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LONDON ROLLING FILM FESTIVAL ANNOUNCES 2026 JURY

LONDON, UK — The **London Rolling Film Festival (LRFF)** has officially unveiled the high-caliber Jury for its landmark **XVI Edition**, led by journalist and *Daily Mail* Editor **Stephanie Takyi** as **Jury President**.

Taking place in the heart of London's West End at Vue Cinema Piccadilly, the 16th edition brings together an influential panel spanning top-tier global press, Olympic athletes turned screen stars, international film critics, and purpose-driven impact producers.

As the London Rolling Film Festival continues its legacy of championing bold independent cinema and providing direct access between filmmakers and decision-makers, the XVI Jury reflects the changing tides of modern culture, where storytelling, authentic representation, and journalistic rigor meet.

MEET THE XVI EDITION JURY

- **Stephanie Takyi (Jury President):** One of the UK's most versatile media figures, Takyi is an Editor at the *Daily Mail*, an on-screen Entertainment Reporter for GBNews, and an accomplished international travel writer. Her sharp editorial instinct and pulse on global pop culture will steer this year's judging process.
- **Genevieve Chenneour:** British actor and writer who joined TeamGB's Olympic artistic swimming programme at 15, representing Great Britain at the World Championships and European Games before moving into film through stunt and underwater performance. She went on to star as Miss Clara Livingston in Netflix's SAG Award-nominated *Bridgerton*. She leads the upcoming psychosexual thriller *Asphyxia*, publishes *The Naked Pages* on Substack, and is currently developing her feature screenplay, *Wet Feathers*.
- **Stéphanie Tumba:** Entrepreneur, filmmaker, and founder of Films for Humanity, Tumba bridges cinema and social impact, and is increasingly drawn to backing bold, purpose-driven films as an investor. An active Rotarian and advocate, her work uses storytelling to advance social justice and human dignity, building charitable support for emerging creative talents.
- **Tamara Orlova:** London-based publisher, filmmaker and founder of the DAFTAS. As a journalist and Editor of Ikon London Magazine, Tamara can often be seen reporting from the most prestigious film festivals and awards ceremonies the world has to offer including Cannes Film Festival, Venice Film Festival, TIFF and BAFTA to name just a few.
- **Rino Lu:** London Film Critics' Circle member, Golden Globes voter, and Founder/Director of *Green Ray*, a non-profit promoting Sinophone cinema in the UK. Writing for *Variety*, *ScreenAnarchy*, and *World Screen*, Lu brings unmatched international festival authority to the panel.
- **Helen Oakleigh:** Actor, director, and writer across TV, film, and stage. Can currently be seen as guest lead on BBC iPlayer in Tracy Beaker franchise, *The Dumping Ground* and

independent horror feature *They Wait in Shadows*. Oakleigh is a prominent advocate for working-class, disabled, and queer representation in film and television.

The jury will assess the films competing across the festival's 2026 programme, with winners announced during the London Rolling Film Festival Awards Ceremony on **20 September 2026**.

The London Rolling Film Festival takes place **17–21 September 2026** at Vue Cinema Piccadilly and other central London locations. The festival programme features independent films from around the world alongside premieres, filmmaker Q&As, conversations and industry events.

NOTES FOR THE EDITOR

ABOUT THE LONDON ROLLING FILM FESTIVAL

The London Rolling Film Festival is a female-led nonprofit independent film festival dedicated to supporting filmmakers through curated screenings, industry engagement, networking opportunities and project development. Founded in London, LRFF has grown from a film night in a Shoreditch pub into a multi-day festival at VUE Cinema Piccadilly and other central London locations.

The festival is known for its **intimate, filmmaker-focused format, with selected filmmakers required to attend in person**, creating opportunities for filmmakers to connect with audiences, industry professionals and one another. Its core values are **Connect, Inspire, Support**, captured in its motto: **Stay Focused and Keep Rolling**.

The 16th edition takes place **17–21 September 2026**.

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