

Edinburgh International Film Festival – EIFF – ends with hope for the future

The Edinburgh International Festival (EIFF) has just ended after a smaller event with just 94 events – 75 cinema screenings, 10 outdoor screenings and 5 discussion events as well as a swathe of industry events.

The total audience over the several days was 10,277, with 71% of the cinema screenings sold out.

The EIFF was run by the Edinburgh International Festival from 18 to 23 August and feedback from industry guests praised the EIFF as a place to “gather, share ideas and champion the spirit of independent cinema with well attended events”.

The Festival kicked off on 18 August with [Silent Roar](#), a film that puts Scottish culture at the heart of a wave of new independent filmmaking whilst Closing Night film *Fremont* capped off an international selection that included work from celebrated arthouse directors Kelly Reichardt, Ira Sachs, Cauleen Smith, and Christian Petzold, and showcased work from Argentina, Brazil, China, Denmark, France, Germany, Hong Kong, India, Japan, South Korea, and the United States.

Every film screening was introduced by a member of the

programme team, and BSL interpretation was offered at all screenings that were presented with Descriptive Subtitles. The Festival welcomed over 75 guests to present their films.

Filmmakers and actors attending the festival included: Johnny Barrington, Theo Barrowclough, Louise Brealey, Hope Dickson Leach, Jeanie Finlay, Sam H. Freeman, Ella Glendining, Bette Gordon, Wendy Griffin, Rodger Griffiths, David Hayman, Mark Herbert, Paul Higgins, Ella Lily Hyland, Babak Jalali, Ian Jefferies, Fran Rubel Kuzui, Huw Lemmey, Karoline Lyngbye, Lorn Macdonald, Devashish Makhija, Louis McCartney, Shane Meadows, Ng Choon Ping, Julia Parks, Henry Pettigrew, Daniel Portman, Janis Pugh, Charlotte Regan, Calum Ross, Ira Sachs, Annabel Scholey, Thomas Schubert, Nathan Stewart-Jarrett, Brian Vernel, Irvine Welsh, Chris Young, and Paris Zarcilla.

Kate Taylor, Programme Director for Edinburgh International Film Festival said: "This year's film festival has shown that there is an unquenchable appetite in this city for independent and international cinema. We have been so delighted and moved by the conversations that have taken place between filmmakers and audiences, and the warmth with which people have engaged with the programme. I am beyond proud to have worked alongside the EIFF team who, since March, have worked with great passion and speed to deliver something special, and we all hope that the event's success offers a beacon for a brighter future for EIFF and film culture in the city."

EIFF is supported by Screen Scotland, and enhanced engagement activities are supported by the Scottish Government's Festivals Expo Fund alongside the PLaCE Programme (a partnership between the Scottish Government, City of Edinburgh Council and the Edinburgh Festivals).



Edinburgh. Scotland. UK. 20th August 2023.
PC Chuck Chuck Baby at Everyjman in Edinburgh

Picture: Pako Mera







