

HARVEST FILM FESTIVAL 2017

A day of films about food, farming, land and the environment and the announcement of the winners of the 2017 Harvest Short Film Competition. Please join us at -

Lower Hewood Farm, Hewood, Chard, TA20 4NR on
Saturday 21st October 2017, 11am - late

FILM PROGRAMME

BARN

11:00 **Rams** Dir. Grimur Hakonarson, 2015, Cert 15 (93 mins)

Rams tells the story of two brothers living in a remote Icelandic farming alley, who haven't spoken in 40 years. They are made to come together in order to save what's dearest to them – their sheep. Rams was screened at the 2015 Cannes Film Festival and awarded the Prix Un Certain Regard. It was screened in the Contemporary World Cinema section of the 2015 Toronto International Film Festival.

14:00 **The Levelling** Dir. Hope Dickson Leach, 2016, Cert 15 (83 mins)

Somerset, October 2014. When Clover Catto (Ellie Kendrick) receives a call telling her that her younger brother Harry (Joe Blakemore) is dead, she must return to her family farm and face the man she hasn't spoken to in years: her father Aubrey (David Troughton). She is shocked to discover her home changed forever by the devastating floods that destroyed the area six months earlier, and Aubrey a tormented shadow of his former self. As she learns what has been going on in her long absence she and her father forge a new understanding, but can it withstand the troubles that they face on the ravaged farm as well as the truth of what drove Harry to take his own life? Hope Dickson Leach's 'quietly overwhelming feature debut addresses grand upheavals (personal, regional, economic) in deceptively understated and fiercely truthful fashion'. (Mark Kermode – Guardian)

15:30 **Q&A with Hope Dickson Leach, director of The Levelling**

16:30 **Arcadia** Dir. Paul Wright 2017 (78 mins)

Arcadia is a powerful new film about our changing relationship with the land, crafted from footage in the British Film Institute National Archive. BAFTA winner Paul Wright (*For Those in Peril*) constructs a beautiful paean to the land, set to a grand, expressive soundtrack by Adrian Utley (Portishead) and Will Gregory (Goldfrapp). Scouring 100 years of footage from the BFI National Archive, Paul Wright constructs an exhilarating study of Britain's shifting - and contradictory - relationship to the land. Wright (*For Those in Peril*) crafts a dense poetic essay of wonder, hope, horror and decay - drawing in inspiration from *The Wicker Man* to *Winstanley*. Through an intoxicating array of material, we follow an unnamed protagonist from the future as she travels through the metaphorical 'seasons'. Wright's captivating film message was conceived before Brexit but it's impossible not to see the film through the prism of it. (Tricia Tuttle)

17:50 **Q&A with Arcadia film-makers including producer Adrian Cooper**

19:00 **HARVEST SHORT FILM COMPETITION SHORTLIST SCREENING**

Announcement of Harvest Short Film Competition Winners

20:30 **Dinner** – chef Claire Wellman from Ilminster's acclaimed vegetarian restaurant, Feast with guest chef Guy Foll cooking Lower Hewood Farm organic pork.

STABLE

11:00 Thank You For the Rain Dir. Julia Dahr (90 mins) 2017

Five years ago Kisilu, a Kenyan farmer, started to use his camera to capture the life of his family, his village and the damages of climate change. When a violent storm throws him and a Norwegian filmmaker together we see him transform from a father, to a community leader and activist on the global stage.

12:45 100 Miles and 2 Mouths Dir. Holly Black 2015 (23 mins)

In the summer of 2015 Holly Black and Jo Barker decided to only eat food from within 100 miles of their home city Bristol for an entire year, to find out what it truly means to eat local. See if they made it...

13.30 Far From The Madding Crowd Dir. John Schlesinger 1967 (93 mins) Cert PG

Bathsheba Everdene, a willful, flirtatious young woman, unexpectedly inherits a large farm and is romantically pursued by three very different men. Starring Julie Christie, Peter Finch and Alan Bates.

15.30 Killer of Sheep Dir. Charles Burnett 1975 (80 mins) Cert 15

Set in the Watts area of Los Angeles, a slaughterhouse worker must suspend his emotions to continue working at job he finds repugnant, and then he finds he has little sensitivity for the family he works so hard to support. The film was chosen by the National Society of Film Critics as one of the 100 Essential Films. In 1990, *Killer of Sheep* was selected for preservation in the United States National Film Registry by the Library of Congress for being culturally, historically and aesthetically significant. In 2015 the BBC named the film as the 26th greatest American movie ever made.

17.00 Foreign Pickers Dir. Kathrin Böhm and Sue Giovanni (23 mins)

The film offers an insight into the culture and economics of 'going picking', bringing together former hop pickers 'who went down to Kent' from East London and today's pickers who come there and are both key to British agricultural success. They share the experience of being so-called foreigners in the Kent countryside: East Londoners and current 'foreigners', often EU citizens from eastern Europe, who come to Kent as seasonal agricultural workers. Both groups of pickers are and have been essential to British agriculture, providing the en masse low-cost manual labour necessary to pick certain crops and fruits. Kathrin Böhm is a London-based artist with a long-standing interest in the collaborative making and extending of public spaces through collective production and distribution within both urban and rural situations.

FARMHOUSE LIBRARY

11:00 Short film showreel

To be looped all day in the farmhouse library. This showreel of short films, all under 15 minutes each is an exuberant and varied selection of work from all over the world, including drama, documentary, experimental film and animation. Each film touches on some aspect of food, farming, land and the environment. The showreel is approximately 2 hours long.