

**KESWICK
FILM
FESTIVAL**



**19–22
MARCH
2026**

keswickfilmfestival.org
f @keswickfilmfestival

WELCOME

Welcome to the 26th Keswick Film Festival!

After the momentous occasion of our 25th anniversary last year, we're back with an even bigger and better edition of the North West's favourite, friendly film festival.

With an irresistible selection of the best international and independent cinema on offer, we welcome friends, filmmakers and audiences to a feast of film and events – all set against the magnificent back-drop of the beautiful Lake District.

Once again the Festival enjoys three impressive screening venues: the legendary Keswick Alhambra Cinema, the scenic setting of Theatre by the Lake and the thrilling Rheged Cinema.

Making all this possible are our audiences – long-standing and new – and our key funder Film Hub North with National Lottery funding on behalf of the BFI Film Audience Network.

We thank all our sponsors and supporters for their important contribution to the Festival.

We are committed to providing access to the Festival to everyone. This year we are especially proud that we have been able to make available free and heavily discounted tickets to students, and to individuals and families on low incomes.

Finally, the Festival wouldn't function without the brigade of volunteers who give freely of their time to ensure audiences enjoy the best possible experience. My warmest thanks go to the Festival Team who have created, organised and delivered this year's Festival, and who have provided unparalleled support in my first year as Director.

Thank you,

Julia Vickers
Festival Director

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FESTIVAL OVERVIEW

This year's programme is more diverse than ever. With 45 screenings and events, featuring films from 6 continents, 16 countries, 2 UK Premieres, 2 European Premieres and a World Premiere, we provide a rare opportunity for festival-goers to experience the finest in global cinema right here in the inspirational Lake District.

Retrospective strands celebrate memorable films from 1976, Jodie Foster and vibrant US filmmaking as chosen by Carlisle College students.

The Ospreys and Festival Fringe feature talented local filmmakers, as we proudly present a selection of films made by groups and individuals showcasing Cumbrian life.

As we welcome guests and friends of the Festival to talk about cinema and the stories films tell, this year's programme truly has something for everyone.

FUNDERS



Keswick Film Festival is supported by Film Hub North with National Lottery funding on behalf of the BFI Film Audience Network.



Festival/Film Premiere
Sponsor KE Adventure T

VENUES/PARTNERS

Venues Keswick Alhambra,
Theatre by the Lake, Rheged

Festival Partner Chinty's Café,
St John's Street, Keswick CA12 5AS

WITH THANKS

Film Sponsors Peter Leeson
(treeamble.podbean.com), Ben
Keayes, Torpenhow Farmhouse
Dairy (torpenhoworganic.co.uk)

Film Supporters Pam Firth,
Colin Mondesir, Syd's Raiding
Party, Vaughan Ames

Festival Supporter Anonymous

Barua Street Food, Lake Road,
Keswick CA12 5DQ

Brewery Hub, Main Street,
Keswick CA12 5JD

Carlisle College Tutors and Students

Event Volunteers

FESTIVAL TEAM

Festival Director Julia Vickers	Festival Admin Richard Summersell
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Film Programmer David Miller	Jean Airey
--	------------

Marketing and PR Dave Rowson	Elspeth Payne Ian Payne Rach Stanton
--	--

Website and Socials Stephen Brown	Designed by Split
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Volunteer Coordinator Julie Betteridge	
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From top left clockwise:
The Alhambra, Rhaged, Theatre
by the Lake. Images courtesy of
visitlakedistrict.com and Rhaged.

VENUES

Keswick Alhambra Cinema
36 St John's Street, Keswick CA12 5AG
keswickalhambra.co.uk

Theatre by the Lake
Lakeside, Keswick CA12 5DJ
theatrebythelake.com

Rhaged Centre
Redhills, Penrith CA11 0DQ
rhaged.com

Our venues are all wheelchair accessible, but please check in advance with the venue to guarantee availability.

For details of audio assistance available, please check on the venues' websites.

PUBLIC TRANSPORT

On Friday and Saturday, buses run half-hourly Penrith to Keswick and Keswick to Penrith. On Sunday, they run hourly. Buses run hourly Keswick to Rhaged and Rhaged to Keswick, and Penrith to Rhaged and Rhaged to Penrith.

See www.stagecoachbus.com/timetables for specific times

A Free Shuttle Bus will run on Sunday. The bus will run a circular route, leaving Keswick, picking up in Penrith town and arriving at Rhaged in time for the start of each film. Return buses will depart Rhaged to drop off in Penrith and arrive back in Keswick in time for the films at the Alhambra.

Spaces on the bus are limited. Pre-book at the Festival desk or email Richard@keswickfilm.org

PRE-RELEASES, PREMIERES AND AWARDS

We thank distributors in the UK and Worldwide for the opportunity to show these films before their release in the UK.



A Magnificent Life*



A Private Life*



All and Nothing*
UK Premiere



Blueish
European Premiere



Iyo Ang Dagat
UK Premiere



**The Last One
for the Road***



Miroirs No. 3*



Orwell 2+2=5*



Sound of Falling*



**The Fall of Sir
Douglas Weatherford**
England Premiere



The Last Viking*



The North



The Stranger*



Toyaneh
European Premiere



**When Life Gives
You Lemons...**
Everyone's Everest
World Premiere



Wild Foxes*

*Award nominees/winners

KFF 2026 PROGRAMME

F
RATED

Films directed/written by women or starring significant female roles. The rating is designed to support and promote women, and redress the imbalance in the film industry.

Age Guidance



[15+]

Where titles have not yet received a BBFC age rating, discretionary ratings are in place.



EVENTS

Welcome Event

Masonic Hall | Thu 19 March, 18.00

+

Afterparty

Masonic Hall | Thu 19 March, 21.30

Passholders and KFC Members are invited to join us at our Welcome Event and Afterparty to celebrate the Festival opening.

Osprey Short Film Awards

Theatre by the Lake, Main House
Sat 21 March, 13.00

Join us as we celebrate Cumbrian filmmaking and show the shortlisted films in the Osprey Competition.

We are delighted to welcome Anwen, Lady Hurt, to present the 2026 Awards, including the inaugural *John Hurt Award for Excellence in Short Filmmaking* (previously named the Audience Award). **See page 29.**

Terry Abraham Presents...
Sun 22 Mar, 11.00, Rheged

**World Premiere
Gala Screening****When Life Gives You Lemons
...Everyone's Everest**

Theatre by the Lake, Main House
Fri 20 March, 18.30

We are delighted to welcome director Tom McShane and Sally Orange MBE herself, and others featured in this wonderful and inspirational film to this special premiere screening with a panel discussion afterwards. **See page 22.**

**UK Premiere
Gala Screening****All and Nothing**

Rheged, Screen 1, Sat 21 March, 18.30

The evening opens with a short performance piece, followed by an introduction from Paul Taylor, Course Leader, UAL Foundation Diploma in Art and Design, Carlisle College. **See page 33.**

Special Event**Terry Abraham Presents...**

Rheged, Sun 22 March, 11.00

Filmmaker and photographer Terry Abraham introduces a personal selection of stunning never-before-seen footage from his popular television programmes together with new material, followed by a Q&A. **See page 36.**



Above: The North, 14:00
Sun 22 Mar, Rheged

STRANDS

KFF @ RHEGED including Family Day

Sat 21 March & Sun 22 March

From heart-warming family film Kangaroo to laugh-out-loud Bugsy Malone, from the jaw-dropping work of Terry Abraham to the scenic beauty of The Shepherd and the Bear, The North and Sirat, the 60 ft giant screen of Rheged Screen 1 showcases hand-picked Festival films to spectacular effect.

Jodie Foster Retrospective

Our selection of two films from 1976 in which she starred — starkly contrasting in content and nature — alongside the forthcoming A Private Life, all demonstrate the star quality and versatility that has marked Jodie Foster's five-decade career.

Focus on 1976

We celebrate a pivotal year in culture: the New Hollywood movement produced Taxi Driver; Cria Cuervos epitomised Spanish cinema at the start of the democratic era; Alan Parker turned from commercials to Bugsy Malone and the world was ready for Roeg's kaleidoscopic metaphysical mindbender, nearly.



Festival Fringe

Nurturing talented filmmakers in our local community is important to us and we are proud to present a selection of films made by groups and individuals that showcase Cumbrian life, and demonstrate local storytelling at its best.

Note, entry to Fringe events is free, but seats need to be booked. Donations towards costs are kindly requested with any surplus going to Keswick Area Food Share.

Please see page 42 for more details.

Second Chance to See

We know how irritating it can be to miss a Festival film that was sold out or everyone raved about! On Saturday and Sunday at Alhambra Screen 2, you have the opportunity to catch up on highly rated Festival films. Of course, we can't announce those titles until you've voted with your feet, so eyes peeled for the announcements on our website, socials and venues!

Carlisle College Film Student Selection

From a film shockingly overlooked in the UK, to a controversial critique of social media addiction, from a family-friendly entertainment to a modern masterpiece, Carlisle College film students have chosen the work of vibrant US filmmakers as their contribution to this year's Festival.



EXHIBITION

Student Exhibition SPEED OF LIFE

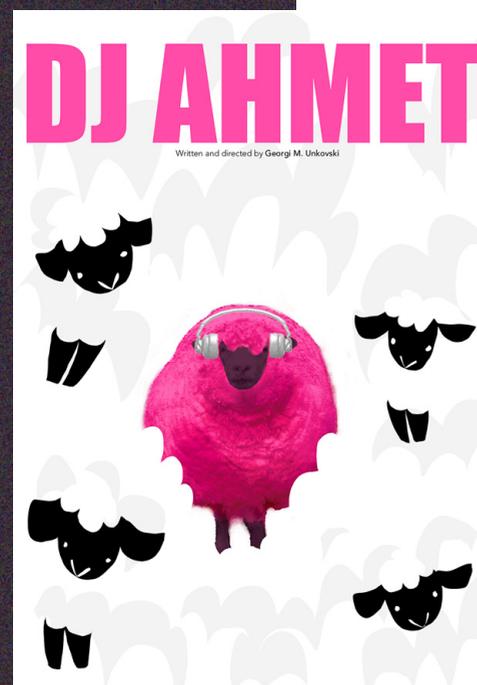
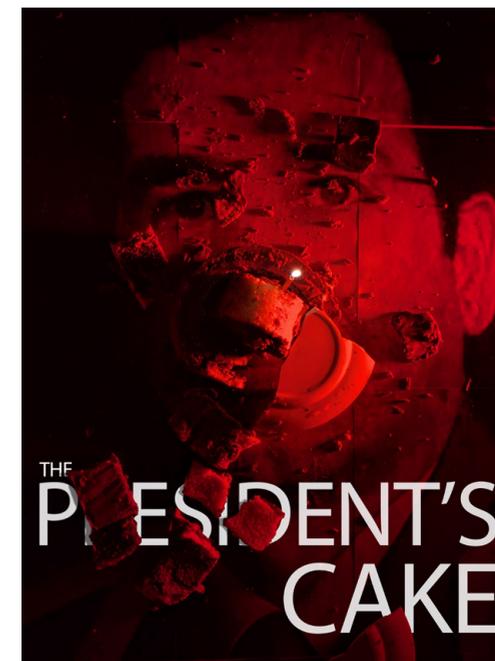
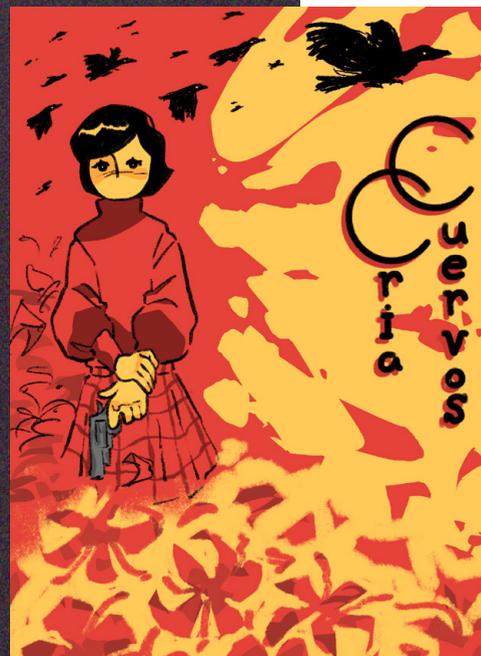
Rheged, from 13 Feb

"Well I'm not a scientist. But I know all things begin and end in eternity." — David Bowie as Thomas Newton in *The Man Who Fell to Earth*

Film as an art form addresses what it is to be alive, what remains when all else is gone and how we find meaning in light, movement, sound and the people and objects around us. The artworks on display all aspire to translate these elements from the films featured in this year's Keswick Film Festival into images and objects.

The Foundation course at Carlisle College has worked with the Festival since 2013, becoming a key part of the students' experience as they learn about their chosen disciplines through the act of transcribing the ideas and themes of one artform into another. Influenced by the freedom of Eastern European posters of the 1960s and 70s, where artists, unfettered by the commercial imperatives of Hollywood, made mad, bold images and by 'designer' posters that have a life of their own on social media, the exhibition is fundamentally about artforms — Film, Fine Art, Visual Communication, Fashion — in dialogue.

This year, students have also focused on the life, work and philosophy of the artist Li Yuan-chia, whose museum LYC at Banks, Cumbria, was internationally significant in the 70s and 80s, and who is the subject of the film *All and Nothing* premiering at the festival.





THU 19 MARCH

Thu, 19.00, Alhambra 1 and 2
(also Saturday 21 March, 10.30, Screen 1)

Opening Film

The Fall of Sir Douglas Weatherford

[15+]

Pre-Release Screening
England Premiere

Sean Dunn, UK, 2026, 103 mins
Peter Mullan, Gayle Rankin, Jakob
Oftebro, Sid Sagar, Lewis MacDougall

Kenneth (Peter Mullan) works in the Arberloch visitor centre as a tour guide, dressing up as the town's most notable historical figure, Sir Douglas Weatherford, an 18th century philosopher and inventor who Kenneth proudly claims as his ancestor.

When the village becomes the base of a big-budget fantasy TV show, 'The White Stag of Emberfell', the visitor centre is transformed into an Emberfell fan experience. With the show's costumed fans descending on the town, Kenneth's sanity crumbles as the traditions he holds dear are casually dismissed — a mental decline his daughter Anna (Gayle Rankin) attributes to grief over the loss of his wife.

Kenneth's crisis takes an even darker turn when his ire becomes fixated on the show's handsome star, Oscar Sorenson (Jakob Oftebro).

The Fall of Douglas Weatherford is a dark comedy exploring themes of ageing and identity, and the blurred boundary between history and fantasy.

Subject to work commitments, we hope to welcome cast and crew members to the screening.

Preview screening courtesy of MUBI

The Fall of Sir Douglas Weatherford, Alhambra 1 & 2, Thu 19 Mar, 19.30. Also showing Alhambra 1, Sat 21 Mar, 10.30



FRI 20 MARCH



Fri, 13.00, Alhambra 1

Orwell 2+2+5

15

Pre-Release Screening

Raoul Peck, UK, 2025, 119 mins

George Orwell's life and legacy is brought to the screen through the writer's own words, all told through archival footage. Haunting and filled with powerful imagery, it displays the global rise of totalitarianism, yet it leaves room for a faint glimmer of hope: that we still have time to resist.

Narrated by Damian Lewis, Peck's film lends Orwell's prescient observations renewed urgency and finds Orwell's words sharp and unsettling. The film becomes a clarion call for an examination of the mechanics of power, propaganda and systemic violence.

A furious and essential essay-doc, Orwell 2+2=5 confronts today's political nightmare with haunting clarity. **Dionar Hidalgo, AMQC**

Preview screening courtesy of Altitude Films



Fri, 13.00, Theatre Main House

The Last One for the Road

15

Pre-Release Screening

Francesco Sossai, Italy/Germany 2025, 100 mins *Italian with subtitles*

Filippo Scotti, Sergio Romano, Pierpaolo Capovilla

Carlobianchi and Dorian are charismatic criminals with big personalities and a treasure trove of stories from their glory days. Unwitting members of the 'lost generation' – men born during the 1970s boom times who, after the 2008 financial crisis, found themselves in troubling terrain – they survive on anecdotes and bar fare, and their bills are getting harder to pay. If only they could dig up the cash their old pal Genio buried before he left for Argentina... and maybe they will! Right after that last drink.

When they meet sweet, hapless architecture student Giulio, they take him under their grizzled wing and embark on a road trip through the Venetian plains to revive his zest for life.

Loosely reminiscent of the happy-sad fables of Alice Rohrwacher, Francesco Sossai's boozy dramedy is enchanting even when it briefly veers into predictable territory. **Variety**

Preview screening courtesy of Bulldog Film Distribution



Fri, 13.00, Theatre Studio

Iyo Ang Dagat



UK Premiere

LAMAVE*, Philippines, 2025, 76 mins *Filipino with subtitles*

Iyo Ang Dagat (The Sea is Yours) is a documentary film about the relationship between people and sharks in Palawan, Philippines. It tells the stories of people interacting with sharks and rays in their everyday lives. Centred around the Sulu Sea the film follows fishermen, marine park rangers, enforcement officers, business owners and conservationists.

As the cast reflects on their roles and hopes, Iyo Ang Dagat asks a vital question: Can we protect sharks — and the people who depend on the sea — before it's too late?

Winner of the 2025 Jackson Wild Media Awards

Thanks to Sally Snow, Producer

Screening Sponsored by Vaughan Ames

*Large Marine Vertebrates Research Institute, Philippines
www.lamave.org/iyoangdagat



Fri, 15.30, Alhambra 1

Sound of Falling



Pre-Release Screening

Mascha Schilinski, Germany, 2025 155 mins *German with subtitles*

Hanna Heckt, Lena Urzendowsky, Susanne Wuest

This astonishingly ambitious feature from German writer-director **Mascha Schilinski** braids together the lives of four generations of girls across the tumult and violence of the German 20th century.

On the river Elbe between Berlin and Hamburg, a family farm sits in a region that saw both world wars and defined Cold War divisions between East and West Germany. We visit with Alma in the early 20th century, Erika in the 1940s, Angelika in the 1980s and Lenka in the present. As time moves both forwards and backwards, each faces her own particular fate.

It's been a while since I've seen a filmmaker wield the tools of her craft with such an ingenious and committed sense of mischief. **The New Yorker**

Preview screening courtesy of MUBI



Fri, 15.30, Theatre Main House

Common Ground

12A

Sustainable Keswick Presentation,
Followed by a Q&A

Joshua Tickell and Rebecca Harrell
Tickell, US, 2023, 101mins

Laura Dern, Jason Momoa, Donald
Glover, Woody Harrelson

This essential documentary profiles a hopeful and uplifting movement of white, black and indigenous farmers who are using alternative regenerative models of agriculture that could balance the climate, save our health and stabilise America's economy — before it's too late.

Winner Human/Nature Award
— Tribeca Film Festival 2023

Farmers, particularly those with small farms, have a lot on their plate putting food on our plates and this film shows how some simple changes managing the soil could make food more abundant and healthier for us all. Linda and Al Lerner, Movies and Shakers

Sustainable Keswick is a volunteer group who work towards reducing carbon emissions, improving biodiversity and reducing waste.

Thanks to Area 23a Films

Common Ground will be preceded by short film

Yan Tan Tethera

Lilibet Williams, UK, 2025, 35 mins

A look at the craftsmen of Cumbria — both farmers and those who create products from wool — and the traditional farming practice of "hefting", where sheep learn to stay within a particular patch of land, passing on their homing instinct generationally.

Thanks to Lilibet Williams

Screenings Sponsored by Peter Leeson (treeamble.podbean.com), Ben Keayes and Torpenhow Farmhouse Dairy (torpenhoworganic.co.uk)



Fri, 15.30, Theatre Studio

Cria Cuervos

12A

Focus on 1976

Carlos Saura, Spain, 1976, 105 mins
Spanish with subtitles

Ana Torrent, Geraldine Chaplin,
Conchita Pérez

Widely regarded as a landmark in Spanish cinema and in a pivotal point in Spanish history, *Cria Cuervos* was filmed at the end of the Franco era, where cultural censorship was slowly coming to a close. **Saura** cleverly uses symbolism, metaphor and a child's perspective to address repression, life under fascism and potential for freedom.

Upon its release, it was met with critical acclaim and received the Grand Prix at the **1976 Cannes Film Festival**. With an outstanding performance from **Ana Torrent**, it depicts one of the most affecting and authentic portrayals of childhood. Even without a traditional plot, it still speaks volumes about memory, guilt and the quiet resilience of children and gives a voice to those repressed under Franco's regime.

A richly shot, impressively acted film containing a powerful, bleak vision of both childhood and a repressive adult world. Total Film

Thanks to BFI Distribution



Fri, 18.30, Alhambra 1

The Last Viking

15

Pre-Release Screening

Anders Thomas Jensen, Denmark, 2025
116 mins *Danish/Swedish with subtitles*

Mads Mikkelsen, Nikolaj Lie Kaas,
Sofie Gråbøl

The Last Viking starts as a caper movie about a bank robber, Anker (**Kaas**), who leaves the loot with his traumatised younger brother Manfred (**Mikkelsen**) right before being incarcerated. Freed years later, Anker tries to recover the stash, but first he has to find the key to his brother's trauma.

A series of hysterical misadventures ensues, however, these are steeped in conflicted fraternal emotions, questions of identity and the iffy concept of normalcy. It's a journey down a resonant rabbit hole with Mikkelsen, hilariously permed, fearlessly silly, emotionally complex and endlessly endearing.

Dares audiences to laugh at the unlikeliest of characters, then makes them care deeply in spite of themselves. Louisa Moore, Screen Zealots

Preview screening courtesy of
Picturehouse Entertainment

Screening Sponsored by Syd's
Raiding Party



Fri, 18.30, Theatre Main House

World Premiere Gala Screening



When Life Gives You Lemons... Everyone's Everest

Introduction and Panel Discussion

Tom McShane, UK, 2026, 83 mins

Sally Orange, Sir Chris Bonington, Al Carns MP, Felicity Ashley, Jo Rycroft, Francesca Anderson

Physical endurance meets the resilience of the human spirit. Sally Orange MBE is taking her mental health message to the highest marathon in the world. Having faced the uphill battle of cancer recovery, Sally shares the essential tools and wisdom she used to find strength in the wild. Alongside a community of survivors and experts, she shows us that no matter how steep the challenge, nature provides a way up. Find your strength. Find your summit.

This inspirational documentary transforms Sally's physical journey into a metaphor for everyone's personal Everest — their own health challenges.

Preview screening courtesy of
Adventure in Focus

Sponsored by KE Adventure Travel



Preceded by short film **Summit's Up for Tony**

Anna Marchant, UK, 2025, 14 mins

A short film about inspirational fundraiser, Tony Hudgell BEM who, at the age of eight, set himself a challenge to climb his first ever mountain with a little help from some legendary mountaineers and local accessibility activity centre, Bendrigg Trust.

The film highlights how a Lakeland mountain can bring a community together, helping Tony with his limitless determination achieve his goal, proving ANYTHING is possible if you see the ability, not the disability.

Further information about Tony can be found at: tonyhudgellfoundation.org

Thanks to Anna Marchant

We are delighted to welcome *When Life Gives You Lemons...Everyone's Everest* director Tom McShane and Sally Orange herself and others featured in this wonderful film to this special screening and a Q&A afterwards.

When Life Gives You Lemons... Everyone's Everest Panel Discussion

We welcome to the stage our very special guests to talk about their experience of the film, the wider aims of the project, the story behind the story and their own inspirational messages, as well as discuss the benefits of exercise and mindfulness in a stressful world.



Sally Orange MBE

Sally Orange MBE is a former Army physiotherapist turned endurance adventurer, motivational speaker and mental health campaigner. With a deep understanding of the power of movement, she uses extreme challenges to change conversations around mental health, resilience and human potential, encouraging people to find their own Everest, on the mountains and in everyday life.



Tom McShane

Tom McShane is an award-winning photographer, RGS Fellow and expert expedition leader with a British Army background. Renowned for leading world-firsts like Walking the Nile, he specialises in high-risk safety and production. Tom is currently the Director and Producer of *When Life Gives You Lemons... Everyone's Everest*, combining his field expertise with powerful, cinematic human storytelling.

When Life Gives You Lemons... Everyone's Everest

Panel Discussion (continued)

Francesca Anderson

Francesca Anderson is an advanced Breathwork and Mindfulness specialist, transforming personal health challenges into a mission to help others. She makes Mindfulness practical, accessible and easy to integrate into everyday life, empowering people to build resilience, wellbeing and deeper connection to themselves and others.

Felicity Ashley

A mother of three, Felicity Ashley became one of fewer than 250 women to row an ocean — unaware she had stage three bowel cancer. Today, she's an award-winning motivational speaker and best-selling author of 'Stronger than the Storm', inspiring audiences and readers to dream big, overcome challenges and thrive through change.

Jo Rycroft

Jo is an experienced Clinical Exercise Physiologist specialising in designing individualised exercise programmes for cardiac and cancer patients. She supports clients in the Lake District and online and also works for Liverpool John Moores University and Clinical Exercise Physiology UK.

Dr Shaunna Burke

As an associate professor, Shaunna Burke's research focuses on prehabilitation and the ways in which exercise and psychological mindset contribute to improved outcomes among individuals facing cancer. An accomplished mountaineer, Shaunna became the second Canadian woman to summit Mount Everest. Diagnosed with incurable breast cancer in 2024, Shaunna turned her mission into one of resilience and purpose.

Anna Marchant

Cumbrian Anna Marchant is the PA to her uncle, Sir Chris Bonington, while supporting various charities. Since 2023, she has applied her tenacity and creative vision to professional film production. An avid conservationist, Anna is happiest when exploring the fells with her beloved Border Terrier, Cilla.



Fri, 18.30, Theatre Studio

Happy Feet



20th Anniversary Screening
Family Film

George Miller/ Warren Coleman/
Judy Morris, US, 2006, 108 mins

Voices: Elijah Wood, Brittany
Murphy, Hugh Jackman

Into the world of the Emperor Penguins, who find their soul mates through song, a penguin is born who cannot sing. Instead, Mumble must express himself, and lure a female, through his amazing talent for tap-dancing.

It is mating season and Gloria is the centre of attention. After Mumble desperately begins tap dancing in synch with her song, she falls for him. The elders are appalled by Mumble's conduct and he is exiled, leading to encounters with orcas, elephant seals and skuas.

You should see Happy Feet — not only because it's stupendous, but also because it features the best dancing you'll see on the screen this year. David Edelstein, New York Magazine

Thanks to Filmbank Media



Fri, 21.00, Alhambra 1

Alpha



Julia Ducournau, France, 2025
128 mins French with subtitles

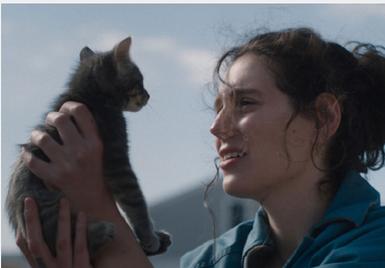
Mélissa Boros, Golshifteh Farahani,
Tahar Rahim

After *Raw* at the 2017 Festival and *Titane* in 2022, **Julia Ducournau's** latest film will be a talking point for 2026. It features another returnee with **Golshifteh Farahani** playing Alpha's mother, a role far from her laid-back appearance in *Paterson*.

Alpha (**Melissa Boros**), a rebellious 13-year-old, lives with her single mom, a doctor with an at-home practice amid the context of a new blood-borne disease. When Alpha returns from a party, drunk, her mother discovers a new, amateur tattoo on her daughter's arm. Worried she might have been infected by the same disease, their world is suddenly turned upside down, as fear invades their family unit, triggering a chain reaction that unleashes repressed trauma, memory and dread.

Alpha turns a coming-of-age drama into a haunting allegory of the AIDS crisis. Ducournau's poetic horror finds empathy in decay, and Tahar Rahim delivers a shattering, soulful performance that freezes and burns at once. Algo Más Que Cine

Thanks to Curzon Film



Fri, 21.00, Theatre Studio

Sorry, Baby



Eva Victor, US, 2025, 103 mins

Eva Victor, Naomi Ackie, Louis Cancelmi

Sundance Film Festival 2025, Winner Waldo Salt Screenwriting Award; Women Film Critics Circle Awards 2025, Winner Adrienne Shelly Award; Sight and Sound top 10 of 2025.

Eva Victor's story highlights Agnes's (**Victor**) journey after a traumatic experience as life moves on. Agnes also tries to move on, but the trauma doesn't let her while she really is unable to take a legal course of action. The story focuses on her emotional journey as she acknowledges the bad thing that happened to her and tries hard to live with it. The world is such that bad things happen and it is never easy being a woman.

With this film, Victor inhabits the naked uncertainty that hangs in the air after a punchline, and asks us to join them there.
Katie McCabe, Sight and Sound

Thanks to Picturehouse Entertainment



Fri, 21.30, Theatre Main House

Toyaneh



European Premiere

Mohammad Mohammadi, Iran, 2025
98 mins *Persian with subtitles*

Faezeh Jafari, Hossein Ganji, Mohammad Ali Kiani, Maryam Sadat Mousavi

In a land torn by tradition and tyranny, young lovers Hasiba and Hafiz risk everything to escape. But freedom comes at a cost. When Hasiba is captured by extremists and forced into a brutal world ruled by men, her fight for survival takes a dark turn. With secrets, betrayal and forbidden love unravelling around her, she must choose between silence — and death — or risking everything to reclaim her voice.

Director's Statement: In societies where religious extremists hold power, patriarchy runs rampant. Under the guise of faith, they view women as mere instruments created only to serve, to bear children, and ultimately to live and die in silence. The right to dream, learn, or choose one's own path is denied to women. They are captives of their own arrogance, seeking to impose their domination not only on women, but on the entire world.

Thanks to Hassan Nazer and Mohammad Mohammadi.

Sponsored by the Festival Director

SAT 21 MARCH



Sat, 10.00, Theatre Main House

Put Your Soul On Your Hand And Walk



Keswick Peace and Human Rights Group Presentation, Introduction and Post-Screening Discussion

Sepideh Farsi, France/ Occupied Palestinian Territory, 2025, 113 mins
English/Arabic/French with subtitles

A filmmaker connects with a Palestinian woman in Gaza who documents life under bombardment. After more than 200 days of digital exchanges, the meaning shifts after an Israeli attack.

During early 2024, **Sepideh Farsi**, an Iranian filmmaker living in exile in Paris, travels to Cairo hoping to cross the border and document the ongoing war in Gaza, but is prevented from entering by the blockade imposed by Israel.

Farsi, instead, documents the war through video call interviews with photojournalist **Fatima Hassouna**,

who lives alongside her family in a small apartment in the devastated Northern Gaza. The video calls are intertwined with **Hassouna's** photojournalism work, which was mainly focused on children's suffering.

Simultaneously heartwarming and heartbreaking, it is one of the best movies of the year, despite being made on a shoestring budget under challenging circumstances.

G. Allen Johnson San Francisco Chronicle

Thanks to Dogwoof Releasing

Sat, 10.30, Alhambra 1

The Fall of Sir Douglas Weatherford



A second chance to see our opening film, see page 17 for further details



Sat, 10.30, Theatre Studio

Speed Racer



Carlisle College Film Student Selection

Lana and Lilly Wachowski, US
2008, 135 mins

Emile Hirsch, Matthew Fox, Christina Ricci

Speed Racer is a young and brilliant racing driver. When corruption in the racing leagues costs his brother his life, Speed must team up with the police and the mysterious Racer X to bring an end to the corruption and criminal activities.

Born into a family business of race cars, Speed Racer (**Emile Hirsch**) is one of the track's hot stars. Sitting at the wheel of his Mach 5, he consistently deflates the competition. When Speed turns down an offer from the head of Royalton Industries, he uncovers a secret.

Powerful moguls fix the races to boost profits. Hoping to beat the executive, Speed enters the same arduous cross-country race that killed his brother.

The arty blockbuster has arrived, and it's as flashy, accessorized and auto-erotic as can be. Which creates a strange sensation indeed, that it's not just the cars that are smoking, but those Wachowskis as well, and whatever's in their pipes too. **Prairie Miller / Newsblaze**

Thanks to Vertigo

Screening Sponsored by Colin Mondesir



Sat, 11.00, Rheged

Kangaroo



Family Day – part of KFF @ at Rheged

Kate Woods, Australia, 2025, 107 mins

Ryan Corr, Lily Whiteley, Deborah Mailman

Kangaroo is a heart-warming family comedy about ex-TV personality Chris Masterman, who becomes stranded in a town outside Alice Springs (Mparntwe). There, he teams up with 12-year-old indigenous Australian girl Charlie. The pair form an unlikely friendship and work together to rescue and rehabilitate orphaned joeys in the remote but stunning Outback community — an endeavour that proves to be life-changing for them both.

Kangaroo is an uplifting Australian family film that combines humour, emotion and a strong message about wildlife conservation, making it a delightful watch for audiences of all ages.

Furry family feature...that provides the audience with many cute-tastic moments. **The Guardian**

Thanks to StudioCanal



Sat, 13.00, Theatre Main House

The Osprey Awards Ceremony

Keswick Film Festival's Short Film Awards — Free Entry

We are proud to host the Osprey Short Film Competition and Awards, championing Cumbria and Cumbrian talent both in front of and behind the camera. Your chance to experience the amazing creativity in the region, as we screen the shortlisted films and present the Awards.

We extend a warm welcome to **Anwen, Lady Hurt**, who will present the awards for Open and Youth categories plus the inaugural **John Hurt Award for Excellence in Short Filmmaking** (previously named the Audience Award).



Sat, 13.00, Alhambra 1

A Magnificent Life

[12]

Pre-Release Screening

Sylvain Chomet, France, 2025
90 mins *French with subtitles*

Voices: Laurent Lafitte, Géraldine Pailhas, Thierry Garcia

From the Director of the brilliant animations *The Illusionist* and *Belleville Rendezvous*, comes the story of Marcel Pagnol, author of *Jean de Florette* and *Manon des Sources*.

In 1955, Pagnol is a well-known and acclaimed playwright and filmmaker. He sees a commission to write a weekly column about his childhood as an opportunity to go back to his artistic roots: writing. A failing memory and disappointment in his last two plays, lead Pagnol to doubt his ability to pursue his work, until Little Marcel — the young boy he used to be — appears to him as if by magic. Together, they explore Marcel Pagnol's incredible life and bring back to life his most cherished encounters and memories.

The master animator's distinctive, hand-crafted style is all present and correct: richly textured backdrops, vivid characters and lively, inventive movement. **Radio Times**

Preview screening courtesy of Picturehouse Entertainment

Screening Sponsored by Pam Firth



Sat, 13.00, Theatre Studio

There Will be Blood

15

Carlisle College Film Student Selection

Paul Thomas Anderson, US
2008, 158 mins

Daniel Day-Lewis, Paul Dano,
Kevin J O'Connor, Ciaran Hinds

Widely touted as a masterpiece, this sparse and sprawling epic about the underhanded "heroes" of capitalism boasts incredible performances by leads **Daniel Day-Lewis** and **Paul Dano**, and is one of director **Paul Thomas Anderson's** best works to date.

Ruthless silver miner turned oil prospector, Daniel Plainview, moves to oil-rich California. Using his son to project a trustworthy, family-man image, Plainview cons local landowners into selling him their valuable properties for a pittance. However, local preacher Eli Sunday suspects Plainview's motives and intentions, starting a slow-burning feud that threatens both their lives.

An amazing study of greed and corruption, expertly crafted by Anderson. The cinematography is breathtaking and the score by Jonny Greenwood is mesmerizingly original.

Michael Compton, BG Daily News

Thanks to Filmbank Media



Sat, 13.30, Rheged

Bugsy Malone



Focus on 1976
Jodie Foster Retrospective
Family Day — part of KFF @ Rheged

Alan Parker, UK, 1976, 93 mins

Jodie Foster, Scott Baio, John Cassisi

The classic story of Bugsy Malone that kick-started the career of **Alan Parker** and confirmed the star-power of **Jodie Foster**.

It's unique as a gangster movie in which all the gangsters are played by children. Instead of real guns, they use "splurge guns" that cover the victim in whipped cream. The story tells of the rise of Bugsy Malone and the battle for power between Fat Sam and Dandy Dan.

Fat Sam (**John Cassisi**), Bugsy (**Scott Baio**) and Tallulah (**Jodie Foster**) are kids playing adults in Roaring '20s New York. With superb direction by **Alan Parker** and brilliant music and songs by **Paul Williams** this is one of the most enjoyable films of the 70s, particularly when viewed as a youngster.

It's boisterous and good-natured, with catchy songs, and always sublimely unaware of its own strangeness.

Peter Bradshaw, Guardian

Thanks to Park Circus



Sat, 16.00, Alhambra

The Secret Agent

15

Kleber Mendonça Filho, Brazil/ France/
Germany, 2025, 161 mins Portuguese
with subtitles

Wagner Moura, Maria Fernanda
Cândido, Gabriel Leone

The volatility of South American politics has long been fertile ground for filmmakers and this is an exceptional addition to the genre, and garlanded with awards at Cannes including Best Director and Best Actor.

Set in 1977 Brazil amid the revelry of Carnival, widower Marcelo (**Wagner Moura**) arrives in vibrant, violent Recife. A technology researcher who suddenly finds himself an unwitting target in the heart of the dictatorship's political maelstrom, Marcelo is on the run from mercenary killers and the ghosts of the past. Amid mounting threats, Marcelo, aided by compatriots in the country's growing underground resistance, remains focused on escaping Brazil with his young son.

Such confident skill, combined with the richness of the narrative and the impressively fluid storytelling, renders the film riveting for all 158 minutes of its running time. One is tempted to call it a masterpiece. Sight and Sound

Thanks to MUBI



Sat, 16.00, Theatre Main House

Taxi Driver

18

Focus on 1976
Jodie Foster Retrospective

Martin Scorsese, US, 1976, 114 mins

Robert De Niro, Jodie Foster,
Cybill Shepherd

In the 50th Anniversary year of its release and as part of the Jodie Foster retrospective at KFF 2026, *Taxi Driver* continues to inspire, cause controversy and be on Greatest Films of All Time lists.

Starring **Robert De Niro** as Travis Bickle, the eponymous taxi driver and an insomniac Vietnam War veteran. 13 year-old **Jodie Foster** is cast as Iris, a prostitute, who encounters Travis along with many other characters on his mission to clean up the streets of 1970s New York, where he plies his trade.

Winner of the Palme D'Or at the Cannes Film Festival 1976.

Taxi Driver is so volatile it nearly explodes from the screen. Under Martin Scorsese's brilliant direction, it works a dramatic tension that is inescapable, carefully, systematically straitjacketing its audience in the problems of its central character.

Kevin Kelly, Boston Globe

Thanks to Filmbank Media



Sat, 16.00, Theatre Studio

Waves

15

Carlisle College Film Student Selection

Trey Edward Shults, US, 2019, 136 mins

Taylor Russell, Kelvin Harrison Jr, Alexa Demie

Set against the vibrant landscape of South Florida, and featuring an astonishing ensemble of award-winning actors and breakouts alike, *Waves* traces the epic emotional journey of a suburban African American family — led by a well-intentional but domineering father — as they navigate love, forgiveness and coming together in the aftermath of a loss.

From acclaimed director **Trey Edward Shults**, *Waves* is an audacious and heartrending story about the universal capacity for compassion and growth even in the darkest of times. This stunningly visceral, stirring and profound drama rushes, peaks and rolls like its title suggests, sweeping the audience along for every single moment.

Shults has crafted a gorgeously visual and uniquely helmed movie that celebrates the best of romantic connection, and is unafraid to condemn the entitlement and disrespect that plagues so many. **Calum Cooper / Source**

Thanks to Filmbank Media



Sat, 16.00, Rheged

The Shepherd and the Bear

15

KFF @ Rheged

Max Keegan, France, 2024, 101 mins
French with subtitles

Set high in the majestic French Pyrenees, *The Shepherd and the Bear* is a remarkable documentary exploring the conflict provoked by the reintroduction of brown bears in the midst of a traditional shepherding community. The film follows an aging shepherd, who struggles to find a successor as bears prey on his flock, and a teenage boy who becomes obsessed with tracking and photographing the bears. Through its breathtaking cinematography and immersive storytelling, *The Shepherd and the Bear* is a modern folktale about tradition, community and humanity's relationship with a vanishing natural world.

A mesmerizing, beautifully shot and eye-opening emotional journey that's also somewhat gripping and breathtaking at times. **NYC Movie Guru**

Thanks to Conic Films Limited



Sat, 18.30, Rheged

All and Nothing

12

UK Premiere
KFF @ Rheged

Liao I-ling and Chu Po-ying
Taiwan/ UK/ Italy, 2023, 95 mins
English/Chinese with subtitles

This mesmerising documentary explores the intricate life of the late conceptual artist **Li Yuan-chia**, tracing his journey from Second World War era China to Taiwan, 1950s Milan, Bologna and Swinging Sixties London, culminating in his 1971 establishment of the LYC Museum & Gallery in a house at Banks in rural Cumbria, next to Hadrian's Wall.

The LYC exhibited artists such as **Andy Goldsworthy** and **David Nash**. **Rosie Leventon**, **Rose Frain**, **Kate Nicholson** and **Bill Woodrow** held solo shows there during the 1980s. It also encouraged the creative efforts of children, many of whom went on to successful careers in the arts. The musician **Delia Derbyshire** worked there as Li's assistant. As an artist, poet and curator, Li incorporated installations, sculpture and photography into his art. The film captures his essence as a journeyman and artist.

Introduced by Paul Taylor, Course Leader, UAL Foundation Diploma in Art and Design, Carlisle College.

Preview screening courtesy of Day for Night



Sat, 19.00, Alhambra 1

The President's Cake

12A

Hasan Hadi, Iraq, 2025, 105 mins
Arabic with subtitles

Baneen Ahmad Nayyef, Waheed Thabet Khreibat, Sajad Mohamad Qasem

The first ever film from Iraq to be screened at Cannes — and winner both of an Audience Award and Camera d'Or — *The President's Cake* is an absolute joy.

While people across 1990's Iraq struggle to survive, 9-year old Lamia (a luminous performance from **Baneen Ahmad Nayyef**) has been selected to prepare a cake to celebrate the President's birthday. In a landscape of fear and scarcity, where basic ingredients are nearly impossible to find, Lamia sets out on a determined journey throughout the big city in search of eggs, flour and sugar. Accompanied by her loyal friend Saeed, and her pet rooster Hindi, she draws on her resourcefulness to tackle the obstacles in her path.

This detail-rich and tremendously moving moral fable uncovers harsh realities in Iraqi society without departing from the earnest perspective of its knee-high protagonist, and without diminishing the dignity or value of her hopes and dreams. **RogerEbert.com**

Thanks to Curzon Film



Sat, 19.00, Theatre Main House

Blueish



European Premiere

Vahid Parshad, Iran, 2025, 71 mins
Persian with subtitles

Soha Niasti, Alireza Behnam,
Kimia Khalaj, Maryam Shahvali

My name is Diba. I'm 24 and, for as long as I can remember, I've always been a loner. Yet, I can no longer bear this solitude. I need to go far away to a place where the sky is eternally azure, like the blueness of the sea.

Diba wants to be free of her nightmares, but within the fine line between reality and the imagined, only the truth will reveal whether to be or not to be.

Director **Vahid Parshad** has said that he tries to portray the suffering and solitude of an angry society in a world moving ever further from simplicity. *"I wish to reach the light at the heart of the darkness that leads to a safer, kinder world. I will therefore capture images that faithfully reflect reality."*

Preview screening courtesy
of DreamLab Films

Sponsored by the Festival Director



Sat, 19.00, Theatre Studio

Spree



Carlisle College Film Student Selection

Eugene Kotlyarenko, US, 2020, 93 mins

Joe Keery, David Arquette, Joshua Ovalle

A satirical thriller in which a rideshare driver, who longs for a larger online following, devises a bloody plan he hopes will make him go viral. The film highlights the menace of social media obsession, the craving for followers, needing approval from strangers and the effect of these on mental health.

Keery nails the sweaty desperation of a wannabe influencer, frantic for likes, in an inventive, no-holds barred, unpredictable black comedy that slices straight to the heart of online culture. Although now five years old, the film is possibly even more relevant to today's society.

It's a pleasant surprise that Kotlyarenko manages to link together YouTube videos, Instagram posts, livestreams and screensharing in an authentic but genuinely entertaining way.

Hannah Strong, Little White Lies

Thanks to Vertigo Releasing



Sat, 21.00, Alhambra 1

Without Permission



England Premiere

Hassan Nazer, Iran, 2025, 80 mins
Persian with subtitles

After bringing us the joy of *Winners* to KFF in 2023, **Hassan Nazer's** latest film is a deeply personal exploration of attitudes in his country of birth.

An exiled Iranian filmmaker (as is **Hassan** himself) returns home after being denied permission to make his scripted film. Determined to capture the voices of a new generation and their unfiltered thoughts on love, identity and freedom he turns to children, secretly filming in hidden locations. As he navigates societal and political barriers, his journey becomes a powerful exploration of self-expression in a controlled world.

*Director **Hassan Nazer** reaffirms through *Without Permission*, the vital role of cinema as a language of resistance and liberation. The questions he raises continue to echo long after the film ends, leaving a lasting resonance in the hearts of its viewers.* **Busan IFF Programme note**

Preview screening courtesy
of DreamLab Films

Sponsored by the Festival Director



Sat, 21.00, Theatre Main House

DJ Ahmet



Pre-Release Screening

Georgi M. Unkovski, North Macedonia
2025, 99 mins *Turkish/ Macedonian
with subtitles*

Arif Jakup, Agush Agushev,
Dora Akan Zlatanova

Winner of the Sundance World Cinema Dramatic Audience Award and a Special Jury Award for Creative Vision. Sheep hit the dancefloor in **Georgi M. Unkovski's** disarming feature debut, a touching, comic and radiantly colourful coming-of-age story about the unifying power of music.

A wistful 15-year-old from a remote Yuruk village in North Macedonia, Ahmet has a lot on his plate after the loss of his mother, including herding sheep and caring for his kid brother. Weighed down by his father's rules, he's also bound by their conservative wider community. He finds an unlikely refuge in techno music, which brings him closer to Aya, but she's already promised to someone else...

A real crowd-pleaser and feel-good movie that invites you to become the "pink" sheep of the family. Yes, you will meet that literal sheep in the movie, but, in a way, so are Ahmet and Aya. **Mondo Cine**

Preview screening courtesy
of Conic Films Limited



Sat, 21.00, Theatre Main House

The Man Who Fell to Earth

18

Focus on 1976

Nicolas Roeg, UK, 1976, 139 mins

David Bowie, Rip Torn, Candy Clark

Celebrating the 50th anniversary of its release, *The Man Who Fell to Earth* stars **David Bowie** as an extra-terrestrial. He crash lands on earth and must pose as a human to get water to save his drought stricken planet. However, he has to contend with human vices and corruption along the way. The depiction of the alienating effects of an over-commercialised society must be intended to warn us earthlings, just as much as the alien Bowie character — he of the anorexic frame, pale skin, orange hair and mismatching coloured eyes — who becomes the battleground of an innocent, alien culture pitted against our tainted, Westernised existence.

Berlin Film Festival 1976: Nominated Golden Bear.

Academy of SF, Fantasy & Horror Films: Winner, David Bowie, Best Actor.

A freaky, compelling concept album of a film. Peter Bradshaw **The Guardian**

Thanks to Filmbank Media

SUN 22 MARCH



Sun, 11.00, Rheged

Terry Abraham

[v]

KFF @ Rheged
Special Event

150 mins

Terry Abraham is a self-taught filmmaker and photographer with a passion and interest for the outdoors, second to none. His multi-award winning films about the Lake District both educate and entertain, including BBC hit series *Life of a Mountain* featuring Scafell Pike, Blencathra and Helvellyn, and recently Cumbria's Red Squirrels.

In this special event, Terry will introduce a personal selection from his tremendous catalogue, including scenes that did not feature in his popular television programmes plus material from his new work, followed by a Q&A.

This is a unique opportunity to spend time with an amazing Lake District filmmaker and watch rarely seen footage.

Thanks to Terry Abraham



Sun, 13.00, Alhambra 1

Wild Foxes

15

Pre-Release Screening

Valery Carnoy, France/ Belgium
2025, 92 mins *French with subtitles*

Samuel Kircher, Fayçal Anafloous,
Jef Jacobs

At a sports boarding school, talented young boxer Camille and his friend Matteo sneak out to feed raw meat to the wild foxes that live in the woods around the school. Camille narrowly survives a fatal accident and is saved by Matteo. After a swift recovery, an inexplicable pain gradually takes hold of him, threatening his dreams of greatness and his relationship with the team. In the ring and in a man's world, there's no room for weakness.

Screen Rant called Wild Foxes: *A brutal coming-of-age boxing movie with a searing performance from its young star (Samuel Kircher), saying: Wild Foxes can be deeply uncomfortable, and it will most certainly make you question why boxing is even a sport in the first place, but its story, in going deep into the psyche of one boy experiencing a coming-of-age in such an aggressive environment, resonates far beyond just the sporting world.*

Preview screening courtesy
of Conic Films Limited



Sun, 14.00, Rheged

The North

15

KFF @ Rheged
Pre-Release Screening

Bart Schrijver, The Netherlands
2025, 131 mins *English/ Spanish/ Dutch with subtitles*

Bart Harder, Carles Pulido, Olly Bassi

A visually stunning exploration of friendship and self-discovery, set against the breathtaking backdrop of the Scottish Highlands. Estranged friends Chris and Lluís embark on a 350 mile walk, hoping to rekindle their once-strong friendship in majestic, raw nature. Amidst the sweeping landscapes, harsh weather and chance encounters with other hikers, the solitude and silence of the trek force the pair to confront truths about themselves and their friendship — and find out what it truly means to stand still and listen.

Shot entirely on the route of the walk, and in chronological order, this beautiful ode to friendship and the healing power of nature is a poignant and powerful drama. Perhaps the definitive hiking film, we take in the stunning majesty of the Highlands shoulder-to-shoulder with Lluís and Chris as they reconnect with each other and with nature.

A majestic drama...purifying and uplifting. **The Guardian**

Preview screening courtesy
of Tull Stories



Sun, 16.00, Alhambra 1

Miroirs No. 3

[12]

Pre-Release Screening

Christian Petzold, Germany, 2025
86 mins *German with subtitles*Paula Beer, Barbara Auer,
Matthias Brandt, Enno Trebs

On a trip to the countryside, Laura, a piano student from Berlin, miraculously survives a horrific car accident. Deeply shaken, she is taken in by Betty, a local woman who begins caring for her with motherly devotion. As Betty's husband and son give up their initial resistance to Laura's presence, the foursome find some happiness in a new, family-like routine. But when the past intrudes, Laura starts questioning their intentions.

From German auteur Christian Petzold (*Transit*, *Phoenix*, *Afire*) this sly, mysterious psychodrama unfurls into an increasingly complex study of grief, trauma and the psychic encroachment of the past.

This fourth collaboration between Petzold and Beer is an exercise in economy, pared back to the barest of bones. Although it's a wisp of a thing, it delivers rich rewards. **Screen International**

Preview screening courtesy
of New Wave Films



Sun, 17.00, Rheged

Sirāt

15

KFF @ Rheged

Oliver Laxe, Spain/ France, 2025, 115 mins
*Spanish/ French/ Arabic with subtitles*Sergi López, Bruno Núñez Arjona,
Stefania Gadda

Sergi Lopez (*Pan's Labyrinth*, *Dirty Pretty Things*) stars as a father accompanied by his pre-teen son. They are looking for his daughter who disappeared months earlier at a rave deep in the mountains of Southern Morocco. Surrounded by electronic dance music and a raw, strange sense of freedom, they continue to hand out her photo. Hope is fading, but they carry on and follow a group of ravers going to one last party in the desert. As they head deeper into the burning wilderness, the journey forces them to confront their own limits.

Joint winner of the Jury Prize at the Cannes Film Festival 2025.

A road movie like no other, visionary director Oliver Laxe's mind-blowing fourth feature boldly inhabits its own universe. A stunner. **The Hollywood Reporter**

Thanks to Altitude Films



Sun, 18.30, Alhambra 1

The Stranger

15

Pre-Release Screening

Francios Ozon, France, 2025, 122 mins
*French with subtitles*Benjamin Voisin, Rebecca Marder,
Pierre Lottin

Algiers, 1938. Meursault, a quiet and unassuming employee in his early thirties, attends his mother's funeral without shedding a tear. He begins a casual affair with work colleague Marie, quickly slipping back into his usual routine. However, his daily life is about to be disrupted by his neighbour who draws Meursault into his shady dealings, until one blisteringly hot day, a tragic event occurs.

Benjamin Voisin plays the detached enigma and anti-hero of Meursault perfectly, in a complete evocation of Camus's world. Beautifully shot in black and white, this tale incorporates both the blistering heat and tension of Algiers, through the detachment of its protagonist, and a civil justice campaign that completes its task in railroading viewers into existential crisis.

One of Ozon's richest and most satisfying works in years - that rarest of literary adaptations, one that honours a foundational text precisely by finding something new to say. **The Wrap**

Preview screening courtesy
of Curzon Film



Sun, 21.00, Alhambra 1 & 2

Closing Film**A Private Life**F
RATED 15Jodie Foster Retrospective
Pre-Release ScreeningRebecca Zlotowski, France, 2025
103 mins, *French with subtitles*

Jodie Foster, Daniel Auteuil, Virginie Efira

Starring **Jodie Foster** in her first French speaking lead role, this immensely entertaining murder mystery has elements of black comedy, with Foster at her charismatic best among an all-star cast.

Paris-based psychiatrist Lilian Steiner enjoys a comfortable ex-pat existence and is stunned at the news that a client, Paula, has killed herself. Encounters with the grieving husband and daughter lead Lilian to suspect foul play, and her obsessive nature kicks in.

Along with hilariously witty touches, there are fascinating currents of impulsiveness, avoidance and repression that run right through this story. It's ultimately both chilling and charming.

Rich Cline, Shadows on the Wall

Preceded by the Winner of the 2026 Osprey inaugural **John Hurt Award for Excellence in Short Filmmaking**

Preview screening courtesy
of Altitude Films

Second Chance to See Films to be Announced

See page 13 for details and use the QR code below for updates on the website.

Saturday

21.00, Alhambra Screen 2

Second Chance Sunday

13.00, Alhambra Screen 2

16.00, Alhambra Screen 2

18.30, Alhambra Screen 2



For Second Chance film announcements, scan the QR code or visit: keswickfilm.org/festival/news

The President's Cake
Sat 21 Mar, 19.00, Alhambra 1



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FESTIVAL FRINGE

FRI 20 & SAT 21

Nurturing talented filmmakers in our local community is important to us and we are proud to present a selection of films made by groups and individuals that showcase Cumbrian life, and demonstrate local storytelling at its best.



Fri 20 Mar, 13.00, Alhambra 2
BlueJam Arts Presents

Jam For Climate: Songs of Stone & Water [PG]

Introduction and Discussion

90 mins total programme

An hour of film and live performance featuring:

- Three documentary film shorts about storms and flooding in Cumbria by Hazel Burrow
- **Jam For Climate** — Animations with live poetry and song
- **Songs of Stone and Water** — an audiovisual response to Mayburgh Henge, Arthurs Round Table and Penrith Castle

All work created by **CreateJam**, **Painting For Wellbeing** and **Friday Jam Clubs** with funding support from **English Heritage**.



Fri 20 Mar, 16.00, Alhambra 2
Carlisle College Media Presents

Cinema '76 [12]

90 mins total programme

From the students of Carlisle College come seven short films that celebrate the 1970's cinematic and visual techniques.

This collection of films, from many unique creative perspectives, explores different genres, themes and styles; romance, horror, thriller, melancholy, comedy, family, espionage, the beauty of nature and surrealism.

- **The Call** — Thomas Bradley and Alice Hetherington
- **The Tale of the Straw Child** — Tahlia Coupland and Moli Parry
- **Uroboros** — Daniel Cairns
- **The Date** — Jacob Bulman, Wil Finch, Jessica Macauley and George Rennie
- **Our House** — Evie Watson and Amelia Wiltshire
- **Monster** — Louis Page
- **The Call Vintage** — Thomas Bradley and Alice Hetherington



Fri 20 Mar, 18.30, Alhambra 2

I ME US [12]

90 mins total programme

Focusing on the life stories of Trans and non-binary people who live in Cumbria and the North East, this film gives an insight into their personal journeys and experiences.

Produced and Directed by Peadar and Deborah Sweeney

Carlisle College, Pride in North Cumbria, Heritage Fund, Eden Film

Film run time: 65 mins



Fri 20 Mar, 21.00, Alhambra 2
Saving Our Rainforests [U]

This visually stunning documentary sheds new light on Britain's best kept secret: the UK's rare temperate rainforests, with a focus on Borrowdale in Cumbria. Covering less than 1% of the planet, these habitats are rarer than tropical rainforests and are in urgent need of recognition and protection.

Borrowdale contains one of the largest remaining portions in the UK, making it a vital site for conservation. The film highlights the unique species that depend on this ecosystem, including the Northern Hairy Wood Ant, and features insights from experts such as National Nature Reserve officer Jade Allen and ecologist Ian Rotherham.

Made by Emily Topping

Emily is a documentary filmmaker based in Staveley in the Lake District. Saving Our Rainforests began during her Wildlife Documentary Production MA. Thanks to support from Borrowdale Story Emily was able to continue and expand the project, and create the film that you see today.

Film run time: 21 mins

**Every
life
matters** ...

Sat 21 Mar, 13.00, Alhambra 2
**Every Life Matters: Telling
Stories that Save Lives** [12]

Panel Discussion

90 mins total programme

Suicide Prevention in Film

This short panel discussion will explore suicide prevention and the power of film in conveying vital messages, exploring the impact of both scripted and lived experience, and how both can enable us to engage more fully with suicide prevention.

The panel will share examples of films produced by Every Life Matters to raise awareness of personal experience of suicide, alongside examples of videos from other suicide prevention campaigns.

This panel is for anyone interested in suicide prevention, filmmakers, videographers and documentary makers.

every-life-matters.org.uk

**LA1
SHORTS**

Sat 21 Mar, 16.00, Alhambra 2
**LA1 Shorts On Tour —
10th Anniversary** [15+]

90 mins total programme

A selection of shorts presented by LA1 Shorts, Lancaster's premier and longest running film festival.

At each Festival, both experienced and new, grass roots filmmakers see their work on the big screen at The Dukes Theatre, showcasing a fantastic mixture of short films from the Lancashire Audience Choice section, and a National Best Film category.



Sat 21 Mar, 18.30, Alhambra 2
**Alexander Kasper Jessett
presents a Trio of Films** [15+]

Followed by a Q & A

Once Upon a Time in the North-West

Run time: 15 mins

Lead Producer: Alexander Kasper Jessett

Director: Ieva (Eve) Zilionyte

Writer: Oliver Hamer Crane

Absent Friends

Run time: 15 mins

Producer: Cleo Emmett

Director/Writer: Harry Skuse

Director of Photography: Luca Hill

Forest

Run Time: 6 mins

Producer: Sean Mc Carthy

Director: Jake Platt

Director of Photography/
Creator: Elliot Carter

Total run time: 65 mins

KEEP IN TOUCH

Keep up to date with news of the exciting programme of films, guests and special events at the 2027 Keswick Film Festival. Sign up to our mailing list at keswickfilmfestival.org and follow us on [f](#) [@](#) [X](#) [@keswickfilmfestival](#)

Keswick Film Club, Registered Charity No. 1083395

All listings correct at time of going to print, but may be subject to change.

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CINEMA



See 2026's best films on RHEGED's 60ft screen with the latest 4k laser projector, plus independent & outdoor adventure films & event cinema from The Royal Ballet, The National Theatre and The Met Opera.

Image © Rafael Mantesso



GALLERY EXHIBITIONS

A DOG'S LIFE

A 20-21 Visual Art Centre Touring Exhibition

Showcasing over a 100 dog themed artworks by international artists, designers, illustrators and photographers. This family friendly exhibition includes a host of dog themed activities and a spotlight on Cumbrian Canine heroes.

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£4 ENTRY | 12 & UNDER GO FREE

KESWICK FILM FESTIVAL



RHEGED are a proud Festival partner, using our Big Screen for some of 2026 highlights on 21 & 22 March. To tie in with the Festival, Carlisle College art students have used Li Yuan Chia as the inspiration for this year's exhibition at RHEGED. Don't miss the film premiere of *All and Nothing* – the story of how Li Yuan Chia attracted international artists to exhibit in his LYC Gallery on Hadrian's Wall in the 70's & 80's

	The Alhambra Screen 1	The Alhambra Screen 2	Theatre by the Lake Main House	Theatre by the Lake Studio	Rheged Penrith
Thu 19	19.00, Opening Film, Screens 1 & 2				
20	The Fall of Sir Douglas Weatherford *				
Fri 20	13.00 Orwell 2+2=5	13.00, BlueJam Arts Jam for Climate	13.00 The Last One for the Road	13.00 Iyo Ang Dagat	
15	15.30 Sound of Falling	16.00, Carlisle College Cinema '76	15.30 Common Ground + Yan Tan Tethera *	15.30 Cria Cuervos	
18	18.30 The Last Viking	18.30 I ME US	18.30 When Life Gives You Lemons...Everyone's Everest *	18.30 Happy Feet	
21	21.00 Alpha	21.00 Saving Our Rainforests	21.30 Toyaneh	21.00 Sorry, Baby	
23					
Sat 21	10.30 The Fall of Sir Douglas Weatherford		10.00 Put Your Soul on Your Hand and Walk *	10.30 Speed Racer	11.00 Kangaroo
13	13.00 A Magnificent Life	13.00 Every Life Matters	13.00 The Ospreys Awards	13.00 There Will Be Blood	13.30 Bugsy Malone
16	16.00 The Secret Agent	16.00 LA1 Shorts on Tour	16.00 Taxi Driver	16.00 Waves	16.00 The Shepherd and the Bear
19	19.00 The President's Cake	18.30 Alexander Kasper Jessett presents a Trio of Films	19.00 Blueish	19.00 Spree	18.30 All and Nothing *
21	21.00 Without Permission	21.00 Second Chance ** TBA	21.00 DJ Ahmet	21.00 The Man Who Fell to Earth	
23					
Sun 22	13.00 Wild Foxes	13.00 Second Chance Sunday ** TBA			11.00 Terry Abraham *
14					14.00 The North
16	16.00 Miroirs No. 3	16.00 Second Chance Sunday ** TBA			17.00 Sirat
17					
18	18.30 The Stranger	18.30 Second Chance Sunday ** TBA			
19	21:00, Closing Film, Screens 1 & 2				
20	A Private Life + Osprey inaugural John Hurt Award				
21					
22					
23					

Please Note

There will be a brief introduction before each film

* Special event, Q&A/discussion

** Second Chance titles to be announced