

Scottish Queer International Film Festival 2025

27 October-1 November

sqiff.org



SQIFF is back and celebrating its 10th edition! Looking back on a decade of sharing queer stories, and the huge privilege of collaborating with LGBTQIA+ communities of so many backgrounds, we've shaped SQIFF 2025 with a deepened commitment to our core values of community, accessibility, and diversity.

We've continued our year-round work championing and supporting queer filmmakers in Scotland and beyond with our Queer Filmmakers Group, SQIFF Directory, and Filmmaking Workshops for Trans and Non-Binary people and QTPOC+. This year, we are buzzing to present SQIFF 2025 Festival across venues in Glasgow's Merchant City, including GMAC, Listen Gallery, The Boardwalk and The Social Hub, with our closing party at The Art School.

This year's Opening Night Scottish Shorts once again spotlights bold and brilliant work from local queer filmmakers. We're excited to bring back our Best Scottish Short Award and introduce Director's Cut, our brand-new, limited-edition beer brewed in collaboration with Closet Brewing.

We've also welcomed new programming voices into the team and they've helped shape a powerful, moving, and delightfully strange selection of films. This year's festival features 24 curated events, over 90 short films, four features and a Halloween horror event, plus talks, panels, performances, and more. Our screening collaborators this year include Queer East, Oska Bright Film Festival, Take One Action Film Festivals and for the first time, Mostra Queer Brasil joins us to spotlight queer imagination across Brazil.

In 2025, we're proud to present a brand-new industry event in partnership with Trans on Screen – a speed-dating-style networking space for trans and queer filmmakers to meet peers, collaborators, and creatives from across the industry.

Outside the screening rooms, SQIFF continues to offer a range of activities for community, creativity, and connection. Come along to our queer craft fair, meet local artists, and hang out at our filmmaker social. You can also stop by Listen Gallery, which will host The River and The Glen, Camp Trans Scotland: The Exhibition, an exhibition and screening exploring the first Camp Trans gathering in the Highlands.

As always, we invite folks to chill, chat and connect during the week, with informal social spaces and time to unwind. For our Closing Night, we've teamed up with scandal.gla and WSHWSH for a celebration of Glasgow's QTPOC+ brilliance with a euphoric party showcasing the joy, power, and excellence of Glasgow's most vital queer inclusive POC collectives. See you all very soon!

Indigo Korres, *Director*

SQIFF 2025 TEAM

Director

Indigo Korres

Producer

Ali Wilson

Curators

Nat Lall & Huss

Access & Engagement Coordinators

Kiana Kalantar-Hormozi and Charlie Little, Matchbox Cinesub

Technical Coordinator

Ania Urbanowska

Technician

Joe Lilley

Volunteer Coordinator

Emmanuella Dampthey

PR & Marketing Coordinator

Rabindranath Bhose

PR Consultant

Lily Stones, The Sugar Factory PR

Social Media Officer

Lyall Tighe

Filmmakers Social Facilitator

Erica Monde

Branding Consultant

Yi Wang

Designer

Susie Francis

Artwork

Anastacia MacDonald

Festival Trailer

Leon Hamilton and Indigo Korres, with models and inspiration from the Queer Families project

Photography

Ocean Teal and Tiu Makkonen

Descriptive Subtitles

Matchbox Cinesub

Audio Description

Robin Bray-Hurren

With thanks to our amazing team of access support workers!

VENUES

GMAC

103 Trongate, Glasgow G1 5HD

www.gmacfilm.com

0141 553 5400



If you need any more information about GMAC, please feel welcome to get in touch. You can call GMAC on **0141 553 5400**, or the SQIFF team by emailing info@sqiff.org.

Listen Gallery

Ground Floor, 60 York St,
Glasgow G2 8JX

www.listengallery.co.uk

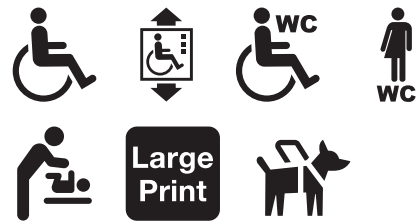


If you need any more information about Listen Gallery please feel welcome to get in touch with the SQIFF team by emailing info@sqiff.org.

The Art School

20 Scott St, Glasgow G3 6PE

0141 353 4533



If you need any more information about The Art School, please feel welcome to get in touch. You can call The Art School on **0141 353 4533**, or the SQIFF team by emailing info@sqiff.org.

The Boardwalk

105 Brunswick St, Glasgow G1 1TF

www.theboardwalkglasgow.co.uk

0141 575 3001



If you need any more information about Boardwalk please feel welcome to get in touch. You can call Boardwalk on **0141 575 3001**, or the SQIFF team by emailing info@sqiff.org.

VENUES

The Social Hub

15 Candleriggs, Glasgow G1 1TQ

www.thesocialhub.co/glasgow

0141 536 0788



If you need any more information about The Social Hub, please feel welcome to get in touch. You can call The Social Hub on **0141 536 0788**, or the SQIFF team by emailing **info@sqiff.org**.



Donate to SQLFF

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. Please arrive 15 minutes before the advertised start time. After that, we may release tickets to walk-ins.

Tickets for most events are on a sliding scale of FREE, £4, £8, £12, £16, £20. 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 our venues for the event happening at that time.

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 cancel your reservation to allow others on the waitlist the opportunity to participate.

SQIFF is a charity 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**. If you feel like celebrating our 10th birthday, why not send us a tenner for our birthday? For monthly continuous support, you can sign up to one of our paid Patreon tiers: **patreon.com/SQIFF**.

SQIFF SLIDING SCALE TICKETS: WHAT SHOULD I PAY?

In order to make SQIFF more accessible to those on a low income, we use a sliding scale ticket price for our events. You can choose what you pay based on your circumstances – you won't be asked for any proof/ID. We just ask that you are honest!

FREE or £4

- ✓ I frequently stress about meeting basic* needs and don't always achieve them.
- ✓ I have debt and it sometimes prohibits me from meeting my basic needs.
- ✓ I rent lower-end properties or have unstable housing.
- ✓ I sometimes can't afford public or private transport. If I own a car/have access to a car, I am not always able to afford petrol.
- ✓ I am unemployed or underemployed.
- ✓ I qualify for government and/or voluntary assistance, for example, food banks and benefits.
- ✓ I have no access to savings.
- ✓ I have no or very limited expendable** income.
- ✓ I rarely buy new items because I am unable to afford them.
- ✓ I can't afford a holiday or don't have the ability to take time off without financial burden.

£8 or £12

- ✓ I may stress about meeting my basic needs but still regularly achieve them.
- ✓ I may have some debt but it does not prohibit attainment of basic needs.
- ✓ I can afford public transport and often private transport. If I have a car/access to a car I can afford petrol.
- ✓ I am employed.
- ✓ I might have access to financial savings.
- ✓ I have some expendable income.
- ✓ I am able to buy some new items and I buy others second-hand.
- ✓ I can take a holiday annually or every few years without financial burden.

£16 or £20

- ✓ I am comfortably able to meet all of my basic needs.
- ✓ I may have some debt but it doesn't prohibit attainment of basic needs.
- ✓ I own my home or property or I rent a higher-end property.
- ✓ I can afford public and private transport. If I have a car/access to a car I can afford petrol.
- ✓ I have access to financial savings.
- ✓ I have an expendable** income.
- ✓ I can always buy new items.
- ✓ I can afford an annual holiday or take time off.

**BASIC NEEDS include food, housing, clothing, and transportation.*

***EXPENDABLE INCOME might mean you are able to buy coffee or tea at a shop, go to the cinema or a concert, buy new clothes, books and similar items each month, etc.*

ACCESSIBILITY



All of the venues for SQIFF 2025 (GMAC, Listen Gallery, The Art School, The Boardwalk, The Social Hub) 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.



All films have English language descriptive subtitles.



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



All our events will have live captioning.



Induction loops are available at The Social Hub, Boardwalk, Listen Gallery.



We have audio description available for some of our film programme. Headsets can be collected from the entrance of the 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 all venues.

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 Quiet Room and Access Table or please ask a member of staff.

There will be a supply of FFP2 masks available throughout the venues we are using for anyone who needs one.

There is a designated Quiet Room at the Art School, GMAC, The Boardwalk, and The Social Hub 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. Seating can be reserved on request, please email us at **info@sqiff.org** for this.

Films not certified by the British Board of Film Classification (BBFC) are marked N/C and accompanied by an age recommendation, e.g. N/C 15+ (suitable for ages 15 and over - no-one under 15 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 throughout the brochure and will be presented 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 that can support any audience member with costs within Scotland to be able to attend our events (ie. travel or childcare costs). 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 venues.

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. You can contact them by emailing **info@sqiff.org**.

A large print version of this brochure is available at the venues at our Access Table.

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 us by phone, please call our team at **+44 7873 331036**.

Exhibition

The River and The Glen, Camp Trans Scotland: The Exhibition

Listen Gallery, Monday 27th - Friday 31th: 2-7pm, United Kingdom, N/C 18+, English audio

Cradled by the mountains, refreshed by the clear river, walk into the deep magic of Camp Trans Scotland. This exhibition holds its viewers in a moment of peace, pausing the chaos outside. It leads the audience into a time and space built on and by nature, community care and trans ancestry.

Photographs from 2024 and 2025 take the viewer into a world still vibrating within the camp trans folks. It invites the viewer under its green shield, to breathe the golden air, heal, and restore the strength we need to face the relentless attacks on trans people.

Stones, and other objects from the Camp will be in the space, available to touch, smell, creating a palpable, alive, archive. The stones will be returned to the glen, taking with them those who touched them.

The film made at the first camp, *The River and The Glen*, will play every hour.

Curated by Jules Lacave-Fontourcy.



This exhibition features the film:

The River and The Glen, Dir. Jules Lacave-Fontourcy, 2025

United Kingdom, 30 min

The first Scottish Camp Trans happened in September 2024, near Aberfeldy. Cradled by the mountains, far away from cis-society for a weekend, we existed on our own terms. Far from being a commodified retreat, Camp Trans was a coming together of trans people to rest and restore our strength.

Content notes: Depiction of one image of naked people (chest up) & seen from behind from feet up to head. Discussions of ableism, alcohol use, current trans panic, drug use, racism, transphobia.

Monday 27 October

Swipe Right on Your Next Film Collab

The Social Hub Theatre, Time: 5pm (120m), all ages

Join SQIFF and Trans on Screen for an exciting speed-filmmaking event exclusively for queer and trans filmmakers. Designed in a fast-paced “speed dating” format, this session connects queer and trans directors, producers and HODs looking to spark new collaborations and bring fresh stories to life. Whether you’re an emerging filmmaker or already working in the industry, this is a unique opportunity to meet potential creative partners, share ideas, and build community in a focused, time-efficient setting.

Each short round of conversation allows participants to introduce their work, explore shared interests, and discover new possibilities for partnership. Expect a warm, welcoming space centred on creative exchange and mutual support, where trans voices lead the conversation.

Bring your project ideas, passion, and curiosity! This is your chance to connect with the next wave of queer and trans filmmaking talent and maybe even meet your next collaborator.

Curated by Trans on Screen.



Monday 27 October

SQIFF 2025 Opening Night Scottish Shorts

The Social Hub Theatre, 8pm (75m), Various Directors, N/C 15+, English audio,
(shown again on Tuesday 28th October) The Boardwalk Black Room, 3:30pm

We are once again back with an opening event celebrating Scottish queer cinema! This screening exclusively contains short films by artists based in Scotland. The selected short films highlight the diversity of LGBTQIA+ films being made right here in Scotland. Before we spend the week enjoying cinematic treats from across the globe, let's take a moment to appreciate the talented and close-knit queer community we are so grateful to have right here. Expect bright colours, lovely creatures, big laughs and plenty of fun informal chat in our post-screening Q&A with the filmmakers.

All filmmakers in this screening and 'Scottish Shorts 2' are automatically entered into a competition to win the title of Best Scottish Short. The winner will be announced at the closing screening of SQIFF 2025.

Curated by Nat Lall and Huss.



Films in this programme include:

This Werewolf Complex

Dir. Heather E Andrews, 2024, United Kingdom, 15 min

A moving image portrait exploring brain auras through personal voices, examining seizure warnings, social stigma, and their positive impact on artistic expression.

TWISTED PAIR

Dir. Edward Gwyn Jones, 2023, United Kingdom, 13 min

Two characters engage in erotic, absurdist phone calls that invert power dynamics, sampling 1975-1985 queer cinema and pop culture.

Late Bloomers

Dir. Axel Gutapfel, 2024, United Kingdom, 6 min

Late Bloomers depicts a post-nature world where Glasgow's queer community creates reality through mimicking wilderness they've never known.

Three Act Structure

Dir. Iona Rose Wheeler, 2025, United Kingdom, 3 min

Iona recounts and imagines experiences discussing gender with doctors.

Content notes: Discussion of difficulties in accessing trans healthcare, medical conversations, transphobia.

TAPS

Dir. Louis O. Utieyin, 2025, United Kingdom, 7 min

When Max unknowingly summons a demon on Grindr, he must do whatever it takes to survive.

Content notes: *Discussion of drug use, sex.*

Access notes: *Flashing imagery.*

Taxonomy

Dir. Ren Leverentz, 2025, United Kingdom, 11 min

Using a combination of movement art and conversation, Taxonomy is a short documentary that explores the relationship between language and gender for trans and non-binary people.

Content notes: *Discussion of dysphoria, misgendering.*

The Figure in the Carpet

Dir. Fibi Cowley, 2024, United Kingdom, 7 min

Personal reflection on living with hallucinations, told through experimental puppetry and informed by the director's lived sensory experiences.

Well ... Actually

Dir. Zyra Evangelista, 2025, United Kingdom, 13 min

When xeir best friend pulls a prank that goes terribly wrong, an agoraphobic doomsday pepper becomes the world's last hope for survival... or so they think.

Content notes: *Depiction of misgendering, strong language use. Discussion of climate change, genocide, homelessness, intense fears and phobias.*

Tuesday 28 October

How We Loved, How We Broke

The Boardwalk Gold Room, 6pm (98m), Various Directors, N/C 18+, Arabic, English, French, Mandarin Chinese, Persian, Tagalog, Yue Chinese (Cantonese) audio

Love arrives in many forms, and heartbreak rarely leaves without a trace. *How We Loved, How We Broke* brings together six short films that explore intimacy, longing, separation, and survival. Each story reveals a different facet of queer connection, from fleeting encounters and deep ruptures to surreal escapes and quiet acts of care.

Spanning cities, languages, and emotional landscapes, this programme offers a tender and vivid reflection on the ways queer people love, lose, remember, and move forward. Whether anchored in reality or slipping into fantasy, these films speak to the complexity of queer relationships and the echoes they leave behind.

Following the screening, join us for a live performance by Glasgow-based multidisciplinary artists Simone Seales and Mele Broomes, sharing new music from Simone's upcoming poetry-music album 'Dearest' which is inspired by the warmth, nostalgia, and tension of queer first love.

Curated by Huss.



Films in this programme include:

Aliens In Beirut

Dir. Raghd Charabaty, 2025, Lebanon, 17 min

A Lebanese immigrant returns to Beirut for the first time in a decade, only to find love and horror by the sea, in the alleyways, and on the elusive rooftops of the city - right before the 2020 Beirut Port Explosion.

Content notes: *Depiction of cigarette use, destruction, explosion. Discussion of homophobia, war.*

At Least We Had This Moment

Dir. Joshua de Vera, 2025, Philippines, 20 min

In his quest to capture the aged architecture of Manila, film photographer Dino seeks the company of a local stranger, Vince. But as the city noises grew, their stories stood out.

Content notes: *Depiction of cigarette use.*

Earworm

Dir. Ilias Merabiha, 2025, France, Germany, 11 min

Tormented Gaspard battles a parasitic worm feeding on his grief after romance ends, undergoing cathartic metamorphosis through healing rituals.

EDEN (ندع غاب)

Dir. Rustin Zam-Zam Madadi, 2024, United States of America, 10 min

In the sun-soaked suburbs of Orange County, CA, Roya returns home seeking a fresh start, only to become entangled in a web of desire at an all-women's yoga studio with their trans masculine counterpart. As loyalties shift and old wounds resurface, the studio transforms into a battleground where love and hate collide.

Fortune Favours the Fantabulous

Dir. Emmanuel Li, 2023, United Kingdom, 25 min

Non-binary fortune teller Fei Liu's marsh tent becomes invaded by phantoms over three days, threatening their reality and future.

Purebred

Dir. Caleb J. Roberts, 2025, Ireland, United Kingdom, 15 min

During a heatwave in Belfast, transgender man Owen returns to the flat of his on-off-again lover Seán after taking a pregnancy test.

Content notes: *Depiction of non-explicit nudity, sex scenes, strong language use. Discussion of pregnancy.*

Tuesday 28 October

Rookie

The Boardwalk Black Room, 6.30pm (94m), Dir. Samantha Lee, N/C 15+, 2023, Philippines, English and Tagalog audio

Ace is a tall, awkward teenager who moves to an all-girls Catholic high school in the Philippines. The volleyball coach spots Ace on her first day, and invites her to try out for the team. She is initially not good at the sport and socially ostracised, but things begin to change when she falls for the highly motivated team captain, Jana, who dislikes her because she sees her as a threat. But the girls and their teammates must nonetheless join forces: not only to successfully compete in competitions, but also to face up against a more disturbing, insidious threat. Powered by authentic performances, Samantha Lee's heartfelt film captures the resilience of the young athlete as she struggles for acceptance, and the strength of female solidarity in a society rigged against women.

Content notes: *Depiction of sexual assault. Discussion of distressing themes.*

Curated by Queer East.



Tuesday 28 October

Scottish Shorts 2

The Boardwalk Theatre, 9pm (76m), Various Directors, N/C 18+, Chinese, English, Mandarin audio
(shown again on Saturday 1st November) The Social Hub Meeting Room 3, 3:30pm

Returning for another year at the festival, Scottish Shorts 2 is a bold and intimate programme of short films by queer filmmakers working across Scotland. This selection continues to explore the queer Scottish experience through stories shaped by displacement, desire, care, survival, and play.

These films move between personal documentary, narrative storytelling, and experimental textures. Some reflect on home and migration, others explore relationships, identity, and transformation. These films reveal queer lives in all their depth and nuance, telling stories with humour and heart.

At its core, this programme brings forward voices and perspectives too often absent from Scottish screens. It celebrates a growing queer cinema that is rooted, restless, and unapologetically present.

All filmmakers in this screening and in 'Scottish Shorts 1' are automatically entered into a competition to win the title of Best Scottish Short. The winner will be announced at the closing screening of SQIFF 2025.

Following the screening, we'll be joined by the filmmakers for a Q&A to reflect on their work, share insights, and open up space for conversation.

Curated by Nat Lall and Huss.



Films in this programme include:

A Journey Of The Leaves

Dir. Yash Zhang, 2024, United Kingdom, 11 min

When memories of his father's violence chase him from China, a queer filmmaker drifts into an autumn-touched Estonian town. There, a wandering traveler, a bookstore owner, a poet's living statue, and another queer Chinese soul carrying similar wounds guide him through the scattered pieces of his past.

Content notes: *Discussion of violence.*

Be Honest!

Dir. Alice Harper, 2025, United Kingdom, 11 min

With a chance to win £100,000 for their ailing child, a couple enter a game show where they must face the most brutal challenge of all — being honest.

Before You Leave

Dir. Louise Thomas, 2024, United Kingdom, 12 min

On the day before her move to Australia, Innes, a veterinarian in her mid-twenties, grapples with mounting uncertainty as she and her sister, Saoirse, navigate the streets of Edinburgh. On this journey, they deliver the last of her belongings to a coworker, an ex-boyfriend, and a childhood friend. Each encounter becomes a poignant reminder of what she's leaving behind.

Keith

Dir. Steven Fraser, 2024, United Kingdom, 8 min

A Glasgow filmmaker discovers a dead body behind bins and embarks on a phone-based investigation to identify the victim. Using animation techniques exploring social media, apps, and blogs, the film examines neurodiversity and autistic communication styles while building tension toward revealing the deceased person's name.

Content notes: *Depiction of animated nudity, drug use.*

Bowl

Dir. John Kelbie, 2025, United Kingdom, 10 min

Arthur is an elderly, quick-witted, gay man who has recently been diagnosed with arthritis. Upon finding out that his old foe and competitor Norma is playing in the upcoming lawn bowls charity match, Arthur seeks the chance to prove himself. He faces many challenges along the way as he bickers with Norma and comes to terms with his illness and the losses he has faced, but with a little help from Norma's granddaughter Jenn, he is able to confront his past and learn what is truly important to him.

Content notes: *Discussion of death, grief, illness, loss.*

Cahā

Dir. Chak Hin Leung, 2024, United Kingdom, 10 min

Intimate documentary capturing two immigrants—Indian and Bruneian—meeting in a London teahouse. Over tea (“cahā”), their casual conversation reveals profound stories of sacrifice, identity, and adaptation. The film explores immigrant experiences and colonial tea legacy, showing how this simple ritual creates unexpected connection and understanding across borders.

Content notes: *Discussion of colonialism, transphobia.*

Changing Homes

Dir. Mano Mandal, 2025, United Kingdom, 6 min

An Indian nonbinary transmasculine person goes to a European beach for the first time since their top surgery. As they sit and read about a historical trans person, they navigate the idea of being shirtless in public for the very first time. While doing so, they reflect on Eurocentric body standards and on their sense of home -- in their own body and amidst bodies of water.

First Contact

Dir. James Crang, 2025, United Kingdom, 8 min

In isolation on the moon, a gardener tends to his small patch of life. When another person appears, he is forced to confront his fears of connection. Will he nurture a bond that could bring light to his lonely existence, or will his anxiety keep him in darkness?

Wednesday 29 October

NO PRIDE IN GENOCIDE

The Boardwalk Gold Room, 3.30pm (74m), Various Directors, N/C 18+, Arabic and English audio

"I've always imagined you and me sitting out in the sun, hand in hand, free at last. We spoke of all the places we would go if we could. Yet you are gone now. If I had known the bombs falling around us would take you from me, I would have told the world how I adored you more than anything.

I'm sorry I was a coward."

- Words of a queer Palestinian, submitted to Queering the Map

NO PRIDE IN GENOCIDE confronts a brutal truth. While queer lives are celebrated and marketed in some parts of the world, elsewhere they are being bombed, silenced, and erased.

As Palestine is reduced to rubble and its people fight for survival, this programme stands in unwavering solidarity. It amplifies queer voices that refuse to be erased by genocide, pinkwashing, or complicity.

Featuring urgent works from Palestine, the diaspora, and Lebanon, this programme gathers stories of queer love, loss, resistance, and survival. Each film defies erasure, insisting on presence over silence. These works reject the idea that queerness can be separated from the violence, displacement, and repression that shapes the lives of those it affects. Some of these stories emerge from exile, tracing the long shadows of conflict and the quiet resilience of those still carrying memory across oceans.

Rooted in the Palestinian struggle, NO PRIDE IN GENOCIDE also reflects broader realities of queer Arab life under occupation, exile, and authoritarian rule. Across borders and identities, these films speak to the endurance of those living under systems of state violence and to the radical imagination it takes to survive them.

In a time when visibility is weaponised, we refuse silence. There is no queer liberation without the liberation of Palestine. There is no pride in genocide. Liberation for Palestine is liberation for us all.

Following the screening, there will be a discussion with No Pride in Genocide Glasgow and Solidarity Screenings Glasgow, inviting audiences to engage with these urgent issues and reflect on the power of solidarity.

Curated by Huss.



Films in this programme include:

Blood Like Water

Dir. Dima Hamdan, 2023, Palestine, 13 min

When a Palestinian man is blackmailed with footage of him having sex with another man, he and his

family are forced to make a terrible decision: collaborate with the Israeli occupation or be publicly shamed. Based on true stories.

Content notes: *Depiction of homophobia, physical assault, strong language. Discussion of harassment, illegal Israeli occupation, murder.*

I Never Promised You a Jasmine Garden

Dir. Teyama Alkamli, 2023, Canada, 20 min

Tara, a queer Arab woman in her late 20s, attempts to suppress her internal emotional turbulence during a phone call with her best friend Sarab, with whom she is in love.

Content notes: *Depiction of cigarette use.*

Cinema Fouad

Dir. Mohamed Soueid, 1993, Lebanon, 41 min

Documentary portrait of Oscar Al-Halabiye, a Syrian trans woman in Beirut working as domestic worker and belly dancer. Through intimate scenes of daily life, she reflects on gender reassignment desires, mourning her Palestinian lover's death, and facing societal aggressions that echo even in the filmmaker's provocative interview style.

Content notes: *Discussion of transphobia, violence.*

Wednesday 29 October

A Nova Era

The Boardwalk Theatre, 6pm (72m), Various Directors, N/C 18+, Portuguese audio

Curated in collaboration with Mostra Queer Brasil, this vibrant programme of short films offers a window into queer life and imagination across Brazil. From poetic documentary to sci-fi, magical realism to tender coming-of-age, the selection celebrates how fluidity, resistance, and reinvention shape queer identities and experiences in Brazilian contexts.

These stories reflect a country where transformation is constant and identity is expansive. Whether through ancient landscapes, futuristic visions, or intimate connections, the films explore how queer Brazilians carve out space to live, feel, and dream on their own terms.

The screening includes a surprise short, winner of Best Brazilian Short Film from Mostra Luminosa in Bahia, and will be followed by a conversation on Brazilian queer cinema between filmmaker and Mostra Queer Brasil founder Ricky Mastro and Amazônia EcoQueer curator Danilo Baraúna.

Curated by Indigo Korres and Ricky Mastro.



Films in this programme include:

How a river is born

Dir. Luma Flôres, 2025, Brazil, 9 min

Ayla wakes up in a mountainous landscape, surrounded only by vegetation and a river. Driven by curiosity and a desire to get to know the place, she goes on a journey of discovery and diving. As she discovers where she is, she also discovers herself.

Content notes: *Depiction of animated nudity.*

Telepathic Encounters

Dir. Henfil, 2025, Brazil, 5 min

A love at first sight between two young girls unveils an unexpected telepathic community amid a silent library.

If I'm Here It Is By Mystery

Dir. Clari Ribeiro, 2024, Brazil, 22 min

New Rio, 2054. Renowned witch Dahlia arrives at the port with a mission: to found the most powerful Clan that has ever existed and thus defeat the Order of Truth. In the future, many people are trans — but only a few are witches.

Content notes: *Depiction of blood, death, knife.*

Vollúpya

Dirs. Éri Sarmet, Jocimar Dias Jr., 2024, Brazil, 21 min

In a post-apocalyptic future, an intergalactic explorer lands at an abandoned museum on a quest to find traces of his long-lost ancestors, and ends up being teleported to the dance floor of a Brazilian queer nightclub in the 1990s.

Content notes: *Depiction of alcohol use, cigarette use, sensual dancing, sexual language use.*

Access notes: *Flashing imagery, flashing lights.*

Kings

Dir. Juliana Pamplona, 2024, Brazil, 15 min

A poetic documentary on a diverse group, identified with the dyke-queer culture, that spends a day experimenting as drag kings at a bar in the borough of Santa Teresa, Rio de Janeiro.

Content notes: *Depiction of alcohol use.*

Wednesday 29 October

For Real?

The Boardwalk Gold Room, 6.30pm (81m), Various Directors, N/C 18+, English, Mandarin Chinese, Spanish, Yue Chinese (Cantonese), Japanese audio

Did that really happen? What kind of world are we living in? 'For Real' explores sci-fi worlds, dark fantasies, technological possibilities and shocking but real science and history. Expect alienesque costumes, body scanners, crocodile chromosomes and lesbian telepathy.

This screening will be followed by a performance from Carle Gent and Linda Stupart exploring the world of Ecco the Dolphin.

Curated by Nat Lall.



Films in this programme include:

Skinless

Dirs. Estibaliz Villa, Erik Campos, 2024, Spain, 11 min

After an environmental catastrophe, the only survivors left live sheltered wearing the biodermis, a suit they can survive with but doesn't allow them to feel touch. After years of lockdown, Nora and Dani go outside.

Content notes: *Depiction of nudity. Discussion of loss.*

Just above the tear duct on each side

Dirs. Cáit McClay, Éiméar McClay, 2024, United Kingdom, Ireland, 20 min

Using St. Conal's Hospital archives, this film examines Ireland's 1950s psychiatric institutions and their carceral, therapeutic, and socioeconomic influences.

Content notes: *Discussion of death, hospitalisation, mental health.*

Access notes: *Flashing imagery.*

The Xenogender

Dir. Masataka Ishizaki, 2025, United Kingdom, United States of America, 15 min

Japanese immigrant Kenzo in New York confesses his crocodile identity to date Jack, but becomes more absorbed in videos afterward.

Content notes: *Depiction of racism.*

The Martial Forest

Dir. J Triangular, 2025, Colombia, Taiwan, 9 min

Exiled Kung Fu master Big Sister 13 leads trans fighters in creating the Martial Forest, where care equals combat power.

Content notes: *Discussion of death.*

The Generators

Dir. Georgie Cowan-Turner, 2024, Ireland, 14 min

In a future drained of colour, Oscar and his ailing husband struggle with a medical system where energy credits are the new currency. When a hospital visit reveals a zero credit balance, Oscar must join the human generators and physically power Alex's treatment himself. But as his energy fades, so does the possibility of a future together.

Content notes: *Depiction of hospitalisation.*

Access notes: *Flashing lights.*

Hide and Seek

Dir. Junjie Xu, 2024, United Kingdom, 6 min

Hide and Seek is a 3D animated short film that takes viewers on a bittersweet journey. It presents a story of a person hiding their queer identity from their parents at different stages of life. The film highlights the struggles faced by the queer community as they grow up and explores the fantasy of queer spaces with queer phenomenology.

Access notes: *Flashing lights.*

Clear

Dir. Hogan Seidel, 2024, United States of America, 6 min

Clear is a visceral confrontation with the illusion of "safety," where altered 16mm footage and layered audio reveal the quiet violence surveillance imposes on trans and gender-nonconforming bodies.

Content notes: *Discussion of bodily surveillance.*

Access notes: *Light strobing images.*

Wednesday 29 October

Squad Goals

Boardwalk Theatre, 9pm (79m), Various Directors, N/C 18+, English and Portuguese audio

There's strength in numbers, packs, families, squads or whatever you call them. Squad Goals celebrates chosen families with a vibrant sense of identity and culture. The screening consists of three films documenting some very different squads. These are trans footballers, Brazilian beach vendors and leather gays.

The screening will be followed by an informal Q&A with local trans football team Gender Goals and Glasgow Leather Dykes.

Curated by Nat Lall.



Films in this programme include:

We'll Go Down In History

Dirs. Cameron Richards, Charlie Tidmas, 2025, United Kingdom, 25 min

We'll Go Down In History tells the story of TRUK United, a grassroots, proudly trans football club. Filmed over two years, it captures the team's highs and lows on and off the pitch as they create a safe haven for their community in the face of rising transphobia.

Content notes: Discussion of death, transphobia, violence.

Three Vendors of Ipanema

Dir. Jonathan S. Lee, 2024, United States of America, 25 min

Three street vendors from Rio's favelas sell homemade food on Ipanema Beach, embodying dignity and beloved by LGBTQ+ community.

Content notes: Depiction of alcohol use.

The Backstreet

Dir. Romain Beck, 2024, United Kingdom, 29 min

London's legendary leather club *The Backstreet* faces closure after 37 years. Regulars share intimate memories while curators preserve relics of this secret haven's legacy.

Content notes: Depiction of sex. Discussion of death, HIV stigma, homophobia, sex, sexual fantasy.

Thursday 30 October

Legacies

GMAC Project Room, 3pm (119m), Various Directors, N/C 15+, English, Portuguese and Turkish audio

What shapes us? How do the stories of our families, the legacies we inherit, and the struggles of those before us live on in who we become? Legacies brings together films that gently unravel the complex and often tender realities of queer upbringings. These stories speak to the love, pain, hope, and resilience woven through generations, reminding us that identity is not just inherited, but felt deeply and continuously reshaped.

This programme is an invitation to connect with the intimate moments that define us, the memories that haunt us, and the courage it takes to claim our place in a world that often tries to erase us.

Curated by Nat Lall and Huss.



Films in this programme include:

Birthdays

Dir. Adrian Jalily, 2024, Denmark, 19 min

Second-grader Bruno faces social isolation for being different, forcing his Iranian father Marlon to confront his son's otherness and exclusion.

Access notes: *Flashing imagery.*

Oceania

Dir. Valentin Noujaïm, 2024, Lebanon, 24 min

Najib, 16, spends his summer on a video game, until his mother, Asma, discovers the death of their elderly and lonely neighbor. He steals the keys to the apartment, and dives into an unexpected world.

Content notes: *Discussion of death, HIV stigma.*

Access notes: *Flashing imagery, flashing lights.*

Burcu's Angels (Preview Screening)

Dir. Özgün Gündüz, 2025, Canada, 20 min

Turkish queer elder Burcu Özdemir's Vancouver vintage store has served as a sanctuary and "coming out center" for thirty years.

Content notes: *Discussion of racism.*

While We Still Have Time

Dir. Ava Grimshaw-Hall, 2024, Australia, 15 min

A daughter reconciles with her distant sperm-donor father as he manages an aggressive prostate cancer, with little indication of how much time there is left to find out who he really is.

Find The Boy

Dir. Pauline Goasmat, 2025, France, 18min

As Charly, a young trans man, is laid to rest under his birth name, Tom, Louise and BB, his queer pals, decide to pay their last respects in his own image in a place where they used to meet, Charly's childhood home. But Victor, his brother, had the same idea.

Content notes: *Depiction of alcohol use, cigarette use, dead naming, misgendering, queerphobia. Discussion of death, loss.*

Scattered Pictures

Dirs. Ibai Vigil-Escalera, Jose André Sibaja, 2025, United States of America, 8 min

Through the grainy nostalgia of 8mm film and the intimacy of voice-over narration, Gabriel takes us on a deeply personal journey of self-discovery.

Content notes: *Discussion of death, sex.*

Sole

Dir. Ana Berdeja, 2024, Mexico, 15 min

Veteran embalmer Sole faces a dilemma: honor a transgender man's wishes or his family's demands while hiding her own secret.

Content notes: *Depiction of a dead body.*

Thursday 30 October

Eachdraidh Na Tìre

GMAC Project Room, 6pm (60 mins) Various Directors, N/C 15+, British Sign Language (BSL), English, Scottish Gaelic audio

Eachdraidh Na Tìre is a screening of two short films by Scottish filmmakers that explore queer connections to place, memory, and belonging. Rooted in the landscapes of Scotland, the programme reflects on how the land holds traces of marginalised histories and how these can be reclaimed through queer storytelling.

The films offer personal and poetic reflections on identity and resilience, asking how we relate to the places we come from and the spaces we move through. They invite us to consider whose stories are remembered, whose are erased, and how queer people continue to shape and be shaped by Scotland's shifting cultural and physical environments.

The screening will open with a poetry performance by Esraa Husain, who will also lead a post-screening workshop exploring personal and collective connections to land through a queer lens.

Curated by Take One Action Film Festivals.



Films in this programme include:

Dissonance

Dir. Aderayo Adenekan, 2025, United Kingdom, 30 min

Experimental short following a young Black woman exploring her queerness after moving cities, battling internal conflict from homophobic upbringing. Split between wordless narrative and documentary epilogue, the film uses movement, sound, and symbolism to capture psychological dissonance between taught identity and authentic self-discovery.

Content notes: Discussion of homophobia, racism, transphobia.

Access notes: Flashing lights.

who will be remembered here

Dirs. Michael Sherrington, Lewis Hetherington, CJ Mahony, 2025, United Kingdom, 30 min

A cry against cultural erasure. Four queer people across Scotland's historic landscapes question the stories we tell and their impact on future generations. This intimate film archives marginalized identities, claiming space in history as a beacon for those who follow—a tender refusal to be forgotten.

Content notes: Discussion of death, war, queer and disabled erasure.

Thursday 30 October

Filmmakers' Social

GMAC Training Room, Time: 8:30-10:30pm, 18+

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.

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** and someone can meet you beforehand. BSL interpreters will be available at the event.

Hosted by Erica Monde.



Thursday 30 October

The Stage is a Body

GMAC Project Room, 9pm (78m), Various Directors, N/C 18+, Arabic, Burmese, English, Georgian, Portuguese audio

What happens when the body becomes the stage and performance becomes a form of survival, protest, or transformation?

The Stage is a Body is a programme of short films by and about queer performance artists exploring the body as site, subject, and storyteller. Through movement, gesture, ritual, and persona these works blur the lines between performance and life, between what is shown and what is felt.

From meditations on gender and identity to acts of resistance and self-reclamation, these films reflect the unique ways queer artists use performance to navigate visibility, memory, and desire on stage, on screen, and in the world.

Following the screening join us for a panel talk with House Ball Scotland who will reflect on the intersections of performance, queer identity, and community building within and beyond the ballroom scene.

Curated by Huss.



Films in this programme include:

ANDRO

Dir. Dominik Gasser, 2025, Germany, 27 min

ANDRO DADIANI's political performances dissect the oppression by state and church in Georgia and conquer Tbilisi's urban spaces. As a queer, non-binary protest and performance art figure, their identity remains a secret. The danger of open resistance is too great.

Content notes: *Depiction of blood and violence. Discussion of forced displacement, queerphobia, violence.*

Thunder Bird

Dir. Yadanar Oo, 2025, Myanmar, 16 min

65-year-old Mommy Soe leads Myanmar's pioneering Thunder Bird drag troupe, established 50 years ago. After surviving decades of social rejection, political upheaval, and recent civil war, she faces her greatest challenge: keeping the troupe alive after losing her life partner Abai, while navigating dangerous military checkpoints to perform.

Content notes: *Discussion of death, military action, queerphobia.*

Anxiety

Dir. David O Carrol, 2024, Ireland, 10 min

Anxiety is Ian's journey to becoming a drag artist.

Weaving through death, loss, and foster care, he brings us to his darkest moments, yet we end up in a room full of love.

Both a celebration of unwavering loyalty and creative self-expression, *Anxiety* moves between an intimate reflection on Ian's past and a contemporary portrait of his present.

Content notes: *Discussion of death, foster care system, loss.*

Access notes: *Flashing lights.*

Shame (بّي ع)

Dir. Hadi Moussally, 2024, Lebanon, 5 min

In the 19th century, in the Levant region, Salma Zahore, along with her parents and neighbors, participated in a photoshoot using a long exposure technique. At the end of it, Salma decided to take off her coat, revealing her body. Unaware of the chaos this gesture could cause within her circle, she did not know it could lead to shame (بّي ع).

Content notes: *Discussion of patriarchy, social norms.*

The Insect Graveyard

Dir. Alex Simões, 2023, Portugal, 20 min

Where were you when you realized the irreversibility of death? From mourning, Alex retrieves the environment of his childhood and transforms memory into a space of performance for overcoming.

Content notes: *Discussion of death, loss.*

Friday 31 October

Aunties

GMAC Project Room, 3pm (61m), Various Directors, N/C 15+, English, Hindi, Mandarin Chinese, Punjabi audio

Commonly used in many black and brown cultures, 'Aunties' is a term of respect for your elders. They may not be blood relatives, but they have lived lives longer than ours and gained invaluable wisdom and culture. The films in this screening honour these enlightened elders and demonstrate their care for younger generations. They also celebrate them as individuals going on their queer journeys. Expect non-nuclear families, aunties on tour and even a gay uncle.

After the screening, chai will be served by local aunties.

Curated by Nat Lall.



Films in this programme include:

Two Travelling Aunties

Dir. Christine Seow, 2025, Singapore, 22 min

Two spirited Singaporean seniors ditch conventional living for van life, embracing adventure, newfound freedom, and the joy of living on their terms.

Content notes: *Depiction of drug use. Discussion of family rejection.*

Warm Shadows

Dir. Aakash Chhabra, 2025, India, Singapore, 15 min

Priya, 50, makes her maiden trip to the sea. At dusk, she stands at the shore and overlooks the vast horizon. In a distant part of the world, Raag, 20s, is in a taxi which passes through a metropolitan. A fragmented voice-over unfolds the tender relationship the two share.

Toad Song

Dir. Qin Qin, 2025, China, 15 min

Eight-year-old Xu Letian is called to bring his parents to school after getting into a fight and bringing tadpoles. Xu Letian must find a new home for the tadpoles, and on his journey, he stumbles upon a secret that sets his family apart from others.

Handwoven

Dirs. Dasha Levin, Mason Cazalet, Mihika Das, Matthew Wisdom, 2024, India, Ireland, United States of America, 9 min

A lyrical portrait of Nikyle Begay, a non-binary shepherd and weaver; working to preserve their way of life through the traditional art of weaving.

Content notes: *Discussion of queerphobia.*

Friday 31 October

We Are Here

GMAC Project Room, 6pm (58m), Dirs. Zhao Jing, Shi Tou, N/C 15+, 2015, China, Chinese and English audio

This documentary from LGBT activists Zhao Jing and Shi Tou revisits the 1995 United Nations Fourth World Conference on Women, which was hosted in Beijing. The conference was attended by 300 lesbian women from around the world, whose organisers sought to facilitate queer participation, visibility, and recognition in the context of broader discussions around women's rights. The first-ever lesbian tent at a UN NGO forum was created, where ideas were shared, connections were made, and identities were affirmed; the gathering helped spearhead the birth of the queer lala movement in China. Featuring footage of the event, and interview commentary from those who participated, *We Are Here* testifies to the importance of global queer interactions in shaping the ongoing struggle for equality.

Content notes: *Discussion of homophobia, incarceration.*

Curated by Queer East.



Friday 31 October

Halloween Night: The Serpent's Skin

The Social Hub Theatre, 9pm (98m), Various Directors, N/C 18+, English, Spanish audio

Join us for a ghoulishly good night of queer horror at SQIFF's Halloween screening! This chilling double bill sinks its teeth into the monstrous and the sensual, the grotesque and the beautiful.

First up is *¡Beso de lengua!* by José Luiz Zorrero, a surreal and seductive descent into a world where desire takes monstrous form. Then, *The Serpent's Skin* by Alice Maio Mackay slithers into darker territory, weaving a tale of trans identity, vengeance, and the supernatural, with all the blood-soaked camp you'd expect from a Mackay horror.

Both films push the boundaries of body, gender, and genre, creating a perfect night of queer frights and delights. The fabulous Jaye Hudson from TGirlsOnFilm will introduce the films and host a Best Halloween Costume Competition! Come dressed to impress for a chance to win a pint of SQIFF and Closet Brewing's *Director's Cut*. Let's celebrate Halloween the queerest way we know how!

Curated by Indigo Korres.



Films included:

¡Beso de lengua!

Dir. José Luis Zorrero, 2024, Mexico, 15 min

Itzcóatl and Moisés are on their first date. After a couple of hours of getting to know each other, they both “play” a very unusual and riveting game that strengthens their romantic chemistry.

Content notes: *Depiction of blood, hospitalisation, wounds.*

The Serpent's Skin

Dir. Alice Maio Mackay, 2025, Australia, 83 min

Two young women form a romantic bond after discovering they have supernatural powers. Their insecurities unknowingly release a demon, which possesses one of their exes and begins feeding on their friends. As the bodies pile up, it becomes up to the women to face their pasts and stop the growing evil.

Content notes: *Depiction of alcohol use, blood, cigarette use, death, drug use, gore, self-harm, sex.*

Access notes: *Flashing imagery, flashing lights.*

Saturday 1 November

Queer Freedom

The Social Hub Theatre, 10am (54 min), Various Directors, N/C 15+, English audio

Oska Brights very own Head Programmer, Matthew Hellett is back at SQIFF with a fearless, unapologetic celebration of Learning Disabled and autistic filmmakers stories, who are reshaping cinema with their unique voices, powerful stories, and visionary perspectives. He presents a specially curated programme of some of his highlights from over the years at Oska Bright Film Festival. After the screening, stay tuned for a special conversation hosted by Stella Nicholson with Matthew Hellett.

Curated by Matthew Hellett.



Films in this programme include:

Just Me

Dir. Mattie Kennedy, 2014, United Kingdom, 3 min

A short film/biography on the director in which they explore gender identity, disability and other themes through their own narrative.

Content notes: *Discussion of ableism.*

Izzy Aman: The Joy of Drag

Dir. Isabella Walton, 2023, United Kingdom, 13 min

This film explores the rich expressive world of drag kinging through the experience of one individual: Isabel Adomakoh Young, known as Izzy Aman in the drag world.

Content notes: *Discussion of patriarchy, racism, toxic masculinity.*

Coming out Autistic

Dir. Steven Fraser, 2023, United Kingdom, 4 min

Coming out Autistic is a short animated documentary that explores the experience of telling the world that you are autistic when you also identify as LGBTQ+.

S.A.M.

Dirs. Neil Ely, Lloyd Eyre-Morgan, 2020, United Kingdom, 16 min

S.A.M. is a short drama film in which two teenagers bond after meeting in a park after school.

Content notes: *Depiction of ableism.*

Sparkle

Dir. Matthew Hellett, 2008, United Kingdom, 3 min

Sparkle, made by Matthew Hellett, charts his transformation into a glamorous alternative persona, the drag queen Mrs. Sparkle.

(Un)fit to Work

Dir. Yasmin Godo, 2023, United Kingdom, 5 min

A disabled mechanic takes us on a musical journey of 80s disco & ballroom through his imagination after he's denied access to apply for the job he's best suited for at his local job center.

Content notes: Depiction of ableism.

Born to Dance with an Extra Chromosome: the Drag Queens (and Kings) with Down's Syndrome

Dir. Nikolay Nikolov, 2020, United Kingdom, 10 min

Born to dance with an extra chromosome: the drag queens (and kings) with Down syndrome. This short film follows Drag Syndrome during a performance at the Ace Hotel in East London.

Saturday 1 November

Craft Fair

The Social Hub Foyer, 12pm-5pm, all ages

We are proud to announce SQIFF's Craft Fair is coming back! The fair hosts local queer artists selling their works. Expect a range of media, all in one room. Come and meet some of the best local creatives and treat yourself to a crafty souvenir from our 2025 festival!

Curated by Nat Lall and Huss.

Artists in the fair include:

Greenbananas_420

Hank is a queer mixed media textile artist and tooth gem technician from Glasgow. Using mainly crochet and embroidery inspired by memories, memes and nature.

PJ Harper

PJ Harper (he/him) is a Glasgow-based artist and sculptor whose practice explores beauty, mythology, and storytelling through figurative polymer clay sculpture and illustration. His work celebrates Blackness, queerness, and personal heritage, blending fine art with playful, character-driven creations.

Croissant Cat Studio

Mith Chahal (they/them) is an illustrator and polymer clay artist based in Glasgow. They make prints and stickers of their illustration work and handmade bakery-themed collectibles.

Nina

Nina is a Scottish/Brazilian artist based in Glasgow. Inspired by folklore, mythology, film, and childhood memories she creates playful and wearable sculptures that explore identity and our relationship to the world. By combining traditional metalworking techniques with experimental methods her work uses jewellery as a tool to share stories, decorate bodies and empower the wearer.

Sunday

Sunday is a trans Masc artist born and bred in Glasgow. He works with different clay bodies shifting them into organic-rugged shapes that encapsulate different elements of nature deteriorating. You will find his recent and upcoming works resembling his deepest admirations such as rock formations, mould, mud, moss and rust.

Art of Birdie Studio

Art of Birdie Studio is a queer, PoC-led visual arts studio based in Scotland, crafting change through intersectional feminist and decolonial design. From witty illustrated stickers to bold activist artwork, we celebrate authenticity, joy, and justice through accessible creative expression.

Medb

Born in Canada under the sign of Taurus, and raised in post-conflict Northern Ireland, medb is a multi-disciplinary artist, beauty and socialite taking Glasgow by storm. With a mix of esoteric wit and heart-wrenching earnestness, her work concerns such novelties as sex, death, nostalgia, celebrity, and, ultimately, the ache inside which can never be filled! Her self-published project Thumb Suck Girl is an annual photobook of fashion photography, art and creative writing, that aims to platform voices from underrepresented backgrounds in traditional media.

Wild Hopes Studio

Abby (she/they) is a queer freelance florist working as wild Hopes floral studio. They create affordable, sustainable floral arrangements for every occasion, working across Glasgow and beyond. Abby will be offering handmade dried flower creations at the craft fair, which are wild and whimsical - and will last for years to come!

Saturday 1 November

Re:Frame

The Social Hub Meeting Room 3, 12.30pm (58 min) Various Directors, N/C 18+, English and Portuguese audio

This special screening showcases bold and original short films created by participants of the SQIFF Filmmaking Workshops for Trans and Non-Binary People, led by artist and filmmaker Erica Monde. Delivered in collaboration with Scottish Trans, the workshops offered a series of collaborative sessions where participants explored storytelling, visual language, and filmmaking techniques in a supportive, trans-led space. The result is a powerful collection of short works that reflect the diversity, complexity, and creativity of trans and non-binary lives and perspectives. From personal reflection to experimental narrative, these films challenge the mainstream gaze and reclaim the frame through authentic self-expression. Whether playful, political, poetic, or all of the above, each piece is a testament to the value of community-centred filmmaking and the importance of trans voices in cinema. Join us in celebrating these emerging filmmakers and the stories they've chosen to share with the world. There will be a Q&A with the filmmakers following the screening.

Hosted by Erica Monde.



Films in this programme include:

Pretty Sick

Dirs. Zed Von Benzon, Aster Emschild, 2025, United Kingdom, 10 min

Glasgow-based disability advocate and artist Sara, who masked before COVID, creates bold glittering mask jewelry, transforming survival symbols into defiance and hope. This intimate documentary explores ongoing pandemic impacts on those still masking, weaving together disability, activism, and fashion while advocating for visibility and inclusion.

Content notes: *Discussion of Covid-19 pandemic.*

Modernism/Us

Dir. Morgan Black, 2025, United Kingdom, 14 min

Two lovers - Isla and Tris - find themselves emotionally, verbally and physically dancing around the consummation of their mutual affections. Driven by music, they discuss and express their feelings for each other in a series of vignettes, leading towards an emotional and ultimately fulfilling climax.

Content notes: *Depiction of nudity.*

Thresh/olding

Dir. Deviji Jaani-Jaan, 2025, United Kingdom, 5 min

Thresh/olding is an experimental film dreaming the QTIPoC body through poetry, movement, selkies and mangroves roots as radical, fecund sites of queer and trans resilience and resistance.

WORM

Dirs. Lish Adam, Jules Brick, Jo Hauge, Cal Mowatt, 2025, United Kingdom, 13 min

I want to share a body with you and also with a worm. Worms can feel with their whole bodies.

Content notes: *Depiction of sensual language.*

Bianca

Dir. Priscila Fróes, 2025, United Kingdom, 8 min

A trans woman blends documentary footage of her past as a sex worker in Porto Alegre and Rio de Janeiro with experimental visuals and a hybrid soundscape to transform marginalised memories into a powerful act of cinematic reclamation.

Content notes: *Depiction of sex work, stalking.*

Access notes: *Distorted imagery.*

Lock In

Dir. Louis Utieyin, 2025, United Kingdom, 8 min

JJ decides to try out a new spiritual retreat because they are struggling with their mental health. 24 hours later they are in an interrogation room and try to make sense of what happened at the retreat. Reality and imagination begin to blur. What is real and what is fake?

Content notes: *Discussion of mental health, murder.*

Saturday 1 November

Animation Now

The Social Hub Theatre, 1pm (76m), Various Directors, N/C 18+, English, Mandarin Chinese audio

Back for the third year Animation Now showcases the best of contemporary queer animation. In this screening there are complex and mature characters that challenge the assumption that cartoons are just for kids. We are taken on journeys exploring sex, love, death, parenting and protest. And of course, there are also moments of playfulness, colour and childlike imagination in this selection. Expect everything in this jam packed screening showing 10 films.

Curated by Nat Lall and Huss.



Films in this programme include:

The Last Garden

Dir Eloise Jenninger, 2024, United Kingdom, 8 min

For Henry, the community garden is his escape from the daily toil in the city. However, the day has come for it to be demolished, Henry and his community can't agree on how to save it.

The Prospectors, episode 1 Pip Pop's Find

Dir. David Hutchison, 2025, United Kingdom, 10 min

Cat dads Ahab and Gert discover rejuvenating goo on their asteroid, but sharing it leads to capture by space cannibal Sunny Bean.

Two Black Boys In Paradise

Dir. Baz Sells, 2025, United Kingdom, 9 min

A movingly tender animation, based on Dean Atta's eponymous poem, sees two boys (Edan, 19 and Dula, 18) on a journey of self-acceptance and love – for each other and themselves.

Content notes: *Depiction of animated nudity, homophobia, police harassment, racism, sex.*

Beacon

Dir. Alicia Brown, 2025, United Kingdom, 2 min

An animation about finding a way home after crash-landing on an unknown planet.

Colour Me Pink

Dir. Anika O'Hagan-Ploug, 2024, Ireland, 3 min

Music Video for indie pop song *Colour Me Pink* by K E L, created by Anika O'Hagan-Ploug.

Dragfox

Dir. Lisa Ott, 2024, United Kingdom, Switzerland, 8 min

Sam's search for identity gets interrupted by a mysterious neighbourhood fox. Together they embark on a magical journey to the attic to discover the surprising things they might have in common, and how to celebrate the ways in which they differ.

Falling for Greta

Dir. Gustavo Arteaga, 2023, United Kingdom, 11 min

When love comes knocking Greta's world is turned upside down. As her passion grows complications follow but change is coming in the shape of water

Hey Dad

Dir. WeiFan Wang, 2023, Taiwan, 6 min

I've practiced these words for 20 years now, but maybe being candid isn't the best idea. I'm starting my countdown again, another 20 years. Maybe it might be the right time by then.

Access notes: Flashing imagery.

Grand Dandy (For Ezra)

Dirs. The Campbells (Jen and Crystal Campbell), 2024, United Kingdom, 4 min

Non-binary grandparent Libro Levi Bridgeman shares tender moments with grandson Ezra while exploring how to explain their queer identity lovingly.

Fried!

Dir. Lizzie Watts, 2025, United Kingdom, 10 min

As Dev drives home from a mysterious, ageing nuclear facility, he becomes stranded at an isolated emu farm run by old mystic lesbians. Suspicious of their intentions, Dev fears they will sacrifice him at the local stone circle.

Content notes: Depiction of animated nudity.

Access notes: Flashing imagery

Midnight at Mickey's

Dir. Vin Wolff, 2024, United Kingdom, 5 min

Two tough guys face off in a seedy late-night diner.

Saturday 1 November

Queerly Beloved

The Social Hub Theatre, 4pm (77m), Various Directors, N/C 18+, English and French audio

Join us for a vibrant collection of short films that dive into queer experiences with wit, warmth, and a generous dose of heart. These stories celebrate the everyday absurdities, quiet triumphs, and unapologetic joy that shape queer life. In a world that so often focuses on queer pain, this programme shifts the spotlight to laughter, love, and the resilience found in connection.

Expect a dynamic mix of voices and perspectives. From awkward firsts to bold declarations, from moments of celebration to quiet self-discovery, each film brings its own spark. What unites them is a spirit of humour that uplifts, disarms, and gently insists on being seen.

The evening opens with a stand-up set by the brilliant Kathleen Hughes, whose sharp comedy sets the tone for what's to come. After the films, stay with us for a live performance by the electrifying Craig Manson.

Come laugh with us. Maybe cry a little too. This is queer storytelling at its most joyful, defiant and alive.

Curated by Huss.



Films in this programme include:

Bury Your Gays

Dir. Charlotte Serena Cooper, 2025, United Kingdom, 20 min

Bury Your Gays follows actor Grace, who can't understand why every role she lands ends in her untimely death—until a mysterious agent explains the 'Bury Your Gays' trope. Now, trapped in a genre-hopping battle for survival, Grace has one mission: do not die.

Content notes: *Depiction of comedic death.*

ASL

Dir. Cal Freeman, 2024, United Kingdom, 5 min

Rulf (19) meets Ziggy (38) for a car hookup, but attraction turns awkward when Ziggy's internalized homophobia clashes with Rulf's progressive views. After confronting contradictions and guilt, a flamboyant radio ad breaks the tension. They reconnect through laughter, reconsidering their desires before finally embracing their mutual attraction.

Content notes: *Discussion of sex.*

Bi-Nocular Panic

Dir. Anouk Witkowska Hiffle, 2024, United Kingdom, 7 min

Cass and Jane spend their afternoon doing what every normal teenager does on a sunny day: spying on boys. But when the captivating Melody appears, Cass realises she might be interested in more than just boys.

Gender Reveal

Dir. Mo Matton, 2024, Canada, 13 min

Rhys, a dedicated people pleaser, winds up at their boss' gender reveal party with their two partners. The trans throuple soon realize that they are dealing with more than they were prepared for and their ability to survive the event comes into question.

Content notes: *Depiction of blood, cigarette use, death, strong language use.*

Sriracha

Dir. Weili Hsing, 2024, United Kingdom, 10 min

In a chaotic London kebab shop, Asian drag king Li clashes with traditional Turkish chef Hamza over sriracha. When drunk British lads arrive seeking trouble, a simple condiment dispute erupts into a full food fight. Through the mayhem, Li and Hamza discover their shared experience bridges cultural divides, forging unexpected friendship.

Content notes: *Depiction of transphobia.*

Principal Boy

Dir. Maz Murray, 2024, United Kingdom, 22 min

Principal Boy follows the audition, rehearsal, and performance of British pantomime's traditional lead—a male hero conventionally played by a woman in drag. Using and subverting pantomime conventions, it explores trans and gender-nonconforming representation in mainstream culture, examining presence and absence in film and theatre.

Content notes: *Discussion of discrimination, gaslighting, violence towards Trans people.*

Access notes: *Brief use of laser*

Saturday 1 November

Closing Film: Dreams in Nightmares

The Social Hub Theatre, 7pm (128 min), Dir. Shatara Michelle Ford, N/C 18+, 2024, United States of America, English audio

Three queer black femmes embark on a road trip across the Midwest United States in search of their missing friend. The trio face challenges as they encounter different communities along their journey and this prompts reflection on the group as friends, as well as individuals.

Expect tender friends and lovers, open country roads and a chance to dream in a world of nightmares.

The winner of Best Scottish Shorts will be announced at the end of this event.

Curated by Nat Lall.

Content notes: *Depiction of alcohol use, distressing argument scenes, nudity, sex. Discussion of racism and transphobia.*



Closing Night Party with scandal.gla & WSHWSH

The Art School, 11pm-3am, 18+

After a week of ground-breaking queer and trans cinema, we're ending the festival on a high. Join us at The Art School for the SQIFF Closing Night Party, brought to you by, scandal.gla, WSHWSH and SQIFF.

This is a celebration of QTPOC+ joy, resistance, and nightlife, with a lineup of DJs made up of queer and trans folk, and people of colour. Expect genres from global majority diasporas, electric energy, and a space held by some of Glasgow's most vital queer inclusive POC collectives.

Come through, bring your people, and close out the festival with sweat, rhythm, and full-bodied queer euphoria.

Curated by scandal.gla, WSHWSH, and SQIFF.

Festival Schedule

Monday 27th

2pm-7pm	The River and The Glen, Camp Trans Scotland: The Exhibition Listen Gallery
5pm-7pm	Swipe Right on Your Next Film Collab with Trans on Screen The Social Hub Theatre
4.30pm-10pm	Quiet Space The Social Hub Snug
8pm-10pm	SQIFF 2025 Opening Night Scottish Shorts The Social Hub Theatre

- Events
- Exhibition
- Quiet Space
- Screening

Festival Schedule

Tuesday 28th

2pm-7pm	The River and The Glen, Camp Trans Scotland: The Exhibition Listen Gallery
3pm-11pm	Quiet Space Boardwalk Green Room
3.30pm-5.30pm	Scottish Shorts 1 Boardwalk Black Room
6pm-8pm	How We Loved, How We Broke Boardwalk Gold Room
6.30pm-8.30pm	Rookie Boardwalk Black Room
9pm-11pm	Scottish Shorts 2 Boardwalk Gold Room

- Events
- Exhibition
- Quiet Space
- Screening

Festival Schedule

Wednesday 29th

2pm-7pm	The River and The Glen, Camp Trans Scotland: The Exhibition Listen Gallery
3pm-11pm	Quiet Space Boardwalk Green Room
3:30pm-5:30pm	NO PRIDE IN GENOCIDE Boardwalk Gold Room
6pm-8pm	A Nova Era Boardwalk Theatre
6.30pm-8.30pm	For Real? Boardwalk Gold Room
9pm-11pm	Squad Goals Boardwalk Theatre

- Events
- Exhibition
- Quiet Space
- Screening

Festival Schedule

Thursday 30th

2pm-7pm	The River and The Glen, Camp Trans Scotland: The Exhibition Listen Gallery
2.30pm-11pm	Quiet Space GMAC Meeting Room
3pm-5pm	Legacies GMAC Project Room
6pm-8pm	Eachdraidh Na Tìre GMAC Project Room
8.30pm-10.30pm	Filmmakers Social GMAC Training Room
9pm-11pm	The Stage is a Body GMAC Project Room

- Events
- Exhibition
- Quiet Space
- Screening

Festival Schedule

Friday 31st

2pm-7pm	The River and The Glen, Camp Trans Scotland: The Exhibition Listen Gallery
2.30pm-8pm	Quiet Space GMAC Meeting Room
3pm-5pm	Aunties GMAC Project Room
6pm-8pm	We Are Here GMAC Project Room
8.30pm-11pm	Quiet Space The Social Hub Snug
9pm-11pm	Halloween Night: The Serpent's Skin The Social Hub Theatre

- Events
- Exhibition
- Quiet Space
- Screening

Festival Schedule

Saturday 1st

9.30am-9.30pm	Quiet Space The Social Hub Snug
10am-12pm	Queer Freedom The Social Hub Theatre
12pm-5pm	Craft Fair The Social Hub Foyer
12.30pm-2.30pm	Re:Frame The Social Hub Meeting Room 3
1pm-3pm	Animation Now The Social Hub Theatre
3.30pm-5.30pm	Scottish Shorts 2 The Social Hub Meeting Room 3
4pm-6pm	Queerly Beloved The Social Hub Theatre
7pm-9.30pm	Closing Film: Dreams in Nightmares The Social Hub Theatre
11pm-3am	Closing Night Party with Scandal & WSHWSH The Art School
11pm-3am	Quiet Space The Art School

- Events
- Exhibition
- Quiet Space
- Screening

SQIFF 2025 Funders



Film Hub
Scotland



SCREEN SCOTLAND
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UK/Brazil
Season of Culture
2025-26

SQIFF 2025 Venues



SQIFF 2025 Partners

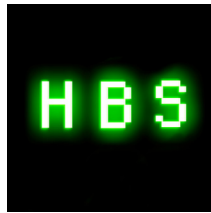


Queer
Families
Project



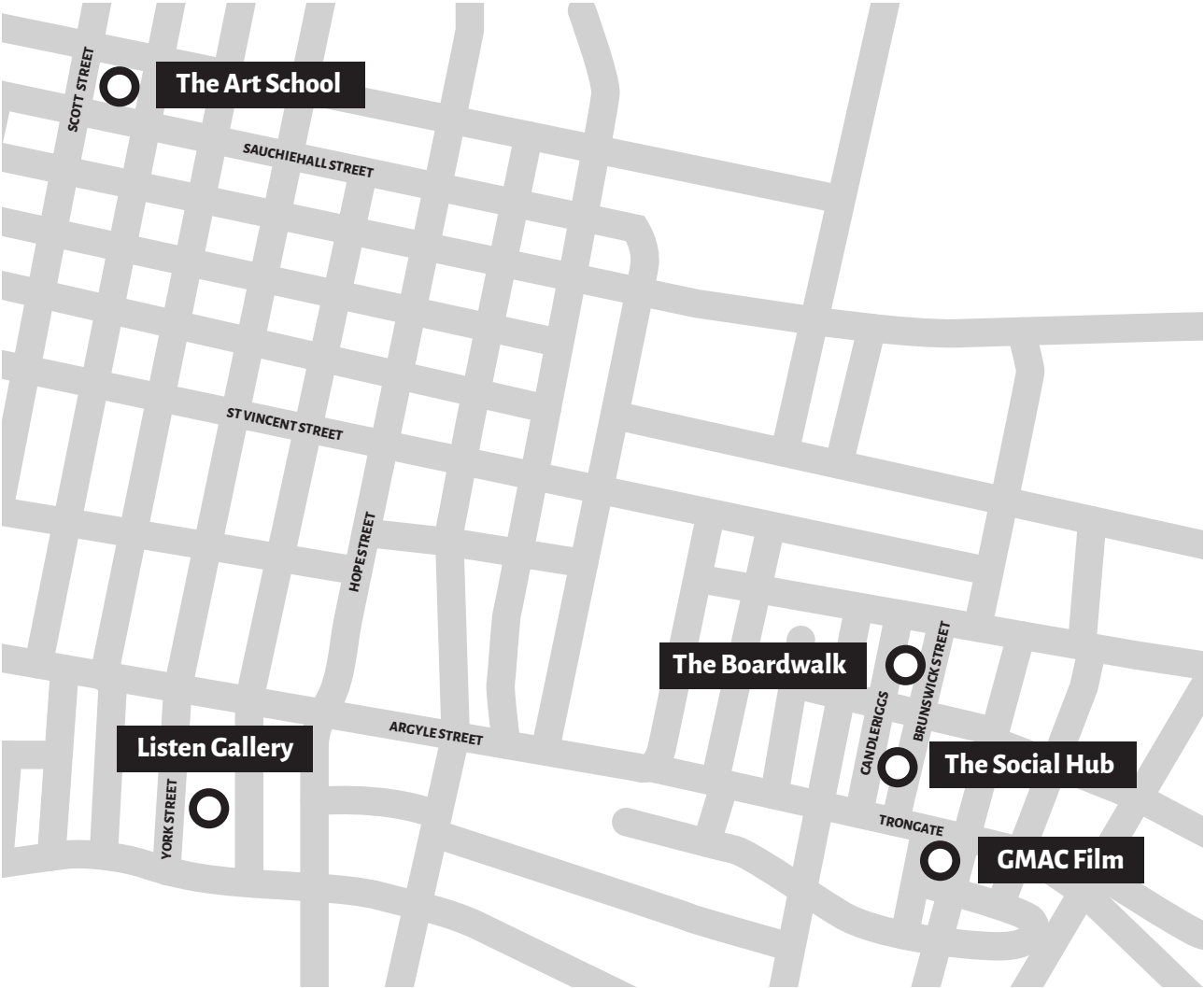
take
one action!





Supported by Screen Scotland, the BFI Audience Projects Fund and Film Hub Scotland (part of the BFI Film Audience Network), all awarding National Lottery funding.

Venues





Scottish Queer International Film Festival 2025

27th October - 1st November

Glasgow

www.sqiff.org

Scan the QR code to enter our audience survey and un-lock a chance to win a voucher of £100 to spend at The Craft Pottery. The winner will be randomly selected after SQIFF 2025!

