



(Not for publication before 19:30, 10 November 2015)

BAFTA AND BURBERRY REVEAL 2015 BREAKTHROUGH BRITS

BAFTA Breakthrough Brits, in partnership with Burberry, celebrates the newest stars of film, television and games

London, 10 November 2015: The British Academy of Film and Television Arts (BAFTA) has announced the 18 talented newcomers selected by members of the film, television and games industries as the 2015 BAFTA Breakthrough Brits, in partnership with Burberry. The honourees were revealed this evening at a reception at the global Burberry flagship, 121 Regent Street.

The Breakthrough Brits were chosen by a jury of industry experts after a UK-wide open call for applications and nominations. At the reception, hosted by BBC Radio 1 presenter Greg James, actors Julie Walters, Jessica Hynes, James Norton, Noel Clarke and Alice Eve introduced the successful honourees as: writer/actress **Charlie Covell**; games developer **Christopher Davis**; producers **Lauren Dark** and **Jenny Saunders**; writer/director **Stephen Fingleton**; producer/director **Daisy-May Hudson**; actors **Aysha Kala**, **Alex Lawther**, **Martin McCann** and **Leticia Wright**; screenwriters **Regina Moriarty**, **Tess Morris** and **Laura Wade**; director **Ed Perkins**; games sound designer **Jessica Saunders**; cinematographer **Anna Valdez Hanks**; Games Creative Director **Luke Whittaker**; and Senior Games Designer **Catherine Woolley**. More details about the honourees can be found at: <http://bit.ly/Breakthrough-Brits>.

During the reception the new Breakthrough Brits mingled with influential industry figures, including commissioners, agents and game studio heads, as well as well-known creatives and performers. Guests included: Amanda Berry OBE, Chief Executive of BAFTA; Christopher Bailey, Burberry Chief Creative and Chief Executive Officer; film producers Nik Powell (*The Crying Game*, *Little Voice*) and Duncan Kenworthy OBE (*Four Weddings and a Funeral*, *Notting Hill*); *Downton Abbey* actors MyAnna Buring and Michael Fox; and radio and television presenter Edith Bowman.

BAFTA and Burberry share a vision of celebrating British talent and giving them the tools to develop their skills at the start of their careers, wherever they are in the world. The annual Breakthrough Brits initiative, which was launched in partnership with Burberry in 2013, celebrates and supports the UK's future stars of film, television and games. Honourees receive one-to-one mentoring, guidance sessions and networking opportunities, as well as free access to BAFTA events, for 12 months.

Previous Breakthrough Brits have gone on to be recognised at BAFTA's awards ceremonies, including four BAFTA winners: games producer Daniel Gray and game designer Rex Crowle (as part of the development teams for *Monument Valley* and *Tearaway* respectively), screenwriter Dominic Mitchell (*In The Flesh*), and producer Marc Williamson (*The Last Chance School*). Actor Tom Holland, a Breakthrough Brit in 2014, has since been named the new Spider-Man in the film franchise.

Amanda Berry OBE, Chief Executive of BAFTA, said: "We're thrilled to announce the 2015 BAFTA Breakthrough Brits, in partnership with Burberry. Now in its third year, Breakthrough Brits showcases exciting new talent across film, television and games, and supports them – with mentoring and inspiration from leading industry figures – as they take the next steps in their career. I'm particularly pleased there are so many female Breakthrough Brits this year, and



from a variety of specialisms including cinematography, games design and sound where women are often underrepresented."

Christopher Bailey, Burberry Chief Creative and Chief Executive Officer, said: "Celebrating British culture and creativity is at the heart of everything we do at Burberry which is why we are so proud to be partnering with BAFTA for the third year running on this wonderful initiative supporting the next generation of talent in British film, television and gaming."

This year's initiative is also supported by Rosewood London and Audi UK.

Full list of BAFTA Breakthrough Brits in 2015:

- Charlie Covell – Writer/Actress
- Christopher Davis – Games Developer
- Lauren Dark – Producer
- Stephen Fingleton – Writer/Director
- Daisy-May Hudson – Producer/Director
- Aysha Kala – Actress
- Alex Lawther – Actor
- Martin McCann – Actor
- Regina Moriarty – Writer
- Tess Morris – Writer
- Ed Perkins – Director
- Jenny Saunders – Producer
- Jessica Saunders – Games Sound Designer
- Anna Valdez Hanks – Cinematographer
- Luke Whittaker – Games Creative Director
- Laura Wade – Writer
- Catherine Woolley – Senior Games Designer
- Letitia Wright – Actress

BAFTA Breakthrough Brits jury members:

- John Willis (Jury Chair) – Chief Executive of Mentorn Media, Group Creative Director of Tinopolis plc, and former Chair of BAFTA
- Lee Schuneman (Games Sub-Committee Chair) – Studio Head of Microsoft's Lift London
- Emma Morgan (Film and TV Sub-Committee Co-Chair) – Producer and Deputy Chair of BAFTA Television Committee
- Marc Samuelson (Film and TV Sub-Committee Co-Chair) – Producer, owner of Samuelson Productions and Deputy Chair of BAFTA Film Committee
- Sam Bickley – Creative Director, BBC Production
- Chris Chibnell – Screenwriter
- Simon Chinn – Producer, founder of Red Box Films and co-founder of Lightbox
- Noel Clarke – Actor, writer and director
- Natalie Dormer – Actress
- Jamal Edwards MBE – Founder of SBTU
- Tim Hincks – President of Endemol Shine Group



- Ian Livingstone CBE – Creative Industries Champion at Department for Business, Innovation and Skills, and former Executive Chairman of Edios plc
- James Norton – Actor
- Rhianna Pratchett – Game writer and narrative designer
- Sara Putt – Agent, Managing Director of Sara Putt Associates, and Chair of BAFTA's Learning & New Talent Committee
- Siobhan Reddy – Co-founder and studio director at Media Molecule
- Eve Stewart – Production designer
- Maxine Watson – BBC Commissioning Editor, Documentaries
- Haris Zambarloukos – Cinematographer

For more information about BAFTA Breakthrough Brits, in partnership with Burberry, go to: <http://bit.ly/Breakthrough-Brits>.

– Ends –

Notes to Editors:

Biographies of the Breakthrough Brits are available at <http://bit.ly/BTB-bios>.

Portraiture of all Breakthrough Brits is available through Camera Press:

www.camerapress.com

For further information, please contact:

Emma Welby / Hannah Golanski at freuds

T: 0203 003 6413 / 020 3003 6623

E: Emma.Welby@freuds.com / Hannah.Golanski@freuds.com

About BAFTA

The British Academy of Film and Television Arts is an independent charity that supports, develops and promotes the art forms of the moving image by identifying and rewarding excellence, inspiring practitioners and benefiting the public. In addition to its Awards ceremonies, BAFTA has a year-round programme of learning events and initiatives – featuring workshops, masterclasses, scholarships, lectures and mentoring schemes – in the UK, USA and Asia; it offers unique access to the world's most inspiring talent and connects with a global audience of all ages and backgrounds. BAFTA relies on income from membership subscriptions, individual donations, trusts, foundations and corporate partnerships to support its ongoing outreach work. To access the best creative minds in film, television and games production, visit www.bafta.org/guru. For more, visit www.bafta.org.

About Burberry

- Established in 1856, Burberry is a global British luxury brand with a heritage of innovation, craftsmanship and design.
- The Burberry business comprises 5 divisions: menswear, womenswear, childrenswear, accessories and beauty.
- Burberry is headquartered in London and listed on the London Stock Exchange (BRBY.L), Burberry is a Constituent of the FTSE 100 index.
- Visit www.burberry.com for further information.