

# SOMERVILLE FILM CLUB, HT 2024

**Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> January (2<sup>nd</sup> week)**

**Orlando** (1992, dir. Sally Potter, starring Tilda Swinton, 93 mins.)



The first film in our season of films marking LGBTQ+ History Month, *Orlando* is an adaptation of Virginia Woolf's 1928 "biographical" novel (directed at Vita Sackville-West and featuring a gender swapping main character), this staple of queer film festivals uses innovative casting, fourth wall breaking flourishes and a standout performance by Tilda Swinton: material that had been regarded as unfilmable is handled deftly by Potter, choosing to translate for the big screen rather than attempt to slavishly adapt the book.

*As always, films will be shown on the big screen in the MTC, starting at 7.15pm and with free drinks and nibbles!*

# SOMERVILLE FILM CLUB, HT 2024

**Monday 5<sup>th</sup> February (4<sup>th</sup> week)**

**Weekend** (2011, dir. Andrew Haigh, 97 mins.)

British director Haigh's 2<sup>nd</sup> film (he also wrote and directed *Greek Pete* in 2009) is a romantic drama starring Tom Cullen and Chris New as two men who meet and begin a sexual relationship the weekend before one of them plans to leave the country. An examination of modern sexuality that is heartfelt without being sentimental, with natural performances by newcomers Cullen and New, who improvised much of the dialogue.



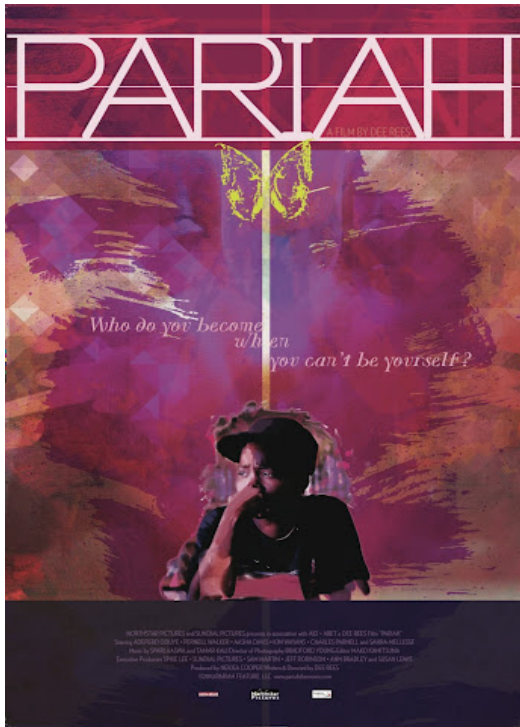
We are delighted to have Molly Merryman, Research Director of Queer Britain (the national LGBTQ+ Museum) in attendance at the screening, and she and Somerville's current British Academy Fellow Ammar Azzouz will be discussing the Museum, her role and research work, and queer British history at an event before the film (in the MTC from 5 till 6, followed by a break for dinner before the film starts at 7.15)

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**Monday 19<sup>th</sup> February (6<sup>th</sup> week)**

**Pariah** (2011, dir. Dee Rees, 86 mins.)



Another writer/director, Dee Rees expanded her own short film of 2007 for this debut picture: a powerful coming out/coming-of-age film, featuring a stand out performance by Adepero Oduye in the lead role, it tells the story of Alike, a 17-year-old Black teenager embracing her identity as a lesbian. In 2022, the film was selected for preservation in the United States National Film Registry by the Library of Congress as being "culturally, historically or aesthetically significant", making it the first narrative feature from the 2010s chosen to be in the registry.

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**Monday 4<sup>th</sup> March (8<sup>th</sup> week)**

**Flee** (2021, dir. J.P. Rasmussen, scr. Rasmussen and Amin Nawabi, 90 mins.)

This multiple award-winning film is presented in the form of an animated documentary where animated scenes depict Amin's past and present, and are interspersed with archival footage. The refugee experience is depicted through this vivid animation, and *Flee* has been described as pushing the boundaries of documentary filmmaking and presenting a moving memoir of self-discovery.



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