

MFA Film Art

Virtual Open Day, November 2025

Presenters: Alex Nevill & Harald Hutter



THE UNIVERSITY of EDINBURGH
Edinburgh College of Art

About the MFA

- Two-year international masters programme
- Focused on fiction, experimental and expanded forms of cinema
- Explore film in an art school context
- Creativity, curiosity, imagination
- Practice-based, industry facing
- Staff are practitioners, artists, authors and researchers



Year 1 – Edinburgh – Project Development

Semester 1

Cinema Lab 1 (20 SCQF / 5 US Credits)

Establishing or reinforcing a critically informed and collaborative grounding in film art methods.

Permanent Cinema (20 SCQF / 5 US Credits)

Film viewing as an active part of students practice, exploring limits, abilities and inabilities of cinema.

Elective (20 SCQF / 5 US Credits)

Courses may include:

- Surfaces and Screens
- Contemporary Artist's Film and Video
- Introduction to Screenwriting
- Films on Film

Semester 2

Poetics of Cinema (20 SCQF / 5 US Credits)

Exploring cinema as a vehicle for poetic expression, combining theory and practice to build on *Permanent Cinema*.

Film Art Development (40 SCQF / 10 US Credits)

Guiding students through ideas generation as well as the initial conceptual development and logistical preparation of a final research-informed creative project.

Year 2 – Paris – Production & Industry

Semester 1

Elective (20 SCQF / 5 US Credits)

- Courses may include:
- Expanded Moving Image Practices
 - Contemporary Film Critique
 - Arts Education
 - French Language & Culture

Film Art Exploration (40 SCQF / 10 US Credits)

Supporting students as they expand an initial project proposal outlined in their previous course, secure the resources required to carry out their intended work and engage in significant practical exploration of film art.

Semester 2

Cinema Lab 2 (20 SCQF / 5 US Credits)

Help students situate their films in the wider landscape of the business of film and develop exhibition strategies.

Film Art Resolution (40 SCQF / 10 US Credits)

Supporting students to bring together material and creative explorations carried out in a previous course to create a cohesive and audience ready film art exhibition or screening.



Programme staff



Alex Nevill
Programme Director
ECA



Harald Hutter
Programme Director
PCA



Scott Barley
Teaching Fellow
ECA



Naïma Berkane
Coordinator
PCA



Jonny Murray
Professor
ECA



Aurélien Froment
Lecturer
ECA

Co-Curricular Activities

Field-trips:

- Cinema Lab 1 & Cinema Lab 2 courses bring ECA & PCA together through in-built field trip.
- First-year students spend a week of Semester 1 undertaking workshops at PCA alongside second-years.
- Second-year students travel to a European film festival in Semester 2 with ECA and PCA staff.

Hybrid teaching:

- Student presentations and critique sessions are held in a hybrid format, allowing staff from both institutions to attend and build a sense of community.
- At least twice per semester, in Cinema Lab 1 and then the Film Art Project focused courses.





Industry Opportunities

Scotland:

Edinburgh International Film Festival - established in 1947, the world's oldest continually running film festival

LUX Scotland - non-profit agency dedicated to developing and promoting artists' moving image practices

British Film Institute – education events with the UK's national organization for film and the moving image

France:

Light Cone - non-profit association whose objective is the distribution and preservation of experimental cinema

Clermont Ferrand - the world's largest film festival dedicated to short films

Centre Pompidou – leading collection of modern and contemporary art in Europe

MFA Film Art

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