



Merton based filmmakers Matvi Khosho, Charlie Strank, actor Daniel Bramiah & filmmaker Rosie Gaunt-Mathieson

merton

goes to the Movies!

FilmMerton brings pop-up film screenings, new short film commissions and the latest immersive technologies to the borough in an exciting arts programme
By Hannah McGreevy

FilmMerton is an exciting new initiative to develop a film culture in areas of the borough like Mitcham, where there are lower levels of participation in the arts. Throughout 2019 until Spring 2020 there will be screenings of film seasons chosen by a diverse range of community groups and high-profile guest curators. You can also look forward to a virtual reality festival showcasing the latest in immersive technologies.

Finding Common Ground

When local resident John Merriman decided to bring together an advisory committee to bid for London Borough of Culture, a team of talented entrepreneurs worked closely with the council and consultant, Sarah Tanburn, to write a bid entitled Common Ground. This had two key aspirations; firstly, to bridge the divide in Merton between the east and west of the borough and secondly to involve local communities in the decision-making so that Merton residents would choose the events that were delivered and the art that was made.

Establishing FilmMerton

Merton won the prestigious Cultural Impact Award to fund FilmMerton and the project has also received funding and support from Merton Council, which has been key to delivering the film seasons and commissions. This support has enabled FilmMerton to build a partnership with the British Film Institute, enabling local young filmmakers to access training and networking in 2019 and beyond.



John Merriman,
Chair of the
FilmMerton
Cultural
Advisory Group

What's Up Next?

Get ready for an inspiring, entertaining and thought-provoking selection of films in screenings all over the borough. From gangs and peer pressure to hidden stories, there is in an eclectic range of films to watch in Merton this year.

As well as films chosen by residents, there will also be seasons curated by notable guests, including a season on Radical Women selected by

Deputy Mayor of London, Justine Simmons.

Four new short films have been commissioned to be filmed in the borough, two of which are being made by local young filmmakers who will receive funding, attendance at the BFI Future Film Festival and ongoing production and mentoring support.

The winning films will be screened at a virtual reality festival taking place in March 2020 where you'll get the chance to experience the latest immersive technologies.



Want to find out when the next FilmMerton event is on? Follow @filmmerton_ on Twitter or for further information contact:

Film Seasons – Maureen Mckarkiel Arts Consultancy
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Virtual Reality Festival/short film commissions
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