

Talking Pictures

Fine film fare for this autumn

Alan the Designer



KFC Secretary Alan Smith decided to dispense with professionals and undertake the design of our new brochure himself. He might like to know what you think of it, but it looks pretty good to us.

Who looks after KFC?

Chairman and Membership Sec.:

Rod Evans

Tel. 017687 74475

Secretary: Alan Smith

Tel. 017687 75806

Treasurer: Tom Rennie

Tel. 017687 71270

Committee: Stephen Brown, Nick

Graham, Darren Horne, Alex

Greenwood, D David Miller,

David W Miller, Richard Stead.

Festival Director: Alex Greenwood

Festival Committee:

NG, DH, DWM, AS.

Film Selection Committee: DWM, AS, RE

Webmaster: Stephen Brown

Talking Pictures Editor: RE

There were something like 25 films that the selection committee thought good enough to include in our 14 Sunday slots this autumn, so at their meeting in July the usual swift agreement on the top half-dozen took place, followed by much more lengthy deliberations about what was worthy fare to put before you for the other nine evenings.

It's as well that most of you like subtitles! As so often happens, we looked at the completed list and found that the great majority of the best on offer were not made in the English language. How-ever, if you have a slogan boasting 'The Best in World Cinema', you don't go diluting the choice for fear of accusations of obscurantism. So it's straight into Eurospeak on the 18th September (although perhaps not too brutal a start, as so many of you seem to have at least a smattering of French) with *The Chorus* (*Les Choristes*). Not one to frighten the horses, but not entirely saccharine either. We hope that as many of you as

The usefulness of being able to contact a good number of our members was emphasised again in July when we were given the chance of moving our Sunday viewing slot to a later time. Consulting the online membership was the work of a few moments, and a very pleasing response of 70 opinions was forthcoming. Thank you again to all those who replied - but there are perhaps others out

possible will come along to get us off to a good start to the season for a free drink before the film (at 4.15) to renew or make acquaintance with other KFC members.

Our accompanying brochure will give you a good idea of what all the other

haven't hit the headlines - unless you're an avid reader of the critics in the more serious papers - which should hit the spot for you discerning viewers, dealing in themes of current concern from all around the world. (Oh, sorry, there's nothing from Australasia this time!)

And we should just mention the two divergences from our Sunday at 5pm slot: there's a real feeling at the younger end of the Club that *Kung Fu Hustle* is unmissable. See if you agree, and catch it at 10 pm on a Saturday in late October. They may be right...

And we are also screening a 'special' on United Nations World

Peace Day - Jeremy Gilley's *Peace One Day*. Jeremy has asked all the film societies in the country to do the same, and we are delight-ed to have the chance once again to screen this inspiring film. We want to encourage as many as possible to see it, so there's a special ticket price of £2 for this one - season pass-holders may donate to the cause if they wish!



The Chorus films are like (by the way, didn't Alan do a great job on its design - all his own work on the KFC laptop!) so there's no need to go into detail here. But as well as the films which you've probably heard of: *5 x 2* (retrieved from its loss at the Festival), *Kings and Queen*, *Downfall*, *Turtles Can Fly*, *Bullet Boy*... there are numerous gems which

KFC's emailing database

there who would now like to be added to the KFC 'loop'? More and more people are connecting to the internet, and if you don't already receive our messages, please contact info@keswickfilmclub.org so that we can keep you up to date with what is going on. Don't be afraid of your privacy being abused: naturally any data will not be passed on without your permission.

And the result of the consultation? Exactly half those replying said that they would prefer to keep to the 5 pm slot, the rest being more or less equally divided between every half-hour from 5.30 to 8pm. So the status quo rules...

We sympathised with those who said they would prefer later when it is light, earlier when it is dark, but unfortunately that is just not a workable option!

Great value for money!

As well as all the pretty pictures and fascinating text in your brochure, please don't lose sight of what KFC is offering.

Yet again there has been no increase in prices - subscription remains at only £5, tickets for individual films only £3 for you members, and, most of all, we're giving you the chance to buy an autumn pass at the giveaway price of only £27! Less than £2 per film - where else etc., etc...?

And cheaper tickets for Caldbeck AFS 's screenings, and reduced price entry to the Alhambra's own shows. Can you credit it?!

It would be very helpful if you could pay your subscription in advance of the first screening: more members = more paperwork = more congestion on the opening evening.

Do someone a favour!

We've included a spare copy of the autumn brochure for members to pass on the good news to a friend. If you really have no friends interested in films, please leave the spare one in a place where it might attract attention - TIC, library...? not the dustbin!

First show for 'KFC on the Road'

Portinscale Village Hall have asked us to do a film show for them in October. No details yet, but it looks like being a good test of our new, UKFC-funded equipment. If any of you would like to help, or indeed to be in the audience, please get in touch nearer the time.

New Committee Members

Since our last issue, we've been sorry to lose Katherine Anderson and Ella Leibowitz from the Committee (we're not really misogynist, honest! - Alex will testify), but we've gained three good men and true, in the shape of Nick Graham, Darren Horne and Richard Stead.

Richard came along to help with the Festival, which he must have found to his taste, as he joined the committee soon afterwards. He's a Leeds man living in Greystoke who has done



his time at the NFT and Pictureville, and been inspired to enjoy great cinema by the likes of Scorsese, Spike Lee, Woody Allen, Werner Herzog and - Laurel and Hardy. An enthusiast who has much enjoyed KFC's last two seasons and the 2005 Festival,

Website wizardry

The BFFS judges thought last March that KFC had the second-best film society website in the UK.

Stephen has been tweaking and creating lately, so if you haven't visited the site for a while, do have a look and see whether you think he has a chance of the top prize in next spring's Film Society of the Year Awards.

It's all there on www.keswickfilmclub.org of course, including details of how to contact Stephen.

Richard wants to do what he can to foster the appreciation of our kind of films.

Darren has recently become a Media, Film and Animation teacher at Cumbria Institute of the Arts, having previously done time as a pub manager before taking his degree. The film he made at that time, *A Bird's Eye View*, is still doing well at festivals. A film buff since his early childhood, Darren



harbours ambitions to become a professional critic, while pursuing the path of academic advancement in filmmaking or film journalism. He's keen to get things moving on the Seventh Keswick Film Festival, and you may well have read some of his reviews on our website and in the Keswick Reminder, or heard him discussing cinematic topics on Radio Cumbria

A sociable club?

We're well aware of our limitations, the Alhambra not being designed to host gatherings for food and drink, but if you have good ideas about what can be done, the Committee will be pleased to hear them. Any offers to organise a clubbable event would be gratefully received.

Meanwhile, do make the most of your opportunity to come along and meet other Club members over a free glass of wine at 4.15 pm on 18th September, before settling down to enjoy *The Chorus*.

twice recently.

If you heard Darren, you'll also have heard Nick Graham - our newest, if not our youngest recruit - forming the other half of a doughty duo who will be featuring monthly on local radio to keep the Cumbrian population abreast of what's worth seeing around the county.

Nick moved back to Cumbria a couple of years ago to write fiction, but having had experience of other film festivals, he was



interested in coming along to help with ours.

A fan of Jean-Luc Godard and Wim Wenders, Nick's input seems likely to be extremely helpful in the planning and delivery of next February's event: that is the 16th - 19th February if you want to put it in the diary.

BFFS Awards

It's not exactly 'hot off the press news' but there may still be a few readers who haven't heard that in March, since Issue 13 of Talking Pictures, KFC won the British Federation of Film Societies' Best Programme Award, for the 4th time in the last 5 years, and were runners-up in the Best Website category.