



TALKIES SHORT FILM COMMISSION: 2018

Deadline for applications: Sunday October 1st

[Talkies](#) is a not-for-profit, volunteer-led, pop-up cinema operating in Palmers Green and surrounding areas of North London.

We have been established for five years and hold about 30 screenings each year in a range of venues around the area. Amongst these are short film programmes, in collaboration with [Short Sighted Cinema](#), who partner with us on Talkies Short Film Commissions.

Each year we use the income surplus from our programme to re-invest in emerging talent in the industry. The commissions are open to anyone - you do not have to live in our area - but each of the films **MUST** be shot in the area. When developing your idea it would be helpful to you to research the area so you can understand the setting.

The shorts premiere is part of Talkies' HERE FILM FESTIVAL ([link to festival 2017](#)) - our annual celebration of writers, directors and actors that live in our part of London.



You don't need to live in our area to qualify. However, your film **MUST** be shot in the area.

Each successful applicant will receive £500, paid in part in advance with the remainder after the premiere.

You can use this together with other funding sources to finance your short film. However, credits must include a single screen acknowledging "Commissioned by (Talkies logo) in collaboration with (Short Sighted Cinema logo). Talkies/SSC will provide the artwork for this screen.

We **STRONGLY ADVISE** that you read the brief carefully and the videos of previous film makers, which should give you all the information you need and some sense of how the Talkies' commissions are more than the £500 award....

There are eight million stories in the London suburbs; this will be just four of them!

SHORT FILM COMMISSION - OUTLINE BRIEF:

This commission is for four film makers to produce a short film around the theme "HERE" based in and around Palmers Green, North London.

For example:

- What are the interesting narratives of life in our area today?
- How are we changing?
- What captures the spirit of 2018?

We want you to be creative in your approach, perhaps injecting some humour into your work that helps people to see their community in a new light.

The films should be no more than 20 mins long.

Films should be completed and presented by March 4th 2018.

APPLICATIONS:

Applications will be in three stages:

STAGE 1 - APPLICATION

Complete the application by 24.00 on Sunday October 1st

At this stage we will be looking for interesting ideas, which, whilst not necessarily being fully formed, will resonate with and make a good contribution to the festival. We will also want to see that you have already made short films of good quality. If you succeed at this stage more detail will be needed at the next stage.

You will hear if you have been shortlisted by Sunday October 15

STAGE 2 - DEVELOPMENT DISCUSSION

Up to 8 applicants will be short listed and invited to discuss their ideas further with Talkies and Short Sighted Cinema. At this stage we will want to help you to flesh out your proposal, offer ideas for locations and suggest contacts. You will have up to **November 8th** to complete your final proposal.

You will find out if have been successful in securing a commission by November 22nd.

STAGE 3 - COMMISSION

Once you have been informed about your commission and we have sorted out the agreement, you will have **until March 4th to complete and submit your film.** During this period we will offer what help we can to support your work.

ADVICE AND SUPPORT

Talkies Community Cinema provide a range of support for the production of your short films, through both mentorship and local facility.

Successful applications will go through a short-listing stage before the final pitches are agreed, during which we will offer you some guidance to the local area to help hone in your ideas.

MENTORS

The HERE Film Festival short film commission is supported by the mentorship of industry professional and award-winning filmmakers. Successful applicants will be assigned a mentor for their project, who will provide a variety of feedback and advice depending on the project. This usually focuses on script rewrites, structure and shot lists, before the shoot begins.

Examples of mentors this year are:

- Marc Issacs, director, writer and documentary maker
- Ian Barnes, TV director and Oscar nominated short film maker
- Bruce Goodison, director and writer
- Paul Mari, writer, TV and film, including shorts
- Jason Sutton, writer TV and film, including shorts

LOCATIONS:

During the initial application stage, we do not expect you to have a fully formed idea of locations, however we do expect you to show an active interest in the locality (Palmer's Green is an ethnically diverse, middle-class suburban area which boasts large green parks). Successful applicants of the first stage will be offered a short tour of the area by one of the Talkies team, of locations and areas we feel might suit your film.

We have previously commissioned films that make use of local venues such as the Ruth Winston Centre (Smear, The Problemless Anonymous), local houses (For Our Cockroaches, Cleared, Magic Trick), specific locations (Platform 1, Ballade of the New River) public realm (Cul-de-Sac, Sunday Worship, Clankeman, Another Man) etc.

LOCAL ASSISTANCE

Talkies Community Cinema has a large audience in Palmer's Green and the surrounding areas, with many enthusiastic helpers, extras and local guides.

We can organise extras for your film, as well as local bases for cast & crew, offered by members of the Talkies audience. We will also appoint a local production assistant to offer additional support for any issues which may benefit from an insider's knowledge!

TECHNICAL SUPPORT

Throughout your production, Talkies can offer some level of technical support, including fixers and runners, still/BTS photographers, steadycam operators, make-up artists etc....

EXHIBITION AND PROMOTION

Each film we commission **must** premiere at the HERE Film Festival in April 2018, where we exhibit your film on Talkies' big screen, in the heart of Palmers Green.