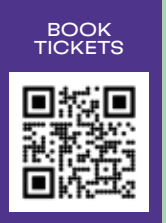


CELEBRATING QUEER STORIES ON SCREEN



SCENE: Manchester's LGBTQ+ Film and TV Festival returns for the third year, bringing together some of the biggest names in television, film and culture for eight days of screenings, panels, live comedy, parties and premieres across Manchester.

From Thursday 20th to Thursday 27th August, enjoy a vibrant, city-wide celebration of queer storytelling.

Go to scenefestival.com for the full programme and ticket info.

PROGRAMME HIGHLIGHTS

TV

The Traitors

Are you a Traitors fanatic? Then join TV journalist Scott Bryan for the ultimate event for every 100% Faithful fan. Celebrate the BBC phenomenon as SCENE sits down with some of the show's most memorable players including Linda, Wilf, Maddy and Amanda. Re-live the biggest moments, gasp-worthy betrayals, nail-biting banishments and the twists that had us all talking. Then get banished to the dancefloor for the after-party... By order of the Traitors!



Tip Toe: Screening & Panel

Celebrate one of 2026's most talked about dramas, Tip Toe - filmed and set right here in Manchester. Leo and Clive are neighbours. But when Leo gives Clive his spare key, an ordinary suburban world becomes a minefield of lies and violence, with terrifying results. In partnership with Quay Street Productions and Channel 4, SCENE will screen Episode 5, followed by a panel discussion with Russell T Davies (Creator & Writer), Nicola Shindler (Executive Producer), cast and creatives.



Rivals: Behind the Drama

Step inside the tantalizing, scandalous, and fiercely competitive world of Rivals, brought to life by Disney+ and Happy Prince and adapted from Dame Jilly Cooper's best-selling novels. Hear from cast members Gary Lamont and Hubert Burton alongside Alexander Lamb (Executive Producer) for an exclusive chat exploring the making of the series and its unforgettable characters. Whether you're a devoted fan, or new to the phenomenon, don't miss this chance to go behind the drama.

Heartstopper Forever: In Conversation with Alice Oseman

Come along to a very special event celebrating one of the most beloved LGBTQ+ stories of a generation. Alice Oseman, the creator behind Heartstopper, will reflect on the extraordinary journey of Nick and Charlie - from webcomic and graphic novel, to global Netflix sensation and the recently released Heartstopper Forever. This is a unique opportunity to hear Alice speak candidly about a series that has meant so much, to so many.

It's a Sin: Full Series Screening & Panel

Ritchie, Roscoe and Colin are young lads leaving home at 18 and heading off to London in 1981 with hope, ambition and joy... and walking straight into a virus that most of the world ignores. The award-winning series shone a light on the lives of young people fighting the HIV/AIDS crisis. For SCENE, Russell T Davies (Creator & Writer), Nicola Shindler (Executive Producer) and Phil Collinson (Producer) will discuss the stories behind the characters and the show's legacy. Then, all 5 episodes of It's a Sin will be screened together on the big screen, for the first time.

Kiss & Tell: The I Kissed a Girl/Boy Story

Settle in for a special conversation with moderator Charley Marlowe, and contestants from the show. Escape into the stories, connections and unforgettable moments from the I Kissed a... universe. Featuring fan favourites, the panel will share honest and entertaining insights from behind the cameras.

FILM

Bitter Christmas

SCENE 2026 opens with a special preview screening of Pedro Almodóvar's magnificent new metafiction melodrama. Catch it here first, ahead of its UK release.

Teenage Sex and Death at Camp Miasma

Winner of Cannes 2026's Queer Palm, Jane Schoenbrun (I Saw The TV Glow) brings their new blood-soaked sapphic slasher starring Gillian Anderson and Hannah Einbinder to the big screen. Expect thrills on SCENE's opening night.

I Want Your Sex

Don't miss the latest from New Queer Cinema pioneer Gregg Araki (Mysterious Skin, The Doom Generation). The film follows Elliot (Cooper Hoffman), an unmotivated twentysomething whose fantasies come true when renowned artist Erika Tracy (Olivia Wilde) takes him on as her muse, testing his sense of his own desires and boundaries. Expect all the wit, provocation, and style that's made Araki an icon.



Stop! That! Train!

All aboard the Glamazonian Express for the new disaster movie spoof from the makers of RuPaul's Drag Race, starring RuPaul herself as the US President (of course!). This isn't just a screening - it's a party. Expect fabulous drag performances, surprises, and plenty of chances to go off the rails.

Maddie's Secret

From Search Party to I Think You Should Leave, John Early is one of the funniest queer performers working today. His hotly anticipated feature debut follows a beautiful food influencer called Maddie (played by Early in drag!), whose life unravels when her rising fame awakens her teenage eating disorder. Equal parts hilarious and super-sincere - Early himself cites Showgirls as an influence - this fearless comedy needs to be seen to be believed. This preview screening features a pre-recorded introduction from the director.



Blue Film

When fetish camboy Aaron Eagle visits a client in exchange for \$50,000, he discovers a masked man with a camera and a series of increasingly probing questions - only to discover a disturbing tie to his past. This controversial debut film from Elliot Tuttle sees a dazzling performance from Manchester's own Kieron Moore (Boots) who joins us for a Q&A after the film.

Chatlines

SCENE's Closing Night Film (sponsored by Screen Manchester) sees Manchester LGBTQ+ filmmaking duo Lloyd Eyre-Morgan and Neil Ely return to the festival, following their hit film Departures. A time-travelling sci-fi chat-roulette romantic drama, Chatlines blends mystery, heartbreak, and queer love. Screening ahead of its UK cinema release, followed by a panel with the filmmakers.

The Pink Screening Room

The home of underground queer cinema and upcoming filmmakers at CULTPLEX. Expect non-binary horror and bi drama, plus a trans all-day takeover from Dublin's TITE Festival.

First Street Outdoor Screen

A week of free films in the sun; from The Wizard of Oz to Bend It Like Beckham.



DOCUMENTARIES

Real life stories come to the screen at SCENE, with a hand-picked selection of the best new queer documentaries. Learn about the work of legendary lesbian filmmaker Barbara Hammer, the story behind William Friedkin's controversial film Cruising - and the life of musician Patrick Wolf, told in conversation with Tilda Swinton as well as the origin of the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence's annual Hunky Jesus contest.

SHORTS

This year's festival sees the return of the SCENE: Northern Shorts Showcase, championing the best new work made in the North of England. Vote for your favourite to win the Audience Award, and one film will be nominated for the prestigious Iris Prize Best British Short. All category nominees will be announced for the first time ever - live at SCENE.

Aks International Minorities Festival will also screen a selection of Trans Shorts from South Asia at HOME - and we premier Condensation, a short about the impact of Section 28 which was partly filmed at SCENE festival last year.

EXHIBITION

Visit an outdoor photography exhibition made up of images captured backstage by Fake Trash during SCENE 2024's Dragged to the Movies cabaret. Staged in the gardens of KAMPUS, the artwork celebrates the enduring love affair between drag, film and television. From Mrs Doubtfire to Frank-N-Furter via Doctor Who, Manchester's top drag performers transform into the characters who've left a lipstick mark on the face of pop culture. Free to see, all of August.



PROGRAMME HIGHLIGHTS

Take your pick of over 60 SCENE screenings and events, across 10 venues, over 8 days.

Many events are free to attend. Some require a ticket (from just £5).

Profits from tickets are donated to Manchester Village Pride LGBTQ+ local charities.

Browse scenefestival.com for all the event details, age ratings, content guidance, and accessibility information.

THURSDAY 20 AUGUST

5.50pm Opening Film: **Bitter Christmas** HOME Film

6pm SCENE Northern Shorts Showcase CULTPLEX Shorts FREE

7.30pm Moonlight: 10 Year Anniversary CULTPLEX Classic Film

7.30pm NOFX: 40 Years of Fuckin' Up New Century Hall Documentary, Panel

8pm The Traitors Aviva Studios TV, Panel, Party

8.30pm Opening Night Film: Teenage Sex & Death at Camp Miasma HOME Film

FRIDAY 21 AUGUST

6pm SCENE Northern Shorts Showcase CULTPLEX Shorts FREE

6pm Queer As Punk HOME Documentary

7pm High School Musical First Street Outdoor Screen Classic Film FREE

7.30pm GASP presents: The Serpent's Skin + Queer Horror Shorts CULTPLEX Film, Shorts

8pm Tip Toe New Century Hall TV, Panel

8pm 25 Years of Hedwig and the Angry Inch HOME Classic Film, Event

10pm Speed and Strike presents: Drinking and Driving CULTPLEX Film

SATURDAY 22 AUGUST

12.30pm Iris Prize: Best British Shorts Announcement New Century Hall Shorts FREE

1pm TITE: Trans Shorts Showcase CULTPLEX Shorts FREE

1pm Angus, Thongs & Perfect Snogging First Street Outdoor Screen Classic Film FREE

3pm October Crow CULTPLEX Film

3.30pm Low Rider HOME Film

4pm High School Musical 2 First Street Outdoor Screen Classic Film FREE

5pm Puppygirl CULTPLEX Film

5.30pm Kiss & Tell: The I Kissed A Girl/Boy Story New Century Hall TV, Panel

6pm Stop! That! Train! HOME Film, Panel, Event

7pm Clueless First Street Outdoor Screen Classic Film FREE

7pm It's Dorothy! Cruz 101 Documentary, Event

7.30pm Castration Movie Chapter iii. Junior Ghosts—Premorphic Drift; a Fragmentary passage CULTPLEX Film

8pm The Scruff Screening: Paris 05:59: Théo & Hugo Treehouse Hotel Classic Film

8pm The Ab Fab A-Thon New Century Hall TV, Event

8.30pm Fat Butcher's Congregational Aviva Studios Event

8.30pm I Want Your Sex HOME Film

SUNDAY 23 AUGUST

12pm Rebel Without A Cause First Street Outdoor Screen Classic Film FREE

1pm Mineshaft: The Cruising Murders Treehouse Hotel Documentary

1pm Aks: Trans Stories Across South Asia HOME Shorts, Panel

2pm Heartstopper: In Conversation with Alice Oseman New Century Hall TV, Panel

2pm SCENE Northern Shorts Showcase CULTPLEX Shorts FREE

2.30pm High School Musical 3 First Street Outdoor Screen Classic Film FREE

3.30pm Bouchra HOME Animated Film

4pm It's A Sin Aviva Studios TV, Panel

4pm OUT NOW: Talking Queer TV with Scott Bryan New Century Hall TV, Panel FREE

5pm Satisfaction CULTPLEX Film

5.30pm Wolf Treehouse Hotel Documentary, Panel

6pm Devdas First Street Outdoor Screen Classic Film FREE

6pm Scream Queens Cinema Club: Texas Chainsaw Massacre Vada Vada Classic Film, Event FREE

6.15pm Maddie's Secret HOME Film

7pm Celebrating Caroline Aherne New Century Hall TV, Panel

7.30pm Black Burns Fast CULTPLEX Film

MONDAY 24 AUGUST

6pm Hairspray (1988) First Street Outdoor Screen Classic Film FREE

6pm Blue Film HOME Film, Panel

6pm ORIGINS x SCENE: Northern Shorts Showcase Colony King Street Film, Shorts FREE

TUESDAY 25 AUGUST

6pm Bend it Like Beckham First Street Outdoor Screen Classic Film FREE

6.30pm Sincerely, Adam Aviva Studios Shorts, Panel FREE

8.15pm Rivals: Behind the Drama HOME TV, Panel

WEDNESDAY 26 AUGUST

6pm Grease First Street Outdoor Screen Classic Film FREE

6pm Barbara Forever HOME Documentary

6pm SCENE Northern Shorts Showcase CULTPLEX Shorts FREE

7.30pm She's The He CULTPLEX Film

8pm Protest! Condensation Short Film Premiere HOME Shorts, Panel

THURSDAY 27 AUGUST

6pm Wizard of Oz First Street Outdoor Screen Classic Film FREE

6pm Hunky Jesus HOME Documentary, Panel

6pm Filmmaker Mixer + SCENE Shorts Winner Announcement Campfield Event FREE

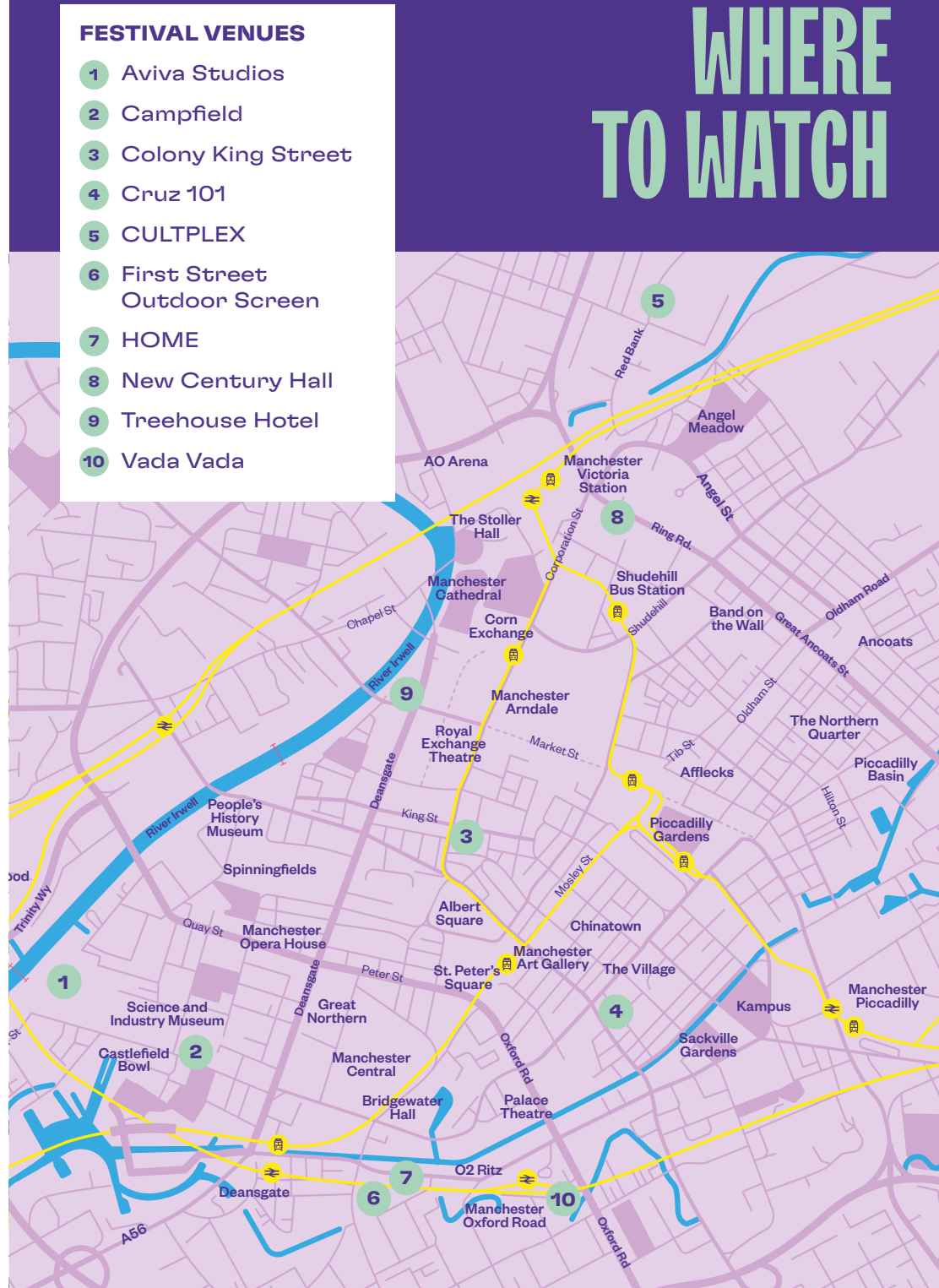
7.30pm Channel 4 Presents: First for Funny – Live Comedy Night Aviva Studios Event

7.30pm St Trinian's (2007) Party Screening CULTPLEX Classic Film Event

8pm Liberation Pride Pageant Aviva Studios Event FREE

8pm SCENE Closing Party Campfield Event FREE

8.15pm Closing Film: Chatlines HOME Film, Panel

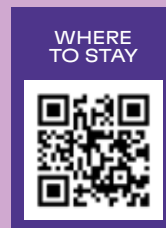


WHERE TO WATCH

MAKE A NIGHT OF IT

Why not stay over in Manchester and extend the Pride party? There's plenty of perks: booking discounts, disco breakfasts, brunches and lunches, limited-edition cocktails, special events and celebrations - all the fun stuff.

Go to visitmanchester.com/stay to book a night or two in a hotel or serviced apartment. Treat yourself.



WWW.SCENEFESTIVAL.COM MORE INFO AT WWW.SCENEFESTIVAL.COM

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SCENE

MANCHESTER'S LGBTQ+ FILM & TV FESTIVAL

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