

'THE FESTIVAL' IN CINEMAS FROM 14 AUGUST FOLLOWING BRISTOL SHOOT LAST YEAR

[>> Click here to watch the trailer <<](#)

BRISTOL, 7 August 2018: *The Festival*, the brand-new film from the BAFTA Award winning creators of *The Inbetweeners*, opens in UK cinemas next week after filming at The Bottle Yard Studios, across Bristol and the surrounding area last year.



Hammed Animashaun, Claudia O'Doherty & Joe Thomas star in 'The Festival' (image © Nick Wall)

The Festival is the first comedy feature release from production company Fudge Park, formed by *The Inbetweeners* writers and executive producers Iain Morris and Damon Beesley. It is directed by Iain Morris and written by Keith Akushie and Joe Parham (*Siblings*) and stars Joe Thomas (*The Inbetweeners*, *Fresh Meat*), Hammed Animashaun (*Flowers*, *Black Mirror*), Claudia O'Doherty (*Love*, *Trainwreck*), Jemaine Clement (*Flight of the Conchords*, *Moana*) and Hannah Tointon (*Mr Selfridge*).



Director Iain Morris on location during filming (image © Nick Wall)

The production team based at The Bottle Yard, building sets and basing production offices, art department and prop stores on site and using the Studios' edit rooms, costume and make up suites and rehearsal rooms.

A large festival set was created in a field in nearby Chew Magna, whilst other festival scenes filmed at Hengrove Park and Ashton Court in Bristol over four weeks in August/September 2017.

Private residences in Whitchurch were used for interior scenes, and other filming locations included Westbury Baptist Church, Bristol Medical Simulation Centre and Colston Hall, where graduation scenes were shot. Driving scenes were filmed around Hengrove Way. Bristol Film Office assisted with location searches and arranging unit bases at Lloyds Amphitheatre and Church Lodge. *The Festival* also filmed at real festivals around the UK, including Bestival and Leeds Festival.

Claire Jones, Producer, said “In producing *The Festival*, it was crucial for us to have the perfect setting. Locations played a huge part in deciding where we wanted to film. The West country seemed like the right choice. Not only are Bristol crew incredibly skilled, the landscape seemed to fit with the idea of a big music festival. We scouted nearly 300 fields and eventually found our field near Chew Magna. With its rolling hills, lush greenness and friendly neighbours, it felt like the perfect fit. We built a huge festival set in our field, using local craftsman and local artists that had to withstand the elements for 10 weeks, which became an interesting challenge. Storms hit us and our set turned into a lake of mud but as the film needed to feel like a typical British festival we decided that mud and rain could only make it feel more authentic. The end result looks seamless.

“The Bottle Yard Studios was the ideal production base, with sets built for weather cover, and easy access to some terrific Bristol locations. Colston Hall doubling for our university graduation scene and the residential houses in the adjacent area working well to fit the idea of pretty suburbia England. Not to mention the incredible food scene Bristol now has, the cast and crew could not have been happier to be in Bristol for three months.”



All images © Nick Wall

Fiona Francombe, Site Director of The Bottle Yard Studios, said: "After hosting them for *Ill Behaviour* earlier in the year, it was our pleasure to welcome Fudge Park Productions back to The Bottle Yard to make *The Festival*. This was an ambitious shoot and we're very pleased that they found everything they needed in Bristol and the wider region."

Natalie Moore, Bristol Film Office, said: "Bristol is no stranger to playing backdrop to anarchic coming-of-age comedy. *The Inbetweeners 2*, made by the creators of *The Festival*, partly filmed here in 2014, so it's great to have played a part in this exciting new film. Being a city that hosts a number of large events for the public each year, we're well suited to facilitating large crowd scenes like the ones required in this instance."

When Nick's (Joe Thomas) girlfriend dumps him at graduation, he has a colossal meltdown in front of the entire university. He's convinced his life is over, but his best mate Shane (Hammed Animashaun) has the perfect solution: three days at an epic music festival. With the help of "festival aficionado" and certified oddball Amy (Emmy Award nominee Claudia O'Doherty), Shane tries to get Nick to embrace the music, the mayhem and the mud. From the creators of *THE INBETWEENERS* comes *THE FESTIVAL*, a comedy about friendship, growing up, and going mad in a field.

The Festival is produced by Claire Jones (*Sightseers*, *Ghost Stories*) for Fudge Park, developed and backed by Film4 and Entertainment Film Distributors.

This year marks the tenth anniversary of *The Inbetweeners*, the British coming of age sitcom which co-creators Morris and Beesley followed up with two hugely successful feature films: *The Inbetweeners Movie*, released in 2011 which took £45 million at the box office becoming the most successful British comedy of all time and sequel *The Inbetweeners 2* (also partly filmed in Bristol) which set the record for the biggest opening weekend of 2014 and was the highest grossing British film that year.

The Festival is released in cinemas nationwide on 14th August 2018.

– ENDS –

For more information about The Bottle Yard Studios or Bristol Film Office, contact Tara Milne: 07532 134020 / taracmilne@gmail.com.

For more information about *The Festival* and interview requests, contact ORGANIC: Hannah Golanski, Marie Zeraati, Rebecca Mader & Becky Palmer. festival@organic-publicity.co.uk / 0207 052 1202

NOTES TO EDITORS

The Bottle Yard Studios

The Bottle Yard Studios is a Bristol City Council initiative. The site, which operated for more than 50 years as a former winery and bottling plant, is now an established base for film and television production in the West of England, attracting major UK and overseas productions of all sizes.

The Bottle Yard Studios has eight stages available at competitive rates, just 15 minutes from Bristol city centre. It also offers a giant green screen studio, extensive back lot, workshop areas, production offices, costume and make-up rooms, dressing-rooms, storage, private roadways and parking. On-site tenants deliver a host of services including creative, digital, technical and audio/visual expertise, grips, transport, structural, fire and safety assistance.

Productions made at The Bottle Yard Studios include: *Fortitude* (Sky Atlantic), *The Crystal Maze* (Channel 4), *Tipping Point & Tipping Point Lucky Stars* (ITV), *Poldark* (BBC One), *Eric, Ernie & Me* (BBC Four), *Ill Behaviour* (BBC Two), *Three Girls* (BBC One), *The White Princess* (STARZ), *Broadchurch* (ITV), *Trollied* (Sky1), *Crazyhead* (E4/Netflix), *Sherlock: The Abominable Bride* (BBC One), *The Living and the Dead* (BBC One), *Andy's Prehistoric Adventures* (CBeebies), *Galavant* (Disney/ABC Studios), *Wolf Hall* (BBC Two) and *The Lost Honour of Christopher Jefferies* (ITV).

www.thebottleyard.com

Bristol Film Office

Bristol Film Office, a division of Bristol City Council, is a free service to all productions planning to film in the city. Dedicated to making film, television or commercial photography shoots run as smoothly as possible when on location in Bristol, it is the one-stop-shop for all filming enquiries. It can assist at all stages of production, from initial location and crewing advice to reces and logistical support. In 2016-17, Bristol Film Office recorded a strong total of £18.3 million inward investment from productions working in Bristol and registered more than 1,000 location filming days in the city. Bristol Film Office is leading delivery of a programme of activity to celebrate the permanent UNESCO City of Film status Bristol was awarded in 2017. www.filmbristol.co.uk

The Bottle Yard Studios and Bristol Film Office are Bristol City Council initiatives

