

Queer Spectrum Film Festival

Moving images and stories from
LGBTQIA+ people of colour from around the world.

25th November, 2023 | Project Arts Center | 11.15 am to 8.00 pm

Queer Spectrum Film Festival (QSFF) is a momentous occasion in Ireland's cultural landscape. QSFF represents Ireland's first-ever film festival dedicated to amplifying the narratives and experiences of LGBTQIA+ individuals of colour and immigrants.

Film festivals like QSFF play a pivotal role in championing diversity and inclusivity by providing a platform for voices and stories that have been historically underrepresented. They offer filmmakers and artists from LGBTQIA+ communities of colour and immigrant backgrounds an opportunity to share their unique experiences, perspectives, and creative talents with a broader and more diverse audience.

Through the curation and hosting of QSFF, QAPI aims to celebrate the rich tapestry of diversity within the LGBTQIA+ community while fostering greater understanding and empathy among our audiences. This festival represents a significant stride towards building a more inclusive and accepting society.

25th November, Project Arts Center

TWO SCREENING SHOWS

Show 1: 11.15 am to 2.45 pm, including tea break

Show 2: 3.15 pm to 8.00 pm, including panel discussion and performance

€12 per screening session | €20 for the entire day ticket

www.projectartscentre.ie | Box Office +353 1 881 9613

Booking Link



About QSFF



 **queerspectrumfilmfest**
www.qapi.ie

Show 1 | Screening 1

11.15 am - 1.00 pm

Shall I Compare You to a Summer's Day | Dir: Mohammad Shawky Hassan

Daisy: Prophet of the Apocalypse | Dir: Venus Patel

Meeting His Parents | Dir: Lee-Loi Chieng

Worthy | Dir: Zainab Boladale

Skin To Skin Talks | Dir: Pradeep Mahadeshwar

15 mins Tea break



Shall I Compare You to a Summer's Day?

Director:

Mohammad Shawky Hassan

Country of production: Egypt / Lebanon / Germany

Time: 55 mins

Pop clichés are twisted with the love between two men who encounter a polyamorous chorus of lovers.

It is a contemporary queer musical taking Arab folktales as its formal reference and Egyptian pop music as its primary sonic material. It is based on the filmmaker's personal love diary and told as a "One Thousand and One Nights" tale, where stories playfully unfold through conversations between Shahrazad, a protagonist who never comes into view and ghosts of former lovers.



Daisy: Prophet of the Apocalypse

Director:
Venus Patel
Country of production: Ireland
Time: 20 mins

Upon meeting a queer goddess atop a mountain, a radical trans preacher sets on a journey to prophesy the end of the world, promising salvation only for those who denounce heterosexuality.



Meeting His Parents

Director:
Lee-Loi Chieng
Country of production: Ireland
Time: 15 mins

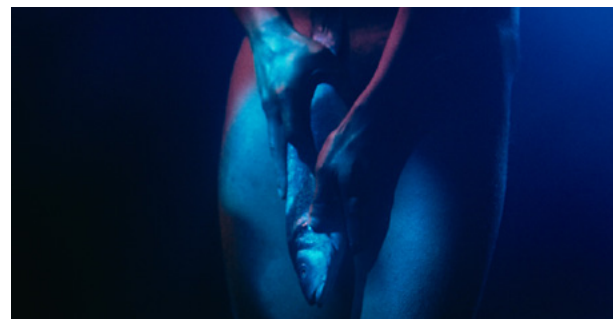
Alex and Mike are a young, interracial gay couple living and working in Dublin, Ireland. With their relationship becoming more serious, Alex is nervous about meeting Mike's parents for the first time with their impending visit to the city. Alex is awoken by a call on the day in question that they arrived in Dublin earlier than expected and want to spend more of the day with them beyond a planned dinner. While Mike and Alex have never been happier, family always complicates things and these parents are no exception.



Worthy

Writer & Director:
Zainab Boladale
Country of production: Ireland
Time: 3 mins

Sewa is a black woman struggling to get over her ex-girlfriend. Through her monologue, we experience the emotional rollercoaster of a first break-up.



Skin To Skin Talks

Director:
Pradeep Mahadeshwar
Country of production: Ireland
Time: 12 mins

The dark skin alien landed in the unknown, unfamiliar and unique landscape from the infinite darkness..." Completed as part of the artist's MOE – Communal residency at IMMA, Skin To Skin Talks explores themes of alienation, otherness, sexual racism and outsidership using abstract imagery, prose and sensation-invoking techniques to reflect on the intersections of race and sexuality.

Show 1 | Screening 2

1.15 - 2.45

Man & Wife | Dir: Rahul Roye

The Beyonce Experience | Dir: Blaise Singh

Outdoors | Dir: John Mark Fitzpatrick

Mes Cheris | Dir: Ethan Folk, Ty Wardwell, Jamal Phoenix

Inner Wound Real | Dir: Carrie Hawks

Tidy Bed | Dir: Danilo Godoy

Beach | Dir: Anisha Sharma

Bodies Of Desire | Dir: Varsha Panikar, Saad Nawab



Man & Wife

Director:

Rahul Roye

Country of production: India

Time: 8.40 min

In an arranged marriage, just before the ceremony, the groom comes out to his would-be bride that he secretly crosses dresses.



The Beyonce Experience

Director:

Blaise Singh

Country of production: UK

Time: 10.07 min

Aaron Carty gave up a career as a police officer to live his dream of becoming a positive role model for the black queer community as a Beyonce drag act. We follow Aaron's struggle in running a media agency full time, producing and performing 'The Beyonce Experience' but still finding time to volunteer for a controversial movement with UK Black Pride.



Outdoors

Director:

John Fitzpatrick

Country of production: UK

Time: 12.04 min

Bim and Nathan share an instant, electrifying connection in a chance encounter at the park. However, an unexpected revelation threatens Bim's secret. Life sometimes feels like a transaction, with friendships and intimacy becoming trade-offs for loneliness. But when the right people come together, sex can be the gateway to profound intimacy, bridging the gap between two souls.



Mes Chéris

Director:
Ethan Folk and Ty Wardwell,
Country of production: Germany
Time: 12.15 min

Part documentary, part pornography, *Mes Chéris* is a transboy's farewell to his boobs. One month before his mastectomy, Jamal Phoenix takes on the role of Chéri, a character modeled after his experiences as a Fierce Fem sex worker. This raunchy tribute subverts straight porn tropes and mainstream trans representation in a radical act of self-love.



Tidy Bed

Director and screenwriter:
Danilo Bastos Godoy
Country of production: Portugal,
Brazil & Germany
Time: 15 mins

How can we see the ghosts of our past? - In a remote beach house, a boy confronts a suicide attempt hidden by his family and friends.



Inner Wound Real

Director:
Carrie Hawks
Country of production: USA
Time: 14.30 min

Inner Wound Real relays the story of three BIPOC folks who self-injure and find new coping methods.

As we're in the midst of a global health crisis and large amounts of racial violence, rates of self-harm and suicide are on the rise. Self-harm among LGBTQIA+ teens is twice as high as the rate for heterosexual teens, according to WebMD. The film will not traumatize viewers with graphic imagery but rather present emotions.



Beach

Director:
Anisha Sharma
Country of production: India
Time: 15 mins

Karan is a transman who recently had a gender affirmation surgery, and something as trivial as going to the beach shirtless has been a dream and an act of liberation for him. Aditya, a cisman, has been a testimony to Karan's struggle with gender dysphoria throughout college, often standing up more often than he had for himself. Will Karan muster the courage to take his shirt off on the beach? Will he achieve his dream and feel liberated?



**Bodies of Desire -
A sensual celebration of genderless love and desire**

Director:
Varsha Panikar and Saad Nawab
Country of production: India
Time: 3.41 min

As one of the rare few works coming out of India confronting issues surrounding sexuality, intimacy and desire, *Bodies of Desire* seeks to initiate a dialogue around precisely that, which is mainly portrayed through a heteronormative lens. "As filmmakers and queer individuals, we know the importance of visibility! It serves two purposes - it shows people outside the heteronormative and binary identities that they're neither alone nor abnormal."

**Show 2 | Panel Discussion 3.15 - 3.45
Screening 3 3.45 - 5.15**

Dear to Me | Dir: Monica Vanesa Tedja
Les fleurs du mâle | Dir: Hadi Moussally
One Magenta Afternoon | Dir: Vernon Jordan III
Nuit blonde - Blond Night | Dir: Gabrielle Demers
Raja Bhau (Raja Bro) | Dir: Sridhar Rangayan
Dolls House | Dir: George Pedrosa
OAS (Dew Drops) | Dir: Kartika Nainan Dubey
Performance 5.15 - 5.30



Dear to Me

Director:
Monica Vanesa Tedja
Country of production:
Germany, Indonesia
Time: 18.45 mins

A 27-year-old Indonesian, Tim, is having a family vacation with both of his parents on a remote island far from the city, where they learn about the myth of a reincarnated deer that exists somewhere along the beach. Island locals believe that seeing the deer is a sign of meeting one's soulmate. Tim is the only one who secretly hopes to discover the deer, hiding his desire from his very devout Christian parents.



Les fleurs du mâle

Director: Hadi Moussally
Country of production:
France and Spain
Time: 3.49 mins

The mysterious creature, Salma, realizes that being herself has repercussions on her life and that she will never be accepted as she is. So she decides to ask the creatress of this world for mercy.



Nuit blonde

Writer & Director:
Gabrielle Demers
Country of production: Canada
Time: 17 mins

Victor is unhappy in his housing for autistic adults. To avoid the Friday disco, he walks into the neighbourhood and meets a young prostitute.



One Magenta Afternoon

Director:
Vernon Jordan, III
Country of production: USA
Time: 8.13 mins

The lesson is love: when Pop Pop and his grandson, Les, play jazz, they summon six queer spirits and tumble through their memories. This is "One Magenta Afternoon".



Raja Bhau (Raja Bro)

Director:
Sridhar Rangayan
Country of production: India
Time: 15 mins

RAJA BHAU is a sensitive heart-warming story of an Indian transman's acceptance, by himself and his family. Merlin, born as a girl, felt right from his childhood that he was trapped in the wrong gender. But it took a lot of courage and determination for Merlin to transition to become a transman.



**Dolls House
- Casa de Bonecas**

Writer & Director:
George Pedrosa
Country of production: Brazil
Time: 15 mins

We're immaterial beings. We'll always be inside of each other's heart. Day by day we mutate and get way stronger. Body, soul and blood smelling like pink.



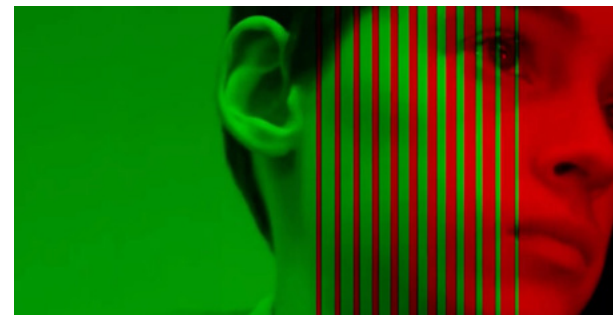
Oas (Dew Drops)

Director:
Kartika Nainan Dubey
Country of production: India
Time: 16 mins

OAS (Dew Drops) is a heartfelt tale of two women who, despite breaking up, still harbour deep affection for each other. One has moved forward, while the other clings to the past. They reunite for a final, soul-searching conversation discussing their dreams and desires. The story asks whether this night of reflection will rekindle their romance. It's a reminder that while relationships change, love can persist, like the enduring beauty of dew drops.

**Show 2 | Screening 4
6.15 - 8.00**

Folly & Diction | Dir: Alan Phelan
Sultana's reign | Dir: Hadi Moussally
My Mother's Girlfriend | Dir: Arun Fulara
Fado Menor | Dir: Salvador Alejandro Gutiérrez
Mother | Dir: Jas Pitt & Kate Stonehill
Heaven Reaches Down To Earth | Dir: Tebogo Malebogo
A Fox in the Night | Dir: Keeran Anwar Blessie
I am not (Je ne suis pas) | Dir: Valentine Zhang
Marigold | Dir: Abhinav Dubey



Folly & Diction

Director:
Alan Phelan
Country of production: Ireland
Time: 15 mins

A music video about John Joly, inventor of the Joly screen colour photography process, narrativised via elements of a story by Samuel Beckett and a poem by Jean Genet; sung by The Late David Turpin and Jrdn (Xona) with music composed by James Kelly and Ian McInerney; performed by father and son Peter and Luke Hanly.



Sultana's reign

Writer & Director:
Hadi Moussally
Country of production: France /
Jordan
Time: 9.5 mins

Sultana of New York is a Palestinian drag queen, performer, and artist. "Sultana's Reign" opens with a conversation with Sultana, as she is being painted by Jordanian artist, RIDIKKULUZ. Reflecting on her journey from Jordan, Egypt, Lebanon, to then New York, Sultana tells of the challenges of performing drag in conservative societies, her nostalgia for the glory days and the glamour of Egyptian cinema icons, and her struggle to prove her existence and her self-expression as a performer and artist. She also shares her love of celebration and her everlasting commitment to be true to herself.



My Mother's Girlfriend

Writer & Director:
Arun Fulara
Country of production: India
Time: 14.58 min

Renuka and Ssadiya, two working-class women in love with each other, enjoy their day out celebrating Renuka's birthday. After a fun-filled day, they head home to spend the night together. But unknown to them, Renuka's son, Mangesh, is around. My Mother's Girlfriend is the story of what happens when these two relationships collide.



Fado Menor

Director:
Salvador Alejandro Gutiérrez
Country of production: Portugal
Time: 7.39 min

Two gay, immigrant men set out to reconcile their issues while roaming around the dark streets of Lisbon. While reminiscing their time together, they think back to an awkward encounter regarding confrontation of their sexuality at a Fado bar.



Mother

Writer & Director:
Jas Pitt & Kate Stonehill
Country of production: UK
Time: 21.24 min

Under the watchful eye of their voguing mother, a young dancer from a Rio de Janeiro favela navigates Brazil's vibrant ballroom scene. Together, they compete and perform at balls across the country, in one of the most dangerous places in the world to be visibly queer. When a new age of violence dawns on the LGBTQ+ communities of Brazil, the family bands together in an act of creative resistance.



Heaven Reaches Down To Earth

Director:
Tebogo Malebogo
Country of production:
South Africa
Time: 10 mins

After Tau comes to a realization about their sexuality, it sets in motion a cascade of thoughts and emotions in Tumelo - nothing will ever be the same between them.



Je ne suis pas - I am not

Director:
Valentine Zhang
Country of production: France
Time: 4 mins

On a warm summer night, Alice sneaks out of the family home to take part in a guerilla political flyposting campaign organised by queer people of color.



A Fox in the Night

Writer & Director:
Keeran Anwar Blessie
Country of production: UK
Time: 11.40 mins

As Lewis gears up for a night out, he's thrown off balance when a friend asks him to fetch something from his dealer, Daniel. But when Lewis arrives, he encounters an unexpected invitation and a surprising connection. Amidst the impending return to normalcy and an Uber on the horizon, Lewis's world view is transformed, and Daniel is left with an invitation of his own.



Marigold

Director:
Abhinav Dubey
Country of production: India
Time: 12 mins

As the summer holidays approach, Geeta decides to lie about her last day at work to meet Shashi. Conversation between two women unfolds their desires and sexuality which they long to share with each other, till the last boat arrives.



Queer Asian Pride Ireland, known as QAPI, is thrilled to bring you the Queer Spectrum Film Festival (QSFF)!

At QSFF, we're all about sharing the vibrant stories and talents of LGBTQIA+ people of colour worldwide. This festival is a first of its kind in Ireland, and it's designed to do something exceptional.

Our mission? To empower LGBTQIA+ filmmakers of colour and celebrate their unique stories. We're creating a safe and welcoming space where they can truly shine and connect with their audience.

But QSFF isn't just about watching movies; it's a journey of enlightenment and inspiration. Through entertaining and socially relevant films, we aim to educate our audiences about the unique experiences and disparities within the LGBTQIA+ community while inspiring them to advocate for social justice.

And here's the heart: QSFF is more than just a film festival; it's a community! We're building a space where LGBTQIA+ filmmakers of colour can coexist proudly, celebrate their artistic talents, and share their incredible stories with the world. We're all about supporting, uplifting, connecting, and helping each other grow.

So, get ready for an unforgettable celebration of diversity, creativity, and the power of storytelling. QSFF is here to make the world a more inclusive and loving place, one film at a time!

We thank our supporters and friends

A big thank you to our sponsors and partners, including the One Foundation, The Rowan Trust, LGBT Ireland, the Irish Network Against Racism (INAR), and our friends at the GAZE International LGBTQIA Film Festival. Your support means the world to us.

Thank you Project Arts Center for giving us a home.

Special thanks to

Project Arts Center

Cian O'Brien

Jaime Nanci

Michael Barron

Greg Thorpe

Sridhar Rangayan

Saagar Gupta

Meet the QAPI team

Pradeep Mahadeshwar (he/they)

Pradeep is a co-founder of QAPI. He is originally from India and has been living in Ireland since 2012. Pradeep is a writer, illustrator, visual artist, and filmmaker. Addressing the mental health and sexual well-being of QPOC living in Ireland is the centre of his activism and artistic expression.

Hiba Alrashed (she/her)

Hiba is originally from a Middle Eastern. Since living in Ireland, her soul has embraced the beautiful journey of being queer. She is a poetry lover and an occasional writer! An avid learner, Hiba is passionate about spreading mental health awareness and mindfulness in the community.

William Reynolds (he/they)

William is a final-year medicine student at Trinity College Dublin. He is particularly interested in decolonising healthcare and creating a more inclusive and accessible healthcare system. William likes to get involved in the Dublin community. He is a part of the WEFT Audience Club for BIPOC at the Dublin Fringe Festival.

Moses Eusebio (they/them)

Moses is a 23-year-old Musician from Swords, Co. Dublin. They are an artist passionate about music for education. Moses has conducted two non-profit choirs in Swords. They advocate for second-generation immigrants and the LGBTQIA+ community. Through their creative practice and community engagement,

Valentine Zhang (she/her)

Valentine is a French artist based in Kilkenny. She works in animation, makes comics, and is an aspiring music performer. She advocates for more authentic representation on screen, self-narrated queer decolonial stories. Her favourite subjects are love, nostalgia for food, and corny queer music.

Kartik Sharma (he/him)

Kartik is from Delhi, India, has been living in Dublin for nearly five years and is thriving as a Data Analyst at EY Ireland. Kartik also steps up as a co-chair of the Unity Network, EY's LGBTQIA+ network. Kartik loves music, books, and exploring new places and is a big fan of concerts. Aside from all that, he's also into writing. Being part of the Queer Asian Pride Ireland, Kartik eagerly anticipates engaging in enlightening discussions that delve into the multifaceted nature of identity as a queer individual and an immigrant.

Anjana Murugan (she/her)

Anjana is a professional chef and avid traveller. Growing up in Bangalore, India, community and food has always been central to her life. She thinks food transcends boundaries as a unifying force that bridges cultures and connects hearts. At the same time, her passions extend to foraging Mohiniattam (a classical South Indian dance form) and, lately, roller skating.

Lee Isac (he/they)

Lee is a writer, academic, and amateur theatre practitioner. He's currently pursuing his Ph.D. in South Asian-American YA fiction at DCU. Lee is interested in portrayals of South Asian-Irish queer youth in literature, film & TV and deeply desires more positive trans-masc representation in mainstream media.

project

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