HOME reopens with live music and sold out screenings – plus BFI London Film Festival announcement and ¡Viva! Returns!

Left to right: Mr Wilson’s Second Liners perform at HOME’s reopening weekend; Mangrove will open the London Film Festival which has nine screenings at HOME this year; ¡Viva! Spanish & Latin American Festival returns after being cut short down by lockdown with films including Cholitas

• HOME reopens with socially-distanced set from Mr Wilson’s Second Liners and surprise DJ set from Mr Scruff
  • ¡Viva! Spanish & Latin American Festival returns from this Friday
• HOME is to host BFI London Film Festival screenings in October including free showing of new film from Steve McQueen

IMAGES: To download images of HOME’s reopening weekend, please click here. TO download stills of upcoming films, please click here for London Film Festival and here for ¡Viva! Spanish & Latin American Festival.

Independent cinema has returned to Manchester with a bang as HOME reopened last weekend with a socially-distanced performance by Mr Wilson’s Second Liners, a surprise DJ set from Mr Scruff and sold-out film screenings.

Dave Moutrey, Director and CEO of HOME, said: “For the last 10 years working with our team on the planning, building, opening and overseeing the running of HOME has been
a massive part of my life. Although we have been able to continue to work together during the enforced 168 days of closure, reopening on Friday morning and being in the same space as our team and our audiences doing what we do best gave me a huge emotional lift that was amplified many, many times by the comments and love we got from audiences and colleagues in the cultural sector. I'm still buzzing now!"

London Film Festival to come to Manchester

HOME also announced today that they will be screening films as part of this year’s BFI London Film Festival – including a free showing of multi-award-winning director Steve McQueen’s Mangrove on Wednesday, 7 October.

Jason Wood, Director of Film and Culture at HOME, said: “This is a great initiative from the BFI London Film Festival that follows on from our successful collaboration on the UK premiere of Mike Leigh’s Peterloo. It’s an important development in the evolution of the festival as it genuinely encourages audiences across the country to engage with a wider diversity of cinematic culture. It also serves as an act of unity, moving away from the notion of London as the epicentre of culture. Any scheme that helps bring people together is to be applauded.”

Also showing will be Josephine Decker’s Shirley, starring Elisabeth Moss as America’s queen of horror fiction, Shirley Jackson (Friday, 9 October) and Garrett Bradley’s Time, an epic personal journey of hardship and hope, which reveals the devastating effects of mass incarceration on Black communities in America (Sunday, 11 October).

Colin Firth and Stanley Tucci star as lovers facing the spectre of early onset dementia in Supernova (Monday, 12 October), and Riz Ahmed appears in Mogul Mowgli (Tuesday, 13 October), a paean to the importance of cultural heritage and a sharply observed reflection on muscle memory. David Byrne’s American Utopia, directed by Spike Lee, reflects on human connections, life and how on earth we work through it (Wednesday, 14 October) while After Love sees Mary Hussain (Joanna Scanlan) grappling with the unexpected death of her husband when she stumbles upon a secret connection he had across the Channel, in Calais.

Frances McDormand stars in Nomadland, a compassionate study of the precious community that has grown out of the ruins of America’s brutal service economy (Friday, 16 October), and the programme closes with Francis Lee’s highly-anticipated Ammonite, a fictionalised account of the life of the 19th century palaeontologist Mary Anning, played by Kate Winslet.

Tickets for BFI London Film Festival screenings at HOME go on sale to HOME Friends on Monday, 14 September, members on Tuesday, 15 September, and on general sale on Wednesday, 16 September.

¡Viva! Spanish & Latin American Festival returns after lockdown postponement
From this Friday there will be the return of the ¡Viva! Spanish & Latin American Festival 2020 which was partway through in March when the lockdown was first implemented. Having opened to packed screens in March, hopes were high for a record-breaking year.

All screenings will take place in HOME’s largest screen, Cinema 1, but reduced capacity means seats are extremely limited and advance booking is recommended now more than ever.

The revived festival will feature 24 screenings over three weeks – 19 feature-length films from Spain and Latin America, including four UK cinema premieres, and four new Spanish short films screening before selected features.

The film feast begins on Friday, 11 September with the UK premiere of Costa Rican director Antonella Sudasassi’s debut *El Despertar de las hormigas*, which celebrates female empowerment as a put-upon housewife wakes up to her own dreams and desires. Tuesday, 15 September sees a treat for fans of alternative cinema with another UK premiere, *Mirador* from Uruguay, plus a short film from San Sebastian, *Ya está*.

On Thursday, 24 September our best attended film from the first half of the festival makes a final appearance, *La Hija de un ladrón*, from Catalan filmmaker Belén Funes. Plus there are two more chances to see another big hit in Manchester, *Mientras dure la guerra*, Spanish director Alejandro Amenábar’s big budget historical drama set in 1936.

Other ¡Viva! 2020 highlights include the latest films from well-known Chilean director Andrés Wood (*Araña*) and the Argentinian filmmaker Carlos Sorín (*Joel*). Plus we’re proud to present a number of debut feature-length films, including Ana García Blaya’s homage to her late father (*Las Buenas intenciones*). We also present the UK premiere of Mexican documentary *Tote abuelo*, filmed in the southern Mexican state of Chiapas, and of *Cholitas*, a documentary following five indigenous Bolivian women scaling the heights of Mount Aconcagua.

For more information about all upcoming film screenings at HOME, visit www.homemcr.org.

NOTES TO EDITORS

For further information, images and interview requests, please contact Kat Harrison-Dibbits, Head of Communications on HOME, on 07833 523295 or email kat.harrison-dibbits@homemcr.org.

Funded by:

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HOME is Manchester’s centre for international contemporary culture. Since opening in 2015, HOME has welcomed over two million visitors to its five cinemas, two theatres, art gallery, book shop and restaurants. HOME’s five screens showcase the best new independent film releases alongside a unique programme of film seasons, festivals, and special events. HOME’s bold and diverse programming has screened over 600 films from nearly 60 countries in the past year, and its robust audience numbers consistently make HOME one of the UK’s top performing independent cinemas for new releases. A popular choice for established and emerging filmmakers keen to participate in Q&A events with engaged audiences, HOME has welcomed the following filmmakers and more since opening: Clio Barnard, Gurinder Chadha, Felix Chong, Paddy Considine, Armando Iannucci, Ken Loach, Alice Lowe, Rungano Nyoni, Lynne Ramsay, Nicolas Winding Refn, Whit Stillman, and Ben Wheatley. Overseen by Creative Director for Film and Culture Jason Wood, HOME also produces a specially curated, original programme of film seasons and special events and is committed to supporting UK film talent and introducing emerging filmmakers to a wide audience. The patrons of HOME are filmmakers Danny Boyle and Asif Kapadia, actress Suranne Jones, playwright and poet Jackie Kay CBE, artists Rosa Barba and Phil Collins, and actress and author Meera Syal CBE. www.homemcr.org | @HOME_mcr | Facebook HOMEmcr

Did you know that HOME is a charity? We need your support to bring the best film, theatre and art to Manchester and inspire the next generation. Get involved at www.homemcr.org/support