

# Raindance Postgraduate Film Degree



## **Develop your voice as an independent filmmaker in a Masters course**

Would you like to study filmmaking on your own terms? The Raindance Postgraduate Film Degree allows filmmakers to achieve a Masters degree in a film-related field of their own choosing, in a structure they personally negotiate with their tutors, industry collaborators and our academic partner, Staffordshire University, on a part-time or full-time basis.

## **Personalised Learning**

Are personal relationships still possible in education with all the cuts and online facilities? Developing the age-old student-mentor relationship that made leading Universities like Oxford and Cambridge so successful further into the digital age, is a key feature of the Raindance Postgraduate Film Degree. Learning activities include:

Planning and completing your films, scripts, getting package documentation 'market-ready', or other research with guidance from an experienced tutor, including negotiating access to local production resources like equipment, collaborators, finance and marketing opportunities.

- Full access to Raindance workshops, lectures and networking events
- Access to face to regular face seminars and meetings in a London based study group, or catch up via podcast.
- Tutorials via Skype, email or landline when internet is not available with Raindance founder Elliot Grove, your Raindance industry tutor and your academic tutor from Staffordshire University
- Your own self-planned examination of relevant films, resources and related books, trade mags, interviews, reviews

## **Would you like to develop your film project as part of a postgraduate degree?**

The learning activities, pathways and even the final degree title on the certificate are negotiated individually with the student, full-time or part-time, depending on evolving career and project aims.

<b>Call for Applications:</b>	23 January 2011
<b>Application Deadline:</b>	6 March 2012
<b>Place Offers:</b>	19 March 2012
<b>Course Start Date:</b>	16 April 2012
<b>Completion:</b>	15 April 2013 (full time) 15 April 2014 (part time)

## **Proven International Concept**

The degree concept is based on the recent evolution of work-based learning techniques and leads to an M.A. or M.Sc. award. The learning, as prevailing in the British film industry, is mostly self-directed and involves free access to Raindance events, interaction with professionals and experts, as well as your own filmmaking and distribution. The mandatory sessions requiring attendance, or if you are filming catch-up via podcast, are limited to fortnightly seminars held in London, with the opportunity to arrange face to face tutorials.

We understand that self-directed learning is the best possible way for students to build their individual voice as filmmakers, to work and communicate well with the old as well as the new terms and procedures of these media industries, and become aware of how they can take advantage of arising opportunities.

This programme builds on the success of the Raindance Postgraduate Film Degree currently delivered in London, again relying heavily on the unique combination of community spirit and developing unique points of view with its fierce sense of independence demonstrated in the regular Continuous Professional Development Courses, The Raindance Film Festival and the British Independent Film Awards. The BIFAs have been noted for supporting new voices in the industry combined with a huge celebrity turnout with the likes of John Hurt, Orlando Bloom, Kate Winslet and Keira Knightley attending.

## **Networking of individualists in the cinema**

Since 1992 Raindance has trained and showcased many films and filmmakers, including the European premieres of such groundbreaking films as *The Blair Witch Project* and *Pulp Fiction*. Many filmmakers who have come through the training schemes come back to screen their work for peers and industry. Past jurors have included important filmmakers like Mike Figgis and Shashur Kapur as well as musicians Iggy Pop, Tom Waits and Mick Jones.

Established Raindance courses are supplemented with: relevant research skills (both film/TV industry and academic); career guidance including students' own investigation of relevant culture, industry segments, individual works, producers and companies relevant to them; and company placements, group and individual project work supported by regular mentoring, leading to an assessed negotiated portfolio. The lectures, discussions, seminars and online learning activities are designed to enable maximum student engagement with professional film culture by taking advantage of networking opportunities with fellow emerging as well as established filmmakers.

Alumni who have been benefiting from Raindance training and communities include such successes as Edgar Wright (*Shaun of the Dead*, *Hot Fuzz*, *Scott Pilgrim vs. The World*), Oscar® winning screenwriter Julian Fellowes (*Gosford Park*, *The Young Victoria*, *Downton Abbey*), Guy Ritchie (*Lock Stock and Two Smoking Barrels*; *Snatch*; *Sherlock Holmes*), Matthew Vaughn (*Layer Cake*, *Stardust*, *Kick-ass*), and Christopher Nolan (*Memento*, *Batman Begins*, *The Dark Knight*, *Inception*).

### **Carl Schoenfeld**

[carl@raindance.co.uk](mailto:carl@raindance.co.uk)