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# FILMFEAR



Left to right: *Jennifer's Body*, *Invasion of the Body Snatchers*, *Candyman*

## FILMFEAR 2020 – SCREAM NOW, THINK LATER!

*Embargoed until Tuesday, 6 October*

FilmFear, HOME's annual celebration of big-screen scares, returns for Halloween with a provocative programme that mixes thrills and chills with plenty to think about.

This year, FilmFear runs from Wednesday, 28 October to Thursday, 5 November, with Film4 and HOME co-curating a line-up of modern genre classics that sink their teeth into politics, race, sexuality, social issues and more. So, prepare yourself for the 'Night of the Living Subtext' - the real world can be unsettling at the best of times and, as FilmFear proves, horror cinema faces it all without flinching.

FilmFear is curated by Film4's David Cox and HOME's Creative Director for Film and Culture, Jason Wood. Tickets go on sale to the general public on Tuesday, 6 October.

# HOME

David said: "Even though what many of us are experiencing day-to-day may feel unprecedented, the horror genre has already seen it, done it and no doubt re-imagined it as either a city-devouring monster or an undead infestation. And somehow, these extreme representations of our worst fears and most unimaginable realities have the power to make us feel better – or at least distract us from the terror outside for 90 minutes."

Among the terrifying treats on show will be Wes Craven's *The People Under the Stairs*, a savage slice of Reagan-era urban Gothic, and Philip Kaufman's 1978 sci-fi thriller *Invasion of the Body Snatchers*, starring Donald Sutherland, Brooke Adams and Jeff Goldblum.

From *Parasite* Oscar-winner Bong Joon-ho comes *The Host*, an aquatic creature-feature that says as much about Korean society as it does about beasts from the deep. Staying under the earth, a murder on the London Underground alerts authorities to the possibility of some sort of creature living in the long dark tunnels in *Death Line* which brings a whole new meaning to the phrase 'mind the doors!'

In lieu of the remake, which should have been in cinemas this month, HOME will present a restored version of early 1990s horror classic *Candyman*, in which the vengeful, hook-handed title character proves that some urban legends are actually true. Karyn Kusama and Diablo Cody's *Jennifer's Body* makes a well-deserved return to the big screen. Starring Megan Fox and Amanda Seyfried, and critically disregarded on release, the film has been reappraised as a feminist cult classic in the wake of the Me Too movement. And in *The Stuff*, a tasty, healthy and fun new dessert might seem irresistible but the truth behind what it is and what it does to you is the starting-point for a fiendishly original and darkly comic monster movie like no other.

And this year, FilmFear extends to Thursday, 5 November – Guy Fawkes Night – for a special screening of *Attack the Block*, writer/director Joe Cornish's social-themed sci-fi/monster movie that's set on this very night. As a special Bonfire Night bonus, Cornish will take part in a live video Q&A.

Crossing over with the ¡Viva! Spanish & Latin American Festival for only the second time, FilmFear also celebrates Chicho, Spain's horror maestro.

Narciso Ibáñez Serrador is one of the most well-known, and best loved, names in Spanish film and television history. Forever linked to the horror genre, 'Chicho', as he was known to all, was responsible for the legendary TV series *Historias para no dormir* which ran intermittently from 1966. Chicho passed away in 2019, and ¡Viva! and Film Fear have linked with the Instituto Cervantes to bring to HOME a celebration of one of Spanish film and television's most distinctive voices.



In the double bill of *El asfalto* and *La residencia* a young woman is sent to a gothic boarding school, where she finds a headmistress intent on keeping everyone in line with firm, physical discipline. With *La residencia*, one of the most atmospheric European horror films of the late 1960s, Ibáñez Serrador scored a major hit at the Spanish box-office, significantly contributing to the cycle of horror film production in Spain in the 1970s. The film is accompanied by *El asfalto*, one of the best-remembered episodes of Ibáñez Serrador's legendary TV series, *Historias para no dormir*. And in 1972's *Who Can Kill a Child?*, an English couple on holiday in Spain find more than they bargained for when they visit a beautiful island that seems to have no adults, only children.

FilmFear runs from Wednesday, 28 October to Thursday, 5 November. For more information, visit <https://homemcr.org/event/filmfear-2020/>

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**Tickets go on sale to the general public on Tuesday, 6 October, via**

<https://homemcr.org/event/filmfear-2020/> or the HOME Box Office on +44 (0)161 200 1500.

**For further information, images or review ticket requests please contact:**

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#### FILMFEAR PROGRAMME DETAILS

##### ***The People Under the Stairs***

Wed, 28 Oct, 19:45

Dir Wes Craven/US 1991/98 mins

Brandon Adams, Everett McGill, Wendy Robie

Director Craven had been mixing politics with horror since his notorious 1972 debut *The Last House on the Left*, but he really let rip with this savage slice of Reagan-era urban Gothic. After his family is evicted, streetwise teen Fool breaks in to the foreboding home of the husband-and-wife landlords responsible. There, in a house that Craven described as representing 'the whole society of the United States', Fool discovers a nightmare that gets more terrifying with each door he opens.

##### ***Invasion of the Body Snatchers***

Thu 29 Oct 2020, 19:30

Dir Philip Kaufmann/US 1978/111 mins

Donald Sutherland, Brooke Adams, Jeff Goldblum

An example of that rarest of things – a remake that equals, if not improves upon, the original. The 1956 paranoid classic is updated to 1970s San Francisco by director Kaufman and writer W. D. Richter, giving them licence to comment on contemporary concerns regarding conformity and selfishness while crafting an expert horror/sci-fi thriller. The fear of losing one's identity is always with us, making Jack Finney's source story eternally relevant and re-tellable. However, it's never been told as terrifyingly as this.

##### ***The Host***

Fri 30 Oct 2020, 17:45

Dir Bong Joon-ho/South Korea 2006/120 mins



*Song Kang-ho, Bae Doo-na, Byun Hee-bong*

Ever since Godzilla stomped on Tokyo in 1954, monsters have been drafted in to sci-fi and horror movies to stand for wider social issues. Parasite director Bong's aquatic creature-feature is up to something similar – like his Oscar-winner it's got plenty to say about Korean society while also providing non-stop scares and excitement. Parasite's desperate dad Song Kang-ho is on top form here, although it's Bong's beast from the deep who steals every scene.

### **Death Line**

*Fri 30 Oct 2020, 20:15*

*Dir Gary Sherman/GB 1972/78 mins*

*Donald Pleasance, David Ladd, Sharon Gurney, Norman Rossington*

A murder on the London Underground alerts authorities to the possibility of some sort of creature living in the long dark tunnels. What they uncover is not only grisly and terrifying, but also brings to light – in the most extreme manner – the exploitation of the workers who built the transport system. There's a fine sarcastic turn from Donald Pleasance, an eerie, seedy electronic/jazz score and one of horror cinema's best-known catchphrases: 'Mind the doors!'

### **Candyman**

*Sat 31 Oct 2020, 15:00*

*Dir Bernard Rose/GB US 1992/99 mins*

*Virginia Madsen, Xander Berkeley, Tony Todd*

In lieu of the remake, which should have been in cinemas this month, we're thrilled to present a restored version of this early 1990s horror classic in which the vengeful, hook-handed title character proves that some urban legends are actually true. Saying his name five times is enough to invoke the all-too-physical spirit, with his appearance bringing both an unsettling reminder of the past and a terrifying vision of the future to the Chicago housing projects that he haunts.

### **Double Bill/ El asfalto and La residencia**

*Sat 31 Oct 2020, 17:15*

*Dir Narciso Ibáñez Serrador/Spain 1966 + 1969/133 mins*

*Lilli Palmer, Cristina Galbó, John Moulder-Brown*

A young woman is sent to a gothic boarding school, where she finds a headmistress, memorably played by Lilli Palmer, intent on keeping everyone in line with firm, physical discipline. When some of the school's girls begin to disappear, it seems there is more at hand than simply the headmistress's whip. With *La residencia*, one of the most atmospheric European horror films of the late 1960s, Ibáñez Serrador scored a major hit at the Spanish box-office, significantly contributing to the cycle of horror film production in Spain in the 1970s. Accompanied by *El asfalto*, one of the best-remembered episodes of Ibáñez Serrador's legendary TV series, *Historias para no dormir*.

### **Jennifer's Body**

*Sat 31 Oct 2020, 20:00*

*Dir Karyn Kusama/US 2009/102 mins*

*Megan Fox, Amanda Seyfried, Adam Brody*

Critically disregarded upon release but now ripe for re-discovery, this horror-comedy from director Kusama and Juno writer Diablo Cody relates back to such defiantly female-focussed genre classics as *Carrie* and *Rosemary's Baby*. Forced into a black-magic ritual by members of a rock band, popular high-school student Jennifer is transformed into a succubus preying on young men. Unsettled – to say the least – by this sudden change, Jennifer's best friend Needy must put a stop to the bloodshed without betraying their sisterhood.

### **Who Can Kill a Child?**

*Next showing Sun 1 Nov 2020 at 15.30*

*Dir Narciso Ibáñez Serrador/Spain 1972/112 mins*

*Lewis Fiander, Prunella Ransome, Antonio Iranzo*

After spending much of the 1970s working in television, Ibáñez Serrador returned to the cinema with *¿Quién puede matar a un niño?* In this incredibly atmospheric horror film, an English couple on holiday in Spain find more than they bargained for when they visit what seems a perfect island continuously bathed in sunlight. With no adults to be seen, the horror of their situation slowly emerges as they find that the island's children are seemingly ready to take their revenge. *¿Quién puede matar a un niño?* is one of the major achievements of European horror cinema in the 1970s and has been influential on many filmmakers since.

### **The Stuff**

*Sun 1 Nov 2020, 17:45*

*Dir Larry Cohen/US 1985/93 mins*



Michael Moriarty, Andrea Marcovicci, Wendy Robie, Paul Sorvino

If you thought chlorinated chicken was scary, wait 'til you experience director Larry Cohen's biting satire about food fads and irresistible marketing, in which the scariest thing of all is our own appetite. There's a tasty, healthy and fun new dessert on the shelves called The Stuff, but the truth behind what it is and what it does to you is the starting-point for a fiendishly original and darkly comic monster movie like no other.

### **Attack the Block**

Thu 5 Nov, 17:15

Dir Joe Cornish/GB 2011/88 mins

John Boyega, Jodie Whittaker, Nick Frost

An outer-space invasion of a South London housing estate prompts an ingenious retaliation from an unlikely source – a gang of teenage boys who go from menace to society to scourge of the aliens over the course of one action-packed night. John Boyega leads the charge to protect his home and community, with the film creating heroes from the sort of characters who are usually either demonised or marginalised in both the press and fiction. This screening will be followed by an exclusive on screen Q&A with director Joe Cornish.

### **PRESENTED BY:**



### **NOTES TO EDITORS**

**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 626 films from 57 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 MBE, artists Rosa Barba and Phil Collins, and actress and author Meera Syal CBE.

[www.homemcr.org](http://www.homemcr.org) | [@HOME\\_mcr](https://twitter.com/HOME_mcr) | [Facebook HOME\\_mcr](https://facebook.com/HOME_mcr)

HOME, with Showroom Workstation and Tyneside Cinema, are a collective leading Film Hub North, part BFI Film Audience Network supported by National Lottery Funding.

**FILM4 CHANNEL** is available for free to everyone with digital TV. It is the UK's number one film channel, and the UK's 4th biggest digital channel. A daily line-up of great movies guarantees a choice for every type of film fan, including the best of British film-making, Hollywood blockbusters, independent and world cinema, timeless classics and cult favourites, through an innovative schedule that features regular themed strands and seasons. **Film4** is Channel 4 Television's feature film division, which develops and co-finances films and has an established track record for working with the most distinctive and innovative talent in UK and international filmmaking. Film4 has developed and/or co-financed many of the most successful UK films of recent years, including Academy Award-winners such as Yorgos Lanthimos's *The Favourite*, Martin McDonagh's *Three Billboards Outside Ebbing, Missouri*, Alex Garland's *Ex Machina*, Lenny Abrahamson's *Room*, Steve McQueen's *12 Years a Slave*, Danny Boyle's *Slumdog Millionaire* and Phyllida Lloyd's *The Iron Lady*.

[www.film4.com](http://www.film4.com) | [@Film4](https://twitter.com/Film4)

