



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SCOTTISH MENTAL HEALTH FILM FESTIVAL 2012 INVITES YOU TO 'WALK IN MY SHOES'

The Scottish Mental Health Film Festival 2012 breaks new ground this year with previews of unreleased and rare films accompanied by lively discussion with guests, fans and filmmakers. The theme of this year's Festival is 'walk in my shoes' and, with cinema uniquely placed to communicate another's individual consciousness, the choice of films will take you on truly extraordinary journeys in someone else's shoes. Screenings depicting a variety of human experience will take place up and down the country, from the Highlands to Paisley.

In Glasgow, our screenings at the Glasgow Film Theatre feature a preview of psychological thriller *I, Anna* starring **Charlotte Rampling** and **Gabrielle Byrne**, the directorial feature debut by Rampling's son, **Barnaby Southcombe** who will also be attending a post screening Q&A, a vintage example of avant-garde film-making selected by songwriter and performer, **Malcolm Middleton**; *The Sea That Thinks*, followed by a discussion with director **Gert de Graaff** and Malcolm, and a rare piece of surrealist cinema; *Anti-Clock*, followed by a Q&A with maverick, radical director **Jack Bond**.

In Edinburgh, our screenings at the Filmhouse include the Scottish premiere of *I, Anna* plus Q&A with **Barnaby Southcombe** and a visit from **Jack Bond** to talk about the film he made with Salvador Dali; *Dali In New York*.

BMX Bandit **Douglas Stewart** features in the second Scottish outing of *Serious Drugs*, directed by **Jim Burns** and shortlisted for an award at the Portobello Film Festival (London) Awards. The screening is followed by a Q&A with Douglas and Jim.

In 2007 *Chariots of Fire* director **Hugh Hudson**'s wife suffered a life-threatening brain injury. *Rupture* is a thoughtful documentary about actor and former Bond girl, **Maryam D'Abo**'s recovery, and is followed by a panel discussion with **Paul Broks**, a neuropsychologist who will provide a professional perspective. Documentary filmmaker **Nick Higgins**, Creative Director of **The Northern Lights Film Project**, will show excerpts and discuss this remarkable filmmaking project.

Eddie Harrison, the Film Festival's programmer, says: "The 2012 Film Festival programme is a forward looking selection of authored events, previews and rarities. We're building on our reputation for presenting a diverse range of challenging and original work. I'm very grateful to the filmmakers, distributors and cinemas involved for helping to bring a bumper selection of films to our 2012 audience.

"Film is a highly accessible medium and in the past we've had great audience discussions. I'm hoping that this year with more filmmakers involved than ever before those discussions will be accessible and enjoyable to a wide audience."

The Scottish Mental Health Arts & Film Festival Open Film Submission also returns for its sixth year, culminating in The SMHAFF International Film Awards. This year's competition saw a diverse range of submissions from Scottish, British and European filmmakers, as well as entries from as far afield as Canada, Australia and India. The very best of these films will be honoured at the **SMHAFF 2012 International Film Awards Ceremony** at Filmhouse, Edinburgh on Wednesday 24 October.

FILM IN GLASGOW

ANTI-CLOCK: Jane Arden, Jack Bond, UK, 1979, 107m, 18. Cast: Sebastian Saville, Suzan, Cameron, Richard Feynman

Finally re-issued after years of unavailability, Jack Bond and Jane Arden's science fiction film is a challenging, provocative work. Using far-ahead-of-its-time video surveillance footage, *Anti-Clock* tells the story of Joseph (Sebastian Saville), a young man with the ability to read minds, whose participation in the mysterious *Anti-Clock* project sends him on a journey of paranoia and self-discovery. Director Jack Bond will attend for a post-screening Q&A.

Mon 8 Oct, 6 – 8.20pm, Glasgow Film Theatre, 12 Rose Street, Glasgow G3 6RB £7.50 / £6 Booking: 0141 332 6535 www.glasgowfilm.org.uk

THE SEA THAT THINKS: Gert de Graaff, Netherlands, 2000, 100m, NC. Cast: Bart Klever, Devika Strooker

The choice of popular Scottish songwriter and performer Malcolm Middleton, *The Sea That Thinks* is a remarkable piece of experimental filmmaking previously unseen on these shores. Using a series of eye-popping optical illusions, this is a highly radical and original evocation of the complex nature of the artistic creative process. Nominally about a writer struggling to develop a film idea, *The Sea That Thinks* will strike a chord with anyone who has creative leanings. Both the director and Middleton will attend to contribute to a discussion of the film.

Tue 9 Oct, 6 – 8.20pm, Glasgow Film Theatre, 12 Rose Street, Glasgow G3 6RB, £7.50 / £6 Booking: 0141 332 6535 www.glasgowfilm.org.uk

I, ANNA: Barnaby Southcombe, UK 2012, 93m, TBC Cast: Charlotte Rampling, Gabriel Byrne, Hayley Atwell

An absorbing debut feature from Southcombe, featuring a powerful leading performance from Charlotte Rampling (*Blow Up*, *The Night Porter*) as Anna. After meeting a mysterious man at a speed dating night, Anna finds herself unable to remember the details of her evening. As a dogged policeman (Byrne) closes in on her, Anna struggles to reconcile herself to her activities on the previous evening, and with an event in the past which threatens to catch up with her. *I, Anna* deals with potentially melodramatic subject matter in a compassionate and intelligent way. Barnaby will attend a post screening Q&A.

Tue 23 Oct, 6 – 8.20pm, Glasgow Film Theatre, 12 Rose Street, Glasgow G3 6RB £7.50 / £6 Booking: 0141 332 6535 www.glasgowfilm.org.uk

THE ANGELS' SHARE: Ken Loach, UK, 2012, 101m, 15

A bittersweet comedy from director Ken Loach. Narrowly avoiding jail, new dad Robbie (Paul Brannigan) vows to turn over a new leaf. A visit to a whisky distillery inspires him and his mates to seek a way out of their hopeless lives - but just what side of the law are they on?

Tue 9 Oct, 7 - 9.15pm, The Kinning Park Complex (opposite Kinning Park Underground), 40 Cornwall Street, Glasgow G41 1BA Free / No booking required Information: www.plantation.org.uk

BODY TALK: **THE ARBOR:** Clio Barnard, UK, 2010, 94m, 15 In Clio Barnard's *The Arbor*, actors seamlessly lip-sync the words of real life subjects, telling the tragic story of playwright Andrea Dunbar and her tumultuous relationship with her daughter. This film screens as part of the Body Talk series organised by Glasgow Women's Library, encouraging women to examine different aspects of their health through the medium of film. Sensitive issues are covered in this screening.

Tue 9 Oct, 11am – 2pm, Grosvenor Cinema, Ashton Lane, Glasgow G12 8SJ Free / Booking required Booking: 0141 248 9969 info@womenslibrary.org.uk

FILM IN EDINBURGH

DALI IN NEW YORK: Jack Bond, UK/USA, 1966, 59m, NC Cast: Salvador Dali, Jack Bond, Jane Arden

This is a remarkable reflection of the creative process. In his record of a series of meetings in New York around Christmas 1965, Bond creates a wry and amusing portrait of an artist torn between the forces which drive him and the pressures of modern living. After the screening Jack Bond discusses his relationship with one of the world's most celebrated artists, Salvador Dali.

Mon 8 Oct, 8.30 - 10.30pm, £4 / £2, Filmhouse, 88 Lothian Road, Edinburgh EH 3 9BZ Booking: 0131 228 2688 www.filmhousecinema.com

SERIOUS DRUGS: Jim Burns, UK, 2011, 97m, NC Cast: Douglas T Stewart, Norman Blake

Twenty-five years of pure popular music greatness, seen through the eyes of BMX Bandit Douglas T Stewart. *Serious Drugs* deals frankly, but with enormous humour and goodwill, with the difficulties of being a cult pop star. Jim Burns' film is likely to appeal to fans of Stewart's music, and features informed comments from his friends and family. It's a genuine insight into the creative process and vision behind some of pop's most fiercely adored tunes. Both Jim and Douglas will attend the post screening Q&A.

Tue 9 Oct, 5.45 - 7.45pm £4 / £2, Filmhouse, 88 Lothian Road, Edinburgh EH 3 9BZ Booking: 0131 228 2688
www.filmhousecinema.com

RUPTURE: Living With My Broken Brain: Hugh Hudson, UK, 2012, 69m, NC Cast: Maryam D'Abo

Chariots of Fire director Hugh Hudson directs this moving documentary. Hudson's wife is Maryam D'Abo, star of the James Bond film *The Living Daylights*. She suffered a subarachnoid haemorrhage in 2007, and her experience inspired this film, in which individuals who have suffered from brain injuries discuss how it affected them and the long road to recovery. Neuropsychologist, Paul Brok, will take part in a panel discussion after the screening.

Wed 10 Oct, 5.45 - 7.45pm £4 / £2, Filmhouse, 88 Lothian Road, Edinburgh EH 3 9BZ Booking: 0131 228 2688
www.filmhousecinema.com

I, ANNA: Barnaby Southcombe, UK 2012, 93m, TBC Cast: Charlotte Rampling, Gabriel Byrne, Hayley Atwell.

Director Barnaby Southcombe will be attending a post screening Q&A. See FILM IN GLASGOW for details.

Mon 22 Oct, 5.45 - 7.45pm, £7.50 / £5.50, Filmhouse, 88 Lothian Road, Edinburgh EH 3 9BZ Booking: 0131 228 2688
www.filmhousecinema.com

THE NORTHERN LIGHTS FILM PROJECT – EXPLORING THE PROCESS As part of the Year of Creative Scotland 2012, the Northern Lights project has invited people from all over Scotland to contribute to a unique feature length documentary film. Led by creative director Nick Higgins, a celebrated documentary maker in his own right, the Northern Lights project is a mass participation scheme. For this special event, Nick will show excerpts from the edited feature documentary and discuss the filmmaking process alongside some of the project's many participants. Wed 24 Oct, 3.30 - 5pm, Free / Booking required, Filmhouse, 88 Lothian Road, Edinburgh EH 3 9BZ Booking: 0131 228 2688 www.filmhousecinema.com

INTERNATIONAL FILM AWARDS 2012, Wed 24 Oct, 5.45 – 8pm, Filmhouse, 88 Lothian Road, Edinburgh EH3 9BZ Free / Booking required Booking: 0131 228 2688 www.filmhousecinema.com

ENDS

NOTES TO EDITORS:

For interview requests, images and press tickets please contact Alison Young, Media and Communications Coordinator: alisonsmhaff@gmail.com T. 0141 572 1661 M. 07891 038 053

Tickets are on sale now. For more information see www.mhfestival.com

A PDF of programme of the full Festival 2012 programme can be downloaded from

www.mhfestival.com/media.php

JACK BOND (1939 -) British film producer and director.

Jack Bond has produced/directed many iconic episodes of *The South Bank Show*, as well as directing the film *It Couldn't Happen Here* featuring The Pet Shop Boys (1988) and their music video for *Heart*. He is, however, best known for his collaboration with actress/writer Jane Arden. Notable work includes *Separation* (1967), *The Other Side of the Underneath* (1972), and *Anti-Clock* (1979). Each of these films explores a different facet of mental illness, and can be seen to show evidence of Arden's own declining mental state. After Arden's suicide in 1982, Bond archived the films they made together, with orders to never be released to the public, leaving the material unseen for twenty years. *Anti-Clock* - which Arden wrote and co-directed - was restored by the BFI in 2009. The film, which has been described variously as paranoid, psychedelic, and avant-garde, is an experimental feature that switches between black and white CCTV footage and archival television clips. The narrative follows Joseph Sapha (played by Sebastian Saville; Arden's son), a self-destructive man under

psychiatric surveillance by the therapist, Professor Zanol (also played by Saville). *Anti-Clock* was never released in the UK, after Bond received negative feedback from distributors; but enjoyed greater support in America.

ABOUT SMHAFF: Now in its sixth year, the Scottish Mental Health Arts and Film Festival is one of Scotland's most diverse cultural events, encompassing music, film, visual art, theatre, dance, and literature. The annual festival takes place in venues across Scotland throughout October, aiming to support the arts and challenge preconceived ideas about mental health.

By engaging artists, connecting with communities and forming collaborations, we celebrate the artistic achievements of people with experience of mental health issues, exploring the relationship between creativity and the mind, and promoting positive mental health and well-being.

PARTNERS: The festival is supported by **The Mental Health Foundation in association with the following national partners:** Mental Health Foundation, Scotland's anti-stigma campaign 'see me', NHS Health Scotland, NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde, NHS Lothian, The Royal College of Psychiatrists, Lanarkshire Recovery Network, Voices of Experience, IRISS, University of Strathclyde.

The Mental Health Foundation is a leading UK mental health charity that conducts robust research, provides practical solutions to help everyone lead mentally healthier lives, and works to raise public awareness and improve mental health services for the entire population. The Foundation is proud of the vital role it plays in hosting, developing and managing the Scottish Mental Health Arts and Film Festival www.mentalhealth.org.uk

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