

HAVANA-GLASGOW FILM-FESTIVAL

19 – 23 November 2026



TICKETS



SCREEN SCOTLAND
SGRìn ALBA



hello@hgfilmfest.com | www.hgfilmfest.com | @hgfilmfest



Events at a Glance

Page	Event & Venue	Date & Time
	Pre-Festival - UK-wide events	
3	Literacy, Language and Land The Birks Cinema, Aberfeldy	Sat 3 Oct 11:00 – 12:30
3	Life is Dance London Latino Film Festival, ICA	Sun 4 Oct 18:00 – 19:30
	Main Festival - Glasgow events	
4	Civic Reception (Invite only) Glasgow City Chambers 	Thu 19 Nov 18:00 – 19:30
4	Comrade Tambo's London Recruits   Glasgow Film Theatre (GFT)	Thu 19 Nov 20:00 – 22:40
6	School screening + Q&A (Invite only) Scotland's National Centre for Languages (SCILT)	Fri 20 Nov 10:00 – 12:30
5	A Night of Cuban Cinema & Culture Kelvinside Hillhead Parish Church	Sat 21 Nov 17:00 – 22:45
6	Reading the World + Volunteer Teachers + Q&A   Glasgow Film Theatre (GFT)	Mon 23 Nov 18:00 – 19:50

Online Programme

Special online screenings in collaboration with Curate-It.
See our website for more details. www.hgfilmfest.com



TICKETS

www.hgfilmfest.com






Introduction from our Festival Director

Cuba is living through an exceptionally difficult moment, making international solidarity more important than ever. Our programme explores Cuba's connections beyond its shores through shared struggles for land, language, sovereignty and justice.

In a year when Glasgow unveils its Nelson Mandela statue, we screen Comrade Tambo's *London Recruits*, connecting Cuba's solidarity with South Africa to Glasgow's proud anti-apartheid history, followed by a Q&A with the director and a special guest.

We also mark Fidel Castro's centenary and explore Cuba's commitment to challenging machismo and violence against women.

These and other films show that our struggles, histories and futures are deeply interconnected. We welcome you to an important and timely edition of the festival.

- Eirene Houston



Pre-Festival

Saturday 3 October 2026

Literacy, Language and Land & Q+A

11:00 – 12:15 | Birks Cinema, Aberfeldy

Three films from Cuba, Mexico and Scotland exploring the links between language, learning, cultural identity and place.

From Cuba's 1961 Literacy Campaign in Silvio Rodríguez: **My First Calling** (2020), to an Ayuujk woman preserving culture through pottery in **Clay Woman** (2025), and Gaelic language activism in **CEARTAS** (Justice) (2026), these stories highlight education, linguistic resilience and self-determination. With English / Gaelic / Spanish subtitles. N/C 15.

Tickets: £5.00 | Booking required: www.birkscinema.co.uk

Also screening online from 19–29 November, app.curate-it.co.uk/watch

Sunday 4 October 2026

Life is Dance + Filmmaker Introduction



18:00 – 19:20 | London Latino Film Festival | ICA London

Eirene Houston & Hugo Rivalta | Cuba 2025 | Documentary | 80 min
Spanish with English subtitles | N/C PG

Life is Dance follows six Cubans from three generations united by a love of dance. An uplifting portrait of community, resilience and self-expression, the film recently won the Programmers Choice Award at the Waco Independent Film Festival, Texas.

Tickets: £14.00 | Concessions available | lolaff2026.eventive.org



Main Festival

Thursday 19 November 2026

Civic Reception (Invite only)



18:00 – 19:30 | Glasgow City Chambers

A special Reception celebrating the enduring friendship between the twin cities of Glasgow and Havana.

Comrade Tambo's London Recruits



20:00 – 22:40 | Glasgow Film Theatre (GFT)

Gordon Main | UK 2024 | Documentary Drama
1h 50m English | N/C 15+

Winner of Best Documentary at Johannesburg Film Festival 2024, *Comrade Tambo's London Recruits* tells the true story of a secret ANC operation led by Oliver Tambo during Apartheid. Through first-hand accounts, it reveals how British volunteers risked their lives to support South Africa's liberation struggle.

Tickets: £12.25 | Concessions available

www.glasgowfilm.org

+ Q&A with Gordon Main and Sean Hosey

Gordon Main is an award-winning Welsh director, producer and writer. He will be joined by special guest Sean Hosey, who features in the film.



Saturday 21 November 2026

A Night of Cuban Cinema & Culture

17:00 – 22:45 | Kelvinside Hillhead Parish Church

Step into a vibrant evening of contemporary Cuban culture exploring stories of creativity, resilience and social change. Throughout the event, enjoy food and Cuban cocktails and browse market stalls featuring Cuban arts and crafts.

17:30 – 19:30

Cuchufleta, Daniel's Camion and Al Final del Camino (At the End of the Road) are shorts which celebrate the ingenuity and resourcefulness of everyday life in Cuba, alongside multimedia projections, images and reflections from the island, and a discussion of Cuba's current realities.

Animator Ivette Ávila Martín will present **Raptus** and **El Secreto** powerful stop-motion shorts exploring domestic abuse and survival as well as offering an insight into her animation techniques.

20:00 – 21:30

The evening culminates in a **special secret screening** marking the centenary of Fidel Castro's birth and revisiting a pivotal chapter in Cuban history.

21:30 – 22:45

DJ A Cut Above - Latin American Sounds

Tickets: £5 / £10 / £15 / £20 | www.hgfilmfest.com

Special Guest: Ivette Ávila Martín is a Cuban animator and professor. Founder of Cucurucho Productions and La Espiral Children's Audiovisual Festival, she creates socially engaged stop-motion animation and has collaborated with The British Council and ICAIC.





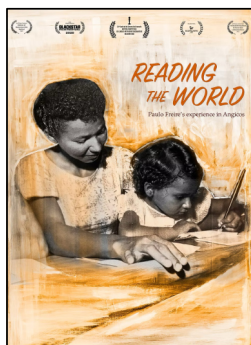
Monday 23 November 2026

Reading the World / Lendo o Mundo + Q&A



18:00 – 19:50 | Glasgow Film Theatre (GFT)

Irís de Oliveira & Catherine Murphy | Brazil / USA 2025 | Documentary
1h 10m | Portuguese & English with English subtitles | N/C



Reading the World revisits Paulo Freire's groundbreaking literacy programme in 1960s Brazil, which helped hundreds of rural adults learn to read, write and participate in democratic life. The film explores literacy as a radical act and the lasting global influence of Freire's ideas on education and social justice.

Preceded by Maestras Voluntarias / Volunteer Teachers (2022, Catherine Murphy, USA/ Cuba 17m)

Followed by a Q&A with editor Renato Maia

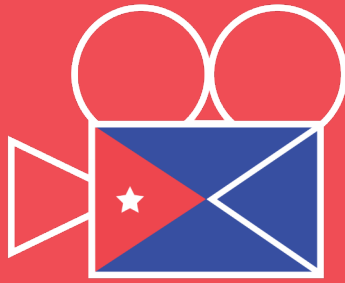
Tickets: £12.25 | Concessions available | www.glasgowfilm.org

Friday 20 November 2026

School screening + Q&A (Invite only)

10:00 – 12:30 | Scotland's National Centre for Languages (SCILT)

A selection of short films by Cuban animator Ivette Ávila Martín.
Get in touch if you would like your school to take part.



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Films with this symbol have descriptive subtitles (closed captions) in English. They transcribe dialogue and relevant aspects of the soundtrack, including music and sound effects.



Events with this symbol have BSL / English interpretation during Q&As, discussions and introductions.

Community tickets

Access free tickets for community groups.

Travel and childcare fund

We have a small fund for those who need it.

Get in touch: hello@hgfilmfest.com
Access info: www.hgfilmfest.com/access

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