

23 March 2026

Queer Power, Ulrich Seidl & Charles Burnett

Exhibitions and film programmes in Eye from spring 2026

This spring, Eye Filmmuseum will be presenting the exhibition *Eye(s) Open – New Perspectives on Colonial Film Heritage*. In the autumn, our exhibition will focus on disruptive Austrian artist and filmmaker Ulrich Seidl and will feature new, specially commissioned work. Eye's film programmes during the upcoming period celebrate the landmark year 2001, queer power at World Pride in Amsterdam and American artist Charles Burnett, a pioneer of Black independent cinema.

Eye Filmmuseum, IJpromenade 1, Amsterdam, eyefilm.nl

Following a far-reaching restructuring process in December and a sharper definition of Eye's vision, Eye Filmmuseum will be focusing in the years ahead on its role as a *Living Archive*. Films from the international collection will not only be preserved, managed, restored and digitised but also shown and shared even more actively than before. Clips from films, for example, will be re-examined and viewed in relation to their potential use in new films and art projects.

At the same time as reinforcing such heritage tasks, special attention will be devoted to analogue film culture, with more 35mm and 70mm screenings. Attention will also be more frequently devoted to Dutch films, in part by making these available on the Eye Film Player. In addition, Eye will be opening its doors more often to the residents of Amsterdam-Noord, thanks in part to the efforts of cultural coaches, local initiatives and film clubs for local children; Eye aims to reach younger generations through activities such as its KinoTalks programme.

Spring

This is Film! Film Heritage in Practice

4 March – 13 May 2026

[This is Film!](#), the annual series of public lectures in cooperation with the University of Amsterdam, is dedicated to remarkable projects in the fields of film restoration and film heritage, featuring international guest speakers and film screenings. This year's programme, which is divided into six sessions, brings research projects and archival practices together from around the world, all of which allow collections to be presented in innovative ways. Together with archivists, researchers and film professionals, Eye will be exploring topics including the programming of Palestinian cinema as a form of resistance, the digitisation of films from the remoter hinterlands of Brazilian film history, the rediscovery of an independent film festival from 1960s Istanbul and the activation of Catalan film heritage.

Eye(s) Open – New Perspectives on Colonial Film Heritage*3 April – 6 September 2026*

In the group exhibition [Eye\(s\) Open – New Perspectives on Colonial Film Heritage](#), eleven artists respond to the Eye Filmmuseum's collection of some 2,000 colonial-era films from formerly occupied regions in Indonesia and Suriname. The artists have created ten new works based on these films. In doing so, they expose colonial structures and practices and question the role of the camera in perpetuating power.

The participating artists are **Paula Albuquerque** (Portugal/Netherlands), **Timoteus Anggawan Kusno** (Indonesia), **Esther Figueroa** (Jamaica), **Sabine Groenewegen** (Netherlands), **Jongsma + O'Neill** (Eline Jongsma, NL and Kel O'Neill, US), **Miranda Pennell** (United Kingdom), **Jameisha Prescod** (United Kingdom), **Afrian Purnama** (Indonesia), **Riar Rizaldi** (Indonesia) and **Mahardika Yudha** (Indonesia).

2001: A Time Capsule*18 April – 14 June 2026*

In its film programme [2001: A Time Capsule](#), Eye Filmmuseum is marking the 25th anniversary of the year 2001 with a generous helping of nostalgia, screening 25 films that were released in 2001. From *Donnie Darko* (Richard Kelly) and *A.I. Artificial Intelligence* (Steven Spielberg) to *La pianiste* (Michael Haneke), *Îles flottantes* (Nanouk Leopold) and *Spirited Away* (Hayao Miyazaki). 2001 proved to be a watershed year not only in film, but also in politics, technology and culture: the calm before the storm of 9/11, the rise of artificial intelligence, and a shift in the film industry from analogue to digital. Most films are screened on 35mm from the Eye collection.

Eye International Conference*31 May – 1 June 2026*

The [Eye International Conference](#) returns in 2026 with the theme: 'The Future of Film Programming'. This edition marks the close of the *Programmers of the Future* programme – a talent development programme run by Eye that has provided support to the next generation of film programmers. Together with speakers from all over the world, we will explore the ways in which film programming, film heritage and collections are interlinked and respond to changing technological, political and socio-economic circumstances.

Summer**Queer Power***26 June – 2 September 2026*

2026 brings World Pride to Amsterdam for the first time – a historic event that will bring millions of visitors from all over the world together to celebrate freedom, diversity and inclusivity. At a time when the rights of LGBTQ+ people are again under threat and there are concerns around the world about the erosion of these hard-won rights, it is even more urgent to devote attention to queer films. *Queer Power* will present classics and contemporary films from many countries and cultures, and from filmmakers

from a wide range of backgrounds, many of whom have works in the Eye collection.

Previously Unreleased

From 25 June 2026

This year in Previously Unreleased, Eye will again present a number of impressive films drawn from major film festivals which have not previously been shown in cinemas in the Netherlands. This year's selection consists of nine films, two of which are new and two of which are classics, related to Eye's summer programme *Queer Power* – these include *The Watermelon Woman* (US 1996) by Cheryl Dunye, winner of the Teddy Award at the Berlinale, and *Diciannove (Nineteen)* (IT/GB 2024) by Giovanni Tortorici, which participated in the Queer Lion Award at the Venice Film Festival.

This selection is a perfect fit with Eye's screenings and collection policy, which devotes attention to up-and-coming makers from all parts of the world, to new works by renowned film auteurs and to makers who are sometimes 'forgotten'. The films represent a diversity of styles, genres, content and narratives, but all have one thing in common: each and every one is of exquisite quality and is an absolute must-see on the big screen in the Netherlands this summer.

Autumn

Ulrich Seidl Exhibition

From 19 September 2026

Eye presents a large-scale exhibition featuring the work of Ulrich Seidl. The Austrian artist and filmmaker is seen as one of the most influential, trail-blazing makers of his generation, and is known for his disruptive view of Western, late-capitalist society. With a rich and multifaceted oeuvre – ranging from feature films and documentaries to photography and theatre – for decades Seidl has been breaking down the conventions that govern film and art. In his work, he addresses the lives of 'ordinary citizens' and the often perturbing reality behind 'normal' façades. He portrays both outsiders and seemingly upright citizens, exposing contemporary society with a razor-sharp, frequently challenging gaze.

The exhibition offers a rich overview of Seidl's oeuvre, and will include newly commissioned works by Seidl, accompanied by a film programme and specials in the cinemas.

Charles Burnett

26 November – 16 December 2026

Charles Burnett is a pioneer of the Black Independent Cinema of the 1970s and '80s; a key figure in the LA Rebellion movement. In 1990, *Killer of Sheep* was one of the first films to be designated a 'national treasure' by the Library of Congress. Later filmmakers such as Spike Lee, Dee Rees (*Pariah*) and Barry Jenkins (*Moonlight*) see him as a film visionary. Burnett received an Honorary Academy Award in 2017 for his depiction of "the lives of Black Americans with eloquence and insight".

Eye is giving a new theatrical release to *Killer of Sheep*. *Killer of Sheep* and *To Sleep with Anger* have, with the exception of a few import screenings,

not been seen on the regular cinema circuit in the Netherlands since the '80s, when they toured arthouse cinemas on 16mm prints. Also featuring restored versions of *To Sleep with Anger*, *The Annihilation of Fish* and *My Brother's Wedding*.

Dutch film on the Eye Film Player

In cooperation with the Netherlands Film Fund, in 2026 Eye is starting a two-year pilot in which a selection of Dutch feature films and documentaries from the twenty-first century will be made available to international audiences, extending both the lives of these films and their reach in terms of audiences both in the Netherlands and abroad. This selection will be available to the general public from the autumn of 2026 on the [Eye Film Player](#).

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Note for the press, not for publication

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