

Keswick Film Spring 2012



Keswick Film
at the
Lonsdale Alhambra
St John's Street
Keswick



www.keswickfilmclub.org

Keswick Film Club began life in 1998 with the intention of bringing the best of World Cinema to Keswick. Since then it has won many awards from the British Federation of Film Societies including Best Programme four times, and Best Website. In 2006 we were Film Society of the Year. Audiences are made up of the Club's 280+ members, and our very welcome visitors.

LOCATION

The Alhambra Cinema, St. John's Street, Keswick, North Lake District. Leave the Market Square at the south end (The Inn Hotel) and keep going uphill for 200 metres.

TIME

KFC has two 'seasons', each with its own brochure, available in and around Keswick (e.g. T.I.C., Library, Booths) or posted to members. Most films are Sundays at 5pm, but check in this brochure. September to December - the 'Autumn Season'. January to April - the 'Spring Season'.

SCREENINGS

Screenings begin with a short introduction, and a short film if time allows. Film notes are projected prior to screenings or on the club website, and we have a feedback system - give the film a star rating out of five.

Spring Programme 2012

The Lonsdale Alhambra Cinema, Keswick

TICKETS

You do not need to be a member to see the films, but it will save you money if you attend more than 5 films, including all Film Festival films, over the course of the year.

Tickets: £4.50 for non members; £3.50 for members; £2.50 for students, under 16s and benefit claimants.

Membership: £7 per year. Reduction of £1 on all Club and Film Festival screenings, £1 off Alhambra's own screenings on Wednesday (or Sunday in the summer).

Join at The Alhambra Cinema, The Necessary Angel (Packhorse Court), the Chair's flat - top flat, 36 Station Street, Keswick, or at any club screening.

Membership form available from our website.

Season Pass: £26 (Spring season 2012)

Membership also entitles attendance of Caldbeck Area Film Society at members' rates and vice versa. **Non-members are very welcome.**

COMMITTEE

Chair: Vaughan Ames (017687 80969), info@keswickfilmclub.org

Vice Chair: Deb Cowin Secretary: Ian Payne

Treasurer: Tom Rennie Membership Secretary: Elspeth Payne

Committee Members: Stephen Brown, Angela Jackson, Anita Leaker, Ann Martin (Festival Co-ordinator), David Miller, Alan Naylor, Mike Rose-Troup.

*Keswick Film Club is a voluntarily-run, not-for-profit organisation
Registered Charity No. 1083395*

Sunday 8th January at 5pm

THE WELL DIGGER'S DAUGHTER (La fille du puisatier)

Director: Daniel Auteuil. France 2011 (PG)
109 mins. In French with English subtitles

Daniel Auteuil rose to fame acting in 'Jean de Florette', and 'Manon des Sources', both adaptations of Marcel Pagnol novels. Auteuil is now paying homage to Pagnol by starting his directorial career with FOUR films by the same author; our first film of the season is the first of these to be completed.

A tale of love and class in 1940's Provence, Auteuil himself plays the well digger, Pascal. He discovers his beautiful and favourite daughter, Patricia (newcomer Astrid Bergès-Frisbey), has become pregnant. The father-to-be flies off to war and his parents, local bourgeoisie, decide Patricia is on the make. Torn between love and shame, to avoid scandal, Pascal banishes his daughter to give birth at her aunt's house, and it is left to his simple-minded assistant to try to bring about a change of heart.

'Imbued with the bucolic charm and the conspicuous lack of villains that is typical of Pagnol's work, with its flawed but honest, deeply human characters' - Boyd Van Hoeij, Variety



Sunday 15th January at 5pm

THE SWIMMING POOL

(La Piscine)

Director: Jaques Deray. France 1969 (12A)

123 mins. In French with English subtitles.

Our 'Re-release' spot this season takes us back to the sultry 60's when being cool meant being French, smoking Galouises, owning villas in St Tropez... and hanging round your private swimming pool.

In our pool we see handsome Jean-Paul (Alain Delon) worried about losing his beautiful wife, Marianne (Romy Schneider) to an ex-boyfriend, Harry (Maurice Ronet) who has turned up unexpectedly. To add to the melange, Harry has brought along his 18 year-old daughter (Jane Birkin). What starts out as simple sexual jealousy and longing, gradually turns to something much more...

The result is a film where *'The tension, both sexual and dramatic, constantly crackles and the casting is practically perfect'* - Scott Jordan Harris, Film 4.

'Jacques Deray's languid thriller from 1969 is a tour de force of sexual longing and controlled suspense' - Peter Bradshaw, Guardian



Sunday 22nd January at 5pm

THE RED MACHINE

Director: Stephanie Argy, Alec Boehm. USA 2009
(Not Rated) 84 mins.

We are back in Washington. It's 1935 and we are firmly (and proudly) in 'B Movie' country. The US needs to get the secrets of the Japanese cipher machine without being found out - they are still allies. Coburn is the tight-lipped disgraced US spy, with a past that no-one understands and no sense of humour - imagine Bond without the smile - charged with the task. 'If the Japanese catch us, they have every right to ship us back to Tokyo and have us executed'. Eddie is a master safecracker, after the perfect robbery, who is released from jail to help.. Or go back to jail. 'We made a plan, it's a good plan, and we're sticking to the plan. You got a problem with that, then throw me back in the jug and get yourself another villain, 'cos I'm out'. Can the two outwit the Japanese and their mutual dislike?

A tightly shot heist movie where the actions speak louder than the words...and silence is their best bet of winning the day...or is it a spoof? It made me laugh and I loved it, but it works either way.

For additional information, contact:
info@redmachinetheatres.com

WINNER Best Independent Feature SEDONA
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WINNER Best Screenplay on Film SEDONA
WINNER Best Actor David Tuckey-Copple SEDONA
WINNER Best Supporting Actor & Feature Filmmaking SEDONA
WINNER Director's Choice Best Feature SEDONA
WINNER Best Director SEDONA

OPENING IN THEATERS
NATIONWIDE
JANUARY 20, 2012
Details coming soon!!!

RESTRICTED

EDUC TRANSMISSION
ALL MESSAGE TRANSMITTED BY WAY 1935
SUBJECT: THE MACHINE
SIR,
YOUR MESSAGE REGARDING JAPANESE CODE MACHINE RECEIVED AND SENSITIVE. SITUATION EXTREMELY DELICATE, HANDLE WITH GREATEST CARE.
JAPANESE CODE MACHINE OFFERS CURRENTLY UNBREAKABLE USING STANDARD METHODOLOGY. WE THEREFORE APPROVE YOUR PLAN TO OBTAIN SECURED MACHINE AT RESIDENCE OF JAPANESE NAVAL ATTACHE, WASHINGTON DC.
WE ALSO APPROVE URGENT URGENTLY REQUEST TO ENLIST AID OF CERTAIN PERSONNEL, SPECIFICALLY EDWARD DOYLE, PROFESSIONAL THIEF TO ASSIST IN NECESSARY WORKING WITH CRIMINAL THAT YOU OBTAIN DOYLE'S FULL AND UNRESTRICTED CO-OPERATION VIA ANY MEANS NECESSARY.
WE FURTHER UNDERSTAND AND APPROVE WITH CERTAIN RESERVATION YOUR INTENTION TO ASSIGN LT. F. ELLIS COBURN AS NAVAL OPERATIVE ON MISSION. CALL LEGAL TO YOU FINAL EVALUATION OF HIS CURRENT CAPABILITIES IN THIS REGARD. INSURE THAT YOU ARE AWARE OF CERTAIN SENSITIVITIES TO BEHAVIOR OF LT. COBURN DURING POSTING TO JAPAN IN 1935.
THIS MISSION MUST BE CONSIDERED TOP PRIORITY. WE MUST OBTAIN FUNCTIONING WORKING KNOWLEDGE OF JAPANESE CODE MACHINE. OR WILL CONTINUE TO OPERATE AT A GREAT DISADVANTAGE.
AUTHORIZATION TO COMMENCE MISSION IMMEDIATELY PERIOD GRANTED.
END 0800H 0012H
DESTROY ALL COPIES

TRANSMITTED BY.....

OUR FACEBOOK PAGE

Sunday 29th January at 5pm

POETRY (Shi)

Director: Lee Chang-Dong. S Korea 2010 (12A) 139 mins. Korean with English Subtitles

Much of the poetry has gone out of Mija's life; she lives in the sticks, getting by on a nurse's wage, looking after a man who has had a stroke and her teenage grandson whose mother has moved to the big city. To make matters worse, she discovers she has early Alzheimer's disease. Finding words failing her, she decides to enrol in a poetry course. Like most new poets, she realises that poetry does not just happen and starts to wander around the countryside looking for inspiration.

This in itself might have made a good start to a movie, but director Lee Chang-Dong adds another element to her already complicated life that brings real tragedy close to her door...

Coming out to rave reviews from all critics, this looks to bepoetry in motion! *'She is making sense of her life: that is the "poetry" which is taking place, minute by minute, scene by scene'* - Peter Bradshaw, Guardian.

'What a wonderful film is Lee Chang-Dong's Poetry' - Sukhdev Sandhu, Telegraph

'In the way of good cinema, the full experience is entirely unsentimental and poetic' - Derek Malcolm, Standard



Sunday 5th February at 5pm

SURVIVING LIFE (THEORY AND PRACTICE)

(Prezit svuj zivot (teorie a praxe))

Director: Jan Švankmajer. Czech 2010 (15) 109 mins.

This Czech comedy is introduced by the critically acclaimed animation film director himself to explain that the use of a mix of cut out animation from photographs and live-action segments, is because he couldn't raise enough money for a 'real' film.

It tells the story of a seemingly happily married man who starts to have very vivid dreams featuring a beautiful woman dressed in red. Instead of trying to get rid of these dreams, he wants to experience more of them, so he enlists the help of a psychoanalyst to try and explain what's happening. Their efforts are successful but he risks becoming addicted to his dreams and the alternate life he lives within them...

We get the chance to see both Freud and Jung attend a real psychoanalysis session, where they can observe what became of the science they invented and their reactions to their work being ridiculed.

The film's complex narrative and unconventional imagery may not be everyone's cup of tea but '*Švankmajer is a grand master not just of innovative animation techniques but of life itself..... at the height of his filmmaking powers as director, artistic director and storyteller.*' - Deborah Young, The Hollywood Reporter



Sunday 12th February at 5pm

THE POPE'S TOILET

(El Bano del Papa)

Director: Cesar Charlone, Enrique Fernandez
Uruguay 2007 (15) 98 mins.

Possibly a new theme for Keswick—'the One that Got Away'. We found this one by chance; maybe there are others out there? This was Uruguay's submission for Oscar consideration in 2008. Based on an actual 1988 visit to Uruguay by Pope John Paul, this bitter but affable social comedy imagines the impact of a papal visit upon one small village. The film's protagonist is Beto, an all too human (and occasionally despicable) father and husband who supports his family by smuggling sundries across the Brazilian border on his broken down bicycle. While his neighbours hatch plans to sell gastric sustenance to the anticipated holy hordes, Beto hopes to profit by building an outhouse for the Pope. Will they be rewarded for pinning their economic hopes upon God's representative on earth? The answer becomes the piquant point of the story. This is a first film for co-director Charlone, who is best known for his work as cinematographer on such films as 'City of God' and 'Stranded: I've Come From a Plane That Crashed on the Mountains'.



Sunday 19th February at 5pm

POST MORTEM

Director: Pablo Larrain. Chile 2010 (15) 98 mins.

In the early 1970's, Allende's Chile was seen round the world as the great hope for social change. This film is set appropriately in 1973, examining the moment when Allende was killed and that dream became a nightmare in the hands of the Chilean army and the CIA.

The main character, Mario (Alfredo Castro), is a coroner's assistant who becomes fixated on the fading music-hall artiste, Nancy, next door – a woman with leftwing connections – just at the point when he's forced by the army to join a special unit processing the victims of military massacres.

Larrain likes to show the life of ordinary people against the backdrop of big events. His last film- *Tony Manero* - had the same lead playing a cabaret artist in Pinochet's 1978. Here, Mario is more interested in his budding affair with Nancy than the politics around him, until those politics invade his world.

'Building to a horrifying Vanishing-style conclusion, Larrain lays bare a society poisoned by violence.' - Tom Dawson, Total Film

The 13th Keswick Film Festival

Dates for your Diary: 23rd – 26th February 2012

Plans are well under way for the 13th Film Festival. We have chosen a number of strands for next February and one is '**Sounding Good**'. There seem to be a lot of interesting films featuring music (not musicals) so we are going back to this as one of our themes. Two of the others are '**Looking Good**' and '**Feeling Good?**' Plus we have a whole day at Rheged this year.

We had decided to show an epic film and **Wagner** was suggested. Imagine our delight when Tony Palmer said we could screen it – and he likes to come to the screenings. His 7 hour 45 minutes film on Wagner, starring **Richard Burton**, **Laurence Olivier** and **Vanessa Redgrave**, was described by the Los Angeles Times as "one of the most beautiful films ever made" and "A masterpiece" (The Sunday Times). Come and hear Tony talk about his film ...

The Festival will start with the Party at the Theatre by the Lake for pass-holders and invited guests, followed by the opening film.

Pick up a Festival Brochure for full details

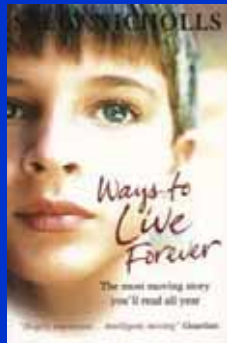
THEATRE BY THE LAKE - TICKETS & INFORMATION - open 9.30am to 8pm daily

017687 74411 or buy online from the Theatre website via

www.keswickfilmfestival.org

Visit our website for all the latest Festival news as it happens

Here are just ten of the fine films already selected for the 13th Keswick Film Festival



Sunday 4th March at 5pm
SHORTS NIGHT

We have always had a policy of supporting up and coming directors in Keswick. After the success of the Osprey Awards at the Festival, we decided we should try out an evening of shorts in the club. We plan to start with some of the winners from the Osprey Awards and, maybe, a couple of 'long shorts' - around 30 minutes. If you have any ideas or films, let us know! Watch this space...



Sunday 11th March at 5pm

SHAME

Director: Steve McQueen. UK 2011 (18) 101 mins.

For those who saw McQueen's first movie, *Hunger*, his second could not come quick enough. *Hunger* took us to the world of the IRA and hunger strikes, giving the story from both sides, but avoiding any judgement. His second film, *Shame*, takes the same approach to a very different topic; sexual addiction.

Brandon (Michael Fassbender again) is shown against a cold, glass and metal New York backdrop, where his high paid corporate lifestyle mirrors his cold (lack of love) life. He is not content picking up women on the subway, but needs call-girls and porn to keep him going. His carefully controlled life is thrown into disarray when his equally messed up sister arrives. Sissy (Carey Milligan) is a club singer with problems of her own. The question that McQueen raises - 'is the Shame of the title the cause or the reason for their life choices?' - I leave you to decide.

'Shame is therefore artistic film making in the best tradition; a carefully crafted curiosity that gives a grateful audience the opportunity to get involved, rather than merely observe. Fassbender and Mulligan are mesmerising. What more do you want?' - Ed Whitfield, London



Sunday 18th March at 5pm

ALBATROSS

Director: Niall MacCormick UK 2011 (15) 90 mins.

Time for a lighter interlude after last week. *Albatross* gives us the chance to enjoy some great acting in this comedy drama.

Into the lives of Jonathan, a failing author (played by Sebastian Koch - *Lives of Others*) and his wife Joa (Julia Ormond) comes Emelia Conan Doyle (Jessica Brown Findlay, late of *Downton Abbey*). Emelia's devil-may-care attitude to life bewitches their daughter, Beth (Felicity Jones who we saw in *The Tempest* last year), angers Joa and stirs Jonathan, who sets out to teach her to write (with a name like Conan Doyle, you would want to write wouldn't you..?). The evolving relationships between the four give us the main plot for the film, but Emelia steals the film, both with the universally acclaimed acting of Brown Findlay and some great lines.

'Albatross is a hugely enjoyable coming-of-age drama that's worth seeing for a star-making turn from Jessica Brown Findlay' - Matthew Turner, ViewLondon



Sunday 25th March at 5pm

MOTHER AND CHILD

Director: Rodrigo Garcia. USA 2009

(Not rated) 125 mins.

Perhaps because adoption juxtaposes feelings of love and loss, writer-director Rodrigo García centres his bittersweet, superbly crafted *Mother and Child* on three women affected by adoption.

Almost forty years ago, a young girl of fourteen gets pregnant, and gives her baby up for adoption. Fast-forwarding to the present, we meet three very different women, struggling to maintain control of their lives. There's Elizabeth, (Naomi Watts) a smart and successful lawyer who uses her body to her advantage. Karen, (Annette Bening) meanwhile, is a bitter health care professional who obviously has a lot of heart but never shows it. She gave up a daughter at the age of fourteen and has never got over it - her bitterness inspiring her to lash out at everyone around her. Finally, Lucy (Kerry Washington) is a woman who has failed to conceive with her husband, who turns to adoption to make the family she desires.

This mixture of loss and joy forces you to examine the "what ifs" of the characters' lives. García shows remarkable control of the tone, holding it across three different stories and through the characters' individual transformations that lead them to ostensibly happier places. *'This is the kind of movie that leaves you a little shell-shocked, still absorbing the emotional impact of the story after you've left the theatre.'* - Sarah Sluis, Film Journal International



Sunday 1st April at 5pm

CORIOLANUS

Director: Ralph Fiennes. UK 2010 (15) 123 mins.

Ralph Fiennes has chosen Shakespeare as his directorial debut and most critics seem to think he has done a good job of it. He has chosen to reset the film in a modern day Balkan state (filmed in Serbia) racked by civil war, complete with street fighting and demonstrations. This has allowed him to transpose Coriolanus' inability to woo the people of Rome into a modern power struggle we have all become used to seeing over the last decades. Cinematographer Barry Ackroyd (fresh from *The Hurt Locker*) gets great reviews for these modern combat scenes and, looking at the trailers we can see why; but most plaudits are reserved for the acting. Fiennes himself plays Coriolanus, with Gerard Butler playing his enemy-turned-ally Aufidius, whilst Vanessa Redgrave is universally applauded as Volumnia, his mother. We also get another chance to see Jessica Chastain (*Tree of Life*) as his wife Virgilia.

So our last film of the year is Fiennes' first as a director. We don't get enough Shakespeare locally; let us hope his film and the stellar actors help make up for that.



January

- Sunday 8th 5pm **THE WELL DIGGER'S DAUGHTER**
France, (PG) Daniel Auteuil directs this Provençal family drama
- Sunday 15th 5pm **THE SWIMMING POOL**
France, (12A) Alain Delon and Romy Schneider star in 1960's re-release
- Sunday 22nd 5pm **THE RED MACHINE**
US, (unrated) Is this a spoof 1930's B Movie or an intense thriller? You decide
- Sunday 29th 5pm **POETRY**
S Korea, (12A) Alzheimer's sufferer rediscovers poetry in the tragedies of life

February

- Sunday 5th 5pm **SURVIVING LIFE (THEORY AND PRACTICE)**
Czech, (unrated) Are dreams better than real life?
- Sunday 12th 5pm **THE POPE'S TOILET**
Uruguay, (15) How to escape poverty? Build an outhouse for the Pope's visit!
- Sunday 19th 5pm **POST MORTEM**
Chile, (15) Allende's Chile comes to an end as seen by the Coroner's assistant

Thursday 23rd - Sunday 26th 13th KESWICK FILM FESTIVAL

March

- Sunday 4th 5pm **SHORTS NIGHT**
A celebration of the art of short films
- Sunday 11th 5pm **SHAME**
UK, (18) The shame of a sex addict, directed by Steve McQueen
- Sunday 18th 5pm **ALBATROSS**
UK, (15) A failing author teaches a would-be author about writing and life
- Sunday 25th 5pm **MOTHER AND CHILD**
US, (unrated) The story of 3 women's attempts to control their own lives

April

- Sunday 1st 5pm **CORIOLANUS**
UK, (15) Ralph Fiennes directs modern day Shakespeare