



# RAINDANCE FILM FESTIVAL

## FIRST LOOK: RAINDANCE FILM FESTIVAL LAUNCHES OFFICIAL TRAILER & POSTER FOR ITS 25<sup>TH</sup> EDITION

[Watch the trailer!](#)



**LONDON: THURSDAY, JUNE 29, 2017:** The Raindance Film Festival is quickly approaching and to celebrate, it has launched the Official Trailer & Poster for its 25<sup>th</sup> edition, which will take place in **London's West End from September 20<sup>th</sup> – October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2017.**

Directed by **Rick Darge**, the inspiration behind this year's trailer has been attributed to the filmmaking process and the deconstruction of cinema – taking a comedic look at the dichotomy between fiction and reality. Darge won the Film of the Festival Award at last year's Festival for his feature debut, *Zen Dog*.

Internationally renowned illustrator and filmmaker, **Dave McKean** (*MirrorMask*, *Luna*) illustrated this year's eclectic poster. McKean is no stranger to Raindance, having previously illustrated six Festival posters between 1997-2002. He also wrote and directed the trailer for the 8<sup>th</sup> edition of the Festival. The poster was designed by creative design agency **What is Bobo**, who this year have designed all the materials for the Festival.

A champion of independent cinema around the world, the Raindance Film Festival is the largest of its kind in Europe. It showcases feature, documentary and short films, music videos, web series and virtual reality experiences.

Fostering an environment of creativity and inspiration for emerging and established filmmakers, the Festival also offers opportunities for industry collaboration through its co-production and industry days forums.

Known for providing an international launch platform for independent films, Raindance hosted the UK and world premieres of such cult hits as **Pulp Fiction** (dir. Quentin Tarantino), **Memento** (dir. Christopher Nolan) and **Down Terrace** (dir. Ben Wheatley). Last year's big Festival winner – **The Shepherd** (dir. Jonathan Cenziel Burley) was released in UK cinemas earlier this year by Matchbox Films and winner of last year's award for Best Documentary, **Growing Up Coy** (dir. Eric Juhola) was released by Netflix in January.

**The programme for the 25<sup>th</sup> Raindance Film Festival will be announced on Tuesday, August 15<sup>th</sup>, 2017.**

**Press can apply for accreditation through the Festival website:**

<https://www.raindance.org/festival/press-accreditations/>

**Festival passes can be purchased through the Festival website:**

<https://www.raindance.org/courses/raindance-film-festival-pass/>

**~ENDS~**

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#### **ABOUT RAINDANCE FILM FESTIVAL**

**Discover. Be Discovered.**

Listed by Variety as one of the world's top 50 'unmissable film festivals', Raindance showcases features, shorts, music videos, virtual reality experiences and web

series by filmmakers from the UK and around the world, celebrating and supporting independent, new and alternative filmmakers not just during its 12 day festival but throughout the year.

Raindance Film Festival is officially recognised by the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences USA, the British Academy of Film and Television Arts and the British Independent Film Awards. Selected shorts will qualify for Oscar® and BAFTA nominations. British short films that screen in competition and all British features that screen at the Festival in 2017 will be eligible for entry for the 2017 British Independent Film Awards BIFA.

### **ABOUT RAINDANCE – THE VOICE OF INDEPENDENT FILM**

Raindance is dedicated to fostering and promoting independent film in the UK and around the world. Based in the heart of London, Raindance combines [Raindance Film Festival](#), [Training Courses](#), the prestigious [British Independent Film Awards](#) .

### **ABOUT RICK DARGE & THE RAINDANCE FILM FESTIVAL OFFICIAL TRAILER**

Rick Darge is an American writer/director whose debut feature, *Zen Dog* won the Film of the Festival Award at Raindance Film Festival 2016. He has also directed many short films, commercials and music videos.

The inspiration behind this year's Official Festival trailer stemmed from the idea of deconstructing cinema. *"We've all seen films where we see a director call 'cut' on the scene and then we realize we're in a movie. I thought it would be funny to take it another step further and show another director calling cut on that director and so on. You don't quite know what is truth or what is reality and you just keep stripping the layers off of what a film is and the people involved in that film. I wanted to make a comedy - something that fun".* – Rick Darge

### **ABOUT DAVE MCKEAN**

Writer, musician, illustrator and filmmaker Dave McKean has illustrated six previous Raindance Film Festival posters from 1997-2002 and in 1999, he wrote and directed the second Raindance Film Festival trailer.

As an illustrator, he has collaborated with Neil Gaiman on many projects including *Sandman* and *Mr. Punch*. With Grant Morrison, he created *Arkham Asylum*. He also wrote and illustrated the award-winning novel *Cages* and the 14-18 Now WW1 centenary commission *Black Dog: the Dreams of Paul Nash* which was performed live at the Somme memorial and at Tate Britain in 2016.

Dave has created hundreds of award-winning publishing and music industry works for, amongst others, Stephen King, Richard Dawkins, Lars von Trier, Ray Bradbury, David Almond, John Cale, The Rolling Stones, Tori Amos, Alice Cooper, Altan, Counting Crows, Michael Nyman, Roy Harper, Bill Bruford, Iain Ballamy and Dream Theatre.

Dave began an ongoing working relationship with Heston Blumenthal on *The Big Fat Duck* book and *Historic Heston*, and has contributed murals, package design, wallpaper,

maps, and various other graphic works to *The Fat Duck* and the *Hinds Head in Bray*, *Dinner in London and in Melbourne*, and is director of *Story at the Duck*.

Dave's debut feature, *MirrorMask* premiered at the Sundance Film Festival. His third feature, *Luna* premiered at the Toronto Film Festival, won Best British Feature at the Raindance Festival and the Raindance Award at the British Independent Film Awards (BIFAs). *Luna* has been acquired by the BBC for US distribution and has played at many festivals around the world.