

britspotting

9th britspotting
(10–16 April 2008, Berlin)

In April 2008, for the ninth year running, the independent British and Irish film festival britspotting will present a broad range of British and Irish film productions in Berlin. The first and only British-Irish film festival in Germany, britspotting shows feature films and documentaries by young talents and renowned filmmakers as well as animation and experimental films. The festival focuses on films shot in Great Britain or Ireland or, alternatively, films from other countries whose central themes are British or Irish people and cultures.

Over 250 feature films have been submitted from all over the world as well as more than 340 short and experimental films. Over 15 feature films and documentaries and more than 40 short films will be screening during the festival. Selected feature films for the 2008 festival include the character study *Unrelated* by Joanna Hogg (her first feature film and winner of the FIPRESCI International Critics Award of London Film Festival 2007), the thriller *Jetsam* by Simon Welsford (his first feature film) and the real-life drama-documentary *The English Surgeon* by Geoffrey Smith (soundtrack by Nick Cave & Warren Ellis).

There will be a special programme dedicated to British filmmaker Isaac Julien and a short film programme focusing on queer performance, with guest curators Club des Femmes, the London-based queer-feminist film festival. There will also be three further special short film programmes, one of which will be dedicated to experimental films.

Hosting the festival will be two of Berlin's arthouse film theaters, fsk-Kino and Hackesche Höfe.

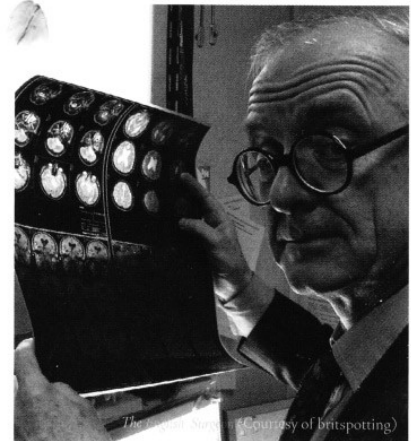
britspotting is an audience festival and the festival winners will be voted for exclusively by the audience in the categories. Best Feature Film prize is sponsored by the film production company Das Werk and the Best Short Film prize will be

donated by the company 25p cine support.

In cooperation with Filmmuseum Potsdam, selected films of the britspotting festival will be screened during the School of Life week. This special event for school-goers aged between 14 and 17 is in its third year and will run 23–29 April. As with every year, britspotting will go on tour in two further German cities. This year the britspotting British and Irish film selection will be shown in cinemas in Cologne (24–27 April) and Stuttgart (1–7 May).

A fresh team is looking forward to presenting a collection of tantalising films to the britspotting audience and leading some lively post-show discussions. At the head of this year's crew is Alex Thiele, a film producer based in Berlin and London.

For more information see www.britspotting.de



The English Surgeon (Courtesy of britspotting)



Unrelated (Courtesy of britspotting)