

Press Release
28 October 2008



6th London Short Film Festival



Details announced for UK
capital's short film festival
9th-18th January 2009

London's premier short film festival returns for a 6th year this January, and with support from Vauxhall promises to offer a cutting edge survey of the best filmmaking action in the UK right now.

This year, the 6th **London Short Film Festival** will be taking place across more venues in London than ever before. Venues already confirmed are the **ICA, Curzon Soho & Renoir Cinemas, Roxy Bar & Screen, BAFTA** and **Rich Mix**, with a number of others due to confirm soon.

The 6th **London Short Film Festival** brings together the best in contemporary talent in drama, animation, documentary, experimental and music video across ten days of screenings. The 6th festival is not only set to be the biggest, but also the most eclectic – covering cinemas spectrum from no-budget wonders to glossy 35mm marvels.

Entries for short film submissions have now closed with over 1000 films being received. Festival directors Philip Ison and Kate Taylor are currently viewing all the entries to create a selection of the freshest new work.

Festival Director Philip Ison said: *"We've received a huge number of film entries for the 6th London Short Film Festival and we're extremely excited about growing the festival into our biggest one so far. For the first time the films are set to be screened across London at some of the City's iconic cinema venues making short films more accessible than ever before."*

Entries are still open until 15 December 2008 for filmmakers to enter the **Vauxhall Auteur Award**. The award aims to find the UK's most talented, undiscovered filmmakers and is a chance for the next generation of DIY auteurs to showcase their talents across various filmmaking disciplines. The competition required that entrants were involved in at least three of the film making roles including producer, writer, director, camera, actor, editor, and music composer. The winner will receive £750 and the runner up will receive £250 prize money towards their next film-making project.

Vauxhall Auteur Award Director Lucia Helenka, who created the competition said: *"The standard of entries last year was extremely high and from the applications received so far, the bar seems to have been raised even further. To enter all auteurs need to do is simply fill in the application form at www.shortfilms.org.uk."*

Awards and prizes will be also awarded by the UK Film Council for the 'Best Short' Award, plus awards from Shooting People and further partners.

The festival also offers filmmakers and industry participants feedback, an ongoing array of free industry events and networking at the Curzon Soho, supported by UK Film Council, Rushes Soho Shorts, and Shooting People.

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Vauxhall Motors and the **UK Film Council** return as sponsors for the 6th Festival, along with media partners **Shooting People**. New media support comes from **BBC Film Network** and **Wallflower Press**. The festival will also be linking up with **Jersey's Branchage Film Festival** and the **East End Film Festival** to present joint screenings and events, as well as hosting events with the **New Producers Alliance**, **Rushes Soho Shorts**, **London Film Academy**, **Think Sync Films**, **BAFTA**, **TenderPixel Gallery**, and **Beat Happening** magazine.

The London Short Film Festival was created to celebrate imaginative short film-making and punk attitude. This year's festival opens on Friday 9th January 2009. For more information on the London Short Film Festival, check out www.shortfilms.org.uk.

Editor's Notes

Partners

Vauxhall



With an ongoing commitment to championing style and design in the UK, British car marque Vauxhall is a keen supporter of creativity through initiatives such as Pretty Taxing, Vauxhall Art Car Boot Fair 2008, the Vauxhall Fashion Scout and the Vauxhall Collective.

History of the festival

The **London Short Film Festival** (previously known as Halloween Short Film Festival) is an annual short film festival held in January of each year that shows short films, alongside multi-media events.

Philip Ilson founded The Halloween Society in April 1994 as a regular showcase for short film. Originally housed at Notre Dame Hall, these short film events continued to mid 2003, when Philip Ilson and Kate Taylor organised the first Halloween Short Film Festival to take place at the ICA in January 2004.

The first Festival was a successful mix of 11 new short film programmes, retrospective screenings of Halloween favourites from the previous 10 years, and a strong programme of live music events in the ICA theatre & bar areas.

The annual festival grew to include screenings at the Curzon Soho from 2006, expanding to a third venue, the Roxy Bar & Screen, in 2007. In 2008 the Festival changed its name to the London Short Film Festival.

Festival Director – Philip Ilson

Philip Ilson has been programming film events and festivals since 1994.

In 2003, he co-founded the Halloween Short Film Festival to take place at London's ICA mixing new short films and special events.

In 2008 the Festival became the London Short Film Festival, expanding to the Curzon Soho.

Recently he has worked closely with the Curzon Soho, as well as taking on programming roles at the BFI London Film Festival, the East End Film Festival, Latitude Festival and the Branchage Jersey International Film Festival.

Festival Director – Kate Taylor

Kate Taylor has been Co-Director of the Halloween / London Short Film Festival for the past five years, winning the Fringe Report Award for Best Festival Director with her colleague Philip Ilson in 2008.

Kate is also currently developing Abandon Normal Devices, a festival of New Cinema and Digital Culture for FACT (Foundation for Art and Creative Technology) in Liverpool. *AND* is a new annual festival in the North West, taking place in Liverpool and Manchester on alternate years, with an extended programme in Cumbria, Lancashire and Cheshire, and is based on a collaborative partnership between FACT, Cornerhouse and folly.

Recent projects include programming live music and film for the Latitude festival, freelance lecturing at Cornerhouse in Manchester, and editing the Northern Film Network, an e-newsletter dedicated to the independent film scene in the North West of England. Her film journalism has appeared in the North West Enquirer and Time Out Manchester.

Vauxhall Auteur Award Director – Lucia Helenka

Lucia Helenka is an artist and filmmaker working in London and was an original member of Vauxhall's VX Collective, the predecessor to the Vauxhall Collective.

Her recent projects include a 26min documentary for TV on Vert Skateboard champion Pete King, a short film on 'The Postcard Memory of A Fly', an exclusive line of wearable Art in collaboration with jeweller Daisuke Sakaguchi and exhibitions and screenings of her art films in major museums and art spaces in Helsinki, New York and Switzerland.

Lucia is also founder of an inspiring new online film school launching in January 2009, with insights from some of the most creative filmmakers today including Agnes Varda, Jan Svankmeyer, Kenneth Anger and Carlos Reydegas.

Ends

For further information / Use of pictures / Interviews

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Websites



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For:

- Online Press Office
- Client list
- Company contact detail



<http://www.shortfilms.org.uk/>

For:

- Event information
- Media partnerships



<https://www.vauxhall.co.uk>

For:

- Company information