



**Report of the Head of Elections, Licensing and Registration**

**Report to the Licensing Sub Committee**

**Date: 25 October 2016**

**Subject: Certification of Films - The 30<sup>th</sup> Leeds International Film Festival**

Are specific electoral Wards affected? If relevant, name of Ward: City Wide	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Are there implications for equality and diversity and cohesion and integration?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Is the decision eligible for Call-In?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Does the report contain confidential or exempt information? If relevant, Access to Information Procedure Rule number: Appendix number:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

**Executive Summary**

To advise Members of an Application for the certification of films to be shown at the Leeds International Film Festival.

**1.0 Purpose of this report**

1.1 This report informs Members with the background, history and issues of an application made under the Licensing Act 2003 ("the Act") for the certification of films that do not currently have a BBFC (British Board of Film Classification) certification. Finally, this report informs Members of the options available to them when considering an application for the certification of films.

**2.0 Background information**

2.1 The Licensing Act 2003 applies to premises which provide film exhibitions. At present there are a total of 7 cinemas licensed in the Leeds District.

2.2 The majority of films shown in Cinemas will carry a Certificate from the BBFC the categories of which are as follows:

Category 'U' Passed for general exhibition

Category 'PG' Passed for general exhibition but parents/guardians are advised that the film contains materials they might prefer children under fifteen years not to see.

Category `12'	Passed as suitable only for exhibition to persons of twelve years and over. When a programme includes a `12' film, no persons under twelve years can be admitted.
Category `12a'	Passed as suitable for children under the age of 12 if accompanied by an adult.
Category `15'	Passed as suitable only for exhibition to persons of fifteen years and over. when a programme includes a `15' film, no persons under fifteen years can be admitted.
Category `18'	Passed as suitable only for exhibition to adults. When a programme includes an `18; film no persons under the age of eighteen years can be admitted.

2.3 In addition to licensing premises for film exhibitions, the Licensing Authority has a duty under Section 20 of the Licensing Act 2003 to categorise a film which is absent of a Certificate from a film classification body such as the BBFC. The Licensing Authority may also reject or modify a film which has received a Certificate from the BBFC.

### 3.0 Main Issues

3.1 Application has been received from the Leeds International Film Festival office to have a number of films certified by the Licensing Sub Committee.

3.2 Details of the films which require certification including a brief synopsis and a recommended category in line with the BBFC classifications is attached at **Appendix A** for Members information.

3.3 A representative from the Leeds International Film Festival office will attend the hearing to give additional details of the films.

3.4 The films are to be shown at a number of venues throughout the city all of which have the benefit of a Premises licence with the provision of films or will operate under a Temporary Event Notice..

### 4.0 History

4.1 This is an annual request for the Leeds International Film Festival. The initial request of this nature was in 1986.

### 5.0 Implications for council policy and governance

5.1 There are no implications for Council policy and governance in respect of

determining this application.

## **6.0 Legal and resource implications**

6.1 The applicant can appeal any decision made by committee. Any appeal would be to the Magistrates Court.

## **7.0 Recommendations**

7.1 Members are requested to consider this request for the certification of the films as attached hereto.

7.2 Members may take the decision to view any of the films prior to the issue of a certificate

## **8.0 Options available to Members**

The Licensing Authority has a duty to create conditions or restrictions, and does have the authority to categories a film which is absent of a Certificate from the BBFC.

Film Title	Recommended Certification	Description
Action Space	PG	Documentary about a social arts movement in the 70s taking a huge inflatable containing art events to urban areas without galleries.
Ambulance	18	Documentary about an ambulance driver in Gaza during the war in July 2014 with some disturbing reportage style footage of injured people.
Arctic Superstar	15	Documentary about the only Sami language rapper from Arctic Norway - contains some strong language.
Art of Negative Thinking, The	15	Norwegian dark comedy with strong swearing - this film has screened at the film festival before with a 15 rating
As I Open My Eyes	15	Drama set in the months leading up to the Tunisian Revolution about a young woman who sings in a political rock band. Includes some mild violence and sexual references.
Autopsy of Jane Doe, The	18	Supernatural thriller about father and son coroners who uncover inexplicable wounds on a body found at the scene of a massacre. Contains strong horror theme, nudity and surgical procedures

Belladonna of Sadness	18	Japanese animation with violence and nudity, also showing at festivals in Glasgow and Edinburgh where they have been rated 18 also
Bugs	PG	Documentary following three chefs investigating the use of insects for food worldwide.
Cameraperson	15	Collage film by a documentary cinematographer made of outtakes throughout her career including some footage from war zones though no explicit violence.
Can You Dig This?	15	Documentary about ex-convicts in south central LA who are participating in reform schemes based on urban gardening projects. Includes some strong language.
Cassette: A Documentary Mixtape	15	Documentary about audio cassette tapes, their history, recent revival in the digital era and mixtape culture. Includes some strong language.
Certain Women	PG	Drama about the interconnecting lives of three women living in America
Claire in Motion	12A	Drama about a woman struggling with the disappearance of her husband. Moderate language and moderate sexual references

Cord	18	German sci-fi body-horror about the relationship between a scientist who specialises in pleasure devices and a young sex addict. Contains sex scenes, nudity, surgical procedures and strong language
Creepy	18	Japanese drama about a man who infiltrates families and takes them over. Includes strong violence. The film as UK distrubtion but is not yet BBFC rated - it is expected to be an 18
Czech Year, The	U	Czech puppet animation from the 1940s based on year round folk traditions.
Decline of Western Civilisation, The	15	Documentary on early American punk movement. Includes some strong language.
Devil, The	18	Polish historical thriller about a 17th Century murderer - includes strong bloody violence.
Divorce Before Marriage, A	12A	Documentary about the local band ILikeTrains struggling to make it in the music industry and balance with their day jobs.
Dogs	18	Romanian thriller about a man who inherits a remote farm from his grandfather, who he finds out was in organised crime - includes strong bloody violence.
Don't Call Me Son	15	Drama about a teenage boy who finds out he was stolen at birth. Includes some non-explicit sexual scenes
Eggs	15	Norwegian dark comedy with adult themes

Exit Smiling	U	Silent comedy from 1926 about a maid with a travelling theatre group who longs to be an actress.
First, the Last, The	18	Belgian thriller about two hit men involved in a conspiracy who try to leave the business. Includes strong language and violence.
Francesca	18	Italian homage to 70s/80s giallo thrillers about two detectives trying to catch a serial killer. Highly stylised violence with strong theme of threat. Has played several festival in the UK
Fukushima, Mon Amour	15	Drama about a young German woman who goes to work for a relief agency in Fukushima and meets a ex-geisha who lives there. Includes some strong language and sexual references.
Ghostland	PG	Documentary about one of the oldest tribes in Africa travelling to Europe
Happy Film, The	15	Documentary about a designer who tries to design his life to be a happier person. Includes some strong language.
Headshot	18	Martial arts action theme with has been bought for UK distribution but has no BBFC rating yet, we except an 18 rating for its violent fighting content

Hedi		15	Tunisian drama about a young man who escapes a forced marriage. Includes some non-explicit sexual scenes.
Here is Harold		15	Norwegian dark comedy about the kidnapping of the head of IKEA, features strong language and mild violence
Homo Sapiens	U		Experimental film made up of static shots of different areas of urban decay around the world.
I am Not a Serial Killer		15	Psychological drama about a troubled teen who believes his kindly neighbour to be a serial killer. Contains some scenes of violence and strong language but nothing unacceptable at 15
In A Glass Cage		18	A paralysed ex-Nazi war criminal is nursed by a young man who is a former victim out for revenge. Contains strong violence, physical and mental torture. Made in 1986, available in many other countries in Europe and USA, rated R, 18 or equivalent.
Islands and the Whales, The		15	Documentary about the whaling traditions on the Faroe Islands and the problems caused by ocean pollution. Includes some scenes of whale hunting.



Johnny Frank Garrett's Last Word		American supernatural thriller about a wrongfully convicted man who cursed the jury at his trial, only for them to start dying after his execution. 15 15 for its theme and scenes of violence.
Journey Through French Cinema, A	PG	Documentary by veteran French filmmaker Bertrand Tavernier, a personal take on French cinema history.
Kids Police		Japanese comedy about police officers who are turned into children, recommended rating 12 as the film features shooting 12
Kizumonogatari 1 + 2		Japanese animations with horror theme, also rated 15 at other festivals 15
Lady Macbeth		Gothic period drama about a young woman trapped in a marriage of convenience who turns to murder. Some mild violence and non-explicit sex scenes 15
Land Beneath Our Feet, The	12A	Documentary combining archival footage from a 1926 Harvard University expedition to Liberia with the contemporary journey of a young Liberian man, uprooted by war.
Lives of Therese, The	12A	Documentary on Thérèse Clerc, one of France's greatest feminist activists during the last months of her life

Lure, The		18	Surreal Polish anarchic horror comedy musical about two mermaids who join a burlesque club as singers. Contains nudity, violence and depiction of a fantasy surgical procedure. Played Edinburgh Film Fest
Mali Blues		15	Documentary about musicians in Mali rebelling against the Islamic militant government's attempts to ban music.
Man Called Ove, A		15	Swedish dark comedy about an elderly man who keeps trying to commit suicide but his neighbours keep getting in the way, 15 for its adult themes but there is no violent content
Martha & Niki	PG		Documentary about the friendship between two young hip hop dancers
Master Cleanse, The		15	Johnny Galecki from The Big Bang Theory swaps his inner geek for a radical spiritual cleansing programme with unexpected results. Mild violence and threat - could be a 12A but erring side of caution
Mercenary		18	French drama about a teenage rugby star from the South Pacific Islands struggling to make a career in a corrupt business. Includes some strong language and violence.

Mimosas	15	Moroccan drama about 2 drifters who get the job of escorting an Imam's body to the mountain village where he was born. Includes some violent scenes.
Mirrors to Windows: The Artist As Woman	PG	Documentary about ten female artists working across different art forms.
Mister Universo	15	Drama about a young lion tamer who works for an Italian circus and tries to track down an ageing strong man who gave him a lucky charm as a child.
Mother	15	Dark comedy about a mother caring for her son in a coma. Includes some mild violence and non explicit sex scenes.
Mr Gaga	12A	Documentary on Ohad Naharin, renowned choreographer of the Batsheva Dance Company
Noonday Witch, The	15	A Czech psychological drama based on a Slavic legend about the breakdown of a relationship between mother and young daughter, who imagines being stalked by a witch. Contains moderate threat, strong language and mild violence. Played London Film Festival

November	15	Spanish drama about a radical street theatre group in Madrid. Includes some strong language and non-explicit sexual scenes.
Old Czech Legends	U	Czech puppet animation from the 1940s based on ancient folk tales.
Old Stone	18	Chinese drama about a taxi driver who accidentally hits a pedestrian and gets caught in an increasingly absurd web of bureaucracy. Includes some violent scenes.
On the Silver Globe	18	Cult Polish science fiction about a human tribe on the moon in the distant future. Includes some strong violence and sexual scenes.
Paris Tower 13	15	Documentary about a street art exhibition in a tower block in Paris that will be open for a month before demolition. Includes some strong language.
Peelers	18	A bar's owner, patrons and employees must defend themselves against a zombie invasion in this comedy horror from America. Contains strong language, gore and nudity. Screened in Manchester in August
Psychonauts, the Forgotten Children	15	Cult Basque animation about a fictional island that has been disfigured by an industrial accident. Includes some dark and violent scenes.

Quit Staring At My Plate		18	Drama about a young woman finding her identity away from her overbearing family. Includes sex scenes
Raw		18	This film has UK distribution but it is not yet rated by the BBFC, the film has a horror theme and we expect it to receive an 18 rating
Rock the Bells		18	Documentary about a promoter trying to reunite the rappers the Wu Tang Clan for a concert. Includes some strong language.
S1	U		Nature documentary about a nesting swan and her hatching cygnets filmed over several days.
Same Trade as Mozart	U		Documentary made for the BBC in the early 60s about early electronic music.
Scarred Hearts		18	Romanian drama about a young man with spinal tuberculosis in a sanitorium in the 30s and 40s. Includes some sex scenes.
Schneider vs. Bax		18	Dutch comedy thriller about 2 assassins who are hired to kill each other, frequent violent action
Sieranevada		15	Romanian drama about a dysfunctional family getting together in an apartment for a wake for their recently deceased father. Includes some strong language.
Silent Voice, A	12A		Japanese animation about school bullying that

Story of Night	PG	Experimental documentary made up of a series of sequences of scenes shot in city streets at night.
Suntan	18	Drama about a man becoming obsessed with a younger woman during a mid-life crisis. Includes some violence and sex scenes.
They Call Me Jeeg Robot	18	Italian gritty urban superhero story about a criminal who takes on a psychopathic gang boss to protect an innocent girl. Strong language and violence
Those Who Jump	12A	Documentary about African migrants trying to gain entry into Europe from Morocco.
Tomorrow	PG	Documentary profiling all sorts of innovative solutions to environmental problems around the world.
Tonight She Comes	18	A supernatural horror film similar to Evil Dead, a group of college kids are stalked by a mysterious killer in a cabin in the woods. Strong violence, gore and nudity
Tony Conrad: Completely in the Present	12A	Documentary about the experimental artist, filmmaker and musician Tony Conrad.
Two Lovers and a Bear	18	Romantic drama about two young lovers in the Arctic North of Canada. Includes strong language and sex scenes.

Two Trains Runnin'	15	Documentary about Mississippi in the 60s and groups of young white men trying to track down black blues musicians during the height of the civil rights movement.
Void, The	18	A modern homage to 80s monster movies about a cop who gets trapped in a remote hospital where the patients start to mutate into monsters. Strong violence and horror theme. Screening in Sheffield in Oct
Wild	18	Drama about a woman attempting to capture a wolf. Includes sex scenes