

GONE WITH THE WIND Starring Vivien Leigh and Clark Gable

Directed by Victor Fleming
USA 1939, 233 mins, Cert PG

Winner of 10 Academy Awards



**Back on the big screen in a breathtaking
4K digital restoration**

Opening on 22 November 2013 on 70+ screens nationwide

From the Golden Age of Hollywood, *Gone with the Wind* remains the ultimate romantic epic. Re-released by the BFI in selected cinemas throughout the UK on 22 November 2013, this is an unmissable big screen experience. In Warner Bros.' amazing 4K digital restoration from the original negative, its sumptuous Technicolor is more vivid and the detail richer and sharper than ever before. The release coincides with the centenary of actress Vivien Leigh (5 November 1913 - 8 July 1967) who is also celebrated with a season at BFI Southbank from 6 November - 12 December.

Set against the turbulent backdrop of the American Civil War, *Gone with the Wind* is the story of feisty, petulant southern belle Scarlett O'Hara (**Vivien Leigh**) and her complicated love life involving the dashing Rhett Butler (**Clark Gable**) and the married Ashley Wilkes (**Leslie Howard**). Based on the multi-million-selling, Pulitzer Prize-winning novel by Margaret Mitchell, the film is listed by Guinness World Records as the most successful film in box office history.

After producer David O. Selznick's unprecedented nationwide publicity campaign to find the perfect Scarlett - 1,400 women were interviewed - English actress Vivien Leigh (Mrs Laurence Olivier) surprisingly beat star names to get the part. The role of Melanie, Ashley Wilkes gentle, gracious wife, went to **Olivia de Havilland**.

The film dazzled at the 1940 Oscars, winning ten Academy Awards including Best Actress, Best Director, Best Outstanding Production, Best Screenplay and Best Cinematography (Colour). In 2004 it was named the 'The Ultimate Film' by the BFI in its poll of the most watched films ever in the UK, having stacked up 35,000 cinema attendances. Its record remains unbeaten to this day.

It's now almost 25 years since the film's last nationwide release, so Scarlett's luminous beauty and style, her irrepressible spirit and her gutsy determination in the face of cinema's best-known put-down line will surely find a whole new generation of admiring fans.

-ends-

For further information please contact:

Jill Reading, BFI Press Office

Tel: 020 7957 4759 or jill.reading@bfi.org.uk

Lucy Aronica, BFI Press Office

Tel: 020 7957 4833 or lucy.aronica@bfi.org.uk

Images are available at www.image.net >BFI>Theatrical releases

More details at www.bfi.org.uk/releases

Notes to Editors

- The V&A has recently acquired the archive of Vivien Leigh including letters, diaries, photographs and film and theatre scripts and will be displaying a changing selection of material from the archive in its Theatre and Performance Galleries in late Autumn to mark the centenary.
www.vam.ac.uk/b/blog/network/va-acquires-vivien-leigh-archive

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
- Investing in creative, distinctive and entertaining work
- Promoting British film and talent to the world
- Growing the next generation of film makers and audiences

Oct 2013