

FOLK FILM GATHERING 2026 PROGRAMME

Our new programme includes screenings & events at

EDINBURGH CAMEO PICTUREHOUSE
www.picturehouses.com/cinema/the-cameo

SCOTTISH STORYTELLING CENTRE
www.scottishstorytellingcentre.com

NORTH EDINBURGH ARTS
<https://northedinburgharts.co.uk>

and online at WWW.FOLKFILMGATHERING.COM

Wednesday 29 April, 18:00, North Edinburgh Arts, 18.00

AMUSSU

(Nadir Bouhmouch, Morocco, 2019, 1hr 39 min)

Event duration: 2h 36min

A documentary following the courageous stand taken by an indigenous community in southeast Morocco against the encroachments of a multinational mining corporation, AMUSSU celebrates the ways in which small actions combine into powerful collective resistance. Made collaboratively together with the community it documents, AMUSSU is a powerful testament to the power of each child, woman and man to together change the course of history.

Curated by North Edinburgh Art's artist-in-residence Samantha Dick, join us for a special evening of cinema, discussion and live performance

Friday 1st May, Cameo Picturehouse, 18.15

CELEBRATING JIMMY HUTCHISON

Trad Treasures: Jimmy Hutchison

(Joseph Matheson, Scotland, 2026, 39min)

Event duration: 1hr 45min

Closed captions available
BSL interpreted event

How do songs shape the life of the person who sings them? This special evening of music and cinema will celebrate one of Scotland's most invaluable tradition bearers, the bi-lingual Scots & Gaelic singer and weaver Jimmy Hutchison.

Alongside the world premiere of a new documentary exploring Jimmy's life and work, the event will feature a special concert from Jimmy and his protégé Erika Douglas, followed by a discussion led by TRACS CEO, Steve Byrne.

Saturday 2nd May, Cameo Picturehouse, 17.00

HASTRMAN

(Ondřej Havelka, Czechoslovakia, 2018, 1hr 38min)

Event duration: 1h 56min

Closed captions available

Exploring Eastern European folklore of the hastrman - a water spirit that is part-man, part-fish - Ondřej Havelka's mysterious love story tells the tale of Baron de Casus, a strange nobleman who returns to his family estate after years away from home. Whilst attempting to hide his secrets from the local villagers, the Baron's growing love for Katynka draws him towards a fateful decision.

The screening will be introduced with Czech folk songs from Marta Stryjecka.

Saturday 2nd May, Scottish Storytelling Centre, 20:00

FAODAIL | FOUND

Event duration: 1hr 30min

Featuring a dynamic mix of archive film and live music, this special event will celebrate indigenous perspectives upon life in the Outer

Hebrides. Drawing from the FAODAIL | FOUND project's growing collection of 8mm home movies documenting the lived experiences of communities across the Outer Hebrides, a specially-curated selection of films from the archive will be accompanied by a live score from celebrated Gaelic musicians Pàdruig Morrison and Claire Frances MacNeil.

Sunday 3rd May, Cameo Picturehouse, 14:30

WOMEN IN RESISTANCE (Double bill)

Las Damas Azules

(Bérengère Sarrazin, Peru, 2015, 1hr 4min)

Iron Ladies (Daniel Draper, UK, 2025, 1hr 38min))

Event duration: 3hr 20min

Closed captions available

BSL interpreted event

What do the struggles of women in the Andean highlands to protect endangered water resources have in common with the UK Miners' Strike? This special double bill event will explore cross-cultural resonances and solidarities between Scotland and Peru, focussing in particular upon moments where women have been at the centre of powerful movements of community struggle and industrial action.

Presented in partnership with Resonating Moving Images film encounter, the event will be followed by a discussion led by Verónica Zela Valdez, Sara Guerrero and Ximena Oñate.

Monday 4th May, Cameo Picturehouse, 18:15

LOKIS

(Janusz Majewski, Poland, 1970, 1hr 40min)

Event duration: 1hr 58min

Our second film to explore Eastern European shapeshifter lore, Polish folk horror classic *Lokis* follows Wittembach, a young pastor and folklorist studying local customs in a remote part of 19th-century Lithuania, who is invited to stay with a young nobleman who the locals believe to be the son of a bear. As he begins to uncover the mystery, will Wittembach survive the secrets of the Szemiot family? The film will be introduced by Eastern European folk tales from Lithuanian storyteller Daiva Ivanauskaite`.

Tuesday 5th May, Cameo Picturehouse, 18:45

CELTIC UTOPIA

(Dennis Harvey and Lars Lovén, Ireland, 2025, 1hr 30min)

Event Duration: 1h 48min

Winner of the Grand Prix at the 2025 Locarno Film Festival, *Celtic Utopia* celebrates Ireland's current folk renaissance, documenting a new generation of young folk musicians who are bold, funny and politically outspoken. Featuring Lankum, The Mary Wallopers and more, *Celtic Utopia* is a funny, poetic film about a new generation drawing on the power of folk music to reckon with the legacies of colonialism and the promise of the future.

The screening will be introduced with Irish folk tunes from David Lennon.

Wednesday 6th May, Cameo Picturehouse, 17:45

CELEBRATING THE ROJAVA

FILM COMMUNE

Darên Bi Tenê (The Lonely Trees)

(Rojava Film Commune, Rojava, 2017, 43min)

Evîn Di Rûyê Qirkirinê De

(Love in The Face of Genocide)

(Rojava Film Commune, Rojava, 2020, 53min)

Event Duration: 2h 9min

Featuring two compelling documentaries exploring traditional forms of singing (Dengbêj) in Kurdistan, this special event will celebrate the work of the Rojava Film Commune, a women-centred collective of filmmakers

based in the autonomous region of Rojava in northern Syria. Highlighting the importance of oral traditions in preserving the culture and history of communities under threat, the work of Rojava Film Commune is a powerful testament to the resilience of Kurdish culture and community.

The screening will be introduced with a special mini-concert from Scotland-based Kurdish musicians Rengê Welat.

Thursday 7th May, Cameo Picturehouse, 18:30

LEILA AND THE WOLVES

(Heiny Srour, Lebanon, 1984, 1hr 30min)

Event duration: 1h 48 min

An innovative fusion of drama and documentary, Heiny Srour's groundbreaking film follows a young woman living in London in the 1980s who discovers the hidden past of women's struggle across Palestine and Lebanon. Mixing the real and the imaginary, and described by John Akromfah as 'a rich tableau of history, folklore, myth and archive, Srour's audacious film is a brilliant testament to the active, activist and defiant women of Lebanon and Palestine.

The screening will be introduced by the Scottish-Palestinian poet Nada Shawa.

Friday 8th May, Cameo Picturehouse, 19:30

BILL DOUGLAS: RARE GLIMPSES

Event duration: 1h 32min

One of the most important figures in Scottish cinema, who yet only made a small handful of films, Bill Douglas remains something of an enigma. Taking us deeper into Douglas' experiments with cinema, this screening will present a specially-curated selection of the early, rarely-seen silent films made by Douglas and Peter Jewell (presented here with a new live score), alongside a chance to see the newly-digitized Ring of Truth (Richard Downes, Scotland, 1996, 30min), written by Bill Douglas and produced by students at Strathclyde University. At once playful, strange and disquieting, this special event will explore new dimensions to one of Scotland's most important artists.

The screening will feature a new, live score from Edinburgh-based musicians Dalhous

Saturday 9th May, Cameo Picturehouse, 16:00

PERINBABA

{Juraj Jakubisko, Slovakia, 1985, 1hr 35min)

Event duration; 1h 53min

A magical, otherworldly cinematic adaptation of Slavic folklore that is broadcast every Christmas in Slovakia, Jakubisko's classic film tells the story of Perinbaba - known as Lady Winter, or the Feather Fairy – who lives in the sky, and brings snow to the world. Rescuing young Jakob from an avalanche, Perinbaba - played brilliantly by Giulietta Masina, Fellini's wife and muse – faces a difficult choice when Jakob falls in a love with a peasant girl and wishes to return to the real world. A breathtaking cinematic fantasia, don't miss the rare chance to see this cult classic of Slovakian cinema on the big screen.

The screening will be introduced with Eastern European folk songs from Samodiva Nestya.

Saturday 9th May, Cameo Picturehouse, 19:00

CANONE EFFIMERO - UK Premiere

(Gianluca and Massimiliano De Serio, Italy, 2025, 2hr 1min)

Event duration: 2h 46min

Receiving a Special Mention from the Berlinale's 2024 Documentary Jury, this remarkable, poetic documentary presents a tour of Italy's rich folk traditions from Calabria and Marche to Liguria and Sicily. As passed down orally from generation to generation, Canone Effimero presents a series of unique, musical customs, each one rooted in place, community and deep lived experiences, which together combine to form a network of radical countercultures across Italy. Presented in collaboration with the Scottish Documentary Institute and will be followed by a Q&A with the filmmakers.

Sunday 10th May, Cameo Picturehouse, 14:00

SAILM NAN DAOINE (Psalms of The People)

(Jack Archer, Scotland, 2026, 1hr 24min)

Event duration: 2hr 15min

Fresh from its recent success at the Glasgow Film Festival, this warm, moving documentary follows local Scottish-Gaelic psalm precentor Rob MacNeacail as he seeks to bring Scotland's rich traditions of Gaelic psalm singing to new generations. Filled with humour and poignancy, Saim nan Daoine follows Rob's journey across Scotland and Ireland, from Carlops to the Outer Hebrides to bring together communities old and new through the power of music.

The screening will be followed by a special psalm singing workshop led by Rob himself.

Sunday 10th May, Cameo Picturehouse, 17:00

ANDRIESH

(Sergei Parajanov, Ukraine, 1954, 1hr 2min)

Event Duration: 1h 22min

The feature film debut from visionary director Sergei Parajanov, now newly remastered by Kyiv's Dovzhenko Centre, Andriesh follows the story of a young shepherd boy who comes into possession of an enchanted flute, which he must use to defeat the evil wizard known as the Black Whirlwind. An early glimpse of Parajanov's gift for remarkable cinematic imagery, Andriesh is a magical cinematic folk tale and a classic of Ukrainian poetic cinema.

The screening will be introduced with a special concert from the Edinburgh Ukrainian Choir.