



11 Years of Celebrating Independent Film



# Unrestricted View Film Festival

27th April – 3rd May 2026



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# UNRESTRICTED VIEW FILM FESTIVAL 2026



Since 1999, Unrestricted View has been dedicated to giving up-and-coming theatre companies, writers, actors and comedians a platform to showcase their talents. In 2016 with the launch of UVFF, we were delighted to add filmmakers to that list. We are a festival run by filmmakers and aim to celebrate and encourage the very best in independent film making. UVFF 2026 is our 11th year and we have a week long line up of truly fantastic indie features, shorts and documentaries for you to enjoy.

In these strange times, we're relying more and more on our storytellers to hold up a mirror and make sense of different views, new beliefs and allow us to laugh at ourselves. The collection of films we have gathered for you will take you on a wondrous journey from tragedy to hilarity with 80 films over 7 days in 6 venues.

I would like to say a massive thank you to our wonderful sponsors: Free@Last TV, The Format Factory, Flying Saucer Productions, FMW Films, a wrenbird company, Fluent Flow Voices, Globe & Roam & The London Brewing Company. Thank you to our four amazing venues: Everyman Kings Cross, Everyman Screen on the Green, Odeon Luxe & Dine Islington, Curzon Hoxton, Genesis Cinema and The Hen & Chickens Theatre. Huge thanks to our panel of industry judges and of course to our brilliant UVFF team: Felicity Wren, Boo Jackson, Mark Lyminster, Reneé Donlan, Aleksandra Sykulak & Alice Henley. Most of all, thank YOU for continuing to support independent films!

So on behalf of all at Unrestricted View,  
we hope you enjoy UVFF 2026!

James Wren  
Festival Director  
@uviewff



## 27th April

27th April 7pm  
Shorts selections from UK Filmmakers  
Venue: Everyman King's Cross

## EVERYMAN



**Egg Timer** (Directed by Rosie May Bird Smith) UK  
**At this Moment it's Us** (Directed by Theodore K. Emile Rodney & Chaa Ustaoglu) UK  
**Dressed to the Nines** (Directed by Madeleine Shenai & Ivana Mazza-Coates) UK  
**Tell Your Face** (Directed by Jill Worsley) UK  
**The Truth About Space** (Directed by Jeremiah Towolawi) UK  
**The Man That I Wave At** (Directed by Ben S Hyland) UK  
**G.S.W.** (Directed by Jonny Durgan) UK  
**Odd Socks** (Directed by David Ledger) UK

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## 28th April

28th April 3pm  
**Title:** About My Mom  
**Director:** Soner Sert  
**Venue:** Hen & Chickens Theatre  
**Country of Origin:** Turkey  
**Runtime:** 94 minutes



Caner, who went to Germany to study at university, returns to Türkiye to attend the fifth anniversary commemoration of his mother's death, and is greeted at the airport by his father Muharrem, whom he has not seen for a long time. Caner, who is going to set off on a long journey to the countryside of Türkiye to attend the commemoration where all the relatives will gather and perform religious rituals with his father, whom he sees as responsible for his mother's death, enters into a fierce struggle with his father on this journey. In this journey, where the sociopolitical environment of the country forms the background, things will get even more complicated when Caner's mother gets involved between the father and son on a dark night. A modern Oedipus Complex story...



## 28th April

28th April 6pm  
Shorts selections from UK Filmmaskers  
Venue: Odeon Luxe & Dine Islington

UK SHORTS 2: Screen 1 – 6pm

**Carrot Cake** (Olive Pascha)  
**Homing** (Hansel Rodrigues, Lizzie Atherton)  
**Beauty Sleep** (Jasmine Emma De Silva)  
**The Black Box: Awaken** (Rebecca Holbourn)  
**Grandma is Thirsty** (Kris Carr)  
**Stumbling Blocks** (Tortor Smith)  
**Plastic Surgery** (Guy Trevellyan)  
**Toad in the Hole** (Ben Norris)



UK SHORTS 3: Screen 5 – 6pm

**I Am the Prize** (Sai Karan Talwar)  
**Everytime I See a Yellow Car** (Matt Chandler)  
**Vegetables Have Sugar** (Daniel Liakh)  
**Ken** (Alison Hargreaves)  
**In the Clouds** (Alexandra Bahfyyih Wain)  
**Homonym** (Lily Howkins)  
**Lost Dog** (Simon Wade, Paul Wade)  
**Dating Mark Silcox** (Joe Lycett)



29th April 1:45pm – Feature Film

**Title:** Small Gods  
**Director:** Asher Rosen  
**Venue:** Hen & Chickens Theatre  
**Country of Origin:** Uganda  
**Runtime:** 107 mins

While struggling to provide for her son, an indigenous single mother falls for a charismatic street performer. But when a crisis strikes, it threatens to rip their nascent family apart...



## 29th April



# ODEON

LUXE & DINE

ISLINGTON

# 29th April



4pm – Foreign Short Films

**The Secret Assistants** (Katey Lee Carson)  
France/Germany/UK

**Our Little Act of Rebellion** (Ranw Aso–Rashid)  
Greece

**The Trophy King** (Tighe Boudreaux Kellner) USA

**An Excess Baggage** (Myriam Garcia Marienstras) France

**Lancastria** (Joséphine Durand, Noa Val Adoux, Loris Eck,  
Thomas Accorsi, William Ariza, Garance Micol) France

**Nani** (Mainak Dhar) USA

**The Conversation Has Been Removed** (Andrew Nolan) Ireland



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6pm – Documentaries

**The Dying Trade** (Jack Hancock–Fairs) UK

**Esme Boggart** (Nicholas Jones) UK



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8pm – Feature Film

**Title:** Breakwater

**Director:** Max Morgan

**Venue:** Hen & Chickens Theatre

**Country of Origin:** UK

**Runtime:** 91 mins

Set between the sandstone colleges of Oxford and the salt-encrusted Suffolk coast, Breakwater follows the tentative romance between university student, Otto, and retired angler, John. Their lives fuse irreversibly over the shared trauma of losing a loved one. However, their relationship darkens when the past exhumes itself in the form of guilt, grief, and ghosts.



# 29th April

# EVERYMAN

29th April 6pm

\*\*\*WORLD PREMIERE\*\*\*

**Title:** The Old Man

**Director:** Marc Hardman

**Venue:** Everyman Screen on the Green

**Country of Origin:** UK

**Runtime:** 91 mins

Two estranged brothers must re-connect, and suffer each other's company for a weekend, as they take a road trip to scatter the ashes of their late father. Starring Richard Glover (Sightseers, A Field In England), Jonathan Broke and Rachel Barry.



# 30th April

30th April 2pm – Feature

**Title:** The Legend of Juan Jose Mundo

**Director:** Michael Walker

**Venue:** The Hen & Chickens Theatre

**Country of Origin:** UK

**Runtime:** 92 mins

Set in suburban NY in 1984. Julie Gornick hosts a charismatic, larger than life Spanish exchange student. As he starts hooking up with the girls in her class, Julie falls in love with him. Or what she thinks is love.



HEN &  
CHICKENS THEATRE



4pm – Foreign Shorts 1

**Bag People** (Valentin Classen) France

**Hide** (Brendan Hubbard) USA

**Forever, Liam** (Guillermo de la Rosa) Canada/  
Venezuela

**Roots** (Konstantinos Doxiadis) Greece

**Made from Leakproof Plastic**  
(Anastasiya Mykhaylova) Canada



# 30th April

**H**  
HEN &  
CHICKENS THEATRE

6.15pm – Feature

**Title:** *Invincible*

**Director:** Emma Croft

**Venue:** Hen & Chickens Theatre

**Country of Origin:** UK

**Runtime:** 109 mins

Set in June 2012, against the backdrop of the recession and the Afghanistan conflict, Emily and Oliver leave behind their comfortable middle-class life in London to start anew in a small northern town in England. Emily is eager to immerse herself in the lives of what she calls "real people," while Oliver seeks relief from mounting financial pressure. To foster a sense of community, Emily invites their new neighbours Alan and Dawn over for a gathering. However, what begins as an attempt at connection quickly spirals into a clash of ideologies, particularly around art, war and culture. The evening culminates in a shocking revelation that sets the stage for unforeseen consequences.

As tensions rise, the lives of these four neighbours begin to unravel. Emily's idealistic pursuit of solidarity falters, Oliver's increasingly dubious behavior creates fractures, and the mysterious disappearance of Alan's cat adds to the growing chaos. Meanwhile, Emily faces a relapse into old habits, oblivious to the dramatic shift unfolding around her.

By the story's end, a tragedy shatters the fragile balance: Dawn and Alan's marriage is on the brink of collapse, with Dawn spiraling into mental distress after a devastating loss. Amid the turmoil, Oliver is determined to move his family back to London, seeking escape from the mess and turmoil they have unwittingly created.



8.30pm – Feature

**Title:** *A Teacher's Gift*

**Director:** Artur Ribeiro

**Venue:** Hen & Chickens Theatre

**Country of Origin:** UK

**Runtime:** 104 mins

Rohan's diploma may be fake but he's a great Hindi language teacher with a knack for engaging with his retired English students and enjoying life despite his troubled past. He isn't getting any younger and his mother is relentless in pressuring him to marry Mumbai based entrepreneur Arushi who is already in a relationship but is equally under pressure from her Father to marry Rohan.

Enter Charles, a charming, sophisticated older Englishman with a lifestyle Rohan has only dreamt of who now enrolls in his class. A relationship develops as they enjoy their common interests in literature, cricket and each other's company despite their cultural and age differences. A sudden phone call about Arushi's imminent arrival in London panics Rohan and he seeks immediate help from his new friend Charles. Charles agrees but for a price. A trip to India to help him with "unfinished business". As Rohan accompanies Charles to India tensions rise between Arushi and Rohan. Matters only get worse when Charles goes missing and suspicion of murder falls on Rohan. This dramatic and frightening event in Goa eventually forces Charles, Rohan and Arushi to come clean, confront their own past, complete the unfinished business and for once in their lives face up to the truth.



# 1st May



1st May

12pm – Documentaries 2

**The Banjo Boys** (Johan Nayar)

**Houdini II: A Beautiful Day to Die** (Daniel John)



2pm – Documentaries 3

**When You Were Young Were You Afraid of The Moon?**

(Phoebe Cottam)

**Voice Shift** (Roberto Duque)

**Seekers** (Gio Israel)



4pm – Unrestricted Brew

A chance to meet and chat about the films and filmmaking. Which will lead on to...

5pm – Speed questions 1

A 30 minute opportunity to ask an industry expert any question you like and get advice on your next project.

6pm Speed questions 2

A 30 minute opportunity to ask an industry expert any question you like and get advice on your next project.

7pm – Speed questions 3 with: Barry Ryan (CEO of Free at Last TV & The Format Factory)

A 30 minute opportunity to ask an industry expert any question you like and get advice on your next project.

8.30pm – Featurettes

**Margate Barred** (Ben Cole)

**Where You At?** (Shanti Scalpello)



# 2nd May



2nd May 11.30am

**Title:** How To Make Her Leave

**Director:** Michael Bocalini & Che Grant

**Venue:** Hen & Chickens Theatre

**Country of Origin:** UK

**Runtime:** 86 mins

Ollie, a hopeless romantic scarred by a string of unfaithful partners, finally finds 'the one'. But when he grows suspicious that his fiancée might also be cheating, his struggle to protect love spirals into a comedic and chaotic battle with his own insecurities.



2nd May

Selections of UK short films.

**Venue:** Curzon Hoxton

Hosted by

# CURZON

3.30pm – UK shorts 4

**Uncle Artoo** (Zoe Whittaker)

**Indignitas** (Darcia Martin)

**Between the Piers** (Kate Cheeseman)

**Care** (Stef O'Driscoll)

**Rule, Britannia** (Max Fisher)

**Truckload** (Aella Jordon-Edge)

**Self+Tape** (James Cleave)



6.30pm – UK shorts 5

**Magid/Zafar** (Luis Hindman)

**Blackpool** (Stephen Gallacher)

**The Humbug** (Cole Paviour)

**Big Breakfast** (Chris Hyde)

**Good Behaviour** (Dan Sloan)

**Largo** (Salvatore Scarpa & Max Burgoyne-Moore)

**Gone for Milk** (Will Farrell)

**Easy Sell** (Ken Abalos & Ash Meshkati)



**3rd May**

**GENESIS**  
CINEMA | BAR | KITCHEN

3rd May

12.45pm – UK Shorts 6

**The Painting & The Statue** (Freddie Fox)

**The Weight of Feeling** (Lily Mellor)

**The Weight** (Vanessa Rose)

**Starboy** (AR Ugas)

**Route Cause** (Eliab Gebressilase)

**Overtones** (Ollie Gardner)

**A Wonderful Neighbour** (Alun Rhys Morgan)

**Domestic** (Jake Spence Barnes)

**Emiko Jones** (Hanako Footman)



4.30pm – 8pm

THE UNRESTRICTED VIEW FILM FESTIVAL AWARDS 2026

A drinks reception followed by an awards event

Awards include: Best UK Feature, Best UK Short, Best Director (Feature), Best Director (Short), Best Actor (Feature), Best Actor (Short), Best Actress (Feature), Best Actress (Short), The Si Spencer Award, Best Cinematography, Best Editing, Best Comedy, Best Sound, Best Soundtrack, Best Web Series, Best Foreign Short, Best Foreign Feature, Best Make up, Best Costume, The One To Watch Award, The Open Screen Award, Best Documentary (Feature), Best Documentary (Short), Best Screenplay, Best Screenplay (Unfilmed), Festival Director's Choice Award and more...

NOMINEES FOR BEST SHORT SCREENPLAY (UNFILMED)

Undetectable (Dylan Patrick Costello)

I've Got Lung Cancer (Roy Scintei)

Lab Partners (Tommy Britt)

Imagine (Kirby Gilshamoch)

Scrape (Julie Bower)

Empty Glasses (Jonathan Skinner)

BEST WEB SERIES

**My Ghost Stories Web Series** (Jon Stout)



### THE SI SPENCER AWARD

In February 2021 we sadly lost our dear friend Si.

He was a musician, writer, director, poet, quiz master and a wonderful human.

As well as writing scripts for *Grange Hill*, *The Bill* and *Eastenders*, Si created many stories in graphic novel form, including *BODIES*, which is now on Netflix (starring Stephen Graham).

We miss him greatly.

Si was a judge for UVFF from the very first festival. He never wavered in his enthusiasm and support for up and coming talent. Honouring the man he was, The Si Spencer Award will be presented to a UK filmmaker whose film is judged (by his wife and a panel of industry friends) to best reflect Si's tastes.



As well as an award trophy, the recipient will receive:

- A free of charge screening at The Hen & Chickens Theatre which can be used for a cast and crew/friends and family/industry screening.
- A waiver for future submissions to UV film festivals.

### THE OPEN SCREEN LONDON AWARD

For the past 11 years, the Unrestricted View Film Festival has championed independent filmmakers, creating a platform for bold, original and diverse voices.

But too many filmmakers still don't get the chance to be seen. Financial barriers, lack of industry access, and the cost of production continue to alienate working-class and low-income creatives at the start of their journey. We have launched Open Screen London to help change that.

Open Screen London is a new initiative created by the Unrestricted View Film Festival team to support emerging filmmakers from underrepresented and/or underprivileged backgrounds. Open Screen London is an award, supporting one filmmaker or team in the creation of their work.

The selected filmmaker or team will receive:

- A screening as part of the Unrestricted View Film Festival.
- Ongoing mentorship from the Unrestricted View team across the year.
- Access to Funding Labs, supporting the next stage of their project, at which the selected team can host a fundraising event at the Hen & Chickens Theatre, with the venue provided free of charge. All ticket sales, including 'ghost tickets', go directly toward supporting the film.
- If you're interested in being supported by Open Screen London, please visit our website for information.



**OPEN SCREEN  
LONDON**



## Hosting Venues

27th April **EVERYMAN** Kings Cross  
14-18 Handyside St, London N1C 4DN

28th April **ODEON**  
LUXE & DINE 13 Esther Anne Pl, London N1 1TU  
ISLINGTON

28th, 29th 39th April, 1st & 2nd May



109 St Paul's Rd, London N1 2NA

29th April **EVERYMAN** Screen on the Green  
83 Upper St, London N1 0NP

2nd May **CURZON** Hoxton  
55 Pitfield St, London N1 6BU

3rd May **GENESIS**  
CINEMA | BAR | KITCHEN  
93-95 Mile End Rd, Bethnal Green, London E1 4UJ

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- to tell inclusive stories about love, connection and the human experience.
- to work with friends who dream the same dream.
- to create an optimistic, kind working environment allowing creativity to flourish.
- to lift up and champion incredible voices and talent.
- to share the successes, financial and otherwise created by being part of this community.

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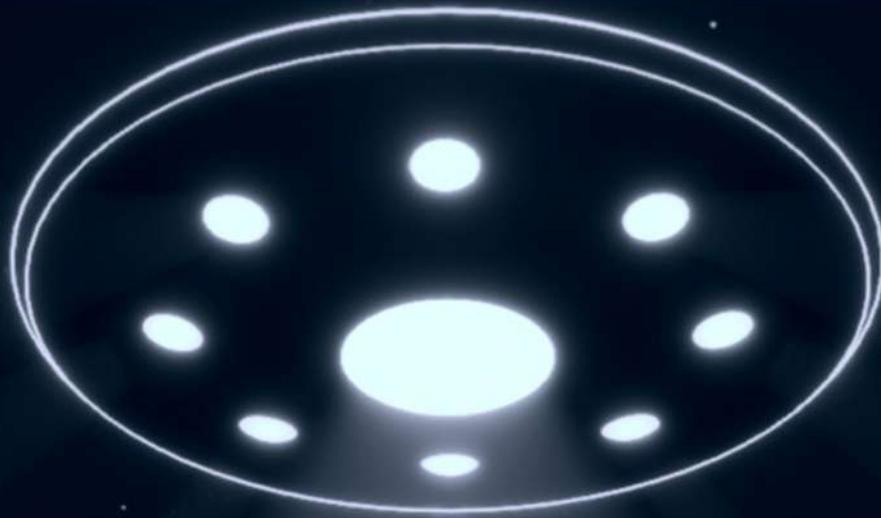


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Oct 26th – Nov 1st



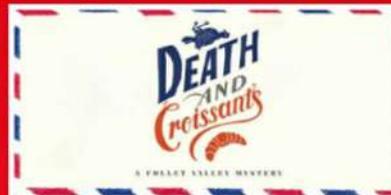
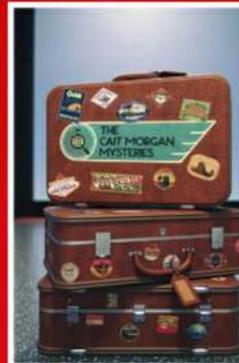
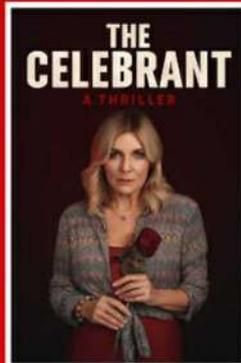
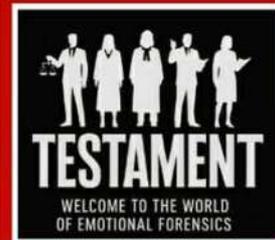
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