



## UK GREEN FILM FESTIVAL 2015

Returns with more UK premieres and venues than ever

3rd-10th May

*Aberdeen / Belfast / Birmingham / Bristol / Cambridge / Cardiff / Cheshire / Cumbria  
Dundee / Edinburgh / Falmouth / Glasgow / Goole / Hexham / Inverness / Leeds / Leicester  
London / Nottingham / Oban / Oxford / Saffron Waldon / Welwyn Garden City*

**Opening Gala** 3rd May, 3pm. Rio Cinema, London  
European Premiere: *Bikes vs Cars* Dir. Fredrik Gertten

**Closing Gala & Awards Ceremony in partnership with DocHouse**  
10th May, 7pm. Bertha DocHouse, Curzon Bloomsbury  
UK Premiere: *Good Things Await* Dir. Phie Ambo

Bringing an exceptional line-up of UK premiere titles with an environmental theme to cinemas all over the country, the **UK Green Film Festival**, sponsored by **Friends of the Earth** is now bigger than ever. Taking place for its fifth year between the **3rd and 10th of May**, the festival's network of cinemas will span a record-breaking 23 towns and cities across the UK, from the Scottish Highlands to London, Wales and Northern Ireland. Growing by a third with more than 10 new cinemas joining the cause, including **London's Rio**, **Vue Cinemas in Islington** and **ArtHouse Crouch End**, altogether 25 venues are going green this May with UK's biggest nationwide celebration of environmental films.

The festival's opening gala will take place for the first time in London's independent **Rio Cinema** on the 3rd of May. The screening is also the European premiere of *Bikes vs Cars*, the new film by **Bananas!\*** and **Big Boys Gone Bananas!\*** director *Fredrik Gertten*. Coming to the festival straight after its world premiere at SXSW in Austin, Texas, the thought-provoking documentary investigates the daily global drama in traffic and meets with cycling activists fighting for safer and cleaner cities.

The festival's closing gala will be held on the 10th of May in partnership with **DocHouse** at the newly opened **Bertha DocHouse** screen at **Curzon Bloomsbury**. The screening of Phie Ambo's *Good Things Await*, an enthralling tale of a Danish man whose biodynamic, holistic farm supplies meat and vegetables for Michelin star restaurants, will be accompanied by an awards ceremony and special guests from the film and environmental movement.

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The festival programme consists of seven feature length documentaries, including one **European Premiere** and **five UK premieres**, from all over the world. Each documentary will also compete for the coveted Palme Verte Award, as well as the UKGFF Audience Award. The festival will also host a number of special events including guest speakers, Q&As and talks with filmmakers, environmental campaigners and pioneering green thinkers.

[www.ukgreenfilmfestival.org](http://www.ukgreenfilmfestival.org)

[www.facebook.com/UKGreenFilmFestival](https://www.facebook.com/UKGreenFilmFestival)

**Twitter:** @UKGreenFilms

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**Stills are available to download at:**

[http://www.ukgreenfilmfestival.org/downloads/UKGFF\\_2015\\_Press\\_assets.zip](http://www.ukgreenfilmfestival.org/downloads/UKGFF_2015_Press_assets.zip)

## **Programme**

**Bikes vs Cars (UKGFF Opening Gala - European Premiere)** - Dir. Fredrik Gertten

Running Time: 91 min

Country: Sweden



Today there are one billion cars in the world. By 2020, that number will double. Coming to UKGFF for its European premiere straight from SXSW, *Bikes vs Cars* depicts a global crisis that we all deep down know we need to talk about: an ever-growing, dirty and polluting traffic chaos. The new film from *Bananas!\** and *Big Boys Gone Bananas!\** director Fredrik Gertten investigates the daily global drama in traffic. We meet activists and thinkers who are fighting for better cities and who refuse to stop riding, despite billions of dollars being used every year for lobbying to keep society car dependent.

**Good Things Await (UKGFF Closing Gala - UK Premiere)** - Dir. Phie Ambo

Running Time: 90 min

Country: Denmark



Niels Stokholm is fast approaching 80, but still runs his biodynamic farm with his wife Rita in accordance with spiritual laws. Living in the Danish countryside, the idealistic couple face regular visits - and fines - from government inspectors pointing out their unusual methods. At the same time, a businessman wants them to distribute products to some of the finest and hippest Michelin star restaurants in the world. Filmmaker Phie Ambo's absorbing and visually inspiring documentary follows Niels and Rita for an unforgettable year as they attempt to ensure they're the first rather than the last to practice agriculture in this unique way.

**Above All Else (UK Premiere)** - Dir. John Fiege

Running Time: 95 min

Country: USA



One man risks his family and future when he rallies against the controversial Keystone XL oil pipeline in East Texas in this compelling and timely documentary by John Fiege. Having its UK premiere at the UK Green Film Festival, Above All Else follows David Daniel as he rallies neighbours and environmental activists to join him in a final act of brinkmanship: a tree-top blockade of the controversial pipeline. What begins as a stand against corporate bullying becomes a rallying cry for climate protesters nationwide. Shot in the forests, pastures, and living rooms of rural East Texas, the documentary premiered to rave reviews at SXSW in March 2014.

**Divide in Concord (UK Premiere)** - Dir. Kris Kaczor

Running Time: 82 min

Country: USA



Divide in Concord follows the entertaining tale of a battle to ban bottled water in small town America. The year was 1775 in Concord, Massachusetts when colonists fired the infamous 'shot heard round the world' that began the American Revolution. One hundred years later, the work of local resident Henry David Thoreau began the environmental movement. And now, the spirit of Jean Hill, a fiery 84-year-old widow and mother of four, wants to ban the sale of bottled water from Concord. But all are not in agreement - merchants are wary of the bylaw; philanthropist, model and celebrity publicist Adriana Cohen calls it an attack on freedom; and with billions of dollars at stake, the International Bottled Water Association sends in the cavalry.

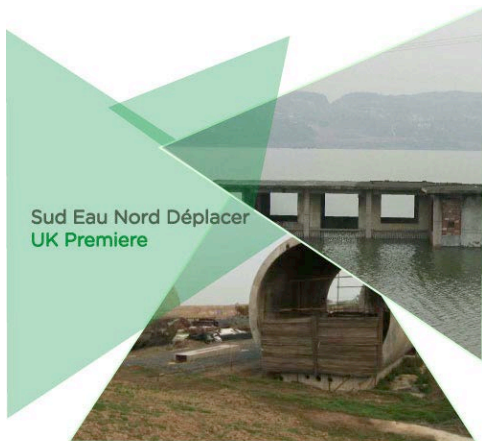
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**H2Omx (UK Premiere)** - Dir. José Cohen & Lorenzo Hagerman  
Running Time: 72 min  
Country: Mexico



This UK premiere asks if a mega-city can mobilize its' 22 million citizens to become water sustainable. Mexico City was built not near water but in the middle of a lake. To supply the city with fresh water is such a task that it has become compulsory to bring water from other states. In addition once sewage water leaves the city it ends up in agriculture. The environmental documentary details in a gripping way the daily struggle of the Valley of Mexico as it tries to save itself while its population grows.

**Sud Eau Nord Déplacer (UK Premiere)** - Dir. Antoine Boutet  
Running Time: 110 min  
Country: France/China



This UK premiere is a journey along the Nan Shui Bei Diao, an audacious scheme designed to move water from the south to the north of China and the biggest water transfer project the world has ever seen. By travelling across the country, from the developed eastern coast to the uninhabited mountains of Tibet, it is possible to understand the consequences of the project: landscapes shaped by engineers who exert their power over land, who work carefully to assure control and yield. The captivating documentary shows how a civilisation seeks to inscribe, into the earth and landscape itself, the imprint of its supposed greatness and tells the story of the people affected by this colossal politically motivated project.

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**Seeds of Time** - Dir. Sandy McLeod

Running Time: 77 min

Country: USA



A perfect storm is brewing as agriculture pioneer Cary Fowler races against time to protect the future of our food. Seed banks around the world are crumbling, crop failures are producing starvation and rioting, and the accelerating effects of climate change are affecting farmers globally. Communities of indigenous Peruvian farmers are already suffering those effects, as they try desperately to save over 1,500 varieties of native potato in their fields. The captivating documentary by Academy Award nominee Sandy McLeod follows Fowler and the farmers on their passionate and personal journeys that may save the one resource we cannot live without: our seeds.