



Lonelyhearts Hotline

An archive of real and imagined heartbreak.

For BFI Major Programs Too Much Season

Light After Dark Film Festival

October- December 2025

“Hello Lonelyheart, thank you for calling the Lonelyheart Hotline.

After the tone, please leave a message here for a lost love, the current squeeze you have settled for, imagined beau or future heartbreak of your choice.

Keep it brief, sincerity is best, but empty sentiments are also encouraged.

Goodbye. “

PROJECT

An audio project that is inspired and informed by cinematic notions of story and longing. A phone booth acts as a private confessional, where we ask people to leave a message for a lost love, whether it be their past, present, future, or imaginary sweetheart.

We will create an archive of messages from those who are heartbroken, which will be a mixture of sincere confessions, speculative musings, half-truths, and general tales of yearning. Participants can get something meaningful off their chest, express something that's remained unspoken and build mythology around their experience rendering themselves cinematic.

The phone booth is available to tour venues throughout the **Too Much** season, decked in sumptuous colours with nods to Douglas Sirk. Selected messages will be presented through Instagram throughout the season and later in a more comprehensive audio project.

The first stop will be at **Broadway Cinemas** Gallery space. Which will support the overall **Too Much** film programme and screenings, curated by Film Programmer Kate Wood.

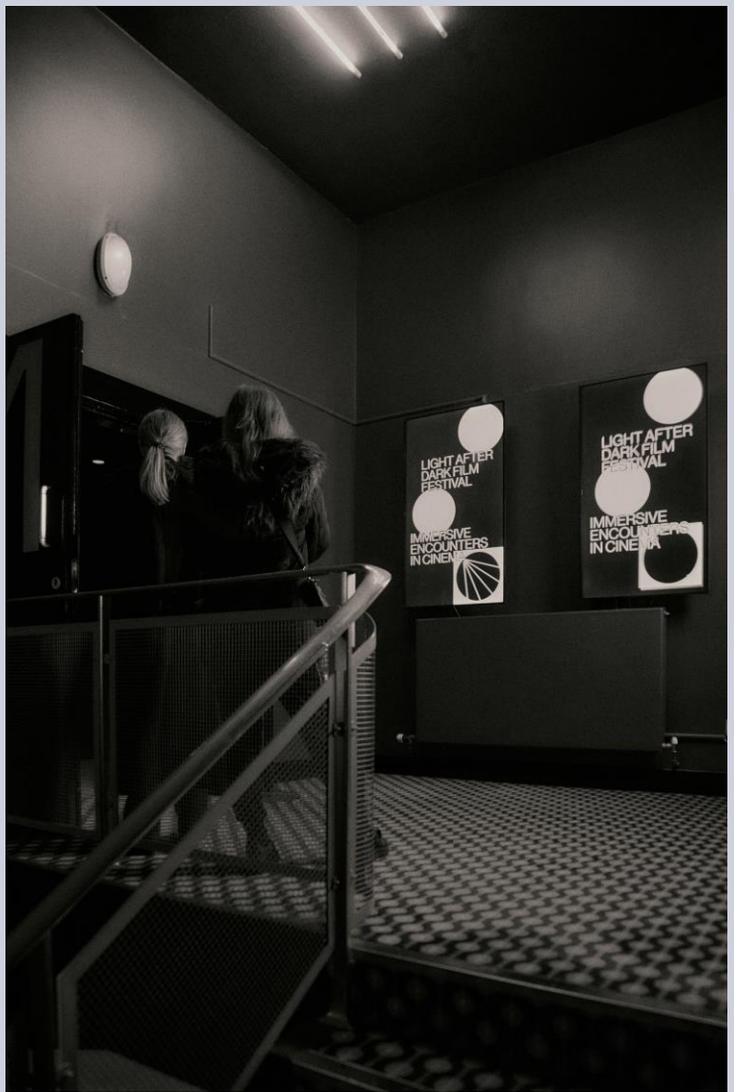
The accumulated messages will be edited over slowed-down, dreamy, distorted film clips and released on Instagram for people to interact with and share.

PARTNERS

This project is in collaboration with **Broadway Cinema, Light After Dark Film Festival, Waste Studio** and **Near Now** .

WHO WE ARE

The Light After Dark Film Festival is the UK's only immersive film festival, established in 2022. It's a city-wide celebration in collaboration with **Broadway Cinema, Nottingham Contemporary, Nottingham Playhouse, University of Nottingham, and Nottingham Trent University**. We curate events that blend music, film, performance, scent, design, technology, and dance to give people an intimate and immersive experience of cinema. This project is a Light After Dark initiative.



I am a creative producer and film curator, working at **Nottingham Contemporary** since 2016. My primary focus has been on repertory film seasons at **The Screen at Contemporary** and cinematic happenings. We have been lucky enough to receive BFI Fan funding for many projects. Including **The Buster Keaton Pictureshow** for Major Programmes Comedy Genius season, and that toured and saw over 1000 audience members, a live drag show **to Hedwig & The Angry Inch** for Musicals. My work focuses on immersive and experiential storytelling inspired and informed by cinema, and we have a great track record of delivering events with the **BFI**.



INSPIRATION

The initial seeds for this project came with an event in 2020, **Heartbreakers Ball**- a Lynchian fever dream for the heartbroken, and subsequent events like **Sleepwalk with Me** in 2024, where audiences exchange secrets and longings, this showed what an opportunity this would be on a large scale as we saw how cinema goers were willing and eager to be part of a cinematic journey.

We have also drawn inspiration from archival projects, such as **Post Secret**, **The Museum of Broken Relationships**, and **Suitcase of Love & Shame**, which all hold in reverence everyday people's stories of love, longing, and scandal.

We are using Douglas Sirk films as a jumping-off point for this project in aesthetics and sentiment.

LOGISTICS & TIMELINE

We have teamed up with **Van Haulin** to deliver and install at your venue.

We can provide cosrting for this based on your location.
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<https://www.vanhaulin.co.uk/>

We will provide playlists, a crib sheet of technical set-up, and marketing assets to get the best out of it for your audiences.

The Loneleyhearts Hotline phone booth is available to tour throughout October- December 2025.

CONTACT

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