

LONDON
ARCHIVE
FILM
FESTIVAL
2012

THE LONDON ARCHIVE FILM FESTIVAL, 3-5 MAY 2012, THE LONDON TRANSPORT MUSEUM THEATRE, THE PIAZZA, COVENT GARDEN, LONDON WC2E 7BB

The London Archive Film Festival aims to showcase international archive-based documentary and short productions, some of which never get a showing in the UK. Many films will be accompanied by a question and answer session with the director.

A must-see event for anybody interested in contemporary creative media that relies on archival footage as a narrative vehicle, the Festival is organised in association with archive industry organisation, FOCAL International, whose annual award ceremony celebrates the very best in archive-based productions. Tickets available at www.theticketsellers.co.uk at £10 each.

Legendary documentary maker, Roger Graef, launches the Festival which kicks off with the phenomenally successful, *SENNA*, a rare example of a film that is entirely made up of archival footage. (Q and A details tbc)

This year's Festival includes *CINEMA KOMUNISTO* (Mila Turajlic, 2010) a documentary exploring the history of Yugoslav cinema and winner of Best Use of Footage in an Arts Production in 2011. Using rare footage from dozens of forgotten Yugoslav films, plus never-seen-before archive from film sets and Tito's private screenings, the documentary recreates the narrative of a country, the stories told on screen and the ones hidden behind it. (Q and A with Mila Turajlic)

Nominated in the Best Use of Archive in a Factual Production 2012, *LOST & FOUND: NAZI WOLFRAMITE*, is a film out of Portugal directed by Amelia Moura Ramos. It is the extraordinary story of wolframite (tungsten) mining during the Second World War in rural Portugal when the mineral was realising record sums.

From the Netherlands, Karel Doing presents *LIQUIDATOR*, a short film that defies categorization; is it restoration or art? Karel based his project on a nitrate print of a 1922 film about Haarlem by Dutch film pioneer, Willy Mullens, which had deteriorated to the point that many of the original images had faded but the process had revealed stunning visual effects. (Q and A with Karel Doing)

THE BOY WHO WAS A KING is a Bulgarian production in which past haunts present, fact meets fiction and myth rivals reality to tell the fascinating story of Simeon Saxe-Coburg-Gotha. Terrific archival footage tells the remarkable life story of the former Bulgarian boy-king-turned-PM, from his exile as a boy-king through his glorious return as a republican politician to his fall from grace in one of the greatest experiments of democracy today. (Q and A with Martichka Bozhilova)

On Saturday, 5 May, Paul Bell, Archive Producer on *SENNA*, leads a workshop at The London Film School on his work on the most successful British documentary ever made. He is joined by Mira Turajlic, director of *CINEMA KOMUNISTO*, and Karel Doing, director of *LIQUIDATOR*. Tickets £10 available from www.theticketsellers.co.uk. Only 30 seats available.

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