

July 2008

## **Beeban Kidron appointed to the board of the UK Film Council**

Margaret Hodge, Minister for Culture, has appointed Beeban Kidron to the board of the UK Film Council. Her term of appointment will run for four years from 1 July 2008.

### ***Biographical Notes***

#### **Beeban Kidron**

Beeban Kidron is a British film and television director. She came to prominence directing the BBC's acclaimed film adaptation of Jeanette Winterson's *Oranges Are Not the Only Fruit*. Her work includes many documentaries including a recent film *Antony Gormley: Making Space*. Amongst her feature films are; *Antonia and Jane*, *Used People*, *Swept Away from the Sea*, *To Wong Foo*, *Thanks for Everything! Julie Newmar* and *Bridget Jones: The Edge of Reason*. She has recently directed and adaptation of the 60's memoir *Hippie Hippie Shake* (currently in post production) by Richard Neville.

Beeban is co-founder (with Lindsay Mackie) of Filmclub, a government funded scheme designed to bring film into schools nationwide. Filmclub makes available to young people an extraordinary range of films that challenge, unite, amaze and inspire future generations. One of her first documentaries was *Carry Greenham Home*. She has created a website [www.yourgreenham.co.uk](http://www.yourgreenham.co.uk) to celebrate twenty five years of the peace camp.

### ***Background***

1. The UK Film Council is the Government-backed lead agency for film in the UK ensuring that the economic, cultural and educational aspects of film are effectively represented at home and abroad. Their goal is to help make the UK a global hub for film in the digital age, with the world's most imaginative, diverse and vibrant film culture, underpinned by a flourishing, competitive and sustainable film industry. Key aims:
  - Developing a competitive film industry, built on creativity and skills
  - Stimulating greater choice for audiences
  - Encouraging participation and opportunities for learning
  - Promoting the UK in the wider world

The UK Film Council is chaired by Stewart Till CBE

2. The appointment does not attract remuneration but board members may claim reasonable travel and subsistence.
3. The appointments process was carried out in accordance with the Code of Practice of the Commissioner for Public Appointments. Appointments are made on merit and political activity plays no part in the selection process. Beeban Kidron has not undertaken any political activity during the past five years.

