

## Find Reel Love This Valentine's Day At BFI Southbank



**Tuesday 20 January 2015, London.**

Have a truly unforgettable Valentine's Day at **BFI Southbank** with an expertly selected programme of films celebrating romance and passion screening across the venue's four plush film theatres on February 14. This diverse programme celebrates the best the Golden Age of Hollywood has to offer with *Bringing up Baby* (1938) and *The Philadelphia Story* (1940), the lesser-known French New Wave gem *My Girlfriend's Boyfriend* (1987), and modern LGBT titles *Cloudburst* (2011) and *Plan B* (2009).

With outstanding performances from Hollywood greats Katharine Hepburn, Cary Grant and James Stewart, *The Philadelphia Story* is a classic comedy about a society wedding threatened by scandal, while Hepburn and Grant reunited for *Bringing up Baby*, adding a touch of screwball comedy to the line-up. **BFI Flare** presents two LGBT features, *Cloudburst* (2011), the endearing story of two women in their 70's and their journey to getting married and *Plan B* (2009), an enchanting story of unexpected love in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. **Eric Rohmer** delves into the complicated side of love in *My Girlfriend's Boyfriend* (1987) and explores what happens when you fall for the wrong person.

At BFI Southbank, it isn't just the films that make for a memorable evening. Comedian **Miranda Hart** picked a film and a meal at the BFI as her 'best place for a first date' in ES Magazine's *My London* column, while **The Riverfront Bar & Kitchen** was voted 2014's Best Cinema Bar in London by Time Out; a delicious meal overlooking breath-taking views of the Thames is the ideal way to follow up your film. Alternatively, enjoy an intimate cocktail at the **Benugo Bar & Kitchen** or retire to the **Drawing Room**, the perfect setting for a romantic rendezvous.

**– 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 VALENTINE'S DAY 2015**

### **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.

**SAT 14 FEB 18:20 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.

**SAT 14 FEB 20:30 NFT3**

### **My Girlfriend's Boyfriend** L'Ami de mon amie

*France 1987. Dir Eric Rohmer. With Emmanuelle Chaulet, Sophie Renoir, Anne-Laure Meury. 99min. EST. PG*

New to a recently built suburb, a shy civil servant experiences confusion and guilt when she finds herself attracted to her flighty friend's lover. Inspired in part by Goethe's Elective Affinities, this makes highly effective use of colour, architecture and space to enhance its wry account of shifting relationships; a walk along a towpath becomes electric with erotic tension. A lovely conclusion to a delightful series.

**SAT 14 FEB 16:00 NFT2**

### **The Philadelphia Story**

*USA 1940. Dir George Cukor. With Katharine Hepburn, Cary Grant, James Stewart, Ruth Hussey. 112min. U. A BFI release*

Cukor's classic about a society wedding threatened by scandal is a highpoint of sophisticated Hollywood comedy. Adapted from Philip Barry's play, the film boasts peak-form performances throughout. Having divorced her irresponsible millionaire husband (Grant), the aptly named Tracy Lord (Hepburn) is about to wed a dull but dependable fellow. However, any hopes of privacy at the wedding of the year are dashed by the arrival of her reluctant ex and a pair of journalists (Stewart and Hussey) sniffing for a scoop. The rest of the Lord family don't help much either, for that matter. Donald Ogden Stewart's script sparkles with wit and pithy social comment, while the moonlit amorous shenanigans fizz with a woozy eroticism.

**SAT 14 FEB 16:10 NFT1, 18:20 & 20:40 NFT2**

### **Bringing Up Baby**

*USA 1938. Dir Howard Hawks. With Katharine Hepburn, Cary Grant, Charles Ruggles. 102min. 35mm. U*

Even if its disappointing initial performance confirmed her reputation as 'box office poison', this is one of Hepburn's most enduring and beloved films. With storytelling and performances that feel at once precise and winningly chaotic, its screwball romance and surreal detail (a lost dinosaur bone; a pet leopard; Cary Grant in a negligee) remain fresh, funny and not a little sexually subversive.

**SAT 14 FEB 18:30 NFT1**

## **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, BFI DVDs and BFI can be found at [www.image.net](http://www.image.net)**