

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

**Report to the Licensing Sub Committee**

**Date: 14 October 2013**

**Subject: Certification of Films - Leeds International Film Festival**

Are specific electoral Wards affected?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
If relevant, name of Ward: Chapel Allerton		
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?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
If relevant, Access to Information Procedure Rule number:		
Appendix number:		

**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.

### **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.

## Appendix A

### Leeds International Film Festival 2013: Licensing Notes

The following list is all the feature films showing at this year's festival which do not have a certificate from the British Board of Film Classification as they have not had a full release in this country. All the certification advice below is based on the BBFC guidelines. The festival audience is almost entirely an adult audience and most films are aimed exclusively at adults in theme, even if there is no specific content which would generate an adult certificate. We present a special Young People's Film Festival dedicated exclusively to under 18s at a different time of year.

100 Bloody Acres	Tucker & Dale meets Motel Hell in this Australian comedy about two inept farmers with a dark secret. Contains some bloody violence. Recommended 18
After School Midnighters	A Japanese animated family film about a school hanted by monsters. Recommended PG - screened at Glasgow and Edinburgh animation festivals.
Agony and the Ecstasy of Phil Spector, The	Documentary on the music career and criminal trial of pop producer Phil Spector made for the BBC Arena series and screened on TV a few years ago. Includes occasional mild swearing, recommended cert 12A.
Andy Votel Kleksploitation	Film/music collage performance using material from Polish children's films from the 1980s. No contentious material but aimed at an adult audience, recommended cert 12A.
Antboy	A Danish family comedy about a boy who becomes an ant superhero. Recommended U - screened at Toronto Film Festival.
Antisocial	A cautionary tale about how social networking may bring about the end of the world. Contains strong bloody violence. Recommended 18
Apples of the Golan	Documentary about a village in the Israeli occupied Golan Heights. Has screened at many festivals, no contentious materials but aimed at adults, recommended cert 12A.
Belenggu	A man haunted by murders committed by a giant killer rabbit becomes a suspect himself. Contains moderate violence. Recommended 18
Big Bad Wolves	Incredibly tense thriller from Israel about a suspected child murderer, a dirty cop and a vengeful father. Contains strong themes about child murder and scenes of torture. Recommended 18
Borgman	A Dutch thriller about a family that is persecuted by a mysterious gang of criminals. Recommended 18 - screened at London Film Festival.
Breathing Earth	Documentary about a Japanese artist who builds sculptures out of windmills. No contentious material though made with an adult audience in mind, recommended cert PG.
Brothers Hypnotic	Documentary about 8 brothers who have formed the band The Hypnotic Brass Ensemble. Includes occasional strong language. Recommended Cert 15.

Bucuresti Experiment, The	Documentary about the transition of communism to capitalism in Romania. No contentious content but aimed at an adult audience, recommended cert PG.
Bushido Man	A Japanese martial arts comedy, featuring seven set fights inspired by food. Recommended 18 - screened at Montreal Fantasia Film Festival.
Chimeres	Following an accident and blood transfusion in Romania, Alex may be turning into a vampire. Contains strong scenes of violence and very strong language. Recommended 18
Circles	Serbian war drama about the long term effects of one act of betrayal on a group of different characters - includes some violent, wartime scenes, recommended Cert 15.
Cold Eyes	A Korean action thriller about a detective who has special powers of detection. Recommended 18 - screened at Toronto Film Festival.
Concrete Night	A Finnish coming-of-age drama with some short violent scenes. Recommended 15 - screened at Toronto Film Festival.
Deadlock	German western made in the late 60s - includes some moderate violent scenes of western style gunplay, recommended Cert 15.
Expedition to the End of the World	Documentary on an expedition of a group of different scientists and artists to the melting icecaps of Greenland - no contentious content but aimed at an adult audience, recommended cert 12A.
Fifi Howls from Happiness	Documentary about an Iranian artist who disappeared for years and is tracked down by the filmmaker later in life, includes some moderate swearing, recommended cert 12A.
Final Cut, Ladies and Gentlemen	Collage film experiment using tiny clips from hundreds of films to tell a typical big screen love story. Includes brief scenes of nudity and non-explicit sexual contact, recommended cert 15.
Finding Hillywood	Documentary about a travelling film festival in Rwanda, includes some brief documentary footage of the genocide as shown in news footage at the time, recommended cert 15.
Forest, The	A story of love, betrayal and parallel worlds set during the Spanish Civil War in this Del Toro style epic. Contains mild scenes of violence and threat. Recommended 15.
Fortress	Documentary about a mini communist state on the border of Moldova and the Ukraine - no contentious material but aimed at an adult audience, recommended cert PG.
Frankenstein's Army	A Nazi scientist uses Dr. Frankenstein's journal to create an army of undead super-soldiers. Contains scenes of strong bloody violence and genetic mutations. Recommended 18
Future, The	Italian drama and love story about a relationship between a young woman and a blind, reclusive older man, an ex-B movie actor and wrestler. Includes some nudity and non-explicit sex scenes, recommended cert 15.
Garden of Words + Voices of a Distant Star + HAL	A double bill of short new Japanese animations. Recommended 15 - screened at Glasgow and Edinburgh animation festivals.
Ghost Graduation	The Breakfast Club meets The Sixth Sense in this hugely entertaining comedy about a haunted school. Contains some mild bad language and innuendo. Recommended 12A
Grasp the Nettle	Documentary about land activists in London, communal living

	and the occupy movement, includes some strong language, recommended cert 15.
Grey City	Documentary about graffiti in Sao Paulo and the tensions between those who have become acclaimed artists and the local government trying to curb vandalism. Some strong language, recommended cert 15.
Harlem Street Singer	Documentary about the American folk singer the Reverend Gary Davis and the history of folk blues. no contentious content but aimed at an adult audience, recommended cert PG.
Harmony Lessons	Coming of age drama about bullying and the influences of local criminals on teenagers in a village in Kazakhstan - includes some mild violence and occasional nudity. Recommended cert 15.
Harry Dean Stanton: Partly Fiction	Documentary about the American actor and musician, Harry Dean Stanton - no contentious content but aimed at an adult audience, recommended cert PG.
Here Was Cuba	Documentary about the Cuban missile crisis. No contentious content but aimed at an adult audience, recommended cert PG.
HK: Forbidden Super Hero	A Japanese fantasy comedy about a superhero with a penchant for female lingerie. Recommended 18 - to be released on UK home video.
How We Played the Revolution	Documentary about a Lithuanian rock band and their connection with the independence movement in the 80s and 90s. No contentious content but aimed at an adult audience, recommended cert PG.
Human Scale, The	Documentary about new, people-friendly approaches to architecture and city planning. No contentious content but aimed at an adult audience. Recommended cert PG.
Inhuman Resources	An escaped killer kidnaps six people and forces them to work in his 'office' in this bloody thriller. Contains scenes of strong bloody violence and torture. Recommended 18
Irish Arts Presents: The Films of Thaddeus O'Sullivan	The Irish feature Stella Days, a short film and a talk by an Irish studies lecturer, feature includes some moderate bad language, recommended cert 12A.
Lasting	Polish drama about a first relationship that is threatened by a random act of violence. Includes one scene of moderate violence and non-explicit sex scenes. Recommended cert 15.
Little Fugitive	Low budget 50s drama about a 7 year old boy who goes on the run to Coney Island when his elder brother plays a trick on him. No contentious content, recommended cert U.
Living Dead at the Manchester Morgue	Early zombie classic filmed in Cheshire where experimental pesticides are bringing the dead back to life. BBFC cert 18
Love Eternal	A man obsessed with death preys on suicidal women in this dark but moving love story. Contains images of dead bodies and theme of suicide. Recommended 15
Mistaken for Strangers	Documentary about the rock band The National on tour with the filmmaker as a roadie (and brother of the band's singer) - includes some strong language. Recommended cert 15.
Music is the Weapon	Documentary about the Nigerian rock star and political activist, Fela Kuti - no contentious material but aimed at an adult audience. Recommended cert 12A.

My Afghanistan	Documentary made in Afghanistan shot by ordinary people living in a war zone. Includes some footage of injured people and dead bodies. Recommended cert 15.
My Sweet Pepper Land	Western style drama and love story set in the Turkish/Kurdish borderlands. Includes some moderate violence. Recommended cert 15.
Norte, the End of History	Drama from the Phillipines about a man wrongly imprisoned for murder. Includes strong violence and murder scenes. Recommended cert 18.
Notations	Film/music collage performance using various sources, exact content tbc, though nothing is planned that is controversial. The event is aimed at adults and the recommended cert 15.
Obscure Pleasures	Documentary about the filmmaker and artist Walerian Borowczyk. Includes references and clips of some of his later, controversial films which include nudity and non-explicit sexual scenes. Recommended cert 15.
On Air	Edge-of-your-seat thriller about a DJ trying to stop a serial killer butchering his latest victim live on air. Contains scenes of strong bloody violence and torture. Recommended 18
Our Vinyl Weighs a Ton (This is Stones Throw Records)	Documentary about an LA Hip hop label and the artists involved in its history. Includes some strong language, recommended cert 15.
Painless	In the Spanish Civil War children unable to feel pain are locked up with startling consequences for the future. Contains scenes of moderate violence and threat, some towards children. Recommended 15
Patema Inverted	A Japanese animated feature film about a young heroine. Recommended 15 - screened at Glasgow and Edinburgh animation festivals.
Resurrection of a Bastard	Ronnie, a ruthless and violent gangster, starts to question his existence following a life-changing incident. Contains strong violence and very strong language. Recommended 18
Retrieval, The	Drama set during the American civil war, includes some moderate violence. Recommended cert 15.
Revenge of the Mekons	Documentary about the Leeds rock band The Mekons. Includes some strong language. Recommended cert 15.
Rigor Mortis	Juno Mak revives the hopping vampire mythology in this terrifying tale of black magic. Contains strong bloody violence and scary theme. Recommended 18
Rio 2096: A Story of Love and Fury	An animated fantasy feature film from Brazil, set over five centuries of the country's history. Recommended 15 - screened ay Annecy Film Festival in France.
Savaged	I Spit on Your Grave meets The Crow in this vicious, violent and bloody supernatural revenge thriller. Contains scenes of strong bloody violence, sexual violence and strong language. Recommended 18
Sean Noonan - A Gambler's Hand	Live music/spoken word performance and short film about a man with a gambling problem. Includes some strong language, recommended cert 15.
Secret City	An investigation into the hidden history of economic institutions in the City of London. No contentious content but aimed at an

	adult audience, recommended cert PG.
Sign Painters	Documentary about the craft of sign painting and handcrafted design in America, includes some strong language, recommended cert 15.
Sleepless Nights	Documentary about reconciliation and justice after the civil war in the Lebanon, includes some descriptions of wartime acts of violence and adult themes, recommended cert 15.
So You Wanna Be a Rock'n'Roll Star	Documentary about a 70s pub rock band on tour. No contentious content but showing in a club for over 18s so adult only for that reason.
Soulmate	In a remote cottage a woman recovering from a failed suicide attempt is befriended by its ghostly owner. Contains mild violence and theme of death and suicide. Recommended 15
Steins;Gate the Movie: Loading Area of Déjà vu	A Japanese animated feature film about time-travelling. Recommended 15 - screened at Glasgow and Edinburgh animation festivals.
Strange Colour of Your Body's Tears, The	The directors of Amer return with another hypnotically beautiful, giallo-inspired slasher film. Contains strong bloody violence and sexual imagery. Recommended 18
Strange Little Cat	German domestic drama about a family preparing for a get together. No contentious content, recommended cert PG.
Stuff and Dough	Romanian drama about a young man and two friends taking a delivery of illegal prescription drugs to Bucharest for a local criminal. Includes some moderate violence and strong language, recommended cert 15.
Summer House	Drama about a summer party of young adults on the coast of Sweden. Includes non-explicit sexual scenes and some strong language. Recommended cert 15.
Tax Free Tour, The	Documentary about global corporations ploys to avoid paying tax using tax havens etc, no contentious material though aimed at an adult audience, recommended cert PG.
The Battery	Two mismatched survivors wander America in the aftermath of the zombie apocalypse. Contains some violence. Recommended 15
The Human Condition	A milestone of Japanese cinema from 1959 - 1961, an epic drama about the desperate plight of a young man during World War II. Recommended 15 - released on home video.
They Will Outlive Us All	Slacker friends living in a run down NY apartment block find their home infested by killer cockroaches. Contains moderate violence and strong language. Recommended 15.
Trial on the Road	Wartime drama made in Russia in the early 70s. Includes wartime scenes of moderate violence. Recommended cert 15.
Unplugged	Documentary about folk musicians in Serbia and use of homemade instruments. No contentious content but aimed at an adult audience, recommended cert PG.
Uzumasa Jacopetti	A Japanese surreal fantasy about the frustrations of modern living. Recommended 18 - screened at Montreal Fantasy Film Festival.
Vic + Flo Saw a Bear	Canadian drama about a woman who is released from prison and attempts to go straight but is targeted by a violent enemy. Includes some scenes of violence and strong language.



	Recommended cert 18.
Wavemakers	Documentary about the early electronic instrument, the Ondes Martinot. No contentious content but aimed at an adult audience, recommended cert PG.
William and the Windmill	Documentary about a young African who builds a windmill to power his village in Malawi and whose life changes when he becomes a global celebrity, no contentious content but aimed at an adult audience, recommended cert PG.
Witching & Bitching	Black comedy about a band of thieves who inadvertently hide out in a village of witches. Contains moderate violence and language. Recommended 15
World Not Ours, A	An intimate portrait of three generations of exile in a Lebanon refugee camp. Includes adult themes but no contentious content, recommended cert 12A.
Yesterday Girl	German experimental drama from the 60s about a woman who travels from East to West Germany and whose parents were persecuted by the Nazis. Includes adult themes but no contentious content, recommended cert 12A.