

For immediate release: Wed 31 Jan 2024

barbican

Barbican Cinema March 2024

This March, the Barbican offers a bold and diverse international cinema programme, welcoming back festivals including the **Oska Bright Film Festival**, with work from learning disabled and autistic directors; the **Human Rights Watch Film Festival**; and a screening of ***La Chimera*** from the **Glasgow Film Festival**.

Oscar Week® 2024 also returns this month, bringing a slice of Hollywood glamour to the cinemas. Audiences will get to enjoy the films nominated in the Best Picture and International Feature Film categories, as well as the Animated and Live Action shorts categories at this year's 96th Academy Awards.

Coinciding with International Women's Day on Fri 8 Mar, Barbican Cinema presents **Disruption: Contemporary Shorts by Iranian Women Filmmakers + ScreenTalk with Mania Akbari**, a selection of six short films by women directors based in Iran, which question its deeply patriarchal society and put the experiences of women and children centre stage.

Women filmmakers will also be celebrated in the March **Family Film Club** programme, with a line-up of films made exclusively by women. This includes Disney's ***Turning Red***, the first London screening of ***The Exploits of Moominpappa***; and a specially curated **International Women's Day** shorts programme.

Experiments in Film showcases the work of Australian filmmaker **Stephen Cummins** (1960-94). Very rarely screened in the UK, Cummins' short films portray beautiful and sometimes provocative depictions of gay men in Australia in the 1980s and early 1990s.

Further highlights in March include the fourth and final screening in the **Emerging Film Curators series, Changing with the Tides**, a collection of short films documenting the dramatic changes in fishing industries and communities over the last seven decades. Programmed by emerging film curators **Aryan Tauqeer Khawaja, Sophiya Sian** and **Tony Yang**, the evening will also feature live poetry readings and interviews with guest speakers.

New East Cinema presents the topical ***In the Rearview* + ScreenTalk with director Maciek Hamela**. This fly-on-the-wall film follows the journey of Ukrainians as they are forced to flee their homes and drive into the unknown. **Senior Community Screenings** this month include ***Girl***, the feature debut from **Adura Onashile**, and the Nigerian film ***Mami Wata***.

Festivals, Seasons and Special Events

- Glasgow Film Festival: ***La Chimera*** – **Sun 3 Mar**
- Disruption: Contemporary Shorts by Iranian Women Filmmakers + ScreenTalk with Curator Mania Akbari and special guests – **Thu 7 Mar**
- Oscar® Week 2023 – **Fri 8 Mar – Thu 14 Mar**
- Oska Bright Film Festival – **Mon 11 Mar**
- Human Rights Watch Film Festival – **Thu 14 – Fri 22 Mar**

- Emerging Film Curators Series: Changing with the Tides + live poetry
– **Sun 24 Mar**

Regular Programme strands

- Family Film Club – **every Sat am**
- Senior Community Screenings: *Mami Wata* – **Mon 4 Mar** + *Girl* – **Mon 18 Mar**
- New East Cinema: *In the Rearview* + ScreenTalk with director Maciek Hamela, hosted by Kateryna Khinkulova – **Tue 5 Mar**
- Experiments in Film: The Gay Short Films of Stephen Cummins – **Wed 27 Mar**
- Relaxed Screenings – **one Fri daytime and one Mon evening**
- Pay What You Can Screenings – **every Fri**

Event Cinema

- MET Opera in HD: *La Forza Del Destino* – **Sat 16 Mar**
- NT Live: *The Motive and the Cue* – **Thu 21 Mar**
- MET Opera Live in HD: *Romeo et Juliette* – **Sat 23 Mar**
- Royal Opera House Live: *Madama Butterfly* – **Sun 31 Mar**

Festivals, Seasons and Special Events

Glasgow Film Festival: *La Chimera*

Italy, France & Switzerland 2023, Dir Alice Rohrwacher, 133 mins

Sun 3 Mar, 5.20pm

Cinema 1

“A joyous, masterful work of folk magic” (Sight & Sound), *La Chimera* is a captivating fable of lost love. This new film from **Alice Rohrwacher** (*Happy As Lazzaro*) was critically lauded after its Cannes premiere and follows a melancholic British archaeologist caught up in the illegal trafficking of ancient finds.

Riparbella, Tuscany, early '80s. An Englishman in a grimy linen suit, Arthur (**Josh O'Connor**) has just been released from prison. Yearning for his old lover, Beniamina, the daughter of an ageing local aristocrat (**Isabella Rossellini**), he falls in with a group of *tombaroli* (tomb robbers), a rowdy, Fellini-esque crew of twentysomethings who claim to work as farmers and entertainers, but instead pilfer the area's ancient burial sites for Etruscan earthenware and ornaments to sell on the black market.

Romantic and wayward *La Chimera* is an ode to the power and fragility of precious artefacts, and a cautionary tale about how easily they may be lost.

Disruption: Contemporary Shorts by Iranian Women Filmmakers + ScreenTalk with Curator Mania Akbari and special guests, hosted by Tiara Sahar Atai

Dir various

Thu 7 Mar, 6.15pm

Cinema 2

Set against the backdrop of Iran's deeply patriarchal society, these films serve as a much-needed disruption. At the heart of this programme, two interwoven themes emerge: the experiences of women and children.

From the delicate and fragmented recollections of childhood memories to depictions of women within diverse power dynamics, this collection beckons viewers to engage with emotions often overlooked in the tapestry of everyday life.

Through the lenses of these filmmakers, the inner workings of a system that fosters vulnerability in the lives of children and women are laid bare.
Curated by **Pegah Pasalar**, **Sadaf Sadri** and **Cryptofiction**.

The Zoo

Iran 2022, Dir Nafiseh Zare, 17 min

While at the zoo, Ranaa's mother reveals that her father has left them. As they stroll past empty animal cages, Ranaa reflects on the significance of absence.

Dissociation

Iran 2021, Dir Payvand Egtesadi, 10 min

8-year-old Pouya disappears until his aunt discovers him hiding under the bed, and she uncovers the reason why he has panicked.

Raya

Iran 2020, Dir Sepide Berenji, 14 min

A young girl and her family are forced to evacuate their home, but she may have found another way out.

The Region

Iran 2021, Dir Asma Ebrahimzadegan, 23 min

A film is in production but the shoot is not going well. The lead actress is nervous and must fight for her creative freedom.

Iran; Second Day

Iran 2021, Dir Kiana Montajabi, 15 min

A girl waits to be picked up from school but her mother never arrives.

Hair

Iran 2022, Dir Samaneh Yadollahi, 15 min

In Iran, an elderly woman experiences hair loss. However, her husband forbids her from entering the kitchen, fearing her hair might fall into the food...

Oscar® Week 2024

Fri 8 Mar – Thu 14 Mar

Cinema 2 & 3

The red carpet will be rolled out in the foyers and film fans will have the chance to catch up with this year's nominees – on the big screen – at the 96th Academy Awards.

Full programme to be announced Thu 1 Feb

Oska Bright Film Festival

Mon 11 Mar, 6.30pm

Cinema 3

A pick n mix of some of the highlights from **Oska Bright Film Festival**, the world's biggest international film festival featuring work by learning disabled and autistic directors. The screening is a great way to see a little bit of everything and celebrate Oska Bright Film Festival 2024.

Full programme info:

www.barbican.org.uk/whats-on/2024/event/oska-bright-film-festival-2024-best-of-the-fest

Human Rights Watch Film Festival, London

Thu 14 - Fri 22 Mar

Cinema 1, 2 & 3

Human Rights Watch Film Festival returns to London with a programme of 10 vital films - with four premiere screenings at the Barbican including Opening and Closing nights.

The festival highlights human rights issues across the world with screenings accompanied by live Q&As with filmmakers, film participants, Human Rights Watch researchers and advocates allowing deeper understanding about the films' subjects and themes. Full programme to be announced on Thu 8 Feb.

Emerging Film Curators Series

Changing with the Tides ^(12A+) + live poetry

Sun 24 Mar 3.30pm

Cinema 2

Changing with the Tides is an immersive journey across coastal communities in the UK and beyond, traces technological, social and economic changes in the fishing industry and how it has affected the workers that partake in it. Beginning with the poetic rhythms of traditional swordfish-hunting in **Vittorio De Seta's** *The Age of Swordfish* (1954), the programme traces how cinematic portrayals of the lives of fishermen have been affected by the globalisation of the industry across three key time periods.

Beginning on the coasts of 1950s Sicily and ending on the Northeast shores of Scotland in 2021, these powerful short films are accompanied by live poetry readings and guest speakers. Curated by **Aryan Tauqeer Khawaja, Sophiya Sian, Tony Yang**.

The Age of Swordfish

Italy 1954, Dir Vittorio De Seta, 11 min

In this exhilarating and evocative documentary, fishermen hunt swordfish from the shores of Sicily.

The Last Fisherman

UK 1958, 17 min

Aberdeenshire's last line fisherman, **Norman Grant**, demonstrates his skills and tough, exhausting work in the last days of a dying industry.

***Trawling North Sea: Dicketa, 1974* (extract)**

UK 1974, Paul Meen, 5 min

Super 8 colour film offering a unique and personal view of fishermen's lives, filmed on board a North Sea Trawler by a Lowestoft skipper.

The Bayview

UK 2021, Dir Daniel Cook, 18 min

On the Northeast Coast of Scotland, an extraordinary family have turned a previously derelict hotel into a place of respite for international fishermen when they come to land.

To view the full press release:

www.barbican.org.uk/our-story/press-room/emerging-film-curators-series

Regular Programme Strands

Family Film Club

***Turning Red* (PG)**

US 2022 Dir Domee Shi 100min

Sat 2 Mar, 11am

Cinema 2

This joyous Pixar creation is based on director Domee Shi's own upbringing in Toronto and is a glorious journey back to 2002 complete with boy bands, grunge and Tamagotchi!

Age recommendation: 7+

International Women's Day Shorts Programme (U*)

Dir various, approx 60 min

Sat 9 Mar, 11 am

Cinema 2

For International Women's Day this week, **Susie Evans**, the Family Film Club Curator, is putting together a line-up of short films all directed by female filmmakers from around the world. This is an ideal way to introduce young ones to international cinema in bite-sized chunks.

Full programme to be announced in late Feb. Age recommendation: 5+

***Encanto* (PG)**

US 2021, Dirs Jared Bush, Byron Howard and Charise Castro Smith, 102min

Sat 16 Mar, 11am

Cinema 2

With triumphant songs from **Lin Manuel Miranda** and peerless Oscar-winning Disney animation, this story is a heart-warming adventure for all the family.

Age recommendation: 6+

***Superworm + The Smeds and the Smoos* (U*)**

UK 2021 Dirs. Jac Hamman & Sarah Screimeour 25min

UK 2022 Dirs. Samantha Cutler & Daniel Snaddon 25min

Sat 23 Mar, 11am

Cinema 2

Animated by the legendary **Magic Light Pictures** – who have won countless awards for their work – and featuring the voice talent of **Sally Hawkins**, **Bill Bailey**, **Meera Syal** and **Olivia Colman** – to name but a few, this rhyme-filled double bill is a gentle introduction to the big screen experience for young film fans.

Age recommendation: 3+

10am Free pre-film workshop

Sat 30 Mar

Come along and get crafty before the film with our free making activity inspired by the morning's film.

***The Exploits of Moominpappa* (U*) + pre film workshop**

Poland/Finland 2023, Dir Ira Carpelan, 74min

Sat 30 Mar, 11am

Cinema 2

Family Film Club is delighted to present the first London screening of this gentle story from **Tove Jansson's** Moomin series. Moominpappa is the star of this story as he regales the audience with tales of his adventurous youth – escaping an orphanage, meeting with an inventor, finding a ghost and sailing a boat out on the ocean.

Age recommendation: 4+

Senior Community Screenings

Welcoming 60+ cinema goers to watch the latest new releases every other Monday morning.

***Mami Wata* (12A)**

Nigeria 2023, Dir C.J 'Fiery' Obasi, 147 min

Mon 4 Mar, 11am

Cinema 2

A harmonious and matriarchal ocean village comes under threat when spiritual beliefs and traditions come into question. Said to be championing a new wave of Nigerian

filmmaking, C.J “Fiery” Obasi’s third feature film presents as a futuristic fable which addresses inter-generational tensions and challenges the viewer to think about the role of tradition in modern society.

Girl (12A)

UK 2023, Dir Adura Onashile, 87 min

Mon 18 Mar, 11am

Cinema 2

Set in Glasgow, the feature debut by **Adura Onashile** sees a young mother forced to face the truth of her past life as her daughter approaches adolescence and strives for new freedom.

New East Cinema: *In the Rearview* (15*) + ScreenTalk with director Maciek Hamela (via Zoom), hosted by BBC World Service journalist Kateryna Khinkulova (on stage).

Poland/Ukraine & France 2023, Dir Maciek Hamela, 86 mins

Tue 5 Mar, 6.20pm

Cinema 3

In February 2022, days after Russia’s full-scale invasion of Ukraine, Polish director **Maciek Hamela** bought a van to help evacuate civilians in neighbouring Ukraine. At some point during his many trips to the Polish border and back, the director-turned-driver, along with friend and cinematographer **Piotr Grawender**, decided to document the people getting in his van in search of safety.

The hundreds of hours of footage, skilfully edited into 86 minutes, amount to a humane portrait of Ukrainians in crisis where compassion, joy, and sometimes even humour, still find their way amidst the horror.

A composed driver determined to help, Hamela’s directorial role always comes second. Yet, the contained observational documentary is a compelling cinematic achievement whose artistic virtues, from stunning cinematography to brilliant editing and score, are on par with the powerful stories it documents.

***Experiments in Film: The Gay Short Films of Stephen Cummins* (18*) + intro by**

Cinema Curator Alex Davidson

Wed 27 Mar, 6.30pm

Cinema 2

Discover the beautiful and haunting shorts of Australian filmmaker **Stephen Cummins** (1960-94) who portrayed beautiful, yet sometimes provocative depictions of gay men in the 1980s and early 1990s.

These nine shorts by Australian filmmaker, curator and artist Stephen Cummins, newly digitised and restored by the National Film and Sound Archive of Australia and Cummins’ collaborator **Simon Hunt**, offer an evocative, provocative depiction of gay male lives in the 1980s and early 90s. From early student films to his later, mature works, which often embrace dance and movement, this retrospective celebrates the works of a great queer talent, whose films are almost unknown in the UK.

Highlights include *Resonance*, his award-winning short exploring the aftermath of a homophobic attack, featuring two gorgeous dance sequences, the unashamedly saucy ***Elevation***, climaxing in a sex scene and a shower of champagne, and the joyous ***Body Corporate***, in which a construction worker trips the light fantastic – in heels.

Co-presented with the National Film and Sound Archive of Australia.

Resonance

Australia 1991, Dir Stephen Cummins, Simon Hunt 11, min

An act of homophobic violence has a profound effect on the men involved, culminating in a beautiful moment of sexual intimacy and two extraordinary dance performances.

Breathbeat

Australia 1984, Dir Stephen Cummins, 5 min
A haunting snapshot of homoerotic passion.

Blue Movie

Australia 1984, Dir Stephen Cummins, 3 min
Shadows, whispers and a dizzying dance.

Deadpan

Australia 1985, Dir Stephen Cummins, 5 min
A slow pan around a room becomes increasingly unnerving.

Le Corps Imagé

Australia 1987, Dir Stephen Cummins, 10 min
Classical Greek male torsos merge into ambiguous gender zones as they are projected onto performers' bodies.

Elevation

Australia 1989, Dir Stephen Cummins, 10 min
Two men kiss passionately in an elevator, to the disapproval of members of the public, leading to an unapologetic celebration of gay sex.

Taste the Difference

Australia 1989, Dir Stephen Cummins, 1 min
This very short film of two men kissing was banned for being too hot for TV.

Body Corporate

Australia 1993, Dir Stephen Cummins, 10 min
A construction worker breaks into a delightful dance number in kitten heels, despite the taunts of a hostile choreographer.

The HIV Game Show

Australia 1995, Dir Stephen Cummins (posthumous) with Simon Hunt and Brad Miller, 2 min
A wry commentary on the treatment of people with HIV, adapted from an uncompleted film by Cummins.

Relaxed Screenings

Relaxed screenings take place in an environment that is specially tailored for a neurodiverse audience, as well as those who find a more informal setting beneficial.

Pay What You Can Screenings

Every Friday one of the new release film screenings is priced **Pay What You Can**. This is for customers where ticket price may be a barrier, or for those who want to help others enjoy a visit to the cinema; audience members are invited to pay between £3-£15.

Event Cinema

MET Opera in HD: *La Forza Del Destino* (12A)

Sat 16 Mar, 5pm, Cinema 1

NT Live: *The Motive and the Cue* (15)

Thu 21 Mar, 7pm, Cinema 1

MET Opera Live in HD: *Romeo et Juliette* (12A)

Sat 23 Mar, 4.55pm, Cinema 1

Royal Opera House Live: *Madama Butterfly* (12A)

Sun 31 Mar, 2pm, Cinema 3

ENDS

Notes to Editors

For further information contact:

Ian Cuthbert, Communications Manager, Cinema

ian.cuthbert@barbican.org.uk / 07980 925 352

Sarah Harvey, Barbican Cinema Press Consultant

sarah@sarahharveypublicity.co.uk / 07958 597 426

Sumayyah Sheikh, Communications Assistant, Theatre & Dance and Cinema:

sumayyah.sheikh@barbican.org.uk

Box office: www.barbican.org.uk

New Releases:

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

- **Pay What You Can Screenings:** tickets available from £3-£15 on a new release title every Friday, for customers where ticket price may be a barrier, or for those who want to help others enjoy a visit to the cinema.
- **Family Film Club** Under 18s: £2.50 / Over 18s: £3.50.
- **Parent & Baby screenings:** Standard: £6.
- **Senior Community Screenings:** £6
- **Relaxed Screenings** welcome cinema goers to an environment that is specially tailored for a neurodiverse audience, tickets are £6.
- **Monday Magic:** £6 all new release screenings.
- **Young Barbican:** £5 all new release screenings and curated programmes for 14 - 25-year-olds - when they sign up.

Events/Seasons/Festivals:

Standard:	£13
Barbican members:	£9.60
Corporate Members:	Varied Discount
Young Barbican	£5
Concessions:	£11
Under 18s:	£6

Performance Cinema/Live and Encore:

ROH Live

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

Met Opera Live

Standard:	£37
-----------	-----

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

NT Live

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

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

* This film has been locally classified by the City of London Corporation

Barbican press room

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

About the Barbican

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

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

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

Opened in 1982, the Barbican is a unique and audacious building, recognised globally as an architectural icon.

As well as our theatres, galleries, concert halls and cinemas, we have a large conservatory with over 1,500 species of plants and trees, a library, conference facilities, public and community spaces, restaurants, bars, and a picturesque lakeside oasis.

We are the home of the London Symphony Orchestra, and a London base of the Royal Shakespeare Company. We regularly co-commission, produce and showcase the work of our other partners and associates: the Academy of Ancient Music, the BBC Symphony Orchestra, Boy Blue, Britten Sinfonia, Cheek by Jowl, Drum Works, the Los Angeles Philharmonic, Serious and We Are Parable.

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

About Barbican Cinema

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

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

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

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

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