



DIRECTORS GUILD OF GREAT BRITAIN & DIRECTORS GUILD TRUST

NEWSLETTER 2 NOV 2009 - ed. 8, 2009

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DGGB NEWS

Dear Members,

The Festive season has started early, with a very successful Guild reception for the London Film Festival last week, followed a day later by an equally well-received introduction to the Guild in Hollywood, arranged by members James Norris and Peter Foldy – sadly, I only made the London event. The opportunity to meet and network is a key part of Guild membership - thanks to all who came and especially to our organisers, the Teatro Club, and colleagues at the BFI.

Plans for the 2010 Directory are still taking shape – you will be receiving details of the online update site in as soon as we have the database fully updated – please make sure that your 2009 subscription has been paid if you want to be able to publish your latest credits.

Having recently represented the Guild at the EU Culture Forum in Brussels, it is clear that under the impact of the UN Declaration on Cultural Diversity, culture is finally beginning to take centre stage in the Union, which, for all its political aspirations, has until now been essentially a trade organisation. National and regional identity matter to Europe; there is a clear need to share skills and artistic thought across borders and to help protect countries' cultures and languages. Though it is a lean time for funding at the moment, expect to see increasing opportunities to develop relationships and projects across EU member countries in years to come.

On 21st November we shall be holding our next Guild workshop - this will be at the Shaw Theatre, now under the leadership of Guild Member J-J Almond, and we hope the Shaw will become a permanent home for Guild activities over the next year. The director and producer Stephen Bayly will be giving a full one-day introduction to applying the modern actor's training method the Meisner technique for film and stage to directing. Understanding the way our actors think and work is vital to good and consistent performances and Stephen, who works closely with the Actors' Temple, London, is developing an invaluable set of tools for directors – this is a workshop you will not want to miss. Prices are kept low for members, so please do reserve your place as soon as possible. Details below.

If you have a show, film or project opening in the near future, please let us know, along with any other news for fellow members.

Best regards,
Ivor Benjamin (Chair)

Introduction to Meisner technique for Directors - with Stephen Bayly DGGB one-day workshop, Saturday 21 November 2009 (London)

The Directors Guild will be running an "Introduction to Meisner" workshop with Director/Producer/Actor Stephen Bayly.

'Take it from a Director. If you get an actor that Sandy Meisner has trained you've been blessed.' Elia Kazan.

A one-day introduction to the methods of Sanford Meisner, as used by actor/director Sidney Pollock, writer/director David Mamet, etc. to draw *truthful emotionally rich performances* from their actors, whether on stage or screen. Unbeknownst to many of us in Britain, many of America's most dynamic and watchable screen actors have been trained by Meisner (Gene Hackman, Ed Harris, Robert Duvall, Joanne Woodward, Jon Voight, to mention a few). How do these actors work? How can directors use these techniques to get more honest and intense performances from their own cast? Fellow Guild member Stephen Bayly's workshop will offer an alternative to Method Acting, and teach directors to work with Meisner-trained actors to 'personalise' the text as a way of bringing it to life.

Stephen Bayly has produced such films as *Richard III* and *Mrs. Dalloway* and has directed, among other things, the Cannes sleeper hit *Coming Up Roses*. He was Director of the National Film and Television School. Stephen has studied Sanford Meisner's methods intensively for five years at The Actors Temple in London, where he now teaches directors. He also teaches regularly in Cuba, Nigeria, Spain, and Wales.

Fee: £35 all DGGB members, £55 non-members (£35 concessions, £25 Guild Student Members)

Venue: The Shaw Theatre, 100-110 Euston Road, London NW1 2AJ.

Time: 10am – 6pm (with lunch break)

Booking: To book or for more information please contact directorsguild@dgggb.org. Places are limited so book soon.

Oliver Horsbrugh Memorial Service

In last month's newsletter we announced Oliver Horsbrugh's passing after a long battle with illness. He was a long-time member and well-respected TV Director (*Emmerdale*, *Coronation Street*, *Bergerac*) and will be missed by his family, friends and colleagues. A Service of Celebration will be held on 16 November at 2.30pm at St. Anne's Church on Kew Green near Richmond, Surrey. The nearest underground station is Richmond on the District Line, then a short taxi or bus ride to the church. After the service the family will be going to the 'Coach & Horses' by the Green where they hope everyone will join them.

Directors Drinks

The next Directors Drinks will be taking place on Tuesday 8th December 2009. All Professional and Associate members will receive an invitation closer to the time (RSVP only). The Directors Drinks are sponsored by **Curzon Cinemas** and **John Hough – Director British Film Corporation Plc – in association with Marcia Stanton and Bill Treacy of the Grade Company.**

MEMBERS OPPORTUNITIES

The Quercus Award for Theatre Directors (NT & West Yorkshire Playhouse)

Closing date: 20 November 2009

The Quercus Award for Theatre Directors is a new initiative that will offer an emerging theatre director the opportunity to direct a full-scale production at West Yorkshire Playhouse in Autumn 2010. The Award is a unique collaboration between the National Theatre Studio and West Yorkshire Playhouse, and is designed to enable the recipient to make the transition from directing on the Fringe to working on main stages around the UK. The successful candidate will be a proven director who has directed several professional productions in Fringe or Studio spaces. The successful candidate will be contracted to direct a production at the Courtyard in Autumn 2010 and will receive a standard director's fee and expenses. This is not a bursary and there will be no further monetary component to the award outside provision for a full-scale production with up to 8 actors and a creative team of 5. There will also be support for pre-production preparation. For more information on the position and details on how to apply, visit <http://www.nationaltheatre.org.uk/9015/jobs/nt-vacancies.html>.

MEMBERS' NEWS & ACTIVITIES

Alan Ayckbourn: *My Wonderful Day* transfers to New York

Alan Ayckbourn's latest play *My Wonderful Day* transfers to New York on 11 December following its acclaimed world premiere at the Stephen Joseph Theatre, Scarborough. The play will run until 13 December. The new play has received an excellent reception. Find more information about *My Wonderful Day* on <http://www.alanayckbourn.net/NewsInDepth.htm>.

Sir Peter Hall: *Ayckbourn's Bedroom Farce*

Until 28 November 2009 (Rose Theatre, Kingston)

Peter Hall returns to *Bedroom Farce* some 32 years after he co-directed its London premiere with Alan Ayckbourn at the National Theatre - a production also seen in the West End and on Broadway. Four couples, three bedrooms, two celebrations, one blazing row and an illicit kiss (or two). Alan Ayckbourn's *Bedroom Farce* shines a brilliant spotlight onto the trials and tribulations of suburban marriage. For more info visit <http://www.rosetheatrekingston.org/whats-on/bedroom-farce>.

Lou Hamilton's new film: *Being Martin*

Create Lab has launched its new You Tube channel with the full 10 minute film about Martin Symons who was born with two rare conditions: Klippel Feil Syndrome and a Lust for Life. We follow his coast to coast ride in an electric wheelchair while being kept alive on a ventilator at night. Please click the button under the screen to show it in HD: <http://www.youtube.com/createlab#p/a>. Also see <http://www.createlab.co.uk/> for more details.

Nicholas Hytner: *The Habit of Art*

From 17 November 2009 (Lyttelton Theatre)

The Habit of Art, a new play by Alan Bennett, opens in the Lyttelton Theatre on 17 November, directed by Nicholas Hytner. Benjamin Britten, sailing uncomfortably close to the wind with his new opera, *Death in Venice*, seeks advice from his former collaborator and friend, W H Auden. During this imagined meeting, their first for twenty-five years, they are observed and interrupted by, amongst others, their future biographer and a young man from the local bus station. Alan Bennett's new play is as much about the theatre as it is about poetry or music. It looks at the unsettling desires of two difficult men, and at the ethics of biography. It reflects on growing old, on creativity and inspiration, and on persisting when all passion's spent: ultimately, on the habit of art. <http://www.nationaltheatre.org.uk/51766/productions/the-habit-of-art.html>

Christopher Morahan: Pinter's *The Caretaker*

Stage and screen director Christopher Morahan directed Harold Pinter's *The Caretaker* at Liverpool's Everyman Theatre in October, with celebrated actor Jonathan Pryce in the role of the tramp Davies. As the Everyman celebrates its 45th birthday year the production marked the return to the theatre of one of the plays that formed the inaugural season. Multi-award winning director Christopher Morahan and acclaimed designer Eileen Diss, who worked with Pinter on many occasions, are reunited after the critically lauded 1972 production of *The Caretaker* starring Leonard Rossiter, John Hurt and Jeremy Kemp.

Trevor Nunn: *Inherit the Wind*

Until 20 December 2009 (The Old Vic)

Trevor Nunn directs an outstanding ensemble cast including Kevin Spacey and David Troughton in this fascinating slice of American history played out in a thrilling courtroom drama. When science teacher Bertram Cates violates a state law he finds himself at the centre of a court case that not only shakes the United States but resonates across the world. Considered one of the great American plays of the twentieth century Lawrence and Lee's gripping, relevant drama is inspired by the famous Scopes 'Monkey Trial'. In 1925 school teacher John Scopes stood accused of violating a Tennessee statute by teaching Darwin's theory of evolution to his students. Two legal Titans confront each other when this close-knit community puts freedom of thought on trial. <http://www.oldvictheatre.com/whatson.php?id=55>

Ike Ong's *Twilight of the Longhouse* wins 2nd film award

A London Filmmakers Studio Sdn. Bhd's production, *Twilight of the Longhouse* has won a second film award in the USA, the John Muir Award for Documentary in the Yosemite Film Festival California. Written and Directed by Ike Ong. "ONE Malaysia means everyone in Malaysia. The Iban may live in the jungle but basic amenities like pipe water, electricity, should be available to all children. These communities are moving to the cities for the benefit of their children. Malaysia will lose this wealth of cultural heritage." For further information on The Yosemite Film Festival please go to: <http://www.yosemitofilmfestival.com/Festival/2009FestivalWinners/2009JohnMuirAwards/tabid/384/Default.aspx>.

For further information on London Filmmakers Studio Sdn. Bhd. visit <http://londonfilms.blogspot.com>.

Alvin Rakoff: *That Old Feeling*

Until 21 November 2009 (The Mill at Sonning)

Alvin Rakoff directs the feel-good musical comedy *That Old Feeling*, with words by Richard Harris and music by Denis King. Until 21 November in The Mill at Sonning. More information and booking: <http://www.millatsonning.com/That%20Old%20Feeling.html>.

Teunkie van der Sluijs: *Yasser in Chicago*

Teunkie van der Sluijs directs Abdelkader Benali's highly acclaimed *Yasser*. Shakespeare meets the Middle East in a poignant and playful monologue, as a Palestinian actor playing Shylock in Britain discovers that no one can cut a pound of flesh without spilling blood.

Now on until 9 November at the Chopin Theatre in Chicaco. <http://www.studiodubbelagent.com/yasser.html>



Robert Wolstenholme: *Gilbert is Dead*

4 - 29 November 2009 (Hoxton Hall, London)

Gilbert is Dead, a Victorian adventure mystery by Robin French. London, 1866: Charles Darwin's recently published theory of natural selection has turned the world upside down. Celebrated taxidermist Lucius Trickett finds himself in cahoots with legendary explorer Gilbert Shirley - and Queen Victoria herself! - to disprove Darwin with a stuffed specimen of the mysterious Ghost Loris. Will Gilbert fight his way from the South Pacific to England in time to save Lucius from the madhouse? And what happens when the missing link goes missing? Shiningman brings taxidermy, fights, puppets, and mammoth theatre sets to one of London's last Victorian music halls!

Venue: Hoxton Hall (N1 6SH). Go to <http://www.shiningman.co.uk/> for info and booking details.

MEMBERS' OFFERS & BENEFITS

Each month we highlight some of the discounts and benefits available for Directors Guild members.



stagejobspro

50% discount offer to Directors Guild members

Stage Jobs Pro is a UK online networking and recruitment site for theatre professionals which caters for those working in all fields of theatre. Members can interact with each other, create profiles, upload photographs and showreels and even make a free PERSONALISED WEBSITE through their service. Stage Jobs Pro offers all Directors Guild members a 50% discount on Premium Membership: this will allow them to enjoy a **Monthly subscription rate of £7.50 + VAT** (as opposed to £15 + VAT) or an **Annual subscription rate of just £40.00 + VAT** (as opposed to £80 + VAT). To take advantage of this offer:

- 1) REGISTER: Firstly register with Stage Jobs Pro. If you are not yet registered with Stage Jobs Pro you will need to make a profile first in order to take advantage of the 50% discount; you can register by following this link: <http://www.uk.stagejobspro.com/register.php>
- 2) LOG ON: If you are already a member of Stage Jobs Pro or if you have created a profile you can follow these links to take advantage of the 50% discount. *Please note you will first have to be logged in to the website for these links to work!* For monthly subscription offer visit: <http://www.uk.stagejobspro.com/pay.php?discount=1115>. Annual subscription offer: <http://www.uk.stagejobspro.com/pay.php?discount=1113>.
- 3) PLEASE NOTE: you can cancel the Monthly Subscription at any time - this is particularly useful when job hunting as when you secure employment you can get in touch and Stage Jobs Pro will cancel your subscription. You can then upgrade again whenever you wish in the future. The offer is for members in benefit (i.e. whose membership subscription is up to date) only and membership claims will be screened. Please contact Jenni at Stage Jobs Pro if you have any questions at all: jenni@stagejobspro.com.

Invitation to BSC North Lodge (Pinewood): TUE 3 November 2009

The British Society of Cinematographers welcomes Professional Guild members to their drinks in the BSC North Lodge at Pinewood Studios (Pinewood Road, Iver Heath, Bucks SLO ONH), on Tuesday 3rd November 2009, drinks and bites between 6pm and 8pm. All Professional Members of DGGGB most welcome to come along. An evening sponsored by LCA (Lights, Camera Action) and P & S Technik. On show from LCA

will be a range of LED products including Lite Panels 1x1 Bi-Colour and Bi-Focus, and a Giant 4 X 4 (16 of 1x1 on a single stirrup) and a brand new Eyelight kit. PS TECHNIK will be bringing along a Weisscam Digital High-Speed Camera. <http://www.bscine.com/> Similarly the Guild welcomes BSC members to our Directors Drinks.

Feature Film production management services

The London Filmmakers Studio Sdn. Bhd. in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, have diversified to managing productions in Malaysia. They are able to shoot films in HD CAM or Single Perf 16 mm and transfer to 35 mm print for a fraction of the cost in the UK. As a result, many feature films for 35mm can be made for half a million pounds or less depending on your script and efficiency. E-mail ikekong@gmail.com for details.

THEATRE/LIVE MEDIA: SCHEMES & EVENTS

Invitation to 'ACTors Themselves' Show Case

4 & 5 November 2009 (Jermyn Street Theatre, London)

You are cordially invited to attend An ACTors Themselves Show Case Production on 4/5th November 2009 at Jermyn Street Theatre (16b Jermyn Street London SW1Y 6ST). Doors open 12.45pm for a 1.00pm show on both days. Please RSVP Lisa, Sheila or Nicola at actorsthemselvesare@gmail.com to reserve a seat or two at this free performance, or contact Lisa direct at lisa@actorsthemselves.co.uk. The event is free to attend for Arts Professionals, and drinks will be on hand.. A networking hour runs immediately after the show if you would like to stay and meet any of the actors after the show. This show as ever is full of strong, diverse, talented and interesting actors from across the globe. This hour long show consists of monologues, duologues, group movement, singing and music for you to enjoy.

http://www.actorsthemselves.co.uk/Site/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=56&Itemid=71



SUSPENSE: London Puppetry Festival

Until 8 November 2009

Puppetry for adult audiences! London's first puppetry festival in 25 years, with a range of performances, masterclasses and symposia at 7 venues across the capital. <http://www.suspensefestival.com/>

IdeasTap funding awards for 16-25 year olds

Closing date 11 November 2009

IdeasTap is a creative network and funding body for emerging arts talent, bringing creative people together and offering cash funding, opportunities and a platform to showcase new work. IdeasTap has launched two new funding awards for 16-25 year olds: 1) *Ideas Fund Edinburgh*: £30,000 funds to support the development of a show to take to the Edinburgh Fringe Festival 2010. 2) *Ideas Fund Innovators*: £1,000 funds to support creative ideas get to the next stage of development. Closing date for both awards is 11 Nov. To apply please visit <http://www.ideastap.com>

Write to Play: Joe Penhall In Conversation and Q&A

16 November 2009 (Lyric Hammersmith, London)

At this event you will have the opportunity to: listen to playwright Joe Penhall in conversation with playwright and Lyric Artistic Associate Simon Stephens about Joe's life, career and work; hear an extract from Joe's unseen play *Haunted Child* and participate in a Q&A with Joe. *Write to Play* ... events focus on a contemporary playwright, changing venues each time and striving to give audiences the opportunity to engage with playwrights. Monday 16 Nov, 8pm, £6. Booking: Lyric box office: 08712211729, <http://www.lyric.co.uk/pl509.html>.

FILM/TV/RADIO: EVENTS

WFTV talk *Fabulous But Forgotten: Early British Female Film Pioneers*

3 November 2009 (London)

WFTV announce the first in a series of talks exploring the vital and multifarious contribution women have made to the development of film as creative personnel, critics, exhibitors and cinemagoers. The first talk will be given by Dr Nathalie Morris. This illustrated talk takes a look at some of the pioneering women who worked in Britain before the coming of sound. Birkbeck Cinema, Birkbeck, University of London, 43 Gordon Square, WC1 0PD. 6.30pm-8.00pm. To book your place e-mail administrator@wftv.org.uk or call 020 7287 1400, stating your name and job title.

Michael Haneke season @ BFI

November 2009 (London)

Michael Haneke's work is challenging but his ambition and intelligence are more than a match for his reputation as a provocateur. Includes his Palme d'Or winning film *The White Ribbon*. http://www.bfi.org.uk/whatson/bfi_southbank/film_programme/november_seasons/michael_haneke

11th BFM International Film Festival

6-10 November 2009 (London)

The BFI is delighted to welcome the 11th bfm International Film Festival, the UK' largest Black world cinema event, back to BFI Southbank for the second year running. This year, Festival Director, Nadia Denton presents an exceptionally dynamic programme of films and premieres featuring a myriad of thought provoking and political films as well as showcasing the freshest of emerging UK talent.

For more information visit the official website at <http://www.bfmmedia.com/festival>

The Way Out plus Q&A @ Curzon Soho

8 November 2009 (London)

Responding to issues raised by the disabled artists collective 15mm Films in their film project "The Way Out" "disability has never had its revolutionary moment: no Suffrage, Stonewall or Watts Riots." Curzon Cinemas and Beaconsfield have collaborated to present a programme of short films, followed by a discussion responding to the issues raised by the film project. Films by Sandra Lahire, Lou Birks, Kim Noble, Andrew Kotting, Stephen Dwoskin and Justin Edgar are punctuated by the series of irreverent film trailers by 15mm Films, staging a reversal of the historical omission from the perspective of a dysfunctional gang of "disability terrorists". *Please note that there are a limited number of wheelchair spaces available, booking is essential. Sunday 8 Nov, 12pm at Curzon Soho. Please contact the Curzon Soho 020 77349209 directly to book seats. http://www.curzoncinemas.com/whats_on/#/events/qanda/the_way_out_qanda_maxa_zoller_aaron_williamson_justin_edgar.

BFI Season: Radical Drama, United Kingdom Part One

November - December 2009 (London)

Beginning in the 1960s the season looks at the roots of the radical TV drama movement, its consolidation in the 70s and - in this the thirtieth anniversary of Margaret Thatcher coming to power - examines the challenge of responding to her prevailing right-wing orthodoxy. Providing an historical snapshot of the development of radical drama, the season will ask how it has had to adapt to survive in the post Thatcher television marketplace and ultimately what form it should take in the multi-channel age? To view the season's programme visit http://www.bfi.org.uk/whatson/bfi_southbank/film_programme/november_seasons/radical_television_drama/oi_for_england_made_in_britain. There is a huge range of films from key British writers including Ken Loach, Tony Smith and Dennis Potter. Topics addressed include: Thatcherism; Neo Nazism; Falklands war; New Labour and the sense of betrayal implicit in *The Deal* and *The Government Inspector*; *Disillusioned Youth*. United Kingdom Part Two of the season will run throughout December, examining radical television during the post-Thatcher years.

Encounters Short Film Festival

17-21 November 2009 (Bristol)

Encounters Short Film Festival is celebrating its 15th year showcasing new talent in filmmaking and providing a platform for emerging filmmakers to screen their work. Over 150 films in competition will be screened over five days with a chance of winning one of 12 awards and up to £15,000 of prizes. The films and animations are a selection of the best new dramas, comedies, music videos, documentaries and animation from 58 different countries. For more information see <http://www.encounters-festival.org.uk/>

The King of Communism + Q&A with Ben Lewis @ BFI

24 November 2009 (London)

The King of Communism: The Pomp and Pageantry of Nicolae Ceausescu: Twenty years to the day since Ceausescu's re-election as Secretary General of the Romanian Communist Party (a month before he was deposed), Ben Lewis presents his documentary on the absurdist dictatorship. Featuring interviews with propaganda ministers, choreographers, directors, actors, ballet dancers, and footage from Ceausescu's own propaganda archive, *The King of Communism* is a study of a destructive regime. Tue 24 Nov 20:30 NFT3.

http://www.bfi.org.uk/whatson/bfi_southbank/film_programme/november_seasons/europe_since_1989/the_king_of_communism_the_pomp_and_p

De Lane Lea Women in Film & Television Awards 2009

4 December 2009 (London)

The De Lane Lea Women in Film & Television Awards 2009 will take place at the Park Lane Hilton on Friday 4th December. Now in its 19th year, the WFTV awards celebrates and honours the achievements of women working within all sectors of our industry. For further information or to request a booking form please contact info@wftv.org.uk, or call 0207 247 1400.

BIFA - British Independent Film Awards

6 December 2009 (London)

On Sunday 6 December 2009, the British Independent Film Awards (BIFAs) will celebrate the best of British film talent with an awards ceremony hosted by James Nesbitt, at The Brewery, Chiswell Street, in London. Read more information about the festival and this year's nominations online at <http://www.bifa.org.uk>.

FILM/TV: CALL FOR ENTRIES, SCHEMES & FUNDING

Birds Eye View Film Festival (March 2010) - Short Film submission

Deadline for all submissions 6 November 2009, Withoutabox 16 November 2009

Birds Eye View Film Festival 2010 is looking for Short Films of any genre, directed or co-directed by a woman. The festival will open with a special gala screening of short films on 4 March at the BFI Southbank. The rest of the festival will include retrospective screenings, live music, workshops and master-classes, feature and documentary screenings and Q&A's with inspirational women in film. The best few shorts will be screened at the OPENING NIGHT GALA, with a celebrity introduction, Q&A and followed by a celebratory party. For more information and to find out how to submit your work, please download the submissions guidelines, FAQs and submissions form. You can also submit through Withoutabox. Early bird Deadline is Fri 2 Oct, final deadline Fri 6 Nov. Extended deadline until 16 Nov ONLY if you submit your film through Withoutabox. For more information check: <http://www.birds-eye-view.co.uk>.

Digital Shorts 2009/10 - SCREEN EAST

Deadline for applications: 9 November 2009

SCREEN EAST, the regional screen agency for the East of England, is pleased to announce the launch of its short film programme, Digital Shorts for 2009/10. The Digital Shorts scheme partners the UK Film Council New Cinema Fund to enable filmmaking talent to make short digital films with professional support. They are seeking out the most innovative and talented filmmakers in the East of England, who can demonstrate they have a fresh approach to filmmaking. Films can be of any genre within live action fiction, animation and documentary. Talent Executive, Sam Burton, will offer expert advice throughout the production from concept to screen, and will organise industry preview screenings in London and at the Cannes Film Festival. Screen East will be choosing seven projects for development, and producing five of those films after the development period. All films will have a cash budget of up to £12,500. More details on <http://www.screeneast.co.uk/>. Please read the guidelines carefully before applying.

EURODOC 2010

Application deadline 9 November 2009

If you are looking for in-depth analysis of a specific documentary film project, testing its appeal and potential abroad, advice and follow-up on complex budgeting and financing, legal and practical, business aspects of co-productions; If you are looking for strong contacts in the field of docs throughout Europe & beyond, enter your project for EURODOC 2010. EURODOC is a training programme specifically designed for co-producing creative documentaries at the international level. Within a seven month period, 30 independent producers as well as Commissioning Execs from Europe and abroad will have the opportunity to participate in a training cycle of 3 one-week sessions led by experienced tutors and experts who play an important part in the current audiovisual and documentary field. For more information about EURODOC visit <http://www.eurodoc-net.com>.

Pitch Up! - Stellar Network (1 December 2009)

Entry deadline 15 November 2009

Stellar Network is teaming up with Channel 4 and a panel of execs and commissioners to hear your ideas. Hit the register button, fill in your details and paste your idea into the idea box. It should be no more than 100 words long, a brief summary of the show. It can be a drama, documentary, entertainment or features idea. Be as concise as possible but always keep in mind what makes your idea different and original. It's free for members and £5 for non-members. 20 ideas will be picked, and then on 1 Dec the lucky 20 will be gathered at Channel Four to pitch to an exclusive panel, which will select the top 3 pitches, who will win a set of prizes. And there's always the chance that your incredible idea will be taken on by a member of the panel. The panel includes freelance development executive Ronit Knoble and ITV Drama commissioner Benjamin McGrath. Other panellists TBA. For those unlucky enough to miss out there will be a chance to be in the audience at this event - come back to the site on the 22nd November for more details. <http://www.stellarnetwork.com/>

Digital Shorts Wales 2010

Application deadline 16 November 2009

If you are a Welsh Writer, Writer/Director or a Writer and Director team with a great script for a short film - and you're looking for your next short to put you firmly on the UK's talent radar - Digital Shorts Wales 2010 is the scheme for you. Digital Shorts Wales is looking for established directing and writing talent living and working in Wales, who want to make a compelling short film as a next step in their film career. Under this call for applications Digital Shorts Wales intend to work with the best Welsh talent, to produce a slate of up to 5 digital short films. These can be anything between 5 and 12 minutes in length. A maximum of twelve projects will be selected for development. Up to 5 films will then be commissioned with budgets of between £7,000 and £13,000. Digital Shorts Wales will be the premier vehicle for digital short film production in Wales, aimed at established Welsh film-making talent: <http://www.digitalshortswales.co.uk/>.

Babylon International

Application deadline 27 November 2009

Babylon launches its 2010 programme with a major new initiative linking filmmakers across continents. A British Council-supported Babylon project provides high-level, project-based training and mentorship for producer/writer-director teams seeking to broaden their access to the international film industry. European filmmakers will have the opportunity to work together with African colleagues on script and story development, production technique, and access to the international marketplace via Babylon's network of industry consultants, funders, international sales agents and distributors. The 2010 programme includes: a 5-day intensive development workshop for 14 selected projects during the International Film Festival Rotterdam (Jan-Feb 2010); with script consultancy, one-on-one production and marketing analysis, screenings, case studies and networking forums; individual mentoring during the script rewrite and preparation phase in February and March; a 5-day production lab based at the Nigerian Film Institute in Jos, (April-May 2010) which consolidates the script development and gives filmmaking teams the opportunity to workshop scenes from their films or produce promotional short films; presentation of projects and their promotional material at the Zuma Film festival in Abuja (May 2010); Onward mentoring and promotion of all Babylon projects. Visit <http://www.babylon-film.eu/> now for details on how to apply.

Short Film Completion Fund 2009/10 - UK Film Council

Deadline for submissions 30 November 2009

The Short Film Completion Fund provides finance and support for short films that show outstanding potential but lack the funds to finish. A fund of £70,000 has been made available to support projects across the **Fund's only call for entry in 2009/10**. Completion Fund films have achieved outstanding success gathering over 150 international awards including Best British Short at Edinburgh and the BAFTA for Best British Short. Applications to the 2009/10 call of the UK Film Council's Short Film Completion Fund are now open. Full guidelines, forms and more information can be found at: <http://www.ukfilmcouncil.org.uk/shortfilmcompletion>.

4Docs Competition launch

Closing date 30 November 2009

4Docs was (re)launched by The Channel 4 BRITDOC Foundation, to give filmmakers the chance to upload their short documentaries. Four winning films selected by industry judges will win a £2,000 award per film, and the chance for their film to be transmitted prime time on Channel 4, as part of its Three Minute Wonder strand. Emerging British filmmakers are challenged to make a three minute short documentary in response to a brief which seeks "surprising stories about good in the world, things it's good to know", and which pledges that prizes will be only be awarded for quality and imagination, cutting edge and challenging films. The Co-operative has leant its support to the initiative, citing interest in "films that address some of The Co-operative's key campaigns; these include community, combating climate change, tackling global poverty and the truth about young people and the positive contribution they can make in their communities". Visit: <http://www.4docs.org.uk/>

British Animation Awards (8 April 2010)

Entry deadline 30 November 2009

The British Animation Awards (BAA) covers all aspects of the UK animation scene, from student work to commercials, children's entertainment, short and experimental art films, music videos, new technologies. BAA is held every two years. Categories include: Best Commercial Director, Best Short Film and Best European Animated Feature Film. General and Student entry forms and details about awards can be found online at <http://www.britishanimationawards.com/>.

Human Rights Watch - International Film Festival (18-27 March 2010)

Deadline for submissions: 10 December 2009

The Human Rights Watch International Film Festival returns for its 13th year in London with nine days of screenings and discussions focusing on some of the most pressing stories of our times. In recognition of the power of film to educate and galvanize a broad constituency of concerned citizens, Human Rights Watch decided to create the Human Rights Watch International Film Festival. Human Rights Watch's International Film Festival has become a leading venue for distinguished fiction, documentary and animated films and videos with a distinctive human rights theme. Through the eyes of committed and courageous filmmakers, the festival showcases the heroic stories of activists and survivors from all over the world. The featured works help to put a human face on threats to individual freedom and dignity, and celebrate the power of the human spirit and intellect to prevail. More details on <http://www.hrw.org/en/iff>.

Edinburgh International Film Festival (16 - 27 June 2010)

Submissions early bird deadline 14 December 2009

The 64th EIFF will take place from 16-27 June 2010 in Edinburgh. The Festival is internationally regarded as a focus for discovery, a celebration of cinema, a centre of debate and a catalyst for new films. EIFF is committed to screening high quality new short and feature film and video work in all genres from around the world. The 2010 Edinburgh International Film Festival is now open for submissions. There are various ways to submit: Online through the website at <http://www.edfilmfest.org.uk/submissions>; Download a form from the EIFF website and mail it; Via Withoutabox at <https://www.withoutabox.com/login/1360>. Please note all submitted films should be no more than 12 months old by June 2010 and EIFF requires at least UK premiere status. Submission deadlines: Earlybird: 14 Dec 2009, Regular: 1 Feb 2010, Late: 15 Feb 2010. For further information on EIFF Rules & Regulations, Submission Fees and FAQs, please visit the website <http://www.edfilmfest.org.uk/>.

Bradford International Film Festival (18-28 March 2010)

Accepting submissions now

The Bradford International Film Festival is open for submissions. You can submit films via Withoutabox: <https://www.withoutabox.com/login/1597>. Check out <http://www.nationalmediamuseum.org.uk/biff/09/industryweekend.asp> for an overview of masterclasses during the Industry Weekend. The festival's Closing Night Gala has a screening of DGGB member Pat Holden's feature film *Awaydays*. Among the many other events taking place there will be a retrospective of DGGB member Terry Jones, including an In Conversation. <http://www.nationalmediamuseum.org.uk/biff/09/>

Orange British Academy Film Awards

Film Awards entry

The next Orange British Academy Film Awards will take place on Sunday 21 February 2010. The Orange British Academy Film Awards are presented annually to recognise, honour and reward individuals for outstanding achievement in feature films released theatrically in the UK within the awards year. Films must be released theatrically in the UK, within the Academy awards year: 1 January to 31 December 2009. Films that open between 1 January and 19 February 2010 inclusive may be 'qualified' by Distributors by being screened to Academy Film Voting Members by Thursday 17 December 2009. There are separate entry criteria for Short Film and Short Animation (above). More information about the awards, eligibility, full Rule Book and additional guidelines: <http://www.bafta.org/awards/film/eligibility-and-rules.64.BA.html>.

TRAINING

Directing as Visual Storytelling with Josh Appignanesi - LFS course

7-8 November AND 28-29 November 2009 **DGGB members 10% discount**

This practical 2-day weekend workshop aims to take participants shot by shot into the heart of cinema by addressing the following issues: What choices make a shot tell the story your way? How do you juxtapose this shot with your other shots through editing, to create suspense and involvement? How do you create a system of images that, by repetition and inversion, build tellingly into a moving and memorable visual story? Audiences are already saturated in the visual grammar of other films - collectively known as "genres." How do you refer to and exploit the

assumptions every audience brings to a film in advance? What is it that makes a given filmmaker distinctive? How do you apply these ideas practically in your prep and on your set, getting your ideal shots as well as your coverage? With inspiring film examples, practical storyboarding exercises, and analysis of participants' own films, this workshop will give you the tools you need. The workshop would most benefit those with some prior filmmaking experience. A significant part of the course will be dedicated to analysing participants' own work. Participants are therefore asked to bring along an example of their own work, preferably a short film in DVD format. Fee: £180 (DGGB 10% discount available). <http://www.lfs.org.uk/courses/workshops/directing/wmdir08/index.php>

Online Marketing for Filmmakers – Film Tiki course

27–28 November 2009 – **apply by 4 November** (Brighton)

How to effectively use Web 2.0 to engage your audiences: The Web offers many powerful opportunities for filmmakers around the world to connect with their audiences, but it can be a difficult maze to navigate without understanding how to efficiently capitalise on the tools available. This course is centred on an intensive workshop to be held in Brighton in November 2009 and aims to provide filmmakers with the appropriate marketing tools. This two day workshop in Brighton will answer the following questions: What is Social Media? How can I use it? Which resources do I need? Which resources do I need? Participants will build an online promotion and distribution strategy for their current film project by examining both recent trends and established techniques in web marketing. Following the workshop, participants will be supported for three months with one-on-one guidance on the implementation of their strategy. Fee £220 (*You can apply for hardship support up to £75). Venue: Lighthouse in Brighton, more details and to book: <http://www.filmtiki.com/news/online-marketing-filmmakers>

ScreenLab: Breaking The Rules – Euroscript workshop

28 November 2009 (London) **Concessions rate for DGGB members**

Do you want to write exceptional scripts - scripts that stand out from the crowd? Stand-out script writers and directors break the rules. They learn the rules, master them and become adept at knowing exactly how and when they need to be broken. Imagine what it would be like to have the mastery of such screen writers and directors as Martin Scorsese, Charlie Kaufman, Alfred Hitchcock, William Goldman, or Roman Polanski. In this inspiring one-day workshop for writers of all levels of experience, tutor Charles Harris will take you through the essential rules of screenwriting for film and TV and how - and when - every writer needs to break them. With constructive analysis, clips, free scripts and advice to help you to produce a script which is truly exceptional. Includes: Multi-act structure, Non-linear narrative, Flashbacks, Multi-protagonist stories, Difficult characters, Unusual dialogue. Saturday 28th Nov, 10.30am-5.30pm (registration 10.15am). Fee DGGB members: £75 concessions rate. Incl. light refreshments. More details and for booking your place, go to <http://www.euroscript.co.uk/breakingtherules.html>.

Factual Filmmaking with Ron McCullagh & Insight News TV – LFS course

5–6 December 2009 **DGGB members 10% discount***

This intensive 2-day workshop with Insight News TV introduces the tools and techniques essential to making broadcast quality News features. Emmy and Rory Peck award-winner Ron McCullagh reveals how the industry professionals make factual films using the most basic equipment: a digital camera, a microphone and a light. By the end of the workshop participants will be armed with the knowledge, confidence and practical experience required to single-handedly shoot a well-crafted twelve minute News feature. In addition participants will have been introduced to some of the realities of international journalism. The workshop aims to: Introduce participants to the necessary skills to single-handedly shoot their own short films; Increase confidence in the technical aspects of cameras, lighting, and sound; Give a raw insight into guerrilla style camera work from award winning professionals with many years of experience of filming in adverse conditions; Outline the basic requirements necessary to make broadcast quality films. Fee: £350, includes all equipment hire (*enquire about available DGGB discount at this stage). <http://www.lfs.org.uk/courses/workshops/documentary/wdocu01/index.php>

Freelance courses: copyright, website building, survival guide, networking

Until March 2010 (various dates and locations) **Subsidised fees: £25**

Under the banner of the FEU, the National Union of Journalists, BECTU, Equity and the Musicians' Union have launched a new programme of courses this autumn to help you survive and thrive in the freelance world. The cost of these heavily subsidised courses is only £25 per workshop. Check out the online PDF for more information about the courses, dates and venues (locations are London, Leeds, Bristol, Birmingham and Newcastle). *Copyright for Creatives*: ensure that you know your rights and get paid for your work; *Freelance Survival Guide*: find out what it takes to run your own business; *Build Your Own Website*: you can do it for as little as £50; *Networking via the Web*. Read more: <http://www.equity.org.uk/Documents/FEU%20Courses%20091.pdf>.

With best wishes from the Guild office

If you have any items you wish to be included in the next edition of the Newsletter, or if you want to share your ideas on topics listed or how to improve the contents, you can contact the Guild office via info@dgggb.org.

Deadline for copy/submissions for the upcoming edition of the Newsletter (edition 9): **27th November 2009**.

If you do not wish to receive this Newsletter in the future please let us know [by email](#).

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