

BFI ANNOUNCES UK-WIDE BLOCKBUSTER FOR AUTUMN 2015 LOVE

FILMS TO FALL IN LOVE WITH... FILMS TO BREAK YOUR HEART

Launching with SUMMER LOVE WEEKEND: 27 – 29 AUGUST



Monday 8 June 2015, London

This Autumn the BFI will rekindle the nation's passion for film and television's most enduring love stories with a major UK-wide season dedicated to **LOVE**, running from late October to the end of December 2015. A special **Summer Love Weekend** at the British Museum over the August Bank Holiday (27 – 29 August) will act as a curtain raiser for the main project.

BFI LOVE will encompass three key themes – *The Power of Love*, *Fools for Love* and *Fatal Attractions* incorporating the heartbreak and longing of epic love stories like *Brief Encounter* (1945) and *My Beautiful Laundrette* (1985), cherished and light-hearted rom-com classics like *When Harry Met Sally* (1989) and the darkest tales of obsession, betrayal and danger including *True Romance* (1993). There will be re-releases of *Brief Encounter* (6 November), *When Harry Met Sally* (11 December) and *True Romance* (20 November) by Park Circus during the season. Alongside a major film and TV programme at BFI Southbank, the BFI will ensure that audiences all over the UK can find that loving feeling via UK-wide theatrical re-releases, DVDs, a collection on BFI Player and bespoke film screenings and experiences up and down the country, presented in partnership with the BFI Film Audience Network (BFI FAN).

Heather Stewart, BFI Creative Director said: *'The power of love is cinema's most seductive illusion, making our hearts beat faster and shaping our dreams and longings; BFI LOVE will truly be an affair to remember.'*

Sunset screenings of romantic classics in the historic grounds of the **British Museum** will act as a spectacular curtain raiser for **BFI LOVE** over the August Bank Holiday weekend, with *A Room with a View* (1985), *Badlands* (1973) and *The Princess Bride* (1987) screening consecutively from **Thursday 27 to Saturday 29 August**. For the fourth year running, the BFI will transform the British Museum and project the films onto a huge, state-of-the-art screen, accompanied by a stellar sound-system to thrill audiences of up to 1,200 each night.

Opening the weekend on **Thursday 27 August** will be Merchant-Ivory's elegant production of *A Room with a View*, adapted from E M Forster's witty Edwardian novel and starring Helena Bonham-

Carter in one of her earliest screen roles. A moment of passion threatens to overturn everything when Lucy, a young Englishwoman touring Italy with her older cousin (Maggie Smith), finds herself un-chaperoned in the ravishing Tuscan countryside. Featuring a wonderful British ensemble cast including Simon Callow, Judi Dench and Daniel Day-Lewis, *A Room with a View* boasts stunning location photography and exquisite period styling, and is a feast for the senses. On **Friday 28 August** there will be a screening of Terrence Malick's extraordinary and beautiful portrait of lovers on the run, *Badlands*. Filmed in the summer of 1972, but set in a dreamlike and indistinct 1950s America, the film follows 15-year-old Holly (Sissy Spacek) as she falls, against her father's wishes, for charismatic local greaser Kit (Martin Sheen), trusting implicitly in her protector despite his increasingly violent and anti-social behaviour. Concluding the weekend on **Saturday 29 August** will be a screening of Rob Reiner's endlessly quotable cult classic *The Princess Bride*. Buttercup's (Robin Wright) dreams of a life with farm boy Westley (Cary Elwes) don't go quite as she might wish when she hears of his apparent tragic death at sea. Heartbroken, she acquiesces to bad guy Prince Humperdinck, but is kidnapped by an unforgettable trio of outlaws and set on a path to adventure. This timeless cult fantasy combines New York wit, classic British character acting, and knowing but heartfelt story-telling to brilliant effect.

Details of the full programme for **BFI LOVE**, including screenings, events, film and DVD releases, special guests and more, will be revealed on Tuesday 15 September at BFI Southbank.

NOTES TO EDITORS

Press contacts:

Judy Wells – Head of Press and & PR, BFI

Tel: +44 (0)20 7957 8919 / judy.wells@bfi.org.uk

Liz Parkinson – Press Officer, BFI Southbank

Tel: +44 (0)20 7957 8918 / liz.parkinson@bfi.org.uk

TICKETS AND BOOKING DETAILS:

9 June

BFI Champions and Patrons booking opens at 11.30am

10 June

BFI Members booking opens at 11:30am

11 June

Public booking opens at 11:30am

Tickets £15 (no concessions), weekend joint ticket £39

Visit bfi.org.uk/love to book your tickets or call 020 7928 3232. Sign up to the BFI newsletter for the latest announcements.

LISTINGS:

SUMMER LOVE WEEKEND IN THE BRITISH MUSEUM'S BREATH-TAKING FORECOURT

A Room with a View

UK 1985. Dir James Ivory. With Maggie Smith, Helena Bonham-Carter, Simon Callow, Judi Dench, Daniel Day-Lewis 117min. Digital. Cert PG. With thanks to Channel Four and Park Circus

A moment of passion threatens to overturn everything when Lucy Honeychurch, a young Englishwoman touring Italy with her older cousin, finds herself un-chaperoned in the ravishing Tuscan countryside. Featuring top-drawer performances from the British ensemble cast, stunning location photography and exquisite period styling, Merchant-Ivory's elegant production is a feast for all the senses, while Ruth Praver Jhabvala's sparkling script perfectly captures the wit, affection and acute observation of E M Forster's novel.

Thu 27 Aug 20:15

Badlands

USA 1973. Dir Terrence Malick. With Martin Sheen, Sissy Spacek, Warren Oates. 94min. Digital. Cert 15. With thanks to Warner Bros and Park Circus

Filmed in the summer of 1972, but set in a dreamlike and indistinct 1950s America, *Badlands* follows 15-year-old Holly as she falls, against her father's wishes, for charismatic local greaser Kit, trusting implicitly in her protector all the while, despite his increasingly violent and anti-social behaviour. Malick's extraordinary, beautiful portrait of the lovers' wild ride through a featureless landscape, narrated with a haunting, unforgettable voiceover by Sissy Spacek, is based on a true-crime story.

Fri 28 Aug 20:15

The Princess Bride

USA 1987. Dir Rob Reiner. With Cary Elwes, Robin Wright, Mandy Patinkin, Wallace Shawn, Christopher Guest. 99min. Digital. Cert PG. With thanks to Lionsgate UK

Buttercup's dreams of a life with farm boy Westley don't go quite as she might wish, when she hears the Dread Pirate Roberts has brutally ended his quest for fortune. Broken-hearted, she acquiesces to bad guy Prince Humperdinck, but is kidnapped by an incongruous trio of outlaws and set on the path to adventure. The evergreen charms of this cult fantasy romance pitch together New York wit, classic British character acting, and knowing but true-hearted story-telling, and catapult the lot around great locations in the UK and Ireland to winning effect.

Sat 29 Aug 20:15

About the BFI

The BFI is the lead body for film in the UK with the ambition to create a flourishing film environment in which innovation, opportunity and creativity can thrive by:

- Connecting audiences to the widest choice of British and World cinema
- Preserving and restoring the most significant film collection in the world for today and future generations
- Championing emerging and world class film makers in the UK
- Investing in creative, distinctive and entertaining work
- Promoting British film and talent to the world
- Growing the next generation of film makers and audiences

***** PICTURE DESK *****

A selection of images for journalistic use in promoting BFI LOVE can be found at www.image.net under BFI / LOVE