

Reel Roots: Windrush

An exploration and celebration of Black British Caribbean stories and talent in cinema



Reel Roots: Windrush is the first of an exciting new two-part film tour exploring Blackness in Britain, curated by [The New Black Film Collective](#) (TNBFC) with the support of Film Hub Scotland.

Screening May-June 2022 in honour of Windrush Day (22 June), the programme features stories of the Windrush generation and of Black British people with Caribbean heritage.

This tour provides a wonderful opportunity to take a closer look at a culture that contributes richly to our social fabric, and to reflect on the complex histories of British Caribbean communities. The programme is made up of British films, as well as films made by British directors who have returned to the Islands.

The films selected are as wide-ranging as Black British Caribbean experiences. Select your own choices from a list that spans decades, including music and socio-political documentaries, fictional narratives, and short films and interviews. Curate a conversation that offers your audience a broader range of perspectives by screening shorts ahead of features.

The programme is available to all types of film exhibitors, with a range of license fees starting from £50.

Celebrate 60 years of Jamaican independence, or host events to welcome British Caribbean communities with the cultural guidance from The New Black Film Collective.

Venues who book 3+ titles will benefit from partnership, enhanced activity and marketing support from The New Black Film Collective and Film Hub Scotland. Community cinemas and other non-venue organisations can access this support for 2+ bookings.



Highlights include:

- **Rebel Dread (2020)**: A fitting, newly-released documentary about legendary musician, DJ and filmmaker Don Letts and the cross-pollination of reggae and British punk. UK release date: 4 March 2022.
- **Babymother (1998)**: Widely considered to be the first truly Black British musical, *Baby Mother* is a fictional tale of a young mother who dreams of becoming a singer. It is steeped in late-'90s Black London youth culture and the Dancehall scene.
- **Marley (2012)**: The definitive documentary about the life, music and legacy of one of the most loved international icons of the 20th Century: Bob Marley. Includes live concert footage.

Reel Roots is an opportunity to give a sense of belonging to communities that may have yet to be seen in their full complexity by wider society. We need to know that as human beings, we are citizens of the earth and bring with us rich cultural offerings that we are able to capture on screen. This first iteration of Reels Roots looks to the Caribbean and the relationship we have with the generations residing in the UK since Windrush. Let's indulge and explore this cinematic exchange whilst being open to new thoughts, ideas and creative expressions. – Priscilla Igwe, TNBFC

Feature Films:

1. Rebel Dread (2020)*
2. Marley (2012)
3. Babymother (1998)
4. I Am the Gorgon: Bunny 'Striker' Lee and the Roots of Reggae (2013)
5. Inna De Yard: The Soul of Jamaica (2019)
6. Dancehall Queen (1997)
7. Playing Away (1987)
8. Pressure (1976)
9. Lee Scratch Perry's Vision of Paradise (2015)
10. The Stuart Hall Project (2013)

*Available for DCP shows only.

Follow [this link](#) for full title information, including synopses, formats, programming hooks, certifications, running times, subtitles, director and cast information, license fees and access information such as availability of accessible formats.



License terms range £50-£100 + materials costs/VAT, with some minimum guarantees. Though we do not anticipate any changes, some fees may require final approval upon booking.

Please note that for some Blu-ray/DVD shows, you may need to provide your own screening copy. We recommend that you check commercial availability of the film before you confirm your booking.

Short films:

1. 1000 Londoners

This multi-award-winning documentary project features a series of 15 short interviews which discover the lives of 4 generations of Londoners with Caribbean heritage. At approximately 3 minutes each, they offer a great opportunity to add even more British Caribbean perspectives before the start of a feature film screening. From Chocolate Films.

1. 'Arrival': Celebrating Windrush 2018

This short film, commissioned by the Mayor of London, documented the celebrations of the 70th Anniversary of the Empire Windrush at London City Hall. It features leading figures from the black community such as Baroness Floella Benjamin and Linton Kwesi Johnson alongside passengers from the Empire Windrush and their relatives. From Chocolate Films.

More information on all shorts is available from the booking contact, Priscilla Igwe.

Enhanced Activity and Partnerships Support:

Curator Priscilla Igwe of The New Black Film Collective is available to facilitate partnerships and enhanced activity. TNBFC can support with:

- Connecting exhibitors with community groups to reach new audiences
- Cultural and curatorial advice
- Coordinating, and funding for, enhanced activity, such as pre-recorded content, Facebook Live events, Q&As, panels, DJ sets, live music, and Caribbean cuisine
- Educational resources such as articles, archive materials, and programme notes

Marketing Support:

Marketing support from Film Hub Scotland includes:



- A tour quad or A3 poster for venue display
- Bespoke Reel Roots: Windrush artwork, adapted for use across all social media platforms
- £10 per participating venue to boost social media for tour screenings
- Digital marketing support of ticket sales across FHS' social media channels and the FHS Reel Roots webpage
- A tailored social media marketing pack, including sample social media posts and copy to promote tour participation, and all available assets for tour titles, including stills, trailers, clips, synopses, and SDH captioning/Audio Description availability.

Show your support of inclusive cinema and gain visibility for your screenings by publishing tour artwork online, using the #ReelRootsWindrush hashtag.

To receive materials and to discuss marketing support, contact Sandra Kinahan at Film Hub Scotland (<mailto:sandra@filmhubscotland.com>).

Booking:

Available May-June 2022.

Please contact Priscilla Igwe (priscilla@tnbfc.co.uk) to discuss booking, partnerships and enhanced activity with budget support.

Priscilla will also provide access to the tour's special licence rates and make connections to local partners. Print materials and booking invoices will be handled by distributors directly.

Acknowledgements:

The programme is curated by Priscilla Igwe of The New Black Film Collective.

The Reel Roots: Windrush tour is made possible thanks to the generous support of Film Hub Scotland.

Please credit The New Black Film Collective and Film Hub Scotland when promoting your screenings. Logos will be provided within the tour marketing pack.

Reel Roots: Windrush will be followed by Reel Roots: Black History Month, an exploration of inspirational Black figures, available September-October 2022.

