

**XpoNorth 2015
MEDIA INFORMATION
Monday 4th May 2015**



SCREEN SENSATION HEADING FOR INVERNESS

INVERNESS-BASED creative industries festival, XpoNorth, which promotes creative careers throughout the Highlands & Islands of Scotland, has received almost 3,000 entries from filmmakers across the globe looking to be part of its prestigious film showcase programme.

XpoNorth director, Amanda Millen, put a call out for submissions in January this year for short films to screen at the festival which takes place in the Highland capital in June.

As well as receiving submissions from the Highlands & Islands, the rest of Scotland, Ireland and other parts of the UK, Amanda was delighted when just under 3,000 films flooded in from 107 countries, including Vietnam, Nigeria, Iran and Nepal. Most of the films were submitted via FilmFreeway, a global digital platform for filmmakers to get their work seen by film festivals.

Now, with the festival just six weeks away, 104 films have been successful in their bid to be screened before an influential audience of screen and broadcast professionals. The list includes local home-grown talent from the Highlands & Islands.

XpoNorth (formerly goNORTH) takes place this year on **Wednesday 10th and Thursday 11th June** at venues across the Highland capital.

According to Millen, a former BBC producer who also heads up ScreenHI, the screen and broadcast wing of XpoNorth, the sheer volume of submissions has made the selection process a challenge,

She said: "It's been a fascinating process and a real insight into how grassroots filmmaking is thriving in every corner of the globe. The digital age is opening doors for people to make films on a budget wherever they are based. There were some very strong submissions from filmmakers based in the Highlands and Islands and other parts of Scotland."

"XpoNorth is all about giving a platform to emerging talent and offering free practical, hands-on support all year round."

This year, the screen and broadcast element of XpoNorth is being boosted by the presence of The Screen Machine, the 80-seat, air conditioned mobile cinema which is more usually seen in far-flung corners of the Highlands and Islands.

The Screen Machine will be based in the centre of Inverness for the duration of XpoNorth and will provide a unique viewing point for festival delegates to watch featured films. Of the selected films, 78 will be shown in the Screen Machine, while 26 will screen as part of the conference programme.

Special evening programmes include Screen Academy Scotland celebrating ten years in business with a special programme of shorts and a bespoke programme curated by Richard Warden of The Scottish Mental Health Arts and Film Festival.

A highlight of this will be a screening of controversial Thurso filmmaker, David Graham Scott's, autobiographical film, *Detox or Die*. Described as an 'in-depth portrait of a small-time drug addict seeking redemption', it tracks his own quick-fix style attempt to shake off a 20-year-long addiction to opiates.

To top off this fantastic feast of film, Millen is introducing The Golden Hour to XpoNorth audiences. Named after cinematographers' favourite time of the day, the hour just after sunrise or before sunset when the light is softer, XpoNorth will present a selection of Millen's top picks from partner film festivals.

Details of the full festival XpoNorth conference programme will follow on Tuesday 12th May.

The film showcase list in full:

'About Me'	Adam Galloway	Canada
1-0	Saman Hosseinuor	Iran
1900-2000	Benoit Berthe	France
3 Shades	Vivek Joshi	India
A Friend of Ours	Joey Jameson	Australia
A Lost Youth	Andy Salamonczyk	United Kingdom
A Time Of Freedom	Douglas McDowall	United Kingdom
A Wee Night In	Stuart Edwards	United Kingdom
Adana Kebap	Özgür Barut	Turkey
Agradecimento	Diego Akel	Brazil
All You Do Is Shag	Manu Bueno	Spain
Anatomy of a Sunbeam	Larica Perera	Canada
Arty Anne	Marcin Walczak	United Kingdom
As He Lay Falling	Ian Waugh	United Kingdom
Available Light	John Edwards	United Kingdom
Baby At Any Price	Clicquot Guillaume	France
Backward Run	Ayce Kartal	Turkey
Better Than Tomorrow	EuiJeong Hong	United Kingdom
Botev is an idiot	Deyan Bararev	Bulgaria
Calling Ukraine	Jean Counet	Netherlands
Camouflage	Lucinda Verweij	Netherlands
ChatRoulette	Alexander Thomas	United Kingdom
Children's Allowance	Brian Stynes	Ireland
Chinatown	Mehmet Gözetlik	Turkey
Cold War	Julija Proskurina	Ukraine
Companion	Sean O'Neill	United States
Curse of the Society	Naimur Rahman Jeem	Bangladesh
Daily Bread	Betsy Tsai	United States
Dark Side of the Earth	Aćim Vasić	United Kingdom
Deer and Firework	Cheng Yixuan	China

Different People	Kirill Kosolapov	Russia
Directed by Tweedie	Duncan Cowles	United Kingdom
Dropping Off Michael	Zam Salim	United Kingdom
e-Social	Natalia Lampropoulou	Greece
Elysia	Greg McCarron	United Kingdom
Everything For The Movies	Lukas Buys	Belgium
False Allegory	Greg Doble	Canada
First Ascent	Katrina Brown	United Kingdom
Fly With Me	Joelle Tyea Enver	Singapore
Freistil	Jannis Lenz	Austria
Go Daan Go!	Mari Sanders	Netherlands
Happy New Year	Joseph Israel Laban	Philippines
Harvest	Kit McDee	Australia
Heaven Group	André Nyström	Sweden
Heavyweight	Jesper Quistgaard	Denmark
Hole	Parnaz Rad	Iran
I've just had a dream	Javi Navarro	Spain
James and the Urn	Louis Clark	United Kingdom
Kapi	Burak Cilsal	Turkey
Keys, Money, Phone	Roger Young	South Africa
KiaRex	Yandong Qiu	United States
Love Refrain	Silvia Capitta	Italy
Lovearthcam	Aitor Marín Correcher	Spain
Magarwasi	Kartik Gupta	India
Michel	Romain Richard	France
Moments	Chris Cronin	United Kingdom
Money Box	Muzappar Osman	China
My Sardasht	Ziba Arzhang	Iran
Norman is Lost	Joseph Felton	United Kingdom
Nose Off The Fairy Hill	Arun Sood	United Kingdom
Not Anymore: A Story of Revolution	Matthew VanDyke	United States
Office Kingdom	Salvatore Centoducati	Italy
On the Edge	Roy Zafrani	Israel
One in a Million	Darren Langlands	United Kingdom
OUT - A Coming Out Documentary	Tommy Fletcher	United States
Pebble Moon	Lian Furness	United Kingdom
Planet X	Rohit Gill	United Kingdom
Razor	Aleley Belyakov	Russia
Roses Are Red	Abbey Sacks	United States
Rosso Papavero	Martin Smatana	Slovakia
Scotoma	Mark Callum	United Kingdom
Someoneone Else's Skin	Patrick Perlman	France
Stop	Serdar Cotuk	Turkey
Surface	Mark Jenkins	United Kingdom
Switch Man	Hsun-Chun Chuang	Taiwan
Swoon	Jacob Joyner	United States
Take Your Time	Orson Cornick	United Kingdom
Tall Tales Part 2	Jon Turner	United Kingdom

Tarweeda	Ateeq Mohd	Bahrain
Ten Paisa and Grandmother	Sachi Bansal	India
Tethered	Kevin McNulty	United States
The Bird That Never Flew	Hector Bizerk	United Kingdom
The Fight	Keith Mannix	Ireland
The Future	Venetia Taylor	Australia
The Girl and her Tail	Yong Jie Yu	Singapore
The Laboratory with Leaves: Creepy Crawlies	Daniel Roberts	United Kingdom
The Latecomers	Michael Creutzburg	Netherlands
The Longest Day	Tim Courtney	United Kingdom
The New News	Danny Sandler	United States
The Penguin Construction	Mihály Schwechtje	Hungary
The Punishment	Nelson Fernandes	Spain
The Technician	James Arden	United Kingdom
The Trouble with Lucie	Lionel Kaplan	France
The Wheel of Time	Kagan Kerimoglu	Turkey
Time Capsule	Michael Peeling	Canada
Tři Cíga	Liam Hall	United States
Under the Same Roof	Dornaz Hajiha	United Kingdom
Upside Down	Shira Levin	United States
Waning Wolf	Ian Todaro	United States
Way Out	Yukai Du	United Kingdom
We Got Your Back	Viktor Hertz	Sweden
Where are you hiding	Nadia Abate	Italy
White Lining	Nor Hazlin	United Kingdom
White Swan	Olivier Lallart	France

EDITOR'S NOTES:

The annual Inverness-based XpoNorth festival is devoted to boosting creative careers in the Highlands and Islands and beyond and takes place this year in Inverness on Wednesday 10th and Thursday 11th June.

The only event of its kind in Scotland devoted to crafts, publishing, screen and broadcast as well as music, XpoNorth is also attended by leading creative industry insiders, who take part in workshops, panels and masterclass sessions over the course of both days.

XpoNorth, is funded by Highlands and Islands Enterprise (HIE) and the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF).

The four genres under the collective banner of XpoNorth are:

XpoNorth Crafts/Fashions/Textiles and XpoNorth Writing and Publishing

Supported by Emergents, the network which co-ordinates HIE industry networks for craft, fashion and textiles as well as writing and publishing. It is managed by Pamela Conacher and Peter Urpeth, who both bring extensive experience in their respective fields of craft, fashion and textiles, and writing and publishing, to XpoNorth.

XpoNorth Screen and Broadcasting

ScreenHI is headed up by Amanda Millen, who is also director of XpoNorth. ScreenHI is the Screen and Broadcast Industry Network for the Highlands and Islands and has been operating for four

years. It offers experiences, job opportunities and industry networking to screen and broadcast businesses in the Highlands & Islands.

XpoNorth Music is managed by former goNORTH music producer Alex Smith along with the team at Ironworks Venue. It has been established as the new Music Industry Network for the Highlands and Islands and will be delivered by Ironworks Group. The 2014 festival showcase schedule in Inverness included much-lauded emerging artists such as Neon Waltz, Baby Strange, Ella The Bird, Hector Bizerk and Broken Records.

Website: www.xponorth.co.uk

Twitter: @XpoNorth

Facebook: www.facebook.com/xponorth

Instagram: www.instagram/xponorth

Hashtag: #xponorth

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