

# SHIFTING GROUND

PROGRAMME INTRODUCTION  
AUG - DEC 2019





## **PROGRAMME INTRODUCTION**

*Shifting Ground* is a celebration of archive film and its special ability to connect stories of the past with the most pressing issues of the present. Running from August - December 2019, it is a UK-wide funding programme for film screenings and events exploring people's changing relationship with their environment. *Shifting Ground* will support a series of adventurous collaborations between exhibitors and archives that showcase UK film history in new ways and ask audiences to reconsider the connection between people and their surroundings.

## **WHAT IS SHIFTING GROUND?**

*Shifting Ground* is the second instalment of *Changing Times*: a four-year nationwide programme of screen heritage screenings and events exploring a century of social change as documented by the UK's public film and television archives. *Changing Times* provides Members of the BFI Film Audience Network (FAN) with funding to explore film history for new stories and to reframe familiar narratives in exciting ways. These screenings make the archive come alive for contemporary audiences; using the hidden or forgotten voices of the past to illuminate the here and now.

*Shifting Ground* asks FAN Members across the UK to develop projects in response to a pressing contemporary issue: people's changing relationship with their surroundings. In a moment of accelerating transformation where our roles as owners, users and custodians of the spaces around us are increasingly contested, this is one of the most important debates facing society today. *Shifting Ground* recognises this urgency and presents an opportunity to contribute to conversations around climate change, land use, and crises of housing and industry with valuable historical insight from our screen heritage collections.

The material held in the UK's public film and television archives provides a wealth of programming options in response to the theme of *Shifting Ground*. The multiple eras and avenues of British screen history illustrate the various ways filmmakers have explored the link between peoples' way of life and their environment, and how these relationships have transformed over time. From forgotten folk histories and studies of rural life in transition to stories of utopian urban expansion and its sometimes dystopian effects, the UK's archives bear witness to the evolving connections these islands' inhabitants have forged with their surroundings.

*Shifting Ground* will support creative screenings and events that inform current debate and provide audiences with fresh perspectives from unexpected places.





## HOW TO GET INVOLVED

There are two ways to get involved in *Shifting Ground*: the Engagement Fund and a forthcoming Film Reissue.

### ENGAGEMENT FUND

The Engagement Fund supports FAN Members to forge collaborations with the Regional and National Film Archives and develop their own screen heritage events inspired by the theme of *Shifting Ground*. **Funding of between £500 - £15,000** is available.

A range of ambitious activity can receive support from the Engagement Fund, including one-off screenings, extended film seasons and larger scale commissions.

Applications **open on 5 July** and **close on 11 October 2019**. Assessments will be made on a rolling basis. Read the [Engagement Fund Guidelines](#) for more details and inspiration.

### FILM REISSUE

A feature film selected in response to the theme of *Shifting Ground* will be reissued across the UK from August 2019. The title will be announced and available for booking in the coming months.

## MORE INFORMATION

For more information on *Shifting Ground*, including the Engagement Fund Guidelines and Proposal Form, visit:

<https://filmhubnorth.org.uk/shifting-ground>

## CONTACT

*Shifting Ground* is managed by Film Hub North on behalf of the BFI Film Audience Network. Get in touch with our team to talk about the programme, discuss your ideas and raise any queries you may have:

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