

UK FILM FESTIVALS

By Michael Leader

GLIMMER 2009: THE 7TH HULL INTERNATIONAL SHORT FILM FESTIVAL April 21-26

The **Hull International Short Film Festival**, titled **Glimmer**, returns in April for 6 days packed to bursting with screenings and events. This year, the East Yorkshire festival will be introducing the Anthony Minghella Awards for Best International and Best UK Short, to be presented at the festival in the memory of the late filmmaker and University of Hull alumnus. Over the course of the festival, various shorts will be screened in competition for these awards.

These competitive selections will be sharing space with out of competition screenings and events. **Glimmer** will be hosting retrospectives dedicated to two short-film makers, avant-garde artist John Smith and Internet, Flash-based animator David Firth (*SALAD FINGERS*), as well as cherry picking notable films that were nominated for short film BAFTA awards in 2009 and the best in student-created short cinema in the **STUDENTFEST** programme. There will also be selections along thematic lines, such as the *Country in Focus: Israel* and *Figuring Landscapes* series.

Accompanying the screenings in the event calendar are talks, presentations and panel discussions on topical subjects about the film industry. *What Happens Next?* will tackle the challenges facing a filmmaker after the shoot is over, including how to handle reviews, marketing and print budgeting, and *Pay to Play* will discuss issues related to low paid and voluntary work in the film industry, as well as the often exclusive entry fees for festivals.



For more information, including the full programme, visit www.hullfilm.co.uk



CAMBRIDGE INTERNATIONAL SUPER 8 FESTIVAL April 29 - May 2

Since 2007, the **Cambridge International Super 8 Festival** has been championing the small film format. After it's successful second edition in 2008, where 88 films were screened, all points indicate to another great line-up at the end of April. At the heart of the festival are its four competitive awards, the Jury Prize, Audience Prize, Development Prize, Best UK Film and Special Jury Prize. Winners of these awards will be promoted by the festival team, and will tour around the UK and other selected countries.

The in-competition selection will be presented in a series of programmes throughout the festival, and will include films such as *DEAD JOE*, directed by John Aldridge, an absurdly comic deformation of film noir, and *FOUR KILOS OF MEMORIES (4 KILOS DE RECUERDOS)*, by Mexican filmmaker Faride Schroeder, a meticulously planned feature that required no editing or post-

production. Although primarily focused on the opportunities granted to Super 8 filmmakers by the digital revolutions of the last decade, this year the festival will premiere its Cambridge Memories





mockumentary *MOTHER OF INVENTION* and *STINGRAY SAM*, a bizarre mix of western, sci-fi and musical.

There will be world premieres including the opening night film *EYEBOTS*, about rogue surveillance cameras, starring Adrian Paul, who will be attending; and *THE HUNT FOR GOLLUM*, a stunning *Lord of the Rings* fan film that looks every bit as good as Peter Jackson's mega-budget trilogy. Closing night film is the highly anticipated second part of the *20TH CENTURY BOYS* trilogy, one of the most expensive productions to come out of Japan.

Esteemed guests this year include Marc Caro, co-director/writer of *THE CITY OF LOST CHILDREN*, which will be screening with a Q&A, and Kevin O'Neill, artist for graphic novels such as *The League of Extraordinary Gentlemen*, who will be participating in Q&A session followed by a screening of *HARDWARE*, based on one of his stories for *2000AD*.

For those nocturnal film fans, the festival will be offering a series of All Nighter events, centered around genres, themes and topics such as *STAR TREK*, Italian Horror, and Anime. Outside of these screenings, **SCI-FI-LONDON** will also be holding genre-specific filmmaking workshops, along with a variety of discussion panels on the literary, stylistic and scientific backgrounds to the science fiction culture, as well as handing out the Arthur C. Clarke Award for the best science fiction novel of the previous year.

The festival will be preceded by a 48 hour film challenge, where entrants are invited to create a five-minute sci-fi film on the weekend of April 4–6. The competition will be judged by a panel featuring Marc Caro and *FRANKLYN* director Gerald McMorrow. With more details yet to be announced, **SCI-FI-LONDON** is shaping up to be a varied treat for all fans of fantastical film. For full details visit www.sci-fi-london.com

WIN TICKETS

To win a pair of tickets to the **SCI-FI-LONDON STAR TREK** All-nighter answer the following question: Who directs the new *STAR TREK* movie?

Email your answer to: comps@filmandfestivals.com by April 23 2009

SCI-FI-LONDON

April 29 - May 4

London's top science-fiction-oriented festival is back this month, providing a smorgasbord of geekery. Now into its eighth year, the festival straddles the borderline between April and May with a selection of screenings and events. Housed at the Apollo Picadilly cinema, **SCI-FI-LONDON** will be holding UK premieres for films such as the frist Brazilian zombie flick *MUD ZOMBIES*,



programme. This selection feature unearthed family films from the Cambridge area, providing perspectives and insight from the last 40 years that were made possible by the format's affordability.

Also, previous Audience Prize winner Dagie Brundert will be heading a masterclass on filmmaking in Super 8, as well as participating in a retrospective of her work. Additionally, there will be an Industry Panel, discussing the role of Super 8 in the wider film industry, titled 'Super 8, another paintbrush for filmmakers?'

www.cambridge-super8.org for the full programme

www.filmandfestivals.com



WIN A PASS

To win a pair of passes to the Cambridge International Super8 Festival answer the following question: Which Super 8 film comes in a yellow and red box?

Email your answer to: comps@filmandfestivals.com by April 23 2009