

## December 2013 at BFI Southbank

*With Sir Michael Parkinson, Reece Shearsmith & Steve Pemberton, Christopher Hampton and Kevin Brownlow onstage*



### **GOTHIC continues with *The Dark Arts* and *Haunted*, plus re-releases of *Gone with the Wind* and *The Innocents* and an Alexander Payne season**

- The BFI blockbuster project ***GOTHIC: The Dark Heart of Film*** continues at BFI Southbank this December with ***Part 2: The Dark Arts*** and ***Part 3: Haunted***
- As **Alexander Payne's** latest film ***Nebraska*** (2013) arrives in UK cinemas BFI Southbank celebrates Payne's career with a dedicated season featuring career highlights such as ***Election*** (1999) and ***Sideways*** (2004)
- **Extended Runs** this month feature the continuation of the 4K restoration of ***Gone with the Wind*** (1939) plus wintery thrills and chills in **Jack Clayton's *The Innocents*** (1961)
- As global phenomenon ***Sherlock*** is set to return, BFI Southbank screens a preview of the first episode of series three on **Sunday 15 December**, followed by a Q&A with cast and crew (guests TBC)
- The BFI's ***Doctor Who at 50*** celebrations conclude with ***The Eleventh Hour*** and ***The Name of the Doctor***, plus a panel discussion to celebrate Matt Smith's tenure as the Doctor
- Family fun at BFI Southbank in December includes a preview of Disney's ***Frozen*** (2013), plus a ***Mary Poppins*** (1964) Film Funday and screenings of Tim Burton's ***The Nightmare Before Christmas*** (1993)
- **Discover Arab Cinema** continues with a look at ***Family Life***, and includes screenings of Tawfik Abu Wael's Cannes prize winning ***Thirst*** (2004)
- Plus a talk from **Kevin Brownlow** on The Restoration of Abel Gance's ***Napoleon*** and the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of ***Missing Believed Wiped***

#### **CHRISTMAS AT BFI SOUTHBANK**

This Christmas come in from the cold and catch a festive treat on the big screen at **BFI Southbank**. There will be screenings of Christmas classic ***It's a Wonderful Life*** (1946) starring **James Stewart** and **Donna Reed**, while if the kids need entertaining ***The Nightmare Before Christmas*** (1993) will be sure to do the trick. Special one-off event ***Nightmares Before Christmas*** will delve into the long history of the Christmas ghost story with an afternoon of darkly chilling horrors featuring the phantasmagorical world of Professor Mervyn Heard and his Grand Gothic Magic Lantern Show. Ghost stories are perfect for wintery nights and are in abundance in our GOTHIC season; these include Jack Clayton's ***The Innocents***

(1961), two adaptations of Susan Hill's *The Woman in Black* (1989 and 2012) and a preview of haunting psychological mystery *The Thirteenth Tale* (2013).

The **BFI Shop** is home to a treasure trove of gifts brimming with incredible DVDs, hard-to-find books and film merchandise. This year the BFI is giving everyone the opportunity to celebrate their dark side with a spooky selection of **Gothic Merchandise** from transfer tattoos to t-shirts and totes; plus a special selection of stylish and spooky jewellery from designers **Tatty Devine**. For more thrills *Ghost Stories for Christmas*, a newly re-packaged and expanded DVD box set from the BFI, includes a total of 20 spine-tingling adaptations of the stories of M R James, plus three additional *Ghost Stories for Christmas*, the perfect way to while away a snowy winter's night. Then when it's time for a well-earned rest from all your Christmas shopping or in-between films, you can eat mince pies, drink mulled wine and be merry in the popular **benugo bar & kitchen** or **riverfront bar & kitchen**.

### LEAD SEASONS:

#### GOTHIC: THE DARK HEART OF FILM

The BFI's blockbuster project *GOTHIC: The Dark Heart of Film* continues at BFI Southbank this December with *Part 2: The Dark Arts* concluding, and *Part 3: Haunted* being unleashed upon unsuspecting audiences. *The Dark Arts* will feature a host of devil-worshippers and demons from **Edgar G Ulmer's** *The Black Cat* (1934) and **Jacques Tourneur's** newly remastered *Night of the Demon* (1959) to the pagan islanders in *The Wicker Man* (1973) and the shocking period horror of *Witchfinder General* (1968). Also screening in *The Dark Arts* will be early zombie films such as *White Zombie* (1932) and *I Walked with a Zombie* (1943), both of which feature the folk magic of voodoo. Haunted houses, tales of possession and psychic disturbances, like those originally penned by MR James and Edgar Allan were some of the cinema's earliest stories, and continue to influence. Throughout December BFI Southbank will be *Haunted* by spectres from the past, including the BFI Theatrical Release of **Jack Clayton's** *The Innocents* (1961). Based on **Henry James' Turn of the Screw**, *The Innocents* was recently named by Martin Scorsese as one of the scariest films ever made. Also on Scorsese's list, and screening in December are *The Haunting* (1963), *Dead of Night* (1945) and *The Shining* (1980). Japanese and Spanish language films which have formed a new gothic tradition such as *Ring* (1998) and *The Devil's Backbone* (2001) have proven that modern day depictions of the ghosts can be just as terrifying as their predecessors, while box office smash *The Woman in Black* (2012) shows that audiences appetites for a good scare has never been larger. Special events taking place during *Haunted* will include a screening of *Ghostwatch* (1992), which will be followed by a Q&A with the entire creative team including **Sir Michael Parkinson** and **Sarah Greene**, a TV Preview of new horror anthology *Inside No 9* with **Reece Shearsmith** and **Steve Pemberton** and a jam-packed *Hauntology Weekend* with **Demdike Stare** performing their live score to *Haxan: Witchcraft Through the Ages* (1922).

#### TALES OF ORDINARY MADNESS: THE AMERICAN DREAM ACCORDING TO ALEXANDER PAYNE

As **Alexander Payne's** latest film *Nebraska* (2013) arrives in UK cinemas BFI Southbank celebrate the work of a director who has, over the past two decades, established himself as one of the most rewarding of contemporary American filmmakers. A *Short Films* programme will include three of Payne's shorts; *Carmen* (1985) (made while Payne was studying at UCLA), *The Passion of Martin* (1991) and Payne's delightful contribution to the compilation film *Paris je t'aime, 14ème arrondissement* (2006). Payne's feature debut *Citizen Ruth* (1995) set the tone for his career, and was the first of many collaborations with co-writer Jim Taylor. The season will also include screenings of the sharply funny *Election* (1999), *About Schmidt* (2002) starring **Jack Nicholson**, *Sideways* (2004) the story of two friends who go on a wine tasting holiday with disastrous results and *The Descendants* (2011) starring **George Clooney** as a Hawaiiin land owner going through some darkly funny family troubles. Rounding off the season will be a preview of *Nebraska* (2013), which won **Bruce Dern** the best actor award at this year's Cannes film festival. Shot in black and white, this story of a journey from Montana to Nebraska is a biting funny and undeniably sad look at smalltown Midwest America. Many of Payne's films involve

journeys, generally geographical, always sentimental and his particular approach to comedy is full of truthfulness, both about his characters' emotions and about the world they move around in.

### **BFI SOUTHBANK EVENT LISTINGS FOR :**

#### **Preview: Nebraska**

*USA 2013. Dir Alexander Payne. With Bruce Dern, Will Forte, June Squibb, Stacy Keach. 115min. Digital. 15. Courtesy of Paramount Pictures*

Payne's latest follows a trip taken from Billings, Montana to Lincoln, Nebraska by David (Forte) with his father Woody (Dern), an irascible old boozier who insists on believing he's won and must collect a million dollars. Inevitably, the journey proves a sentimental education... Shot in black and white 'Scope, the fond but never glamorised account of the mores of today's smalltown Midwest is both biting funny and undeniably sad, a model of tonal delicacy and precision. And in Dern's fine, truthfully prickly performance Payne has a glorious instrument through which to voice his rich, mixed feelings about the world he grew up in.

***Tickets £15, concs £11.50 (Members pay £1.50 less)***

**Mon 2 Dec 18:30 NFT1**

#### **The Restoration of Abel Gance's Napoleon**

Join Kevin Brownlow (assisted by Patrick Stanbury) for a rare and fascinating slice of film history. Brownlow first saw Abel Gance's Napoleon when he acquired two reels in the home-movie gauge of 9.5mm, thus launching an obsession that has endured nearly 60 years and produced three restorations. To celebrate November's Southbank Centre screening of Napoleon with full orchestral accompaniment, Brownlow and associate Patrick Stanbury use rare archive, stills and anecdotes to tell the story. This illustrated talk shows what that first glimpse looked like, not to mention the 17.5mm version which formed a substantial part of the first restoration. It was the BFI that made the restorations possible. And it was the Federation of Film Archives that brought together footage pouring in from all over the world. Those 20 minutes that inspired Brownlow in the early 1950s have now reached five and a half hours. Did you say you'd seen a new sequence in Outer Mongolia?

***Tickets £6***

**Tue 10 Dec 18:30 NFT1**

#### **Preview: Frozen 3D + Q&A**

*USA 2013. Dirs Chris Buck, Jennifer Lee. With voices of Kristen Bell, Idina Menzel. Cert, R/T tbc. Digital 3D. Courtesy of Walt Disney Studios Motion Pictures (UK)*

Elsa has special icy powers and flees after accidentally trapping her home kingdom of Arendelle in eternal wintry conditions. Her sister Anna sets off to find her sister accompanied by Kristoff and his reindeer, Sven. Disney's follow-up to *Wreck-it-Ralph* is a modern twist on *The Snow Queen* and is directed by Chris Buck (*Tarzan, Surf's Up*) and Jennifer Lee (*Wreck-it- Ralph's* screenwriter).

***We are delighted to welcome Chris Buck and Jennifer Lee for a Q&A after the screening***

**Wed 4 Dec 18:10 NFT1**

#### **BUG 40**

There is only one man who can so routinely disappear into the heart of the internet and still return with his mind intact. Adam Buxton is his name and with the expert support of team BUG, every other month he returns fearlessly from the matrix clutching handfuls of the best new music promos around and missives from the internet's finest minds. However, as only a lucky few will be able to witness these treasures, do remember to book early to avoid being overwhelmed by the crushing weight of disappointment.

***Tickets £15, concs £11.50 (Members pay £1.50 less)***

**Thu 5 Dec 18:30 NFT1**

**Thu 5 Dec 20:45 NFT1**

### **Discover Arab Cinema - Family Life**

*Family is central to Middle Eastern societies. It seems to hold within its microcosm a mirror to the wider society as well as being a key to our cultural identity and our sense of who we are as individuals. The selected films each deal in their own distinctive way with these issues; they engage the viewer with the strength of their storylines, their dark humour and tenderness.*

#### **Hold Back** Rengaine

*France 2012. Dir Rachid Djaidani. With Slimane Dazi, Sabrina Hamida, Stéphane Soo Mongo. 75min. Digital. EST*

A gripping film that is set in Paris around an Algerian-French family. Sabrina is the only girl among 40 brothers. She is in love with a young black Christian man and they want to marry. It would have been so simple if her eldest brother Sleiman were not gathering up his siblings to oppose the union, reflecting points of tension in the wider relationship between Arab and black communities in France

**Wed 4 Dec 20:30 NFT3**

**Sat 7 Dec 18:10 NFT3**

#### **The Last Friday** Al Jumaa al Akhira

*Jordan 2011. Dir Yahia Al Abdallah. With Ali Suliman, Fadi Arida, Yasmine Elmasri. 88min. Digital. EST*

Having lost his home and his wife to his compulsive gambling habit, Youssef is in urgent need of money to pay for a life-saving surgical operation. This sudden change in circumstance shatters his sense of isolation; at the same time his son, teenager Emad, seems to be heading down a similar wrong path.

**Thu 12 Dec 18:10 NFT3**

**Sat 14 Dec 20:40 NFT2**

#### **Atash** Thirst

*Palestine 2004. Dir Tawfik Abu Wael. With Hussein Yassin Mahajne, Amal Bweerat, Ruba Blal. 109min. EST. 12A*

Hussein Yassin Mahajne plays stern Palestinian patriarch Shukri who relocates his family to a remote desert location, haunted by a family scandal. Shukri earns a meagre living from producing charcoal. When his water tank breaks, Shukri decides to set up an illegal water pipeline, a move that exacerbates the tensions in his relationship with his family, especially his son. Winner of the FIPRESCI prize at the Cannes Film Festival, this beautifully shot feature from Tawfik Abu Wael powerfully depicts a state of extreme isolation.

**Tue 17 Dec 20:45 NFT3**

**Sat 21 Dec 15:40 NFT2**

#### **Le Grand Voyage**

*France-Morocco-Bulgaria-Turkey 2004. Dir Ismael Ferroukhi. With Nicolas Cazalé, Mohamed Majd, Jacky Nercessian. 108min. EST. PG*

A Moroccan immigrant in France enlists his adolescent son, Reda, to drive him across seven countries as he undertakes the Hajj to Mecca. This beautifully poignant film boasts outstanding performances, and it won Best First Film at the Venice Film Festival.

**Mon 23 Dec 18:20 NFT2**

**Sat 28 Dec 20:45 NFT2**

#### **Missing Believed Wiped 20th Anniversary Special**

##### **Session One: The Native Hue of Resolution: 20 Years of Missing Believed Wiped**

*UK 2013. Dir Rory Clark. 90min*

In 1993 the BFI launched their initiative to find TV programmes missing from the official archives. Twenty years on much progress has been made, though thousands of programmes remain missing, believed wiped. This new documentary (made by Farcical Films/Kaleidoscope especially for this

screening at BFI Southbank) traces the real reasons why programmes were destroyed and charts the worldwide hunt for Britain's television past. Narrated by Peter Purves, it features contributions from, among others: Alan Bennett, Barry Cryer, Jasper Carrott, Peter Firmin, Paul Fox, Galton and Simpson, Hartley Hare, Terry Jones, Sue Malden, David Nobbs, Pete Murray and Pan's People. Produced by Kaleidoscope's Chris Perry, the film also features extensive footage found during production of the documentary, from programmes previously thought lost.

**Joint ticket available £15, concs £11.50 (Members pay £1.50 less)**

**Sat 21 Dec 15:30 NFT1**

### **MBW 20th Anniversary Special: Session Two**

*All titles TBC. 100min*

We begin with a panel discussion looking at some of the issues raised by the preceding documentary before revealing an exciting package of the latest finds from the world of missing British television. We are unable to verify any titles at the time of going to press but please check the BFI website for announcements of an array of gems from what is shaping up to be a hugely significant year in the ongoing search – particularly pertinent for this 20th anniversary presentation.

**Sat 21 Dec 17:40 NFT1**

### **Projecting the Archive: Hoots Mon!**

*UK 1939. Dir Roy William Neill. With Max Miller, Florence Desmond. 77min. PG*

Fifty years after his death, we celebrate the career of Max Miller, one of Britain's greatest stand-up comedians. *Hoots Mon!* captures the comic at his quick-fire funniest and, though tamed by the censor, the charisma that made him 'The Pure Gold of the Music Hall' is gloriously apparent. Max is great as Harry Hawkins, 'England's Funniest Comedian', big in London, but a flop north of the border, up against 'Bluebelle of Scotland' comedienne Jenny MacTavish (Desmond). 'For those who like dialogue that flickers like lightning, magnificent fooling and broad humour this is definitely a picture to see,' raved *Monthly Film Bulletin*. Plus **Meet Max Miller** (UK 1945. c3min). Max clowns for news cameras, building and boozing in Brighton. Plus an extract from **Thank Evans** (UK 1938. Dir Roy William Neill. c2min). The only extant fragment of this missing racetrack comedy starring Max as an unlucky tipster.

**Introduced by an Archive curator**

**Thu 12 Dec 18:00 NFT1**

### **The 1913 Show**

The year 1913 was so significant in film history that the Pordenone Silent Film festival devoted an entire festival to it in 1993. In December of that year the first-ever Hollywood feature film was in production, Cecil B DeMille's *The Squaw Man*, marking a sea change in the film industry. But this selection will focus on some of the greatest short films of the era – including the perfect short, Lois Webers' *Suspense*, as well as news, comedy, crime and adventure.

**Introduced by Bryony Dixon curator of silent film, BFI National Archive**

**With live piano accompaniment**

**Mon 2 Dec 18:00 NFT2**

### **Seniors' Free Talk: Film and the Gothic Imagination**

Within the context of Gothic cinema, lecturer Bev Zalcock focuses on several horror films from 1961, including *The Innocents* and *Night of the Eagle* (both of which screen in our Gothic season). Such films formed a Gothic ripple at the beginning of the 1960s, a period more often associated with 'kitchen sink' realism. Sidelined or even maligned at the time of their release, in retrospect these constitute fine examples of British filmmaking – and interesting expressions of the Gothic imagination.

**Free to over-60s, otherwise tickets available at normal matinee price**

**Mon 9 Dec 11:00 NFT2**

### **Seniors' Free Matinee: The Sorcerers**

UK 1967. Dir Michael Reeves. With Boris Karloff, Catherine Lacey, Elizabeth Ercy, Ian Olgilvy. 86min. 15  
Swiftly shot on the hoof on the streets of Swingin' London, cinephile Reeves' sleazily psychedelic take on the 'Mad Scientist' genre, drew strongly on the established persona of its elderly star, horror legend Boris Karloff. He plays Professor Monserrat, inventor of a bizarre hypnosis machine, that allows him to control the thoughts and feelings of his subject.

**Introduced by Archive curator Vic Pratt**

**Free to over-60s, otherwise tickets available at normal matinee price**

**Mon 9 Dec 14:00 NFT1**

### **Essential Experiments: Gothic Deconstructions**

**Outer Space** (Austria, 1999. Dir Peter Tscherkassky. 10min) **A Masque of Madness** (Notes on Film 06-B, Monologue 02) (Austria, 2013. Dir Norbert Pfaffenbichler. 80min) This inventive pair of found footage films take the stuff of Gothic cinema and transform it into new, strange and sinister forms. Tscherkassky's mutilation of a 1981 Barbara Hershey horror provides an unsettling prelude to Pfaffenbichler's latest feature, a meticulously crafted collage of the performances of Boris Karloff in which the protagonist encounters versions of himself again and again, in a dizzying array of forms.

**Introduced by an Archive curator**

**Wed 11 Dec 20:45 NFT3**

### **African Odysseys**

**West Indies: The Fugitive Slaves of Liberty** West Indies ou les nègres marrons de la liberté

*Mauritania-Algeria 1979. Dir Med Hondo. 113min. EST*

This impassioned examination of slavery and its consequences derives from the West African oral tradition of the griots. A vast musical fresco narrates 400 years of history, from enslavement to recent emigration. Using imaginative staging and a fluid visual style, it's set in an enormous slave ship (built in an unused Citroen factory in Paris) with frequent narrative shifts taking the actors through various vignettes in the story of colonialism.

**Tickets £6**

**Sat 7 Dec 14:00 NFT3**

### **Future Film: Lights, Camera...**

This month BFI Future Film explores the role of the cinematographer. Run by David Raedeker (*My Brother the Devil*), the masterclass explores how directors of photography use lenses and light to convey story, and create atmosphere and mood. You'll have the chance to ask questions and talk to industry experts who can give you tips on shooting beautiful pictures, and find out how to develop your own career as a cinematographer. Followed by a screening of the 1961 classic *The Innocents*, featuring cinematography by Freddie Francis (see p22).

**Tickets for the screening are £4, or you can buy a combined ticket to both the screening and the masterclass for £6 (limited availability)**

**Sat 14 Dec 14:00 Studio**

### **Film Funday: Mary Poppins**

USA 1964. Dir Robert Stevenson. With Julie Andrews, Dick Van Dyke, David Tomlinson. 139min. Digital. U

The Banks children have scared off a succession of nannies but the arrival of Mary Poppins, who literally flies into their lives, changes everything. Along the way, they meet chimney sweep, Bert, a group of penguin waiters and learn some important life lessons. Based on the books by PL Travers, *Mary Poppins* winningly combines live action with a number of beautifully animated scenes and features fine songs by the Sherman Brothers. As it approaches its 50th anniversary, *Mary Poppins* has been immortalised further by the release of Disney's *Saving Mr Banks*.

**Disney's Mary Poppins 50th Anniversary Edition blu-ray is now available to buy.**

**Sun 1 Dec 13:00 NFT1**

**+ Mary Poppins Workshop**

**Free to ticket holders of the film**

**Sun 1 Dec 11:00 Foyer**

**Tim Burton's The Nightmare Before Christmas 3D**

*USA 1993-2006. Dir Henry Selick. With voices of Chris Sarandon, Catherine O'Hara, Danny Elfman. 76min. Digital 3D. PG*

In Halloween Town, the king is getting bored. Scaring people just isn't fun anymore. He sets his sights on Christmas Town, which is covered in snow and full of joy. Attempts to demonstrate seasonal goodwill and assorted yuletide traditions seem to get lost in translation when Father Christmas mysteriously disappears and instead of toys in their sacks the children start receiving rats and shrunken heads in their place. Surely this can't mean the end of Christmas as we know it?

**Fri 6 Dec 20:45 NFT1**

**Sun 15 Dec 16:15 NFT1**

**Doctor Who at 50**

**The Eleventh Hour**

*BBC 2010. Dir Adam Smith. With Matt Smith, Karen Gillan. 65min. PG*

A new Doctor, new hands at the helm and an intoxicating new companion – a feisty no-nonsense redhead with quick wits and a spirit of adventure. The Amy Pond story starts here and takes us into areas we could barely imagine. Also on hand is Rory; at first he's a seemingly throwaway character but he will become embedded in the mainframe of the series and (with a fine performance by Arthur Darvill) develop into a firm fan favourite.

**+ The Name of the Doctor**

*BBC 2013. Dir Saul Metzstein. With Matt Smith, Jenna-Louise Coleman. 45min. PG*

A key episode in terms of the Doctor's history which pleasingly remains shrouded in some mystery despite the many clues given en route. Old friends are reunited and the Doctor makes a dangerous visit to the location of his own grave – despite the best efforts by the TARDIS to prevent him. An episode with a palpable sense of menace and a humdinger of an ending!

**Sun 8 Dec 15:45 NFT1**

**GameCityNights: Modern Playing**

Modern Playing returns to BFI Southbank for another evening of videogame culture entertainment. Iain Simons and James Newman will be your guides as we hurtle towards Christmas and that most magical, sacred and expensive time of year. Register your Christmas list at [modernplaying.com](http://modernplaying.com)

**Tickets £7.50, Members and concs pay £1.50 less**

**Fri 6 Dec 19:00 Blue Room**

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**NOTES TO EDITORS:**

**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

The BFI Southbank is open to all. BFI members are entitled to a discount on all tickets. BFI Southbank Box Office tel: 020 7928 3232. Unless otherwise stated tickets are £11.00, concs £8.50 Members pay £1.50 less on any ticket. Website [www.bfi.org.uk/southbank](http://www.bfi.org.uk/southbank)

**Tickets for FREE screenings and events must be booked in advance by calling the Box Office to avoid disappointment**

### **BFI Shop**

The BFI Shop is stocked and staffed by BFI experts with over 1,200 book titles and 1,000 DVDs to choose from, including hundreds of acclaimed books and DVDs produced by the BFI.

### **The benugo bar & kitchen**

Eat, drink and be merry in panoramic daylight. benugo's décor is contemporary, brightly lit and playful with a lounge space, bar and dining area. The place to network, hang out, unpack a film, savour the best of Modern British or sip on a cocktail.

There's more to discover about film and television through the BFI. Our world-renowned archival collections, cinemas, festivals, films, publications and learning resources are here to inspire you.

**\*\*\* PICTURE DESK \*\*\***

**A selection of images for journalistic use in promoting BFI Southbank screenings can be found at [www.image.net](http://www.image.net) under BFI / BFI Southbank / December 2013**