



FESTIVAL PROGRAMME #1

27 JUNE 2026

BFI Stephen Street
London W1T 1LN

**WELCOMING ALL FILMMAKERS &
CREATIVES TO**

**LITTLE FLIX
LONDON
FILM FESTIVAL**

A CELEBRATION OF MICRO FILMMAKING

Every great filmmaker starts somewhere. At Little Flix London, we believe that some of cinema's biggest moments begin with the smallest films. Behind every short is a storyteller with a unique voice, a bold vision and the potential to shape the future of the industry.

These are stories that deserve to be experienced, and voices that deserve to be heard.

Our festival places filmmakers from global majority and working-class backgrounds at the forefront, creating a platform where emerging talent is seen, celebrated, and connected with industry professionals who can share their experiences, insights, and advice.

Today is about more than watching films. It's about discovering exceptional talent, building meaningful connections and celebrating storytellers whose potential has yet to be fully recognised. Every screening, Little Flix London session, and conversation is an opportunity for something extraordinary to begin.

We hope you leave inspired by the stories you've discovered, the connections you've made, and the filmmakers whose journeys are only just beginning.

Thank you to our filmmakers, speakers, partners, volunteers and, most importantly, to you, our audience. Your support helps ensure that little films can have a longer lifespan.

Little Films. Big Impact.

D'Marie Dowe
Director/CEO

LITTLE FLIX LONDON

SESSIONS

CASTING SESSION

Hosted by Liam Darby
BLOCK 3

Join Casting Director Liyanne Marie for an insight into the fast-growing world of vertical filmmaking. Discover how casting for vertical content is creating new opportunities for actors, filmmakers and content creators.

FILM FINANCE – NFTs

Hosted by Jules Lai
BLOCK 2

Explore how NFTs and digital collectables are opening new pathways for independent film finance. Learn about fundraising, audience-backed production, revenue sharing, and the latest opportunities emerging within the Web3 landscape.

FUTURE OF FILM – AI SESSION **BLOCK 4**

Join creative technology entrepreneur Jules Lai as he explores how AI, Web3 and decentralised technologies are reshaping the future of film. Discover how platforms like Fabstir are creating new opportunities for filmmakers to fund, distribute and monetise their work, while giving creators greater ownership, transparency and control over their stories.

INDUSTRY SPEED DATING **BLOCKS 3 & 4**

Connect with visiting industry professionals in an informal networking session. Ask questions, gain career insights, share your work, and build valuable industry relationships.

PART ONE

Saba Kia • Karen Featherstone • Teddy Nigh •
Maskelah Gabriel Adams

PART TWO

Leslie Ann • Janet Awe • Karimah Zakia Issa • Katrina
Smith-Jackson

SESSIONS

INDUSTRY Q&A

BLOCK 2

Join leading industry professionals, including Mo Ali, Mick Ratman, Kerri Davenport-Burton, Nicola Gregory and Susan Farrell for an engaging discussion on careers, creativity and navigating the film and television industry.

LFL MICRO SHORTS

ALL BLOCKS

Experience a showcase of our nominated Micro Shorts, followed by a Q&A with filmmakers shortlisted for the Best Micro Short Award. Screenings available to all ticket holders. Q&A access for Block 1 ticket holders only.

PITCHING SESSION

BLOCK 1

Present your film or series idea and receive valuable feedback from industry professionals. Refine your pitch, strengthen your storytelling, and gain insight from those actively developing and acquiring content. Selected projects may be invited for further consideration.

MAKING THE VERTICAL SERIES

BLOCK 1

Learn the essentials of creating a vertical series from filmmakers working in this exciting format. Featuring two special guest speakers making waves in this scene: Octavia McKenzie and Yusuf S Abdul-Qadir. This session offers practical insights into vertical storytelling.

AWARDS CEREMONY

BLOCK 4

Celebrate the best of Little Flix London Film Festival 2026 as we announce this year's award winners and recognise outstanding filmmaking talent.

NETWORKING DRINKS

ALL BLOCKS

Wrap up the festival with an evening of networking and celebration. Connect with filmmakers, industry guests and fellow attendees while reflecting on a day of creativity, collaboration and discovery.

SCHEDULE

11:20 – 11:55 REGISTRATION & REFRESHMENTS

Sign in, collect your lanyard and Block wristband, grab a drink, and check in with LFL volunteers to find your designated rooms. **REGISTRATION CLOSES AT 11:55 SHARP**

BLOCK 1

12:00 – 13:50 **Short film showcase + Q & A**
(BIG Screening room)

14:00 – 14:45 **Vertical Series Workshop**
(Boardroom)

14:45 – 15:25 **BREAK** Feel free to grab a bite to eat or visit the stands.

15:25 – 16:15 **Pitching** (Conference Rm)

16:15 – 17:00 **NETWORKING DRINKS**

17:00 **FESTIVAL CLOSE**

11:20 – 11:55 REGISTRATION & REFRESHMENTS

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BLOCK 2

12:00 – 13:40 **Short film showcase**
(Small screening room)

13:55 – 14:45 **Industry Q&A BOARDROOM**
(Conference Room)

14:45 – 15:25 **BREAK** Feel free to grab a bite to eat or visit the stands.

15:25 – 16:15 **Finance**
(BOARDROOM)

16:15 – 17:00 **NETWORKING DRINKS**

17:00 **FESTIVAL CLOSE**

SCHEDULE

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BLOCK 3

12:00 – 12:50 Industry Speed Dating:
(Conference Room)

13:00 – 13:50 Casting Q&A/Session
(Boardroom)

13:50 – 14:30 BREAK

14:30 – 16:15 Short film screenings.
(Small Screening room)

16:15 – 17:00 NETWORKING DRINKS
(LOBBY)

17:00 FESTIVAL CLOSE

11:20 – 11:55 REGISTRATION & REFRESHMENTS

Sign in, collect your lanyard and Block wristband, grab a drink, and check in with LFL volunteers to find your designated rooms. **REGISTRATION CLOSES AT 11:55 SHARP**

BLOCK 4

12:00 – 12:45 The Future of AI in filmmaking.
(Boardroom)

12:55 – 13:45 Industry Speed Dating:
(Conference Room)

13:45 – 14:25 BREAK

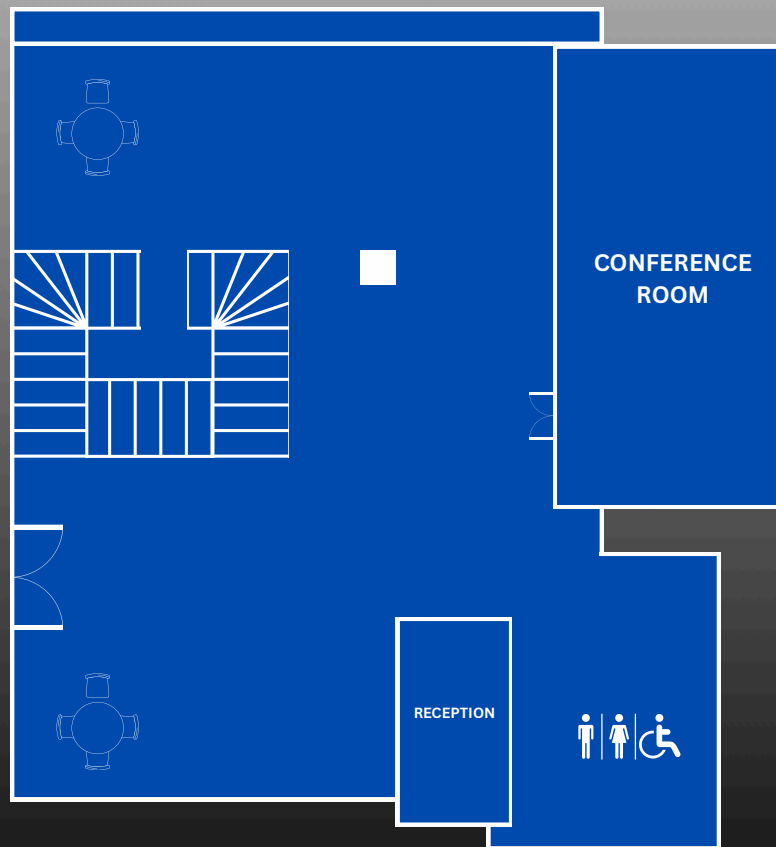
14:25 – 16:15 Short film screenings and Awards.
(Big Screening Room)

16:15 – 17:00 NETWORKING DRINKS

17:00 FESTIVAL CLOSE

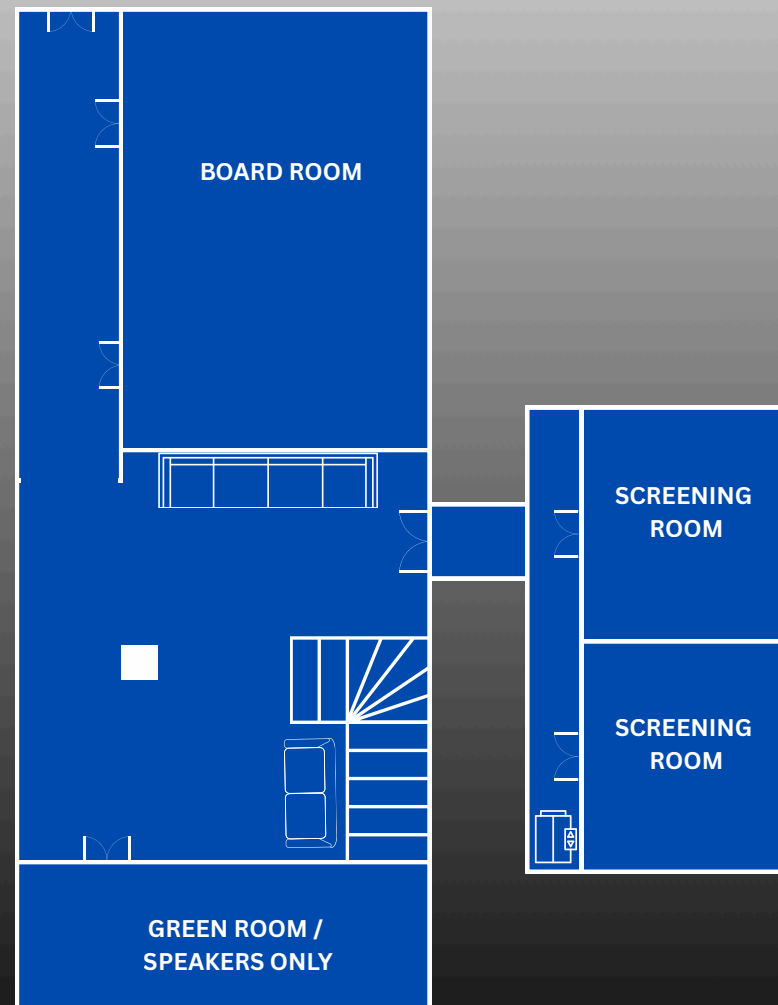
FLOOR PLAN

GROUND FLOOR (0)



FLOOR PLAN

BASEMENT LEVEL - (1)



Please note: This floor plan is not exact and is intended as a rough guide only, to show where each event will be taking place on the day. Staff will also be available to help guide you.

OUR SPEAKERS

LITTLE FLIX LONDON FILM FESTIVAL

Little Flix London Film Festival welcomes 21 industry speakers from across film and television, sharing their expertise through insightful talks, practical workshops, and interactive sessions designed to inspire the next generation of storytellers.

SUSANNE FARRELL FILM /TV WRITER



Susanne Farrell is a Northern Irish, London-based screenwriter working across film and television. She is the co-creator of the BBC and BritBox crime drama *Hope Street*. Her debut feature, *Dirty God*, premiered in competition at the Sundance Film Festival to critical acclaim, while *Drift* (2024), starring Cynthia Erivo, premiered at Sundance and won the FIPRESCI Prize.

MO ALI FILM & TV DIRECTOR



Mo Ali is an acclaimed British director known for prestige drama and elevated genre storytelling. His recent credits include *Hijack* (Apple TV+), *COBRA: Cyberwar* (Sky), and *Virdee* (BBC One). Following the success of *Shank* and *Montana*, he continues to develop ambitious original dramas with leading UK writers and producers.

SELMA NICHOLLS CASTING DIRECTOR



Selma Nicholls is an award-winning London-based casting director and founder of *Looks Like Me Casting*, a pioneering agency championing diversity and authentic representation. Her credits include Beyoncé's Grammy Award-winning "Brown Skin Girl," Netflix's "Queen Charlotte" campaign, and projects for Disney. She is an active board member within the Casting Guild UK.

OUR SPEAKERS

NICOLA GREGORY FILM & TV PRODUCER



Nicola Gregory is a BAFTA-nominated British-Canadian producer working across premium scripted television and film. She is best known for producing the critically acclaimed comedy-drama series *Dreaming Whilst Black* for BBC Three, A24, and Showtime.

KERRI DAVENPORT-BURTON WRITER/DIRECTOR



Kerri Davenport-Burton is an award-winning British writer, director, and script consultant based in London. She graduated with Distinction from the prestigious National Film and Television School (NFTS). She is best known for her BIFA-nominated feature documentary *100 Doors* and her acclaimed short films, including *That Thing You Drew*.

YUSUF S ABDUL-QADIR FILMMAKER



Yusuf S Abdul-Qadir is an independent filmmaker, tech producer, and prominent civil rights advocate who operates at the intersection of technology, justice, and storytelling. He is known for his work in creating socially driven digital content, developing innovative vertical dramas, and leading initiatives like the CNY Ethical AI Creator Lab.

KALUNGI SSEBANDEKE



Kalungi Ssebandeke is a multi-award-winning London-based playwright, actor and director whose work is celebrated for its powerful Black-centred storytelling. Best known for his acclaimed debut play *Assata Taught Me*, his writing credits also include *Prodigal* and *Black Terror*. A Guildhall-trained performer, he has appeared in productions across stage and screen, including *Doctor Who*. In 2023, he won the prestigious JMK Directing Award for his acclaimed production of *Meetings* at the Orange Tree Theatre.

MASKELAH GABRIEL-ADAMS SALES AGENT



Maskelah Gabriel-Adams is a London-based filmmaker, sales agent, and the founder of AfroFilms UK, an agency championing Black British films on the global stage. She frequently engages with the independent creative community, operating out of the London area.

KAREN FEATHERSTONE SCREENWRITER



Karen Featherstone is an award-winning British screenwriter, Access Coordinator, and industry script reader. She is highly recognized in the UK television and film industry for her consultancy work, advocating for disability representation, and has participated as a shadow script editor on schemes like Channel 4's 4Screenwriting.

OUR SPEAKERS

OCTAVIA MCKENZIE SCREENWRITER & AUTHOR



Octavia McKenzie is an award-winning screenwriter, published author, and film director based in London. She is the Head of Script Development at the UK microdrama production company, Onset Octopus, and is best known for pioneering independently financed vertical video series (such as Cowboy After Dark) for international distribution.

DERREN LAWFORD MEDIA EXECUTIVE



Derren Lawford is an award-winning British media executive and executive producer with over 20 years of experience across broadcasting, streaming, and digital content. He is recognised for his commitment to mission-led programming and championing diverse and emerging talent.

KARIMAH ZAKIA ISSA FILM & TV PRODUCER



Karimah Zakia Issa is an award-winning Canadian filmmaker, writer, and director based in London and Toronto. Issa's work explores themes of identity, self-worth, and queer experience through a Black female lens. Issa directed Peak Male Excellence (produced by Joi Productions for BBC Three) and directed a micro-interview series on female founders for Porsche.

LESLIE ANNE MACFARLANE PRODUCER



Lesley-Anne Macfarlane is a Trinidadian-born, British-based narrative and documentary film producer known for championing underrepresented perspectives and multi-heritage stories. She co-founded Far Lane Media and FILMCO, a social enterprise dedicated to sustaining the Caribbean film ecosystem.

SABIA KIA FILM & TV PRODUCER



Saba Kia is an award-winning Iranian-born producer based in the UK, known for her work across film and television. She currently serves as an associate producer on Series 4 of Gangs of London and heads the SWANA and Africa division at Joi Productions. Her credits include producing Ashley Walters' directorial debut BOYS for Sky Arts and collaborating with leading independent production companies across the UK.

JULES LAI FABSTIR FOUNDER/CTO



Jules Lai is a London-based filmmaker, creative technology entrepreneur, and the founder and CTO of Fabstir, a Web3 platform built to decentralise film distribution and payment infrastructure. Before fully dedicating himself to media tech, Lai used his degrees in computing and mathematics to build financial modelling software for institutions like the Bank of England and Lloyd's of London.

OUR SPEAKERS

JANET AWE DEVELOPMENT PRODUCER



Janet Awe is a London-based creative, development producer, and script editor working across television, film, and audio. She is the founder of the production company Awethentic Tales, which champions ethnically diverse creators and stories, often with a strong focus on comedy.

TEDDY NYGH TV & FILM DIRECTOR



Teddy Nygh is a critically acclaimed British-born director and producer, best known for his work directing the BBC and Netflix comedy-drama series PRU. He is also the co-founder of Fully Focused Productions and Million Youth Media, which serve as platforms for underrepresented youth in the UK television and film industries.

MICK RATMAN LOCATION MANAGER



Mick Ratman is a veteran international Location Manager and Consultant with over four decades of experience in the film and television industry. He is well-known for his work on major feature films like Hotel Rwanda (2004) and Welcome to Sarajevo (1997), and serves as a highly respected figure within the Location Managers Guild International (LMGI)

LIYANNE MARIE CASTING DIRECTOR



Liyanne Marie is an independent, multi-genre casting director based in London. She is widely recognised as the first UK casting director to pioneer casting for vertical/micro-drama formats, and also casts for television, commercials, film, and music videos. She operates her own independent agency, Liyanne Marie Casting.

KATRINA SMITH – JACKSON FILM & TV WRITER



Katrina Smith-Jackson is an award-winning British screenwriter, script researcher and screenwriting lecturer working across television, film and digital media. Her credits include EastEnders, Hollyoaks, Waterloo Road and the award-winning children's series JoJo & Gran Gran. Alongside her writing career, she lectures in screenwriting, helping to shape the next generation of storytellers.

JOSEPH TRUSSON



Joseph Trusson is a UK-based associate producer specialising in film sales, acquisitions and international distribution. Having worked with leading companies including HanWay Films, Blue Finch Films and Architect, he has contributed to the global release strategies of films such as Winner, Bayou and the BIFA-winning drama Lollipop. His expertise spans the commercial, financial and distribution landscape of independent cinema.

MICRO SHORTS

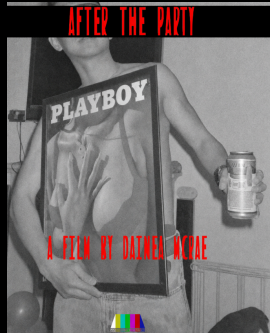
#BLACKIS I LOVE YOURS AND I LOVE MINE



Through this poetic piece, teenage girls from London unravel the generational roots of colourism and reflect on what it truly means to understand and embrace the phrase: "Dividing and conquering is hard when I love yours, AND I love mine."

DIRECTOR NUNA SANDY

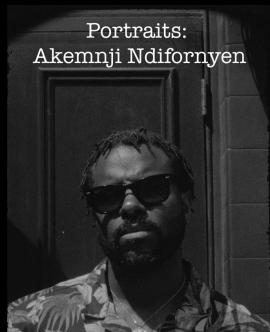
AFTER THE PARTY



A compelling short film that examines responsibility, perspective, and the moments that can change everything at a party.

DIRECTOR DAINEA MCRAE

AKEMJI NDIFORNYEN PORTRAIT



Portraits is a series of short documentaries about black artists from London, focusing on the theme of community.

DIRECTOR JESSE APPIAH

ALL CIGARETTES AND NO SMOKE



An ironic comedy about humanity's insatiable hunger, the constant desire for more, and the tendency to lose what one already has in the pursuit of it.

DIRECTOR ARDA KESKIN

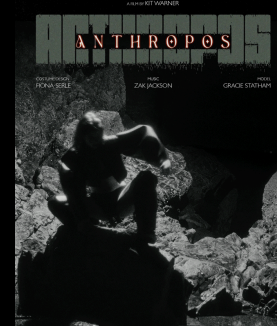
ALLERGENS



A hilarious short comedy where a simple food allergy spirals into a series of chaotic misunderstandings.

DIRECTOR IRENE MARCO

ANTHROPOS



An experimental film looking at the dichotomy of the human condition – the artificial adverse to the natural.

DIRECTOR KIT WARNER

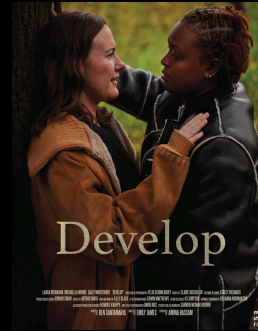
BODY CLOCK



A short comedy exploring the unrealistic expectations and everyday pressures society places on women.

DIRECTOR Alessandro Riconda

DEVELOP



When a woman visits her dying mother to be photographed together by the daughter's new girlfriend, the blossoming relationship helps mother and daughter to bond one last time.

DIRECTOR EMILY JAMES

BROOMSTICK AND BROADWAY



Broomsticks on Broadway celebrates the joyful aspects of the creative process, paying homage to MGM musicals and old Hollywood glamour with a spooky twist.

DIRECTOR GORDON HOWIE

DON'T SLEEP



Rawan closes her eyes to drift into the realm of dreams; instead, she falls into a darker dimension of her reality, where she has no control over its dimensions, actions, or even her body.

DIRECTOR Rulan Hassan

DEAR TOOTH FAIRY



A tired mother is on a mission to maintain her daughter's belief that the Tooth Fairy is real.

DIRECTOR LEAH DANQUAH

EFFORT



A young woman's thoughtfully planned dinner date begins to collapse as her date's unspoken anxieties quietly surface.

DIRECTOR Liam Lau Fernandez

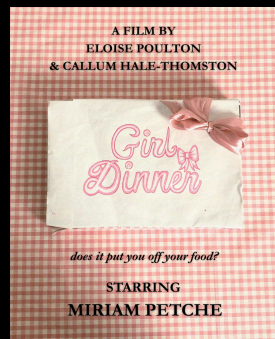
FLOORS



Floors is a short story about a man who loves floors as he is desperately looking for a new job that will finally make him happy.

DIRECTOR TEO CRAWFORD

GIRL DINNER



Just a Girl, eating her Dinner, but everything's a bit...Backwards. Welcome to the Girl Dinner universe.

DIRECTOR ELOÏSE POULTON

GLORYLAND



When two feuding farmers find that their crops have mysteriously failed, they must find out who the real enemy is -- before mutually assured destruction.

DIRECTOR VALENTINA NAVARRO-MARSILI

I'M HERE NOW



A deeply personal micro short, drawn from the director's own lived experience with Complex PTSD.

DIRECTOR LAILA BEGUM

INGEST



Whilst clearing through his dead dad's apartment, David discovers an unmarked videotape, which, upon playing, draws him to a sinister self-reflection.

DIRECTOR CALLUM WILKINS

IN-PULSE



A couple try out this new government initiative for a happier future.

DIRECTOR RICCARDO TITO
Instagram:

LITTLE SONG



A young and naive teenager, Jane is contemplating motherhood and the life of her unborn child.

DIRECTOR Jennifer Jade Williams
Instagram: @jen_willz

NANA



NANA is about the invisibility of child carers and the power of intergenerational love.

DIRECTOR EVA EDO

NO EXCUSES



An 18-year-old girl decides to change her life in a single day by following a strict set of self-improvement rules.

DIRECTOR CELESTINO OBAMA

AUDIENCE CHOICE AWARD

Your voice matters.

Before you leave the Screening Room, don't forget to cast your vote for the Audience Choice Award. This special honour is decided entirely by our audience, celebrating the film that has made the greatest impact on you today.

Every vote counts and helps recognise outstanding filmmaking.

Vote before the close of the event and help crown this year's Audience Choice Award winner.

SCREENPLAYS

OFFICIAL NOMINEES

TITLE: La Mula **WRITER:** Pim Isaac Aldridge

GENRE: Crime Drama

LOGLINE: After being recruited as a drug mule in Colombia, a young English woman embarks on a perilous flight to London, unknowingly becoming the first thread in a sprawling crime story rooted in Harlesden.

FORMAT: Micro short (concept for TV series).

TITLE: On The Coast of Lonsome

WRITER: Pim Isaac Aldridge

GENRE: Dark Comedy Thriller

LOGLINE: A kindly aide takes a disabled woman on a night trip to a beach, but things are not as they seem.

FORMAT: Micro Short

TITLE: Teeth **WRITER:** Femi

GENRE: Horror

LOGLINE: A dog walker brings home something she may live to regret.

FORMAT: Micro short



PITCHES

OFFICIAL NOMINEES

TITLE: AUTOPILOT WRITER: Pim Isaac Aldridge

GENRE: Dark Comedy Thriller

LOGLINE: When Norway's most recognisable face loses everything, he joins an anonymous group with a simple deal: fix my problem, I'll fix yours. He doesn't ask what fixing means.

FORMAT: Feature

Instagram: pimaldridge

TITLE: BADGER WRITER: Stacey Williams

GENRE: Psychological Horror

LOGLINE: A devoted mum takes in a dead man's cat as a pet for her daughter. The sinister tortoiseshell drives a wedge between them, exposes a huge lie, and takes her to the brink of madness.

FORMAT: Feature

TITLE: DEAD BOYS WRITER: Dann Emmons

GENRE: Music Drama

LOGLINE: Estranged musician, Frank, returns to his coastal hometown in the wake of his son's suicide. Forced to confront demons old and new, he slips into his son's life with curious ease, all the while neglecting his struggling daughter.

FORMAT: Feature

TITLE: ON THE OTHER SIDE

WRITER: Chuks Madunagum

GENRE: Crime Drama

LOGLINE: After a Nineteen-year-old and a Police Officer are murdered, a young man and an Undercover police Officer start individual manhunts in pursuit of the people responsible. Their stories begin to intertwine along with the lives of their friends, family & the community as Secrets and truths are unveiled, causing things to intensify.

FORMAT: TV SERIES

OUR TEAM

D'MARIE DOWE – CO-FOUNDER

INDIA J – CO-FOUNDER

PANAYIOTA PANTELI – BOARD MEMBER

WILL STEER – TECH LEAD

PAUL ARROWSMITH – VOLUNTEER

ALICE – VOLUNTEER

DILLION – VOLUNTEER

MARYAM – VOLUNTEER

AYNGELLE – VOLUNTEER

TREVOR – VOLUNTEER



THANK YOU TO OUR CONTRIBUTORS

A heartfelt thank you to our filmmakers, judges, sponsors, partners, volunteers, crew, and everyone who helped make the Little Flix London Film Festival possible.

Most importantly, thank you to our audience for celebrating independent cinema and supporting emerging filmmakers.

Follow Little Flix London on our social channels to stay up to date with future festivals, screenings, and special events. We look forward to seeing you again soon!

OUR SPONSORS

BACKSTAGE  **mandy**

 **starnow** 



FILMMAKING
— PLANNER —



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