

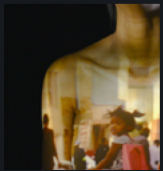


GAZE



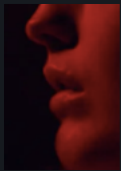
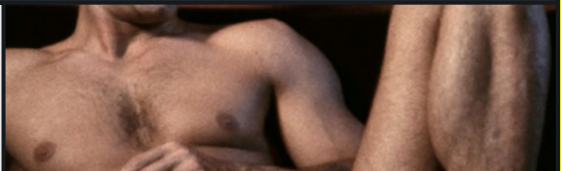
INTER-

NATIONAL



LGBTQIA

FILM



FESTIVAL

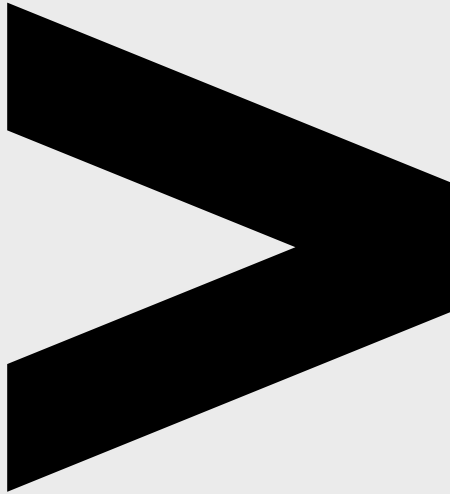


LIGHT HOUSE CINEMA - IRISH FILM INSTITUTE

3RD - 7TH AUGUST | 2023

STELLA CINEMA - PROJECT ARTS CENTRE





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PROGRAMME

Programme of Events
3rd - 7th August
2023

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Thanks To Our Supporters

Without their dedicated support GAZE could not happen. Thank you to our sponsors, supporters, venues and community partners that help to make all this possible.



BOX OFFICE

TICKET PRICES

OPENING & CLOSING GALA

Tickets €20

IRISH FILM INSTITUTE

Non-Member €14

IFI Member / Concession €11

LIGHT HOUSE CINEMA

Standard €14

Concession €11

THE STELLA CINEMA €21

TICKET BOOKINGS

Project Arts Centre - projectartscentre.ie

Light House Cinema - lighthousecinema.ie

Stella - stellacinemas.ie

IFI - ifi.ie

GAZE ONLINE

A selection of this year's cinema offering will be available online to viewers throughout Ireland. Visit gaze.ie to find out more and to book.

Chairperson's Welcome

I want to give huge thanks to Accenture and the Arts Council for their enduring and generous support, without which GAZE would be impossible, as well as all the other sponsors, embassies and funders who ensure we can continue to support new artists, reach new audiences, and connect with the LGBTQIA community in all its diversity. A big shout out to our long-standing Festival Friends as well as those of you who will become a Friend this year for the first time: your dedication as supporters and audiences is a crucial part of who we are.

On behalf of the board of GAZE I'm delighted to introduce you to this year's festival programme and invite you to join us for five days and nights of unforgettable cinematic experiences this summer. It's our 31st edition and we're celebrating our dirty thirties by moving back to our traditional dates over the August bank holiday weekend – which means an extra day of screenings, more opportunities to spend whole days immersed in LGBTQIA+ stories from Ireland and around the world, and more thrilling late nights together with the lights off.

Festival Director Greg Thorpe and the fantastic programming team have cast their gaydar wide and uncovered an extraordinary line-up which will make your breath catch and your heart soar. You'll want to gossip about gay spies and howl about lesbian werewolves once you've had a chance to go through the programme and discover what's in store.

While days and nights at the cinema are at the heart of what GAZE does, and we're delighted to be returning to our valued partner venues at the Light House and Irish Film Institute again this year, we're excited that the festival is also stretching its wings and exploring new directions. Iconic queer performer David Hoyle will perform his latest spectacular *The Ten Commandments* to accompany his appearance in *Hedda*, and we'll follow up the *Hidden Cameras* documentary *Music Is My Boyfriend* with a sweaty gig of their infectious queer pop. This year's GAZE brings a new collaboration with Project Arts Centre to screen *Ungentle* written by Huw Lemmey of *Bad Gays*, and the luxe surroundings of the *Stella* in Rathmines will be a perfectly decadent setting for the 1923 film version of Oscar Wilde's *Salomé*.

We're delighted to work with Neuro Pride Ireland to help us move towards better access at GAZE, including a relaxed screening of our *Irish Shorts*, and to renew our collaborations with aemi and the Iris Prize on specially curated shorts programmes. We also begin new relationships with *Queer Lisboa* and *Red Umbrella Film Festival* to bring vital and daring new voices and stories to our screens.

Massive thanks and best wishes to the whole festival team including Greg, James, Alice, Patrick and Julian, as well as all our festival volunteers, and especially to our new Festival Manager Jenni Little who has recently joined us – welcome Jenni! Thanks to the whole GAZE board – it's a total pleasure and privilege to serve alongside you and I'm honoured to have taken on the role of Chair this year. And a huge thanks to the filmmakers and audience: you're the reason we do this, and we hope you find much to enjoy and inspire in this year's festival.

See you in the dark.



Tom Creed
Chairperson

Festival Director's Welcome

Welcome back to an August edition of the GAZE Film Festival! Last year we celebrated thirty years of GAZE. This year is the thirtieth anniversary of the decriminalisation of homosexuality in Ireland. It's not hard to imagine that cultural and artistic expression helps set the scene for social change. I hope this is a tradition that continues and that GAZE is a part of it. To celebrate this year's milestone, you will find films in our programme that celebrate gay sexuality in many guises, from romance to kink to marriage to late-night vintage pornography. Enjoy!

Where urgent social change is concerned, trans filmmaking plays an essential part in our festival, and cinema is a space where we imagine better futures, push for action, honour community, and platform voices. At GAZE 2023 you will find a host of trans shorts and features reflecting on community, identity, joy, fantasy and freedom.

As lesbian filmmaking takes over Hollywood it's also thriving in this year's Irish shorts with a host of truly genius Sapphic tales on offer alongside plentiful voices from across our community. And while we are thinking about our fullest community, at BFI Flare I experienced an incredible documentary entitled *Who I Am Not* which centres the experiences of three extraordinary individuals who all identify as intersex. It is profound story-telling, the kind film festivals are made of. Inspired by activism surrounding the film I have brought the '+' out of the shadows this year and our festival is subtitled 'LGBTQIA' for the first time. Please do watch this important film, and the Irish short *Lambing*, and if you are producing stories about intersex and asexual life and other less heard experiences, we would love to watch them.

This year we also have a musical bent to our programme with documentaries focussing on two iconic ground-breaking gay bands, *The Indigo Girls* (*It's Only Life After All*) and *The Hidden Cameras* (*Music Is My Boyfriend*). Inspired by these stories we've had fun theming our shorts selections around gay dancefloor bangers – *Smalltown Boys*, *Bad Romance*, and *Mighty Real*. You will find the cream of queer talent in amongst those. We welcome a special film selection from our friends at *Queer Lisboa* who have brought us a selec-

tion of beautiful shorts and whet our appetite for future collaborations. We are excited to revive our partnership with the *Iris Prize*, who present a medley of fantastic cutting-edge shorts this year, and will also join us for a workshop aimed at anyone who wants to work with short films in their career.

We celebrate another new partnership with *Red Umbrella Film Festival* who offer shorts that focus on queer experiences of sex work and are wondrous in their variety. Come and meet them and hear more about this exciting Dublin venture. Last but not least, our programming partnership with *aemi* enters its fourth year sharing eye-opening experimental works that will change your mind about short film.

As for this year's features, go ahead and delve in, there will definitely be something to entice you – we were spoiled for choice this year, and I hope you feel the same.

Greg Thorpe
Festival Director



Friends With Benefits

Now entering our fourth decade, GAZE continues to bring strangers and friends together for breathtaking, mind-bending and life-affirming cinematic experiences. The support of our Festival Friends is a crucial contributor to our sustainability, and on behalf of the festival board, staff, sponsors and audience we would like to say a huge thank you to anyone who's been a Friend in the past or is thinking of coming on board this year. Being a GAZE Festival Friend gives tickets to our Opening and Closing Galas, a choice of amazing films in between, and special events during the festival and throughout the year. Sign up now and ensure we can continue to support filmmakers and audiences to come together around LGBTQIA stories for years to come.

FESTIVAL FRIEND

€130

Your Festival Friend package includes:

- One ticket for both our Opening and Closing Gala films plus pre-film receptions
- Two complimentary tickets during the festival (subject to availability, early booking essential, not including special events*)
- Recognition on screen and on our website
- Invitations to exclusive Festival Friends events

DOUBLE FRIEND

€200

All the benefits of the Festival Friends package plus:

- An extra ticket to bring a friend, partner or date to both our Opening and Closing Gala films
- Two additional complimentary tickets during the festival (subject to availability, early booking essential, not including special events*)
- Recognition on screen and on our website
- Invitations to exclusive Festival Friends events

BEST FESTIVAL FRIEND (BFF)

€350

All the benefits of the Double Friend package plus:

- A Festival Pass which gives you complimentary ticket to every screening you want to see during the festival (tickets must be booked in advance to ensure availability, including special events*)
- Access all areas! Your support gets you access to all in-person online screenings and invitations to special events throughout the festival.

NEW FRIEND

€50

Especially for students, emerging film-makers or anyone who wants to support our work for the first time, you get:

- One ticket to a feature or documentary screening, and one ticket to a shorts programme (subject to availability, early booking essential, not including special events)
- Invitations to workshops and filmmaker socials during the festival
- Recognition on screen and on our website

Become a Friend at www.gaze.ie or email us at info@gaze.ie for more details.

*David Hoyle at Project Arts Centre, Salomé at The Stella, The Hidden Cameras Live

Gaze Film Awards 2023

Best Irish Short Film
Best International Short Film
Best Documentary Film

The annual GAZE Film Awards are our way of recognising quality work by Irish and international filmmakers, shining a spotlight on exceptional films screening at the festival. Our hope is that receiving a GAZE Film Award will boost the profile and confidence of filmmakers, assisting them to go on to do even more quality work. Our fantastic Jury for 2023 will select awards across three key categories.

The category winners will be announced at our Closing Gala event on Monday 7th August at the Light House Cinema, so get your tickets, and join us there to celebrate the finest LGBTQIA storytellers, and enjoy our breathtaking closing feature.

Gaze Jury 2023

Brendan Courtney

Brendan Courtney is Ireland's first openly gay TV presenter and one of our best-known and well-loved broadcasters and designers. He was a leading advocate of the Marriage Equality Referendum, and is an inspirational advocate for Equality, Diversity and Inclusion. Brendan's award-winning TV documentaries have tackled topics such as housing, ageism and health and have triggered policy reform, resulting in his current Ministerial appointment to the Dept of Health's executive advisory board. Last year he hosted Ireland's first forum on Human Rights and Equality.



Han Tiernan

Han Tiernan (they/she) is a researcher, writer and artist in Dublin. Their key area of interest is contemporary Irish queer history and expanding voices within the Irish LGBTQ+ community. Since September 2021, Han has been Editorial Assistant with GCN (Gay Community News) and has overseen the digitisation of the GCN Archive. Han also co-produced Unshrinking Violets: 50 Years of Lesbian Activism with Francis Fay for the Bealtaine Festival 2023 and is creator of the Ranelagh/Rathmines Queer Walking Tour. Since 2022, Han has coordinated the REWIND<<FASTFORWARD>>RECORD (RFR) initiative along with Brendan Fox and the Museum of Everyone.



Diana Bamimeke

Diana Bamimeke is an independent curator, art writer and maker, primarily interested in curating and producing socially engaged art. Their practice is informed by Black and queer radicality, total abjection, fiction and speculation, and critical conjecture. Diana is currently Superprojects' 2023/24 Curatorial Fellow, and their work has featured in publications by Origins Eile, Visual Artists Ireland, the Royal Hibernian Academy, Temple Bar Gallery + Studios and TU Dublin.

Austin Hearne

Austin Hearne is a multi-disciplinary artist from Dublin, living in Co. Wexford, with work held in collections internationally. His film Whispers won Best Irish Short at last year's GAZE Film Festival. Austin's practice is rooted in photography and he comes from a family of painters and decorators, using the stuff of that industry to make his work. Austin holds a MFA from NCAD, is a studio member at Temple Bar Gallery + Studios, and is founding member and one half of experimental queer goth music act, Satin Shadow.

THURSDAY

3RD AUGUST

TIME	EVENT	VENUE
7pm	Opening Gala	Light House Cinema Bar
8pm-10pm	Le Paradis & Outsiders	Light House Cinema Screen 1

FRIDAY

4TH AUGUST

TIME	EVENT	VENUE
5.45pm-8pm	Three Nights A Week & Darcelle	Light House Cinema Screen 2
5.45pm-8pm	Irish Shorts & In Conversation	Light House Cinema Screen 1
8pm-9.25pm	Kokomo City	Irish Film Institute Screen 1
8.15pm-10.25pm	Queer Exile Berlin & Skin To Skin Talks	Light House Cinema Screen 3
8.30pm-10pm	David Hoyle 'The Ten Commandments'	Project Arts Centre
10.35pm-12.35am	My Animal & Late Bloomers	Light House Cinema Screen 1
10.40pm-12.20am	Ask Any Buddy & Big Sur Gay Porn	Light House Cinema Screen 2

SATURDAY

5TH AUGUST

TIME	EVENT	VENUE
11.30am-12.30pm	Filmmaker Social	Light House Cinema Cafe
12.45pm-2.30pm	Bad Romance	Light House Cinema Screen 3
2pm-3.05pm	Irish Shorts: Relaxed Screening	Light House Cinema Screen 4

Saturday
5th August
Cont...

TIME	EVENT	VENUE
1pm-2.50pm	Queer Lisboa Shorts	Light House Cinema Screen 2
3.15pm-5pm	Music Is My Boyfriend* & Boybend	Light House Cinema Screen 2
3.20pm- 5.30pm	It's Not The First Time We Fight For Our Love & Behind My Drag Queen	Light House Cinema Screen 3
5.45pm- 7.45pm	The George* & Making Waves	Light House Cinema Screen 1
7.30pm- 9.30pm	Mighty Real	Light House Cinema Screen 3
7.55pm-10pm	Kenya & Peccadillo	Light House Cinema Screen 2
8pm-10pm	The Hidden Cameras LIVE	Workmans Cellar
8.30pm- 10.30pm	Barrio Boy & Impasse	Irish Film Institute Screen 1
10.15pm- 12.35am	The People's Joker* & Hormonal	Light House Cinema Screen 1
10.30pm- 12.15am	Le Beau Mec & Dublin Is Kinky	Light House Cinema Screen 2

SUNDAY 6TH AUGUST

TIME	EVENT	VENUE
11.30am- 12.30pm	Filmmaker social	Light House Cinema Cafe
1pm-3pm	Finlandia & Bright Heart	Light House Cinema Screen 1
1pm-3.15pm	aemi shorts & In conversation	Irish Film Institute Screen 2

* Screening followed by In conversation event

Cont...

TIME	EVENT	VENUE
2pm-3.45pm	Salomé & In conversation	Stella Cinema
3.30pm- 5.15pm	Smalltown Boys	Light House Cinema Screen 2
3.30pm- 5.15pm	The Reservoir & The Call	Irish Film Institute Screen 1
4.40pm-6pm	Ungentle* & New Threads, Two Stories of Dublin, Queer	Light House Cinema Screen 1
5.50pm- 8.15pm	20,000 Spe- cies Of Bees & Three Wishes	Irish Film Institute Screen 1
6.30pm- 8.15pm	Hedda* & Private View	Light House Cinema Screen 1
8.45pm- 10.45pm	Something You Said Last Night & Glitterbug	Irish Film Institute Screen 1
9.30pm-12am	Almamula* & Cracks Will Come	Light House Cinema Screen 1

MONDAY
7TH AUGUST

TIME	EVENT	VENUE
12pm-2.25pm	It's Only Life After All & Portaloo	Light House Cinema Screen 1
12.30pm- 2.30pm	Masquerades of Research* & A Particular Friend	Light House Cinema Screen 2
12.40pm-2pm	RUFF shorts	Light House Cinema Screen 3
2.15pm- 3.15pm	Workshop	Light House Cinema

* Screening followed by In conversation event

Monday
7th August
Cont...

TIME	EVENT	VENUE
3.30pm-5pm	Iris Prize shorts	Light House Cinema Screen 2
3.30pm-5.35pm	Who I Am Not & Boundless	Irish Film Institute Screen 1
5.30pm-7.30pm	Mutt & Who I Am Now	Light House Cinema Screen 1
7.30pm	Closing Gala	Light House Cinema Bar
8.30pm-11pm	Of An Age & Speeches, Awards, & EITR	Light House Cinema Screen 1

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BRÓD | D U & L I N
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Ungentle

Sunday 6th August



THURSDAY

3RD AUGUST

LIGHT HOUSE CINEMA

20:00



Thursday 3rd August
20:00, Light House

Dir. Zeno Graton
Belgium/France, 2023
1h 23m

We have a real dynamite opener to make a start to GAZE 2023. Young love, lust, and law-breaking rear their heads in Zeno Graton's incredible taut character-driven French/Belgian gay drama, *Le Paradis*, aka *The Lost Boys*. The film contrasts the restless claustrophobia of a young men's detention centre with the boundless thrills of first love, and young fantasies of the future, producing a story that is filled with yearning, complexity and humour.

The two central performances, wayward lads Joe (Khalil Gharbia) and William (Julian de Saint Jean), underpin what is truly a sensational ensemble cast effort. It's hard to believe this is Graton's feature film debut, so accomplished is the world contained in his film. Will love save the day in this explosive world of friction, fighting and fragile masculinity? *Le Paradis* brought the house

down at the Berlinale and we hope it will do the same here in Dublin for our Opening Gala event of 2023. Welcome back to GAZE in August!

PRE-FEATURE SHORT

OUTSIDERS

Dir. Rishi Chamman / Netherlands / 2023 / 12m

When a Hindustani young man Milan becomes buddy to a Syrian asylum seeker, it puts an awkward strain on his family life. Their differences in opinions and perspectives come to the surface and lead to an explosive situation.

FRIDAY
4TH AUGUST

NEW IRISH SHORTS

SHORTS + IN CONVERSATION

FRIDAY 4TH AUGUST

17:45

LIGHT HOUSE CINEMA

1hr 44m



INTRODUCTION

Another stellar year for the Irish short. We were overwhelmed with the high standard of storytelling on display and the sheer pool of talent that's out there. Be sure to check out the rest of the programme for more Irish shorts popping up across the festival as pre-feature screenings. Last year we had a packed house for this celebration of Irish filmmaking, this year we want to sell out completely so come along, bring a friend, and stick around to chat with the artists afterwards. If you'd prefer to experience a relaxed screening of this selection in a smaller venue, turn to the Saturday line-up for more info, plus you will have chance to see Irish shorts as part of GAZE Online. Wherever you choose to watch, enjoy!

WORTHY

Dir. Zainab Boladale / 2023 / 3m

Sewa is a black woman struggling to get over her ex-girlfriend. Through her monologue we experience the emotional rollercoaster of a first break up.

THE TALK

Dir. Jonathan Hughes / 2022 / 10m

The Talk chronicles the life changing conversation that takes place between father and son when staunchly unionist father Dennis walks in on his son Barry in bed with a man. But Barry isn't the only one hiding a secret from the family.

LET ME LIVE

Dir. Éadaoin O'Shea Costley / 2022 / 4m

Documentary short film on the experience of a trans young person in Dublin Ireland

TRY AND TOUCH

Dir. Nell Hensey / 2022 / 12m

Emer Danagher is a school girl in rural Ireland who is battling with the overwhelming agony of unrequited love. We see her build up the courage to come clean to her crush as she realises that she has nothing to lose and everything to gain. But at 17, it feels like her life will be over if she doesn't get the response she so desperately wants.

LAMBING

Dir. Katie McNeice / 2022 / 18m

A young dad in rural Ireland must face his anxiety around gender and bullying when his baby is born intersex.

MALCOLM

Dir. Caleb Roberts / 2023 / 12m

Emotionally unstable Joe seeks couples' counselling with a sock puppet likeness of his ex-boyfriend, Malcolm.

HOW TO LIVE HERE

Dir. Alisha Doody / 2022 / 3m

How to Live Here is a short film that is part of a wider biographical multimedia project that explores the trajectory of a queer woman who leaves their rural upbringing in search of community only to return to the conditions she once ran away from.

SNUFF

Dir. Louise Nesbitt / 2021 / 9m

A woman in the middle of an affair arrives home to find her wife making a snuff film in their living room.

AGAPE

Dir. Ethan Donoghue / 2022 / 17m

Agape follows Margret, a young Traveller Women who is forced into a marriage she has no say in with a man she can never love. While she battles confronting her new reality, the woman Margret really loves has no choice but to watch as everything goes downhill.

WHAT COULD GO WRONG

Dir. Caroline Quinn / 2023 / 17m

Six best friends decide to go camping to spend one last fun weekend together before they go their separate ways, to escape their stresses ... well that was the plan anyways.

THREE NIGHTS A WEEK

LIGHT HOUSE CINEMA

17:45



Friday 4th August
17:45, Light House Cinema

Dir. Florent Gouélou
France, 2022
1hr 43m

Drag queens are so often fierce, funny, fabulous, and surrounded by fanatics – but how often are they the real object of desire, of love, lust and intimacy? Three Nights A Week follows a confused young man's life as it gets turned upside down and covered in sequins when he falls for a hardworking drag star with a tough veneer and a vulnerable interior.

The looks and turns throughout this uplifting feature are to die for, and the dialogue snaps hard in a witty and fast rollercoaster of laughs and lipstick. The backdrop of gay nightclubs, queer cabaret, hedonism and HIV activism gives this film an authentically queer setting for a totally unconventional romance to unfold. France excels at both the contemporary queer drama and sophisticated rom-com, and Three Nights A Week is the very best of both – something to give your Friday night all of the necessary glamour and romance. J'adore.

PRE-FEATURE SHORT

DARCELLE: ON LIFE, LOVE AND DYING

Dir. Christina Carol Dowsett / USA / 2023 / 14m

Darcelle, at the age of 91, is the Guinness World Record holder for the oldest working drag queen. On stage Darcelle is harolded as a prominent figure in the Portland, Oregon LGBTQ+ scene but at home Walter Cole is just like anyone else who loves, laughs, and cries. In this short film, friends and family reflect with Darcelle on a long and accomplished life as the end draws near.

KOKOMO CITY

IRISH FILM INSTITUTE

From Friday 4th August



**From Friday 4th August
Irish Film Institute**

*Dir. D. Smith
USA, 2023
1hr 13m*

Twice daily screenings, afternoon and evening, from Friday 4th onwards. Head to ifi.ie for times and bookings.

The Irish Film Institute brings the Irish premiere of a groundbreaking transgender documentary to Dublin that they are thrilled to support at GAZE. *Kokomo City* is a trans-made cinematic venture that follows the lives of a group of charismatic Black transgender women in America as they navigate life, sex work, romance, bodily autonomy and an increasingly transphobic country.

Director D. Smith brings a stylish flourish to proceedings, borrowing from music video aesthetics to give a unique energy to an urgent piece of storytelling. Prepare to listen up, learn, and fall in love with Daniella Carter, Koko Da Doll, Liyah Mitchell and Dominique

Silver, as they speak up and speak out for themselves. The film gives space and voice to a plethora of life experiences from trans women and the people who love them in a way that breaks new ground for transgender life depicted on screen. Timely, necessary, brilliant cinema.

LIGHT HOUSE CINEMA

20:15



Friday 4th August
20:15, Light House Cinema

Dir. Jochen Hick
Germany, 2023
1hr 45m

Queer people from all around the world have helped make Berlin what it is today. Many LGBTQIA people leave their home and make their way to Berlin because they want to, others because they have to. Queer life in Berlin means exploring what freedom can be and fighting for it when the time comes. Director Jochen Hick's sensitive and intimate documentary follows a few of these queer life experiences, exploring the interactions of queer Berliners with their new or native city as they navigate work, play, gender, transition, change, language, pleasure and activism.

QUEER EXILE BERLIN is the third in a trilogy of thorough and artistic historical and cultural explorations of the queerest city on Earth. The queer universe of Berlin mirrors the movements of the world and is constantly evolving. The film interweaves personal stories and

ambitions of queer protagonists with historical events and current issues. The result is a true image of Berlin as a perpetual place of longing and a challenge to all those who arrive there. A city in constant transition. How do you make a life in Berlin? Come and see for yourself.

PRE-FEATURE SHORT

SKIN TO SKIN TALKS

Dir. Pradeep Mahadeshwar / Ireland / 2023 / 12m

"The dark skin alien landed in the unknown, unfamiliar and unique landscape from the infinite darkness..." Completed as part of the artist's residency at IMMA, Skin To Skin Talks explores themes of alienation, otherness and outsidership using abstract imagery, prose and sensation-invoking techniques to reflect on the intersections of race and sexuality.

DAVID HOYLE : THE TEN COMMANDMENTS

PROJECT ARTS CENTRE

20:30



**Friday 4th August
20:30, Project Arts Centre**

The living legend, queer icon and performance art maestro David Hoyle brings his critically-acclaimed live show *The Ten Commandments* to Dublin for a premiere and one-night-only performance at Project Arts Centre for GAZE Film Festival.

a cinematic and musical reimagining of the Henrik Ibsen classic Hedda Gabler in true Hoyleian avant garde fashion. David also appears in Afterparty, part of the Mighty Real shorts selection on Saturday evening.

Survivor of a shame-inducing religious upbringing, David revisits his Biblical initiation with his very own version of *The Ten Commandments* designed to spark a revolution in human consciousness. This is a live experience that will wash all of your sins away and then some. Dark comedy meets righteous anger meets queer revolution as only David Hoyle themselves can conjure...

Head to projectartscentre.ie for further information and to book.

David Hoyle is our special guest at this year's GAZE Film Festival and on Sunday evening you can catch him in conversation at Light House Cinema with film director Jen Heyes and Festival Director Greg Thorpe following a one-off screening of Hedda (After Ibsen),

LIGHT HOUSE CINEMA

22:35



Friday 4th August
22:35, Light House Cinema

Dir. Jacqueline Castel
Canada, 2023
1hr 40m

Self-possessed teenager Heather (Bobbi Salvör Menuez) is a high school loner, big sister and competent ice hockey goalie from a troubled but loving home. Her family shares a chilling supernatural secret that ultimately cannot be kept hidden as Heather begins to assert her sexuality upon meeting the beautiful neighbourhood girl Jonny, played with enigmatic perfection by Amandla Stenberg of *The Hunger Games*, *The Hate U Give* and *Bodies Bodies Bodies*.

As their relationship deepens and her parental troubles accelerate, the dark power that lives inside Heather will soon be unleashed. The 1980s setting for this brilliant teen horror allows for a sensational soundtrack and a super-cool *Stranger Things* aesthetic that you will adore.

We are thrilled to present the European Premiere of this future queer classic to our audience in Dublin. Bring a friend, a cushion, and beware the blood moon...

PRE-FEATURE SHORT

LATE BLOOMERS
Dir. Sarah Ahern / Ireland / 2023 / 9m

Sue and Ellie share an unspoken love that is gradually transforming into something much deeper, sweeter and more meaningful. Often when we are the ones closest to the truth, we are the very last people to see it.

ASK ANY BUDDY

LIGHT HOUSE CINEMA

22:40



Friday 4th August
22:40, Light House Cinema

Dir. Elizabeth Purchell
USA, 2019
1hr 18m

Ask Any Buddy was an Irish Premiere at GAZE back in the home-viewing days of 2020. This unique cine-collage is a voyage into the classic porn of yesteryear and it's had a film festival life like few other movies. For GAZE 2023 we are bringing it back for a glorious in-the-flesh late night screening.

Both erotic and anthropological, Purchell's filmic essay is a kaleidoscope of beautiful men from bygone days. Filled with the warmth of grainy pre-digital footage and the hot pulse of disco, it pieces together work by famous adult directors, including William Higgins, Tom DeSimone and Joe Gage. Elements of 126 feature films, spanning the years 1968–1986, go to create a cut-up of urban gay life and a snapshot from a different time.

Ask Any Buddy is a joyful homage to the radical act of being a happy and fulfilled homosexual, and to the

gleeful smut-makers who captured the nightlife, the cruising, the baths and the fun.

Part of our celebration of the history of gay sexuality, marking thirty years since decriminalisation in Ireland. Check out our Saturday night screening of Le Beau Mec for more vintage gay goodness with a lovingly restored almost-lost French skinflick classic.

Contains explicit sexual content. Strictly over 18s only.

PRE-FEATURE SHORT

BIG SUR GAY PORN
Dir. Ryan A. White / USA / 2023 / 12m

Cult filmmaker Tom DeSimone revisits the production of a lost gay porn film, resurrecting youthful adventures on the Californian coast, but nostalgia isn't always 20/20 vision.

SATURDAY

5TH AUGUST

FILMMAKER SOCIAL

LIGHT HOUSE CINEMA

11:30



Saturday 5th August

11:30, Light House

Are you a filmmaker, film programmer, actor, writer, artist, producer...? Or perhaps a GAZE aficionado and cinephile? Living in Ireland or just passing through Dublin for the festival? Come and join us for a relaxed pre-cinema festival social hosted by Festival Director Greg Thorpe where you can get a coffee, chat about cinema, swap your top tips for the festival, and meet other filmmakers. The social will take place at the Light House Cinema and all are welcome.

If you need any kind of assistance to attend, are feeling shy, or would like to know more before you come along, just email julian@gaze.ie. Looking forward to meeting you all for festival gossip and networking. Please note there will be a second Filmmaker Social at the same time on Sunday also at Light House Cinema.

BAD ROMANCE

SHORT FILM SHOWCASE

SATURDAY 5TH AUGUST
12:45
LIGHT HOUSE CINEMA
1hr 43m



DESCRIPTION

Queer relationships can be honest and pure, wholesome and fulfilling. They can also be the total opposite. Celebrate connections that are complex, messy, petty, sometimes criminal and not always free in these eight tales of love and lover's revenge.

BLOND NIGHT

Dir. Gabrielle Demers / Canada / 2022 / 16m

Unhappy in his housing for autistic adults, Victor goes out for a late-night walk, unexpectedly meeting a young prostitute along the way.

DUO EN SOUS-SOL

Dir. Vinciane Le Men / France / 2021 / 12m

Games of power and seduction are all at play as a detective interrogates a homicide suspect who doesn't seem keen on hiding her guilt.

COME CLEAN

Dir. Sal Bardo / USA / 2022 / 13m

A young man struggling with OCD white-knuckles his way through a Grindr hook-up, ultimately making a mess of things.

SHEE

Dir. Lia Campbell / UK / 2023 / 10m

Shee and Magnus deal with the aftermath of an unplanned pregnancy in a country where same-sex couples face significant barriers to parenthood.

DILATING FOR MAXIMUM RESULTS

Dir. Nyala Moon / USA / 2023 / 14m

Preparing to meet her online boyfriend IRL, a trans woman tries to dilate for the first time in four years.

WET HAIR

Dir. Julian Dieterich / Germany / 2023 / 6m

When two men reconnect to find comfort in a common fetish, a tender conversation about loss, violence and a shared past unfolds.



THE TREE

Dir. Ida Hansen Eldøen / Norway / 2023 / 14m

While battling a hangover, Rebecca also finds herself at war with an ex-girlfriend, who has come to claim the apple tree they planted together.

COWBOY, CHOKER, HARNESS & HEART

Dir. Nicolas Blanco / USA / 2023 / 8m

Highlighting both the destructive and constructive natures of desire, four partygoers grapple with the limits of commitment in the bathroom of a gay rave.

QUEER LISBOA SHORTS

INTRODUCED BY THE QUEER LISBOA
FESTIVAL DIRECTORS

SATURDAY 5TH AUGUST
13:00
LIGHT HOUSE CINEMA
1hr 41m



DESCRIPTION

We are so excited to partner with Queer Lisboa, one of the most important queer film festivals in the world, to present a selection of their favourite contemporary LG-BTQIA shorts. Queer Lisboa has been pioneering LG-BTQIA film programming since 1997, bringing new voices to audiences and supporting the future of international filmmaking. We certainly share a vision in common and now we are excited to share some new film work too.



SOB INFLUENÇA (UNDER THE INFLUENCE)

Dir. Ricardo Branco / Portugal / 2022 / 20m

A trio of friends — played by multidisciplinary artist Odete the Slayer, João Abreu (Immaterial Girl), and Alexander David (To Die Like a Man) — retreat to a luxurious and isolated home in the middle of the woods for a weekend of hallucinogens and pool-lounging. But a strange nighttime encounter upends their queer holiday.



AZUL BLUE HAS NO DIMENSIONS

Dir. Ágata de Pinho / Portugal / 2022 / 20m

Ara had always believed she would disappear at twenty-eight years old. With that birthday approaching, she pursues the most basic feelings of existence in the water, the sun and the sublime. The state of trance is a wholesome place, alien-like, pervaded by invisible forces. When Ara realizes where her belief came from, she's propelled to catharsis: does she disappear?

UM CAROÇO DE ABACATE (AN AVOCADO PIT)

Dir. Ary Zara / Portugal / 2022 / 20m

Larissa, a trans woman and Cláudio, a cis man, meet one night, in the streets of Lisbon. Two people, two realities, who dance their differences away till morning light. In challenge, in surprise, in awe and in recognition. An empowering story, free from violence and filled with light and hope for the better days yet to come.

TORNAR-SE UM HOMEM NA IDADE MÉDIA (BECOMING MALE IN THE MIDDLE AGES)

Dir. Pedro Neves Marques / Portugal / 2022 / 22m

Mirene and André, and Carl and Vicente, are both couples in their mid-thirties. While Mirene and André struggle with their fertility, Vicente decides to undergo an experimental procedure, implanting an ovary in his body in the hopes of having a child with Carl. A love drama of speculative undertones, "Becoming Male in the Middle Ages" is an intimate tale about queer sexuality, bodily autonomy, reproductive desires, and the ghost of normativity.

LUGAR NENHUM (NOWHERE)

Dir. Pedro Gonçalves Ribeiro / Portugal / 2021 / 19m

An electropop remix about places, loneliness, and the color blue.

NEW IRISH SHORTS

RELAXED SCREENING

SATURDAY 5TH AUGUST
14:00
LIGHT HOUSE CINEMA
1hr 45m



DESCRIPTION

A second chance to watch this year's bumper crop of new Irish short films in a chilled and friendly afternoon setting. This relaxed screening aimed at neurodivergent cinemagoers and guests with sensory disorders will be a repeat of our Irish shorts programme with dim lighting and lowered volume levels. Some of the films will have subtitles.

There are 68 seats in the screen and no allocated seating. Patrons are free to come and go from the screen as they please, bring a support worker, use any toys and stims, and above all enjoy this exciting selection of new Irish screen voices.

WORTHY

Dir. Zainab Boladale / 2023 / 3m

Sewa is a black woman struggling to get over her ex-girlfriend. Through her monologue we experience the emotional rollercoaster of a first break up.

THE TALK

Dir. Jonathan Hughes / 2022 / 10m

The Talk chronicles the life changing conversation that takes place between father and son when staunchly unionist father Dennis walks in on his son Barry in bed with a man. But Barry isn't the only one hiding a secret from the family.

LET ME LIVE

Dir. Éadaoin O'Shea Costley / 2022 / 4m

Documentary short film on the experience of a trans young person in Dublin Ireland

TRY AND TOUCH

Dir. Nell Hensey / 2022 / 12m

Emer Danagher is a school girl in rural Ireland who is battling with the overwhelming agony of unrequited love. We see her build up the courage to come clean to her crush as she realises that she has nothing to lose and everything to gain. But at 17, it feels like her life will be over if she doesn't get the response she so desperately wants.

LAMBING

Dir. Katie McNeice / 2022 / 18m

A young dad in rural Ireland must face his anxiety around gender and bullying when his baby is born intersex.

MALCOLM

Dir. Caleb Roberts / 2023 / 12m

Emotionally unstable Joe seeks couples' counselling with a sock puppet likeness of his ex-boyfriend, Malcolm.

HOW TO LIVE HERE

Dir. Alisha Doody / 2022 / 3m

How to Live Here is a short film that is part of a wider biographical multimedia project that explores the trajectory of a queer woman who leaves their rural upbringing in search of community only to return to the conditions she once ran away from.

SNUFF

Dir. Louise Nesbitt / 2021 / 9m

A woman in the middle of an affair arrives home to find her wife making a snuff film in their living room.

AGAPE

Dir. Ethan Donoghue / 2022 / 17m

Agape follows Margret, a young Traveller Women who is forced into a Marriage she has no say in with a man she can never love. While she battles confronting her new reality, the woman Margret really loves has no choice but to watch as everything goes downhill.

WHAT COULD GO WRONG

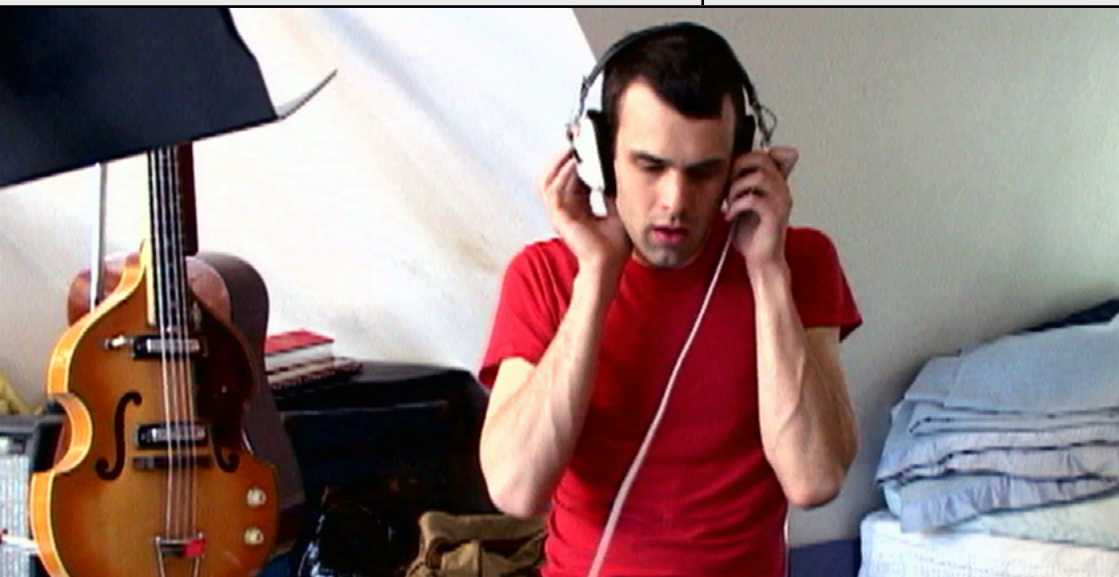
Dir. Caroline Quinn / 2023 / 17m

Six best friends decide to go camping to spend one last fun weekend together before they go their separate ways, to escape their stresses ... well that was the plan anyways.

MUSIC IS MY BOYFRIEND

LIGHT HOUSE CINEMA

15:15



Saturday 5th August
15:15, Light House Cinema

Dir. Robert Kennedy
Canada, 2022
49m

The Hidden Cameras burst onto the music scene in the early 2000s boasting an irresistible combination of pop and queer sensibilities. *Music Is My Boyfriend* chronicles the early days of Joel Gibb's mighty band as they gather steam in their native Toronto. Combining interviews with original members, behind-the-scenes session footage and rarely-seen 16mm film of two legendary live church shows, the film is both a mash note to a beloved band and a time capsule of the raucous, vivacious queer underground scene from which they emerged. The film features stunning live performances of tracks from their debut album and the screening will be accompanied by rare short films *A Miracle* and *The Making of a Miracle*, the band's first video and a series of rushes from its making, plus *Breathe On It*.

Joel Gibb will join GAZE for a post-screening conversation.

PLUS... The Hidden Cameras are LIVE IN DUBLIN TONIGHT at The Workmans Club. See page 35 for more info!

PRE-FEATURE SHORT

BOYBEND

Dir. Eva Malmberg / Sweden / 2023 / 14m

With hair trimmers, contour makeup, and a whole lot of denim, four queer boyband fans create the four heart-throbs of 'Boybend' – the greatest boyband the world has never seen.

IT'S NOT THE FIRST TIME WE FIGHT FOR OUR LOVE

LIGHT HOUSE CINEMA

15:20



Saturday 5th August
15:20, Light House Cinema

Dir. Luis Carlos de Alencar
Brazil, 2022
1hr 44m

Drawing on a wealth of incredible archival imagery, personal testimony and public record, this epic and engrossing documentary recounts the long complex histories of LGBTQ+ persecution and resistance in Brazil. Director, screenwriter and researcher Luis Carlos de Alencar delves deep to chart the long-held societal prejudices against the LGBTQ population in Brazil which came to the fore following the coup of 1964, at which point queerness came to represent the enemy of the traditional family, conservative values, morality and good behaviour – a sadly familiar tale. The journey from then until now is explosive, terrifying, moving and triumphant – but never over.

The emergence of the Brazilian LGBT movement is a moving and powerful experience and the richness of this film's tapestry acts also a call to arms for resist-

ance and resilience today, characteristics that have defined Brazil's vast queer communities. As a city with close community ties to Brazilian LGBTQIA life, we hope our Dublin audiences will come along with us on an incredible eye-opening historical journey of discovery and pride. As Alencar writes, "Being a filmmaker in Brazil now means dealing not with just one challenge, but with several. However, it is precisely in this moment of intense crisis that we cannot give up."

PRE-FEATURE SHORT

BEHIND MY DRAG QUEEN

Dir. Leonardo Oliveira / Ireland / 2023 / 14m

This short documentary tells the story of Chantelle Perez, a Brazilian drag queen who discovered a new life for herself in Ireland through the art of drag.

THE GEORGE

LIGHT HOUSE CINEMA

17:45



Saturday 5th August
17:45, Light House Cinema

Dir. Clark Harding
Ireland, 2002
55m

Way back in 2002 at 'The Tenth Dublin Lesbian & Gay Film Festival' we were excited to screen a hot new documentary by a young filmmaker named Clark Harding. Clark's film *The George* focused on the regulars of Dublin's favourite gay bar as a starting point for a wider exploration of the city's changing queer scene and gay life in the capital. More than twenty years later we revisit *The George* and screen this amazing archive piece in front of an audience for the first time since its original outing. Dublin has changed, gay life has changed, GAZE has changed ... have you?

With fantastic footage of *The George*, *Alternative Miss Ireland*, drag shows and an already unrecognisable Dublin, you will adore this trip down memory lane via South Great George's Street, featuring a cast of Irish

queer heroes including Brendan Courtney, Panti, Veda, Shirley Temple Bar, and many more blasts from the past.

We are excited to welcome Clark all the way from Los Angeles to share this screening with us, along with as many of the original cast of queer icons, Dublin divas and familiar faces as we can find. Join us after the screening for a conversation about the scene and nightlife then and now.

PRE-FEATURE SHORT

Making Waves
Dir. Shane O'Callaghan / Ireland / 2023 / 11m

This short documentary was filmed over the course of a weekend gathering on the coast of Co.Clare and explores the experiences, uncertainties and joys of life as an LGBTQ+ person in rural Ireland.

MIGHTY REAL

SHORT FILM SHOWCASE

SATURDAY 5TH AUGUST
19:30
LIGHT HOUSE CINEMA
1hr 35m



INTRODUCTION

Queer and particularly trans filmmakers have an affinity for the make-believe, from sex dreams to scream queens and all the galaxies in between. What makes fantasy, sci-fi and horror so appealing to us? These shorts offer a kaleidoscopic array of answers. Reimagining a Hawaiian legend revives suppressed histories; a bawdy romp in outer space imagines new destinies; digital utopias give new perspectives to real-world trans lives; the appearance of ghosts collapses queer pasts and presents into one. And as all these ideas and more are untangled in this block of genre shorts, a timeless queer question arises: Is it just me, or are shapeshifters kind of sexy?

DAISY: PROPHET OF THE APOCALYPSE

Dir. Venus Patel / Ireland / 2023 / 20m

A radical trans street preacher and her followers prophesy the end of the world with salvation only for those who denounce heterosexuality. Men must be women! Women must be men! All sexual intercourse must be interracial! PRAISE HER!

YOU CAN STAY OVER (IF YOU WANT)

Dir. Zach Siegel / USA / 2022 / 11m

After a hookup, John and Alex touch on the beginnings of intimacy despite being near-strangers. Embarrassing stories give way to personal anecdotes, but how do you know when it's safe to show someone your real self?

AIKĀNE

Dir. Daniel Sousa, Dean Hamer & Joe Wilson / USA / 2023 / 14m

In this sumptuously animated odyssey, a Pacific Island warrior is thrown to the sea in a battle against foreign invaders. Below the waves he finds not death but a beautiful, magical stranger who may just be able to turn the tides of this anti-colonial fight.

DO DIGITAL CURANDERAS USE EGGS IN THEIR LIMPIAS?

Dir. Roberto Fatal / USA / 2022 / 14m

Ria, an indigenous curandera, is one of the last people in their barrio who has not uploaded their mind to the Internet to escape the pain of life on Earth. As their magic fades and loneliness grows, Ria asks a friend to sign off as their next of kin so they can upload to digital utopia.

CELESTIAL BODIES

Dir. Ryan Suits / USA / 2022 / 5m

With kitschy sets and campy glamour, this short follows two astronauts attempting to overpower an alien spaceship... if the ship's pleasure-based defences don't overpower them first.

AFTERPARTY

Dir. Alex Matraxia / UK / 2023 / 9m

Settling in for a bath with a vinyl on the record player, an ageing Charlie (played by David Hoyle) finds himself beset by apparitions of old friends. In an intimately dreamlike atmosphere that blurs the line between past and present, ghost and memory, the unwelcome party helps Charlie come to terms with life after a generational loss.

PAPERGIRL

Dir. Jack Warren / USA / 2023 / 5m

En route to a party, a lonely traveler discovers their skin is turning to paper. The more they try to blend in, the more they fall apart, and suddenly gender dysphoria and gender euphoria clash in a mess of spilled ink, split skin and torn paper.

GLORY, HOLE

Dir. Hiram Harrington / Ireland / 2023 / 17m

Two men hide behind a glory hole in a gay nightclub. One has a pair of scissors and plans to castrate his rapist. The other feverishly tries to talk him down. A third man approaches. A fly unzips. No one walks away intact.

LIGHT HOUSE CINEMA

19:55



Saturday 5th August
19:55, Light House Cinema

Dir. Gisela Delgadillo
Mexico, 2022
1h 30m



Amongst a vulnerable community of transgender sex workers surviving in Mexico City, Kenya finds herself becoming the mother and the voice for this multiply-marginalised population. Filmmaker Gisela Delgadillo employs a generous and empowering hands-off filmmaking technique that places the energy of story-telling into its subject's hands, with raw and intimate results.

The tragedy at the centre of this incredible documentary is the murder of a fellow trans sex worker, Paola, at the hands of one of her clients. The ensuing transformative fight for justice for Paola encompasses the entire fabric of life as a trans woman sex worker in Mexico, igniting purpose, activism, grief and bonding. By the end of the film the time spent by the viewer in Kenya's circle and emotional inner world feels both an honour and a call to action.

Kenya is presented in partnership with Red Umbrella Film Festival (RUFF), a collective of current and former sex workers using cinema to connect and explore story-telling from their community. Check out the RUFF shorts programme taking place on the Monday afternoon of GAZE and read more about the project over at their Instagram @redumbrellafilmmfestival.

PRE-FEATURE SHORT

PECCADILLO

Dir. Sofia Garza-Barba / US / 2023 / 25m

Lorenzo secretly yearns to explore his femininity, and according to his religious family, secrets belong to the devil. Faced with a choice, he must live a lie or confront the devil himself.

THE HIDDEN CAMERAS: LIVE

THE WORKMAN'S CLUB

DOORS 8PM



The Hidden Cameras live at The Workman's Club Doors 8pm

Indulge in a whole day of The Hidden Cameras with GAZE. You can see the band's fantastic early-years documentary *Music Is My Boyfriend* at Light House Cinema this afternoon (see page 31 for more) including singer Joel Gibb in a post-screening conversation, and then you can catch the band in their live glorious incarnation on stage tonight at The Workman's Club.

Arriving as a live act, The Hidden Cameras set fire to an already hot early 2000s Toronto music scene and their energy on stage has not waned. Get your tickets quick smart to this rare live Dublin show of one of the best queer pop and all round great guitar bands of this century.

Head to the [The Workman's Club](http://TheWorkmansClub.com) website for tickets and info: theworkmansclub.com

BARRIO BOY

IRISH FILM INSTITUTE

20:30



Saturday 5th August
20:30, Light House Cinema

Dir. Dennis Shimmers
USA, 2022
1h 22m

It's a hot and sultry New York summer. Handsome Latinx barber Quique comes from a super macho Brooklyn world where the men are men and barbershops like his are the heterosexual ground zero. But when Quique crosses paths with a handsome visiting Irish stranger, the edges of this world begin to fray for Quique as he becomes tangled in the complexity of balancing two distinct lives. The result is a sexually charged odyssey of self-discovery and inescapable attraction.

This is the long-awaited feature from Dennis Shimmers based on the acclaimed short of the same name, and it is definitely worth the wait. As director Shimmers confesses, *Barrio Boy* is "a bittersweet love letter to hookups, breakups, dustups and fuckups." The charismatic central performances, the rough exciting city setting, and the truly sexy pairing between the male leads makes for a pretty much perfect summer night of heartfelt homoerotic viewing.

PRE-FEATURE SHORT

IMPASSE

Dir. Nicolas Reza / Poland / 2023 / 16m

After Piotrek is attacked by a group of guys from his school, a taxi driver named Arek helps him home—but during their journey, Arek makes Piotrek an offer that will change his night, if not his life.

THE PEOPLE'S JOKER

LIGHT HOUSE CINEMA

22:15



Saturday 5th August
22:15, Light House Cinema

Dir. Vera Drew
USA, 2022
1h 32m

'We're the Jokers of the daughters... We're the daughters of the Jokers you couldn't burn?'

Welcome to Gotham City, where you're either a joke-man or a harlequin. Comedy is a controlled substance and Smylex addictions are rising. But one rebellious, unfunny, transgender clown called Joker is ready to fight the system—just as soon as she legally changes her name, finally creates a good comedy act, and deals with her toxic boyfriend, Jared Leto's Joker.

Cut short in its 2022 festival run but kept alive by word of mouth and secret screenings, this feature debut from Emmy-nominated editor and jester visionary Vera Drew brings a bombastic mix of anti-comedy, animation and transsexual clowns, made with the help of over 100 artists and with zero authorisation from DC

Comics. Fun, frenetic and fair use! Last year we were devastated that our screening of *The People's Joker* had to be cancelled at the last moment, but we persevered and are thrilled to present this future cult queer classic in all its glory for 2023.

The screening will be followed by an in-conversation with Director Vera Drew.

Presented in partnership with the Small Trans Library.

PRE-FEATURE SHORT

HORMONAL
Dir. Maz Murray / UK / 2023 / 12m

When three trans people in a small town in Essex get ripped off by their DIY testosterone supplier, they must come together to undertake a daring hormone heist in this working-class, neo-noir flight of fancy.



LIGHT HOUSE CINEMA

22:30



Saturday 5th August
22:30, Light House Cinema

Dir. Wallace Potts
France, 1979
1h 10m

Le Beau Mec ('The Handsome Guy') is a lovingly restored masterpiece of French erotic cinema, a true diamond in the rough from the history of French gay porn, a film that was once feared lost and is now available in all its original glory following the discovery of forgotten master prints. Le Beau Mec was directed by Wallace Potts with a contemporary cinematic restoration produced by Gerald Herman who will be on hand to introduce this Irish premiere screening and to describe its incredible journey back to the screen.

Director Potts was the well-known lover of Rudolf Nureyev and the legendary dancer even lent his choreographic skills to the making of the film. (Yes, the sex is that athletic). The centrepiece of the movie is 'Le Beau Mec' himself, the dazzlingly handsome Karl Forest, who roams the city for sexual encounters and never fails to find them. Outdoors, kink, gym sex and

more are on tap to this Parisian hunk and you're invited along for the ride.

Part of our celebration of the history of gay sexuality, marking thirty years since decriminalisation in Ireland.

PRE-FEATURE SHORT

DUBLIN IS KINKY

Dir. Greg Smyth Bernes / Ireland / 2023 / 10m

This short documentary explores the kink and fetish subculture among Dublin's queer men, as well as the community they've discovered with their fellow kinksters.

SUNDAY
6TH AUGUST

FILMMAKER SOCIAL

LIGHT HOUSE CINEMA

11:30



Sunday 6th August
11:30, Light House

Are you a filmmaker, film programmer, actor, writer, artist, producer...? Or perhaps a GAZE aficionado and cinephile? Living in Ireland or just passing through Dublin for the festival? Come and join us for a relaxed pre-cinema festival social hosted by Festival Director Greg Thorpe where you can get a coffee, chat about cinema, swap your top tips for the festival, and meet other filmmakers.

The social will take place at the Light House Cinema and all are welcome. If you need any kind of assistance to attend, are feeling shy, or would like to know more before you come along, just email julian@gaze.ie. Looking forward to meeting you all for festival gossip and networking.

LIGHT HOUSE CINEMA

13:00



Sunday 6th August
13:00, Light House Cinema

Dir. Horacio Alcalá
Mexico / Spain, 2021
1hr 37m

The chill of distant Finland is a recurring metaphor in this magical realist feature, but it's the deep sun-drenched heart of rural Mexico that forms the setting, with its unreal light, ancient traditions and spiritual symbolism. The muxes are the focus of Horacio Alcalá's story, a community of people who live between genders, and the director uses every tool in the filmmaker's armoury to bring these vivid outsiders to the screen with tenderness, authenticity, respect and majesty.

As the muxes community struggles to keep body and soul together, the encroaching forces of capitalism, colonialism, time, binary gender and eventually Mother Nature herself seem to be pitched against them. This is a story of spirit, tradition and love. There are moments so visually stunning that time – another key theme

of the story – seems to stand still. Swathes of colour, breath-taking mise en scene, pin sharp dialogue and a luxurious love of light and shade make this a genuine piece of art. This is a rare chance to appreciate this level of filmmaking on a big screen.

PRE-FEATURE SHORT

BRIGHT HEART

Dir. Tarek Lakhrici / France / 2023 / 14m

After being pursued by a black-gloved biker, Jahid flees to a museum for safety. Inside he finds strange and beautiful apparitions that open his mind to the possibilities of the world in spite of its dangers.

LUCID NOTIONS

aemi SHORTS & IN-CONVERSATION

SUNDAY 6TH AUGUST

13:00

IRISH FILM INSTITUTE

1hr 41m



INTRODUCTION

2023 marks the fourth consecutive year of aemi and GAZE working together to present a programme of moving image work by artists and experimental filmmakers as part of the festival. This packed line-up moves from the earthly to the celestial to assert political dissent, express longing and physical desire, evoke the stranger facets of human intimacy and celebrate the healing strength of joy, community and creativity. As a programme made up entirely of brand new work this screening hopefully says something about the specifics of this often contradictory moment in time and the more lucid perspectives it can sometimes give us on the past, in all its chaos and complexity.

aemi is an Arts Council-funded organisation that supports and exhibits artist and experimental film. For more information visit www.aemi.ie



WHERE'S DANNY?

Dir. Amy Pennington / UK / 15m

Drawing upon the media scandal headlined "GAY SANTA GETS SACK" Amy Pennington drags up as a reporter to explore this hyperlocalised piece of queer history.

VAGARY

Dir. Ross G. Hewitt / USA / 2m

Through the remembrance of a dream, a teenage boy discovers his attraction to a male college student.

PET WORLD

Dirs Sofia Theodore-Pierce, Grace Mitchell / USA / 14m

Inspired by Amy Hempel's short story collection, *Reasons to Live*, and the work of poet Bernadette Mayer, an ensemble cast riffs on what we might discover about intimacy in parking lots.

FLARE

Dir. Kate Blamire / Germany / 27 minutes

Flare is a film made in alignment with the tides of artist Kate Blamie's illness and capacities, and is testament to the healing strength of joy, community, and creativity.

PORCUPINE

Dirs Nicolas Graux & Trương Minh Quý / Belgium-Singapore-Vietnam / 12m

In an abandoned hospital, ghosts still linger, strangers come and go.

THE CESSPOOL OF RAPTURE

Dir. Joseph Noonan-Ganley / Ireland & UK / 2017 / 17m

Zipper, stains, rips, abrasions, openings, and closings.

BIGGER ON THE INSIDE

Dir. Angelo Madsen Minax / USA / 11m

Outer and inner space collapse in Angelo Madsen Minax's cosmic essay film, which diffracts feelings, memories, and longings during a blurry sojourn in a remote cabin in the woods.

SALOMÉ

THE STELLA CINEMA

14:00



Sunday 6th August

14:00, The Stella Cinema

Dirs Charles Bryant & Alla Nazimova

USA, 1923

1hr 14m

Join us in the suitably sumptuous surrounds of The Stella Cinema to celebrate the centenary of *Salomé*. Try saying that after a martini. This legendary silent film based on the original Oscar Wilde play has a long and controversial history and a juicy enticing queer mythology that would've made Oscar proud.

Co-directed by Charles Bryant with fabulous bisexual artist, actress, author and bon viveur, Alla Nazimova, the film was rumoured to feature an entirely gay cast of actors (spot the irresistible camping about), and boasts drag artists, decadence and of course dramatic decapitation! All sensitively done, of course.

The spartan sets paired with sumptuous avant-garde costuming – far ahead of its time – draw on original illustrations by Aubrey Beardsley from Wilde's play text, and the film itself now seems tantalisingly close to the era of dear Oscar.

The screening will be followed by a panel of Wildean wits and clever queens gossiping about this hundred old beauty and we would love you to be there.

SMALLTOWN BOYS

SHORT FILM SHOWCASE

SUNDAY 6TH AUGUST
15:30
LIGHT HOUSE CINEMA
1hr 28m



INTRODUCTION

Inspired by this year's musical slant, Smalltown Boys riffs on the Bronski Beat classic to present a series of accomplished short films that consider what happens when gay and trans men leave town, come home, head for the hills, or seek out their past. Five films from five different countries tackle tall tales that span continents and decades in a rollercoaster of thrilling new shorts. Expect sexy, sad and sensational cinema.



GOLDEN VOICE

Dir. Mars Verrone / Cambodia & USA / 2022 / 18m

Forty years after the Khmer Rouge regime, a transgender man returns to the village where he survived genocide and miraculously found queer and trans community, including the love of his life.



WHAT HAPPENED TO DAVID BURKETT?

Dir. Duane Michals / USA / 2023 / 3m

Memories of an old friend are filled with questions and longing.



LOLA VS ED

Dir. Lars Brinkman / Netherlands / 2022 / 10m

Lola is a drag queen finishing a night's shift. She gets in the cab with Ed, a quiet taxi driver who is confronted with his own prejudices and desires by the colourful Lola.

A PARTICULAR FRIEND

Dir. Eileen Tracey / Ireland / 2022 / 15m

When Father Matthew discovers an intimacy between two of the other priests at a remote conversion-therapy centre in Northern Ireland, his attempt to do the right thing leads to a crisis of faith and feeling.

5PM SEASIDE

Dir. Valentin Stejskal / Greece / 2022 / 25m

On his 40th birthday, Nikos, a solitary truck driver, arrives on a remote beach to meet his former military buddy Christos, whom he hasn't seen for many years, with intense results.

WILL YOU LOOK AT ME

Dir. Shuli Huang / China / 2022 / 20m

As a young Chinese filmmaker returns to his hometown in search of himself, a long overdue conversation with his mother places the two of them in a quest for acceptance and love.

IRISH FILM INSTITUTE

15:30



Sunday 6th August
15:30, Irish Film Institute

Dir. Diego Hoefel
Brazil, 2023
1hr 17m

Get ready to fall in love with Lucas (played with irresistible charm by Renato Linhares) a quiet, ruggedly handsome, stoical man on a mission. As he crosses the country to locate an obscure forgotten plot of family land from his late mother's will, Lucas encounters strange places, eccentric new friends, random dream-like circumstances, plus a long lost brother and a surprise romantic/erotic situation with a young motorcyclist.

Director Diego Hoefel's gently powerful character study meets road movie pulls the viewer in using comedy, surprise plot twists and beautiful cinematography that just begs to be seen at the cinema. Brazil continues to produce contemporary characterful masterpieces of film and The Reservoir will definitely quench your thirst for great cinema with a big gay heart.

PRE-FEATURE SHORT

THE CALL

Dir. Jordan Rossi / UK / 2023 / 14m

Amir, a prospective university student struggling with his sexuality, calls Switchboard for advice at three crucial moments. With each moment of connection, Amir takes a step further in his journey.

LIGHT HOUSE CINEMA

16:40



Ungentle

Sunday 6th August
16:40, Light House Cinema

Dirs Huw Lemmey & Onyeka Igwe
UK, 2023
37m

Huw Lemmey – writer, artist, critic and co-founder of the magnificent *Bad Gays* podcast – joins us in person to discuss his co-directorial debut with acclaimed moving image artist Onyeka Igwe. Scripted by Lemmey and narrated by Ben Whishaw, *Ungentle* is a major new film commission exploring the knotty and intriguing relationship between the history of British espionage and male homosexuality, juxtaposing anonymous memoir with carefully crafted imagery hinting at symbolic attachments and a lost past.

Ungentle's unseen protagonist recalls his young life and subsequent recruitment into the world of intelligence agencies, relating experiences of subterfuge, community, sexual and state secrecy between gay men and spies. *Ungentle* draws on the life stories of infamous Cambridge Five “traitors” Anthony Blunt and Guy Burgess, and civil servant John Vassall. These Cold

War-era scandals featuring gay men linked homosexuality with betrayal in popular imagination. What emerges is a portrait of the often contradictory self-perceptions which marked ‘Englishness’, sexuality, and class in the mid-twentieth century.

Followed by an in-conversation with writer and director Huw Lemmey.

PRE-FEATURE SHORTS

NEW THREADS

Dir. Elspeth Vischer / Ireland / 2023 / 6m
Imaginative and informative, *New Threads* combines archival and contemporary footage of Belfast with first-hand accounts of lesbian lives in the Troubles to imagine invisible queer women in the light of day.

TWO STORIES OF DUBLIN, QUEER

Dir. Alan Power / Ireland / 2023 / 6m
Two individuals share their personal stories of queer Dublin through a series of voice messages and photographs, capturing the essence and experience of the city, its people and their stories.

20,000 SPECIES OF BEES

IRISH FILM INSTITUTE

17:50



Sunday 6th August
17:50, Irish Film Institute

Dir. Estibaliz Urresola Solaguren
Spain, 2023
125m

A young trans girl's tentative steps towards self-realisation, and her attempts to make her family recognise who she already knows she is, are sensitively traced in Estibaliz Urresola Solaguren's stunning debut feature. The eight-year-old protagonist has adopted the nickname Coco as she doesn't identify with Aitor, a male name assigned at birth. She would prefer to be called Lucia, but mother Ane (Patricia Lopez Arnaiz), who has two other children and an ailing marriage, is struggling to view her son as a girl. Ane, whose moral conflict is the fulcrum around which this beautifully calibrated film pivots, is following in the family tradition by working as a sculptor, under the disapproving eye of her own mother, Lita (Itziar Lazkano), who admonishes her for indulging Coco. It falls to her aunt, Lourdes (Ane Gabarain), a beekeeper in the bucolic Spanish Basque region, to see Lucia for who she really is.

Notes by David O Mahony, IFI.

PRE-FEATURE SHORT

THREE WISHES

Dir. Will McConnell / Ireland / 2022 / 10m

Three teenagers, wandering the streets of Belfast at night, ask themselves what they would do if they had three magic wishes.

HEDDA (AFTER IBSEN)

Irish Premiere

LIGHT HOUSE CINEMA

18:30



Sunday 6th August
18:30, Light House Cinema

Dir. Jen Heyes
UK, 2022
58m

Hedda is beautiful, aristocratic, and intelligent, loaded with social grace and a steely, clear, dispassionate charisma. Life really isn't good enough for Hedda. Like any of us, in life there are moments when we feel that this frustrating business of existence — as lived on our darkest days — really isn't good enough for us either... Set in a Lynchian world of dream imagery, drama, bespoke sound design, music and chanteuse style singing; the iconic avant-garde performer David Hoyle stars as Hedda in this one-person, cinematic/theatrical reimagining of Henrik Ibsen's Hedda Gabler, created and directed by Jen Heyes, with original composition by Tom Parkinson. HEDDA (After Ibsen) moves past the obvious to create a darkly surreal show for everyone that doesn't reduce it to our binary traditions. Shot on location at Soho Theatre, yet cinematically ambitious, HEDDA (After Ibsen) is a story of many faces – the absolute power of manipulation, influence, the control of obsession and dark psychological unrest. This is a contemporary unpacking of Ibsen's original text from

inside the hinterland of the artist's imagination. Heyes and Hoyle's reimagined Hedda is both musical and darkly surreal, moving us far beyond the traditional binary. As Ibsen himself said: 'Hedda is first and foremost a human being.'

David Hoyle and Jen Heyes will be in conversation following the screening. *David Hoyle is our special guest at this year's GAZE Film Festival. On Friday evening you can see them perform their live show 'The Ten Commandments' at Project Arts Centre. David also appears in Afterparty, part of the Mighty Real shorts selection on Saturday evening.*

PRE-FEATURE SHORT

PRIVATE VIEW

Dir. Sarah Myland / UK / 2023 / 17m

Two British artists: the lesbian portrait painter Sadie Lee and the non-binary writer Libro Levi Bridgeman happen to have been born on the same day. They meet to collaborate on a portrait of Libro and discuss their lives from the 1980s onwards. Now, after 3 years, Sadie is ready to uncover the painting. This short documentary follows Sadie and Libro's friendship and the surprising reveal.

SOMETHING YOU SAID LAST NIGHT

IRISH FILM INSTITUTE

20:45



Sunday 6th August

20:45, Irish Film Institute

Dir. Luis de Filippis

Canada/Switzerland, 2022

1hr 36m

As a young trans woman named Ren (Carmen Madonna) anxiously slips into a rest stop bathroom, our shoulders hike with fear for her; but Ren is only nervous because she has taken up vaping again and is trying to hide it from her overbearing mother. It's easy to see why *Something You Said Last Night* has been called 'subversive' and 'revolutionary' for depicting a trans character in quiet, everyday situations without dwelling on her identity. But it would be a disservice to only highlight what this film doesn't have.

In a painfully intimate film so full of Ren's character that she threatens to walk off the screen, out of the cinema, and over to Gay Spar for a new vape cartridge, De Filippis has created a minutely observed version of the 2020s coming-of-age film. Following Ren, her headstrong younger sister and her chipper Italian parents on a family vacation, Luis De Filippis' feature debut is rife with the quotidian tensions that make and break

our relationships every day. A twenty-something artist tries to make the transition to adulthood while fearing life outside the family nest. An absent brother looms over birthday celebrations. Petty arguments turn into shouting matches. Playful teasing leads to a smashed phone. Little apologies bring declarations of unconditional love.

PRE-FEATURE SHORT

GLITTERBUG

Dir. Tania Notaro / Ireland / 2023 / 14m

Set in 1990s Dublin, two young female DJs with dreams of making it big in London are grounded from fantasy to reality when one of them is diagnosed with HIV.

LIGHT HOUSE CINEMA

21:30



Sunday 6th August
21:30, Light House Cinema

Director Luis de Filippis
Canada/Switzerland, 2022
1hr 36m

"He's not the first boy missing in the forest..."

Beware the Almamula... This deeply atmospheric queer drama from Argentina creeps towards the precipice of horror with captivating results. On the brink of adolescence, young Nino – gentle and bemused – is queer-bashed in his hometown, yet the blame is placed on him for his supposedly unsettling influence. His family retreats to a small town for a fresh start but it's only the beginning of their woes and discomfort.

As the forest at the edge of town seems to assert an unnatural hold over the townsfolk, Nino hears tell of Almamula, a mythological creature from Argentinian folklore that supposedly wreaks punishment on those who are impure in thought and deed. Director Juan Sebastián Torales weaves a fairy tale-like spell in this totally original coming-of-age narrative. Nicolás Díaz as

Nino possesses a compelling screen presence that belies his age and is the cautious mystified centre of this delightfully dark voyage into fear, adulthood, religious control, and burgeoning desire.

DIRECTOR'S PICK

"Almamula was my highlight from an extremely high-quality selection at this year's Berlinale. The audience was transfixed from the outset and the beautiful yet eerie quality of Torales' cinematography demands to be experienced on a big screen. Unsettling pristine filmmaking." **Greg Thorpe, Festival Director, GAZE**

PRE-FEATURE SHORT

CRACKS WILL COME

Dir. Daniel Mateo Vallejo / Colombia / 2023 / 18m

Keisi is forbidden from being their true self in their service job at an art gallery, but the line between this institution and their identity begins to blur in Keisi's fantasies of art and nature.

Know about Shigella?

Shigella is a bacterial gut infection that can cause severe stomach upset.

Anyone can get Shigella, but certain sexual activities that involve contact with faeces (poo) increase the chances of getting infected. These can include anal sex, rimming, or anal play.

By adopting the following hygiene measures, you can reduce the likelihood of contracting Shigella during sexual activity.



Washing of hands, genital and anal areas before and after sex.



Not sharing sex toys and ensuring proper cleaning and disinfection after their use and between partners.



Using latex gloves for fingering or fisting and dental dams during oral-anal sex.



Changing condoms between anal and oral sex and between partners.



Man2Man.ie



For more information on Shigella visit man2man.ie/shigella



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A photograph of a hallway. In the foreground, a man with a beard and dark hair is out of focus, looking down. In the background, a young man with dark hair and glasses, wearing a grey t-shirt, stands looking towards the left. The hallway has light-colored walls and a series of door frames receding into the distance. The lighting is warm and natural.

Almamula

Sunday 6th August

MONDAY

7TH AUGUST

IT'S ONLY LIFE AFTER ALL

LIGHT HOUSE CINEMA

12:00



Monday 7th August
12:00, Light House Cinema

Dir. Alexandria Bombach
USA, 2023
2h 3m

'I was 12 years old the first time Indigo Girls' music saved my life. And if there is one thing I have found out through making this film, I am nowhere near alone in this sentiment. But how can music save a life...?'

It's Only Life After All offers an intimate look into the lives of one of the most iconic folk-rock bands in America - the Indigo Girls. Blending never-before-seen home movies, raw film archive, and intimate present-day vérité, It's Only Life After All is a poignant cinematic reflection on and with Amy Ray and Emily Saliers - aka the Indigo Girls - and a timely exploration of their profound impact on a community of listeners over the decades.

Forty years of touring and pouring heart and soul into dozens of hit albums is a massive measure of success for any musician. But Amy and Emily have redefined success and stayed true to themselves despite a steep

uphill battle against the status quo. The band have dedicated themselves to understanding and supporting grassroots environmental, Indigenous and social justice activism, never shying away from the tough issues. The love that emanates from the Indigo Girls' fan community is profound, to say the least. This film celebrates music, songwriting, survival, activism, community and authenticity. It will touch the heart of every fan and convert many more.

PRE-FEATURE SHORT

PORTALOO

Dir. Michael David McKernan / Ireland / 2023 / 9m

In the queue for portaloos at a music festival, two young women discover that the electric feelings between them could be more than just friendship.

MASQUERADES OF RESEARCH

Dublin Premiere

LIGHT HOUSE CINEMA

12:30



Monday 7th August
12:30, Light House Cinema

Dir. Padraig Robinson
Ireland, 2022
1hr 4m

Starring Mark O'Halloran in the central role as the infamous American sociologist, Laud Humphreys, *Masquerades of Research* is based on real life accounts, interviews and experiences of pre-Stonewall gay life in the United States. Humphreys is the author of a controversial doctoral thesis, *Tearoom Trade: Impersonal Sex in Public Places*, which sheds light as never before on the thrilling hidden world of coddling.

Beginning in St. Louis in 1967, the film provides insight into how the civil and social rights movement created the backdrop for Humphreys' empathetic explorations. Leaping ahead to Los Angeles in 1975, Humphrey is on the cusp of republishing his writing in a radically different post-Stonewall world. The film is a vivid depiction of how social and sexual mores can evolve and devolve around us. With a magnificent script drawing on real testimony and a truly mesmerising lead performance

by O'Halloran, this is queer history resurrected from the archives and delivered straight to the heart.

With post screening conversation.

Part of our celebration of the history of gay sexuality, marking thirty years since decriminalisation in Ireland.

PRE-FEATURE SHORT

TWO STORIES OF DUBLIN, QUEER

Dir. Alan Power / Ireland / 6m

Two individuals share their personal stories about living in Queer Dublin through a series of voice messages and snapshots of 35mm black and white film photography, capturing the essence and experience of the city, its people and their stories.

RED UMBRELLA FILM FESTIVAL SHORTS + IN CONVERSATION

MONDAY 7TH AUGUST
12:40
LIGHT HOUSE CINEMA
1H 35M



INTRODUCTION

Red Umbrella Film Festival (RUFF) is organised by current and former sex workers. Our goal is to create community and conversation around the issues we face in Ireland and internationally. Our four-day festival from 19-22 October 2023 will include feature films and shorts, panels, workshops, and the kind of after-party only sex workers can throw. We are delighted to be part of GAZE this year and to have the opportunity to celebrate queer sex workers' lives through film. Where there is sex work, there are queer and trans sex workers. With our programme at GAZE, we hope to share some of the beauty and complexity of these connections. By showing sex worker stories, we aim to challenge stigma and shame, fight for our safety and self-determination, and build towards a decriminalised future.

BELOW THE SURFACE

Dir. Tomas Ponsteen / Netherlands / 2022 / 14m
Elkin is a sex worker who has left their family in Colombia to explore their gender identity in Europe, where they live a nomadic life. Below the Surface chronicles both their physical journey and their mental quest to find out who they really are.

HOUSE OF WHORESHIP

Dir. Holly Laura Bates / Australia / 2022 / 16m
When Violet, a recently heartbroken brothel worker returns to work post break-up only to find her ex-girlfriend hustling the same shift, she must make the choice between avoidance and vulnerability in order to make her month's rent.

ONE LEG IN, ONE LEG OUT

Canada / 2018 / 15m
One Leg In, One Leg Out is an honest look at the complexities of leaving sex work. After a decade on the streets, Iman takes the first steps towards pursuing her dream of becoming a social worker.

FUCK MY LIFE

Dir. Xandra Ibarra / USA/Mexico / 2012 / 4m
Fuck My Life, named after Ibarra's full-length performance work of the same name, follows a sordid and fatigued showgirl as she sluggishly awakes to make up with yet another day.

ROXANNE

Dir. Paul Frankl / UK / 2015 / 14m
Centred around a trans sex worker and a child whose mother has left, Roxanne explores caring relationships that exist outside of what might be expected.

FAMILY MATTERS

Dir. Maximus Skaff / USA / 2022 / 24m
Family Matters is an inside peek into the lives and relationships between sex workers and their family members. The documentary profiles four families who share the struggles that got them where they are today and the unconditional love that allowed them to heal together.

KIRMIZI ŞEMSIYE

Turkey / 2022 / 2m
A beautiful, brave and down to earth Turkish trans worker takes to the screen in this short, created in honour of the International Day to End Violence Against Sex Workers with Kirmızı Şemsiye.

THE HOLEY GRAIL

Dirs Ethan Folk & Ty Wardwell / Germany / 2022 / 6m
It's trial by goblet for this horny cup-bearer on his first day. Madame is thirsty and he'd better not spill a drop!



WORKSHOP : CURATING SHORT FILM

LIGHT HOUSE CINEMA

14:15



Monday 7th August
14:15, Light House Cinema
1 hr

Are you a short film maker? A budding film programmer? Hoping to get involved with film festivals? A cinema fan? A short film fanatic? This workshop is for you.

Programmers from GAZE Film Festival together with our special guest film curator Berwyn Rowlands from the Iris Prize will talk about our professional experiences watching, programming and awarding short films in an LGBTQIA context . We will talk about supporting film makers, some of our favourite works, and how practice can be evolved and improved. The more voices in the room the better!

We would love to hear from you about your own experiences of watching, making, submitting and curating short films. Can you contribute to our conversation? Come along! The workshop will be immediately followed by a screening of a special Iris Prize selection, curated by Berwyn for GAZE.

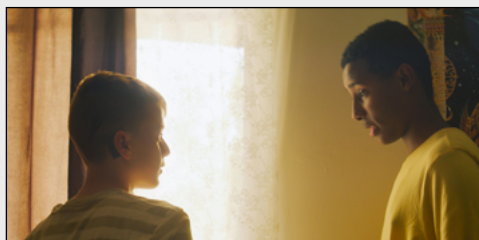
The workshop is free to anyone with a ticket receipt for any one of our shorts blocks at GAZE 2023.

Established in 2007, the Iris Prize is a film and media organisation committed to increasing audiences for LGBTQ+ stories. Hosting an annual festival in Cardiff, it boasts the largest short film prize in the world, a coveted £30,000 award. <https://irisprize.org/>

IRIS PRIZE SHORTS

SHORT FILM SHOWCASE

SUNDAY 6TH AUGUST
15:30
LIGHT HOUSE CINEMA
1hr 28m



INTRODUCTION

Established in 2007, the Iris Prize is a film and media organisation committed to increasing audiences for LGBTQ+ stories. Hosting an annual festival in Cardiff, it boasts the largest short film prize in the world, a coveted £30,000 award. GAZE is delighted to partner with Iris Prize for a special guest screening, with Berwyn Rowlands programming an exciting array of LGBTQ+ shorts, featuring four award-winning films from around the world. Join us for an unforgettable journey through these powerful and inspiring stories.

Curated by Berwyn Rowlands

JIM

Dir. Tom Young / UK / 2021 / 15m

Winner: Co-op Audience Award

Inspired by true events, a gay priest decides to spend the night with a prostitute. What happens next will change his life forever, but not for the reasons he expects.



TARNEIT

Dir. John Sheedy / Australia / 2022 / 22m

Winner: Iris Prize 2022

Despite their differences, two boys bond over family issues and a shared disability, with each dreaming of escaping the brutal violence that surrounds them.



I SHALL BE WHITER THAN SNOW

Dir. Frederick Stacey / Wales / 2022 / 17m

Based on a real-life lesbian couple who married in a Cardiff hospital in 2018, this emotional film celebrates love and the importance of compassionate care.



CARDIFF

Dir. Sarah Smith / Wales / 2022 / 25m

Thrust into a forbidden romance by his meddling mother, Frederick experiences a series of unforeseen betrayals that hilariously expose some carefully held secrets.

WHO I AM NOT

IRISH FILM INSTITUTE

15:30



Monday 7th August
15:30, Irish Film Institute

Dir. Tünde Skovrán
South Africa, 2022
1hr 43m

Intersex representation has reached a new milestone with this enthralling documentary by Tünde Skovrán. Focusing on two individuals with vastly different experiences who both identify as intersex, the film sheds much needed light, righteous anger, and compassionate understanding on the natural, common, yet still hidden and taboo human experience of being an intersex person.

Sharon-Rose is a former South African beauty queen who has experienced an intense version of high-femme culture and 'womanly' beauty standards from the inside, before discovering she carries an XY chromosome and begins to confront her self-acceptance. Her decision to come out publicly causes ripples throughout South African society, and the rest of the world.

Dimakatso navigates their own journey by facing both

the contemporary medical establishment and the older traditions of shamanistic consultation. The intimacy and frankness of their encounters with partner, family, the job market and medicine make for bracing and highly emotive viewing. Ultimately this film offers a model of dignity and pride, and a call for a deeper understanding. The admiration one is left with for Dimakatso and Sharon-Rose is a testament to the power of cinematic story-telling towards a greater acceptance. Perfect festival viewing.

Inspired by this impactful new documentary we have changed the subtitle of GAZE Film Festival to 'LGBTQIA' for the first time.

PRE-FEATURE SHORT

BOUNDLESS

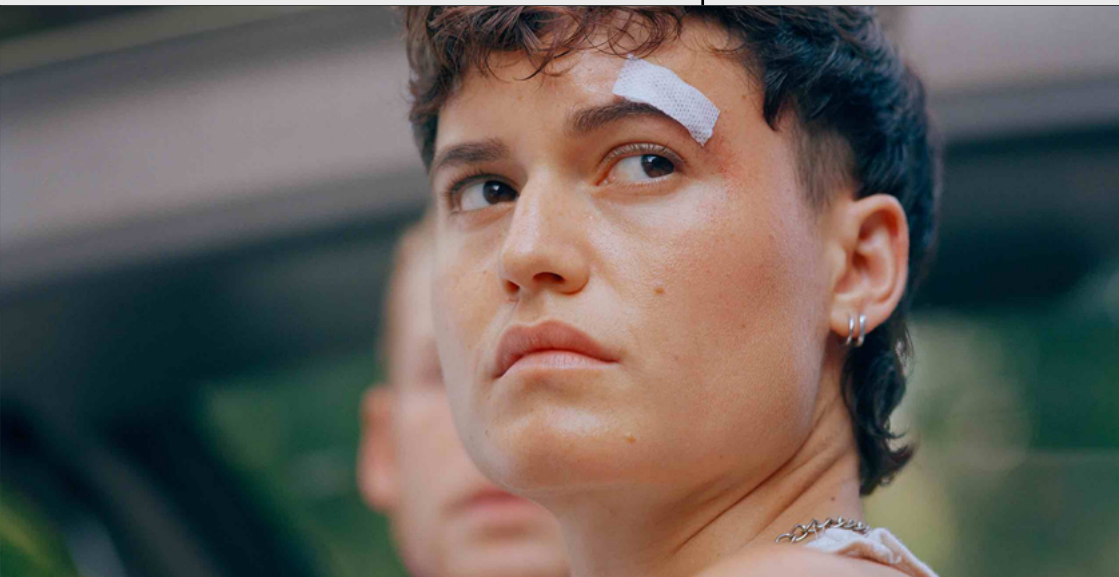
Dir. David Chai / US / 2023 / 10m

Through a series of animated vignettes ranging from everyday scenes to abstract ideas, a group of trans and nonbinary people define their genders through their surroundings, families, cultures, and imaginations.

MUTT

LIGHT HOUSE CINEMA

17:30



Monday 7th August
17:30, Light House Cinema

Dir. Vuk Lungulov-Klotz
USA, 2023
1hr 27m

Feña is gay, trans, and just about surviving life in New York City when he must suddenly deal with the reappearance of an ex-boyfriend, an ill-timed visit from a well-meaning parent, and the needs of a wayward younger sister – all in one intense day. A masterpiece of pace, emotion and urban story-telling, *Mutt* is a rare feature that centres a trans man living his life, on and off the rails, flawed but fearless.

Leo Mehiel gives the star turn as Feña and holds the tender heart of this film from start to finish. Expect many laughs, sexy thrills, high drama and cringe encounters galore, as director and writer Vuk Lungulov-Klotz shows transition as both subtext and subject in a deftly artistic way that only trans filmmakers excel at. A queer film festival dream.

PRE-FEATURE SHORT

WHO I AM NOW

Dir. Jack Goessens / UK / 2022 / 12m

Tariq and Denise, two trans refugees, share a moment in the locker room of their queer football club to open up about their complicated relationships with their families.

OF AN AGE

LIGHT HOUSE CINEMA

20:30



Monday 7th August
20:30, Light House Cinema

Dir. Goran Stolevski
Australia, 2022
1hr 40m

Just as soon as the end credits rolled on our first viewing of this heart-breaky feel-good Aussie dramedy, we knew it would have to be the closing film for GAZE 2023. It's the summer of 1999, the Millennium Bug is just around the corner, the future seems weird and uncertain, and two young guys must make an early morning mercy dash to rescue a hungover girl, stranded in a strange place awaiting rescue on the day of her final dance exam.

The guys in question are Adam, her sarcastic long-suffering older gay brother, and Kol, her closeted ballroom dance partner from an immigrant Serbian family. The pair of young men are thrown together by this hilarious unexpected crisis but soon find themselves on a drive that radically alters not only their day but their hearts.

The laughs are thick 'n' fast and impeccably written in this gorgeous road movie meets rom com meets teen drama, all wrapped up in a beautifully observed nostalgic bundle. At the end of a very long and emotional GAZE bank holiday weekend, buckle up and let your feelings run riot. Thanks for the ride...

PRE-FEATURE SHORT

EITR
Dir. Fateema Al-Hamaydeh Miller / Canada / 2022 / 15m
Grinding away at the inherited family business, Mohamed works tirelessly making sales of knock-off perfume, while living as a knock-off version of his true self.

GAZE FESTIVAL CREDITS

FESTIVAL DIRECTOR

Greg Thorpe

FESTIVAL MANAGER

Jenni Little

ASSISTANT PROGRAMMERS

Alice Linehan

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PR

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Elaine Mai

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THE FESTIVAL THANKS

Accenture

aemi

The Arts Council

Dean Arts Studio

Dublin Pride

GCN

Irish Film Institute

Light House Cinema

Man2Man

Outhouse

Queer Lisboa

Red Umbrella Film

Festival

Small Trans Library

all the Film Makers

and all our Festival

Friends



Ungentle

