories to family drama – we've got you covered all in one screening. Come and share in film journeys about what it is to be Queer across the modern world. You'll laugh (well, maybe.) You'll cry (well, I did). You'll learn something and carry it with you as you leave us. But, most of all, you'll love this showcase of queer filmmakers' work from across the globe.

Curated by Jamie Rea.





## Aspects of the Embodied Self

CCA Cinema, 3pm (76m), Various directors, Canada, Iran, UK, USA, N/C 18+, English and French audio

In each of the films in this screening, people take centre stage as they offer us insight and a more challenging way of thinking about body image. Exploring the theme of perceptions of our bodies that challenge normative thinking, these films are platforms for discussions on disability, mental health, and body image in relation to our sense of ourselves as sexual beings.

Fearing Aorta Films' intersectional view of queer bodies in *formations* and *digital genitals*.

Curated by Jamie Rea. Followed by a conversation with trans artist Ivor MacAskill and non-binary artist Rosana Cade about the themes in the films.

## Scottish Shorts Part 2

CCA Theatre, 3.30pm (78m), Various directors, N/C 12+, English and Indonesian audio

The second part of this year's Scottish Shorts programme presents works of critique and documentary. The selected films share thought-provoking responses to rainbow capitalism and cis-sexism. Also included are very honest and touching accounts of mourning whilst queer.

Featuring Sweetshops's dark animation on corporate Pride (*Logos* ❤️ *Globalise* ♥️ *Brands* ♥️ *Trends* ♥️ *Quarterlies* ♥️ *Inc* ♥️ *Associated+*), Ali Grant's love letter to her late older sister (*The Isobel Imprint*), and Suki Hollywood's tale of a superhero and a f\*ckboy (*This Suit*), and more!

Curated by Nat Lall. We hope to welcome several of the filmmakers for a Q&A. Followed by our Filmmaker Social.





## Filmmaker Social

CCA Saramago Terrace Bar, 5-6.30pm, FREE

Are you a queer filmmaker working in Scotland or beyond? Come and join us for some networking, schmoozing, and boozing (non-alcoholic options also available).

A chance to meet others who are LGBTQIA+ and interested or already working in film and related media. Share ideas, discuss your projects, or just hang out and have a nice time.

Free. To book, go to [www.sqiff.org](http://www.sqiff.org). In case anyone is anxious or nervous about coming along to this by themselves, please feel welcome to get in touch via [info@sqiff.org](mailto:info@sqiff.org) and someone can meet you beforehand. BSL interpreters will be available at the event.

## Sci-fi Happening

CCA Cinema, 6pm (56m), Various directors, Brazil, China, UK, N/C 16+, English and Portuguese audio

A selection of strange occurrences captured in neon blues and deep greys. Partnered with distorted vocals and deep echoes. A satisfying watch for fans of classic sci-fi. And whilst paying ode to a genre spanning over two centuries these recent works also bring contemporary references and visuals to the screen. Themes of self-medicating, body modification and chronic diseases are presented in ways that are both beautiful and disturbing to experience. This screening really captures the wonderful weirdness of contemporary sci-fi.

Featuring self-duplicating sisters in *Nekama*, mutating spices in *you must everywhere wander* and surplus PEP pills in *Raltagravir*.

Curated by Nat Lall.







## A New Chapter Begins

CCA Theatre, 6.30pm (53m), Various directors, Canada, USA, UK, N/C 18+, English and French audio and British and American Sign Language

SQIFF is proud to present a showcase of films from deaf filmmakers telling stories of love, understanding, and courage. In each of these short films, we see human beings reaching out to connect with one another through sign language, endeavouring to discover not only themselves but a larger truth. We are reminded in the journey of each character and story that love is not limited to the words we speak but is greater than ourselves and transcends the language we use.

Curated by Jamie Rea. We are happy to be joined by filmmakers Teresa Garratty and David Ellington for a Q&A after the films.

The Q&A for this event will be live-streamed online and open to all. The shorts programme will also be available to rent online from SQIFF's Vimeo on Demand channel 2 to 10 October.

## Poetics of the Visual

CCA Cinema, 8.45pm (54m), Various directors, Argentina, Germany, Sweden, UK, USA, N/C 18+, English audio and British Sign Language

An evening of visually striking films that offer us a space to explore what it is to be a human being through a visual poetic medium. Each work uses a diverse way to express ideas of human feelings, thoughts, and voices in beautiful and startling ways. Dialogues, monologues, and poetry fill this programme. Featuring Em Johrden's poetic documentary on trans folks' relationship with their own bodies and identities focusing on aspects of euphoria and joy in *it belongs to me*.

Curated by Jamie Rea. Followed by a conversation about the ideas raised in the screening.





## D.E.B.S.

CCA Theatre, 9.15pm (92m), Dir: Angela Robinson, USA, BBFC-rated 12, English audio

Sultry crime boss Lucy Diamond (Jordana Brewster, *The Fast and the Furious*) is back in the states and the D.E.B.S. - an elite team of paramilitary college co-ed superspies - are hot on her trail. But when their top agent, gorgeous Amy Bradshaw (Sara Foster, *The Big Bounce*), mysteriously disappears after coming face to face with the attractive young villainess, the D.E.B.S. begin a full-scale search for Lucy's secret lair. They never suspect that Amy may not want to be rescued after all in this smart and sexy spy spoof about love at first gun sight.

A light-hearted lesbian classic. Expect plaid skirts and questionable special effects...

Curated by Nat Lall.

## Workshop: Identity & Documentary with Scottish Documentary Institute

CCA Cinema, 12pm (120m), ages 16+

Join us to explore the notion of identity through the medium of short documentary, with guest filmmakers working in animation, broadcast, and creative documentary.

Organised in partnership with Scottish Documentary Institute, this workshop is aimed at emerging filmmakers and artists who are developing projects around identity and are keen to get inspired in an informal, collaborative, and safe environment. Participants will be invited to submit their own short documentary project for feedback if they would like to.





## GA(Y)MERS

CCA Theatre, 12.45pm (73m), Various directors, UK, N/C 18+, English audio

There is a freedom that comes with gaming; an ability to exist in another realm without necessarily leaving the real world. For some the realm of a game exists as an alternate reality and for others it synthesises with the physical world. For queer and trans gamers, it can function as a space to trial and error other bodies. It can be a space to transition. And with that comes various highs and lows. From moments of ecstasy to steep learning curves to some uh... 'reality checks.'

GA(Y)MERS showcases a series of shorts on gender and gaming, including Jamie Jankowic's *a woman on the internet*. The screening will be followed by a Q&A on the films and the importance of virtual queer spaces.

Curated by Nat Lall. This short film programme will also be available to rent online from SQIFF's Vimeo on Demand channel 2 to 10 October.

## Workshop: Unlocking Your Imagination with Joe Dunn

CCA Clubroom, 3pm (120m), ages 16+

Artist Joe Dunn hosts a workshop on exploring creativity and identity through the art of collages and getting messy and creative with tee shirts! No restrictions on imagination. Attendees can bring their own materials along such as newspapers, magazines, or old books, and any art supplies they wish to use. There will also be materials provided.

Curated by Jamie Rea. The workshop will be in BSL with BSL-English interpretation and live captioning available. Please note the workshop prioritises deaf and hard of hearing participants.



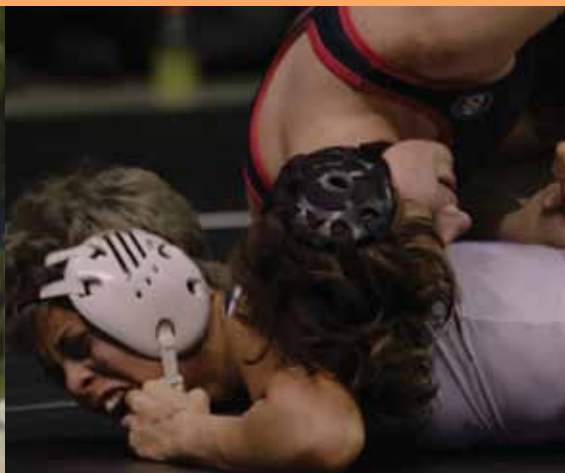


## Adam

CCA Theatre, 3.30pm (95m), Dir: Rhys Ernst, USA, N/C 18+, English audio

Adam, an awkward teen, spends a summer with his older sister, who is part of New York City's lesbian and trans activist scene. He meets the girl of his dreams but can't figure out how to tell her he's not the trans man she thinks he is. Directed by Rhys Ernst, *Adam* was produced by Howard Gertler and James Schamus and debuted at the 2019 Sundance Film Festival. It won awards at Outfest, Oslo Fusion, the Mezipatra Film Festival, and was nominated for a 2020 GLAAD award.

Curated by Nat Lall. Followed by a Q&A with local trans men and trans masculine activists based in Scotland. The discussion will focus on the lack of transmasculine representation, the pressure of being a representative, and cancel culture in activist scenes.



## Closing Film: Changing the Game with LEAP Sports Scotland

CCA Theatre, 6.30pm (95m), Dir: Michael Barnett, USA, N/C 15+, English audio

*Changing the Game* (Michael Barnett, 2019) follows the lives of three trans teen athletes in the USA. Sarah is a skier and activist policymaker; Andraya is a track star; and Mack is the Texas State Champion in wrestling. This documentary takes us into their personal lives and showcases the challenges faced by trans teens in sports. It is an incredible exploration into intersectional identities in sports.

In partnership with LEAP Sports Scotland and followed by an exploration of trans experience in sport, with special guests from local trans and non-binary sports groups.

All ticket holders are invited to join us for a drink at CCA after the screening.

This film will also be available to rent from SQIFF's Vimeo on Demand channel 2 to 10 October.



# ONLINE FILMS



Several films will also be available to rent online from SQIFF's Vimeo on Demand channel for 9 days from 2 to 10 October. You can access these films at any time during this period. Films on our Vimeo on Demand will be accessible within the UK only.

To watch films on our Vimeo on Demand channel, you will need to create a Vimeo account, which is free and quick to set up. Go to **vimeo.com** and click the option to 'Join for free.' You will need access to an email address to be able to join.

You will be asked to choose what you pay for each film or film programme on our Vimeo on Demand channel. The default price for films on Vimeo will be set to £8, and you can click 'Apply promo code' and then enter a discount code of, for example, '6' to pay £6, or '4,' '2,' or 'free' to get the pricing you choose. You will have up until 10 October to watch films once you have rented them.

## **A New Chapter Begins (see page 13)**

There will be a live-streamed Q&A to go with this programme on Saturday 9 October at 7.30pm.

## **GA(Y)MERS (see page 15)**

## **Changing the Game (see page 16)**





# SQIFF 2021

## FUNDERS AND PARTNERS



LOTTERY FUNDED

**SCREEN SCOTLAND**  
**SGRÌN ALBA**

**CCA:** Centre for Contemporary Arts



Film Hub  
Scotland



FAN  
FILM AUDIENCE NETWORK



**SCREEN SCOTLAND**  
**SGRÌN ALBA**



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