

# barbican

## Barbican Cinema

### ScreenTalks & Live Events – April & May 2024

Upcoming at Barbican Cinemas is a vibrant programme of ScreenTalks and live events, featuring among others the *Love Lies Bleeding* director **Rose Glass** (*Saint Maud*) and co-writer **Weronika Tofilka** for a post-screening discussion about this hotly anticipated romantic thriller.



*James Baldwin, Love Lies Bleeding, Civil War, Citizen Saint, John Deakin, Gay Men's Guide to Safer Sex 9, Celluloid Underground, Stephen (top left to bottom right)*

ScreenTalks during April also include renowned writer/director **Alex Garland** in conversation with Barbican curator Sonia Zadurian for *Civil War*; director and visual artist **Melanie Manchot**, actor **Michelle Collins** and subject of the film **Ste Giddings** in conversation with film critic **Ben Nicholson** about *Stephen*; The Observer's chief film critic **Wendy Ide** introduces the bold French animation *Chicken for Linda*; and director **Rob Falconer** presents the unseen cut of *The Gay Man's Guide to Safer Sex*.

In May, the Barbican marks the centenary of **James Baldwin**'s birth with a season of films – *The Devil Finds Work, James Baldwin Through Film* – including discussions exploring Black representation in modern cinema including multi-award-winning playwright and screenwriter **Enda Walsh** (*Hunger*); Associate Professor of African Anthropology at UCL **Hélène Neveu Kringelbach** (*35 Shots of Rum*); scholar, poet and critic **Dr Janine Bradbury** (*If Beale Street Could Talk*); artist filmmakers **Rhea Storr** and **Ayo Akingbade** in conversation with the film critic **Ellen E Jones** (*The Devil Finds Work* shorts programme). *The Devil Finds Work: James Baldwin Through Film* is curated by **Dr Clive Chijioke Nwonka**.

Also in May, Iranian filmmaker **Ehsan Khoshbakht** joins for a Q&A about his masterfully crafted documentary *Celluloid Underground*, with lecturer and film critic **Rebecca Harrison**. Georgian director **Tinatin Kajrishvili** and producer **Lasha Khalvashi** are in

conversation following a New East Cinema screening of their black and white drama **Citizen Saint**.

## Listings

### Family Film Club

#### [Chicken for Linda! + Live intro from Wendy Ide intro](#)

Italy/France 2023, Dir. Sébastien Laudenbach & Chiara Malta, 76min

**Sat 20 Apr, 11am**

#### **Cinema 2**

This month, Barbican's regular Saturday morning for film fans under 18 includes an introduction from film critic Wendy Ide to Chiara Malta & Sébastien Laudenbach's *Chicken for Linda*, and a programme of experimental shorts programmed for young people, created in partnership with Open City Documentary Festival, preceded by a free workshop in the Beech Street cinema café.

#### [Civil War \(15\) + New Release ScreenTalk with director Alex Garland](#)

USA 2024, Dir Alex Garland, 109min

**Sun 21 Apr 2024, 5.30pm**

#### **Cinema 1**

Barbican Cinema welcomes seasoned writer/director Alex Garland for a conversation with Barbican Cinema Curator Sonia Zadurian, to discuss his latest film, an American dystopian thriller set in the near future during a devastating US Civil War.

This box-office success sees Kirsten Dunst as a photojournalist, Cailee Spaeny (*Priscilla*) and Nick Offerman as US President. With a personal canon including *28 Days Later*, *Annihilation*, *The Beach* and *Ex Machina*, Alex Garland's work is known for its sociological depths, slick shots, and humanistic approach to potential dystopian futures.

#### [Preview: Stephen \(15\\*\) + ScreenTalk](#)

UK 2023, Dir Melanie Manchot, 78min

**Thu 25 Apr, 6.25pm**

#### **Cinema 1**

Following an exclusive preview screening of this striking documentary, director **Melanie Manchot**, actor **Michelle Collins** and subject of the film **Ste Giddings** join a conversation with film critic **Ben Nicholson**.

Visual artist Melanie Manchot works with a recovery group in Liverpool, who take up roles in a semi-fictional film-within-a-film that explores addiction and mental health from multiple perspectives. It is centred around Stephen, a character who has lived experience of addictions in himself and in his family. References to the first police crime reconstruction, filmed in Liverpool in 1901, are a reminder that addiction has long existed within the fabric of our culture.

#### [Gay Men's Guide to Safer Sex 97 – Director's Cut \(18\\*\) + ScreenTalk with director](#)

**Rob Falconer and special guests, hosted by Selina Robertson**

UK 1997 (Director's Cut, 2024), Dir Rob Falconer, 55 min

**Tue 30 Apr, 6.30pm**

#### **Cinema 1**

Five years after David Lewis' ground-breaking *The Gay Man's Guide to Safer Sex* made in 1992, director Rob Falconer made *Gay Men's Guide to Safer Sex 97* as so much new information had become available since the original guide's release. This later film includes expert advice from medical consultant Mike Youle, fearlessly honest interviews with gay men talking about their sex lives and groundbreaking sex scenes, some featuring adult performer Aiden Shaw.

From kissing tips to full-on intercourse, this frank and sex-positive guide was a refreshing celebration of gay sex at a time when many LGBTQ+ people were pressured into feeling fear and shame. It is an invaluable snapshot of queer life in the 90s, too, backed by a pulsating techno soundtrack courtesy of electro combo Angel.

Screening with:

***Sleeping Dragon***

UK 2024, Dir Rob Falconer, 12 min

World premiere of a new short film by Rob Falconer – a moving tribute to artist, writer and long-term HIV/AIDS survivor George Hodson (1949-2023).

**[Celluloid Underground \(12A\) + ScreenTalk with Ehsan Khoshbakht](#)**

UK / Iran 2023, Dir Ehsan Khoshbakht, 80min

**Sat 4 May, 3.45pm**

**Cinema 1**

Celluloid Underground is a captivating exploration of film culture's resilience in the face of oppression, masterfully crafted by Ehsan Khoshbakht. Through the lens of two passionate cinephiles, Khoshbakht and his late friend Ahmad Jurghanian, the film honours cinema as a potent form of resistance.

Set against a backdrop of state violence, the documentary intertwines the journeys of Khoshbakht and Ahmad, united in their mission to preserve 35mm film prints in Iran. Their dedication is palpable as they navigate the risks of imprisonment and torture to safeguard banned films hidden beneath Tehran's streets.

As the narrative unfolds, Khoshbakht's lyrical storytelling and evocative imagery immerse viewers in the sensory richness of cinema. Yet, amidst the romance lies a sobering acknowledgment of cinema's complex history, touching upon themes of exploitation and colonialism.

**[New East Cinema: Citizen Saint \(15\\*\) + Screenshot with director Tinatin Kajrishvili and producer Lasha Khalvashi](#)**

Georgia 2023, Dir Tinatin Kajrishvili, 100mins

**Tue 7 May, 6.15pm**

**Cinema 2**

In a Georgian mining town, the statue of a crucified saint hovers over the mines, blessing the locals. One day, the saint disappears, and when a mysterious young man comes to town, a series of small miracles create more chaos than good.

Filmed on location and with a mixed cast of miners and actors, Tinatin Kajrishvili's third feature film blends realism and religious allegory to pose questions about ethics' place in faith. Following the locals' destinies, many of which were marked by a pit accident a decade

ago, *Citizen Saint* explores how much of the world humans are willing to sacrifice in the name of personal salvation.

*Citizen Saint* premiered in Karlovy Vary in 2023 and subsequently became Georgia's submission for the Academy Awards. The film's captivating black and white cinematography, created by Bulgarian Director of Photography Krum Rodrigue, received a Spotlight Award nomination from the American Society of Cinematographers.

**[Love Lies Bleeding \(15\) + ScreenTalk with director/co-writer Rose Glass & co-writer Weronika Tofilka](#)**

USA/UK 2024, dir Rose Glass

**Tue 7 May, 6.30pm**

**Cinema 1**

Set in 1989, *Love Lies Bleeding* chronicles the relationship between a reclusive gym manager (Kristen Stewart) and an ambitious bodybuilder (Katy O'Brian) hitch-hiking her way to a competition in Las Vegas. In a role that which allows her to flourish in fantastic new ways, Stewart is electrifying in this steamy, punchy, nostalgic thriller. O'Brian is utterly transformed and a powerful onscreen presence throughout.

Followed by a ScreenTalk with director/co-writer Rose Glass (*Saint Maud*) and co-writer Weronika Tofilka.

**[The Devil Finds Work: James Baldwin Through Film](#)**

**Thu 2 May - Wed 22 May**

Marking the centenary of the birth of James Baldwin – one of the most influential writers and activists of the 20th century – Dr Clive Chijioke Nwonka curates a season exploring Black representation in modern cinema through the ideas in Baldwin's 1976 seminal book *The Devil Finds Work*, with a selection of inspiring contemporary films and fascinating conversations with guest speakers.

**[If Beale Street Could Talk \(15\\*\)](#)** + recorded intro by **Barry Jenkins** + **ScreenTalk** with scholar, poet and critic **Dr Janine Bradbury**.

US 2018, Dir Barry Jenkins, 117 min

**Thu 2 May, 6pm, Cinema 2**

This screening will be shown with closed captions.

**[Hunger \(15\\*\)](#)** + **ScreenTalk** with playwright/ screenwriter **Enda Walsh** and scholar, poet and the lecturer **Dr Lola Boorman**, hosted by **Dr Clive Nwonka**.

UK/Ireland 2008, Dir Steve McQueen, 96 min

**Wed 8 May, 6.20pm, Cinema 2**

**[The Devil Finds Work shorts programme \(15\\*\)](#)** + **ScreenTalk** with filmmakers **Ayo Akingbade** and **Rhea Storr**, hosted by the journalist and broadcaster **Ellen E Jones**:

***A protest, A Celebration, A Mixed Message***, UK 2018, Dir Rhea Storr, 11 min

***Junkanoo Talk***, UK 2017, Dir Rhea Storr, 12 min

+ ***Fire in my Belly***, UK 2021, Dir Ayo Akingbade, 11 min

***Dear Babylon***, UK 2019, Dir Ayo Akingbade, 21 min

***So They Say***, UK 2019, Dir Ayo Akingbade, 11 min

**Sun 12 May, 3.20pm, Cinema 2**

**[35 Shots of Rum](#)** (12A) + **ScreenTalk with Dr H el ene Neveu Kringelbach** Associate Professor of African Anthropology at University College London, hosted by **Dr Clive Nwonka**.

France/Germany 2009, Dir Claire Denis, 100 min

**Wed 22 May, 6.15pm, Cinema 1**

**[John Deakin: Pariah Genius + The Falconer + Q&A](#)**

**Experiments in Film**

**Thu 30 May, 6pm**

**Cinema 1**

Marking publication of celebrated London chronicler Iain Sinclair's new book *Pariah Genius, John Deakin & The Soho Court around Francis Bacon, The Biography of an Afterlife* (Cheerio Publishing), this special event presents the world premiere of a new artist's film of the same name (2024, 25 mins) made in response to Deakin's life by remarkable talents - Emma Matthews, Chris Petit, Susan Stenger and Sinclair himself - all in conversation with Gareth Evans after this unique double-bill screening.

*Barbican Cinema's [ScreenTalks web page](#) is updated with the latest announced ScreenTalks with important voices in the cinema industry and beyond, as well as recordings of previous ScreenTalks.*

**ENDS**

**Notes to Editors**

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**New Releases:**

Standard:	�13
Barbican members:	�10.40
Young Barbican	�5
Concessions:	�11
ScreenTalk	�13/�14.50
Under 18s:	�6

**Events/Seasons/Festivals:**

Standard:	�13
Barbican members:	�9.60

Corporate Members: Varied Discount  
Young Barbican £5  
Concessions: £11  
Under 18s: £6

**Performance Cinema/Live and Encore:**

ROH Live  
Standard: £21  
Barbican Members: £16.80  
Corporate Members: Varied Discount  
Young Barbican: £10

**Met Opera Live**

Standard: £37  
Barbican Members: £29.60  
Corporate Members: Varied Discount  
Young Barbican: £15

NT Live  
Standard: £20  
Corporate Members: Varied Discount  
Young Barbican: £10

There is £1.50 booking fee for purchases made online / # Certificate to be confirmed

**Barbican press room**

All Barbican Centre press releases, news announcements and the Communications team's contact details are listed on our website at [www.barbican.org.uk/our-story/press-room](http://www.barbican.org.uk/our-story/press-room)

**About the Barbican**

The Barbican is a catalyst for creativity, sparking possibilities for artists, audiences, and communities. We showcase the most exciting art from around the world, pushing traditional artistic boundaries to entertain and inspire millions of people, create connections, provoke debate, and reflect the world we live in.

We are an international arts and events centre rooted firmly in our own neighbourhood, collaborating with local communities and putting the City of London on the map as a destination for everybody. Central to our purpose is supporting emerging talent and shaping opportunities that will accelerate the next generation of creatives.

As a not-for-profit, we rely on the generosity of individuals and organisations, including our principal funder the City of London Corporation. Every ticket purchased, donation made, and pound earned supports our arts and learning programme and enables the widest possible range of people to experience the joy of the arts.

Opened in 1982, the Barbican is a unique and audacious building, recognised globally as an architectural icon. As well as our theatres, galleries, concert halls and cinemas, we have a large conservatory with over 1,500 species of plants and trees, a library, conference facilities, public and community spaces, restaurants, bars, and a picturesque lakeside oasis.

We're proud to be the home of the [London Symphony Orchestra](#), and a London base of the [Royal Shakespeare Company](#). We regularly co-commission, produce and showcase the work of our other associates and partners including the [Academy of Ancient Music](#), [the BBC Symphony Orchestra](#), [Boy Blue](#), [Britten Sinfonia](#), [Cheek by Jowl](#), [Darbar Festival](#), [Doc'n Roll Film Festival](#), [Drum Works](#), [EFG](#)

[London Jazz Festival](#), [Human Rights Watch Film Festival](#), [London Palestine Film Festival](#), [Serious](#), and [Trafalgar Entertainment](#).

For more information, visit our [website](#) or connect with us on [Instagram](#) | [Twitter](#) | [Facebook](#) | [YouTube](#) | [Spotify](#) | [LinkedIn](#)

### **About Barbican Cinema**

We connect audiences with a curated programme of international cinema; from celebrated filmmakers to ground-breaking and under-heard voices from past and present.

Our programmes are presented in Cinemas 1 in the main centre and Cinemas 2&3 on Beech Street. Our programme ranges from thematic seasons that respond to today's world, to new releases, ScreenTalks, cross-artform collaborations, family events, access screenings and event cinema that presents the performing arts on screen.

We showcase the work of emerging filmmakers, as well as less familiar work of exceptional filmmakers from the UK and around the world.

We champion the work of Barbican Young Programmers and give stage to emerging musicians in our ongoing film & live music series which includes our flagship collaboration with the Guildhall School of Music & Drama.

As part of a cross-arts centre, our cinemas are a cultural space for people to share the viewing experience. We strive to be inclusive in everything we do; providing platforms for the widest possible range of filmmakers and ensuring we are an open, welcoming, and accessible venue for all our audiences.