Festivals will be listed in chronological order with features and panels plus map and index

‘The List was instrumental in helping us establish the presence of a new festival and really helped us reach out to an audience who maybe weren’t aware just how much Paisley has to offer. We’ve always found it valuable to advertise with The List and are always impressed with the return we get for our investment.’

GRAEME MCLATCHIE, RENFREWSHIRE COUNCIL (THE SPREE FESTIVAL)

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THE ESSENTIAL GUIDE TO THE WIDE RANGE OF FESTIVALS IN SCOTLAND

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Screen Scotland’s Film Festivals Fund is a new initiative helping a number of screen events throughout the year to grow and diversify. Several film festivals across Scotland already benefit from the fund’s assistance, and here’s a taster of what they’ve been able to accomplish.

Given the typically wild and windy environs of Scotland’s north-western islands, it’s not surprising that the Hebrides International Film Festival (Sep) is focused on islands, the environment and remote communities. Its selection of documentaries, feature films, shorts and archival footage hail from all over the world, with the 2018 edition featuring submissions from the likes of Iceland, Japan and Spain.

Meanwhile, it touches on issues very much in the public consciousness, such as plastic pollution in the oceans, and on more esoteric, unique stories: Chris Burkard’s ‘Under an Arctic Sky’ follows a group of surfers riding the stormy Icelandic seas beneath the northern lights. Not that the festival doesn’t explore beyond those boundaries: Oscar-winning animation The Breadwinner and a handful of live performances were also among the 2018 highlights.

As you might guess from the title, the Glasgow-based Document Human Rights Film Festival (24–27 Oct) favours documentaries, both old and new, that perform the important task of shedding light on a broad range of human rights issues. Previous highlights include Joshua Oppenheimer’s The Act of Killing (pictured) his mesmerising, Oscar-winning exploration of Indonesian death squads; and the BAFTA-awarded I Am Breathing, directed by Emma Davie and Morag McKinnon. This film follows the final months of 33-year-old Neil Platt – a Scottish architect with Lou Gehrig’s disease – as he grapples with the idea of leaving something.
The Guide to SCOTLAND’S FESTIVALS 2020

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