

Film is GREAT

British cinema, comprising both home-grown films and international productions made with inward investment, enjoyed a robust year. The UK's top 3 releases – *Rogue One: A Star Wars Story*, *Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them* and *Bridget Jones's Baby* – were all made in the UK.

The mix of home-grown productions and co-productions – conveying 'universal' aspects of British (and other) life and times, real or imaginary, in down to earth or larger than life settings – was astonishingly varied. Mark Kermode's film of the year was British – Babak Anvari's scary *Under the Shadow* (right).

From Sean Ellis's World War II thriller *Anthropoid* and Pete Middleton and James Spinney's moving *Notes on Blindness*, via the hand-drawn adaptation of Raymond Briggs's *Ethel & Ernest* and Col McCarthy's chilling *The Girl with All the Gifts*, to Noel Clarke's gritty *Brotherhood* and Andrea Arnold's multi-award winning *American Honey*, British cinema embraced all audiences.

Global comic-book characters Doctor Strange, Superman and Professor X are currently played on the big screen by British actors; while British writers were responsible for the original books or screenplays underpinning such hits as *The Girl on the Train*, *The BFG*, *Miss Peregrine's Home for Peculiar Children*, *The Jungle Book* and *Star Trek Beyond*.

Our next few pages convey a flavour of 2016's British release menu.



Lionsgate

Universal