

BAFTSS

British Association of
Film, Television and
Screen Studies

BAFTSS SIGS Newsletter Issue 9 (November 2023)

The British Association of Film, Television and Screen Studies' Research Network consists of 24 Special Interest Groups. Each SIG focuses on a different subject area, which include Adaptations, Media and the Environment, French and Francophone Screen Studies, Animation, and Documentary studies. The full list of BAFTSS SIGS and contact details for their convenors are on the [BAFTSS SIGS webpages](#). This Newsletter includes CFPs for BAFTSS Conference 2024, the peer reviewed journal *Open Screens*, and links to symposia and workshops that have been organised by BAFTSS SIGS. Recent BAFTSS SIG events include the Amateur Cinema and Archives and Archival Methods SIGS' 'Back into Focus: How to Make Women Filmmakers More Visible in the Archives' workshop; work in progress seminars hosted by the Performance and Stardom SIG and LGBTQIA+ Screen Studies, and the Colour and Film Research Seminar on Colourisation.

To join or convene a SIG you must be a [member of BAFTSS](#) - there is an option to join one or more SIGS through the BAFTSS subscription process. Current and new Members of BAFTSS can manage their subscription to the SIGS via their [BAFTSS Membership page](#). The Archive of [BAFTSS SIG Newsletters](#) includes details of events and activities that have been organised by the [BAFTSS SIGS](#) and those that are supported by the BAFTSS SIG funding scheme. **For any questions please contact** Dr Liz Watkins e.i.watkins@leeds.ac.uk as BAFTSS SIG Research Network Coordinator.

Thanks to all of convenors and members of the BAFTSS Special Interest Groups for their new and continuing projects.
Dr Liz Watkins, BAFTSS Chair and SIG Research Network Coordinator on behalf of the Executive Committee.

New Convenors

BAFTSS Performance & Stardom SIG welcome new SIG convenor, Samar Abdel-Rahman (University of Liverpool). Samar joins convenors Sarah Thomas (University of Liverpool) , Eleonora Sammartino (University of Greenwich). [Read more](#) about the SIG. **Contact:** bafssstars@gmail.com

BAFTSS Essay Film SIG: Romana Turina (Arts University Bournemouth) joins Jill Daniels (University of East London) as convenor of the Essay Film SIG. [Read more and contact the SIG.](#)

To propose a new SIG: If you are interested in organising a [BAFTSS Special Interest Group](#) on an area that is not already covered by one of the research groups **contact** Dr Liz Watkins e.i.watkins@leeds.ac.uk

BAFTSS 12th Annual Conference 2024

Call For Papers: BAFTSS 12th Annual Conference. 'Labour and Screen Media', University of Sussex, Wednesday 3rd – Friday 5th April 2024. This conference focuses on all aspects of the relationship between labour and screen media, historically and today, from representations of labour on screen to the varied ways that labour — viewed as work, craft, skill, creativity, or exploitation — underpins screen media and screen industries. Issues related to labour are increasingly recognised as of central importance to film, television and screen studies. Almost all films and television represent worlds in which various forms of work are necessary, and while they present most obviously the dramatic labour of their actors, and are understood as the artistic works of directors or writers, all productions are dependent on many and various workers, whose labour has until recently often gone uncredited. And as recent strikes in the United States by SAG-AFTRA remind us, questions of labour, politics, and workforce precarity are live issues that demand our attention, particularly in the age of AI and digital content provision. We are seeking abstracts for individual papers and pre-convened panels that expand our understanding of labour across film, practice-based research, television, and other screen media. **Deadline: 15th December 2023.**

BAFTSS SIG Panels at the Association's Annual Conference: Each BAFTSS SIG is invited to submit one pre-convened panel proposal for the [BAFTSS Labour and Screen Media Conference 2024](#). For a panel or roundtable discussion, please include the name, affiliation, bio-notes and a 250word abstract for each speaker, and a rationale for the session. Panel sessions are 90mins. Full details are on [form for submitting abstracts and panel proposals](#) **Deadline: 15th December 2023. We look forward to reading your proposals!**



BAFTSS PGR Research Poster Showcase The BAFTSS Executive Committee invite postgraduate members to showcase their doctoral research during the **BAFTSS 12th Annual Conference, 3rd -5th April 2024, at the University of Sussex**. The PGR Research Poster Showcase will be displayed on the BAFTSS website and in print form at the University of Sussex. A prize of £150 will be offered to the research poster that is considered to be most successful by an online ballot of BAFTSS Members. **Deadline: Tuesday 13th February 2024**

BAFTSS Funding Schemes

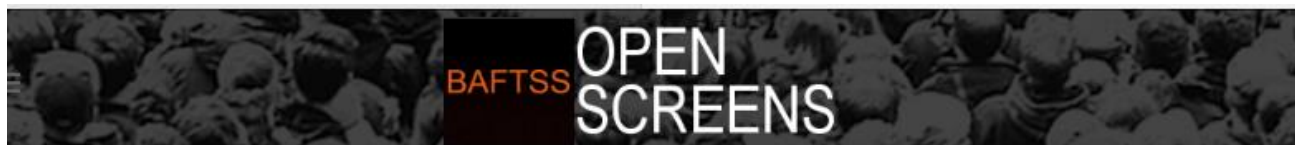
BAFTSS SIG Funding: this scheme supports the research and networking activities of the BAFTSS Special Interest Groups. Bids should support events that are in keeping with the [BAFTSS Mission Statement](#) and the research interests of the SIG membership. Each SIG can apply for up to £500 in a two year period (1st January 2023 – 31st December 2024). Applications are assessed on the basis of academic merit. Further details of the scheme and how to apply are available [here](#)

BAFTSS Travel Bursaries for Early Career Researcher/ Mid-Career Researcher/ Visiting/ Affiliated and Independent Researchers: this scheme offers 3 x £150 bursaries to Early Career Researcher/ Mid-Career Researcher/ Visiting/ Affiliated and Independent Researcher Conference Bursaries. The scheme supports BAFTSS Members who are without access to research funding to present their research at events organised by BAFTSS and outside of the Association. **Deadline:** Thurs 30th November 2023 [Further information and the application form](#) is on the BAFTSS funding page.

BAFTSS Responses

Letters and responses written by BAFTSS Executive Committee between July – November 2023 can be read here. BAFTSS also hosted Dr Rebecca Harrison's letter, with over 800 signatures, opposing AHRC cuts to funding for PhD students. [BAFTSS EC's response to the open consultation on the REF 2028](#) was submitted in October 2023. [Rebecca Harrison's letter opposing AHRC cuts to funding for PhD studentships](#) hosted on BAFTSS website. You can read [BAFTSS second letter opposing proposed job cuts at UEA](#) here.

Open Screens - call for journal articles and more



Call for journal articles and Special Issue proposals: [Open Screens](#) is the open-access peer reviewed online journal of BAFTSS. The journal is international and inter-disciplinary in its scope. Open Screens welcomes original research articles, reviews and audio-visual research-by-film-practice from scholars of film, television, and other screen-based media. *Open Screens* is hosted by the [Open Library of Humanities](#) (Birkbeck College). [Author Guidelines are online](#)
Contact: Editor in Chief Dr Andy Moor a.moor@mmu.ac.uk

BAFTSS SIGS are welcome to submit Special Issue proposals and individual research articles for peer review.

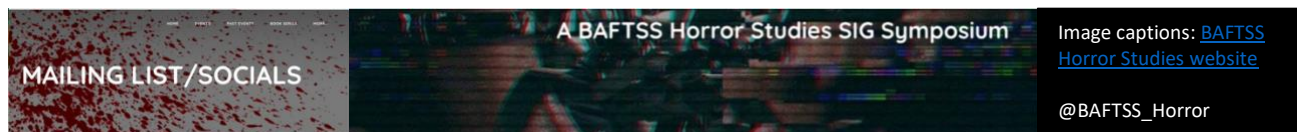
CFP: Open Screens – open call for articles

Forthcoming Events


BAFTSS German Screen Studies SIG have circulated a Call for Papers for the '[Entrenched Narratives, Hidden Figures: Reappraising Representations of War Across German Screen Media](#)' conference, a taking place at the University of Warwick, 21-22 March 2024. The conference organizers are open to various modes of presentation, including more traditional papers as well as practice-based research and video essays. We welcome contributions from postgraduate and early-career researchers as well as more established scholars. Please send an abstract (300 words max.) and a short biographical statement to entrenchednarratives@gmail.com **Deadline 30 November 2023**. Notification of acceptance will be sent out in January 2024. This conference is supported by the BAFTSS Special Interest Group Funding Scheme.

BAFTSS Practice Research SIG are supporting the 2024 B-Film Creative Practice Colloquium on be 'Institutions and Industries: Synergies and Struggles' at the University. of Birmingham. The Colloquium aims to facilitate open conversations about practice research and its place both within and beyond the academy, particularly in regard to cultural industries and public engagement. The event will take place in spring/summer 2024 (tbc). The event is supported by BAFTSS SIG Funding. **Contact:** Jemma Saunders (Doctoral Researcher) JJS798@student.bham.ac.uk

BAFTSS Horror Studies SIG: Dead Media: Contemporary Horror and The Analogue. A BAFTSS Horror Studies SIG Symposium. ONLINE – SATURDAY 13TH JANUARY 2024 This symposium will explore the reappropriation of analogue formats and styles within the contemporary horror genre across various media platforms. The event is intended to connect media scholars working in this area and highlight current research across relevant topics, with a view to future collaboration. Find out more about the **BAFTSS Horror Studies SIG** [Dead Media Symposium](#)



BAFTSS British Cinema & TV SIG are working on a project on 'Teaching British Cinema and Television' to develop a collaborative dialogue around teaching in the subject area. A model we are putting forward to facilitate this is a teaching partnership, whereby two (or more) colleagues from different institutions work together to provide support, feedback, and a space for dialogue over the course of a term/semester/module. The aim here is to enrich our teaching through mutually supportive partnerships and communities, and to offer colleagues a space, outside their institutions, to enhance and develop their teaching practice through principles of dialogue and exchange. **Contact:** Professor David Forrest for further information d.forrest@sheffield.ac.uk



BAFTSS Horror Studies SIG will meet online to celebrate the launch of Kieran Foster's book [Hammer Goes to Hell: The House of Horror's Unmade Films](#) (Edinburgh University Press 2023) with Dr Johnny Walker and Professor Melanie Williams. the session will chaired by Dr Hannah Hamad. **Date: 7 -8:30pm Wednesday 29th November 2023** [Registration \(free\)](#)

BAFTSS Colour and Film SIG Research Seminar Programme 2023-2024: This series of online seminars brings together a group of researchers working on colour and film. Each seminar focuses on a different aspect of colour and film research. Each presentation is 10 minutes long and will be followed by a Q&A. **The next seminar focusses on [TEACHING COLOUR](#) 16:00-17:30 (London) Thursday 21st March 2024.** This session brings together five scholars to discuss case studies and approaches to teaching colour and film. **Speakers include** Professor Josh Yumibe (Michigan State University), Dr Bregt Lameris (Open Universiteit, Netherlands), Professor Sarah Street (University of Bristol), Dr Lida Zeitlin-Wu (University of Michigan), Dr Kirsty Sinclair Dootson (University College London). **Registration (free) opens soon!** For more information **contact** e.i.watkins@leeds.ac.uk or see [@BAFTSSColorFilm](#)



Image captions: Left and centre: Makeup advertising: Max Factor, *Life* (5 October 1959); Alexandra de Markoff (1966), [pinterest.co.uk](#); Revlon 'Moon Drop' (1967) [cosmeticsandskin.com](#) from Cathy Lomax's 'Blue is a problem'. Right: Everest viewed from the Rongbuk Valley – hand-tinted glass lantern side. Credit: RGS-IBG from Jan Faull's piece about John Noel, Colour and the 1920s Everest Expeditions.

BAFTSS Colour and Film SIG' [Notes on Colour](#) blog includes new pieces by **Dr Cathy Lomax** and **Dr Jan Faull**. Read Cathy Lomax's brilliant piece on cosmetics in Hollywood film ["Blue is a Problem": Hollywood's Aversion to Coloured eyeshadow in films of the 1950s and 60s'](#) and Dr Jan Faull's new archival research on the colour dissolvograph, tinted magic lantern slides, films and performances that emerged from the 1920s Mount Everest Expeditions in ["Captain John Noel - Everest and Beyond "The Affair of the Dancing Lamas"](#) . If you would like to write a blog piece about your research on colour, film, television and other screen media contact Colour and Film SIG convenors e.i.watkins@leeds.ac.uk Vicky.jackson@bristol.ac.uk and sarah.street@bristol.ac.uk

BAFTSS Adaptations SIG will host an event on 'Adaptation in and Beyond Film' 3rd June 2024 at the University of Birmingham. The symposium is supported by the BAFTSS SIG Funding Scheme. This one-day symposium which will invite discussion from scholars across the UK working in and around adaptation studies. Whilst scholars have begun increasingly to consider adaptation as a multimedia practice, this event will encourage a decisive step beyond the discipline's traditional reliance on book-to-film adaptation. It will do so by enabling attendees to situate film within a wider context of multimedia / interdisciplinary adaptation, and to explore film in its myriad relationships to, and intersections with, other adaptive media. What this event seeks to do is disrupt the relationship between book-to-film, and allow speakers and attendees ways to think about film and adaptation in contention with other mediums. The event

will be open to PGRs, ECRs and established scholars and provide a day of thought and establish research connections beyond this. **Contact:** Dr Christina Wilkins c.wilkins@bham.ac.uk and Dr Andrew Watts.



Adaptation and Speculative Spaces - BAFTSS SIG Adaptation

Adaptation and the Speculative Space of Galleries,
Libraries, Archives, and Museums
www.eventbrite.ie

BAFTSS Adaptation SIG organise a series of online events including the forthcoming workshop on Covid and Adaptation on Wednesday 13th December 2023. **Contact Adaptation SIG convenors** c.wilkins@bham.ac.uk and a.j.watts.2@bham.ac.uk for more details @Adaptation_SIG

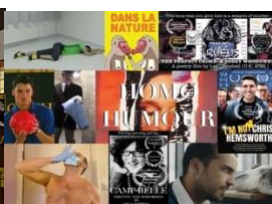
BAFTSS British Cinema and TV SIG's Blog will soon publish its next article, which is on rural Britain in TV and Film, and invites further blog articles of 1000-2000 words related to the [SIG's areas of interest](#)
Contact: steven.roberts@bristol.ac.uk

British Cinema & Television SIG

Past Events

BAFTSS Documentary SIG organised a discussion and book launch for *Intimate Sovereignty* by Laliv Melamed (University of California Press, 2023), Queen Mary University London on 8th June 2023. The book launch was co-sponsored by BAFTSS, QMUL, the Emergent Nonfiction Lab (Warwick) and Sussex Docs. The event was hosted and introduced by Dr Daniel Mann (QMUL), whose research on the intimate relationship between the military and film industries, dovetailed beautifully with the themes of the book being launched. We were three speakers in addition to the book author, Laliv Melamed. Professor Alisa Lebow began the session, followed by Kareem Estefan (Cambridge), after whom we heard Patrick Brian Smith (Warwick). An interview with Laliv Melamed, the book's author, was recorded on the following day. This material will eventually be edited into a segment of an upcoming documentary studies podcast, *Animal, Vegetable, Mineral* (published by REFRAME, University of Sussex). Read more on the [BAFTSS Documentary SIG homepage](#)

BAFTSS LGBTQIA+ Screen Studies SIG Report: the SIG hosted an online Work in Progress seminar on 24 October, with contributions from Jacqueline Ristola (University of Bristol) on 'Go Team Venture!': Trans Imagery in *The Venture Bros*', Lee Campbell (University of the Arts London) on 'Homo Humour: Uncovering LGBTQ+ Storytelling through Humour', and Robyn Ollett (Teesside University) who's paper was titled 'You live in the dark boy, I cannot pretend': Lil Nas X, Viral Vampires, and Genre.' If anyone is interested in sharing their work at a future event, please email the [BAFTSS LGBTQIA+ Screen Studies SIG](#) co-convenors Sarah Godfrey, Jade Evans, Robyn Ollett, Chris O'Rourke and Matt Weaver at lgbtqscreenstudies@gmail.com



Special interest group:
LGBTQIA+ Screen Studies

Special interest group:
LGBTQIA+ Screen Studies

Special interest group:
LGBTQIA+ Screen Studies

Image captions: the LGBTQIA+ Screen Studies SIG Work in Progress seminar included presentations on *The Venture Bros*, Lil Nas X – Viral Vampires genre and Homo Humour.

BAFTSS Animation SIG supported a workshop on 'Doing things with Anime Materials: Approaching Japanese Animation away from the Screen', Durham University on the 21st November 2023. The afternoon workshop explored the Durham Oriental Museum's collection of Japanese Anime materials. The international panel will discussed how these artefacts are curated, displayed and researched, along with the diverse meanings and value of these objects, both within and beyond Japanese culture. **Sponsors:** The British Association of Film, Television and Screen Studies (BAFTSS) and the DAIWA Anglo-Japanese Foundation. Hosted by Durham Centre for Visual Arts and Culture (CVAC).



Speakers at the 'Doing things with Anime Materials: Approaching Japanese Animation away from the Screen' included Dario Lolli (Durham University), KIM, Joon-Yang (Archive Centre for Anime Studies, Nigata University), Gillian Ramsay (Curator, Durham University Oriental Museum), Helen Armstrong (Collections Manager, Oriental Museum), Jaqueline Berndt (Japanese Graphic Art, Stockholm University), Hugo Glover (Northumbria University), Zoltán Kacsuk (Japanese Visual Media Graph, Stuttgart Media University)

BAFTSS French and Francophone Screen Studies SIG: report that 'On Saturday 14th October 2023, the BAFTSS French and Francophone Cinema SIG joined forces with the journal *French Screen Studies* and Warwick University's School of Modern Languages and Cultures to host the Study Day 'French Screen Comedy from the Coming of Sound to the SVOD era'. The day's [programme](#) saw visitors from Europe as well as different UK institutions admire Warwick's new Faculty of Arts Building, including representatives from the Basque Country to Montpellier via several from Paris. Notable here was the fascinating keynote by Sorbonne-Nouvelle-Paris 3's Raphaëlle Moine about contemporary comedies centralising older people, drawn from a major international project on representing ageing in European audiovisual fictions. Other topics ranged from post-war star figures such as Louis de Funès to parodies on social media platforms, with gender, race and class providing master themes. Q&As and breaks were particularly lively and it was great to see several senior colleagues as well as students in attendance merely to listen, from Warwick as well as further afield. Meanwhile, the unexpectedly sun-drenched 'penthouse suite' boasted impressive views and altogether the day was an invigorating way to get into gear early in the academic year, and carve out a space for research during the busy teaching period. The organisers Mary Harrod (Warwick) and Ginette Vincendeau (KCL) thank all involved and most particularly BAFTSS, *French Screen Studies* and Warwick for between them enabling us to provide free food, refreshments and even travel bursaries allowing many early career researchers to attend alongside veteran scholars. May the academic year continue in an equally stimulating vein!' [Read more](#). The event was supported by the BAFTSS SIG Funding Scheme.

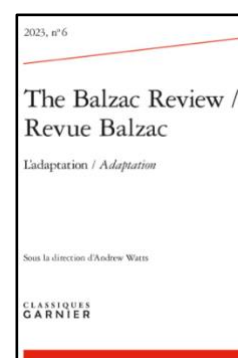
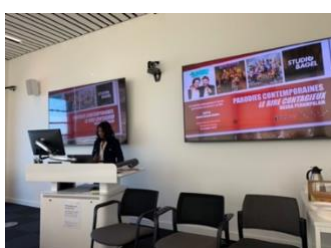


Image captions: BAFTSS French and Francophone Screen Studies SIG seminar on 'French Screen Comedy from the Coming of Sound to the SVOD era'; The Balzac Review/ Revue Balzac, L'adaptation/Adaptation ed. Andrew Watts, 2023, no.6 (see page 4)

BAFTSS Amateur Cinema SIG and Archives and Archival Methods SIG worked with the Women in Focus team for a collaborative online event to share outcomes of the [Women in Focus](#) research project. The event was titled 'Back into Focus: How to Make Women Filmmakers More Visible in the Archives' and took place on Tuesday, 21 November 2023. The event was organised around the following problematic: **'It is common knowledge that the work of women amateur filmmakers is routinely hidden or obscured in film archives and archive records. But why did this happen – and what can be done to tackle this problem?'** The Women in Focus project team presented their research into existing archival collections of largely unknown women amateur filmmakers. The team used a series of case studies from their research that identify significant gaps in knowledge at the level of cataloguing, accession records, historical research, and metadata – to show how adopting feminist methodologies allowed them to challenge existing practices and bring a wide range of women filmmakers back into focus. The event was joined by the **'Women in Focus: Developing a Feminist Approach to Film Archive Metadata and Cataloguing'** project Team: Dr Sarah Arnold (Maynooth University), Professor Keith M. Johnston (University of East Anglia) and Dr Carolann Madden (Maynooth University).



Image caption: above left and centre: the BAFTSS Amateur Cinema and Archives and Archival Methods SIGs worked together to organise the 'Back into Focus' workshop to discuss the 'Women in Focus: Developing a Feminist Approach to Film Archive Metadata and Cataloguing' project with the project team. Right: BAFTSS Horror Studies and Science Fiction and Fantasy SIGs convened a workshop to discuss 30years of the *X Files*.

BAFTSS Horror Studies SIG convened an online seminar with the BAFTSS Science Fiction and Fantasy SIG on 'Keep Watching the Skies: 30 years of the *X Files*', 3rd October 2023. David Clarke, Bethan Jones, Diane A Rodgers and Simon Brown discussed the series, its impact and legacy.

BAFTSS Performance & Stardom SIG launched its first PGR Work in Progress event on Monday, November 20th, 2023. Speakers at the event were: **Helena Eribenne, a PhD student at the University of Vienna**, who is currently working on a project about self-destructive female icons. **Elisenda Díaz Garcés, a PhD candidate from the Autonomous University of Barcelona**, whose work focuses on female Hollywood stars and their depiction of experiences of abuse in the film

industry after the #MeToo movement. **REN Yutian, a PhD candidate at Hong Kong Baptist University**, who is currently working on a project about child stars in the Chinese film industry. The PGRs introduced their current research projects and joined a Q+A session. The PGR Work in Progress event offers an informal and supportive setting. To join a session contact SIG Convenors Samar Abdel-Rahman, Eleanora Sammartino, Sarah Thomas: baftssstars@gmail.com

BAFTSS Colour and Film SIG: organised a workshop to discuss the ethics and aesthetic complexities of COLOURISATION, which describes the digitisation and addition of colour to non-fiction films that were initially made and circulated in black-and-white formats. The session was convened by Dr Liz Watkins (University of Leeds) with Dr Vicky Jackson (University of Bristol) and chaired by Professor Sarah Street (University of Bristol). Thanks to the speakers for a series of fascinating presentations: **Dr Dominic Williams (Northumbria University)** 'Auschwitz Colourised: Challenging the Perpetrator's Gaze?' **Dr Libby Saxton (Queen Mary University of London)** 'Colouring the In/Human: Movement and Stillness in *Auschwitz Untold*'; **Kamilla Simor (University of Pécs, Hungary)** 'Reconfiguration of the Past: The Spanish Civil War in Colour.' **Dr Liz Watkins (University of Leeds)** 'Colourisation, Ethics and the Archive: Digitally Imaging the Wounded Body.'



Image Caption: the BAFTSS Colour and Film SIG's seminar on the digital colourisation of archival film heard presentations on film footage of the Spanish civil war, the *Faces of Auschwitz*, the TV documentary *Auschwitz Untold*, and Peter Jackson's *They Shall Not Grow Old* (2018).

BAFTSS Event Funding Scheme Reports and SIG Newsletter Archive

Reports and photographs from BAFTSS SIG events can be found on the [BAFTSS SIGS Newsletter Archive](#).

BAFTSS Event Grant Reports can be found at the end of the [BAFTSS Funding Page](#) and include:

May-June 2023. [Queer Tropical Frames - Screening and Q&A Series](#) (University of Cambridge)

May 2023. [Contemporary LGBTQ+ Screen Cultures Symposium](#) (Manchester Metropolitan University)

April 2023. [Revisiting the British New Wave](#) (University of Sheffield)

Next BAFTSS SIG Newsletter

If there is a BAFTSS SIG event, report or update that you would like to be included in the next BAFTSS SIG Newsletter, then please contact e.i.watkins@leeds.ac.uk by **25th March 2024**.

BAFTSS is committed to helping its communities to develop strong, positive action around issues of equality, diversity and inclusivity. These values are displayed in the [Inclusivity Statement displayed on the BAFTSS Homepage](#) and should be embedded in all that we do. BAFTSS work to be mindful of issues of race, gender, LGBTQIA+ status and disability when planning events, inviting speakers, in the constitution of conference panels and symposiums, and by being attentive to potential access issues of its communities.

To find out more about BAFTSS please visit <https://www.baftss.org> @baftss and @baftsspg

New Connections Scheme <https://www.baftss.org/new-connections.html>

Postgraduate Network <https://www.baftss.org/postgraduate-network.html>

Early Career Mentoring Scheme <https://www.baftss.org/early-career-mentoring-scheme.html>

BAFTSS SIGS Research Network <https://www.baftss.org/sigs.html>

BAFTSS Funding Schemes <https://www.baftss.org/funding.html>

BAFTSS Executive Committee <https://www.baftss.org/executive-committee.html>

BAFTSS Advisory Board <https://www.baftss.org/advisory-board.html>

BAFTSS Mission Statement

The British Association of Film, Television and Screen Studies exists to:

- promote the recognition of the discipline and represent the academic and professorial interests of those engaged in it to the academy, government, funding agencies, the cultural industries and the public;
- encourage best teaching and research practice;
- promote the training of postgraduate students in research;
- give researchers and practitioners the opportunity to attend and present a paper at the annual BAFTSS conference.

The Association is international in its membership and research interests in theories, philosophies, practices, and histories of film, television and screen studies.