

Havana Glasgow Film Festival

16 – 21 Nov 2021

Celebrating Cuban film and culture in Havana's twin city
of Glasgow

Seventh Edition

Extraordinary Cuba

Part – II

More Information

www.hgfilmfest.com

Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and YouTube:

@hgfilmfest

#PassportToCuba

Funders and Partners:

Creative Scotland, Glasgow City Council, Unite: The
Union Scotland, CCA, Film Hub Scotland

Welcome

Welcome to the UK's only Film Festival celebrating Cuban Film and Culture

As our festival goes into its seventh year, we are proud to be here to share and celebrate Cuba's inspiring culture and achievements during one of the toughest points in its history. Despite the challenges of COVID19, increased sanctions, food shortages and dramatic changes in weather, Cuba remains resilient and resourceful with an enduring ability to not just survive but adapt and, as our co-director Hugo Rivalta puts it, 'keep standing'.

Cuban people are adept at expressing these challenges creatively and it is this resourcefulness - and extraordinariness - that we highlight this year in a hybrid Festival of online and live screenings.

Our Tuesday opening night will be special as directors Mark Craig and Eduardo Flores Torres will be with us in-person to discuss their films *Running for the Revolution* and *Fidel Up Close*. Our featured director this year, acclaimed filmmaker Arturo Sotto, will also be live at our Festival to present four of his films.

On Fri 19 Nov we spotlight Cuba's approach to sustainability with 2 new documentaries, a shorts programme and panel discussion and on Sun 21 Nov the director of *Queens of the Revolution* will join us for a live streamed Q&A to discuss her portrait of a cultural centre that paved the road for LGBTQ+ rights in Cuba.

I look forward to seeing you there!

Eirene Houston, Festival Director

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Ticket Info

Online Pass

£15 / £7.50

For online access to all our films (except *Castro's Spies*), buy a Festival pass by going to www.bit.ly/hgfilmfest21

Films can be viewed in the UK and Ireland from 00:01 on 16 Nov until 11:59 on 22 Nov

In-person Tickets

CCA

Tickets for in-person events at CCA are on a sliding scale of FREE / £2 / £4 / £6 / £8. Choose what to pay based on your circumstances. If you can afford more, it helps us out if you pay more. Tickets can be booked directly through CCA at www.bit.ly/hgfilmfestCCA

GFT

Tickets for *Castro's Spies* at GFT cost £10.90 / £7.90 and can be booked directly through GFT from 4 Nov at www.glasgowfilm.org

Community tickets

Please get in touch if you run a community organisation, youth group or charity and would like to bring a group and access FREE tickets. Email hello@hgfilmfest.com or message us on 07746 143866

Venue Info

CCA

350 Sauchiehall Street, Glasgow, G2 3JD

gen@cca-glasgow.com

Tel: 0141 352 4900

The Centre for Contemporary Arts building has wheelchair access, elevator access, wheelchair-accessible toilet facilities, a baby changing room, gender-neutral toilet facilities, an induction loop, a large print version of the brochure is available at the CCA, and assistance dogs are welcome.

GFT

GFT (*Castro's Spies* on Thurs 18 Nov only)

12 Rose Street, Glasgow, G3 6RB

access@glasgowfilm.org

Tel: 0141 332 6535

The Glasgow Film Theatre building has wheelchair access, elevator access, wheelchair-accessible toilet facilities, a baby changing room, an induction loop, a large print version of the brochure is available at the CCA, and assistance dogs are welcome.

Accessibility

Some of the films in the programme will have English-language captions.

Some of the events in the programme will have BSL-English interpretation for Q&As plus discussions.

Most films are a mixture of English and Spanish audio with English-language subtitles.

Access Queries

We have a dedicated phonenumber for all access queries. Please call or message us on 07746 143866 and we will get back to you, or you can email us at hello@hgfilmfest.com

Digital Access Fund

We have a small fund so that we can support the cost of digital access for those who do not have access to Wi-Fi or unlimited data. To apply, please contact hello@hgfilmfest.com

Travel and Childcare Fund

We have a small fund for travel and childcare costs for those who would like to attend in-person events but cannot afford it. To apply, please contact hello@hgfilmfest.com

For more access information, go to hgfilmfest.com/access

Accessibility

Programme – Alternative Versions

This programme is available to download on our website www.hgfilmfest.com and hard copies are available at CCA and other venues across Glasgow.

Large Print

Spanish Language

Text-Only

Audio Versions are available to download at:

hgfilmfest.com/access

Opening Party at Mango

Sunday 14 November

6-9pm

Mango Tropical Bar/Restaurant

373 Sauchiehall Street,

Glasgow, G2 3HU

Just Turn Up – Free Event! This building has wheelchair access and wheelchair-accessible toilet facilities.

Films

Tuesday 16 November

Running for the Revolution + Q&A Mark Craig

Mark Craig | UK-Cuba 2021 | 1h21m | English | Doc | N/C PG

Tuesday 16 November, 5.25pm

CCA + Online

Cuba's greatest athlete - Alberto Juantorena - shares the highs and lows of his sporting career and provides fresh insight into his unique country, its revolution and its complex, uneasy relationship with America.

Fidel Up Close + Q&A E. Flores Torres

Eduardo Flores Torres, Gabriel Beristain, Roberto Chile | Cuba 2021 | 1h30m | English | Doc | PG

Tuesday 16 November, 8.05pm

CCA + Online

An intimate portrait of Fidel Castro, revealing the lesser known facets of his personal life from the perspective of those closest to him, providing a glimpse into who the man behind the uniform was.

Wednesday 17 November

El Benny

Jorge Luis Sánchez | Cuba 2016 | 2h12m | Spanish with English subtitles
Fiction | N/C 15+

Wednesday 17 November, 7pm

Online Only

A fictional story based on the life of legendary Cuban musician Benny Moré – spanning More’s career from the mid-1940s until his untimely death in the early 60s.

Thursday 18 November

Sacha: Un Niño de Chernobyl

Sacha: A Child of Chernobyl

Roberto Chile, Maribel Acosta Damas | Argentina 2021 | 39min |
Spanish with English subtitles | Doc | N/C PG

Thursday 18 November, 6pm

Online Only

The story of Olexandr Savchenko (“Sacha”) - one of 26,000 children treated in Cuba after the Chernobyl disaster.

Thursday 18 November

Castro's Spies + Q&A Gary Lennon

Ollie Aslin, Gary Lennon | Ireland 2020 | 1h43m | Spanish with English subtitles | Doc | N/C 12+

Thursday 18 November, 8pm

GFT

This film has English-language captions and this event has BSL-English interpretation.

The thrilling story of an elite group of Cuban spies sent undercover to the US in the 1990s. From their recruitment, training and eventual capture on US soil, this film peers into a secret world of false identities, love affairs and betrayal. Using never-before-seen footage, *Castro's Spies* gives a rare glimpse into the shadowy world of a spy – where the stakes are life and death.

Friday 19 November - Sustainable Cuba

Cuba: Living Between Hurricanes

Michael Chanan | UK 2019 | Doc | N/C PG | 1hr10m

Fri 19 November, 1pm

CCA + Online

This film has English-language captioning.

A film about the elements – hurricanes and rain, the sea and the earth. About Caibarién, a fishing port devastated by Hurricane Irma in 2017. About the growing threat from climate change and the move towards reforestation, ecotourism and sustainable farming.

Friday 19 November - Sustainable Cuba

Lista Quinta / Fifth List

Giselle Garcia Castro | Cuba 2019 | Doc 18+ | 1hr15m

Fri 19 November. 3pm

CCA + Online

This film has English-language captioning.

Cuban fishermen attempt to balance their life source with environmental changes.

Sustainability Stories: Cuba + Discussion

Fri 19 November, 5.05pm

CCA + Online

This event has English-language captioning and BSL-English Interpretation.

Cuba Platform | 37m

- Promoting Cycling, Empowering Women
- Turning old paper into new opportunities
- Designing a Different Kind of Carwash
- A Modern Agrarian Future: The Life and Work of Agroecologist Fernando Funes Monzote
- Trabajo de Amor / A Labour of Love

El Monte / The Woodland

Claudia Claremi | Cuba 2018 | 13min | Spanish with English subtitles | Doc | N/C U

Friday 19 November - Sustainable Cuba

Cuba's Life Task: Combating Climate Change + Discussion

Helen Yaffe, Daniesky Acosta, Hugo Rivalta

UK 2021 | 57m | Spanish and English with English subtitles | Doc / N/C PG

Fri 19 November, 7.15pm

CCA + Online

This film will have English-language captions and this event will have BSL-English interpretation.

Film Festival Premiere exploring Cuba's unique approach to the adaptation and mitigation of climate change.

In 2017, the Cuban government approved the State Plan to confront climate change, known as 'Tarea Vida' (Life Task). As a small Caribbean island, up to 10% of Cuban territory could be submerged by the end of the century. This documentary shows how Cuba is using environmental science, natural solutions and community participation in its 100-year plan for adaptation and mitigation. There are lessons here for the world.

The documentary will be introduced by Dr Helen Yaffe and followed by a Q&A + panel discussion with guests including Dr Emily Morris and Hugo Rivalta.

**When you are clear about where you come from,
when you're sure of what your roots are, you have
the ability to grow your stems, grow your branches
and bear fruit.**

– Fernando Funes Monzote

Saturday 20 November

Amor Vertical / Vertical Love

Arturo Sotro | Cuba 1997 | 1h40m | Spanish with English subtitles | Fiction | N/C 18+

Saturday 20 November, 1.30pm

CCA + Online

The misadventures of a young couple looking for places to be amorous.

Please note this is an older film, so the quality reflects this

Breton es Un Bebe

Breton is a Baby

Arturo Sotro | Cuba - Brazil 2008 | 52min | Spanish with English subtitles | Doc | N/C PG

Saturday 20 November, 4.15pm

CCA + Online

Documentary about a group of Cuban filmmakers and their search across Cuba for magic realism, inspired by the surrealist artist Andres Breton.

Please note this is an older film, so the quality reflects this

Saturday 20 November

Se Muere de Sed La Tia

Aunt is Dying of Thirst

Alejandro Valera and Arturo Sotto

Saturday 20 November, 6pm

CCA + Online

Cuban Music Video maker based in Glasgow Alejandro Valera Losa and Cuban filmmaker Arturo Sotto based in Havana will screen and discuss their latest Los Van Van video clip, and talk about their inspiration, their varied work and their collaborations.

El Nido de Mantis / Mantis Nest + Q&A Arturo Sotto

Arturo Sotto | Cuba 2018 | 1h58m | Spanish with English subtitles | Fiction | N/C 18+

Saturday 20 November, 8pm

CCA + Online

This film will have English-language captions and this event will have BSL-English interpretation.

A young woman has 10 days to prove she is not guilty of murder during the migratory crisis with USA. She weaves a stormy tale of love, jealousy and betrayal that goes back decades.

Sunday 21 November

Boccaccerias Habaneras

Arturo Sotto | Cuba 2014 | 1h40m | Spanish with English subtitles | Fiction | N/C 18+

Sunday 21 November, 12.15pm

CCA + Online

In a writer's room, people come to tell their secret stories hoping to earn money and become characters in novels.

Los Zafiros - Music from The Edge of Time

Lorenzo DeStefano | USA-Cuba | 2002 | 1h19m | Spanish with English subtitles | Doc | N/C 15+

Sunday 21 November, 2.50pm

CCA + Online

Music, history and emotion fuel this award-winning tribute to Los Zafiros - the Beatles of 1960s Cuba.

Sunday 21 November

El Techo / The Roof

Patricia Ramos | Cuba-Nicaragua 2016 | 1h15m | Spanish with English subtitles | Fiction | N/C 15+

Sunday 21 November, 5pm

CCA + Online

This film will have English-language captions.

Three young friends meet on Havana's rooftops to dream up prosperous futures as they struggle to meet the demands of everyday life.

Queens Of The Revolution + Q&A Rebecca Heidenberg

Rebecca Heidenberg | USA - Cuba 2018 | 1h20m | Spanish with English subtitles | Doc | N/C PG

Sunday 21 November, 7pm

CCA + Online

This film will have English-language captions and this event will have BSL-English interpretation.

Queens Of The Revolution is a portrait of El Mejunje, a cultural center in Santa Clara that paved the road for LGBTQ+ rights in Cuba. The film highlights the bravery of people who have fought for their lives and identities for decades.

Programme - At A Glance

Sun 14 Nov 6-9pm

Opening Party at Mango, Mango Bar and Restaurant

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Tue 16 Nov 5.25pm

Running for the Revolution + Q&A Mark Craig

CCA + Online

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Tue 16 Nov 8.05pm

Fidel Up Close + Q&A Eduardo Flores Torres

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Wed 17 Nov 7pm

El Benny

Online Only

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English-language captions and BSL-English interpretation

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Cuba: Living Between Hurricanes

English-language captions

CCA + Online

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Fri 19 Nov 3pm

Lista Quinta / Filth List

English-language captions

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Fri 19 Nov 5:05pm

Sustainability Stories: Cuba + Discussion

English-language captions and BSL-English interpretation

CCA + Online

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Fri 19 Nov 7:15pm

Cuba's Life Task: Combating Climate Change + Panel Discussion

English-language captions and BSL interpretation

CCA + Online

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Sat 20 Nov 1:30pm

Amor Vertical / Vertical Love

CCA + Online

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Sat 20 Nov 4:15pm

Breton es Un Bebe

Breton Is A Baby

CCA + Online

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Sat 20 Nov 6pm

Alejandro Valera Losa and Arturo Sotto present "Se Muere de Sed La Tia"

CCA + Online

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Sat 20 Nov 8pm

El Nido de Mantis / Mantis Nest + Q&A Arturo Sotto

English-language captions and BSL-English interpretation

CCA + Online

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Sun 21 Nov 12:15pm

Boccaccerias Habaneras

CCA + Online

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Sun 21 Nov 2:50pm

Los Zafiros - Music from The Edge of Time

CCA + Online

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Sun 21 Nov 5pm

El Techno / The Roof

English-language captions

CCA + Online

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Sun 21 Nov 7pm

Queens Of The Revolution + Q&A Rebecca Heidenberg

English-language captions and BSL-English interpretation

CCA + Online

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Festival Team

Eirene Houston – Festival Director/Curator

What makes the Festival possible is screenwriter Eirene's 23+ years commitment to Cuba, her strong relationship with the Cuban Film Institute (ICAIC) and long term working partnership with Hugo Rivalta.

Hugo Rivalta – Co-Director/Curator

Based in Havana, Hugo is a top TV writer, filmmaker and journalist. Most recently his series for adolescents 'Secondary Days' – 45 episodes – has been shown on Cuban Television. He is also screenwriter of a new horror short film, 'Rumour'. His original animation feature 'The Super', produced by ICAIC, is currently in post production.

Julia Harriman – Coordinator

A freelance Project Manager in the creative industries and nonprofit sector, Julia has over 20 years experience managing festivals, events and global education projects in the UK and Latin America. She is Co-Founder and previous Director of the social enterprise La Choza Chula on the coast of Guatemala.

Dani Acosta – Graphic Designer/Web Developer

Dani Acosta is a graphic designer and web developer. More recently he moved into video editing and production. In 2020 he produced the documentary Cuba & COVID-19: Public Health, Science and Solidarity through DaniFilms.

With Thanks to

Funders and Partners

Creative Scotland, Glasgow City Council, Unite: The Union Scotland, CCA, Film Hub Scotland, ICAIC, Instituto Cubano del Arto e Industria Cinematograficos (ICAIC)

Contributors

Lesley Atkins - International Schools Advisor

Brian Beadie - Writer

Gill Davies - Tech / Podcast Producer

Amparo Fortuny - Outreach

Tatiana Heiss - Collaborator

Charlotte Little - Access Advisor

Laura Maclean - Content Producer (Glasgow)

Craig McCulloch - Access Advisor

Laura Rivalta - Content Producer (Havana)

Miriam Rodero - Writer / Translator

Bea Webster - Access Advisor

Craig Williams - Press / Translator

Helen Yaffe - Collaborator

We also thank all our wonderful volunteers Sabrina, John, Craig, Xabi, Gemma, Megan and more!