

Talking Pictures

What would you like to see this autumn?

The new season starts on Sunday 17th September!

Please renew your subscription - it's still only £5! - by returning the accompanying slip. Getting the job done before the opening evening is tremendously helpful: there's no need to fill in your contact details if they haven't changed.

Do think about the advantage of buying a season pass: you can see all 17 films this autumn for only £28!

Openers

We're getting the ball rolling on Sunday 17th September with a free drink for you all before the screening of *The Squid and the Whale*. This film was such a success with the audience at the Sundance Festival that we thought it a 'must' for KFC. It's compact (81 mins) so we'll find a good short to precede it. Please do join us for a drink at 4.15 to renew acquaintance with **Club members you may not have seen for a while.**

We're offering a line-up of films from around the world - just no South America this time though! - which should be of considerable appeal to those whose tastes range far and wide. The selection committee holds fast to the principle that we select the best films available, whatever their subject matter, wherever they come from, and this time there does seem to be a remarkable variety of fare on offer: history, religion, social and sexual conflict, outstanding comedy, an Australian 'western', ballet, terrorism, love, life and death - and so on... I'd think of using the word eclectic' if it wasn't so hackneyed.



Presley Chwenyagae as Tsotsi

We have, however, taken

The Club's website has details on all our activities — past and present. Visit: www.keswickfilmclub.org for a complete listing of the season's films, plus news, reviews (we'd like more of 'em!), film notes in advance of the screenings, info on all the films we've screened in

on board some members' desire to see a lightening of the mood from time to time, so there's a special treat for Christmas: the new prints of two of cinema's greatest comic classics should be a



Penelope Cruz in Volver

good way of inducing envy among your family and friends when you want a topic of conversation for that time when the telly's dragging on Christmas Day.

A new print too for that less-often seen classic *L'Armée des ombres*: it's only 37 years old, but a classic indeed, one of Melville's best. It's the only French film of the autumn, unusually, but you can also hear French language in *La Neuvaine (The Novena)*, the

Canadian feature which was the unanimous choice of David Miller's BFFS jury for Best Contemporary Film at the 2006 Commonwealth Film Festival. We're having to import this one from Canada, so it's unlikely that you'll be met with 'Oh, I've already seen that' when you mention it.

There are too many films to talk in detail about them all - you'll have heard about Ken Loach's *The Wind That Shakes the Barley*, Almodovar's *Volver* and Gavin Hood's *Tsotsi* already, but we're sure that you'll find the quality of the rest just as impressive, whether from Eastern Europe, the USA or Japan. What a fine collection to look forward to!

Marcel Nagy in Fateless



Let's use the website

the last 8 years, and the chance to vote on your favourite films.

Do use the new email facility to have your say on any particular film or matters in general. We're 'inter-active', and we'd love to hear from you.

For example, did you vote

for Best Film, spring 2006? You surely don't agree that *Howl's Moving Castle* should have won! Not too late...

And then you can throw this piece of paper away, and read it all in sparkling colour on: www.keswickfilmclub.org/talkingpictures/sept2006.pdf

Sub-title Heaven!

We're used to having foreign language films with sub-titles at the Keswick Film Club. In fact, I would say it's one of its hallmarks. Some people say they get tired juggling sub-titles and watching the action. But hey, it could be worse!

Have you ever gone to the cinema or watched films in another country? I lived in Poland for a year, teaching English. The cinema scene in Poland is pretty good; in Poland is pretty good; all films are sub-titled with the exception of kids' films (and even then you can find a screening in the original language). But I have a major pet-hate as to how "foreign" films are screened on Polish TV. And that's apart from wondering how on earth someone decided on the title translation at times ("Some like it hot", in Polish is "Half seriously, half jokingly" - huh?!)

What really bugs me with foreign language films on Polish TV is there are no sub-titles! You won't get tired reading sub-titles, oh no. But they're not dubbed either. There's a wonderful (cheap) creation called a

DOCS ROCK

A report in September's *Sight & Sound* begins: 'Back in April, when documentaries *Glastonbury* and *Ballets Russes* opened in the UK, few would have predicted that ...the world's most famous music festival would be beaten at the box office by a film about a defunct dance company.' But apparently 'niche subject matter' enjoys growing success in UK cinemas, particularly when television fails to deliver the goods, and 'the audience for *Ballets Russes* wanted to see

("lektor" and he (because I've not yet heard a female voice) drives me barmy! You can hear the original soundtrack in the background but the lektor reads all the lines. And I mean reads: he has nice clear diction, but there's no emotion and he reads ALL the parts! Now imagine you've got a hot scene and this guy is virtually talking to himself, deadpan. "Darling. Yes? Come here. Mmmm. I love you. I love you too..." It just kills the scene. It doesn't matter what language the film is; I want to hear the emotion, the intonation, the musicality of the language. So occasionally I lose a little bit in the sub-titles, but I'm hearing as well as seeing it, as the director intended.

Next time you feel you're struggling a bit with the sub-titles, imagine you've got one of the Club committee members sitting at the side with a microphone reading monotonously all the way through. There's no comparison. Enjoy!

Irena Grajewska

this film at their local arthouse'.

So let the Alhambra be your local arthouse, dear reader, and come to see *Ballets Russes* there on Sat 18th Nov.



BFFS Film Society of the Year Awards

It's not hot off the press, but we should record somewhere in this publication that Keswick Film Club became Film Society of the Year in March 2006.



Anthony Minghella presents the 'Film Society of the Year' trophy

To quote the BFFS: 'As well as winning their Distinctions for Website and Marketing, Keswick were commended for their highly successful Festival, their excellent programme of films, and the community work they had begun to undertake by screening films in village halls for the rural population. The Film Society of the Year Awards are vitally important in achieving recognition for the often unsung work of an army of dedicated film enthusiasts, all of whom work for their film societies entirely voluntarily to bring high-quality film to their local communities throughout the country.'

'KFC on the Road'

There's a busy time ahead for those of us who provide a service to outlying communities. Mungrisdale (twice!) and Portinscale have asked us back this autumn, and Brigham, having noticed an incautious reference in the local press to the BFFS being impressed with the 'KFC on the Road' initiative, would like us to screen



Mrs Henderson Presents on September 15th, and *The Constant Gardener* in November. At Mungrisdale, we're screening *Out of Africa* on 29th September. If any of you would like to help with transporting the equipment and setting up for DVD projection, please let us know. Or if you've missed any of these films, we can give you info about attending the village hall screenings.



Meryl Streep and Robert Redford in Out of Africa