HERE FOR LIFE (2019, 87mins)

a film by Andrea Luka Zimmerman / Adrian Jackson

World premiere, 72nd Locarno Film Festival 2019, awarded a Special Mention, Concorso Cineasti del Presente

An uncommon story told on common ground by ten Londoners. Their loves and their losses. What does it cost to exist? We are all Here for Life, here for now.

‘A film of great compassion and political and aesthetic ambition, in which the idea of a collective is prioritised for a change, but without sacrificing or downplaying the individual voices and idiosyncrasies that it comprises’ - Kieron Corless, Sight & Sound

‘A folk tale, a thing of indeterminate, multiple belonging. In the film, a poetics and a politics of the common is palpable’. - Laura Staab

# HereForLife
Directed by
Andrea Luka Zimmerman and Adrian Jackson

Devised by
Andrea Luka Zimmerman and Adrian Jackson with Therese Henningsen and the company

Produced by Artangel

Summary:
An uncommon story out on common ground: Londoners now with their love and their loss, their lyrical lives and marginalised grace; between fiction and fact, attention and act, what does it cost to exist? We are all *Here for Life*, here for now.

Longer summary:
An uncommon story told on common ground by ten Londoners. All have lives shaped by loss and love, trauma and bravery, struggle and resistance. They grapple with a system stacked against them. They dance, steal and eat together; agree and disagree, celebrate their differences and share their talents. The lines between one person’s story and another’s performance of it are blurred, and the borders between reality and fiction are equally porous. Eventually coming together on a makeshift stage built on reclaimed ground between two train tracks, they prompt a debate about the world we live in, who has stolen what from whom, and how things might be fixed. *Here for Life* marks the culmination of a long collaboration between film-maker Andrea Luka Zimmerman and theatre-maker Adrian Jackson, a troupe of Londoners and a dog.
Andrea Luka Zimmerman grew up on a large council estate, is an artist, filmmaker and cultural activist. Andrea’s work is concerned with marginalisation, co-existence, waywardness, social justice, class and structural violence and has been nominated for the Grierson and Jarman awards. Films include Erase and Forget (2017), which had its World Premiere at the Berlin Film Festival (nominated for the Original Documentary Award), Estate, a Reverie (2015) and Taskafa, Stories of the Street (2013), written and voiced by the late John Berger. Selected exhibitions include Civil Rites, the London Open, Whitechapel Gallery and Common Ground, Spike Island, Bristol. www.fugitiveimages.org.uk

Adrian Jackson is a theatre maker, playwright, teacher, translator and one of the world’s leading experts on the Theatre of the Oppressed. In 1991, he founded Cardboard Citizens, a theatre project that aims to change the lives of homeless people through the performing arts. He has directed over 50 plays with Cardboard Citizens, including Pericles (2003) and Timon (2006) with the Royal Shakespeare Company, The Beggar’s Opera (1999) with the English National Opera, Mincemeat (2009), winner of an Evening Standard Theatre Award and A Few Man Fridays (2012). Jackson had a long association with Augusto Boal – the Brazilian theatre maker, theorist and founder of the Theatre of the Oppressed – and has translated a number of Boal’s books into English. More recently, he directed Cathy, by Ali Taylor (2016/17), and, with Caitlin Mcleod, Home Truths, an Incomplete History of Housing Told in Nine Plays (2017). www.cardboardcitizens.org.uk

Artangel produces and presents extraordinary art in unexpected places in London, the UK, and beyond. For over 30 years, Artangel has generated some of the most talked-about art of recent times, including projects with Clio Barnard, Jeremy Deller, PJ Harvey, Roger Hiorns, Michael Landy, Steve McQueen and Rachel Whiteread. Recent works include Taryn Simon’s An Occupation of Loss, Evan Roth’s Red Lines and Heiner Goebbels’ Everything that happened and would happen. Appearing anywhere from empty prisons to underground vaults, daytime TV to the sky at night, Artangel produces art that surprises and inspires and wouldn’t be possible within the confines of a gallery. Artangel’s commissioning programme is generously supported using public funding by Arts Council England and the private patronage of the Artangel International Circle, Special Angels and The Company of Angels. www.artangel.org.uk