

Scottish Queer International Film Festival 2023

26-30 September

Glasgow

sqiff.org

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Welcome

SQIFF is back! This is the first festival completely run by SQIFF's new team. We have been working really hard to get things up and running after a year's gap. We've been doing year round projects focused on community building events across Scotland, and we're really excited to present SQIFF 2023 all in person at CCA (Centre for Contemporary Arts), Glasgow.

Our 2023 Opening Night Shorts showcase queer Scottish work, packed with locally-made movies headlining our event. This year we have commissioned two guest curators to come up with screenings for the festival. Neha Apsara brings a South Asian lesbian shorts collection in partnership with Begana, and Jaye Hudson presents 1988 documentary *Sex Change: Shock! Horror! Probe!*, followed by a discussion with its pioneering director, Kristiene Clark. And we're really excited for our classic film night featuring extraordinary 90s black comedy drama *Nowhere* by Gregg Araki.

Outside of your film viewing, come join us for a workshop in cameraless 8mm filmmaking; installations of work by members of Queer Youth Arts Collective and work by Nicole O'Reilly and Luke 'Luca' Cockayne; a crafts fair with local queer artists; a meeting of our regular filmmakers group; and a massage space to keep us relaxed. Alongside all this, we invite people to stay for some socialising during the week at CCA with spaces to chill out and talk to others at the bar as well as joining us for our closing night party in collaboration with Bonjour with a fully BIPOC line-up. See you soon!

Indigo Korres,
Festival Director & Programme Coordinator

SQIFF 2023 Team

Festival Director & Programme Coordinator

Indigo Korres

Curator

Nat Lall

Guest Curators

Jaye Hudson and Neha Apsara

Producer

Nusa

Access & Engagement Coordinator

Kiana Kalantar-Hormozi

Engagement Coordinator

Solomon Bright Adebayo

Technical Coordinator

Nicole O'Reilly

Technical Team

Alexandria Loughra, River Seager, Robin Bray, Sarya Wu, and Martin Brown

PR & Marketing Coordinator

Rabindranath Bhose

Social Media Assistant

Lyall Tighe

Design

Susie Francis

Artwork

Konstantinos korakonero

Festival Trailer

Helen Wright, Indigo Korres, Leo Torre

Photography

Ocean Teal and Tiu Makkonen

With thanks to our amazing team of access support workers!!

Venues

CCA

350 Sauchiehall Street,

Glasgow, G2 3JD

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.

Bonjour

37-45 Saltmarket,

Glasgow, G1 5NA

www.bonjourglasgow.club



If you need more information about Bonjour, please feel welcome to get in touch. You can contact the SQIFF team by emailing info@sqiff.org, or the Bonjour team by emailing bonjourglasgowenquiries@gmail.com.

Tickets and how to book

See 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.

Tickets for most events are on a sliding scale of FREE, £2, £4, £6, £8, or £10. 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 - 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 to reserve free tickets.

If you book a ticket and can no longer use it, please contact the CCA Box Office to let them know.

SQIFF is not-for-profit, and gets project to project funding. If you like the work we do and have the means to, please donate to help us with our year-round costs and activities. You can donate through this link: sqiff.org/donate

Accessibility



The CCA and Bonjour have 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 (CCA).



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 and Bonjour.

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 or at the Bonjour entrance before an event.

There will be a supply of FFP2 masks available at the entrance and throughout the CCA and Bonjour for anyone who needs one.

There is a designated Quiet Room on the 2nd Floor of CCA that will be open from at least half an hour before the first event each day until after the last event of the day starts.

Comfy bean bags are available in all event spaces at CCA. Seating can be reserved on request, please email us at 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 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 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.

Our Access & Support Team will be available to answer any questions you have about films, live events, and access measures between 11am and 11pm every day of the Festival. You can contact them by emailing info@sqiff.org or by phone on 07873 331 036.

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. 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.

Installations

Phreaking Gender

CCA Creative Lab, 3-9pm, Tuesday 26th - Thursday 28th September, Artists: Nicole O'Reilly & Luke 'Luca' Cockayne, United Kingdom, N/C 18+, English Audio

PHREAKING GENDER expands the themes of Nicole O'Reilly's titular documentary into an installation art show. O'Reilly teams up with Luke 'Luca' Cockayne to create a space for all to explore their relationship to gender and the ways that art can support and enhance The Transgender Experience™. In the face of oppressive paternalistic medical systems that deny trans people bodily autonomy, and at a time when our very existence is threatened, *PHREAKING GENDER* provides a techno-anarchist manifesto, showing that self-augmentation and the creation of radical queer communities is not just a necessity for wellbeing, but as an act of empowerment and rebellion in itself.

Work by Nicole O'Reilly & Luke 'Luca' Cockayne.



Queer Youth Arts Collective

CCA Clubroom, 3-10pm on Tuesday 26th - Thursday 28th September, 12-10pm on Friday 29th - Saturday 30th September, Various Artists, United Kingdom, all ages

The pieces of art in this installation were created by members of Eden Court's Queer Youth Arts Collective. QYAC is a group of young queer people from all across the Scottish Highlands who meet online each week to come together as community, create, and connect. This mini exhibition was created to celebrate their talents as young queer artists.

Tuesday 26 September

SQIFF 2023 Opening Night Scottish Shorts

CCA Theatre, 7pm (89m), Various directors, N/C 18+, British Sign Language, and English audio

Starting the festival, as always, we have 'Scottish Shorts'. The screening exclusively contains short films by artists based in Scotland and highlights exquisite talent on our home turf.

The very first film stars SQIFF's own Jamie Rea. Jamie co-curated our 2021 festival and now treats us to a touching lead performance in *The Singer*. Later, we have *Selkie*, which brings Scottish mythology and folk song to queer cinema. And, we have *Pixie* that follows the local party girl as she shares her experience of coming out, transitioning and go-go dancing.

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.



Wednesday 27 September

Are you into emotional edging?

CCA Cinema, 3.30pm (61m), Various directors, USA, UK, N/C 16+, English audio

Join us for a journey of conscious and unconscious thoughts. This screening features distinct experimental shorts made by trans and non-binary people that focuses on the varied ways our community tell stories of forming and navigating relationships, both digitally and in real life.

The films in this programme utilise archival footage, found footage, digital glitch, chemical abstraction, digital animation, layered imagery, and direct animation to explore the telling of our stories.

Milo Clenshaw will be hosting a panel discussion after the screening with special guests Hogan Seidel, director of *The Backside of God* and Jamie Crewe, director of *A Luxury*.

Curated by Indigo Korres.



Begana

CCA Theatre, 6pm (66m), Various directors, India, N/C 16+, Bengali, English, Hindi, Marathi audio

Begana is bringing you more films from the South Asian queer diaspora! Combining hidden stories, politics with joy and queer loving, come watch films from Rohan Kanawade's drama *U for Usha*, in which a single mother and a farm labourer in rural India who feels drawn to a female teacher of a local primary school, to Rohin Raveendran's romance *The Booth*, where a female frisking booth inside a crowded shopping mall stands as a silent ally to a forbidden romance. We hope you're ready for a fresh view through these Sapphic love stories.

Curated by Neha Apsara.



Queer Classics: Nowhere

CCA Cinema, 6.30pm (82m), Dir: Gregg Araki, BBFC 18+, United States, English audio

Back by popular demand, SQIFF presents Queer Classics. This year we are screening Gregg Araki's *Nowhere*. The film is a 90s cult queer film complete with colourful punk sets and costumes, grungey soundscapes and silly stoner humour.

The film is the finale of Gregg Araki's *Teenage Apocalypse Trilogy* series and intertwines camp teenage silliness with the darker elements of coming of age. Bisexual characters at the forefront of

the narrative and Araki is a queer asian director. For curator, Nat Lall, it is a personal favourite and inspiration.

Rather than a panel, this screening is preceded with poetry from Blaxploitation Burner Tape 2023 read and written by Isaac Harris. Isaac is a local Queer Black poet whose work compliments the humour and radicalness of *Nowhere*.

Curated by Nat Lall.



(Tending) (to) (Ta)

CCA Theatre, 9pm (66m), Dir. April Lin, United Kingdom, N/C 16+, English & Mandarin audio

(Tending) (to) (Ta) is a narrative-led speculative fiction film which follows an exchange of internal letters between two protagonists who imagine one another across parallel dimensions. Each communicating to an envisioned other, who exists as a possibility beyond their self-perceived boundaries of reality, these two beings meet in a shared world of imagination.

During the event, we'll invite you to think of the following question: what would you ask somebody living in a parallel universe to ours, one freed from the confines of language, gender, and hyper-separation between human and nature? Join us before and after the screening for a (re)writing session that imagines real utopias, an exercise in letter-writing to an inhabitant of an otherworldly realm. In this gentle, meditative dialogue, maybe we can unlock a way to bring their world into ours.

In partnership with Take One Action.



Thursday 28 September

Kokomo City

CCA Cinema, 3.30pm (73m), Dir. D Smith, United States, BBFC 18, English audio

Kokomo City presents the stories of four Black transgender sex workers in New York and Georgia. Shot in striking black and white, the boldness of the facts of these women's lives and the earthquaking frankness they share complicate this enterprise, colliding the everyday with cutting social commentary and the excavation of long-dormant truths. Unfiltered, unabashed, and unapologetic, D. Smith and her collaborators offer a refreshing rawness and vulnerability unconcerned with purity and politeness.

In honour of Koko Da Doll, this screening is hosted by House Ball Scotland, holding an aftercare space which will be detailed on the evening.

House Ball Scotland is a QTIBIPOC-led community and platform for the underground ball scene in Scotland.

Co-curated by Nusa.



Fleeting Love

CCA Theatre, 6pm (94m), Various directors, Denmark, Philippines, Sweden, Switzerland, Taiwan, United Kingdom, USA, N/C 16+, Danish, English, German, Mandarin Chinese, Polish, Swiss German, Tagalog audio

'Fleeting Love' is a collection of short films that capture brief (but tender) romantic encounters. Expect sepia-toned super 8 clips, wind blowing through long hair, lustful stares and tugs on your heartstrings.

The pace of the films in the selection ebbs and flows with runtimes ranging from 3 to 20 minutes. Films such as *Swimming in the Dark* bring slower romantic builds alongside slow rippling water. Whereas the closing film *Strangers* is the shortest of the collection and follows two lovers clinging on to each other as they zoom past the camera on a motorbike.

Curated by Nat Lall. The screening starts with poetry from local queer romantic poet Hatty Nestor.



Queer East Presents: Alien Body, Human Dreams

CCA Cinema, 6.30pm (93m), Various directors, Canada, Indonesia Netherlands, Philippines, Taiwan, UK, Vietnam, N/C 16+, Chinese, English, French, Indonesian audio

A series of cinematic investigations that centre the body as a potent site of hybridity, rejecting false divisions of man/woman, human/animal/alien, self/other to construct their own embodied, multifaceted ways of being. Artists in this programme purposefully employ queering as a technique to misread, re-appropriate, and puncture the systems of power projected onto the body. In these works by queer Southeast and East Asian filmmakers, we meet a speculative reality where human body parts are sold in food trucks and witness a dance-fight between a lion dancer and a contemporary dancer. Bodyhacking, ritualising, and ceremonialising is used to knead cosmologies, folding knowledges in upon themselves.

Curated by April Lin 林森



Sex Change: Shock! Horror! Probe! with TGirlsonFilm

CCA Theatre, 9pm (58m), Dir. Kristiene Clark, UK, N/C 16+, English audio

Thatcherite Britain, 1989 and transsexuals are fighting back. Cabaret star, Adele Anderson is facing a transphobic backlash after being cruelly outed by the press. Meanwhile in Manchester, Stephanie Anne Lloyd is a successful trans business woman selling gender affirming products to a huge cross dressing clientele, with shoulder pads and gusto. The European Court faces Mark Rees as he argues his case to be legally seen as male, whilst Christine Goodwin hurtles round East London driving a bus. The first trans MP, Racheal Webb, attempts to reclaim the guardianship of her child since transitioning. Director Kristiene Clark fought back against the transphobic media, with an appeal to gender liberation.

Kristiene Clark will join us for an exclusive Q&A after the screening.

Curated by Jaye Hudson.



Friday 29 September

Workshop: Cameraless Filmmaking with Autojektor + Screening

CCA Creative Lab, Workshop: 12pm (120m), Screening: 6:15 (30m), all ages

In this hands-on analog film workshop participants will learn the fundamentals of cameraless filmmaking - working directly on celluloid and exploring a range of techniques to create their own short 8mm film loops. The finished films will be screened later on from 6:15-6:45pm with a genuine 8mm projector.

After everyone goes home, all the loops will be digitised and uploaded to an online public archive where the footage can be downloaded and used for original work, remixing, music videos, A/V performance etc.

This workshop is run in partnership with Scottish Trans.

Curated by Indigo Korres. **Please note this workshop is open to trans, non-binary and gender diverse people only.**

Please get in touch by emailing info@sqiff.org if you have any access requirements to attend this workshop.

Building Community with LGBT Unity

CCA Theatre, 12.30pm (30m), Various directors, UK, N/C 16+, English and Portuguese audio

In the summer of 2023, SQIFF and LGBT Unity hosted filmmaking workshops for queer asylum seekers and refugees. The workshops were facilitated by filmmakers Campbell X and Ambroise of Paradax Period, and focused on not only storytelling, filming and editing, but also building community and creating accessible ways to make films.

In this screening, we bring you all the shorts made during this workshop series, followed by a small Q&A where Campbell X and Ambroise talk about this process with some of the participants.

Presented in partnership with LGBT Unity Scotland, a community-led group providing essential support to LGBTQIA+ refugees, asylum seekers, and other migrants.



Come Back to the 5 and Dime, Jimmy Dean, Jimmy Dean with TGirlsonFilm

CCA Theatre, 3pm (109m), Dir. Robert Altman, USA, BBFC 15, English audio

Five gurlies reunite at a five-and-dime for the 20th anniversary of James Dean's death. They all gossip and process where life has led them over a cup of coffee, the film features five female leads, one of which is Cher and another is a glamorous transsexual. Based on a play and directed by Robert Altman, this is trans director Kristiene Clarke's favourite trans representation.

Curated by Jaye Hudson. Presented with TGirlsonFilm and Introduction by Kristiene Clarke.



Cool Amber Massage

CCA Creative Lab, 3-9pm (break 6-7pm), Masseur: River

River from Cool Amber Massage will be offering 15-minute seated and clothed head, neck and shoulder massages on a by donation basis. Having trained in various massage techniques since 2019, River specialises in working with queer and trans people and community groups to provide treatments that are therapeutic, non-judgemental, and tailored to clients' needs. Sign up on the day and find out more at coolambermassage.co.uk

Curated by Indigo Korres.

Animation Now

CCA Theatre, 6pm (74m), Various directors, Brazil, Canada, Japan, UK, USA, N/C 16+, English, Latin, Portuguese, and Vietnamese audio

'Animation Now' celebrates a new generation of queer animators. The programme includes both 2D and 3D animation in the form of narrative shorts, experimental art film and an immersive game walkthrough.

The screening starts with the heartfelt 3D animation *Dear Nana* telling the story of the narrator's late grandmother who was a supportive figure throughout their life. *Clotilde* follows suit in the 3D animated medium but provides a playful light-hearted moment in the programme.

The screening ends with a panel featuring some of the filmmakers in the programme on the newest wave of digital animation. Expect talk of gaming-inspired filmmaking.

Curated by Nat Lall.



Queer East Presents: Peafowl 공작새

CCA Theatre, 9pm (115m), Dir. Byun Sung-bin, South Korea, N/C 16+, Korean audio

Shin-myung is a transgender woman and dancer who competes in waacking, a form of voguing. Having cut ties with her family and rural hometown, Shin-myung seeks various ways to fund her gender reassignment surgery. But one day, she is informed that her estranged father, a master of Nongak folk music, has died. He stipulated that Shin-myung can receive her inheritance money if she returns to the village and performs a traditional drum dance, as part of his memorial rituals. Unwilling to yield to her intolerant father's posthumous demands, the unapologetic Shin-myung is

forced to reluctantly reconnect with her past while staying true to herself. Driven by an empowering vision of trans identity, this assured debut feature from Byun Sung-bin contemplates the possibilities – and limits – of forgiveness.



Saturday 30 September

Craft Fair with Local Artists

CCA Creative Lab, 11.30am-3.30pm, all ages

We are proud to announce SQIFF's first Craft Fair. The fair hosts local queer artists selling their works. Expect a range of media all in one room. Including air-brushed textiles from Suds Mckenna, spooky ceramics from G4yCl4y and on-site tooth gems from g41, and Rumpus Room sharing about the work they do! Come and meet some of the best local creatives and treat yourself to a crafty souvenir from our 2023 festival.

Curated by Nat Lall.

Not Quite That

CCA Theatre, 12.30pm (60m), Various directors, Australia, Canada, UK, N/C 16+, English audio

'Not Quite That' follows 57-year-old Sarah, a butch lesbian predisposed to breast cancer.

Sarah discusses the implications of a mastectomy as a butch presenting person. She contemplates if people would perceive her as transmasculine and how that would make her feel.

Her long-term close friends listen attentively and help her process the situation. The love and support shared by this group of old friends is heartwarming. A feel-good film for sure.

This film is followed by two shorts. Director Leo Torre of *The Ship of Theseus* will join us to chat about short filmmaking and the importance of queer/trans friendships.

Curated by Nat Lall.



Queerventures with Kendal Mountain Events

CCA Cinema, 3pm (71m), Various director, Switzerland, UK, US, N/C 16+, English and French audio

Kendal Mountain Festival is one of the UK's longest running Adventure Film Festivals. Their programming goes far beyond the stereotypical adventurer, reaching out to individuals whose narratives are often overlooked. As part of this they have proudly curated a film programme of Queer-led films to stand in solidarity with the local LGBTQIA+ community and ensure that everyone sees themselves represented in the adventure world.

The event will be hosted by one of the Kendal Mountain team, Emily Lyons who will guide you through films that will transport you all over the world and showcase a multitude of folk from the community, from those getting outdoors everyday and people at the top of their game.



Documenting and Archiving

CCA Theatre, 3.30pm (85m), Various directors, India, USA, UK, N/C 18+, English and Hindi audio

This event is all about queer histories, past and present. It explores a range of approaches to documentation and archiving.

The programme alternates between shorts of around 5min and 'longer shorts' of 10+ minutes. The first films are about American and English histories of the 80s-90s. The next couple document millennial queer experiences surrounding advancements in technological communication. And the latter films tell of QTIBPOC resistance, love and solidarity.

This screening will conclude with a panel hosting River Seager of *I Am a Cyborg: Conversations About Queerness and Anime*, and Campbell X of *Still We Thrive* on the importance of documenting queer experiences.

Curated by Nat Lall.



Queer Filmmakers Group

CCA Creative Lab, 4.30am-6.30pm, Various directors, UK, English audio, all ages

Are you a queer filmmaker wanting to meet other queer filmmakers and develop project ideas together?

The Queer Filmmakers Group is an initiative to bring local queer filmmakers together for monthly two-hour group sessions to network and support each other in the development of film projects. For this session, L.I.P.S. (Lesbians in Peer Support), a youth group that Glasgow Women's Library ran from 2000 to 2006 will join us to screen 'Dykes in the City', a trilogy of three short films produced in collaboration with GMAC in 2001. The event will include a panel discussion with the filmmakers.

The group is open for any level of filmmaking and we really encourage people just starting out in the medium to come along.

Facilitated by Leo Torre.



Closing Film: Mutt

CCA Theatre, 7pm (97m), Dir. Vuk Lungulov-Klotz, USA, N/C 16+, English and Spanish audio

Mutt tells the story of a young trans man named Feña reacquainting with family and friends he has not seen since before his transition.

Feña (Lío Mehiel) experiences contrasting moments of hostility and heartfelt care upon reintroduction to his father, younger sister and ex-boyfriend. The father shows signs of intimidation by his child's new masculinity, the ex-boyfriend questions his own sexuality and the younger sister naively asks questions that hit a nerve.

Mutt is the final film of our 2023 festival and will be followed by a short closing ceremony. Join us to celebrate another year of the Scottish Queer International Film Festival.

Curated by Nat Lall.



SQIFF x Bonjour Party

Bonjour, 10pm-3am, 18+

This year SQIFF x Bonjour party features a full BIPOC line-up of artists!

After an incredible week of trans and queer events, come celebrate with us at this amazing partnership party with Bonjour, a local club, events, and community space that prioritises underrepresented groups in the LGBTQ+ community: People of Colour, Trans and Non-binary people, Sex Workers, Queer people with disabilities and Queer women.

Check out the full line-up closer to the event at the SQIFF and Bonjour's social media x

Curated by Bonjour.

SQIFF 2023 Funders and Partners

Film Hub Scotland

Screen Scotland

National Lottery

CCA

Bonjour

LGBT Unity

LGBT Youth Scotland

Unseen Unheard

Kendal Mountain Festival

Take Once Action!

Scottish Trans

Queer East

The Field Shelter

Queer Youth Arts Collective

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