

britspotting 08 – 9th British and Irish film festival in Berlin 10th-16th April 2008

Press information for britspotting film festival

Wednesday, 2nd April 2008

**britspotting will again this year be offering a big selection of short films
Four short film line-ups in competition and two special short film programmes!**

The UK and Ireland's rich film industries also express themselves through short films. The britspotting team is therefore extremely delighted to be able to present in Berlin over 50 short features, documentaries and animations from renowned and creative young British and Irish filmmakers. The films from the four shorts programmes Shorts 1-4 will be competing for the audience prize. The festival's short film programme will be supplemented by a topical line-up of queer feminist video performances as well as a special programme featuring three of Isaac Julien's early films, whose latest feature film "Derek" will also be shown at the festival.

SHORTS 1: FAMILY TIES broaches the issue of the often not one hundred percent simple relationships amongst couples, parents, children...and their pets! In the programme, amongst others, are the winner of the Prix UIP Award at the 2008 Berlinale "Frankie" from Darren Thornton, and Simon Ellis' "Soft", honoured as Best Film at the Interfilm International Short Film Festival 2007. Also showing are Graham Eatough's short feature "Missing", "The Sound of People" from Simon Fitzmaurice, "Son" from Daniel Mulloy, a regular at britspotting, and the two animated short films "Grrrr" from Grigoris Leontiades and "One of the Family" from Lucy Izzard.

FAMILY TIES will be shown on 10th April am 10.30pm and 14th April at 8pm, both in Filmtheater Hackesche Höfe. Director Graham Eatough will be present at the 14th April screening.

SHORTS 2: OUT OF THE ORDINARY comprises a playful look at unusual life situations. Being shown, amongst others, are Paddy Considine's short film "Dog Altogether" with Peter Mullan, which was named Best Short Film at this year's British Academy Film Awards (BAFTA), and "I am Bob" about, and featuring, Bob Geldof and made by Donald Rice. Also in the programme are documentary "Butterfly" from Yulia Mahr about a young woman living with albinism, an unusual business idea in "Cheat Neutral" from Beth Stratford, animated short documentary "Illusion Dwellers" from Robb Ellender, and black and white animation "1977" from Peque Varela.

OUT OF THE ORDINARY will be showing on 11th April at 6pm and 13th April at 10.15pm in Filmtheater Hackesche Höfe.

SHORTS 3: MIXED BAG presents, amongst others, black comedy "Ripple" from Paul Gowers, the eccentric "Medium Rare" from Stefan Stuckert, football documentary "The Hardest Goal" from Steve Watson and animation "Charred & Feathered" from Rory & Robbie Byrne and Ronan McMeel.

MIXED BAG will be presented in Filmtheater Hackesche Höfe on 12th April at 10.45pm and on 14th April at 10.15pm.

SHORTS 4: BRITSPOTTING EXPERIMENTS brings together shorts which seek to open up a new dimension in reality. Lilly LaMia's "Bulk Haul", "Brilliant Noise" from Semiconductor, "Drift" and

“Striper v0.1” from Max Hattler, “Tea Time” from Lisa May Thomas, “Time Patrol” from Jasmin Jodry, “Liner” from Jez Coram, “I Want To Be A Secretary” from Sarah Wood, „Automotive Action Painting“ from George Barber, and the animation “NeoCon” from Carla Mackinnon, and some more shorts, will all feature in the line-up.

BRITSPOTTING EXPERIMENTS is screening at 10.30pm on 11th April and 6pm on 13th April in Filmtheater Hackesche Höfe.

SHORTS 5: WAS SHE THERE, a short film and video performance programme being curated by Club Des Femmes (the London queer-feminist film festival) will run outside of competition. Featuring will be the eponymous “Was She There” from Annie Griffin, “The Havers” and “Face the Music” from Berlin/Bolton performance artist PLANNINGTOROCK, “Venus ... I see Blue” and “Cow-girl & Future Stories” from Berlin-based video artist Lynne Marsh, “Random Acts of Intimacy” from Clio Barnard, and Jules Nurrish’s “Bend It” starring Anat Ben-David (Chicks On Speed) amongst others.

WAS SHE THERE will be shown on 14th April at 8.15pm at fsk-Kino am Oranienplatz as well as on 16th April at 6pm in Filmtheater Hackesche Höfe. PLANNINGTOROCK, and directors Lynne Marsh and Clio Barnard will be present and taking questions at the 14th April screening.

The political dimensions of sexuality, masculinity, and what it means to be black have been recurrent themes in the films of internationally-renowned British artist Isaac Julien. Also out of competition, his films “Looking for Langston”, with Matthew Baidoo, Akim Mojaji, John Wilson and the voice of Stuart Hall, “Territories”, and “The Attendant” will be presented on 15th April only at 10.30pm at Filmtheater Hackesche Höfe.

Contact:

Carolin Schröder * Carolin@britspotting.de * Tel. +49-(0)179 5392030

Helga Egetenmeier * Helga@britspotting.de * Tel. +49-(0)162 8845965