

# SET } SET FFF26 SUBMISSIONS GUIDE- LINES

SET Film Festival 26  
5.11.—3.12.26

Contemporary, artist,  
and archival films

[setspace.uk/  
set-film-festival](http://setspace.uk/set-film-festival)

SET Social  
Peckham, SE15 4NP

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Festa (2022) by Noémi Varga, Opening Night of the inaugural 2023 SET Film Festival. Stills courtesy of the artist.

# ABOUT SET FILM FESTIVAL

Welcome to the fourth edition of SET Film Festival, and thank you for considering submitting your work to us.

SET Film Festival is an independent grassroots festival for contemporary, artist, and archival film, run by SET, a London-based arts organisation and registered charity. Founded in 2023 and curated by Amina Ali, Ellie Dobbs and Verity Monroe, the festival presents experimental practices and emerging voices outside conventional exhibition and distribution contexts.

Held each November at SET Social, SET's arts and social club in Peckham, the festival unfolds across a month of weekly film nights. Screenings take place in relaxed, convivial settings that encourage shared viewing and conversation around film.

Each edition is shaped through the works submitted via the open call, bringing documentary, narrative and artists' moving-image practices into dialogue. Alongside our a curated short film programme, the festival presents a selection of international features, with a particular focus on Pan-African and experimental cinema.

A free archival film and performance night also forms part of the programme, exploring moving-image history through community participation and solidarity. Previous programmes have examined themes such as collective voice, activism and local cultural histories, foregrounding cinema's capacity to re-enchant us with the world around us and to enact change.

# ABOUT SET FILM FESTIVAL

What began as a locally rooted initiative within SET's wider arts and community programme has grown to welcome an increasingly international community of filmmakers and artists. The festival remains artist-focused at its core, and we are deeply grateful to the filmmakers who trust us with their work and help shape it each year.

Supported by Goldsmiths Exhibition Hub, SET Film Festival is committed to affordability, accessibility and collective exchange.

This year, the festival will run from 5 November to 3 December at SET Social in Peckham.

For more information on the festival, including our past editions, visit:

<https://www.instagram.com/set.filmfestival>





Avalon Community Choir performing during the 2024 SET Film Festival Archival Night. Photo by Giorgio Galantino, November 2024.

# ABOUT THE OPEN CALL



**Submissions are now open for the 2026 SET Film Festival.**

As we enter the fourth edition of the festival, we're inviting filmmakers and artists from around the world to submit short films for the programme.

We welcome short films of all genres, including but not limited to animation, documentary, drama, experimental cinema, essay film and artists' moving image.

While rooted in Peckham, SET Film Festival has always been international in outlook, welcoming submissions from across different territories, disciplines and ways of working.

The 2026 edition marks an evolution in how the programme is shared, with plans to extend beyond Peckham through partnerships and screenings across London and potentially further afield.

Above: Closing night of the 2024 *SET Film Festival*. Photo by Giorgio Galantino, November 2024.

# WHY SET FILM FESTIVAL?

SET Film Festival offers a supportive and engaged platform for filmmakers working across experimental and independent practices.

Selected filmmakers benefit from:

- Screening within curated themed programmes that place your work in dialogue with contemporary, artist and archival film.
- Participating in filmmaker conversations and Q&As during selected screenings designed to deepen engagement between artists and audiences.
- Presenting work within a grassroots festival context that supports experimentation, artistic voice and alternative cinematic approaches.
- Free international submission, supporting accessibility and inclusivity.
- Being part of a programme that is beginning to expand beyond Peckham through collaborations and screenings across London and potentially further afield.



Left: Q&A lead and festival curator Ellie Dobbs in conversation with Juliana Kasumu, John Smith, Charlie Johnson (actor), and Barney Gibbons during Night 2 of the 2025 SET Film Festival: 'State of the Nation'. Photo by Dominique Croshaw.



Still from *The Archive: Queer Nigerians* (2023) by Simisolaoluwa Akande, screened during Night 2 'Closed Landscapes' of the 2024 SET Film Festival. Courtesy of the filmmaker.



Still from *Yellow* (2024) by Elham Ehsas, screened during Night 3 'See It My Way' of the 2024 SET Film Festival. Courtesy of the filmmaker.

# ACCESSIBILITY & INCLUSION

**SET Film Festival is committed to accessibility and inclusivity across its programming and submission processes.**

We welcome submissions from filmmakers working across diverse cultural, geographic and economic contexts, and actively encourage applications from emerging practitioners, underrepresented voices and those working outside mainstream industry structures.

If you have specific access needs or questions regarding submission or participation, including language, format or accessibility requirements, please contact the festival team at [filmfestival@setspace.uk](mailto:filmfestival@setspace.uk) and we will do our best to support wherever possible.

Q&A lead and festival curator, Amina Ali, in conversation with Elhum Shakerifar & Sohaila Ferrier. Photo by Dominique Croshaw, November 2024.

# ELIGIBILITY & SUBMISSIONS DETAILS

## Eligibility

Submissions are free and open internationally.

- Runtime: no longer than 30 minutes
- Completion date: after 1 January 2023
- One submission per artist

Deadline: 23:59pm Sunday 7 June 2026.

## How to Submit

All films must be submitted via the online submission form: <https://setspace.uk/set-film-festival/submit-to-the-2026-set-film-festival/>

Please complete all required fields and provide a secure online viewing link for your film. This may include Vimeo, YouTube, Dropbox, Google Drive or other accessible platforms.

Viewing links must remain active until end of September 2026 (the end of the selection process).



# ELIGIBILITY & SUBMISSIONS DETAILS

## Required Materials

As part of the submission process, filmmakers will be asked to provide:

- Film title
- Director name
- Contact email
- Country of production
- Runtime
- Year completed
- Genre selection
- Synopsis (150-300 words)
- Film viewing link
- Password (if applicable)
- 4 still images (for promotional use)
- 1-2 promotional clips
- Accessibility & screening information (see below)

## Optional Materials

To help us introduce selected films to audiences and support festival promotion, filmmakers may also include:

- A trailer
- Artist statement
- Screening history
- Social media links

## Accessibility and Screening Notes

As part of the submission process, filmmakers are asked to provide:

- Primary spoken language(s)
- Confirmation of English subtitles (required for non-English films)
- Separate caption file (.srt or similar), if available
- Any sensory considerations (e.g. flashing imagery)
- Audio description availability (if applicable)

This information helps us support audiences and prepare accessible screenings.

**If you have any questions about eligibility, submission requirements or the submission process, feel free to contact us at [filmfestival@setspace.uk](mailto:filmfestival@setspace.uk)**

Part of our *The Feminist Library* archive at the 2023 SET Film Festival, SET Social Peckham.



SET Film Festival T-shirts sold at the 2024 Film Festival. Designed by Ashley Kinnard Studio.



# TERMS & CONDITIONS



**By submitting a film, you confirm that you hold the necessary rights and permissions required for exhibition.**

Films must be original works or submitted with the authorisation of the rights holder. SET Film Festival does not accept responsibility for copyright infringement or unauthorised use of third-party materials.

Films should comply with applicable laws and must not contain material promoting harm or discrimination. English subtitles are required for films where English is not the primary language. Submission does not guarantee selection.

All films are reviewed by the programming team and pre-selectors, and final programming decisions are made at the discretion of the curatorial team.

# PROMOTION & SCREENING

## Promotional Use

If selected, filmmakers grant SET Film Festival permission to use submitted still images, trailers or short excerpts from the work for promotional purposes before, during and after the festival across print, online and social media platforms.

As part of the submission process, we ask filmmakers to provide still images and short clips to support the promotion of selected films. Wherever possible, filmmaker credits will be included.

## Screening & Exhibition

Selected films will be screened as part of the 2026 festival programme. Screening formats and scheduling are determined by the curatorial team. Filmmakers will be contacted directly regarding screening details, technical specifications and participation opportunities.



*A Drifting Up* (2022) by Jacob Lee, screened during Night 3 of the 2023 SET Film Festival. Photo by Dominique Croshaw, November 2023.

# LIABILITY & CONTACT

## Liability

SET Film Festival will take reasonable care in handling submitted materials. While every effort is made to ensure secure digital submission and exhibition, the festival is not responsible for technical failures or issues arising outside its reasonable control.

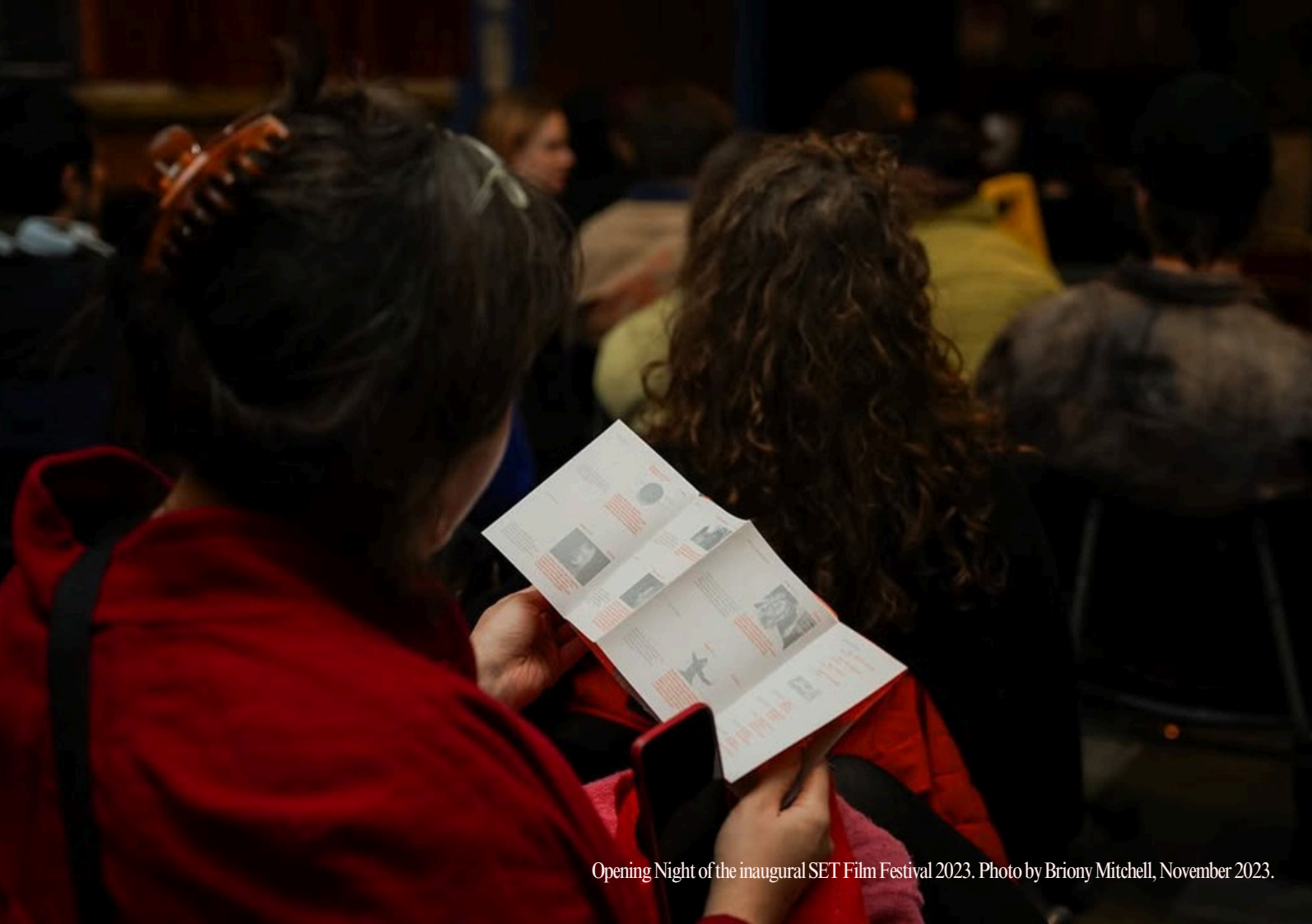
## Data & Contact

Information submitted will be used solely for festival-related communication and will not be shared externally without consent.

## For enquiries:

[filmfestival@setspace.uk](mailto:filmfestival@setspace.uk)

Follow [@set.filmfestival](https://www.instagram.com/set.filmfestival) for updates.



Opening Night of the inaugural SET Film Festival 2023. Photo by Briony Mitchell, November 2023.



*Being John Smith (2024)* by John Smith, screened during Night 2 of 2025 SET Film Festival: 'State of the Nation'. Photo by Dominique Croshaw, November 2025.



Opening Night of the 2025 SET Film Festival: *A Token, A Sign*. Photo by Charlie Goodall, November 2025.

# THANK YOU FOR CONSIDERING THE SET FILM FESTIVAL.

Website: [www.setspace.uk](http://www.setspace.uk)

LinkedIn: @setsetsetsetset

Instagram: @set.filmfestival @setsetsetsetset

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