

14—16

February 2003

# The Fourth Keswick Film Festival



## Nic Roeg Retrospective

*Six of the best, plus talks, introductions  
and a live interview with one of the  
UK's finest filmmakers*

## Best of the Fests

*The cream of festival successes from  
across the globe*

## Box o' Shorts

*Championing short filmmaking*

## A Class Act

*Revisiting great films, recent and  
classic*



Pull-out programme

**Welcome** to the Club's fourth cinematic celebration hosted by The Alhambra Cinema and Theatre by the Lake.

In addition to the cream of World Cinema, short films and archive gems, we are delighted to welcome one of Britain's finest filmmakers, **Nicolas Roeg**, to a major retrospective of his work.

To coincide with the Festival, *Theatre by the Lake* is screening four days of film linked to this year's *Best of the Fests* and *A Class Act* festival themes.

Mon 10 February at 7.30pm

### **Gosford Park** (15)

Dir. Robert Altman UK/US 2001 2hrs 18mins.

**Michael Gambon, Maggie Smith, Helen Mirren, Clive Owen**

Power games are played out during an exclusive weekend shooting party. Robert Altman, recipient of an Honorary Golden Bear at the 2002 Berlin Film Festival, is in fine filmmaking form for this, his first British-shot movie.

Tickets: £4 (discounts £3)

Tues 11 February at 7.30pm

### **In the Bedroom** (15)

Dir. Todd Field US 2001 2hrs 10mins.

**Tom Wilkinson, Sissy Spacek, Marisa Tomei**

The peace of a small-town American couple is shattered when tragedy strikes their family. Nominated for numerous awards at various festivals, including a Best Actor Oscar nod for Tom Wilkinson, this is a powerful and emotional drama.

Tickets: £4 (discounts £3)

Wed 12 February at 7.30pm

### **24 Hour Party People** (18)

Dir. Michael Winterbottom UK 2002 1hr 55mins.

**Steve Coogan, Lennie James, Paddy Considine, Sean Harris**

Nominated for the Palme D'Or at Cannes in 2002, the latest film from Michael Winterbottom (*Jude*, *The Claim*, *Welcome to Sarajevo*) is a riotous and raw look at the rise of the Manchester music scene and the people who turned the North West into THE place to be.

Tickets: £4 (discounts £3)

Thurs 13 February at 7.30pm

### **La Règle du Jeu** (PG)

Dir. Jean Renoir France 1939 1hr 50mins. Subtitled

**Marcel Dallo, Gaston Modot, Julien Carette, Jean Renoir**

A clear inspiration for *Gosford Park* and a regular feature in any serious 'Best Films' list, Renoir's brilliant social comedy is essential viewing for anyone interested in cinema. A witty and acerbic critique of the class system, with events unfolding during a weekend on a country estate.

Tickets: £4 (discounts £3)

## **NIC ROEG RETROSPECTIVE**

Nicolas Roeg began his film career in the late 1940s, working his way up from tea-maker and clapper-boy to camera operator and then outstanding cinematographer for directors such as Roger Corman, François Truffaut and Richard Lester. His first films as director — *PERFORMANCE* (1970, co-directed with Donald Cammell), *WALKABOUT* (1971) and *DON'T LOOK NOW* (1973) — immediately established him as one of the most exciting and imaginative film-makers of post-war British cinema.

Since then, he has made such offbeat and challenging movies as *THE MAN WHO FELL TO EARTH* (1976), *BAD TIMING* (1980), *EUREKA* (1982), *INSIGNIFICANCE* (1985), *COLD HEAVEN* (1991) and *TWO DEATHS* (1996).

The material of his films ranges from Conrad to *CASTAWAY*, from Daphne du Maurier to Roald Dahl; and he has directed an amazing diversity of performing talent that includes Julie Christie, Donald Sutherland, David Bowie, Mick Jagger, Theresa Russell, Art Garfunkel, Gene Hackman, Tony Curtis and Elizabeth Taylor.

**Nic Roeg will introduce all of his films**  
(subject to last minute changes in his work schedule.)

14th February at 6.15 pm  
(Theatre by the Lake)

### **Performance** (18)

Dir: Nicolas Roeg/Donald Cammell  
1970 UK 1hr 45mins

**James Fox, Mick Jagger,  
Anita Pallenberg, Michèle  
Breton**



(Video projection on cinema screen)

The festival kicks off with Nic Roeg's directorial debut, a brimful collection of ideas about power, persuasion and performance ("The only achievement that makes it, makes it all the way is madness.") Opening as a gangster thriller, the film juggles visual and verbal imagery and develops into a complex blurring of the divide between reality and fantasy.

"Roeg's debut is a virtuoso juggling act." Time Out



## NIC ROEG RETROSPECTIVE

15th February at 1.15 pm

(Theatre by the Lake): *Nic Roeg* introduces:

### Insignificance <sup>(15)</sup>

Dir: Nicolas Roeg 1985 UK 1 hr 49 mins.

**Theresa Russell, Tony Curtis, Gary Busey**

Marilyn Monroe, Albert Einstein, Senator Joseph McCarthy (of the anti-Communist witch-hunt) and baseball-hero Joe DiMaggio (Monroe's husband) meet in a New York hotel room in 1954. Nicolas Roeg's excellent version of Terry Johnson's satirical stage-play offers us an acting and writing tour de force, masterly dialogue and a most entertaining mix of topical issues: fame, vanity, communism versus democracy, world peace, jealousy, Freud, love, The Theory of Relativity, the physical appearance of the universe, the A-bomb, hatred, and freedom of speech. 'Roeg,' says Jonathan Rosenbaum of the Chicago Reader, 'mixes the various elements into a very volatile cocktail--sexy, outrageous, and compulsively watchable'.

**Cannes 1985: winner, Technical Grand Prix, and nominated for Palme d'Or**

15th February at 8.30 pm

(Theatre by the Lake): *Nic Roeg* introduces:

### Eureka <sup>(18)</sup>

Dir: Nicolas Roeg 1983 UK/USA 2hr 10mins

**Gene Hackman, Theresa Russell, Rutger Hauer, Mickey Rourke, Joe Pesci**

Arctic explorer literally falls into a mountain of gold and in so doing becomes the richest man in the world. But, as we know, wealth does not bring happiness.

Eureka divides into three distinct parts - the discovery, the death, the trial. John Boorman rates the first two parts as potentially the greatest movie ever made and these sections contain some of the finest examples of movie-making you will ever see. It is in the final part that we get some of the most highly charged emotional performances. A masterpiece.

16<sup>th</sup> February at 10.30 am

(Theatre by the Lake): *Nic Roeg* introduces:

### Walkabout <sup>(12)</sup>

Dir: Nicolas Roeg 1971 UK 1hr 40mins

**Jenny Agutter, Luc Roeg, David Gulpitt**  
(DVD projection on cinema screen)

Two children find themselves lost in the Australian outback. They come across an Aborigine who has been ritualistically banished by his tribe - he is on a Walkabout. The children need saving and he saves them. This simple foundation, however, is only the carrier for a deeper and more profound message. It can be seen as a heart-warming tale of how people survive in the harshest of circumstances. On the other hand, it is a deeply haunting story of how people fail to communicate and in so doing lose so much; at the end, all the characters are even more lost than when they started.



## NIC ROEG RETROSPECTIVE

16th February at 3.45 pm

(Theatre by the Lake):

*Nic Roeg* introduces:

### The Man Who Fell to Earth <sup>(18)</sup>

Dir: Nicolas Roeg 1976 UK 2 hrs 18 mins.

**David Bowie, Rip Torn, Candy Clark, Buck Henry**

Roeg's venture into science fiction is of course much more than the simple tale of a man who came to seek help for his parched planet. Capitalising on lucrative inventions and heading up an international conglomerate, he seems well on his way, but earthly temptations (sex, booze and TV!) endanger the ultimate objective. The depiction of the alienating effects of an over-commercialised society must be intended to warn us earthlings, just as much as the extraterrestrial Bowie character - he of the anorexic frame, pale skin, orange hair and mismatching coloured eyes - who becomes the battleground of an innocent, alien culture pitted against our tainted, Westernised existence.

"An old-fashioned fairy tale for those adults who read Jonathan Swift and believe that our world, and those who run it, can be cold, cruel, and unfair." Danny Peary, *Cult Movies 2*

**Berlin Film Festival 1976: Nom. Golden Bear  
Academy of SF, Fantasy & Horror Films:  
Winner, David Bowie, Best Actor**

16th February at 8.30 pm

(Theatre by the Lake): *Nic Roeg* introduces:

### Don't Look Now <sup>(15)</sup>

Dir: Nicolas Roeg 1973 UK 1hr 50 mins.

**Donald Sutherland, Julie Christie, Hilary Mason**

Bereaved parents Sutherland and Christie attempt to escape the aftermath of their daughter's accidental drowning. In Venice - through Roeg's eyes a dank, sinister and labyrinthine place - the couple stumble through coincidences, premonitions and misunderstandings which cloud their suffering, culminating in one of the most chilling endings on film. Roeg's adaptation of the Daphne Du Maurier short story is both an existential horror movie and a meditation on grief. The legendary and beautiful lovemaking scene, the non-linear editing, and the transforming of a culturally-rich city into a menacing maze come together to make one of this country's most moving, chilling, and highly-praised films.

"A disjointed, multi-layered, totally cinematic masterpiece, each frame carefully composed, rich with ambiguity and visual themes." *FilmFour.com*

**Best Cinematography, 6 nominations,  
BAFTAs 1974**





## NIC ROEG RETROSPECTIVE

15th February at 9.30 am  
(Theatre by the Lake)

### Free Talk by Neil Sinyard,

Reader in Film Studies,  
University of Hull



### GRAND ILLUSIONS: the cinema of Nicolas Roeg

Raw emotion, graphic sexuality and violence, scintillating cinematics: these are the hallmarks of one of Britain's finest film stylists, Nicolas Roeg. This talk will consider why his films have excited such extreme reactions, his importance to British film, and his inspiration to those for whom cinema is not palliative but provocation. The talk will be illustrated with film extracts.

Neil Sinyard is Reader in Film Studies at Hull University. He has published over twenty books on film, including *The Films of Nicolas Roeg* (1991). He is currently co-editor of a series of monographs on British Film-Makers for Manchester University Press.

16th February at 7.00 pm (Theatre by the Lake)

### The Nic Roeg Interview

Tickets: Non-members £3.00, Keswick Film Club Members £2.00

In conversation with Neil Sinyard, Roeg will talk about his remarkable career. The interview will be illustrated with extracts and questions invited from the audience.

## BOX O' SHORTS

15th February at 1.15 pm (The Alhambra)

### Short Film Programme

Running time: approx. one hour

Keswick Film Festival's celebration of the best of short filmmaking, including award-winning director, Ian Fenton, who will introduce and answer questions on his latest film, *Flickerman and the Ivory-Skinned Woman*. Be the first on your block to spot the next Nic Roeg or Lynne Ramsay.

## BEST OF THE FESTS

15th February at 10.45 am  
(The Alhambra)

### 8 Femmes (8 Women) (15)

Dir: François Ozon 2002 France 1 hr  
43mins.

**Catherine Deneuve, Isabelle  
Huppert, Emmanuelle Béart,  
Fanny Ardant**

(In French with English subtitles)

With tongue firmly placed in cheek, François Ozon offers up for our delight his Agatha Christie-style murder mystery-cum-musical. The '8 women' are all suspects in the murder, and all suspect each other. It's all hilarious plot, stylish behaviour, and barbed wit. As if the mounting ridiculousness of each confession and revelation wasn't enough, each woman has her own song-and-dance routine through which to indulge herself and expound her character. *8 Women* oozes acting talent, with each woman sending up her public persona and revelling in the fabulousness of it all - as they also probe the complex dynamics between mothers and daughters, female siblings, mistresses, servants and romantic rivals.

"Really, really good.....with shuttlecocks of barbed dialogue swatted back and forth by an octet of French cinema's nimblest actresses, *8 Women* is a hoot." Washington Post

### Berlin Film Festival 2002: Silver Bear Ozon nominated for the Golden Bear

15th February at 6.00pm  
(Theatre by the Lake)

### Talk to Her (Hable con Ella) (15)

Dir: Pedro Almodovar 2002 Spain 1hr  
53mins

**Javier Camara, Dario Grandetti,  
Rosario Flores, Leonore Watling**

(In Spanish with English subtitles)

Two people sit next to each other in an audience. Months later their paths cross again and an unexpected friendship is struck due to the similarity of their respective tragedy. The pain of loss and loneliness, the joy of friendship and the difficulties of communication are all familiar Almodovar themes. Here, however, they are given a completely new perspective. *Talk To Her* is funny and moving as well as a technical tour-de-force. Almodovar still has the power to shock but this is an altogether more mellow film in which he has created a surreal world that holds us spellbound in morbid interest. Not to be missed.

"This is Almodovar on hot form." FilmFour

### Nominated, Best Film, British Independent Film Festival 2002





## BEST OF THE FESTS

16th February at 1.00 pm  
(Theatre by the Lake)

### Heaven <sup>(15)</sup>

Dir: Tom Tykwer 2002 USA/UK/IT/  
Fr/Ger 1hr 37mins

**Cate Blanchett, Giovanni  
Ribisi**

(In Italian and English)

*Heaven* was to be the first part of a trilogy by the late Polish director Krzysztof Kieslowski called *Heaven, Purgatory, and Hell*. Kieslowski, however, died in 1996 and the script was given to Tykwer. A man dies a drug related death and the grieving widow takes matters into her own hands. Her actions cause unforeseen tragedy but during the ensuing investigation love kindles anew. Is the finding of love enough to overturn the unworthiness of its foundation? And, once found, is it enough to justify the means? What would you be willing to risk for love?

*"Awe-inspiring, beautiful and authentically moving. It's close to perfection."* Uncut

**Best Film, German Film Awards 2002  
Nominated, Best Film, Berlin International  
Film Festival 2002**

16th February at 3.45 pm  
(The Alhambra)

### Secret Ballot (Raye makhfi) <sup>(U)</sup>

Dir: Babak Payami 2001 Iran/  
Italy 1 hr 45 mins.

**Nassim Abdi, Cyrus Abidi, Youssef Habashi**

(In Farsi with English subtitles)

The principles of democracy, the comedy of the absurd, and the road movie would seem not to have very much in common. However, these themes are all present in Babak Payami's beautifully photographed film about a bright, urban, educated young woman who arrives on a remote Iranian island to bring enlightenment and the chance to vote to a backward peasant population. They in turn have a thing or two to teach her - about human relationships and the nature of their vastly different existence. There is humour, but also dignity, in Payami's look at democracy Iranian-style.

*"Powerful...lyrical and subtly political."* Dave Calhoun, Dazed & Confused

**Winner, 5 awards, nominated for Golden  
Lion: Venice Film Festival 2001  
FIPRESCI Award, London Film Festival  
2001**



## BEST OF THE FESTS

16th February at 8.30pm  
(The Alhambra)

### Nine Queens

(Nueve Reinas) <sup>(15)</sup>

Dir: Fabián Bielinsky 2000 Argenti-  
na 1hr 53mins

**Gaston Pauls, Ricardo Darin,  
Laetitia Bredice**

(In Spanish with English subtitles)

A petty thief is observed, and saved from arrest, by a major league con-artist. The two strike up a partnership to pull off a once-in-a-lifetime con trick. Their job is to sell a set of (forged) rare stamps, 'The Nine Queens'. All goes to plan until the forgeries are stolen and they have to set up another con trick to be able to pull off the first one. But just how many con tricks are being pulled? And by who on whom? The plot is layer upon layer of inter-weaving conspiracies. Superbly scripted, well paced and totally engrossing, this is a highly accomplished debut.

*"Clever, amusing and entertaining."* Derek Malcolm

**Five awards, incl. Best Director & Best Film,  
Argentinian Film Critics Awards 2002  
Audience Award Portland Film Festival 2002**

## A CLASS ACT

14th February at 8.30 pm  
(The Alhambra)

### The Piano <sup>(15)</sup>

Dir: Jane Campion 1993  
Australia/Fr/N. Zealand 2hrs 1min.

**Holly Hunter, Harvey Keitel,  
Sam Neill, Anna Paquin**

(In English and Maori)

An absolute peach of a film that has virtually everything - extraordinary acting, wonderful New Zealand landscapes and cinematography and a beautiful musical score beautifully performed by Holly Hunter - befitting a film with such a title. It contains too a look at Victorian values (which should, but fail to, this time, mask deeply sensual attraction with mystery, fear and exotic settings), the clash of Maori and European cultures, a woman moving from repressed muteness to positive self-fulfilment, and perhaps the best performance in movie history by a child actor.

*"Not since the early days of cinema... could I imagine the medium of film to be so powerful."* Sight and Sound

**Oscars 1994: Hunter, Paquin and Campion  
Cannes 1993: Palme d'Or; Best Actress**





## A CLASS ACT

15<sup>th</sup> February at 3.30 pm  
(The Alhambra)

### **The Pledge** (15)

Dir: Sean Penn 2001 US  
2hrs 4 mins

**Jack Nicholson,  
Patricia Clarkson,  
Beau Daniels,  
Benicio Del Toro**



Sean Penn comes of age as a director in one of last year's best US films. Jerry Black (Nicholson) is a retired homicide detective who just can't let the job go. When the brutal murder of a child is reported, Black swears he'll bring the killer to justice. Nicholson's subtle performance — described by Christopher Tookey in the Daily Mail as his *King Lear* — has light and shade, humour and profundity, although the abundance of cameo appearances is a little distracting. Part psychological thriller, part parable, part tragedy, *The Pledge* is the work of a major player in US cinema.

*"Nicholson's intense performance makes Penn's latest such compulsive viewing. Near Perfection."* Total Film

**Nominated for Palme d'Or, Cannes 2001**

15<sup>th</sup> February at 8.30 pm  
(The Alhambra)

### **Apocalypse Now Redux** (15)

Dir: Francis Ford Coppola  
2001 US 3hrs 22mins

**Martin Sheen, Marlon  
Brando, Robert Duval**



By adding 50 minutes to his masterly 1979 Vietnam War movie (already of epic proportions), Coppola has surprisingly offered us a film that doesn't appear much longer than before. The story, inspired by Conrad's *Heart of Darkness*, charts Capt Willard's (Sheen) trip up river from Saigon into darkest Cambodia looking for Col Kurtz (Brando), a brilliant but quite mad soldier with extreme methods. If you're new to the film, or have only seen it on the small screen, you are in for a treat. With souped-up sound and rejuvenated colours, this masterpiece displays an ambition sadly lacking in today's Hollywood.

*"One of the most powerful and deeply immersive cinematic experiences you'll ever have."* Total Film

**Best Cinematography, Best Sound, 6 nominations,  
Academy Awards 1980  
Palme d'Or and FIPRESCI Award,  
Cannes 1979**

## A CLASS ACT

16<sup>th</sup> February at 10.30 am  
(The Alhambra)

### **Days of Heaven** (12)

Dir: Terrence Malick 1978 USA 1hr  
38mins

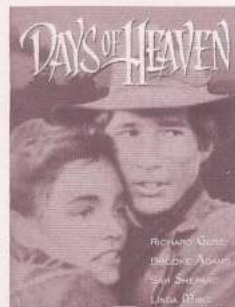
**Richard Gere, Brooke Adams, Sam  
Shepard, Linda Manz**

Set in the days just before America entered World War One this is a story of a tragic love triangle. It is told through the eyes of someone looking back at events that shaped her life when she was a young girl.

The film is also a homage to nature. Frames are filled with sky, fields, dawn, sunset and it is quite simply one of the most beautifully shot films you will ever see. Add in the acting, the story line, the stunning score by Ennio Morricone and you have a genuine classic.

*"One of the great cinematic achievements of the 1970s."* Variety

**Winner, Best Director, Cannes 1979  
Winner, Best Cinematography, Academy  
Awards 1979**



16<sup>th</sup> February at 1.00 pm  
(The Alhambra)

### **Lone Star** (15)

Dir: John Sayles 1996 USA  
2hr 15mins

**Kris Kristofferson,  
Elizabeth Pena, Matthew  
McConaughey**



This is a superb murder mystery that unfolds piece by piece until its dramatic conclusion. It has many of the recurring themes John Sayles seems to love – corruption, the past haunting the present, fathers and sons and racism most prominent among them.

It begins with the unearthing of a skeleton out in the desert. It appears to be have been there for some 40 years. Clues show who it once was and that death was not of the natural variety. The past now has to be investigated and what is discovered are secrets that have to be confronted. Brilliant.

*"And then there is so much more – Lone Star is a great American movie."* Roger Ebert

**Nominated for Best Screenplay,  
Academy Awards 1997**

# Festival Diary: 14—16 February 2003

For tickets, etc., see back page.

	Alhambra Cinema	Theatre by the Lake
Friday 14th <b>6.00 pm</b>		Festival Opening
Friday 14th <b>6.15 pm</b>		Nic Roeg: Performance (18)
Friday 14th <b>8.30 pm</b>	A Class Act: The Piano (15)	
Saturday 15th <b>9.30 am</b>		Nic Roeg: Free Talk: Grand Illusions
Saturday 15th <b>10.45 am</b>	Best of the Fests: 8 Women (15)	
Saturday 15th <b>1.15 pm</b>	Box o' Shorts: Short Film Programme	Nic Roeg: Insignificance (15)
Saturday 15th <b>3.30 pm</b>	A Class Act: The Pledge (15)	
Saturday 15th <b>6.00 pm</b>		Best of the Fests: Talk to Her (15)
Saturday 15th <b>8.30 pm</b>	A Class Act: Apocalypse Now Redux (15)	Nic Roeg: Eureka (18)
Sunday 16th <b>10.30 am</b>	A Class Act: Days of Heaven (A)	Nic Roeg: Walkabout (12)
Sunday 16th <b>1.00 pm</b>	A Class Act: Lone Star (15)	Best of the Fests: Heaven (15)
Sunday 16th <b>3.45 pm</b>	Best of the Fests: Secret Ballot (U)	Nic Roeg: The Man Who Fell to Earth (18)
Sunday 16th <b>7.00 pm</b>		Nic Roeg: The Nic Roeg Interview
Sunday 16th <b>8.30 pm</b>	Best of the Fests: Nine Queens (15)	Nic Roeg: Don't Look Now (15)