

Creative England & Film London join forces to further develop iShorts and London Calling Talent

17 September 2015: Creative England and Film London have selected filmmakers from their iShorts and London Calling short film programmes for a brand new talent development scheme – iShorts Alumni.

Having demonstrated skill, flair and creative vision with their previous short films for Creative England and Film London, 18 filmmaking teams have been selected for Alumni. They are now set to benefit from further support to take them to the next stage of their burgeoning careers, and thanks to input from Creative Skillset, the teams will also have access to experienced industry mentors.

The Alumni filmmakers will receive £15k to make their next short film, with the aim of making a distinctive, higher-budget short that indicates the type of feature film they would ultimately like to produce, and help them further build a foundation on which to develop a career in the film industry.

Additionally, the filmmakers can apply for £5k towards feature film development support. This could include researching ideas, working with a script editor, work towards a draft or developing a treatment.

Celine Haddad, Senior Film Executive at Creative England, said: *“We are delighted to team up with Film London on this new initiative. This is the first example of a partnership between two of the BFI NET.WORK partners, and it’s a fantastic opportunity to share knowledge and expertise while developing these very talented filmmakers.*

“It’s great to keep working with these teams and individuals, who we have already seen embark on their filmmaking journeys. Nurturing them to the next stage of their careers is an essential part of the process and one we’re proud to be involved with.”

Adrian Wootton, Chief Executive of Film London and the British Film Commission, said: *“Our shorts schemes give up-and-coming filmmakers the chance to break into a tough market. Often this is the start of a positive, ongoing relationship, and we’ll work with filmmakers as their careers develop, often through a range of schemes that cover everything from sales and distribution through to our landmark feature film fund. Alumni syncs perfectly with this work, and I am delighted to be forging a stronger partnership with Creative England to support our filmmakers in realising their vision, voice and creative ideas, and ultimately enabling the filmmakers of tomorrow.”*

Please see notes to editors for full details of each Alumni member plus project loglines.

ENDS

For more information, contact:

amy.wilkinson@creativeengland.co.uk / 0117 952 9973

NOTES TO EDITORS

About Creative England

Creative England invests in and supports creative ideas, talent and businesses in film, TV, games and digital media. We aim to grow the brightest, the best, and those with the most promise so that individuals and businesses can achieve their full creative and commercial potential. We help identify future opportunities to grow the economy and generate jobs.

www.creativeengland.co.uk

About Film London

Film London is the capital's screen industries agency. We connect ideas, talent and finance to develop a pioneering creative culture in the city that delivers success in film, television, animation, games and beyond. We work to sustain, promote and develop London as a global content production hub, support the development of the city's new and emerging filmmaking talent and invest in a diverse and rich film culture. Funded by the Mayor of London and the National Lottery through the BFI, we also receive support from Arts Council England, Creative Skillset and the Heritage Lottery Fund.

Film London's activities include:

- Maintaining, strengthening and promoting London's position as world-class city to attract investment through film, television, animation and games
- Investing in local talent through a range of specialised production and training schemes
- Boosting employment and competitiveness in the capital's screen industries by delivering internationally facing business development events
- Maximising access to the capital's film culture by helping audiences discover film in all its diversity
- Promoting London through screen tourism

Film London also manages the British Film Commission (www.britishfilmcommission.org.uk) through a public/private partnership which is funded by the Department for Culture, Media and Sport through the BFI, and UK Trade and Investment.

www.film london.org.uk

[@Film_London](https://twitter.com/Film_London)

About Creative Skillset

Creative Skillset empowers the Creative Industries to develop skills and talent; we do this by influencing and shaping policy, ensuring quality and by securing the vital investment for individuals to become the best in their field and for businesses to grow. As the industry skills body for the Creative Industries, we work across film, television, radio, animation, visual effects, games, fashion, textiles, advertising, marketing communications and publishing. www.creativeskillset.org.

About the Film Skills Fund

Creative Skillset's Film Skills Fund, as part of its film skills strategy, is funded by the BFI with National Lottery funds and through the Skills Investment Funds, which comprise industry and government co-investment. The film skills strategy focuses on addressing the vital skills and training needs of the industry to deliver maximum economic and cultural return: creating jobs, strengthening skills, building skills for the future and ensuring world-class film education.

The Alumni projects & teams:

Dear Albion (short)

Writer/Director: Jack Taylor Cox

Producer: Lincia Daniel

Embeline of Eyam (development)

Writer/Director: Jack Taylor Cox

Producer: Lincia Daniel

The Harvest Sun (development)

Writer/Director: Tom Shrapnel

The Knacker Man (Short)

Writer/Director: Tom Shrapnel

Producer: Rebecca Wolff

Candy Floss (short)

Writer/Director: Jed Hart

The Escapist (short)

Writer/Director: Tim Woodall & Phil Drinkwater

Producer: Jason Wingard

Sliding (short)

Writer: Scout Stuart

Director: Lucy Campbell

Producer: Loran Dunn

Flake! (short)

Writer/Director: Jim Dethick

Producer: Joseph Dethick

Amsterdam (development)

Writer: Lisa Jacobs

Director: Tara Fitzgerald

Producer: Georgina French & Lisa Jacobs

Balsa Wood (development)

Writer/Director: Dominique Lecchi

Producer: Agnes Meath Baker

Everyone is Special (short)

Writer/Director: Drew Pautz

Producer: James Levison

Pyro (development)

Writer: Katie Boyles

Producer: Nuala O'Leary

Ramona & the Chair (short)

Writer/Director: Dominique Lecchi

Producer: Agnes Meath Baker

Sticky (short)

Writer/Director: Richard Turley

The March Back (short)

Director: Ruth Grimberg

Producer: Claire Levy

The Understudies (development)

Writer/Director: Tom Bacon

Producer: Renee Tillott

Folke Up (development)

Director: Louis Paxton

Producer: Chiara Ventura

The White Room (short)

Writer/Director: Orlando Cubitt

Producer: Jacob Swan Hyam