



AFRICAN ODYSSEYS

Billy Bang Lucky Man

+ intro by author Kevin Le Gendre, and Q&A with co-director Markus Hansen

In March 1967 Billy Bang was conscripted to fight in the jungles of Vietnam. On his return to the US he experienced a psychological breakdown and identity crisis. Forty years on, now an acclaimed musician, he decides that the only way to repair the past and resolve his trauma is to return to Vietnam – this time accompanied by his violin. *Billy Bang Lucky Man* follows his musical journey, creating an inspirational film that explores not just the terrible effects of war, but also the remarkable ability of music to unite people and rise above the madness of destruction.

Markus Hansen was born in Heidelberg, Germany in 1963. When he was nine, his family moved to Liverpool, England. After his art studies at the University of Reading, he assisted Joseph Beuys on the installation *Plight*. In 1986/87, he lived in Columbia, South America with the Waunana Indians pursuing his anthropological interests in the creative healing role of the Shaman.

Upon his return to England, he started exhibiting with Maureen Paley in London and internationally. He moved to Paris after a residence at the Cartier Foundation in 1992. In 2014 he moved back to London where he now lives and works.

A primary topic for Hansen is his critical thinking about German post-war history and the social, political and emotional implications of the unspoken traumas passed on from generation to generation. Through the lens of his upbringing and family background, the work weaves together personal anecdote and reflections on contemporary society. Markus Hansen is interested in how information is communicated and transmitted between individuals and, in a large sense, across generations. In his new videos and photographs, Hansen is concerned with indirect, nonverbal ways in which people are indelibly connected by shared experience.

As a visual alchemist who explores tainted cultural ideas and their troublesome representations, Hansen transforms personal, cultural and art world experiences. In the past, he has borrowed imagery from historical German artists, taken photographs from his grandmother's home, and stacked used champagne flutes from a private art opening into a glowing, floor-based chandelier to simultaneously layer and peel back meaning. The artist works in multiple styles and genres: printmaking, photography, film, video, performance, sculpture and installation. A distinguishable trait is his play of opposites, among them: light and dark, appearance and emotion, and heritage and history.

Host: Kevin Le Gendre is a British journalist, broadcaster and author whose work focuses on Black music. He is deputy editor of *Echoes* magazine, has written for a wide range of publications, including *Jazzwise*, *MusicWeek*, *Vibrations* and *The Independent on Sunday* and is a contributor to such radio programmes as BBC Radio 3's *J to Z* and BBC Radio 4's *Front Row*. At the 2009 Parliamentary Jazz Awards Le Gendre was chosen as 'Jazz Journalist of the Year'. He is the author of *Soul Unsung: Reflections on the Band in Black Popular Music* (2012), *Don't Stop the Carnival: Black British Music: Vol 1 from the Middle Ages to the 1960s* (2018) and *Hear My Train a Comin': The Songs of Jimi Hendrix* (2020).

BILLY BANG LUCKY MAN

Directors: Markus Hansen, Jean-Marie Boulet

France 2008

88 mins

IN PERSON & PREVIEWS**Patti Boulaye**

Sun 12 Dec 15:30

Woman with a Movie Camera: Bridget Jones's Diary at 20 + Q&A with director Sharon Maguire

Thu 16 Dec 18:00

Preview: Wheel of Fortune and Fantasy (Guzen to sozo)

Wed 29 Dec 18:00

BIG SCREEN CLASSICS**It's a Wonderful Life**

From Sun 12 Dec – Thu 23 Dec

The Apartment

Mon 13 Dec 14:30; Wed 22 Dec 20:40; Tue 28 Dec 18:10;

Thu 30 Dec 20:30

Bad Santa

Mon 13 Dec 20:50; Fri 17 Dec 21:00

Tokyo Godfathers (Tokyo goddofazazu)

Tue 14 Dec 20:45; Mon 20 Dec 20:45

Carol

Wed 15 Dec 17:50; Mon 27 Dec 18:00; Thu 30 Dec 14:20

Scrooge (aka A Christmas Carol)

Thu 16 Dec 21:00; Fri 17 Dec 18:20; Sat 18 Dec 18:10;

Sun 19 Dec 15:40; Mon 20 Dec 18:10; Tue 21 Dec 14:30

Miracle on 34th Street

Fri 17 Dec 14:30

Gremlins

Sat 18 Dec 20:45; Wed 22 Dec 20:45; Wed 29 Dec 20:50

Meet Me in St Louis

Sun 19 Dec 12:20; Wed 22 Dec 18:00; Tue 28 Dec 12:20

Tim Burton's The Nightmare Before Christmas

Tue 21 Dec 21:00; Thu 23 Dec 20:45

Remember the Night

Mon 27 Dec 13:00; Thu 30 Dec 18:00

A Christmas Tale (Un conte de Noël)

Tue 28 Dec 15:15

REGULAR PROGRAMME**Bogarde at 100: The Servant**

Thu 9 Dec 18:15; Thu 16 Dec 20:45; Mon 20 Dec 14:00 (Seniors' matinee

+ Q&A TBC); Tue 28 Dec 18:30; Wed 29 Dec 17:55

African Odysseys: Billy Bang Lucky Man + intro by author Kevin Le Gendre, and Q&A with co-director Markus Hansen

Sat 11 Dec 17:30

Silent Cinema: The Virginian + intro by BFI Curator Bryony Dixon

Sun 12 Dec 13:00

Seniors' Free Archive Matinee: So Long at the Fair + Q&A (TBC)

Mon 13 Dec 14:00

Relaxed Screening: The Black Balloon

Tue 14 Dec 18:10

Projecting the Archive: I Could Go On Singing + intro by

BFI Curator Josephine Botting

Thu 16 Dec 18:15

Terror Vision: The Shout

Thu 30 Dec 20:50

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