

ffilm CYMRU WALES PRESENTS

LAUNCHPAD

27-11-2019

CHAPTER ARTS
CARDIFF

Photo: Siôn Marshall-Waters

S4C



THE NATIONAL LOTTERY



NETWORK



Creative
Europe
Desk UK
Wales



Cyngor Celfyddydau Cymru
Arts Council of Wales



Theatr
Genedlaethol
Cymru



BBC

cymru
wales

SCHEDULE

CINEMA ONE

FIRST SPACE

10:00

Introduction
with Ameer Rana

10:30

Conversation: Inclusive Casting
Mali Ann Rees, Carli De'La Hughes, Pinar Ogun, Aisha Bywaters.
Chaired by Gwenfair Hawkins

11:30

Rehearsed Readings
Y Brain/Kargalar
Pinar Ogun (theatre, CYM/TUR)
Performers: Pinar Ogun, Mali Ann Rees

Rehearsed Readings

Footsteps in a Foreign Land
Danielle Fahiya (theatre, ENG)
Performers: Dean Rehman & Lisa Zahra Jouzdani

12:30

Lunch

13:30

Masterclass: Creating Across Art Forms
with Kyle Legall

Masterclass: Introduction to Screenwriting
with Ray Grewal

14:45

Masterclass: Pitching to Commissioners
with Rachelle Constant, Lisa Walters

Masterclass: Documentary
with Florence Ayisi

15:45

Break

16:00

Panel: Reaching Your Audience
Toki Allison (Film Hub Wales)
John Giwa-Amu (Red and Black Films)
Fadhili Maghiya (Watch Africa)
Abdul Shayek (Fio)
Chaired by Catrin Cooper

17:00

Networking
in Cinema Foyer and Media point

GUEST SPEAKERS

TOKI ALLISON

Toki works on the Inclusive Cinema project, led by Film Hub Wales, in collaboration with all the UK film hubs to support a more inclusive approach to building audiences. She launched inclusivecinema.org in 2018, a digital resource collating a wealth of resources, case studies and data around marginalised groups, which aims to help exhibitors in diversifying their audiences. She works on campaigns driving better access to cinema for audiences living with dementia, neurodiversity, as well as Disabled, BAMER, LGBTQ+, and poorer audiences, and fundraises and advocates for access for all. She freelances in cinema and arts programming and audience development, as well as consulting on equality, diversity and inclusion.



FLORENCE AYISI

Florence Ayisi was born in Cameroon. She is professor of International Documentary Film at the Faculty of Creative Industries, University of South Wales. She teaches diverse aspects of film theory and history, and documentary film practice. Florence is also an award-winning documentary filmmaker, whose main vision is to decolonise the image of Africa from Pan-African and woman-centred perspectives; by offering rare images, discerning insights and stories where African subjects have agency and voice. She has made several documentary films in Cameroon and Tanzania including *Sisters in Law* (co-directed with Kim Longinotto, 2005) - this film has won over 30 prestigious film awards, and it was long-listed for an Academy Award nomination (Oscars) in 2006. Her other documentary films include *Zanzibar Soccer Queens* (2007), *My Mother: Isange* (2007), *Art of this Place: Women Artists in Cameroon* (2011), *Cameroonian Women in Motion* (2012), *Handing Down Time - Cameroon* (2012), Her 2016 follow-up documentary film, *Zanzibar Soccer Dreams* (co-directed with Catalin Brylla) was shortlisted for the prestigious Research in Film Awards by AHRC Arts and Humanities Research Council in 2017. Her recent feature documentary film, *Marie-Madeleine: A Female Chief* (2018), has been selected and programmed in over 15 film festivals in 8 countries including Kenya, South Africa, Zimbabwe, Rwanda, USA, Nigeria, United Kingdom, Greece and Ireland. Florence was presented with the ICON Award at the 2018 Africa Week, University of West of England, Bristol. The award recognises the "exceptional contributions by individuals in promoting Pan-Africanism on a personal, national and global scale." Her documentary film practice is central to her research activities, which contribute to the thriving research culture of the Faculty of Creative Industries.



AISHA BYWATERS

Aisha Bywaters started working in casting in 2007. Aisha worked for Shaheen Baig for 6 years, she assisted Shaheen on numerous projects including *THE IMPOSSIBLE*, *STARRED UP*, *JUST JIM*, *BLACK MIRROR* and *PEAKY BLINDERS*. In 2015 she set up her own company, her credits as a casting director include *CYBERBULLY* (starring Maisie Williams), *THE WATCHMEN* (starring Stephen Graham) and *ENTERPRICE* (written by and starring Kayode Ewumi) for TV. Her film credits include *MARI* (which premiered at the London Film Festival 2018), *DIRTY GOD* and *THE LAST TREE* (which both premiered at the Sundance Film Festival 2019). Her upcoming projects include feature film *COUNTY LINES* (which premiered at the London Film Festival 2019).



GUEST SPEAKERS

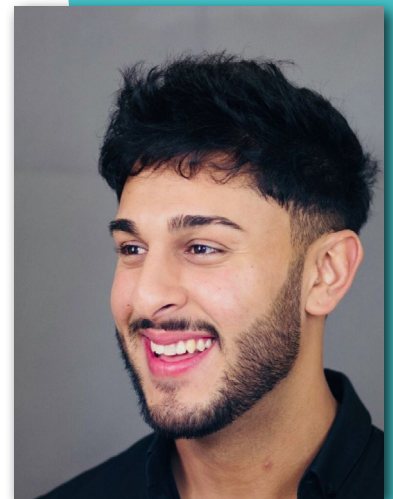
RACHELLE CONSTANT

Rachelle started her career as a Script Editor on ITV1's LEWIS and Agatha Christie's series MISS MARPLE and POIROT before joining the BBC where she worked as a development producer across drama. She also executive produced Harry Lighton's WREN BOYS which went on to be BIFA and BAFTA nominated. Rachelle also produced two series of THE BREAK for BBC Three and was one of the producers to receive a BFI Vision Award. More recently, she was associate producer on Amazon's new sci-fi series, THE FEED. She joined Clerkenwell Films earlier this year to develop projects across their slate.



AMEER RHYS DAVIES-RANA

Ameer Rhys Davies-Rana is a multi-talented young presenter who speaks 4 Languages: Welsh, English, Urdu and French. He made his S4C debut on 'Hansh' in 2017 with 'Sgrameer', a series of Welsh comedic shorts. The popularity of these led to a series of 15 episodes, over half a million views online and resulted in a TV slot on S4C on Thursday and Saturday night. He has presented many corporate pieces for Global Media and has voiced several campaigns for Heart and Capital FM. He has also co-hosted with the likes of Carol Vorderman on BBC Radio Wales on a Saturday afternoon. He has directed, presented and produced corporate videos for brands and businesses, such as 'Mario's Ice Cream', the top ice cream producer in Wales. Ameer has also recently been involved in Organ Donations Wales' campaign, ran by Golley Slater. Ameer can also often be seen touring and presenting around the UK, hosting talks on the Welsh language and his recent rediscovery of his family roots, and their belief in Islam.



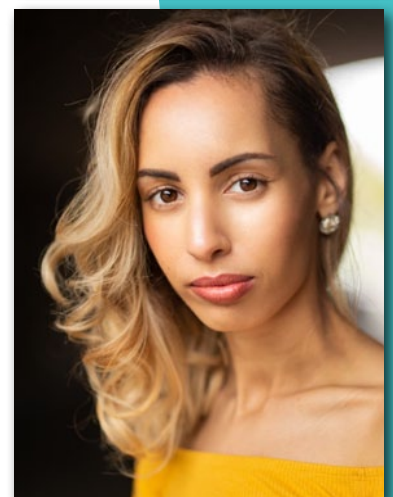
CARLI DE'LA HUGHES

Carli De'La Hughes trained at the Royal Welsh College of Music and Drama. Her onscreen credits include Emmerdale (ITV), Stella (Sky One), 2 DY A NI (S4C), Ordinary Lies and Hinterland (BBC). She played Vicky Collins in S4C soap Pobol y Cwm, and has starred in feature film Red Mist which is in post-production. Currently, Carli is working on a five-part fantasy drama on CBBC and BBC Wales, which is an adaptation of book trilogy The Snow Spider by Jenny Nimmo. She is represented by Mark Jermin Management.



DANIELLE FAHIYA

Danielle Fahiya is a professional actress and writer from Cardiff. Based between Cardiff and London she is of Jordanian, German, Welsh and Somali descent. In between her acting and writing, Danielle completed a BA Hons degree in Modern History and Politics from Cardiff Metropolitan University. Her passion for arts, multiculturalism and politics all feature in Danielle's migrant play 'Footsteps in a Foreign Land', based on her family history. It's was developed in Sept 2019 with Dirty Protest Theatre and Chapter Arts Centre Cardiff; funded by Arts Council Wales. This will then be taken to full production and tour late 2020/early 2021. Danielle has been working with BBC Sesh – the BBC Wales social media site – as a Presenter, Writer and Content Creator since July 2018, highlighting issues such as body shaming, labelling, single parenting and multiculturalism. Danielle debuted at Edinburgh Fringe Festival in 2019 with her short play 'HOT MESS' supported by Dirty Protest Theatre at Roundabout in Summerhall. Since 2018 Danielle has undertaken research with ethnic groups from the Somali, Arab and Asian communities in Cardiff to find out more about their journeys as migrants to Wales; a project funded by Arts Council Wales for her playwriting and documentary plans.



GUEST SPEAKERS

JOHN GIWA-AMU

John Giwa-Amu runs production, distribution and financing company Red and Black Films with writer/director Caradog James. John produced the company's first feature, *Little White Lies*, which won two BAFTA Cymru Awards and was BIFA nominated. His follow up feature, sci-fi cult hit *The Machine*, was selected from over 6,000 films to premier in Tribeca and won three BAFTAs Cymru including Best Picture, a BIFA and the Screen Award for UK distribution also managed by John. The film was commissioned to be made into a TV Pilot by NBC Universal/SyFy which John Executive Produced in 2017. Brit List winning screenplay *The Call Up* premiered at BIFF 2016 and is released in cinemas by Altitude. Co Production, *The Silent Storm*, starring Damien Lewis and Andrea Riseborough was also released in cinemas in May 2016 by Sony. *Don't Knock Twice*, by director Caradog James, has been sold internationally by Kew Media and was released in the UK by Red and Black Distribution and Kew Media during spring 2017 - the film generated almost \$4m at the international box office. *The Party*, written and directed by Sally Potter stars Cillian Murphy, Timothy Spall, Kristen Scott Thomas and Bruno Ganz - it won the Guild Prize at Berlin 2017, a BIFA for Patricia Clarkson and has grossed \$3.5m theatrically winning Evening Standard Awards for best screenplay and leading actress in Feb 2018. John has won the BBC talent Award, has been honoured as a Breakthrough Brit and a Future Leader by Screen International. He sits on the board of Film Cymru Wales, Welsh Government's Media Investment Budget and graduated from the globally acclaimed international film/media business initiative, Inside Pictures. Red and Black Films has close affiliations with William Morris Endeavour and LA management company Circle of Confusion. The company is in development on a varied range of genres in feature film, games, interactive and high end scripted television with slate deals running across Ingenious and Great Point Media. The company is based in Wales' capital city, Cardiff.



RAY GREWAL

Ray is an award-winning writer: the Meyer-Whitworth Award for 'My Dad's Corner Shop'. He has worked in film, television, radio and theatre. He has developed projects with writers such as Jeremy Brock and producers including Robin Gutch at WarpX. He has created original one-off dramas for television as well as working on established series. He was also part of a team of writers who created a late-night series for Channel 4 and his Radio 4/World Service dramas were recorded in Mumbai with a cast of Bollywood stars. Ray has worked as a Production and Development Executive at Creative England on a slate of short films and features. He was also an assessor and script editor on the iShorts, iShorts: Funny Girls, iFeatures and ShortFLIX schemes. He has script edited 'Casualty' for BBC1 and various projects in development for CBBC including the BAFTA nominated 'Worst Witch'. At the BBC's Writersroom he helped shortlist scripts for various competitions and recommending writers to the development team. As an educator, Ray has run writing workshops at the New Renaissance Film Festival in London, at the ShortFLIX event in Birmingham, for Creative England in Manchester and for the Northern Film Hub in Leeds. He has lectured in screenwriting at Regent's University, Central Saint Martin's, Bournemouth University and was a script consultant at the London Film School.



GUEST SPEAKERS

LISA ZAHRA JOUZDANI

Lisa trained at the RWCMD and is originally from Swansea. Lisa is Welsh /Persian, brought up in Swansea, to a Welsh mum and Iranian dad. Lisa loves coming home to Wales, when home she spends most of her free time in the Gower, you will find her in the sea in any weather. Her most recent credits include Macbeth for the National Theatre & The Kite Runner, West End. Other credits include: TV/Film & Radio includes :Bateaux Embroidering The Truth , BBC 4 Home Fire, BBC 4 We are displaced, BBC 4 Nobody Girl (Tornado Studios) REQUIEM (BBC/Netflix)Twelfth Night (ISC Films) 50 ways to kill your lover (Sky).



KYLE LEGALL

Kyle's artistry has expanded into several genres from writing and directing for animation, filmmaking, theatre and graffiti murals, as well as designing and making his own graffiti clothing line. Kyle has written, directed, designed and animated four 2D short films for Channel 4 and S4C. He also makes music videos and cover art for local bands. In 2015, Kyle became the first artist in residence for National Theatre Wales. As an emerging director in 2018/19, he worked on productions of Storm 1, 2 & 3, collaborating with theatre directors Mike Brooks and Mike Pearson. He is now a panel member for the organisation and continues to facilitate workshops with many different communities, artists, performers and practitioners, involving performance, making music, creative writing and creating scenery. In 2017, Kyle wrote, designed and directed his own play "R.A.T.S (Rose Against the System)", which was staged in the roof void at the Wales Millennium Centre. He has also actively contributed to multi-platform artworks for an exhibition that explores the legacy of the Cardiff 1919 race riots.



FADHILI MAGHIYA

Fadhili is the Founder and Director of Watch-Africa Cymru: Wales' African Film Festival. Having started the festival in 2013, it has grown to become one of the leading festival in Wales focusing on African cinema. With a background in Social Sciences and Human Rights, Fadhili has worked for various NGOs as well as the UN tribunal for Rwanda (UNICTR) before relocating to Cardiff in 2013 to become the Director for the Sub-Sahara Advisory Panel (SSAP), a network of African communities in Wales working in international development. At SSAP, Fadhili manages a team working on local and international projects (mainly in Sub-Saharan Africa). Connecting the creative industry and international development, the festival has become one of the main tools as to contribute and foster cultural exchange, and socially engaged practice between artists, community groups, and members of the public in Wales, Africa and beyond. The festival has now developed a production arm to it with distribution to follow. Fadhili has done consultancy work for British Council Wales; Film Hub Wales and NGOs working across Africa. Other than running Watch-Africa, Fadhili is an Arts Associate for Arts Council Wales and RSA Fellow. A keen runner, footballer and enjoys a healthy debate!



GUEST SPEAKERS

PINAR OGUN

Born and raised in Turkey, Pinar Ogun, began her career as an actress in the feature film 'Borrowed Bride' directed by one of Turkey's most renowned directors Atif Yilmaz, while she was training at Music and Performing Arts Faculty of Bilkent University in Ankara. In 2006, she moved to London to continue her acting training at LAMDA (London Academy of Music and Dramatic Arts). During her stay in the UK, she worked with Robert Pacitti in his live art piece 'The Finale', portrayed the real life of Yvonne Blanc in Charlotte Delbo's play 'Who Will Carry The Word' and played the lead in David Edgar's 'Pentecost'. She took part in the feature film 'Closed Circuit' directed by John Crowley. In Turkey, she starred in the real life story of a famous professor, Turkan Saylan, who cured leprosy in Turkey. She took the stage as the lead role in the musical play Mi Minor written by Meltem Arikian, which the Turkish authorities claimed was a rehearsal for the Istanbul Gezi Park demonstrations in 2013. The subsequent hate campaign forced her to leave Turkey to start living in Wales. Since settling in the UK, Pinar has been active as an actress both in Cardiff and London. She took the stage in Crowds and Power at Sherman Theatre directed by Phillip Mackenzie, and in London Arcola Theatre directed by Chris White playing various characters in Scenes from 68 Years, as well as taking part in 'New Tricks' on BBC One directed by Brian Grant and in a Mini TV series, 'Partners in Crime', directed by Ed Hall. A Turkish dentist, Meral Alpay, in first season of Welsh production on S4C named "Un Bore Mercher" directed by Pip Brighton & Andy Newbery speaking in Welsh. Pinar founded Be Aware Productions in 2015 and with the company she directed her debut short film entitled "Exhibit" which has been selected for Cannes 2016 Short Film Corner, followed by 14 nominations from 14 different festivals from various countries. Be Aware Productions also produced a live performance entitled "Enough is Enough". This gritty feminist gig-theatre toured across Wales to 21 different venues and as the member of creative team Pinar was also one of the performers in the production. Following this intense tour the company launched their second performance Y Brain- Kargalar exploring belonging and displacement half in Turkish half in Welsh with support from Arts Council of Wales. Pinar is currently learning Welsh and also performing in Welsh in Theatr Genedlaethol Cymru's new production of Bertolt Brecht's Caucasian Chalk Circle.



MALI ANN REES

Mali is a bilingual Cardiff born actress, trained at East 15 Acting School. Since graduating in summer 2017 Mali has worked on numerous television and theatre productions. Mali debuted her acting career as Ffion in Severn Screens BBC/S4C Bilingual Crime Drama Hidden/Craith. She has since been in several TV productions including Merched Parchus on S4C where she played Siriol and she is currently starring in the second series of Tourist Trap as Kara on BBC One Wales. Recently Mali has been filming Soft Border Patrol for BBC Northern Ireland and O'r Diwedd for S4C. Mali's theatre credits include Hudo/Tempted with Arad Goch, Penblwydd Poenus Pete with Theatr Iolo, Worlds Apart in War with Theatre Clwyd, The Populars with Volcano Theatre and Y Cylch Sialc with Theatr Genedlaethol Cymru. Mali will be performing in a live recording of BBC Radio Wales new comedy sketch show Welcome Strangers, her other radio work includes Zoe Blake in Torchwood with Big Finish Productions and Lisa in The Entity for BBC New Creatives.



GUEST SPEAKERS

DEAN REHMAN

Dean Rehman is an actor from Cardiff. He trained at the Stella Alder Conservatory in New York. Dean is Welsh/Yemeni, raised in Cardiff, to a Welsh Mum and Yemeni Father. His most recent credits include: Short Film 'Ambition' with Simon Russell Beale and the soon to be released feature, 'The Toll' with Iwan Rheon and Julian Glover. Earlier this month Dean played the lead role in Depot Cardiff's immersive production inspired by Peaky Blinders, 'By Order Of', which played to sell out audiences of 500 people a night.



ABDUL SHAYEK

Abdul is a Theatre Director and Artistic Director of Fio. Fio makes fearless theatre: work that tears down stereotypes and challenges injustice. Abdul has directed all of Fio's productions to date from 'Swarm', a site specific show about migration to Katori Hall's 'The Mountaintop' @ The Other Room to critical acclaim, to most recently directing 'Death and the Maiden' by Ariel Dorfman and adapting for stage 'Orchard of Lost Souls' a novel by Nadifa Mohammed about the Somali civil war. Much of his work explores big political issues on a local level using theatre as a tool and instigating social change through this work. Outside of Fio, Abdul recently worked with ENO on 'Orpheus in the Underworld' and will be working on a new opera called 'Migrations' as associate director with WNO. He also worked on Channel 4's 'Superkids' as associate director, a show about the care system with Lemn Sissay. He is former Creative Associate for National Theatre Wales and has worked with a range of organisations including Contact Theatre, Theatre Royal Stratford East and The Almeida and various international organisations and projects. He is a visiting lecturer at the University of East London and has guest lectured at various other institutions. He is a member of British Council's Arts and Creative Economy steering group and was Vice Chair of Youth Arts Network Cymru. Abdul is a Clore Cultural Leadership Fellow (2013-14) and sits on the steering group of the National Alliance for Arts in the Criminal Justice System.



LISA WALTERS

Lisa Walters was Channel 4 Drama's Development Executive for several years working on shows like the award winning "Ellen" and responsible for various new writing initiatives such as 4Screenwriting and the Channel 4 Playwright scheme. As C4 Drama's conduit for new writing and directing talent she also helped to create a new initiative called 4Stories giving writers and directors the opportunity to make a short film for television as part of 3 part anthology series On The Edge, for Channel 4. Lisa was seconded to produce the first series of On The Edge (which received 2 Bafta and 3 Bafta Cymru nominations, including best drama) and officially joined Banijay backed BlackLight TV in 2019 to produce the second. She's currently preparing for series 3 and in the midst of selecting new talent to make 3 new bold and exciting films for Channel 4.

