



# Talking Pictures

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f keswickfilmclub

@keswickfilm

www.keswickfilmclub.org

## AUTUMN PROGRAMME 2019

Welcome to our **twenty-first** film club year!

We start at **4.15pm** on **Sunday 8th September** with our usual **start of season drink**.

Please **renew your subscription** by returning the enclosed slip - **£10** gets you a whole **£1.50** off every film you see this season, And **£1** off festival films.

**Paying online.** Send our BACS details to your bank, but you do need to **tell us too!** Either return the form or send us an email at [membership@keswickfilmclub.org](mailto:membership@keswickfilmclub.org) or we won't know you exist.

And, if you are renewing your membership, have you thought of buying an autumn pass? you can see **all 15 films this autumn for only £50. Another great benefit for members only!**

After last season's members' ballot to choose some films seemed to be popular, we tried the same again this season; seven films you voted for are in the programme, plus two more that will be shown at the Alhambra. Thanks to all of you who voted. The remaining films come from Lebanon, China, France, Iran, Sweden, Mexico and India; maybe even bigger news is that there are **NONE** from USA! We start with *'Capernaum'*, an amazing award-winner about a young boy in Beirut



fighting for his rights. Then we have *'Ash is Purest White'*, an epic from China; both of these were released earlier in the year but too late for the Spring Season. *'Varda by Agnes'* is a rare thing here - a documentary. This should be a gem for all you Agnes Varda fans. We've slid in a philosophical-sc-fi, Swedish movie that intrigued us - *'Aniara'*; what to do if the world ends?

Two films about women struggling against the odds - *'The Chambermaid'* (Mexican) and *'Permission'* from Iran take us to two unusual countries even for Keswick and we wrap up the season with Francois Ozon's look at the corruption in the Catholic Church (*'By the Grace of God'*) and Ritesh Batra's latest lightweight look at love in India (*'Photograph'*).



### An interview with... Paul Titley, KFC Treasurer



*Paul came along at a good time for the club; his business sense has definitely helped the club*

*break even. So, Paul, lets go back. What is your earliest recollection of cinema?*

I lived in Folkestone in Kent. I was probably 7 years old. My mum decided to treat me to a film. We went to The Playhouse, but the film was in colour and Mum wouldn't pay the inflated prices. So, we walked along to another cinema showing *'Sink the Bismarck'*. That was my first big screen movie (in black and white!).

*Did you stick with war films after that?*

No, the films I recall are almost all those with terrific film scores. *'Dr Zhivago'*, *'Zulu'*, *'McKenna's*

*Gold'*, *'Gladiator'*, *'Interstellar'* and of course the *'Star Wars'* opening. (You may not realise that the chanting of the Germanic hoards in the opening battle scenes of *'Gladiator'* are a direct lift from the Zulu singing in *'Zulu'*.)

*All very different to the Film Club choices..?*

That is completely correct and that is the reason I joined the club. I really enjoy what I call a Saturday Night Movie, but I also like to see real drama, different perspectives and other political points of view. I can see mainstream movies anywhere (last year I saw 70 films approx. - adding club screenings to all the others.) Even if the data on IMDB or the trailer seems a little 'off' I come for a thought provoking 2 hours. The Alhambra is a gem that we should treasure as it provides such a breadth of cinema on our doorstep (or at least my doorstep!)

*You can usually be found in the front row of the stalls, why?*

On one of the early dates with my girlfriend (now wife) we queued at the ABC Bexleyheath to see *'The*

*Towering Inferno'*. We got the last two tickets and they were the middle two seats in the front row stalls. That started a trend. In fact, cinema has other landmarks for us. Our first date was to see *'The Exorcist'* that had just opened in the West End - we were given leaflets on what to do if we were psychologically damaged by the experience. It scared the living daylights out of me, but I am not damaged. Honest.

*How do you see the Film Club developing in the future?*

I think the future is very promising. The breadth of channels on TV has increased immensely but its 'more of the same'. The boxset popularity shows that audiences want to see the beginning, middle and end quickly. Add all this to the growth of foreign dramas that thrive despite subtitles proving that subtitles are not a barrier to enjoyment. Therefore, to have a source of something different, in a terrific cinema, with comfortable seats, inexpensive tickets, and no adverts must be a winner.

## Beautifying our lovely Cinema!

By Vaughan Ames

*First let me thank you on behalf of the film club for making the Alhambra look so good. Just what has been done?*

We've repaired the ceiling and repainted the auditorium in the original Edwardian green found on the back screen wall. Sophie Murray of Southey Interiors was so taken with the project that she researched local archives and newspapers to find out more about the building's architect and design and colour scheme, digging up more history to complement Ian Payne's wonderful history of the Alhambra. They then sourced the heritage colour paint and advised on the new colour scheme: Farrow and Ball Caulke Green, Apple Green, Brinjal and Original Cream. The management will be much happier to let the Film Club have the lights up now when we meet in the cinema!

*And what is still going on?*

**With your generous help towards funding, the Rennie family are continuing to keep the Alhambra looking even better... Carol Rennie gave us this breakdown.**

Thanks to the generosity of the response to the crowdfunding campaign, which raised a grand total of £16,000, we were able to task Tommy Collins with the work of stripping the many layers of paint off the decorative tin paneling and cast-iron radiators, and engage Jason Newman to fit new lighting to highlight the restored features in the auditorium. That very painstaking work is still ongoing, with an estimate of early September completion.

*Excellent; by the time our season begins we may see the auditorium in its full glory again! And you told me about the panels on*

*the balcony..?*

Yes, these are ready for local school and community groups to decorate as part of a community art project that will take place over the next year. The Film Club has reserved a panel.

*Yes: we will be calling for members to participate in a 2-hour workshop with Active Art, which will provide an introduction to Edwardian cinema and tin panel decoration, and involve the production of a panel of pressed tin work of our own to adorn the balcony frontage. Get your idea hats on!*

*Thank you again, Carol.*

### Film Club AGM - Vaughan Ames, Chair

This year's AGM will be held at **4.00pm on Sunday 22nd September at the Alhambra**. We have circulated the agenda, last year's minutes and the financial report by email (please see me if you need a hard copy). If you are interested in being on the committee, let us know by **1st September**, so that we can circulate any names before the AGM. Please email us or send any nominations to the Secretary at Vicargate, Hesket Newmarket, CA7 8HT.

### KFC Spring 2019

Colette	85.77%
The Guardians	84.50%
The Hate U Give	81.85%
1945	81.03%
Return of the Hero	77.74%
Widows	73.99%
If Beale St Could Talk	73.03%
Anchor and Hope	71.79%
Columbus	68.81%
Burning	65.19%
The Wild Pear Tree	58.80%
Waru	47.40%

Average audience size: 111

### Weekly Club Email

Hopefully you are now getting the details of the current week's film and any upcoming events through our 'Mailchimp' emails. If it has stopped arriving, please check your 'junk' folder first or contact us via email at [info@keswickfilmclub.org](mailto:info@keswickfilmclub.org). If you have not yet signed up, please go to [www.keswickfilmclub.org](http://www.keswickfilmclub.org) and follow the instructions there.

### Club Costs

After several years of money-worries, good news for once: we actually made a profit last year! The festival was over £600 up and the Club Sundays nearly £3800. This was very timely as our cash in hand had dropped by £9000 over 6 years (to under £13000), but is now a healthier £17000 (see the treasurer's report for the full details). The exact reasons for this are hard to decide but basically

there were more people coming along and we all paid that little bit more last year. The committee are trying hard to keep costs down but, with grants likely to be less this year, we need to keep pushing this season.

The committee will continue to check over all our expenses to see what we can save on. Hopefully this won't just mean fewer films...

We will also carry on asking you to sign up for 'gift aid'; this will be on the membership form again. We are hopeful we will get this authorised this year.

Lastly, we still want to try to attract bigger audiences! Obviously we don't want to do this by losing our high quality of films, so this mean getting the word out more on what we have to offer.

**WHAT YOU CAN DO.** As we said last season, there are over 200 members in the club; if everyone could bring one extra person, for even just one film, that would bring in £1300 this season. If only twenty of us could recruit someone to the club, that would be £200 up front plus all the tickets they would buy over the year. **Do you know anyone who might be interested?** Bring them along; they might just be the ones to keep the club going...for another twenty years!