

# Alchemy

FILM and MOVING IMAGE FESTIVAL



Friday 10 – Sunday 12 September 2010

[www.alchemyfilmfestival.org.uk](http://www.alchemyfilmfestival.org.uk)

## A magical mix of screenings, special events and talks inspired by the theme of landscape in relation to transformation and identity

Heart of Hawick, a multi-award winning culture-led regeneration project, plays host to three thought provoking days of moving image shorts; films and documentaries; and special events and premieres by local, national and international artists and film-makers. Watch out for films throughout the town too, with screenings by Hawick Film & Video Group and the Little Theatre Film Club in a cosy 42-seat cinema as well as installations in unexpected and off-beat places.

Richard Ashrowan, curator of the artists' film programme, says the festival itself is a kind of alchemy, a place where all manner of things might be mixed together, where one thing transmutes into another in a play of visual light and colour. Join us to find out!

Alchemy is funded by Regional Screen Scotland and is a partnership between Heart of Hawick, South of Scotland Creative Enterprise Initiative and Borders Arts Trust.

### FESTIVAL AT A GLANCE . . .

#### FRIDAY 10 SEPTEMBER

10am-4.30pm	<i>Weaving The Tower House</i>	Moving Image : Installation	Borders Textile Towerhouse	Free
10am-4.30pm	<i>Voyage</i>	Moving Image : Installation	Borders Textile Towerhouse	Free
1pm	<i>Cinema In The Past</i>	Schools Workshop	Tower Mill	Free
7.30pm	<i>Scottish Screen Archive on Tour</i>	Archive Film	Tower Mill	£3

#### SATURDAY 11 SEPTEMBER

10am-4.30pm	<i>Weaving The Tower House</i>	Moving Image : Installation	Borders Textile Towerhouse	Free
10am-4.30pm	<i>Voyage</i>	Moving Image : Installation	Borders Textile Towerhouse	Free
10am-4.30pm	<i>Alchemist</i>	Moving Image : Installation	Tower Mill	Free
11am	<i>Seeing Landscape</i>	Moving Image : Shorts	Tower Mill	£3
2pm	<i>Trouble Sleeping</i>	VOMO Film	Tower Mill	£3
2pm	<i>Mixed Programme</i>	Hawick Film & Video Group	8 Croft Road	£3
4.30pm	<i>I Know Where I'm Going &amp; Speaking The Land</i>	Moving Image : Shorts	Tower Mill	£3
7.30pm	<i>Follow The Master</i>	Film	Tower Mill	£3
9pm-11pm	<i>-Scape</i>	Moving Image : Event	Tower Mill	Free

#### SUNDAY 12 SEPTEMBER

10am-4.30pm	<i>Alchemist</i>	Moving Image : Installation	Tower Mill	Free
12 noon-3pm	<i>Weaving The Tower House</i>	Moving Image : Installation	Borders Textile Towerhouse	Free
12 noon-3pm	<i>Voyage</i>	Moving Image : Installation	Borders Textile Towerhouse	Free
12 noon	<i>Transforming Landscape</i>	Moving Image : Shorts	Tower Mill	£3
2.30pm	<i>The Edge of Dreaming plus Hymn to the Road</i>	Film Premiere	Tower Mill	£3
2.30pm	<i>The Kite Runner</i>	Little Theatre Film Club : Film	8 Croft Road	£3



# FRIDAY 10 SEPTEMBER

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1pm

## SCHOOLS WORKSHOP CINEMA IN THE PAST

Running time : 90 minutes

Before television and the internet, the cinema was the hub of the local community and provided news, information and entertainment for the local town or village. Film programmes would be made up of a number of different types of films providing an all-round experience of latest news, events and feature films. The children also had a special minor's matinee programme which as well as children's features included competitions and fancy dress parades. This interactive workshop with the Scottish Screen Archive includes screenings and activities to examine how important going to the cinema was in the past and how things have changed today.

Tickets: Free

HEART OF HAWICK – TOWER MILL



7.30pm

## FILM SCOTTISH SCREEN ARCHIVE ON TOUR

Running time : 90 minutes

The specially compiled programme of archive film delights from the Scottish Screen Archive at National Library of Scotland includes examples of early films from 1908, visual records of the First and Second World Wars, the evacuation of St Kilda, Queen Mary launching the liner named in her honour, and rare colour film of the Empire Exhibition of 1938. The event will be rounded off with a generous helping of rarely seen footage, featuring the Borders area and its industries and traditions. Guiding the audience through this evening of silent and sound films will be Ruth Washbrook, Education and Outreach Officer at the Scottish Screen Archive (National Library of Scotland) with background detail and fascinating insights into these treasured glimpses of Scottish life, as captured and preserved on film.

Tickets: £3

HEART OF HAWICK – TOWER MILL



# SATURDAY 11 SEPTEMBER

11am

## MOVING IMAGE : SHORTS

### SEEING LANDSCAPE

Andrew Payne, Ruth Jones, Elaine Kordys, Matt Lloyd, Dee Shaw, Emily Candela, Natalie Taylor, Lynne Williams, Alastair Cook, Helen Grove-White, Hugh Watt, Polly Gould, Sean Vicary

Running time : 1h13m

Landscape – a place, a state of mind, an en-cultured territory, an imagined reality, a yearning, an illusion? Branches moving in silhouette, a lighthouse illuminated vigil, the deserted island village of Polphail, a dusk journey to the sea, a woman's tragic death on a hillside, a subterranean fantasy of the underworld, the visual poetics of a windfarm, a lone figure on a beach, the traced lines of a river's movement. This selection of experimental films is from our open submission programme, reflecting diverse approaches to seeing and transforming landscape, mainly from Scottish and UK artist filmmakers.



Tickets: £3

HEART OF HAWICK – TOWER MILL

2pm

## FILM

### TROUBLE SLEEPING

Robert Rae / Scotland 2008 / 1h42m

English and Arabic with subtitles, contains moderate violence and reference to sexuality.

Winner of four International Best Film awards this powerful drama passionately explores the reality of life for Asylum Seekers and Refugees in Edinburgh. With an award-winning and heart wrenching performance from Alia Alzgoubi and stunning support from the Refugee Community themselves, it was included by Mark Cousins in his list of a dozen Scottish films that had provided "the shock of recognition of something true about the country I have adopted as my home."

"This first feature from Theatre Workshop burns with relevance. Raw-edged, and crafted by passionate collective effort, it's inspiring, provocative stuff." *Hannah McGill, Director EIFF*



VOMO (Voice of My Own) has chosen this film because it is an outstanding example of how community based filmmaking can produce fearless and authentic art. Non-fiction can reveal the lies but only fiction gets near the truth.

Tickets: £3

HEART OF HAWICK – TOWER MILL

2pm

## MIXED PROGRAMME

### HAWICK FILM & VIDEO GROUP

Running time : 1h9m

Programme includes *Fire & Steel* [the first Hawick Reivers Festival], *The Talla Line* [the railway to construct Talla Dam], *Hawick Knitwear* [how knitwear is manufactured], *Memorial Run* [tribute to Jimmy Guthrie], *Autumn Leaves* [Autumn in Wilton Park] and *Natures Wonderland* [wildlife in the Borders]. .

Tickets: £3

HAWICK FILM & VIDEO GROUP CINEMA, 8 CROFT ROAD, HAWICK TD9 9RD



4.30pm

**MOVING IMAGE : SHORTS**  
**I KNOW WHERE I'M GOING**  
**SPEAKING THE LAND**

Running time : 59m plus Q&A

*I Know Where I'm Going* continues **Ben Rivers'** concerns with people on the fringes of society. Partly a homage to the Powell and Pressburger film of the same title, this film takes the form of a fragmented road trip through Britain to Mull. Down empty roads, off in the wilderness, a few lone stragglers. His first stop is geologist Jan Zalasiewicz, talking about the Earth in One-hundred million years time.

*Speaking the Land* is a series of three short films by **Dalziel + Scullion**, featuring narratives by Robin Lloyd-Jones, John Burnside and Jay Griffiths. Commissioned by Dumfries & Galloway Arts Association and Scottish Natural Heritage in 2009, the work was made in three unique Borders landscapes and responds to the act of story telling, once deeply imbedded as a means to understand our locality, when the land itself became a place to store knowledge or wisdom of ways to live upon it.

Tickets: £3

**HEART OF HAWICK – TOWER MILL**



7.30pm

**FILM**  
**FOLLOW THE MASTER**

Matt Hulse / UK 2009 / 1h15m / 12A / Documentary

In his eagerly awaited debut feature, Edinburgh-based filmmaker **Matt Hulse** takes you with him on an invigorating walk following the 100-mile South Downs Way in homage to his grandpa Eric (the titular Master) who died last year. Tag along on a wildly creative, Pythonesque road trip complete with ukeleles, air drumming and the world's most adorable dog. One of the fastest selling films at last year's Edinburgh International Film Festival.

Tickets: £3

**HEART OF HAWICK – TOWER MILL**



9pm-11pm

**MOVING IMAGE : EVENT**  
**-SCAPE**

An evening of live moving image set within Heart of Hawick's lively Beanscene cafe/bar. Curated and presented by Edinburgh artist and filmmaker **Alastair Cook**, *-scape* is a filmic celebration of the sea, the land, the city. Drawing on the Alchemy Festival's powerful theme of landscape, *-scape* deliberates on the skift, the scipe, the scaef: the human made cuts, built-forms and interventions in the land. This inaugural *-scape* programme concentrates on the idea that a landscape is a cultural image, a visual way of representing and structuring our surroundings. Alastair Cook has drawn together an exciting yet thoughtful series of films and will present them alongside two new *-scape* commissioned works from artists **Chris Dooks** and **James Norton**.



Tickets: Free

**HEART OF HAWICK – TOWER MILL**



## SUNDAY 12 SEPTEMBER

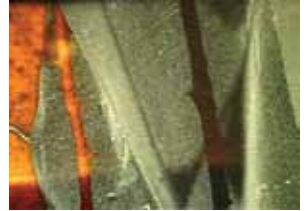
12 noon

**MOVING IMAGE : SHORTS**

### **TRANSFORMING LANDSCAPE**

Janis Crystal Lipzin, Shambhavi Kaul, Rainer Gamsjager, Steven Ball, Semiconductor, Richard Ashrowan, Emily Richardson, Elke Groen, Tomonari Nishikawa, Naomi Uman.

Running time : 1h24m



Landscape in transformation – the image as a transforming and transformational space, where time and representation are questioned, made uncertain, meanings augmented or shattered. Often involving processes of manual manipulation – in the darkroom, digitally and temporally, with film, video and still images, a multi-layered experience of global landscapes. A journey through the Australian desert, augmented images of vegetation, the crushed pixels of water movement, the salt fields of the Central Kutch in India, the Scottish Borderlands, a Ukrainian calendar, the Austrian Alps, a park in Bangkok, the sun's trajectory, to the mist shrouded landscape of Orford Ness.

Tickets: £3

**HEART OF HAWICK – TOWER MILL**

2.30pm

**FILM PREMIERE**

### **THE EDGE OF DREAMING**

Amy Hardie / UK 2009 / 12A / Documentary / 1h13m plus Q&A

Amy Hardie dreamed of a death, and it happened. When another dream then prophesied her own imminent demise, she was understandably concerned: did her subconscious know something she didn't? A poetic, personal project, some nine years in the gestation, this film explores humanity's relationship with dreams, death and destiny, via Hardie's own scientific and emotional quest for answers. Best of Fest at this year's Edinburgh International Film Festival and winner of the special 'Mirror' contest at Kiev International Film Festival. Filmed in the Scottish Borders.



**HYMN TO THE ROAD** will be shown before *The Edge of Dreaming* ...

Artist **Catriona Taylor**, who has exhibited widely across the Borders, Dumfriesshire and Edinburgh, was a recipient of a recent CABN/Creative Scotland Visual Artists Award to film the drove road from horseback. Catriona rode a sixty mile stretch of the cross borders Drove Road capturing footage from a horse's eye view. Working with editor Cristina Erte she has produced a multi-layered seven minute film.



Tickets: £3

**HEART OF HAWICK – TOWER MILL**

2.30pm

**FILM**

### **THE KITE RUNNER**

Little Theatre Film Club Screening

Marc Forster / USA 2007 / 2h8m / English, Dari, Pashtu, Urdu and Russian with English subtitles / 12A – Contains strong language and infrequent strong violence



Cast: Khalid Abdalla, Ehsan Aman, Vsevolod Bardashev, Ismail Bashey, Larry Brown.

A moving morality tale of friendship and betrayal, set against the backdrop of Afghanistan's tumultuous politics, past and present. Life is good before the Soviet invasion in 1979, especially for young Amir, whose father is a wealthy merchant. Amir's best friend is their servant's son Hassan, a minority Sh'ia Muslim, but Amir fails to stand by his friend when he is attacked. The episode haunts him for years, even after emigrating to America.

Tickets: £3

**HAWICK FILM & VIDEO GROUP CINEMA, 8 CROFT ROAD, HAWICK TD9 9RD**

## MOVING IMAGE INSTALLATIONS DURING THE FESTIVAL

### ALCHEMIST

Sat 11 & Sun 12 September 10am-4.30pm

*Alchemist* was produced by artist **Richard Ashrowan** in collaboration with performance artists Alastair MacLennan and Sandra Johnston. It explores the transformative qualities of the landscape through alchemy, situated in a sense of the uncanny, the seen, the felt and the imagined. Filmed in the Scottish Borders, the work explores an alchemical and pre-scientific sense of transformative engagement with landscape and the elements. The work draws on the the works of the 12th century Scottish alchemist, astrologer, mathematician and magician Michael Scot. Dual screen projection with two large scale black mirrors, one hour in duration as an installation. Supported by a CABN/Creative Scotland Visual Artists Award.



Tickets: Free

[HEART OF HAWICK – TOWER MILL](#)

### VOYAGE

Fri 10 & Sat 11 September 10am-4.30pm

Sun 12 September 12 noon-3pm

An installation by artist **Pat Law**, from Heriot Toun Studio. A response to the project *7 short sails* where over 50 artists contributed to a theme which evolved as it was passed on in the form of a Chinese whisper. Housed within a bronze compass binnacle borrowed from the Loch Fyne Skiff *Kirsty*. Supported by a CABN/Creative Scotland Visual Artists Award.



Tickets: Free

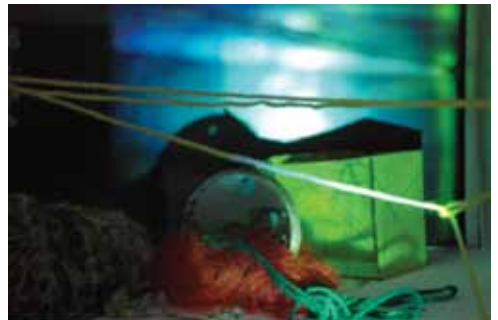
[HEART OF HAWICK – BORDERS TEXTILE TOWERHOUSE](#)

### WEAVING THE TOWER HOUSE

Fri 10 & Sat 11 September 10am-4.30pm

Sun 12 September 12 noon-3pm

A site-specific installation by artist **Rocio Jungenfeld**, created in collaboration with Alchemy Film and Moving Image Festival. This installation seeks to investigate the relationship between the landscape of the Scottish Borders and the textile tradition of Hawick. The installation will transport the visitor to an interior natural space, a soft and malleable landscape. Video projections, mirrors, wool threads and sound will create a fragile and tactile experience; this piece will transform the exhibition space into a place for the introspection of the self.



Tickets: Free

[HEART OF HAWICK – BORDERS TEXTILE TOWERHOUSE](#)

# BOX OFFICE & VISITOR INFORMATION CENTRE

## VisitScotland

Heart of Hawick – Tower Mill  
Kirkstile  
Hawick TD9 0AE

01450 360688 [Box Office] & 01450 373993 [Visitor Information Centre]

Tickets £3 per event unless otherwise stated. Limited number of Weekend Tickets available at £15 on first come, first served basis. Weekend tickets exclude VOMO [*Trouble Sleeping*], Hawick Film & Video Group and Little Theatre Film Club [*The Kite Runner*] screenings.

We regret Heart of Hawick cannot exchange or refund tickets.

## VENUES

**Heart of Hawick – Tower Mill**  
Kirkstile  
Hawick TD9 0AE

Phone : 01450 360680

Email : [heartofhawick@scotborders.gov.uk](mailto:heartofhawick@scotborders.gov.uk)

Website : [www.heartofhawick.co.uk](http://www.heartofhawick.co.uk)

**Heart of Hawick – Borders Textile Towerhouse**  
1 Tower Knowe  
Hawick TD9 9BZ

Phone : 01450 377615

Email : [textiletowerhouse@scotborders.gov.uk](mailto:textiletowerhouse@scotborders.gov.uk)

Website : [www.heartofhawick.co.uk](http://www.heartofhawick.co.uk)

## Box Office : Opening Hours

Monday	1000	1730
Tuesday	1000	1815
Wednesday	1000	1730
Thursday	1000	1815
Friday	1000	1945
Saturday	1000	1945
Sunday	1200	1530



**Hawick Film & Video Group Cinema**  
8 Croft Road  
Hawick TD9 9RD

## SUPPORTERS

**Bannerman Burke** [www.bannermanburke.co.uk](http://www.bannermanburke.co.uk)  
**Inis** [www.inisonline.com](http://www.inisonline.com)  
**Lux** [www.lux.org.uk](http://www.lux.org.uk)  
**R S Hayward Trust**



[www.alchemyfilmfestival.org.uk](http://www.alchemyfilmfestival.org.uk)

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