

THE STIMMING POOL

SKIP THE TEST. DROP THE MASK. **RECLAIM THE SPACE.**

Some people like notes before films to help them with the viewing, others just don't want the additional processing. Read on if you'd like some background information...

The Stimming Pool is possibly unlike any other film you've seen. It doesn't have a conventional plot, characters, or structure, and offers no explanations, but instead flows between scenes, and encourages delight in looking around the frame and noticing details hidden in the background. Relax into what we hope will be an immersive experience.

The Stimming Pool is co-created by a collective of autistic artists - the Neurocultures Collective - and artist-filmmaker Steven Eastwood. It is not a film about autism but has been made through neurodivergent perspectives, built around the concept of an autistic camera. The film has a baton-passing structure, in which scenes that at first glance may appear unconnected, pass on ideas to the next. The curiosity of the autistic camera discovers a relay of subjects who stray through the world, revealing environments often hostile to autistic experience - such as a hectic workplace and a crowded pub - and quiet spaces that offer respite from them.

Each of the characters exists in a separate world nested inside one other and often jumping up and down levels. But gradually we come to realise these characters have common experiences. Some are concealing their autism and dealing with the resulting feelings of isolation, while others thrive in the communities and support structures around them. All, however, have a shared objective: to find a place uninhibited by the tests and restrictions of normative society, where they are free to move and stim...

Stimming. The practice of physical repetition as a way of taking sensory pleasure in recurrence, or of expressing and alleviating anxiety, and a common trait of autistic experience.

The Stimming Pool features an almost entirely neurodiverse cast and a predominantly neurodiverse crew, and was made using a unique accessible and inclusive production model.

Thank you for coming to this screening of The Stimming Pool. We value your feedback: it helps us to understand the impact of the project and extend the film's reach to wider and diverse audiences. If you have not been given a feedback form, please go to this link to fill in a short survey using the **QR code below** (or go to thestimmingpool.com/responses).

If you prefer to respond visually to any of the questions in the surveys you will find a link on the website to do that.

You can contact us at hello@whalebonefilms.com or screenings@dartmouthfilms.com

Directors: **The Neurocultures Collective** (Sam Chown-Ahern, Georgia Bradburn, Benjamin Brown, Robin Elliott-Knowles, Lucy Walker) and artist-filmmaker **Steven Eastwood**. Producers: **Chloe White** and **Steven Eastwood**



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