

PREPARE FOR AN UNMISSABLE FEAST OF ACTION THIS MONTH - FROM HOLLYWOOD DIRECTORS AND ACTION STARS TO THE BIGGEST MOVIE & TV FRANCHISES

ONLY AVAILABLE AT  
THE LONDON ACTION FESTIVAL 2023

[TICKETS ON SALE NOW](#)



- 2023 MOVING TARGET AWARDS WINNERS ANNOUNCED WITH MORE TO FOLLOW
- PROGRAMMING HIGHLIGHTS INCLUDE THE SHOWRUNNER'S STORY WITH LINE OF DUTY CREATOR JED MERCURIO
- THE VILLAINS OF JOHN WICK AND A SPECIAL LOOK AT THE GAMES OF THRONES LEGENDARY BATTLE OF THE BASTARDS WITH DIRECTOR MIGUEL SAPOCHNIK.
- SHOWCASES AND MASTERCLASSES FROM WRITER/DIRECTOR NIA DACOSTA AND ACADEMY AWARD WINNING SPECIAL EFFECTS SUPERVISOR CHRIS CORBOULD,
  - WORLD'S GREATEST SCREENING EVER... (PROBABLY!) CONFIRMED AS...  
*THE ITALIAN JOB*
- CELEBRATORY SCREENINGS AND PANELS AND SO MUCH MORE

[LONDON, Tuesday June 6<sup>th</sup> 2023] THE LONDON ACTION FESTIVAL today reveals a raft of new events joining the already impressive programme set to burst onto London screens later this month.

Running from Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> – Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> June, this one-of-a-kind Festival will bring together influential figures responsible for creating some of the most iconic Action moments in Film and TV history.

The LONDON ACTION FESTIVAL has today announced **3 Special Evening Events** each of which is individually ticketed. Tickets for the Special Evening Events and the Saturday, Sunday and Full Weekend Day Passes are on sale **NOW** via the website [www.londonactionfestival.com](http://www.londonactionfestival.com).

**The World's Greatest Screening Ever...(Probably!) of THE ITALIAN JOB  
Screening with Music and Panels including author Matthew Field and special guests**

Loaded with sixties swagger, endlessly quotable dialogue and one of the most impressive car chases in movie history, The Italian Job (1969) is the ultimate celebration of "Cool Britannia". Relive those iconic Mini car-chases, sing-along to the Self Preservation Society, and join a Q&A with **Matthew Field**, author of the definitive book on the making of one of Britain's greatest action films and special guests to be announced.

Now it's your chance to see all those iconic Minis on the big screen - sing-a-long with the Self Preservation Society, hear one of **Quincy Jones** finest scores performed live by acclaimed pianist, composer and musical director **Peter Edwards** and his Jazz Trio and join us in a Q&A with Matthew Field author of the definitive book on the making of one of Britain's greatest action films with special guests to be announced.

**Tickets at £22.50 can be purchased from the link below:**

[Insert link]

Saturday, Sunday and Full Weekend Day Passes holders are entitled to a **15% discount** (subject to availability).

**NEW: SPECIAL EVENT #2 THE THURSDAY NIGHT SPECIAL - DOUBLE BILL**

**Part 1: Director Showcase: In Conversation with Writer/Director Nia DaCosta \* [Awaiting Clearance]**

**Thursday June 22<sup>nd</sup> 7.00pm @ Imperial College – Clore Lecture Theatre**

*In association with the Imperial College Film Society.* The London Action Festival welcomes acclaimed director Nia DaCosta for a Masterclass on Film Direction. Nia is a writer/director from New York City. Her debut feature film, *LITTLE WOODS*, a complex family drama, made its world premiere at the Tribeca Film Festival and won the Nora Ephron Award for 'spirited and bold' storytelling. In 2021, *CANDYMAN*, a new retelling of the horror classic produced by Jordan Peele, had a spectacular opening weekend making history in the process, with Nia becoming the first Black female director to debut at No. 1 at the U.S. box office. Her latest film *THE MARVELS* for Marvel Studios, with Brie Larson returning as Captain Marvel, opens in November this year.

- All ticket holders to the special one-off performance of Yippee Ki Yay will also gain free entry to the Director Showcase: In Conversation with Writer/Director Nia Da Costa event on the same evening and located very close to each other.

**On joining the Festival line-up, Nia DaCosta said:** *"I heard great things about what the London Action Festival team pulled off last year and look forward to being a part of it later this month. Bringing industry, talent and most importantly audiences together to celebrate our work this way is important. I value this opportunity to share my experiences of working as a writer/director with audiences who have such passion and really care about what we do."*

**Part 2: LIVE PERFORMACE: 'YIPPEE KI YAY' by Richard Marsh *presented by James Seabright.***

**Thursday June 22<sup>nd</sup> 9.30pm @ The Elgar Room, Royal Albert Hall**

This joyful and extremely funny show is a very special London Action Festival one-off performance (with an added twist!) following rave reviews for its premiere at the Edinburgh Fringe, which also won it a London transfer.

Acclaimed retelling of classic film *DIE HARD* from Richard Marsh – Fringe First-Winner, London poetry slam champion, BBC Audio Drama Best Scripted Comedy Drama award-winner and New York cop (one of these is untrue).

When gunmen seize an LA skyscraper, off duty policeman John McClane is the hostages' only hope. This uplifting action romp (and unauthorised parody) pays affectionate tribute to the iconic 80's festive fan favourite. Essential viewing for Hans Gruber superfans and newcomers alike. Content warning: divorce, foot trauma, German terrorists.

**Bonus Event:** What happens when Richard Marsh, who wrote and performs the show, meets the screenwriter of his most beloved movie for the first time. Find out when Richard meets the legendary Steven E. de Souza live on stage after his performance.

**Tickets at £33.00 can be purchased from the Royal Albert Hall, Box Office**

[Insert link]

Saturday, Sunday and Full Weekend Day Passes holders are entitled to a **15% discount** (subject to availability).

\*All ticket holders to this special one-off performance will also gain free entry to the Director Showcase: In Conversation with Writer/Director Nia DaCosta event on the same evening and located very close to each other.

**NEW: SPECIAL EVENT #3: THE FRIDAY NIGHT SHOWDOWN & 2023 MOVING TARGET AWARDS.**

The London Action Festival was pleased to announce today the **initial "Moving Target Award" winners' for 2023**, to be honoured at the London Action Festival's very own entertainment spectacular - the "**Friday Night Showdown**", which returns after a sell-out success last year.

Special Guests announced so far to be honoured for their Outstanding Contributions to Action Film & TV include:

- **For Direction: Martin Campbell**, who directed the debuts of both Daniel Craig and Pierce Brosnan as James Bond in *CASINO ROYALE* and *GOLDENEYE* as well as the Academy Award and Golden Globe nominated *THE MASK OF ZORRO*, has certainly proven he knows how to entertain an audience throughout his career. He is a BAFTA-winner for the groundbreaking BBC-TV Series *EDGE OF DARKNESS* and was nominated again for *CASINO ROYALE*.

- **For Special Effects: Chris Corbould OBE** is an Academy-Award and BAFTA winning Special Effects Supervisor with an incredible body of work that takes in 15 entries in the “James Bond” franchise including *NO TIME TO DIE*, as well as Christopher Nolan’s *BATMAN* trilogy, *INCEPTION* and *STAR WARS: EPISODE VII - THE FORCE AWAKENS*.

Comedian **Bennett Arron** ("a Welsh Seinfeld" - *The Guardian*) hosts this unforgettable celebration of all things action that combines comedy, magic, music, even a game show along with in depth profiles and interviews of special guests being honoured with this year’s “Moving Target Awards”.

Bennett will also be joined by award-winning magician **Nick Einhorn** and together they will dazzle and confound the audience with action-themed illusions.

**Peter Edwards**, pianist, composer and musical director whose guileless, soulful music full of emphatic chording, Latin grooves and romantic, cinematic themes’ (*The Guardian*) performs.

This live event is produced with Maria Giacchino who is also a member of the Advisory Board of the London Action Festival.

**Tickets at £27.50 can be purchased from the link below:**

[Insert link]

Saturday, Sunday and Full Weekend Day Passes holders are entitled to a **15% discount** (subject to availability).

## **ADDITIONAL MAIN WEEKEND ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

### **WEEKEND PANEL EVENTS:**

**NEW: A Cut Above The Rest – The Editors Tale with Nathan Orloff and others to be announced.**

A showcase on the work and discussion with some of the best editors in the business. With special guest **Nathan Orloff** (editor on *JOHN WICK CHAPTER 4*) and others to be announced. It’s often said that great Films and TV Shows are made in the editing room. This is your chance to find out why.

**NEW: Doing it for Real: The Chris Corbould Masterclass - A Life in Special Effects.**

BAFTA and Academy Award winner Corbould delivers a masterclass charting his 40-year career. Known for working on 15 Bond films from *THE SPY WHO LOVED ME* to *NO TIME TO DIE*, *STAR WARS: THE FORCE AWAKENS*, *THE LAST JEDI*, *THE DARK KNIGHT* and *INCEPTION*. He currently holds the Guinness World Record for the "Largest film stunt explosion" for his work on *NO TIME TO DIE*.

**UPDATED: Cry Havoc – The Making of a Battle - “Battle of the Bastards” screening plus Q&A with Director Miguel Sapochnik and others**

The London Action Festival is delighted to bring the award-winning episode that many consider the best of the entire *GAME OF THRONES* series to the Big Screen. Followed by a Q&A with its multiple Emmy Award winning Director, Miguel Sapochnik, Editor, Tim Porter and other Special Guests to be announced.

**UPDATED: Anatomy Of A Set Piece - with Gareth Evans, Martin Campbell & Neil Marshall**

Previously announced **Gareth Evans** (*THE RAID*, *THE RAID 2*) will be joined by **Martin Campbell**, this year's "Moving Target Award" winner for Outstanding Contribution to Action in Film & TV (*CASINO ROYALE*, *GOLDENEYE* and *THE MASK OF ZORRO*), and **Neil Marshall** (Emmy-nominated Director of *DOG SOLDIERS*, *THE DESCENT* and *GAME OF THRONES*).

### **WEEKEND SPECIAL SCREENINGS**

#### **NEW: *THE MASK OF ZORRO* - 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Screening and Q&A with Director Martin Campbell**

In 1998, Martin Campbell brought the masked vigilante back to life with Antonio Banderas taking up the mantle of the bold renegade, joined by Anthony Hopkins and Catherine Zeta-Jones. The screening of the Academy Award and Golden Globe-nominated film will be followed by a Q&A.

#### **NEW: ENTER THE DRAGON – Special 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Screening Plus Special Panel Event**

ENTER THE DRAGON celebrates its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary this year and is considered one of the most influential action films of all time, with its success contributing to mainstream worldwide interest in martial arts. Released shortly after Bruce Lee's untimely death in 1973 the film is directed by Robert Clouse, written by Michael Allin, and starring Bruce Lee, John Saxon and Jim Kelly. It was Lee's final completed film appearance.

The London Action Festival will explore the legacy of Bruce Lee with a special panel event with **Mike Fury** (journalist, author and acknowledged expert in martial arts cinema, he has written extensively on the subject which ultimately led him to conceive the successful book series, Life of Action) and other special guests to be announced.

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### **What additional programming has already been announced for the main weekend at THE LONDON ACTION FESTIVAL 2023 and what will a ticket include?**

THE LONDON ACTION FESTIVAL has already announced a first round of programming for the Main Weekend of the 2023 Festival as follows (listed in alphabetical order and with the latest updates):

- **Anatomy Of A Set Piece - with Gareth Evans, Martin Campbell & Neil Marshall:**  
Last year's popular panel returns with leading directors from Film & TV discussing their favourite action set pieces that inspire them. Already confirmed for this year is:
  - **Gareth Evans** (*THE RAID*, *THE RAID 2* and the hotly anticipated *HAVOC* starring Tom Hardy)
  - **Martin Campbell**, this year's "Moving Target Award" winner for Outstanding Contribution to Action in Film & TV for Direction (*CASINO ROYALE*, *GOLDENEYE* and *THE MASK OF ZORRO*) and
  - **Neil Marshall** (Emmy-nominated Director of *DOG SOLDIERS*, *THE DESCENT* and *GAME OF THRONES*).
  
- **The Showrunner's Story: Jed Mercurio.** *In association with World Productions.*

As the multi-award-winning ratings juggernaut *BODYGUARD* celebrates its 5th anniversary, Writer and Executive Producer Jed Mercurio (*LINE OF DUTY*, *BODIES*) explores the work of a Showrunner in its creation and production.



- **Car Chasers** - presented in association *The British Stunt Register*: Renowned stunt professionals who have been behind the wheels of some of the fastest and most furious cars on screen discuss their adrenaline-fueled careers including moments from their work. Den of Geek will be presenting the Top #5 Car Stunts as voted for by their online audience.
- **Cry Havoc – The Making of a Battle - “Battle of the Bastards” screening plus Q&A with Director Miguel Sapochnik and others**  
*courtesy of Warner Bros. Discovery*:  
New for 2023, THE LONDON ACTION FESTIVAL brings together key members of the production team that have created one of the most memorable battle scenes ever seen on our screens. Following a Big Screen outing for this full legendary episode we will find out what it took to bring this monumental piece of action to life with multi-E Emmy Award winning **Director Miguel Sapochnik** and **Editor Tim Porter** with more special guests to be announced.
- **Special Screening: THE RAID 2 + Q&A with Gareth Evans** - The breathtaking Indonesian action thriller written, directed and edited by the Welsh action virtuoso filmmaker Gareth Evans. Like Evans’ previous films *MERANTAU* and *THE RAID*, the fight scenes showcase the extraordinary Indonesian fighting style of pencak silat. Gareth will join us for a Q&A on the film, his career and what’s next with Netflix’s upcoming action epic *HAVOC* starring Tom Hardy.
- **The Villains of JOHN WICK – Special Guests: Mark Dacascos and Scott Adkins**  
*In association with Lionsgate*,  

 THE LONDON ACTION FESTIVAL extends the privileges of The Continental to two very special guests; **Mark Dacascos** (Zero in *JOHN WICK: CHAPTER 3 – PARABELLUM*) and **Scott Adkins** (Killa in *JOHN WICK: CHAPTER 4*) – two of the most memorable villains from across the \$1 billion worldwide box office smash-hit “John Wick” franchise. What does it take to take on Mr. Wick? Find out in this compelling panel event as we look at the making of those films and explore highlights from Mark and Scott’s award-winning careers.
- **The Action Exhibition Chapter 1: The Incredible World of SPY-Fi** *presented by Danny Biederman, Action Festival Holdings and Nomad Exhibitions*: A UK first, Danny Biederman author, filmmaker, and internationally recognised expert on pop spy fiction - has amassed the ultimate collection of props, costumes, original gadgetry, production notes and memorabilia from some of the leading Action franchises of all time. Unique items from *MISSION IMPOSSIBLE* and *James Bond* to Britain’s own hit Spy show *The Avengers* will be displayed and available to Festival Day Pass holders – the exhibit is only in the UK for 2 days.

- **The Impossible Action Film Quiz:** Fiendish masterminds Dick Fiddy and Martin Coxhead pit their command of trivia against both audiences and two expert teams in a Film and TV Game Show. It's fingers on the buzzers time. Audiences should be prepared for a pop quiz challenge from co-host, Author Marshall Julius, with prizes up for grabs.
- **What's The Score** with *Natalie Holt*: Multi-award-winning **Natalie Holt** joins us to deconstruct the modern film score during a masterclass on music, the tools at composer's disposal and delving into the score to Marvel's acclaimed series *LOKI*.
- **Write Club with Lesley Paterson and Steven E. de Souza:** Lesley Paterson, BAFTA Award Winner and Oscar Nominee for the remarkable *ALL QUIET ON THE WESTERN FRONT* and Steven E. de Souza screenwriter of *DIE HARD*, *COMMANDO* and *THE RUNNING MAN* will be in discussion on how action and suspense is first conceived on the page to bring a film or TV show to life on screen,
- **Going Commando with Steven E. de Souza:** A Special Screening of *COMMANDO*, the film that proved Arnold Schwarzenegger was more than just a "Terminator", is presented on the big screen followed by a lively Q&A with legendary writer **Steven E. de Souza** discussing the film, his work with Arnold, *DIE HARD* and his high-octane career.

### Where will THE LONDON ACTION FESTIVAL 2023 take place?

This year's programme of events will take place across three prestigious locations in and around South and High Street Kensington, London, for a campus-style experience:

- **The Science Museum's Illuminate**, Exhibition Rd, South Kensington, SW7 2DD
- **The Royal Geographical Society**, 1 Kensington Gore, South Kensington, SW7 2AR
- **The Kensington Conference & Events Centre**, Kensington Town Hall, Hornton St, W8 7NX

### How much are tickets to THE LONDON ACTION FESTIVAL 2023?

There are multiple ticket options available with Day and Weekend passes offering **excellent value for money**:

- **Special Evening Events** on Wednesday June 21st, Thursday June 22nd and Friday June 23rd are individually tickets events (see above) with limited seating available. Saturday, Sunday and Full Weekend Day Passes holders are entitled to a 15% discount (subject to availability).
- **Weekend Day Passes:** Includes unique access to an unforgettable day and evening of events and experiences on Saturday June 24th or Sunday June 25th at £29.99 per day with a 10% Early Bird discount offer.
- **Full Weekend Passes:** Two whole days of action-packed events and entertainment for an unbeatable price of £49.99 for the first 100 customers.

**Festival Co-Directors Julian Alcantara and Ron Fogelman said of the 2023 festival:** "We're excited to announce further events, screenings and guests to this year's LONDON ACTION FESTIVAL."

*Bringing together world leading figures from the Action world, we want to give festival-goers the opportunity to immerse themselves in all things Action. Action in 2023 is an unstoppable force and we can't wait to welcome new and returning fans to celebrate together".*

The LONDON ACTION FESTIVAL is co-founded by Julian Alcantara and Ron Fogelman along with financiers Lee Vandermolten (serving as Chairman) and Stewart Peter. The Advisory Board includes Colin Burrows, Maria Giacchino, Ian Nathan and Den of Geek's Mike Cecchini and Chris Longo.

Den of Geek is the event's Senior Media Sponsor with design services from Secret Origin Studios, A Den of Geek Company.

**Preferred credit: THE LONDON ACTION FESTIVAL runs from Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> – Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> June. Tickets are on sales now via the website [HERE](#)**

**SOCIALS:**

[Twitter](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Facebook](#)

Hashtag - #LondonActionFestival

**[ENDS]**

**PRESS CONTACT:**

For further information please contact Premier PR Ltd on: [londonactionfestival@premiercomms.com](mailto:londonactionfestival@premiercomms.com)

To apply for Media Accreditation please complete the form [HERE](#)

**NOTE TO EDITORS:**

**About THE LONDON ACTION FESTIVAL:**

Founded by Julian Alcantara, Ron Fogelman and Lee Vandermolten in 2022 THE LONDON ACTION FESTIVAL is a world class Film & TV Festival dedicated to all things Action, a celebration of the skills, creativity, talent and bravery required to create the world's most exciting content across both Film and TV. The festival holds the annual *Moving Target Awards* during the festival awarding outstanding contributions to the world of Action Films & TV.

**About Julian Alcantara - Festival Co-Director / Founder**

Julian is a producer with over 20 years of experience in the film industry and a specialist adviser when it comes to China, India and Middle East deal-making. Based in the UK, Julian has been an adviser to the Shanghai & Mumbai International Film Festivals and put together the first Mauritius Film Festival, which has inspired him to work on an Action themed event here in the UK.

**About Ron Fogelman - Festival Co-Director / Founder**

Ron is a producer, writer and executive working across both the creative and commercial sides of the entertainment industry. He is Special Advisor and Executive Producer for Den of Geek. Ron lead produced the stage production



of *The Twilight Zone* based on the acclaimed CBS television series and directed by 8 times Olivier-winner Richard Jones. The show received its World Premiere at London's prestigious Almeida Theatre. After a sell-out run it had a successful season in London's West End at the Ambassadors and will make its debut in North America next year.

**About Lee Vandermolen – Chairman / Founder**

Lee started financing media projects after having been a commodities and bond trader in The City (London). He has financed media projects that include amongst others *Sin City 2*, *Chef*, *47 Meters Down*, *Midway* and *Kajaki*. He was an investor and Associate Producer on the West End Theatre show *The Twilight Zone*.

**About Stewart Peter – Director / Founder**

Stewart has spent 25 years as a Senior Executive specializing in commercial and financial management in the commodities and industrial sector and more than 10 years financing media projects, including amongst others *Sin City 2*, *In the Blood*, *Crooked House*, *A Street Cat Named Bob*, *Dark Matter* and *Kajaki*.