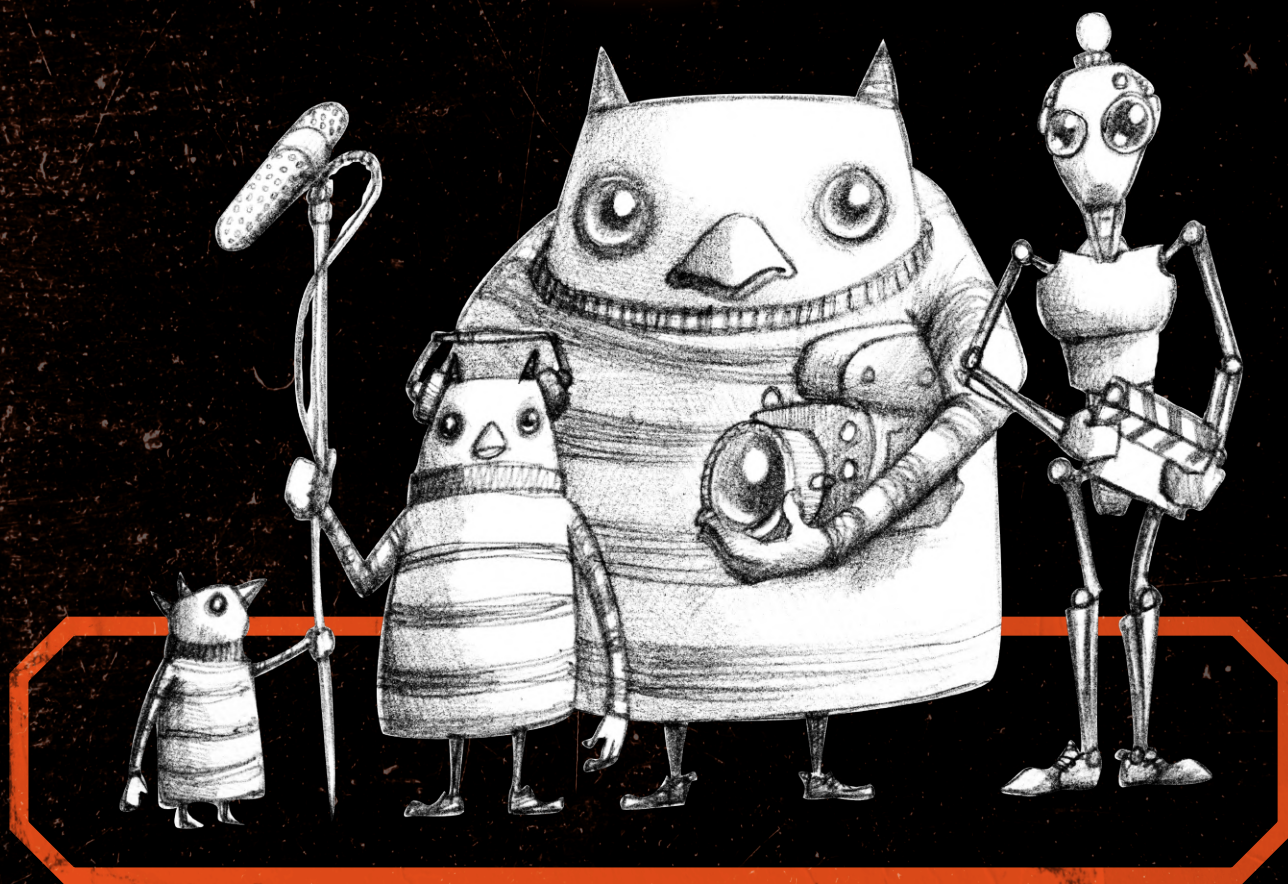


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CARDIFF miniFILM FESTIVAL



2026 PROGRAMME

presented by



Cardiff
Metropolitan
University

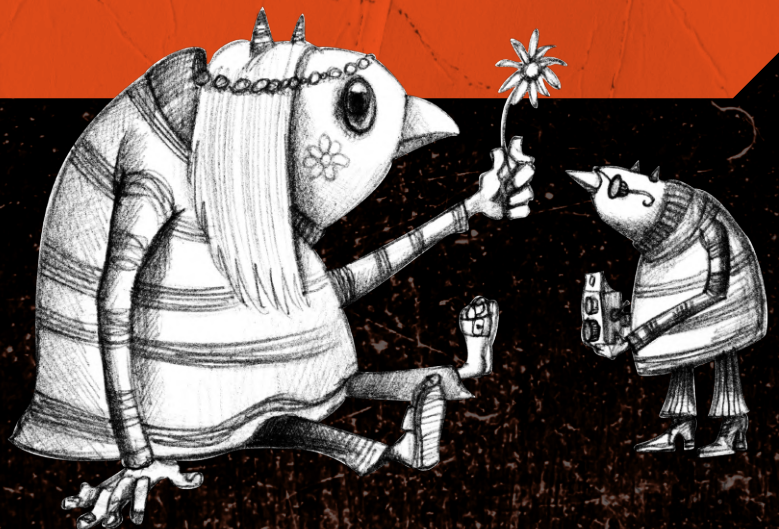
GORILLA | ACADEMY

WELCOME

We are excited to be returning to the capital city for our thirteenth festival, spotlighting our largest selection of up and coming short films ever! 105 in total - chosen from entries across the globe. The selected films aim to showcase a wide variety of genre and style, both from emerging and more established talent. This year we return to our home at The Angel Hotel for the second year, situated in the heart of Cardiff. The screenings will be introduced by our wonderful hosts; Mat, Chris and Tom, so please allow extra time for this. Please head to our Box Office based in the hotel foyer to claim your festival pass and tickets. You are welcome to take drinks served at the bar into the screenings. Keep up to date with us on our socials: @cardiffminifilm, and tag us in posts from the day, we hope you thoroughly enjoy the screenings, awards and networking opportunities!

See you there!

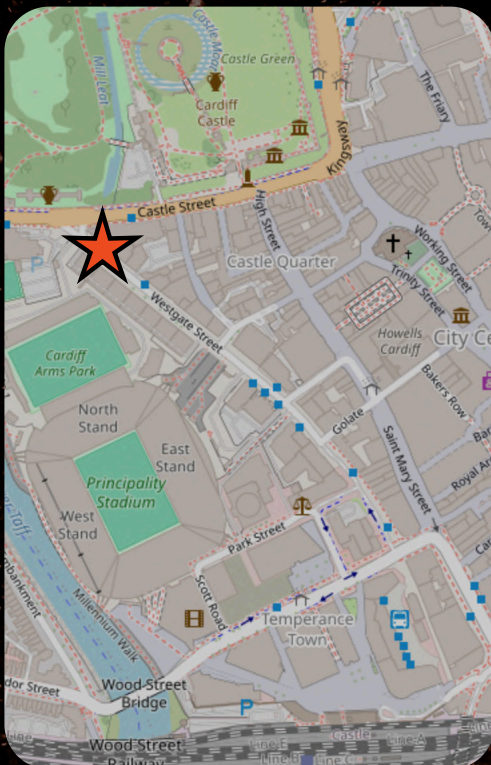
**Jody, Michael, Kate,
Tom, Sarah and Niall x**



THE LOCATION

The Angel Hotel, Castle Street, Cardiff CF10 1SZ

The festival's home for 2025 is the iconic Angel Hotel. Opened in 1883, the hotel features 102 bedrooms, situated directly between Cardiff Castle and the Principality Stadium. Since opening, the hotel has welcomed some famous faces with Greta Garbo, The Beatles and Anthony Perkins all reportedly being guests of the hotel. Also, the office of the Lord Chamberlain was situated here for 4 days during the Queen's Silver Jubilee in 1977, whilst the Queen toured Cardiff and South Wales.



Use code **FIFTEEN** to enjoy 15% off your stay when booking directly via the Angel Hotel website. T&C's apply.

| | Screen 1 | Screen 2 |
|----------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 10am | 10am: BFI Film Academy Showcase | 10am: One Minute Wonder |
| 10.30am | (60 mins) | (37 mins) |
| 11am | | |
| 11.30am | 11:30am: Welsh Film | 11:30am: Documentary 1 |
| 12pm | (72 mins) | (70 mins) |
| 12.30pm | | |
| 1pm | | |
| 1.30pm | 1.30pm: Low Budget 1 | 1.30pm: Big Spender 1 |
| 2pm | (82 mins) | (96 mins) |
| 2.30pm | | |
| 3pm | | |
| 3.30pm | 3:30pm: Big Spender 2 | 3.30pm: British Student |
| 4pm | (75 mins) | (80 mins) |
| 4.30pm | | |
| 5pm | 5pm: Documentary 2 | |
| 5.30pm | (73 mins) | 5.30pm: Low Budget 2 |
| 6pm | | (70 mins) |
| 6.30pm | 6.30pm: Comedy | |
| 7pm | (77 mins) | 7:00pm: Music Video |
| 7.30pm | | (47 mins) |
| 8pm | 8pm: Awards Ceremony | |
| 8.30pm | (60 mins) | |

9pm, Castle Arms: Networking
(120 mins)

9pm, Screen 2: Twisted Tales
(79 mins)

All timings are without host introduction and subject to change.

SCHEDULE

Short film packages will be screened throughout the day from 10am in our two screening rooms on the ground floor of the Angel Hotel. The Box Office, located in the hotel foyer, is open from 9.30am until 9pm on Sunday 18th January.

Saturday 17th January

Pre-Festival Icebreaker Drinks (promptly 8pm, Angel Hotel Bar)

All are welcome to this tour around our favourite local bars, enabling local and visiting filmmakers to make initial connections before the festival begins.

Sunday 18th January

BFI Film Academy Showcase (10am, Screen 1)

Watch short films created by young people from BFI Film Academies across Wales, followed by a screening of alumni work. Entry is included with the Festival Pass.

Awards Ceremony (8pm, Screen 1)

Join our judges for a panel session and to crown our nine winners. Entry is included with the Festival Pass.

Twisted Tales Night (9pm, Screen 2)

Our closing screening showcasing a unique selection of off-beat films with horror, twists and gore. Included in the Festival Pass, and tickets can be purchased separately.

Ffilm Cymru Wales x Bulldozer Films Networking Social (9pm, Castle Arms)

Enjoy a complimentary drink from our friends at Gorilla Academy at this networking event brought to you by Ffilm Cymru Wales and Bulldozer Films. This is your opportunity to mingle with filmmakers and festival attendees, the perfect place to meet future collaborators, in an exclusive venue under the hotel, not open to the public! Included in the Festival Pass, and tickets can be purchased separately.

BRITISH STUDENT

A Little Bit of Glitter

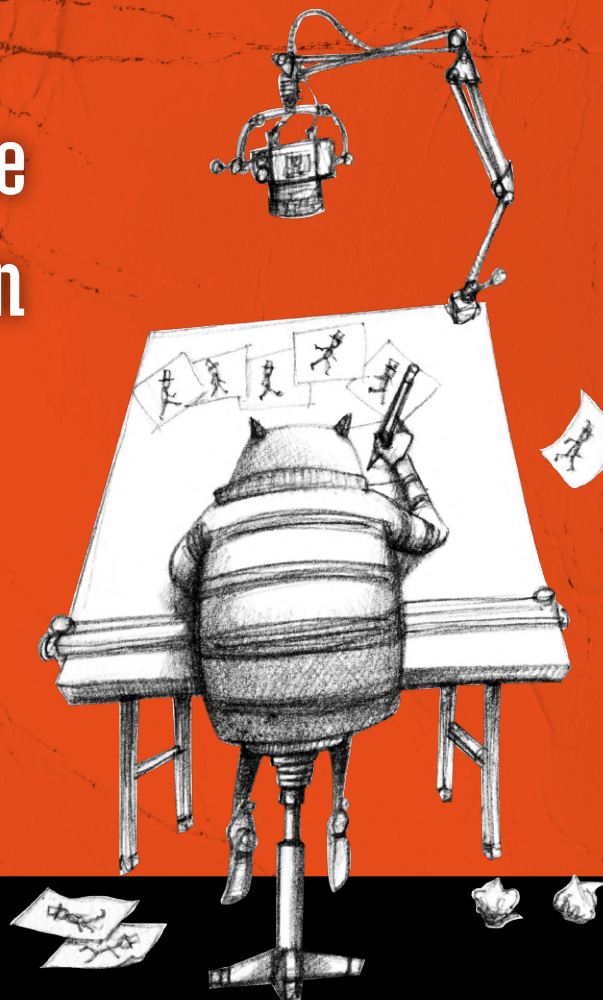
amen

Finn

Off-Licence

Overgrown

Zombie?



*3.30pm, Screen 2
80 minutes*

WELSH FILM

A Wonderful Neighbour

Brain Space

Butty

Dreigiau Cymreig Patagonia

Holy Rollers

Knackered

Love Me, Hold Me, Always

11.30am, Screen 1
72 minutes



BIG SPENDER

PACKAGE 1

A Good Day Will Come

Familiar Stranger

Friday Is Mushroom Soup

G.S.W.

Golden Shopping Arcade

Wavelength

1.30pm, Screen 2, 96 minutes

PACKAGE 2

Bluff

Contact Hours

Loch Ness 1303

Synthesis

THE PEARL COMB

3.30pm, Screen 1, 75 minutes

LOW BUDGET

PACKAGE 1

Bleeding

Bi--Nocular Panic

Bonfire

First Time

The Mountain

Mariposa

Ribbit

The Golden Squacco Heron

The Archway

The Third Dimension of Impact

1.30pm, Screen 1, 82 minutes

PACKAGE 2

Do You Have Kids?

Komoru Panda, a hikikomori story

Morning, Glory

Ritual

Timebound

Tidy Away

TOGETHER.APART.

5.30pm, Screen 2, 70 minutes

DOCUMENTARY

PACKAGE 1

Other Life

Fighting Demons

Push The Machine

Pegs & Bacon

11.30am, Screen 2, 70 minutes

PACKAGE 2

Esme Boggart

Snowdrops For The Bairns

The Little Cinema in Gloucester

5pm, Screen 1, 73 minutes

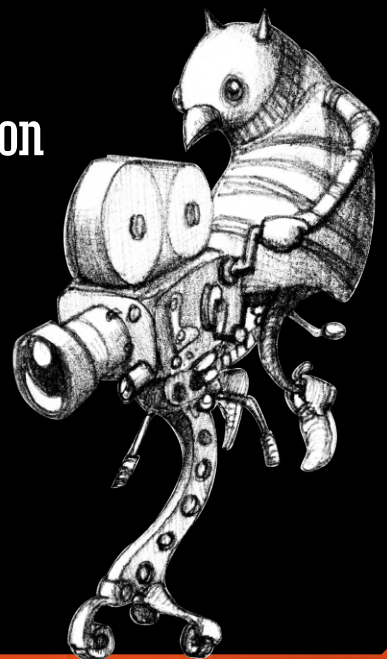
ONE MINUTE WONDER

#GloryForGary
A Moth's Perspective
Check
CITYWALK
Cleaning
Cosmic Crash
Darn Horse!
Error 404: Reality Rewrite
Freedom
Hello
In Need Of Repair
Klunk in the Night
Lunch Hour
Maturity
Milk
Murder

Once and for all
Poltergeists
Portrait
Sad Psycho
Sea Legs
Second Skin
Shelter
Shipped With Care
Sole Mates
Starkmann's Coronation

THE 19th FLOOR
The Crossing
TÖGETHÅR
Undying Love
Villain Era

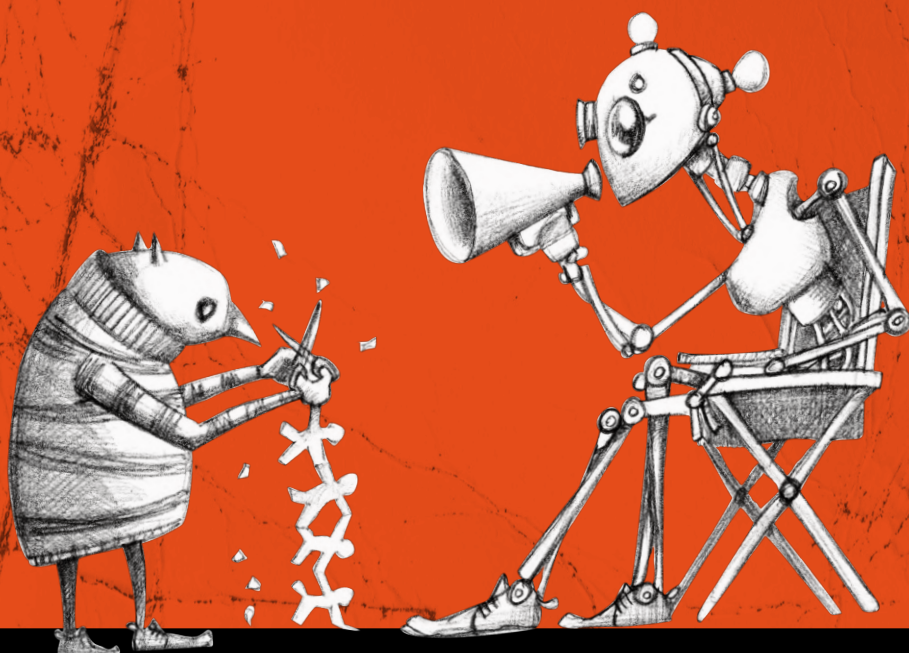
*10am, Screen 2
37 minutes*



COMEDY

Choice
Egg Timer
Gone For Milk
Mein Surname

Pump Off
Sound Asleep
The Stork
Toad in the Hole



6.30pm, Screen 1
77 minutes

MUSIC VIDEO

Ace (or 'I Wanna Be Like Sophie Aldred')

Asleep

Church Bell

collecting dust

Fi

I am a God

Ieva's Polka

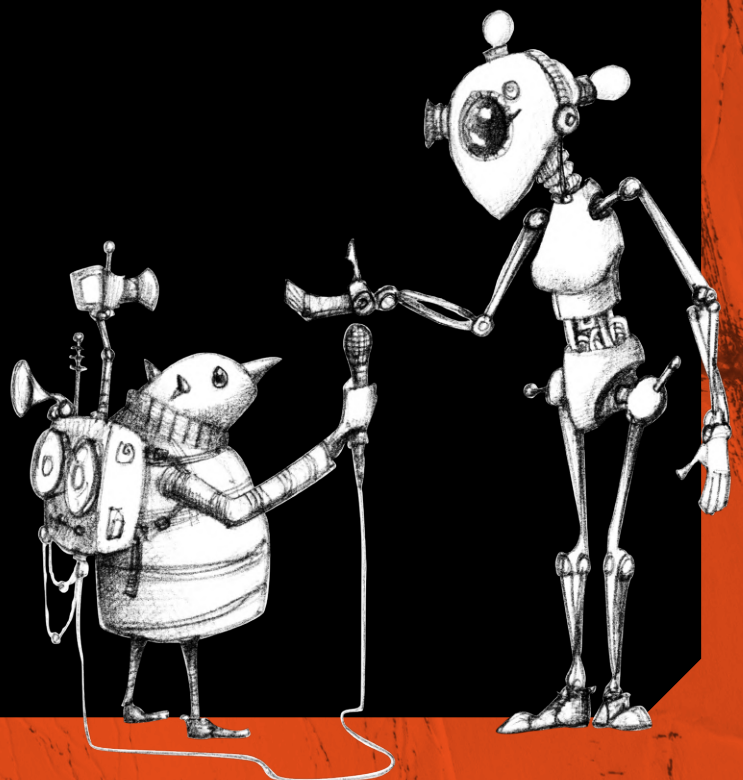
Revolution or Bust

The Blossom and the Mountain

Walk With Me Through The Fire

XXL

7pm, Screen 2
47 minutes



TWISTED TALES

Deadline

For Sale

Lightly Ghosted

Pearls

The Man That I Wave At

The Quackening

The Woman In The Plastic Skin

9pm, Screen 2
79 minutes



OUR

CARDIFF
mini FILM
FESTIVAL

TEAM

| | |
|-------------------------------|----------------|
| Festival Director | Jody Tozer |
| Festival Producer | Michael Karam |
| Festival Founder | Kate Chesson |
| Event Support | Niall Glynn |
| Event Photographer | Sarah Williams |
| Technical Co-Ordinator | Tom Betts |
| Event Hosts | Chris Chopping |
| | Mat Troy |
| | Tom Betts |

2026 Pre-Selection Panel

Alex Nankivell
Alexander Griffiths
Amelia Lloyd
Arran Walby
Carmen Medway-Stephens
Chris Lloyd
Dom Farrell
Dwayne Wyatt
Eilidh Carver
Grant Vidgen
Harriett Bradbury

Helen Rose
James Woodward
Jamie McKee
Kyle Thomas
Laura Rodriguez
Llanten No
Louis Du Toit
Madusha Gunawardana
Massimo Salvato
Matt Jones
Megan Cooper

Michael Henry
Niamh Barry
Nick McNeill
Paul Crossland
Phil John
Remy Dean
Robert Bluszcz
Tash Horton
Terry Ombaka
Will Smith

A special thank you to our brilliant team of volunteers!



ABOUT

CARDIFF
miniFILM
FESTIVAL

Founded in 2012, Cardiff Mini Film Festival is a grassroots short film festival championing low-budget and emerging filmmakers as they take their first steps into the industry. Over the past thirteen years, the festival has welcomed over 5,000 submissions from across the globe and transformed a variety of distinctive venues across Cardiff into screening spaces for its shortlisted films. The 2026 programme features nine film categories, with Comedy and Music Video joining our newest line-up!



All British films accepted into the 2026 Cardiff Mini Film Festival are eligible for the 2026 British Independent Film Awards!

Some of our past festivals!



Tramshed, 2017



Ten Feet Tall, 2013



Cardiff University, 2015



Clwb Ifor Bach, 2024



Capitol Centre, 2018



Chapel 1877, 2016

ABOUT CARDIFF



Cardiff is the capital and largest city in Wales, with a population estimated at 495,000 people (2025). Faces from Cardiff who you may recognise are Roald Dahl, Dame Shirley Bassey, Gareth Bale and Tom Ellis.

Cardiff has become a popular filming location for High-End TV and film productions including: Doctor Who (BBC & Bad Wolf Studios), Gavin & Stacey (BBC), Industry (HBO), Sherlock (BBC), and Sex Education (Netflix).



The CMFF team recommends:



Cardiff Castle



Principalality Stadium



City Centre Arcades



Cardiff Bay



Bute Park



WMC

OUR JUDGES



British Student: Mike Parker

Mike is a multi award-winning independent film and television producer based in Wales, the Film Production course leader at University of Gloucester, and is on the executive board of NAHEMI.



Documentary: Rachel Dax

Rachel is a writer, filmmaker and university lecturer. She is also the founder and lead curator of LezDiff - Cardiff International Lesbian Film & Arts Festival.



Welsh Film: Paul Hawke-Williams

Paul heads up Gorilla Academy, the training arm of Gorilla Post Production and has over 25 years of experience in film and television post production.



Comedy: Lesley Pondevie

Dr Lesley Pondevie is Head of Operations in the Faculty of Business & Creative Industries at USW. She has also published work on comedy within film and television.



Big Spender: Philip John

Philip is a multi award-winning Welsh director and writer, known for Marvel's Iron Fist and Downton Abbey. His debut film Moon Dogs won at festivals, and his next feature, The Long Way, shoots in 2026.



One Minute Wonder: Kate Chesson

Kate has been working at Cardiff Mini Film Festival since it's inception whilst being a lecturer at Coleg Gwent, and has led the BFI Film Academy courses in Swansea.



Low Budget: Berwyn Rowlands

Berwyn founded the Iris Prize, the world's largest short film award, and has earned the St David's Award for Culture, an Honorary Fellowship from UWTSU and recognition as a National Lottery Game-Changer.



Music Video: Anna Arietta

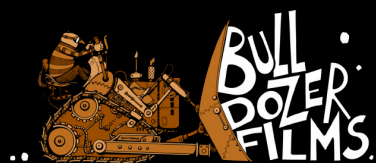
Anna is a filmmaker and musician, and is the Director of Production and Operations at It's My Shout.



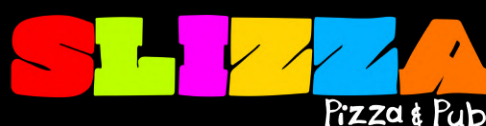
Twisted Tales: James Plumb

James is a South Wales based filmmaker, writer and lead of production company, Mad Science Films, which specialise in independent horror features and shorts.

OUR SPONSORS



The team behind Cardiff Mini Film Festival, led by Jody Tozer. Their aim is to help grassroots filmmakers break into the industry.



Established in 2020, this Pontcanna based pizzeria is home to their signature beer dough pizza. Use code **FILM10** to receive 10% off your order!



NAHEMI acts as a forum for debate on all matters pertaining to the teaching of practice in the moving image in higher education.

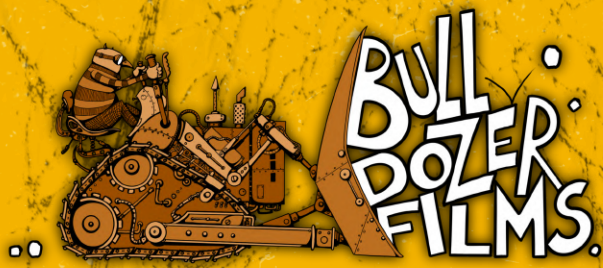


**Cardiff
Metropolitan
University**

Cardiff Metropolitan University provides education to 13,000 students within campuses across the city. The university constructs CMFF trophies.

GORILLA | ACADEMY

We are delighted to welcome Gorilla Academy to the CMFF family. Gorilla Academy is the training arm of Gorilla, the largest post-production company in Wales.



NEWS

film
CYMRU WALES



Enjoyed networking at Cardiff Mini Film Festival? Join us for our next filmmaking networking social in Swansea landing early 2026. Check out our socials to be notified when tickets release!



BFI FILM ACADEMY SHORT COURSES



As the regional lead of the BFI Film Academies across Wales, we delivered three short courses in Cardiff, Swansea and Aberystwyth, with our partner *TAPE Music and Film* delivering a fourth in north Wales. These courses enable learners to gain first-hand experience of creating a short film alongside industry professionals and will screen at the BFI Film Academy Showcase (10am, Screen 1).

Would you like to partner with us this year?
Drop us an email and we would
be delighted to discuss!
michael@bulldozerfilms.co.uk

FOLLOW US!



STAY IN TOUCH

www.cardiffminifilmfestival.co.uk

www.filmfreeway.com/cardiffminifilmfestival

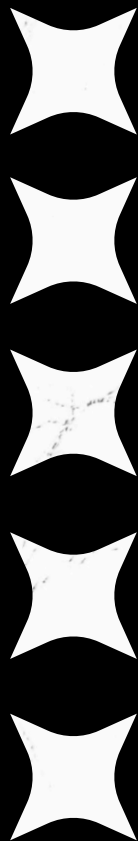


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**SUBMIT
YOUR FILM
FOR 2027!**



**FOLLOW
OUR
SOCIALS!**

