

# The Script Factory: SCENE

at the 44th REGUS LONDON FILM FESTIVAL

**Welcome to The Script Factory: SCENE, a three day festival within a festival, dedicated exclusively to the art of screenwriting. SCENE is produced by The Script Factory, a not-for-profit organisation which is dedicated to the development of new screenwriting talent, and is proud to be part of the 44th Regus London Film Festival (RLFF).**

With a packed programme of events, SCENE is for industry execs on the hunt for new talent; for screenwriters and independent filmmakers looking for insider's tips on the tools of the trade; for those hoping to spot the films and writers of the future; and for you if you're at all curious about how the films you watch get made. We've had unprecedented access to the talent in town for the 44th Regus London Film Festival to build our SCENE programme - and we hope you're going join us for a unique weekend to make the most of it!

Take note that this is a taster of the SCENE programme - for late additions and stop press programme announcements send an email to [general@scriptfactory.freeserve.co.uk](mailto:general@scriptfactory.freeserve.co.uk) or telephone 020 7323 1639.

## The SCENE Readings

The centre-piece of SCENE is the live performed readings of the three winning scripts from the 2000 Orange Prize for Screenwriting/Pathe Production Prize. The Script Factory is celebrated for its live readings - always performed by casts of the highest quality and brought to life for one performance only. These readings work as a development tool for writers, as a chance to show the production potential of each script, and as a hugely entertaining way to sneak preview the films of tomorrow.

### The Wedding Gift by Lisa Flett

Thursday 2 November - 6.30pm

Bride-to-be Isla wants the perfect wedding but her father, Frankie, is something of a gangster whose true colours are about to be revealed...

### Feet Up by Ewan Kilgour

Friday 3 November - 6.30pm

A black comedy which finds the body of a young woman floating feet-up in the sea, and asks did she drown or was she murdered at the hands of one of her three lovers?

### The Alchemist by Simon Rose

Saturday 4 November - 3pm

12 year old Jason's grandfather leaves him the secret for turning base metal into gold but there are others who'll stop at nothing to get their hands on the formula in this original family drama suitable for young people.

### The Alchemist Workshop

Saturday 4 November - 4.30pm

Following The Alchemist reading join a free after-show workshop for children and young people with the RLFF Education team; an opportunity to meet the cast and the writer and to find out how to make a start in writing screenplays.

Workshop is FREE but space is limited - please call 020 7323 1414 now to reserve your place. Suitable for young people aged 10 yrs and over

## Masterclasses

Script Factory Masterclasses are supported by UIP

A unique chance to get inside the minds of some of the people who do it best: people whose names are synonymous with good writing and brilliant filmmaking. More than just an interview, the masterclasses take their subject and use film and script extracts to uncover the 'why' and the 'how' of original writing.

### Richard Curtis

Thursday 2 November - 4pm

If there's one thing we Brits can do it's romantic comedies with a heart, and Richard Curtis is the writer responsible for the greatest of them all. From TV comedy through to the script for *Bridget Jones' Diary*, Curtis' career so far puts him as one of the most successful screenwriters in his field. Here, he talks about the journey through *Four Weddings And A Funeral*, and exposes the footage which never made the final cut of *Notting Hill*.

Call 020 7323 1639 for details of additional Masterclasses

## Development Journeys

Unique to The Script Factory: SCENE is this programme of fascinating sessions entitled 'Development Journeys'. Taking the concept of development as a start-point these sessions explore the journey from script-to-screen of selected films, and the career journeys of individual filmmakers, and use as examples both films from the 44th Regus London Film Festival programme and other selected soon-to-be-released titles. Pulling together a number of people involved in the creative side of films and filmmaking, 'Development Journeys' are less a focus on how films are financed and more a creative discussion on the development of ideas themselves. Illustrated with film extracts and readings from original source material and completed scripts, these one-off 'Journeys' are an invaluable insight to the heart of the development process.

### From Guinness To Sexy Beast

Thursday 2 November - 2pm

Jonathan Glazer is the director behind a host of notable commercials (including the famed Guinness 'white horses' ad) whose new incarnation is as a feature director, with his debut, *Sexy Beast*, selected as the RLFF British Gala. Here, he explores his journey from commercials to feature drama and gives his take on the challenge of breathing fresh life into the gangster genre.

### From Stage-to-Screen

Friday 3 November - 11.45am

Theatre has long been a breeding ground for big screen directors and this year's RLFF proves that the tradition is alive and well. Already this summer, *Billy Elliot* and *Some Voices* proved that theatrical routes can make for glorious cinema. Now *Saltwater*, *Beautiful Creatures* and *Peaches* join a growing list of films which have sprouted from a theatrical background, giving us the chance to question a selection of writers about the journey from theatre to film.

### Tools To Development

Friday 3 November - 1.30pm

A round table round-up of the different agencies currently working in the UK to aid screenwriters, in a frank discussion about the merits of the various development opportunities on offer. From PAL to Arista to First Film Foundation to The Script Factory, the UK has a range of different script development avenues open. With the Film Council promising to headline with development, now is the right time to consider the best way forward to find solutions for creating successful screenplays. This is an event which gives writers and development teams the chance to debate the merits of each development solution.

### The Route To Pandaemonium

Friday 3 November - 4pm

The personal and professional relationship between two of England's greatest romantic poets was the inspiration for writer Frank Cottrell Boyce (*Hilary And Jackie*, *Welcome To Sarajevo*) and director

Julien Temple (*The Filth And The Fury*, *Vigo*) who went on to turn the facts into a daring and ambitious account. Here the pair talk about the journey to give the characters their energy, the research involved, and how they successfully found a contemporary focus for this period story.

### Euro Development with Harry, He's Here To Help

Saturday 4 November - 12 noon

*Harry, He's Here To Help* is this year's RLFF French Gala - a classy off-beat black comedy which sits somewhere between Patricia Highsmith and the Coen Brothers. Its writer/director Dominik Moll has moved from shorts to a first romantic feature (*Intimacy*), and now on to gala success with *Harry...* Here, Dominik talks about his journey to bring *Harry...* to life and how the European model of development compares to our own.

### Additional Development Journeys are scheduled for:

Thursday 2 November - 11.30am

Friday 3 November - 10am

Saturday 4 November - 10am

Call 020 7323 1639 or send an e mail to [general@scriptfactory.freeserve.co.uk](mailto:general@scriptfactory.freeserve.co.uk) for details of these extra sessions.

## Seminars

As a backbone to SCENE, Seminars run throughout the Festival, hands-on sessions targeted at screenwriters: a means of gleaning 'trade secrets' from expert witnesses. Places are extremely limited - these are intimate workshops where you get the chance to hear expert opinion and quick-fire your queries about the subjects on offer. Book early and come armed with questions!

### Letting Go: Working With Directors

Thursday 2 November - 12 noon

How does it feel to give birth to a screenplay and then watch someone else direct your baby? What if their vision is Laura Ashley while yours was babyGap? And what if they get all the credit for your blood, sweat and tears? A writer/director team reveal all about the pros and cons of their creative partnership.

### The Bird & Bird Legal Surgery

Thursday 2 November - 2.30pm

Peter Dally, top media lawyer with Bird & Bird talks options, contracts, copyright and other FAQs and opens his surgery for your writer-related legal questions.

### Roll Up, Roll Up: Marketing Scripts

Friday 3 November - 11am

Marketing is everything when it comes to the finished movie - but how many writers think about selling their idea at script stage? Paul Brett, former marketing guru and now Head of bfi Cinema Services, walks you through the necessary steps to a sale.

### How To Get, Keep, And Not Kill Your Agent

Friday 3 November - 2.15pm

Julien Friedman, one half of the Blake Friedman Agency, offers tips for writers looking for the happy-ever-after with an agent.

### What's The Story?: How To Read A Script

Friday 3 November - 4.15pm

Reading as well as writing scripts is an art to learn and being able to offer constructive feedback to writers invariably comes down to raising questions about the story. The Script Factory's own Lucy Scher offers a guide to the process of assessing scripts for the benefit of wannabe script readers - and delivers an inadvertent hint to writers themselves about how a development team might just respond to their script...

### Casting For Character

Saturday 4 November - 10.45am

In the beginning was the word, and the word was...written by a writer. And then there was everyone else who made the movie and often, the writer never met any of them. Giving a rare chance for writers to talk about casting, Chloe Emmerson, who cast for *The War Zone*, *Billy Elliot* and many others puts an actor on the spot to offer advice to writers on the elusive search for character.

### Now Listen To Me: The Trials Of Co-writing

Saturday 4 November - 1.30pm

Writing is something you do alone, in isolation, preferably in your garret. But it doesn't have to be... Co-writing has obvious benefits for those terrified by their own company, but has plenty of

downsides too, as egos clash and each writer threatens to squash the others' ideas. A pair of writers give their tips for survival and suggest how to make the best of the co-writing relationship.

### A Taste Of Arista

Friday 3 November - 10.30am

Arista is a celebrated training organisation for writers, producers and editors which stages intensive courses on story editing. In a special one-off taster session, Head of Arista, Stephen Cleary, explores the principles of story editing starting with a little of Aristotle's drama theory and finding it has more than a touch of relevance for today's' scripts.

### HYPertext:

#### Writing Narrative For Digital Film

Sunday 12 November - 6pm

National Film Theatre

As well as SCENE, The Script Factory is co-producing an additional event within the RLFF exploring the future of writing in a digital age. A panel of filmmakers and digital pioneers including Mike Figgis (*Time Code*), Agnes Varda (*The Gleaners and I*), and Cath Le Couter (co-founder of indie film e mail network Shooting People), talk about how storytelling is being altered by digital possibilities and question where interactive cinema leaves the screenwriter - and the audience.

Tickets for HYPertext are only available from the RLFF box office - please call 020 7928 3232.