BRITS TO WATCH 2011 ANNOUNCED

London, Friday 1 July 2011: The British Academy of Film and Television Arts (BAFTA) is delighted to announce the names of the 42 Brits to Watch who will be the focus of the inaugural BAFTA Brits to Watch in partnership with Audi. The event will take place on Saturday 9 July at the Belasco Theater in Los Angeles.

BAFTA’s President, HRH The Duke of Cambridge, and HRH The Duchess of Cambridge will attend the event as part of their visit to California, helping highlight the incredible depth and range of great British talent currently emerging in film, television and video games.

The 42 Brits have been selected by a BAFTA panel based on a number of criteria. They will generally not be complete beginners in their industry, and will have already begun to show real promise. They are:

Rory Aitken, Producer
James Bobin, Writer/Director
Jessica Brown Findlay, Actress
David Buckley, Composer
Jamie Bull, Editor
Sam Care, Cinematographer
Joe Cornish, Writer/Director
Damian Daniel, Cinematographer
Brynach Day, Student (Director)
Patrick Dickinson, Student (Director)
Sabrina Doyle, Student (Director)
Gareth Edwards, Director
Charles Griffiths, Video Games Designer
Nick Holt, Documentary Director
Tom Hughes, Actor
Daniel Kaluuya, Actor/Writer
Ben Lambert, Visual Effects Artist
Anna Lavelle, Production Designer
Harry Lloyd, Actor
Victoria Mather, Animator
Gugu Mbatha-Raw, Actress
Lou McLoughlan, Student (Director)
Jules Nurrish, Student (Writer/Director)
Folashadé Olagundoye, Production Designer
Debs Paterson, Director
Liza Rhea, Student (Animation)
Talulah Riley, Actress
Oliver Riley-Smith, Student (Writer/Director/Producer)
Caroline Skinner, Producer
Rupert Smith, Director
Katie Sole, Producer
Kate Solomon, Producer
Adrian Sturges, Producer
Juno Temple, Actress
Jack Thorne, Writer
Rachel Tunnard, Editor/Writer
Matt Turner, Video Games Designer
Nathan Walster, Visual Effects Artist
James Watkins, Writer/Director
Dave Whyte, Animator/Graphic Designer
Owain Yeoman, Actor
Aaron Young, Documentary Director/Producer
BAFTA Brits to Watch in partnership with Audi will be supported by leading film, television and video game companies who will personally host tables at the black-tie evening event, and invite leading creative practitioners both in front of and behind the camera to join them. The 42 Brits to Watch will join them at their tables for dinner to make what could be the most important introductions of their careers so far, as well as having the chance to meet Their Royal Highnesses. Examples of their work will be showcased throughout the evening and distributed to the attendees afterwards.

The Brits to Watch who are based in the UK will be flown to Los Angeles to attend the event by Academy partner British Airways.

Soho House West Hollywood will host a reception for the Brits to Watch on the evening of Friday 8 July.

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Note on the selection of the 42 Brits to Watch

The selection panel had no hard and fast rules about the number of previous credits a candidate should have, how old they are or how many years they need to have been in the business in order to be included. They looked at each person individually, assessing where they are in their careers and how they might benefit from the event and an introduction to Hollywood.

Amongst the group, there is a range of experience, but what they all have in common is that our panel has seen in them a real spark of talent and creativity and we should expect to hear more from them in the future.

For more information about the 42 Brits to Watch, go to:
About BAFTA

The British Academy of Film and Television Arts is an independent charity that supports, develops and promotes the art forms of the moving image by identifying and rewarding excellence, inspiring practitioners and benefiting the public. In addition to its Awards ceremonies, BAFTA has a year-round Learning & Events programme that offers unique access to some of the world’s most inspiring talent through workshops, masterclasses, lectures and mentoring schemes, connecting with audiences of all ages and backgrounds across the UK, Los Angeles and New York. BAFTA relies on income from membership subscriptions, individual donations, trusts, foundations and corporate partnerships to support its ongoing outreach work. For further information, visit http://www.bafta.org/the-academy/review-of-the-year-10-11.1865.BA.html

About Audi

Audi of America, Inc. and its U.S. dealers offer a full line of German-engineered luxury vehicles. AUDI AG is among the most successful luxury automotive brands globally. During 2010 Audi was the top performing luxury brand in Europe, and broke all-time company sales records in the U.S. Over the next few years, AUDI AG will invest nearly $16 billion on new products and technologies. Visit www.audiusa.com or www.audiusanews.com for more information regarding Audi vehicle and business issues.

About British Airways

British Airways is the Official Airline partner of BAFTA. Through the partnership, the airline is helping British talent to take off, by providing flights for emerging talent. Since the partnership launched in February 2010, the airline has supported a number of BAFTA events, and continues to work with BAFTA on in-flight entertainment and other opportunities.

About the Belasco Theater

Located in downtown Los Angeles, the Belasco Theater is a world-class multi-purpose event and entertainment complex. Thanks to a $12 million restoration, this 40,000 square foot venue retains most of its original architecture and design – including dramatic interior detailing – meshed with distinctly modern flair. These elements combine seamlessly for a truly one-of-a-kind special event destination.