

## February 2015 at BFI Southbank

### Katharine Hepburn, Eric Rohmer, *BFI Future Film Festival*



**Helen de Witt, Head of Cinemas, BFI said:** “Style, sophistication and amusement characterise February at BFI Southbank, topped off with some romantic favourites for Valentine’s Day. The exquisite Katherine Hepburn graces our screens in an extended season; Eric Rohmer continues to educate and charm with his Four Seasons, and Comedies and Proverbs series. Shaun the Sheep previews a family celebration of Aardman animation for half term.”

- From 1 February – 19 March 2015 BFI Southbank will dedicate a season to one of Hollywood’s most iconic actresses, **Katharine Hepburn**. The season will feature 24 of her most famous films, including *Bringing Up Baby* (1938), *The African Queen* (1951), *The Lion in Winter* (1968), *On Golden Pond* (1981) and an extended run of *The Philadelphia Story* (1940), re-released by the BFI in selected cinemas across the UK from **February 13**.
- BFI Southbank continues to reassess one of film’s most consistently rewarding artists, **Eric Rohmer**. Running until mid-March, part two of this comprehensive season includes Rohmer’s **Tales of The Four Seasons** quartet of films, and his six **Comedies and Proverbs**, as well as further short films and rare examples of his television documentary work.
- If audiences are feeling romantic this **Valentine’s Day** there are plenty of films to pluck at the heart strings, including **BFI Flare** screenings of *Cloudburst* (2011) and *Plan B* (2009), Hepburn classics *The Philadelphia Story* (1940) and *Bringing up Baby* (1938) and Eric Rohmer favourite *My Girlfriend’s Boyfriend* (1987).
- BFI Southbank’s new **Cult** programme strand will introduce audiences to thematically linked and rarely seen films each month. February’s **Cult** theme is **Rock ‘n’ Roll Nightmares**, celebrating two legendary horror musicals: Brian De Palma’s Faustian riff on *The Phantom of The Opera*, *Phantom of the Paradise* (1974) and the director’s cut of Frank Oz’s cult classic *Little Shop of Horrors* (1986), with the inclusion of the original 23-minute ending deemed too distressing by test audiences of the time.

- A very special Funday Preview of Aardman Animation's long-awaited and highly anticipated ***Shaun the Sheep the Movie*** (2015) is a high point of February's family programme, plus screenings of ***Watership Down*** (1978) and ***The 5,000 Fingers of Dr T*** (1953). The Aardman Animation theme continues throughout February half term, with screenings of ***Chicken Run*** (2000) and ***Wallace and Gromit: The Curse of the Were-Rabbit*** (2005), plus holiday workshops suitable for children aged 0-7 and 8-15 years.
- **BFI Flare LGBT Film Festival** returns in March, with the programme revealed in a special event on **Wednesday 18 February** at BFI Southbank.
- The **BFI Future Film Festival** returns for the 8<sup>th</sup> edition from **20-22 February**, providing aspiring filmmakers with the opportunity to connect with the film industry, kick-start their career and develop new and existing skills with inspirational screenings, masterclasses, Q&As and workshops. The programme will once again be divided into three days dedicated to Animation, Fiction and Documentary respectively.
- Further highlights include the continuation of the extended run of Louis Malle's ***Au revoir les enfants*** (1987); a programme of films to mark the **Chinese New Year**, including rare silent films from the late Qing dynasty in Imperial China; plus our new **Audience Choice** slot will, inspired by Rohmer's *Four Seasons*, screen a film which captures the spirit of a particular season, as chosen by our audience.
- Film previews include ***Still Life*** (2014) starring Eddie Marsan and Joanna Froggat, ***Love is Strange*** (2014) with Alfred Molina and John Lithgow, ***Selma*** (2014) starring David Oyelowo as Dr Martin Luther King and a **BFI Cult** preview of ***It Follows*** (2014).
- TV previews will include the new BBC series ***Poldark*** starring Aidan Turner, the first episode of ITV's ***Arthur and George***, starring Martin Clunes as Sir Arthur Conan Doyle and the first episode of ***Indian Summers*** starring **Julie Walters**, who will join us, along with fellow cast and crew, for a Q&A following the screening.
- A TV season of ***Forgotten Dramas*** will offer audiences a chance to rediscover a variety of classic plays that have rarely been seen since their original transmission. Highlights of the season will include ***Early to Bed*** (BBC 1975), followed by a **panel discussion** featuring its star **Alison Steadman**; and ***The Golden Road*** (Thames, 1973), believed to be the first lesbian drama on UK TV, starring former *Doctor Who* assistant **Katy Manning**, who will introduce the screening.

### **KATHARINE HEPBURN**

Hepburn worked with some of the greatest leading men and the most successful directors of the golden era of Hollywood, including **Spencer Tracy**, **Cary Grant** and **Howard Hawks**, and won four Oscars® for acting, a record which is yet to be bettered. She was brilliantly versatile and could handle serious drama or the lightest of comedies with a rare grace and charm, but she was best at portraying a new kind of fiercely independent woman.

Raised in Connecticut by wealthy, progressive parents, Hepburn began to act at college and her early years in the industry were successful and saw her win her first Oscar for her third film ***Morning Glory*** (1933). However, this period was followed by a series of commercial failures such as ***Sylvia Scarlett*** (1935), ***Stage Door*** (1937) and one of her finest films Howard Hawks' ***Bringing Up Baby*** (1938) opposite Cary Grant, with whom she would star in four films. Along with her reputed bossy demeanour and unfeminine image, these film failures led her to be labelled as box office poison. However, this unpopularity also ensured a degree of control over her career that saw her snatch back success on her own terms, and left a string of incomparably assured, complex and winning

performances. She was also an undisputed fashion icon, whose trademark trousers, tailored shirts and trench coats were, at the time, completely revolutionary.

Hepburn's return to box-office success came in 1940 with ***The Philadelphia Story***. The film was based on a stage play by Philip Barry, the leading role of which was specially written for Hepburn for the Broadway production. It was during her Broadway stint that Hepburn wisely acquired the movie rights which she sold to MGM in a deal that guaranteed her the lead role and the choice of director and co-stars. Hepburn scored a huge success in this role which set her back on course to becoming one of the most popular female stars in Hollywood history.

In the 1940s Hepburn was contracted to MGM, where her career focused on an alliance with **Spencer Tracy**. The screen-partnership spanned 25 years, produced nine films and led to a 25 year affair, which Hollywood has long been captivated by. Eight of the films they made together will screen during the season, including ***State of the Union*** (1948), ***Adam's Rib*** (1949) and ***Guess Who's Coming to Dinner*** (1967), for which she won her second Oscar. In the latter part of her career Hepburn regularly appeared on stage and found a niche playing middle-aged spinsters, such as in ***The African Queen*** (1951), while her third and fourth Oscars came for ***The Lion in Winter*** (1968) and ***On Golden Pond*** (1981).

This dynamic talent blazed a trail for Hollywood women and gave us a delightful screen legacy. Without Katharine Hepburn, it's likely classical Hollywood would have seen far fewer autonomous, intelligent, self-determining female characters. Hepburn fought for her roles to mean something, and would no more play the shrinking violet on screen than she could in life. Whether as a confounding screwball minx in George Cukor's deathless comedies, a hot-tempered foil to her real-life love Spencer Tracy in their warm and witty battle-of-the-sexes stand-offs, or as a wise, spirited matriarch in her rich run of later performances, Hepburn remains a uniquely challenging and lively screen presence.

Media Partner:

**marie claire**

Cultural Partner:

**DESIGN  
MUSEUM**

### **ERIC ROHMER**

Five years on from his death, **BFI Southbank** celebrates the work of one of film's most consistently rewarding artists, **Eric Rohmer**, with a season spanning over two months. Part two of the season taking place February and March is set to include Rohmer's **Tales of The Four Seasons** quartet of films, ***My Girlfriend's Boyfriend*** (*L'Ami de mon amie* 1987), ***Pauline at the Beach*** (*Pauline à la plage* 1982) and ***Full Moon in Paris*** (*Les Nuits de la pleine lune* 1984) as well as further short films and rare examples of his television documentary work.

Like his *nouvelle vague* colleagues (especially Godard), Rohmer – born Maurice Schérer – had a personal mission. For him, film was the ideal art form for engaging with reality, particularly the inner world of feelings and thoughts. Subtly counterpointing words, gestures, glances and actions, his witty, affecting tales of intelligent, articulate, recognisably 'ordinary' people trying to fathom what kind of life and lover they'd like are psychologically astute and profoundly compassionate.

Co-author of a study of Hitchcock, he was adept at suspense; well-versed in the arts, he made his stories of longing and seduction resonate in all sorts of ways. Throughout, Rohmer achieved a rare consistency of subject, tone and quality; like Godard or Ozu, he effectively invented his own genre.

Early in his career, he formed his own company to retain control over his work; working to a low budget, shooting on location with a tiny crew, he composed endlessly inventive variations on a range of themes. His warm, respectful interest in his characters, notwithstanding their flaws, means that his films are a celebration of life in all its mysterious, sensuous, sometimes absurd glory.

Supported by:

**INSTITUT  
FRANÇAIS**  
ROYAUME-UNI

Media Partner:

**TV5MONDE**

Sky 796 / Virgin 825 [www.tv5monde.cou](http://www.tv5monde.cou)

– ENDS –

**Press Contacts:**

**Liz Parkinson – Press Officer (Acting), BFI Southbank**  
[liz.parkinson@bfi.org.uk](mailto:liz.parkinson@bfi.org.uk) / 020 7957 8918

**Tim Mosley – Press Officer, BFI Southbank**  
[tim.mosley@bfi.org.uk](mailto:tim.mosley@bfi.org.uk) / 020 7957 8986

**NOTES TO EDITORS:**

**BFI SOUTHBANK EVENTS LISTINGS FOR FEBRUARY 2015**

**PREVIEWS**

**Catch the latest film and TV before release**

**Preview: Still Life**

*UK-Italy 2014. Dir Uberto Pasolini. With Eddie Marsan, Joanne Froggatt, Karen Drury. 92min. Courtesy of Curzon Film World*

Council worker John May (Eddie Marsan) is tasked with finding the next of kin of the recently deceased. A meticulous man, May is a detective of sorts, often charged with persuading family members to attend funerals despite grievances. When his department is downsized, his final case takes him on a journey through his own neighbourhood and on his own path in life and love.

**Tickets £16, concs £12 (Members pay £1.50 less)**

**MON 2 FEB 18:20 NFT3**

**Preview: Love is Strange**

*USA-France-Brazil-Greece 2014. Dir Ira Sachs. With Alfred Molina, John Lithgow, Marisa Tomei. 94min. 15. Courtesy of Altitude Film Distribution*

This love story for grown ups opens with the joyous wedding of George and Ben (Alfred Molina and John Lithgow) who have been together for 39 years. When Ben loses his teaching job at a Catholic school, the couple are forced to leave their Manhattan abode and separate, while they hunt for a new place of their own.

**Tickets £16, concs £12 (Members pay £1.50 less)**

**TUE 3 FEB 20:45 NFT1**

**Preview: Selma**

*UK-USA 2014. Dir Ava DuVernay. With David Oyelowo, Carmen Ejogo, Oprah Winfrey, Tom Wilkinson. 122min. Courtesy of Pathé*

This historical drama focuses on the Selma-to-Montgomery marches, led by Dr Martin Luther King (Oyelowo), that resulted in the 1965 Voting Rights Act. A sharp portrait of the movement, of Dr King, and of the men and women drawn into the critical crossroads of the civil rights movement.

**Tickets £16, concs £12 (Members pay £1.50 less)**

**THU 5 FEB 18:20 NFT1**

**BFI Cult presents: Preview: It Follows**

USA 2014. Dir David Robert Mitchell. With Maika Monroe, Keir Gilchrist, Daniel Zovatto, Jake Weary. 107min. Courtesy of Icon Film Distribution

For 19-year-old Jay, a casual sexual encounter turns into a living nightmare when she begins to experience strange visions and the unfathomable sense that she's being followed. Terrified and helpless, Jay must find a way to pass on the curse that has seemingly befallen her. A defiantly original piece of work from David Robert Mitchell, impeccably realised and with enough subtext to keep your mind buzzing for days.

**Tickets £16, concs £12 (Members pay £1.50 less).**

**WED 18 FEB 20:20 NFT1**

**TV Preview: Poldark + Q&A with writer Debbie Horsfield, lead actors Aidan Turner and Eleanor Tomlinson, and director Ed Bazalgette**

Mammoth Screen-BBC 2015. Dir Ed Bazalgette. With Aidan Turner. c60min

It's 1783 and Britain is in the grip of a chilling recession with falling wages, rising prices and civil unrest. Ross Poldark (Turner) returns from the American War of Independence to his beloved Cornwall to find his world in ruins: his father dead, the family mine long since closed, his house wrecked and his sweetheart pledged to marry his cousin. Winston Graham's acclaimed saga is adapted for the screen by Debbie Horsfield and also stars Eleanor Tomlinson, Heida Reed, Kyle Soller, Jack Farthing and Ruby Bentall.

**MON 23 FEB 20:15 NFT1**

**TV Preview: Arthur & George + Q&A with actors Martin Clunes and Hattie Morahan, and producer Philippa Braithwaite**

Buffalo Pictures-ITV 2015. Dir Stuart Orme. With Martin Clunes, Arsher Ali, Charles Edwards, Hattie Morahan. 46min

Martin Clunes plays the celebrated novelist and physician Sir Arthur Conan Doyle in Ed Whitmore's three-part adaptation of Julian Barnes' novel *Arthur & George*. Set in 1903, the drama follows Sir Arthur and his trusted manservant Alfred (Edwards) as they investigate the case of George Edalji (Ali), a young solicitor wrongly imprisoned for mutilating animals.

**WED 25 FEB 18:15 NFT1**

**TV Preview: Indian Summers + Q&A with actors Julie Walters, Nikesh Patel, writer Paul Rutman and director Anand Tucker**

New Pictures-Channel 4-Masterpiece 2015. Dir Anand Tucker. With Julie Walters, Henry Lloyd-Hughes, Jemima West, Nikesh Patel. Ep1 75min

Simla, 1932: India dreams of independence, but the British are clinging to power. Set against the sweeping grandeur of the Himalayas, *Indian Summers* tells the rich and explosive story of the decline of the British Empire and the birth of modern India, seen through both British and Indian eyes. Passions, rivalries and clashes come to define the lives of those brought together during the summer that will change everything. Following this preview, you'll have the chance to hear from the cast and creative team behind this epic 10-part drama.

**THU 12 FEB 18:15 NFT1**

**BFI FLARE**

**LGBT films and events**

**Cloudburst**

Canada-USA 2011. Dir Thom Fitzgerald. With Olympia Dukakis, Brenda Fricker, Ryan Doucette. 93min. 15

A lesbian road movie like you've never seen before, *Cloudburst* is the hilarious and heart-warming story of septuagenarians Stella and Dotty who are on the run to get married in Canada before Dotty's put in an old people's home. Dukakis and Fricker excel – you really believe these two old broads have shared a lifetime together and can't help rooting for them to make it across the border in time.

**FRI 13 FEB 20:30 NFT3**

**SAT 14 FEB 18:10 NFT3**

**Plan B**

Argentina 2009. Dir Marco Berger. With Manuel Vignau, Lucas Ferraro, Mercedes Quinteros. 103min. 35mm. EST. 15

When Bruno's attempts to win back his ex-girlfriend prove unsuccessful, he formulates a cunning plan to befriend her current beau and break up the happy couple. But as a new friendship between the two boys develops, events take a detour that neither expected. Berger's debut is a charming, sexy and effortlessly romantic exploration of male friendships and nascent desires.

**FRI 13 FEB 18:10 NFT3**

**SAT 14 FEB 20:30 NFT3**

### **THE 8TH BFI FUTURE FILM FESTIVAL**

**Fri 20 – Sun 22 Feb**

At the 8th BFI Future Film Festival we'll provide opportunities to connect with the film industry, kick-start your career and develop new and existing skills with inspirational screenings, masterclasses, Q&A's and workshops. This year we're also offering a limited number of delegate passes that will give you the chance to network with industry professionals and your fellow filmmakers.

**£10 day ticket / £20 for a three-day weekend ticket**

**£15 day delegate pass / £30 for a three-day weekend delegate pass**

Future Film Festival awards supported by The Chapman Charitable Trust and The London School of English/London School Trust.

#### **Future Film Festival Animation+ Day**

Kicking off the festival this year is our new look Animation+ day, which includes sessions covering animation for gaming, illustration and digital design, VFX, trailers and credits, digital experiments and music videos. Workshops and masterclasses will encourage you to collaborate with illustrators and designers, musicians, scriptwriters, coders and software developers, and get hands-on with animation tech.

**FRI 20 FEB FROM 11:00**

#### **Future Film Festival Fiction Day**

Our ever-popular Fiction day is jam-packed with a huge range of sessions that cater for young filmmakers of all experience levels and ability. Insightful, practical sessions will explore different areas of fiction filmmaking including costume and production design, scriptwriting, method acting, and how to survive the film industry. There really is something for everyone!

**SAT 21 FEB FROM 11:00**

#### **Future Film Festival Documentary Day**

We're supporting young documentary filmmakers again this year with another great line up of events and screenings. We'll explore exciting new forms of documentary with sessions covering hybrid docs, pitching to brands, archive remixing, and working with charities. And you can find out how to get involved in opportunities such as BFI Doc Next Media Labs, and be inspired at our documentary awards screening.

**SUN 22 FEB FROM 11:00**

### **BFI FAMILY**

**Wonderful films & fun activities**

#### **Funday Preview Shaun the Sheep The Movie**

*UK 2015. Dirs Richard Starzak, Mark Burton. Cert and RT TBC. Courtesy of STUDIOCANAL*

When Shaun and the flock travel to the city to find the farmer, they're forced to disguise themselves to evade capture by the animal warden, who has a 100% track record. Aardman's little hero makes his big screen debut in a story about how we should appreciate the things we have in life.

**Tickets £11.50, concs £9 (Members pay £1.50 less). Under 16s £6**

**SUN 1 FEB 14:00 NFT1**

#### **Funday Workshop**

Join Shaun's fantastic flock with an exciting workshop packed with arts and crafts, plus a wonderful introduction to the Aardman world with the opportunity to take part in storyboarding and animation. With great prize giveaways and loads of farmhouse fun, it'll be baa-rilliant! Free to ticketholders of *Shaun the Sheep The Movie*

**SUN 1 FEB 12:00 FOYER**

### **Watership Down**

UK 1978. Dir Martin Rosen. With the voices of Richard Briers, John Hurt, Harry Andrews. 101min. 35mm. U (advised 8+)

A group of rabbits decide to leave their countryside home after one has an apocalyptic vision of what might happen if they stay. Their long journey to the utopian Watership Down is fraught with difficulties and many dangerous encounters. This fine British adaptation of the novel by Richard Adams has scenes that might unsettle very young audiences.

**SUN 8 FEB 14:00 NFT2**

### **The 5,000 Fingers of Dr T**

USA 1953. Dir Roy Rowland. With Tommy Rettig, Mary Healy, Hans Conried. 92min. 35mm. U

Bart, who hates his piano lessons with Dr Terwilliker, falls into a dream while playing. In it, he finds himself imprisoned at an institute run by a crazed tutor who has built a super-piano which can be played by 500 boys at the same time. This musical fantasy film is a true children's classic, and is the only feature written by Dr Seuss himself

**SUN 15 FEB 13:00 NFT3**

### **Chicken Run**

UK 2000. Dirs Peter Lord, Nick Park. With the voices of Julia Sawalha, Mel Gibson, Timothy Spall. 84min. 35mm. U

In Aardman's first feature film, Mr and Mrs Tweedy decide to change their farming production line from eggs to chicken pies, causing widespread alarm in the hen houses. The arrival of Rocky, a rooster with something to prove, spurs the birds on towards attempting a great escape – but the Tweedys will stop at nothing to make their pies.

**MON 16 FEB 14:30 NFT3**

**WED 18 FEB 14:30 NFT3**

### **Wallace and Gromit: The Curse of the Were-Rabbit**

UK 2005. Dirs Nick Park, Steve Box. With the voices of Peter Sallis, Ralph Fiennes, Helena Bonham Carter. 84min. U

It's time for the annual giant vegetable competition, but something needs to be done to protect the produce from hungry rabbits. After sightings of a huge Were-Rabbit, Wallace and Gromit set out on the hunt and soon find themselves up to their necks in marrows, carrots and cheese. Aardman's comic-gothic tale is the only stop motion film to have won the Oscar® for Best Animated Feature.

**TUE 17 FEB 14:30 NFT3**

**THU 19 FEB 14:30 NFT3**

### **Aardman Messy Time for the Very Young**

Suitable for 0-7 year-olds Have a messy time making plasticine animations or doing painting and crafts. The best thing is... there's no clearing up afterwards!

**£5 each / Siblings £4**

(Tickets for *The Curse of the Were-Rabbit* to be purchased separately)

For full details go to: [bfi.org.uk/family](http://bfi.org.uk/family)

**TUE 17 FEB 12:30 – 14:00**

### **Half Term Film Fun for Children**

Suitable for 8-15 year-olds There's lots of filmmaking fun to be had, from making stop motion animations to creating dramas using our dressing-up boxes or green screen, with lots of opportunities to explore themes from much-loved Aardman films.

**£27.50, price includes 4.5hrs of workshop fun plus a ticket to the Aardman screening that day**

(children to be left for the duration)

For full details go to: [bfi.org.uk/family](http://bfi.org.uk/family)

**MON 16 FEB 10:00-16:00**

**WED 18 FEB 10:00-16:00**

**THU 19 FEB 10:00-16:00**

### **Saturday Mini Filmmakers!**

Calling all children aged 8 to 12: something wonderful is happening at BFI Southbank – there's a brand new term-time film group especially for you! Every Saturday come and learn about filmmaking, including: animating; scripting; acting; using cameras; editing; special effects, and much more. Fun guaranteed!

**£80 per term. For full details go to: [whatson.bfi.org.uk/Online/families](http://whatson.bfi.org.uk/Online/families)**

Don't forget we have our regular Saturday Young Filmmakers group for 12 to 15-year-olds during term time too

**EVERY SAT, 28 FEB – 21 MAR**

**10:30 – 12:30**

### **The Art of Animation: Stop Motion Skills for Adults**

This hands-on course is designed for adults wanting to learn stop motion animation skills, from storyboarding through to editing, in a creative and supportive environment. The course includes all materials, and is suitable for beginners and animation enthusiasts alike.

**Five sessions, £160 Contact the box office to book on: 020 7928 3232. For more info email: [Joanna.vandermeer@bfi.org.uk](mailto:Joanna.vandermeer@bfi.org.uk)**

*In association with:*



**EVERY THU, 26 FEB – 26 MAR 19:00 – 21:30**

### **AFRICAN ODYSSEYS**

**Important films from Africa and its diaspora**

#### **Talk: The Invasion of Benin**

Pan-Africanist scholar-activist Dr Ama Biney will be joined by special guests in a discussion about the historical events surrounding the 1897 invasion of Benin. The talk also provides background and context to the new film on the subject, which we screen at 14:00.

**Free to ticket holders of *Invasion 1897* (please reserve your place via the BFI box office), otherwise £6.50**

**SAT 7 FEB 12:00 NFT1**

#### **Invasion 1897 + discussion with veteran British actor Rudolph Walker, plus cast and crew**

*Nigeria-UK 2014. Dir Lancelot Oduwa Imaseun. 100min*

Not for the faint-hearted, this is a fast and furiously paced Nollywood style film of the 1897 invasion of Benin, a momentous event in African history which marked a climax in colonial exploitation. This low-budget historical epic also raises issues that are still pertinent today.

**See [bfi.org.uk](http://bfi.org.uk) for updates on attendees**

*With support from ZAFAA*



*In association with*



**SAT 7 FEB 14:00 NFT1**

### **CHINESE NEW YEAR**

**The year of the sheep starts Thu 19 Feb**

#### **Seniors' Archive Free Matinee: A Time Traveller's Guide to China + intro and Q&A with BFI Archive Curator Edward Anderson and Peng Wenlan, Meridian Society**

*With live piano accompaniment. TRT c.80min*

Take a trip as far back as the days of the late Qing dynasty in Imperial China with this programme of rarely-seen films from pioneers, missionaries and holidaymakers, plus travelogues and newsreels compiled before WWII. See bustling Shanghai in 1901, Imperial Beijing in 1910, and cruise Zhejiang Province's picturesque canals in 1925.

*Free for over 60s (booking by phone or in person only), otherwise normal matinee price*

**MON 9 FEB 14:00 NFT1**

### Seniors' Free Talk: Chinaphobia On Screen

In this richly illustrated talk, Christopher Frayling, cultural historian and acclaimed writer on film, draws on his book *The Yellow Peril: Dr Fu Manchu and the Rise of Chinaphobia* to explore problematic representations of Chinese people in British and American film.

*Free for over 60s (booking by phone or in person only), otherwise normal matinee price*



**FRI 13 FEB 11:00 NFT3**

### NEW CHINESE DOCUMENTARY

**In association with the Chinese Visual Festival**



#### **Blossom with Tears**

*China 2013. Dir Jin Huaqing. 38min. Chinese Dialect with EST*

Awarded the prestigious documentary prize by UNICEF, this film follows the gruelling regime of young children in acrobatic training.

#### **+ Crazy Calligraphy**

*Taiwan 2012. Dir Adiong Lu. 19min. Mandarin with EST*

Kesan is an eccentric artist devoted to reviving the dying art of Chinese calligraphy.

#### **+ A Rolling Stone**

*Taiwan 2012. Dir Ko-shang Shen. 54min. Mandarin with EST*

An absorbing, atmospheric and occasionally dark study of parental love and obsession.

**Joint ticket available with *The Cold Winter* £16, concs £12 (Members pay £1.50 less)**

**SAT 28 FEB 13:00 NFT2**

#### **The Cold Winter**

*China 2011. Dir Zheng Kuo. 103min. Mandarin with EST*

This award-winning documentary highlights the struggle of artists near Beijing's famous Art Zone as they try to protect their land in the face of threats and violence. The film includes high profile art rebel Ai Weiwei and some fascinatingly ambitious and creative protests, and offers rare access to the artists themselves.

**Joint ticket available with *Blossom with Tears* etc £16, concs £12 (Members pay £1.50 less)**

**SAT 28 FEB 16:00 NFT2**

#### **Riding Alone for Thousands of Miles Qian li zou dan gi + intro by Peng Wenlan, Meridian Society, and music from the Yin Yang Collective**

*Hong Kong-China-Japan 2005. Dir Yimou Zhang. 107min. Mandarin, Japanese with EST*

In this award-winning tale of love and forgiveness, from an acclaimed Chinese director, a Japanese father travels to China's Yunnan province in place of his estranged and ailing son to film a famous folk-opera star.

**SUN 1 MAR 15:20 NFT3**

### BAFTA MASTERCLASS

#### **BAFTA Masterclass: Hair and Make-up Design with Peter King**

Known for his work on *The Lord of the Rings* trilogy, Peter King boasts a career in hair and make-up design spanning over 30 years. An Academy award and BAFTA winner, King is critically acclaimed for his work on films such as *An Ideal Husband*, *Nine* and the Bob Dylan biopic *I'm Not There*. His most recent credits include *The Hobbit* trilogy and the eagerly awaited adaptation of Stephen Sondheim's *Into the Woods*.

**WED 11 FEB 18:10 NFT3**

### SONIC CINEMA

**Where music and film collide**

#### **The Death and Resurrection Show + Q&A with Jaz Coleman and director Shaun Pettigrew**

*UK-New Zealand 2014. Dir Shaun Pettigrew. With Jaz Coleman, Big Paul, Youth, Geordie, Dave Grohl, Jimmy Page. 150min*

Formed during a fire ritual that burned down their flat, Killing Joke exploded onto the British post-punk music scene in 1978. They rapidly built a mythical status from their esoteric beliefs, controversial imagery and genre-defining experimentation; their influence spanned industrial rock, classical symphonies, psychedelic trance and 80s pop, and inspired the likes of Nirvana, Metallica, Ministry, Nine Inch Nails and Soundgarden. Through a barrage of music, archive footage and deeply personal interviews shot over the last 12 years, *The Death and Resurrection Show* provides the definitive story of Killing Joke – from rituals at Stonehenge to recording sessions in the Pyramids.

**Tickets £16, concs £12 (Members pay £1.50 less)**

**THU 19 FEB 19:50 NFT1**

### **ESSENTIAL EXPERIMENTS**

**Exploring experimental cinema and artists' film**

#### **Hell Unltd**

*UK 1936. Dirs Norman McLaren, Helen Biggar. 15min*

The highly passionate *Hell Unltd* was made to protest against armament production and profit-making during a period when fascism was growing throughout Europe. Utilising a heady, quick-fire mix of animation, live action and archival footage – delivered in urgent, avant-garde fashion – the film condemned a government that denied its military spending increases and lack of investment in health and education.

**+ Traces Left + discussion with director Alan Lovell and producer Roger Shannon (tbc)**

*UK 1983. Dir Alan Lovell. 40min. 16mm*

The career of Norman McLaren is well documented; less so that of his collaborator, the textiles artist, sculptress and active member of the Glasgow Kino Film Group, Helen Biggar. *Traces Left* explores the part Biggar played in the making of *Hell Unltd*, plus her contributions to the vibrant Glaswegian art and political scene of the 30s and 40s. Don't miss this rare screening.

**WED 11 FEB 20:30 NFT3**

### **PROJECTING THE ARCHIVE**

**Rediscovered British features**

#### **Laughter in the Dark + intro by Nigel Algar, Senior Curator (fiction) BFI National Archive**

*UK-France 1969. Dir Tony Richardson. With Nicol Williamson, Anna Karina, Jean-Claude Drouot, Sian Phillips. 104min. 35mm. 15*

Vladimir Nabokov's 1933 source novel, originally written in Russian and set in Germany, is adapted by playwright Edward Bond and transposed to a very swinging 60s London (with a cameo from our very own NFT). A wealthy middle-aged art dealer (Williamson) meets and falls for a perky cinema usherette (Karina). Little by little she exploits his obsession, infiltrates his life and leads him towards destruction, aided by her boyfriend (Drouot). Williamson is persuasive as the hapless victim who is blind to his true situation. Nabokov took exception to the clichéd 'porno grapples' that frequented many 60s movies, and the film may lack his subtlety. Nonetheless, there is true pathos in Williamson's fate.

**MON 16 FEB 18:20 NFT1**

### **PASSPORT TO CINEMA**

**A thematic journey through film**

#### **History Is Made in the Dark**

This is our second month of delving into cinema's history books, presenting films in the epic tradition of historical recreation, urgent reports of recent events, or films that investigate and rewrite history. *Heaven's Gate* explores one episode in the Old West, the Johnson County War; *Rome, Open City* depicts Rome under Nazi occupation with documentary immediacy; *Persepolis* is a personal account of Iran's Islamic Revolution; and *Aguirre, Wrath of God* is one man's *folie de grandeur* become epic history.



#### **Heaven's Gate**

*USA 1980. Dir Michael Cimino. With Kris Kristofferson, Christopher Walken, Isabelle Huppert, John Hurt. 216min. 15*

On its original release, *Heaven's Gate* made its own kind of history, as the film that helped destroy a studio. Since then, in a restored version, it has re-emerged as a richly detailed and wildly ambitious recreation of a blood-soaked period in American frontier history. Cimino's film is a genuine epic about the savage consequences of the American territorial imperative.

**SUN 1 FEB 18:40 NFT1**

**MON 2 FEB 18:10 NFT1**

**Rome, Open City** Roma città aperta + intro by screenwriter, director and producer Mamoun Hassan\*

Italy 1945. Dir Roberto Rossellini. With Anna Magnani, Aldo Fabrizi, Marcello Pagliero, Harry Feist. 106min. EST. 12A

*Rome, Open City*, made in the wake of the German occupation of Rome, captures life under the Nazis with an immediacy and urgency. Rossellini's stated aim was to 'achieve an understanding of events in which I had been immersed, by which I had been shaken.' The film did more than usher in neo-realism: it reinvigorated cinema itself.

**MON 9 FEB\* 18:10 NFT1**

**SUN 15 FEB 20:45 NFT2**

**TUE 17 FEB 20:30 NFT3**

**Persepolis** + intro by Helen McGregor, writer, actor, film lecturer NFTS\*

France-USA-Japan 2007. Dirs Vincent Paronnaud, Marjane Satrapi. With the voices of Chiara Mastroianni, Catherine Deneuve, Simon Abkarian. 97min. EST. 12A

Marjane Satrapi wrote and co-directed this superb animation, based on her graphic novel, chronicling her coming-of-age during Iran's change from a dictatorship to a theocracy. Like the graphic novel, it's a nuanced, personal account of politics, religion, family life and exile. We'll be showing the film in its French version with subtitles.

**MON 16 FEB\* 18:10 NFT2**

**WED 18 FEB 20:40 NFT2**

**SAT 21 FEB 20:40 NFT2**

**Aguirre, Wrath of God** Aguirre, der Zorn Gottes

West Germany 1972. Dir Werner Herzog. With Klaus Kinski, Helena Rojo, Ruy Guerra, Del Negro. 93min. EST. PG

Drawing on a real 16th-century conquistador called Don Lope de Aguirre, Herzog imagines his journey in search of Eldorado – an endeavour described by the explorer Clements Markham as 'the wildest, most romantic, most desperate, most appalling in the annals of Spanish enterprise.' Herzog treats this shadowy historical episode as a hallucination, a journey into madness.

**MON 23 FEB 18:10 NFT1**

**FRI 27 FEB 20:45 NFT3**

**SAT 28 FEB 20:40 NFT2**

**CULT**

**The mind-altering and unclassifiable**

**Rock 'n' Roll Nightmares**

From the grand-guignol extremes of *Evil Dead: The Musical*, to a Cronenberg-directed opera based on *The Fly*, recent years have seen several horror classics infused with the magic of song. With both styles trading in unreality and excess, the fusion of the musical and horror genres might just be a match made in heaven (or should that be hell?). With this in mind, our Cult strand celebrates two legendary horror musicals that will have you dancing, and screaming, in the aisles.

**Phantom of the Paradise**

USA 1974. Dir Brian De Palma. With William Finley, Jessica Harper, Paul Williams. 91min. 15

As outlandish today as it was four decades ago, De Palma's Faustian riff on *The Phantom of the Opera* is perhaps his most idiosyncratic work. When a brow-beaten composer has his cantata stolen by a demonic music tycoon, he'll stop at nothing to see his music performed by the woman he loves. A musical phantasmagoria unlike anything you've ever seen.

**THU 12 FEB 20:30 NFT3**

**SUN 15 FEB 18:10 NFT3**

**Little Shop of Horrors (Director's Cut)**

USA 1986. Dir Frank Oz. With Rick Moranis, Ellen Greene, Steve Martin. 103min. PG

Frank Oz's adaptation of the off-Broadway sensation (itself inspired by Roger Corman's B-movie classic) stars Rick Moranis as a flower shop assistant who encounters a carnivorous plant with a murderous mind. This mean green mother from outer space can finally be appreciated in all its campy, mischievous glory with the inclusion of the original 23-minute ending deemed too distressing by test audiences.

**WED 25 FEB 18:10 NFT3**

**THU 26 FEB 20:30 NFT3**

**AUDIENCE CHOICE**

**Each month you get the chance to choose a film**

**Seasons**

This month we're taking inspiration from Eric Rohmer's *Tales of the Four Seasons* to ask for your favourite film that best captures the spirit of a particular season. We'll screen the one that gets the most votes over 100 (subject to availability in the UK). So get voting, and get your friends voting!

Vote for:

**Spring Breakers** (2012)

**My Summer of Love** (2004)

**An Autumn Afternoon** (1962)

**Winter's Bone** (2010)

... or a seasonal film of your choice.

Find out more, and vote, at: [bfi.org.uk/audiencechoice](http://bfi.org.uk/audiencechoice)

Voting closes Wed 14 Jan with the film announced Mon 19 Jan. Voters for the winning film will be emailed directly and will receive a 48-hour priority booking period. Share your picks and campaign for your selection @BFI with #audiencechoice or via our Facebook page.

**SUN 15 FEB 20:40 NFT1**

**MEMBER EXCLUSIVES**

**BFI Screen Epiphanies in partnership with American Express®**

Following in the footsteps of Gemma Arterton, Ray Winstone, Steve Pemberton and Michel Faber, a prominent figure from the arts will introduce a screening of a film that has inspired them. Find full details at: [bfi.org.uk/members](http://bfi.org.uk/members)

**Lord Puttnam introduces: Pinocchio**

USA 1940. Dirs Hamilton Luske, Ben Sharpsteen et al. With the voices of Dickie Jones, Cliff Edwards, Evelyn Venable. 87min. U

Film producer and educator Lord David Puttnam (*Midnight Express*, *The Killing Fields*, *Chariots of Fire*) presents the Disney animated classic about a marionette-turned-real- boy who's forced to make tough choices and learn some life lessons. During his adventures, Pinocchio makes some untrustworthy friends and is swallowed by a whale, yet he's accompanied by the wise words of his conscience, Jiminy Cricket.

Apply for up to four tickets, the first is free

**TUE 24 FEB 18:00 NFT1**



**Festival Launch**

Be one of the first to see the line up for this year's BFI Flare: London LGBT Film Festival which runs 19-29 March. The programming team will share highlights and clips from the best queer cinema from around the world.

**Apply for up to two free tickets. Priority booking opens for Members on 25 Feb and for Champions 24hrs ahead.**

**WED 18 FEB 18:30 NFT1**

### **Member Picks**

#### **Pan's Labyrinth** El laberinto del fauno

*Spain-Mexico-USA 2006. Dir Guillermo del Toro. With Sergi López, Maribel Verdú, Ivana Baquero. 120min. EST. 15*

Young Ofelia seeks refuge from her brutal stepfather in a mythical world, in this chilling tale set in 1940s fascist Spain.

Apply for up to two tickets, the first is free

**WED 25 FEB 20:40 NFT1**

### **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 / February 2015**