

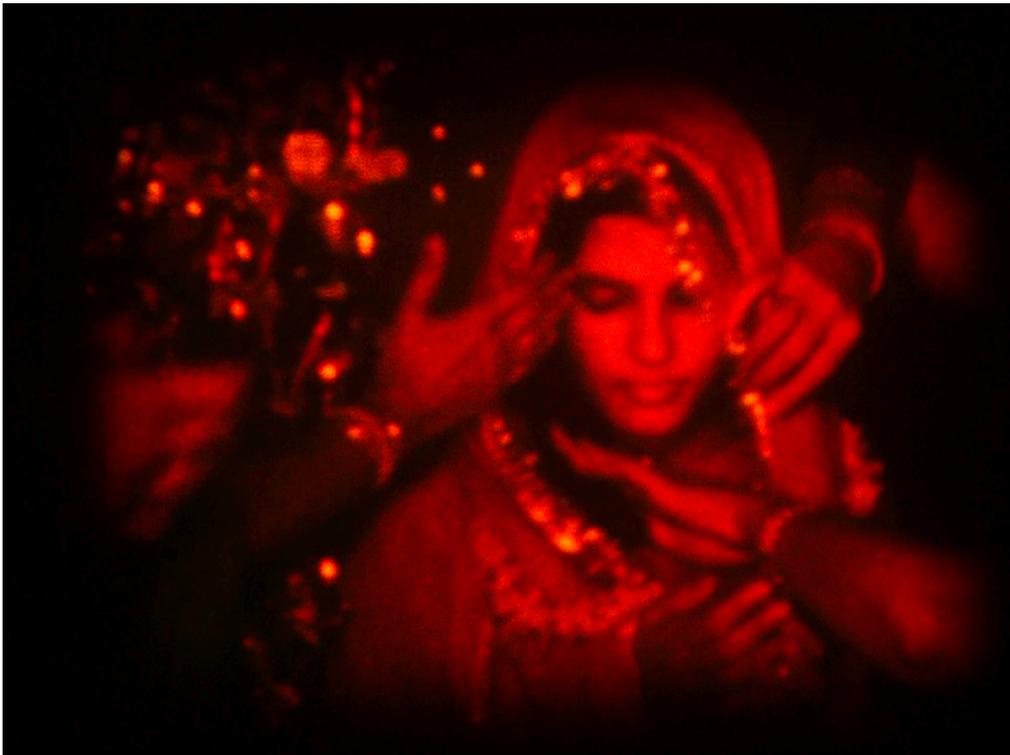
Institute of Contemporary Arts

PRESS RELEASE

FRAMES OF REPRESENTATION, THE ICA'S ANNUAL FILM FESTIVAL DEDICATED TO THE CINEMA OF THE REAL, RETURNS TO THE ICA IN LONDON FROM 25 NOVEMBER TO 4 DECEMBER 2021

FoR21 features 21 premieres by filmmakers from over a dozen countries, many of whom will be present for in-conversation events and Q&As

The full programme will be announced on Tuesday 19 October 2021



A Night of Knowing Nothing, dir. Payal Kapadia, India/France 2021, 96 min.,
Hindi and Bengali with English subtitles

FRAMES of REPRESENTATION (FoR), the Institute of Contemporary Arts' annual international film festival dedicated to the works of pioneering filmmakers and researchers in the cinema of the real, returns for its sixth edition at the ICA on The Mall in London from Thursday 25 November to Saturday 4 December 2021.

Since its first edition in 2016, FoR has established a reputation as a unique showcase for global cinema with strong political convictions and a commitment to aesthetics. '(Re)Imagining', the thematic focus of FoR21, places in dialogue filmmakers from across the globe via a collection of works that address the moving image and modes of storytelling as multi-layered devices.

As Nico Marzano, the ICA's Head of Cinema and the founder of FRAMES of REPRESENTATION, highlights: 'The 21 premieres composing the FoR21 programme explore film practices at the intersection of image production, co-creation and – to some extent – artistic manipulation. In line with the previous five editions of the festival, all screenings will aim to initiate intimate conversations around the ethical boundaries and processes underpinning these aspects of filmmaking and some of their interconnected trajectories. An accompanying programme of workshops, discussions and performances will further interrogate the relationships between creation, reality and artifice.'

Opening on Thursday 25 November with the UK premiere of Payal Kapadia's *A Night of Knowing Nothing* (see below), FRAMES of REPRESENTATION 2021 will welcome filmmakers from countries including Argentina, Canada, China, Colombia, France, Ireland, India, Italy, Mali, the Netherlands, Portugal and the USA for 10 days of screenings, discussions and special events. Across a variety of cinematic languages, their films focus on their struggles in pursuit of necessary stories, and on their genuine and profound commitment to the lives and relationships featured on screen. The full programme will be announced on Tuesday 19 October 2021 – with highlights including:

- *A Night of Knowing Nothing*, Payal Kapadia's bold and distinctive debut feature, which received its world premiere at this year's Cannes Film Festival and was awarded with the Œil d'Or ('Golden Eye') for the festival's best documentary. An immersive, mysterious and spiritual work that receives its UK premiere on the opening night of FoR21, *A Night of Knowing Nothing* explores the political contradictions of contemporary India while at the same time examining dilemmas of artist production and human relationships.
- A day of conversations and screenings dedicated to the cinematic languages and methodologies of the cinema of the real, with a particular focus on current Italian filmmaking. Taking place on Saturday 27 November, the day will include contributions from three major directors: **Gianfranco Rosi** (*Sacro GRA*, *Fire at Sea*), who will present a special screening of his latest work *Notturmo*; **Roberto Minervini**, the producer of Carlos Alfonso Corral's debut feature *Dirty Feathers*, which receives its UK premiere at FoR21; and **Federica Di Giacomo** (*Deliver Us*, winner of the Horizons Award at the Venice Film Festival in 2016), who will present the UK premiere of her new film *Il Palazzo* following its premiere at Venice in September.

FoR21 also features the second edition of PROGRESSIO, the pioneering platform launched in 2019 by the ICA, and in association with Cineteca Madrid and Sundance Institute, to support independent filmmakers in the development of their feature-length projects by facilitating exchanges with key industry guests and engaging with the aesthetic and political aspects of their works. Further details of this year's filmmakers and projects will be announced in the coming weeks.

An annual highlight of the festival is the day-long symposium, which this year takes the form of a radio broadcast. Presented on Saturday 27 November, 'how to think: Radio Silence' brings together contributions from artists, thinkers, activists

and healers with an intimate durational audio piece, to be played just once. The symposium forms part of the Arts & Humanities Research Council (AHRC) project 'Performance Philosophy and Animals: towards a radical equality' led by Professor Laura Cull Ó Maoilearca in partnership with the Academy of Theatre & Dance, Amsterdam.

FoR21 will also feature an online broadcast station created in collaboration with the Sonic Liberation Front, a group of sound platforms and sound artists who have come together with Middle Eastern radio station Radio Alhara to unify their sound for Palestine.

The full programme for FRAMES of REPRESENTATION 2021 will be announced on Tuesday 19 October 2021.

– ENDS –

Press pack with film stills [here](#)

For further information please contact:

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VISITOR INFORMATION

25 November – 4 December 2021

Press View: 11 October 2021, 12pm

Institute of Contemporary Arts
The Mall, London, SW1Y 5AH

TICKET PRICES

Film screenings & Symposium: £13 Full, £11 Concessions, £6.50 Green/Blue Members

Workshops & Live Events: £8 Full, £6 Concessions, £4 Green/Blue Members

Red Members have unlimited free access to all events.

Multibuy offer: 5 events of your choice for £40 Full, £35 Concessions

All films are ad-free and 18+ unless otherwise stated.

The **Institute of Contemporary Arts** (ICA) is an independent organisation that supports the most pressing debates in contemporary culture. From its home on The Mall, the geographic heart of the UK establishment, the ICA presents a programme that speaks to the challenges of the 21st century: ground-breaking exhibitions, performances, independent film and keynote lectures by many of the world's leading thinkers. Founded in 1946 by a collective of artists, poets and their supporters, the ICA played a pivotal role in the development of pop art and charted the course of punk, performance art and independent cinema. It has previously staged the first institutional exhibitions by artists including Jean-Michel Basquiat, Damien Hirst, Cindy Sherman and Cosey Fanni Tutti; historic performances and legendary concerts by artists such as Laurie Anderson, David Bowie, Einstürzende Neubauten and Yoko Ono; and critical discussions featuring the likes of Kathy Acker, Homi K. Bhabha, Stuart Hall and Gayatri Chakravorty Spivak. The ICA is an Arts Council England National Portfolio Organisation and supported by the DCMS Culture Recovery Fund.



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