



University
of Glasgow

GRAMNet FIIM SERIES

2017/18
SCREENINGS BROCHURE

PROGRAMME

11 OCT	CONSTANCE ON THE EDGE	FILM SERIES LAUNCH
8 NOV	WALLAH – JE TE JURE	INTERNATIONAL DAY OF TOLERANCE
13 DEC	WIGILIA THE HIDE SCOTLAND'S MEMOIR	INTERNATIONAL MIGRANTS DAY
24 JAN	A HOLE IN THE HEAD	HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL DAY
7 FEB	HONEY AT THE TOP	WORLD DAY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE
14 MAR	BOLINGO, THE FOREST OF LOVE	INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY
18 APR	BROKEN WORD, BROKEN WORLD	ENGLISH LANGUAGE DAY
16 MAY	SALT OF THIS SEA	NAKBA DAY
20 JUN	69 MINUTES OF 86 DAYS	WORLD REFUGEE DAY

What role can films representing migration and asylum issues play today as we continue to bear witness to the European political crisis regarding people and borders? In the last few years we have seen a proliferation of documentary and feature films on the subject, alongside the renewed attention to refugee matters. Such a surge in film production around refugee experiences not only makes selecting films for the GRAMNet / BEMIS film series much more difficult, it also brings important ethical issues of filmmaking to the foreground. It is for this reason that we try as much as possible to have post-show discussions to reflect upon the films and take advantage of that generative and discursive space that emerges from watching films together as a community.

The films we have selected this year come from all over the world, including Australia, Czech Republic, Palestine, Norway and Scotland with an especially strong component of the series coming from the African continent. One film depicts the stories of women making the perilous and heroic journey from sub-Saharan Africa to Europe, another celebrates creativity and diversity in Ghana, and another explores the situation of indigenous peoples being evicted from their ancestral lands in the name of conservation.

As usual the series also showcases a mix of filmic devices and dramatic styles: one, a Scottish short with no dialogue whatsoever; another one in which animation depicts horrors that the camera cannot access; and our closing film in the series - an intimate and touching portrayal of a 3-year-old who makes her way from a war-stricken country to Sweden – is filmed one meter from the ground for an immersive filmic experience from the perspective of a child. As ever, the resoundingly strong message throughout the series is that human beings persevere, co-operate, and bring each other hope in places and times where it is sometimes in short supply.

GRAMNet is very grateful for the generous support we receive from our partners, sponsors, distributors and directors so that we can keep our film series free and open to all. We are developing this work with the UNESCO Chair for Refugee Integration through Languages and the Arts, the Equality and Diversity Unit and our long standing partners in the film series BEMIS, together with their focus on the Year of History Heritage and Archaeology.

Screenings are accompanied by forums and Q&A for everyone to share their views and thoughts in a friendly and supportive atmosphere. The audience is warmly invited to congregate in the Centre for Contemporary Arts (CCA) Cafe following each screening to continue our informal discussions.

Events are free of charge and open to everyone

Sponsored by GRAMNet, BEMIS Scotland and the Iona Community, with the support of the Equality and Diversity Unit and Human Rights Network at the University of Glasgow.

FILM SYNOPSES

Note: Doors open at 5.30pm, for 6pm start

WEDNESDAY 11 OCTOBER 2017

2017/18 SERIES LAUNCH

THE AUDIENCE IS WARMLY INVITED TO JOIN US IN THE CCA CAFE FOLLOWING THE SCREENING FOR A DRINK AND TO CONTINUE OUR INFORMAL DISCUSSION SESSION.

Constance on the Edge

DOCUMENTARY: AUSTRALIA (2016)
DIRECTOR: BELINDA MASON
RUNNING TIME: 77 MINS



One family. Two wars. Three countries. What does it take to forge a new life far from home?

Filmed over 10 years, Constance on the Edge is an unflinchingly honest portrayal of one refugee family's resettlement story in Australia.

Brave, lion-hearted, charismatic Constance, mother of six, confronts her painful past in war torn Sudan, and risks everything in Australia so her family can thrive.

Mary, Constance's niece, finds it impossible to find a job. Vicky, her daughter, studies every morning from 4am, hoping to get into university. Charles, 23, is struggling with alienation and depression.

Constance on the Edge gets to the heart of a contemporary untold story about the courage and resilience it takes to build new lives. The film also highlights the important role communities play in encouraging a sense of belonging and enabling participation for everyone.

WEDNESDAY 8 NOVEMBER 2017
**INTERNATIONAL
 DAY OF TOLERANCE**

Wallah - Je te jure

DOCUMENTARY: NIGER (2016)
 DIRECTOR: MARCELLO MERLETTO
 RUNNING TIME: 60 MINS
 WOLOF, FRENCH, AND ITALIAN WITH
 ENGLISH SUBTITLES

Wallah - Je te jure tells the stories of men and women travelling along West African migration routes to Italy. Senegal's rural villages, Niger's bus stations and "ghettos" full of traffickers, Italian squares and houses are the backdrops of these courageous trips, which often end in tragedy.

No matter the cost, the goal to reach Europe will be achieved, "Wallah." But there are those who, tired from the journey, turn back home.

This screening is sponsored by Glasgow Human Rights Network.
glasgow.ac.uk/research/az/glasgowhumanrightsnetwork



WEDNESDAY 13 DECEMBER 2017
INTERNATIONAL MIGRANTS DAY

Wigilia

DRAMA: UK (2016)
 DIRECTOR: GRAHAM DRYSDALE
 RUNNING TIME: 71 MINS

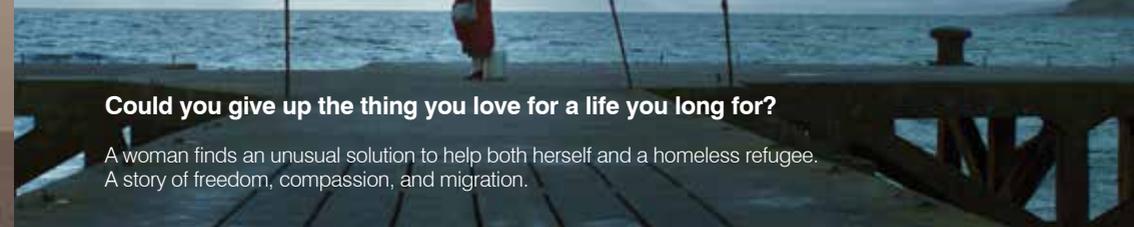
Wigilia explores Polish and Scottish traditions as part of an uplifting Christmas indie drama. Created on a micro budget through a Dogma-style set of limitations, the film stars Iwona Glowinska, from the band Featherwest, and co-stars Douglas T. Stewart, founder of BMX Bandits - Glasgow musical icons and Kurt Cobain's other favourite band.

Iwona Glowinska plays Agata, a Polish cleaner stranded in Glasgow for Christmas who prepares her traditional Christmas eve meal - Wigilia - in a client's house. Douglas T. Stewart plays the client's prodigal brother, and the unexpected pilgrim that arrives at her table.



The Hide

SHORT: SCOTLAND (2017)
 DIRECTOR: GAYNOR MACFARLANE
 RUNNING TIME: 7 MINS



Could you give up the thing you love for a life you long for?

A woman finds an unusual solution to help both herself and a homeless refugee. A story of freedom, compassion, and migration.

Scotland's Memoir

SHORT: SCOTLAND (2017)
 DIRECTOR: ETIENNE KUBWABO
 RUNNING TIME: 30 MINS

As part of Scotland's celebration of the 2017 Year of History, Heritage and Archaeology BEMIS Scotland have commissioned Creative Entertainment to explore Scotland's story via the eyes of our diverse ethnic and cultural minority communities alongside civic representatives, artists and historians. What has shaped modern Scottish identity? How does the past inform our future? In essence, what does Scotland mean to us? And where are we going as a nation?



WEDNESDAY 24 JANUARY 2018
HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL DAY

A Hole in the Head

DOCUMENTARY: SLOVAKIA, CZECH REPUBLIC (2016)
 DIRECTOR: ROBERT KIRCHHO
 RUNNING TIME: 90 MINS
 CERTIFICATE 15
 SLOVAK, CZECH, GERMAN, POLISH, FRENCH, SERBIAN,
 CROATIAN, SINTI WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

The Holocaust as a scar on the body and soul of the European Roma and Sinti.

Little is known about the tragedy of the Roma during World War II. They were murdered by the dozens, hundreds and thousands; in concentration camps, at the edges of mass graves and roadsides.

A few survived and keep their memory and scars as proof. In a world where fascism is once again prevalent, they are one of the last living witnesses to the Holocaust. Raymond Gurême, a 91-year-old French 'Manouche' with an extraordinary will to survive, who escaped from concentration camps a total of three times, is one of them.

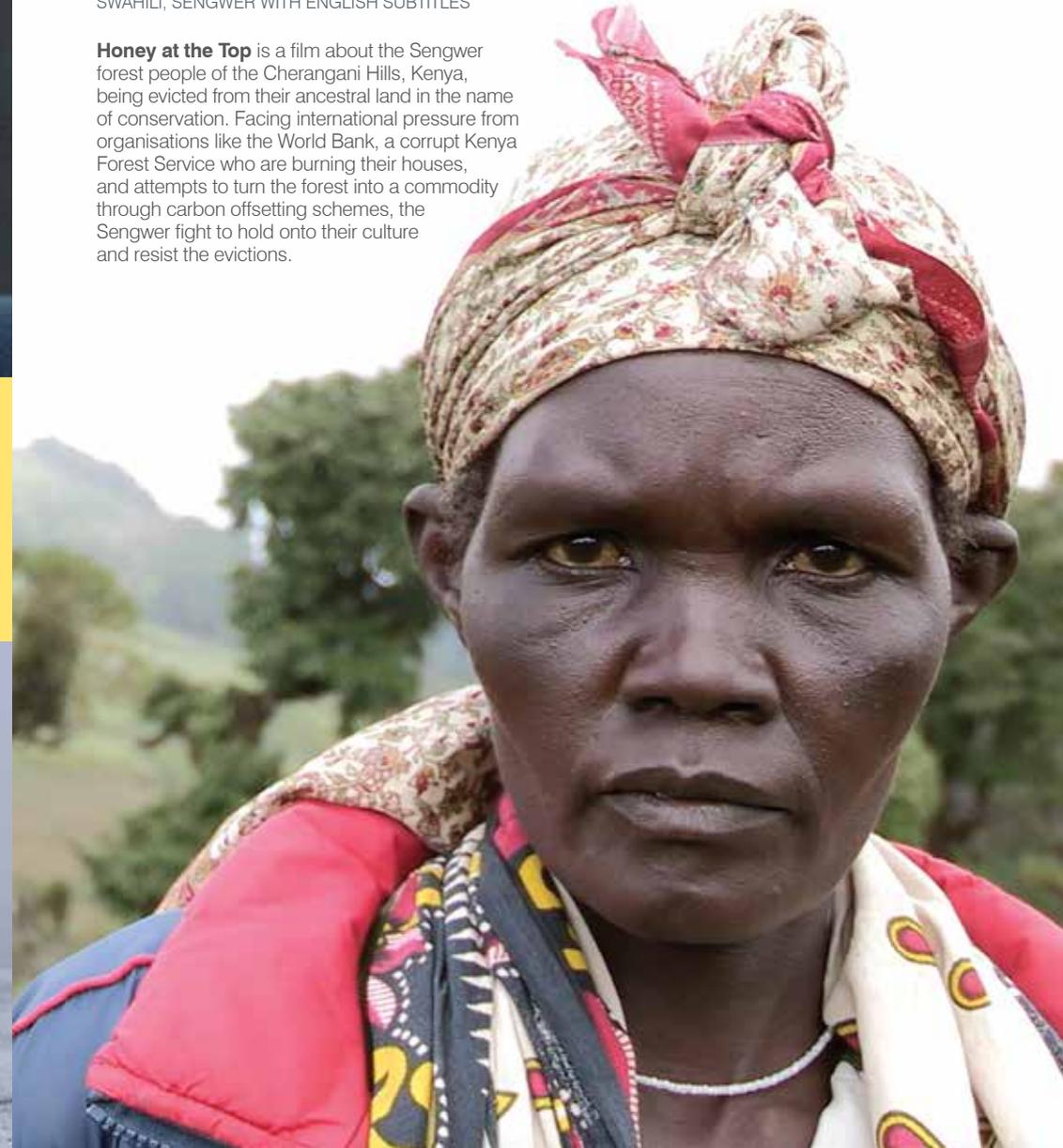


WEDNESDAY 8 FEBRUARY 2018
WORLD DAY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE

Honey at the Top

DOCUMENTARY: UK/KENYA (2016)
 DIRECTOR: DEAN PUCKETT
 RUNNING TIME: 57 MINS
 SWAHILI, SENGWER WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

Honey at the Top is a film about the Sengwer forest people of the Cherangani Hills, Kenya, being evicted from their ancestral land in the name of conservation. Facing international pressure from organisations like the World Bank, a corrupt Kenya Forest Service who are burning their houses, and attempts to turn the forest into a commodity through carbon offsetting schemes, the Sengwer fight to hold onto their culture and resist the evictions.



WEDNESDAY 14 MARCH 2018
INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY

Bolingo, the Forest of Love

DOCUMENTARY: SPAIN (2016)
 DIRECTOR: ALEJANDRO G. SALGADO
 RUNNING TIME: 55 MINS
 ENGLISH WITH SUBTITLES

Bolingo, the Forest of Love tells the journey made by several women from the heart of Africa to North Morocco looking for the 'European dream'. This journey will get them into a trip to motherhood at Bolingo or some other awaiting camp settled next to the Moroccan-Spanish border.

Bolingo means love in Lingala; a language used by a group of Congolese migrants giving humanity to the migrants' drama in North Africa. They created a camp where migrant women could live with their children until circumstances allowed them to cross the border to Europe.

Bolingo, the Forest of Love shows mothers fighting for survival and raising their children in hostile circumstances.

This screening is sponsored by the Equality and Diversity Unit
glasgow.ac.uk/myglasgow/humanresources/equalitydiversity



WEDNESDAY 18 APRIL 2018
ENGLISH LANGUAGE DAY

Broken World, Broken Word

DOCUMENTARY: GHANA/SCOTLAND (2016)
 DIRECTOR: GAMELI TORDZRO
 RUNNING TIME: 60 MINS
 SHONA, NDAU, DUTCH, ITALIAN, FRENCH,
 GERMAN, TWI, GA, DANGBE, EWE, AKAN, BUKINA,
 DANISH WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES



This documentary film - a multilingual production filmed on location in Ghana - charts the work of the AHRC Researching Multilingually at Borders project which has worked for 3 years to consider what it means to conduct research in multiple field sites using multiple languages and also incorporating elements of the creative and performing arts.

All the field sites were considering different aspects of researching multilingually where the body, language, law and the state are under conditions of duress, pain or pressure. The political crises and violence affecting refugees, most notably though not exclusively in Europe, came to the fore during the project and has provided a significant contextual impetus for the creative and translation process which led to the work devised by the young people of Noyam.

The work has been undertaken through ongoing, generative relationships between artists, linguists and researchers and the epic story of exile, war, persecution, resistance and safety has been told through many different academic and artistic media. The generative themes which this collaboration and these working relationships produced were then worked with using devising and improvisation methods, multilingually, with young dancers from Noyam who translated the themes of the research into cultural and multilingual forms of dance under the guidance of the directors and dramaturg, musicians, and costume designers.

WEDNESDAY 16 MAY 2018
NAKBA DAY

Salt of this Sea

FEATURE FILM: PALESTINE (2008)
 DIRECTOR: ANNEMARIE JACIR
 RUNNING TIME: 109 MINS
 ARABIC AND ENGLISH WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

Soraya, born in Brooklyn in a working class community of Palestinian refugees, discovers that her grandfather's savings were frozen in a bank account in Jaffa when he was exiled in 1948. Stubborn, passionate and determined to reclaim what is hers, she fulfills her life-long dream of "returning" to Palestine. Once there, slowly she is taken apart by the reality around her and is forced to confront her own anger. She meets Emad, a young Palestinian whose ambition, contrary to hers, is to leave forever. Tired of the constraints that dictate their lives, they know in order to be free, they must take things into their own hands, even if it's illegal. In this quest for life, we follow their trail through remains of Palestine. This prize winning film is the debut feature length work from Annemarie Jacir (Like Twenty Impossibles). It premiered at Cannes to critical acclaim. Featuring Palestinian poet Suheir Hammad and emerging Palestinian star Saleh Bakri in their first lead roles, Jacir's film also picked up twelve international awards and was theatrically released in Europe, the US, and Asia.



WEDNESDAY 20 JUNE 2018
WORLD REFUGEE DAY

69 Minutes of 86 Days

DOCUMENTARY: NORWAY (2017)
 DIRECTOR: EGIL HÅSKJOLD LARSEN
 RUNNING TIME: 70 MINS
 ARABIC WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

Escaping to survive, from a country at war, a 3-year-old girl is making her way through a chaotic Europe.

On a path littered with lifejackets, in the middle of a crowd of people on the run, a 3-year-old girl slowly emerges. Filmed from one metre above ground, the camera captures the story from the viewpoint of the child. We are with her and her little 'Frost' backpack amongst all the trouser legs and bags belonging to the adults around her. We realise that she understands the seriousness of the journey and that she is on her way to a new future, but through the entire journey she holds onto her childlike ability to normalise her days. She sings, plays, shares a lollipop with her little sister, washes the face of her uncle and sleeps in the arms of her parents when she gets too tired. The landscape changes continuously as national borders are crossed, but in the same way that the child herself has no relationship to the various countries, we can't be sure where she is either. All we know is that Lean is on her way to her grandfather in Sweden and that she dreams of learning to swim.

Our History

GRAMNet formally launched in early 2010 following a unique workshop aimed to assess the potential for establishing a network on a cross-cutting research theme addressing migration, asylum and refugees. The event engaged knowledge exchange partners in the public and third sector to identify themes and co-design potential future work for a research network in this field.

Based at, and supported by the University of Glasgow, GRAMNet has now established Glasgow as one of the leading centres for integrated research and knowledge exchange in the field of migration, refugee and asylum studies. Nationally and internationally amongst scholars, NGOs, public bodies and civic organizations GRAMNet's approach and work has found resonance. A raft of new projects have been developed to address

public needs and problems identified by partners where working together will enhance understanding and action.

One of the network's major accomplishments is our annual Film Series hosted by the Glasgow CCA, organised in partnership with BEMIS and this year, with The Iona Community and the Diversity and Equality Unit and Human Rights Network at University of Glasgow. Our audience is from diverse academic, organisational and societal backgrounds, and continually shifts in response to the context explored in each screening. The Film Series provides a safe space for people to present their views and perspectives and successfully integrates local and global narratives through the use of film produced both internationally and locally.

About Us

GRAMNET

A NEW APPROACH TO MIGRATION
 GRAMNet brings together researchers and practitioners, NGOs (non governmental organisations) and policy makers concerned with migration issues in Scotland and beyond. The research initiative, currently involving Universities from all over the world, focuses on migrants, asylum seekers and refugees. The network provides a forum through which policy makers and academics can work together to connect communities through knowledge exchange, research and development. The city of Glasgow is host to the largest population of refugees and asylum seekers under the UK Government's dispersal policy and also has a history of attracting large communities of migrants. GRAMNet aims to build a context for the study of migrant communities based on the city's unique position.

GRAMNet
 11 The Square, University of Glasgow
 Glasgow G12 8QQ
 E-mail: gramadmin@glasgow.ac.uk
glasgow.ac.uk/gramnet

BEMIS SCOTLAND

EMPOWERING ETHNIC AND CULTURAL COMMUNITIES

BEMIS Scotland is the Ethnic Minorities led national umbrella organisation for the Ethnic Minorities Voluntary Sector and the communities that this sector represents. As a strategic national infrastructure organisation, BEMIS Scotland aims to empower the diverse Ethnic Minority third sector. We are committed to promoting inclusion, democratic active citizenship, and recognition of diversity, human rights education, and wider representation. Our vision is of a Scotland that is Equal, Inclusive, and Responsive: A society where people from the diverse communities are valued, treated with dignity and respect, have equal citizenship, opportunities and quality of life, and who actively participate in civic society.

Glasgow Office
 The Centrum Building, 4th Floor
 38 Queen Street
 Glasgow G1 3DX
 Tel: +44 (0)141 548 8047
 Fax: +44 (0)141 548 8284
 E-mail: mail@bemis.org.uk
www.bemis.org.uk

CCA

CENTRE FOR CONTEMPORARY ARTS

The Centre for Contemporary Arts is Glasgow's hub for creative activity. The building is steeped in history and the organisation has played a key role in the cultural life of the city for decades. The year-round programme includes cutting-edge exhibitions, film, music, literature, spoken word, festivals, Gaelic events and much more. For the full programme visit www.cca-glasgow.com

CCA
 350 Sauchiehall Street
 Glasgow G2 3JD
 tel: +44 (0)141 352 4900
 fax: +44 (0)141 332 3226
www.cca-glasgow.com

ACCESS

There is level access to CCA from Sauchiehall Street. All upper levels are fully accessible by lift. There is an induction loop at the Sales and Information desk and CCA4. For more information, please see cca-glasgow.com/about-cca/access-statement

THE IONA COMMUNITY

The Iona Community is a dispersed Christian ecumenical community of men and women from different walks of life and different traditions in the Church working for peace and social justice, rebuilding of community and the renewal of worship. We are engaged together, and with people of goodwill across the world, in acting, reflecting and praying for justice, peace and the integrity of creation; convinced that the inclusive community we seek must be embodied in the community we practise.

We are a Scottish Charity (SC003794), and have bases in Glasgow and on Mull and Iona in Argyll.
www.iona.org.uk

Sponsored by GRAMNet, BEMIS and the Iona Community with the support of the Equality and Diversity Unit and Human Rights Network, University of Glasgow.



glasgow.ac.uk/gramnet
www.bemis.org.uk
www.iona.org.uk

Film stills kindly provided courtesy of distribution companies/directors:

FILM NAME

CONSTANCE ON THE EDGE
WALLAH - JE TE JURE
WIGILIA
THE HIDE
SCOTLAND'S MEMOIR
A HOLE IN THE HEAD
HONEY AT THE TOP
BOLINGO, FOREST OF LOVE
BROKEN WORLD, BROKEN WORD
SALT OF THIS SEA
69 MINUTES OF 86 DAYS
FRONT COVER IMAGE

DIRECTOR / DISTRIBUTOR

BELINDA MASON
GIACOMO ZANDONINI
GRAHAM DRYSDALE
GAYNOR MACFARLANE
BEMIS SCOTLAND
ROBERT KIRCHHO
DEAN PUCKETT
ALEJANDRO G. SALGADO
NII TETE YARTEY
NO IMAGE YET
EGIL HÅSKJOLD LARSEN
ROBERT KIRCHHO

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