

## **BRITISH DOCUMENTARY Film Screenings 2011 – 2<sup>nd</sup> edition**

### **1) EXIT THROUGH THE GIFT SHOP** by Banksy

Exit Through The Gift Shop traces an eccentric French shop owner's efforts to locate and befriend Banksy, only to have the artist turn the camera back on its owner with spectacular results. An incendiary true story of low-level criminality, companionship and incompetence.

Runtime: 86 minutes

### **2) REQUIEM FOR DETROIT** by Julien Temple

This film evokes an apocalyptic vision. Once America's fourth largest city, Detroit was built by the car for the car, with the first freeways, suburbs, and shopping centres, it embodied the American dream. Now it's a dystopian city.

Greenery grows through ruined office blocks and car plants. Crime and arson are rife. But there's hope. Streets are being turned to art. Farming is returning to the city. Is this the future for post-industrial cities?

Runtime: 75 minutes

### **3) WELCOME TO LAGOS** (Episode 3) by Gavin Searle and Frankie Fathers

"Welcome to Lagos" is an observational documentary series shot in the slums of Lagos, the fastest growing megacity in the world. Now that more than 50% of the world's population live in cities, this series explores what life is like for people at the bottom of the urban pile. It uncovers extraordinary resourcefulness, resilience and humour in the midst of some of the most extreme living conditions imaginable.

Runtime: 60 minutes

### **4) DAVID HOCKNEY: A BIGGER PICTURE** by Bruno Wollheim

Shot single-handedly over three years, this unprecedented record of a major artist at work captures David Hockney's return from California to paint the East Yorkshire landscape of his childhood. It follows Hockney's efforts to disengage from

photography and find renewal by working for the first time outside, through the seasons and in all weathers. It is at once the inspiring story of a homecoming, an examination of the creative process and a revealing portrait of what motivates a world-famous artist as time runs out.

Runtime: 54 minutes

**5) WONDERS OF THE SOLAR SYSTEM: EMPIRE OF THE SUN** by Gideon Bradshaw

In this spell-binding episode, Professor Brian Cox visits some of the most stunning locations on Earth to describe our intimate connection with the powerhouse of them all, the Sun. In India he witnesses a total solar eclipse, in Norway he watches the Northern Lights as the night sky glows with the Sun's energy. Beyond Earth, Brian makes contact with NASA's Voyager probe and he glimpses the Sun's far distant fate as a red giant star.

Runtime 59 minutes

**6) THE TRIALS OF J ROBERT OPPENHEIMER** by David Grubin

This film tells the extraordinary story of the rise and fall of Robert Oppenheimer. Narrated by Zoe Wanamaker, whose own father experienced the virulent anti-communism of McCarthyism first-hand, the film expertly weaves Oppenheimer's biography with the dramatic events of his trial, and its tragic aftermath. Emotional and compelling, it's a film that, in a time when non-proliferation is firmly back on the agenda, tells us a lot about the perils of mixing science and government.

Runtime: 89 minutes

**7) ONLY WHEN I DANCE** by Beadie Finzi

This film follows a year in the life of Isabela and Irlan, two aspiring ballet dancers who engage daily in a clash between two worlds: rich and poor, black and white. Steeped in the history of the wealthy white elite, many feel that the likes of Irlan Santos da Silva and Isabela Cracy, two black kids from poor backgrounds, do not belong. Despite the constant prejudice and doubt, both are determined to follow their ambitions.

Runtime: 84 minutes

**8) ENEMIES OF THE PEOPLE** by Rob Lemkin

The Khmer Rouge slaughtered nearly two million people in the late 1970s. Yet the Killing Fields of Cambodia remain unexplained. Until now. Enter Thet Sambath, an unassuming, yet cunning, investigative journalist who spends a decade gaining the trust of the men and women who perpetrated the massacres. Sambath obtains ground-breaking and shocking testimony never before seen or heard. For the first time, we come to understand the real story of Cambodia's tragedy.

Runtime: 94 minutes

**9) MOVING TO MARS** by Mat Whitecross – Grierson Award for Best Documentary on a Contemporary Issue 2011

Moving to Mars charts the epic journey made by two Burmese families from a vast refugee camp on the Thai/Burma border to their new homes in the UK. At times hilarious, at times emotional, their travels provide fascinating and unique insight not only into the effects of migration, but also into one of the most important current political crises - Burma.

Runtime: 83 minutes

**10) SOUNDTRACK FOR A REVOLUTION** by Bill Guttentag and Dan Sturman

This documentary traces the story of the Civil Rights Movement and the struggles fought by young African-American activists with an emphasis on the power of music in changing deeply rooted mentalities and redefining the world.

Runtime: 82 minutes