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Stephen Frears to speak at Screenwriters Festival

Wendy Mitchell in London

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Stephen Frears is the latest big name speaker to join the line-up for next week's International Screenwriters Festival in the UK.

The director of *The Queen*, *Dirty Pretty Things*, *The Grifters* and *High Fidelity* will talk about how he collaborates with screenwriters in a conversation with critic Nigel Floyd.

Oscar nominee Frears has worked on award-winning films with writers including Peter Morgan (*The Queen*), Christopher Hampton (*Dangerous Liaisons*) and Hanif Kureishi (*My Beautiful Launderette*, *Sammy And Rosie Get Laid*).

He also chaired the jury at this year's Cannes Film Festival. Festival director David Pearson said: "We are delighted to have yet another major contribution to seeing how successful practitioners bring out the best in screenwriting. It is all part of our approach to encouraging an understanding of both the art and business of screenwriting."

Other recently announced speakers and attendees include Abi Morgan, David Hare, Michael Goldberg and Rahila Gupta.

The festival runs July 3-6 in Cheltenham.

Further info is available at www.screenwritersfestival.com.

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