



— 23rd-26th feb 2012 —

# KESWICK

*film festival*

FESTIVAL PROGRAMME  
THE 13TH KESWICK FILM FESTIVAL

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## WELCOME

THE 13TH KESWICK FILM FESTIVAL  
23–26 FEBRUARY 2012

To those of you who live here and support the film club throughout the year, to the many who come back to the festival year after year, and to those for whom this is a first time – welcome to the 13th Keswick Film Festival.

We hope that as well as providing great pleasure, these films bring to Keswick a wide range of issues, images, perspectives and ideas that perhaps otherwise might not reach our little corner of the Lake District.

When we were approached by the Keswick Peace and Human Rights Group (KPHRG) who asked us if we could include films and talks on topics of their choice I was delighted. The films they have sponsored are being screened along with speakers at 9.30 on both Saturday and Sunday morning.

In the main programme we have films from Turkey, Israel, China, South Korea, France, Japan, Nepal, Spain, Iceland, Denmark,

Iran, Canada and the US as well as the UK and this year we have a lot of pre-releases and UK premieres.

We also welcome so many fantastic guests this year, John Hurt who needs no introduction as one of our greatest actors, Alex Etel, a youthful yet highly experienced actor and rising star, Tony Britten and Tony Palmer are here to introduce their films in our 'Sounding Good' theme along with the Lancaster Millennium Choir, back from their great rendition of *Frankenstein* last year to give us a new look (and listen) on some more old films. Jan Faull returns with archive material from the BFI and the KPHRG guests.

Once again I would like to thank all our sponsors, particularly the local businesses. We hope there is something for everyone to discover and enjoy this weekend.

*Ann Martin,*  
*Festival Director*



# 2012 THEMES

LOOKING GOOD / FEELING VERY GOOD  
FEELING GOOD? / SOUNDING GOOD / DOING GOOD  
A HOMAGE TO JOHN HURT

WAYS TO LIVE FOREVER  
SAT 11:00, THE ALHAMBRA

## LOOKING GOOD

THE VERY BEST FILMS FROM FILM FESTIVALS  
AROUND THE GLOBE

Our 'Best of the Fests' theme is always at the heart of KFC and KFF programming. This year we are screening a classic mix of pre-releases, UK premieres and award winners showcasing quality independent film-making from around the world. We have contemporary dramas from Iran, the UK and Japan, documentaries from Iceland, the Himalayas and Antarctica, a glimpse of rural poverty in China, a high octane adult thriller from Korea and a film for all the family set in Jerusalem.

## FEELING VERY GOOD

ADDING A LITTLE HUMOUR TO THE MIX

The KFF programme has, over the years, tried to bring you the best in independent and contemporary film making. Challenging? Often. Inspiring? Frequently. Interesting? Always. Uplifting? Maybe not every time!

The Feeling Very Good strand weaves a thread of levity to the programme this year, with films from France, Turkey, Spain and the US. We have linguistic misunderstandings in *Welcome to the Sticks*, legal misunderstandings in *Pardon*, some Spanish psychology in *Mia Sarah* and its always good to laugh at the beautiful people in LA as we do with *No Pain No Gain*. As they say in LA... enjoy!

## FEELING GOOD?

TACKLING ILLNESS AND MISFORTUNE

Is it possible to make a film about life threatening or life changing (like Alzheimer's) illness without it being mawkish or intrusive into people's privacy? We think we have found some that challenge and bring into the open situations that deserve greater dignity.

## SOUNDING GOOD

WHERE MUSIC AND CINEMA MEET

Films and music go together in Keswick like fells and lakes and a highlight of the festival this year is the screening of two historic documentary masterpieces by Tony Palmer; his epic biography of Richard Wagner and the long lost story of Leonard Cohen's 1972 world tour. We are delighted to welcome Tony as our guest in Keswick to talk about his long career and introduce his films. There is also a welcome return by the Lancaster Millennium Choir (remember their *Frankenstein Sings* last year?!). Also sounding good in Keswick this year are Alma Cogan, the inspiration for the nostalgic opening gala film by Tony Britten and Dolly Parton who features in a coming-of-age debut from Canadian director Tara Jones.

## DOING GOOD

FILMS IN ASSOCIATION WITH THE KESWICK PEACE AND HUMAN RIGHTS GROUP

This year we were approached by the Keswick Peace and Human Rights Group who wanted to have a 'fringe' where we included films about two of their current concerns, asylum children in detention and the Kurdish situation. These are being screened at 9.30 on Saturday and Sunday at the Theatre with speakers. Also in the programme, we have a UK premiere from China about child exploitation.

## A HOMAGE TO JOHN HURT

A SELECTION OF FILMS FEATURING ONE OF THE UK'S GREAT ACTORS

John Hurt is one of our most recognisable actors. From starring in the 1966 film *A Man for all Seasons*, being nominated for his first BAFTA in 1972, becoming famous on the stage, the radio, in film and TV, and to being listed in 11 releases last year including *Merlin*, *Tinker, Tailor, Soldier, Spy* and *Melancholia*, he is known by adults and children alike. We are showing six of his works.



KINDLY PROVIDED BY MARTIN ROWSON - SEE PAGE 19: 'THE KIDS BRITAIN DOESN'T WANT'



## JOHN HURT

IN CONVERSATION, SUN 15:00, THEATRE BY THE LAKE + INTRODUCING A NUMBER OF HIS FILMS

We are delighted that John and his film-producer wife, Anwen Rees-Myers will be joining us. We are showing a number of his films including *The Naked Civil Servant* the Thames Television film about Quentin Crisp that perhaps brought him to the forefront as an actor. Well known for television, film, stage and voice-over he is extraordinarily prolific. Among other honours, he has received a Golden Globe Award and three BAFTA Awards, with two and six nominations respectively, as well as two Academy Award nominations. He will be introducing a number of his films as well as being 'In Conversation'.

## TONY BRITTEN

INTRODUCTION, IN LOVE WITH ALMA COGAN, THUR 19:30, THEATRE BY THE LAKE

Our opening film *In Love with Alma Cogan* is a delightful first feature film directed by Tony Britten set in Cromer with original music, starring Roger Lloyd Pack and Niamh Cusack. We welcome Tony to the Festival to introduce his film. Best known for the UEFA Champions League Anthem which last year alone was played more than 7 million times across 22 countries, Tony is a prolific composer and arranger of film, opera and theatre music.

## ALEX ETEL

Q&A, WAYS TO LIVE FOREVER, SAT 11.00, THE ALHAMBRA.

Alex's first role was the main character in Danny Boyle's *Millions* (screened at Keswick Film Festival in 2009), a baptism of fire indeed! From there it was lead in *The Water Horse*, onto TV for a part in *Cranford*, back on screen for *From Time To Time* and now one of the leads in our family presentation *Ways To Live Forever*. At just 17 he already has an amazing pedigree so come along and meet him.

## MUSTAFA GÜNDOĞDU

Q&A, THE CHILDREN OF DIYARBAKIR, SUN 09:30, THEATRE BY THE LAKE

Mustafa Gündoğdu is from North Kurdistan (Turkey), a place with a history of anti-Government uprisings. In the late 90s he developed his interests in film-making in Istanbul, later moving to London in 2000, where he works for the London-based Kurdish Human Rights Project. Mustafa is coordinator of the London Kurdish Film Festival and has been involved in a number of other film festivals on Human Rights and Kurdish cinema. He is also advisor and a founding member of the New York Kurdish Film Festival, launched in 2009 and has published several articles on Kurdish cinema in academic journals and books.

## THE LANCASTER MILLENNIUM CHOIR

PERFORMANCE SAT 19:00, THEATRE BY THE LAKE

After last year's success providing their unique musical accompaniment to the silent film *Frankenstein*, Andy Whitfield and The Lancaster Millennium Choir are back for 2012 as part of our 'Sounding Good' theme with *Funny Walks with Wagner*. A performance of Libretto and songs alongside a compilation of old films.

## TONY PALMER

INTRODUCTION, BIRD ON A WIRE, SAT 22:00, THE ALHAMBRA

INTRODUCTION, WAGNER, SUN 09:30, STUDIO THEATRE

We are delighted to welcome Tony Palmer, founder presenter of *Kaleidoscope* on Radio 4 and *Night Waves* on Radio 3 and now often on *Front Row*. He will be introducing two of his almost 100 films on composers from the Beatles to Britten. We will be showing *Wagner* on Sunday in the Theatre by the Lake Studio, and *Bird on a Wire* the 70's film about Leonard Cohen on Saturday in the Alhambra.

"One of the great, and uncompromising, poets of television" *Sight & Sound*

"Tony Palmer...a clear seeing, visionary artist, pursuing with precision and perfection the image which draws him onwards." *Yehudi Menuhin*

## CLARE SAMBROOK

Q&A, THE KIDS BRITAIN DOESN'T WANT, SAT 09:30, THEATRE BY THE LAKE

## RACHEL SEIFERT

Q&A, THE KIDS BRITAIN DOESN'T WANT, SAT 09:30, THEATRE BY THE LAKE

Two guests as part of our 'Doing Good' theme in partnership with the Keswick Peace and Human Rights Group.

Clare is a novelist, journalist and coordinator of the unfunded citizens' campaign End Child Detention Now. Clare is a coeditor of openDemocracy's *Our Kingdom*. In 2010 she won both the Paul Foot Award and the Bevins Prize for outstanding investigative journalism for stories exposing the government's burial of medical evidence that detention harms children, and government's cosy relations with the companies running the "detention estate".

Rachel is a documentary filmmaker, with a particular interest in international social issues. She produced the *The Kids Britain Doesn't Want* and has recently directed a feature length documentary filmed across Latin America exposing the human costs of the war on drugs (*Cocaine Unwrapped*) which is currently informing new debates on drugs on both sides of the Atlantic.

AS WELL AS OUR GUEST SPEAKERS, WE HAVE A NUMBER OF SPECIAL EVENTS, INCLUDING:

## THE OPENING PARTY

THUR 18:30, THEATRE BY THE LAKE CAFE, FREE

Our fantastic opening party at Theatre By The Lake is always a great way to kick off the festival and meet the festival organisers, other film goers and perhaps even some of our guests. Entry is free for pass-holders and invited guests and includes food and a drink, provided by our generous sponsor cafes and restaurants from around the town. Please do support them throughout the Festival. (See p35)

## OSPREY SHORT FILM AWARDS

SAT 14:00, THE ALHAMBRA, FREE ENTRY

The Osprey Short Film Awards were established in 2009 to recognise and reward the talented film makers from, or working in, Cumbria. There are two categories for entry—Open and Under 18—judged each year by guest film makers from the industry. All shortlisted entries are showcased at the festival and the winners receive cash prizes to help them further their work.

This year's winners will be announced at the event on by judges Carl Hunter and Clare Heaney and members of The Festival committee.

For entry details & further information visit: [www.keswickfilmfestival.org](http://www.keswickfilmfestival.org)

## FREE FAMILY FILM

SAT 11:00, THE ALHAMBRA, FREE ENTRY

We are showing the award winning *Ways to Live Forever* on Saturday morning at the Alhambra, starring our guest Alex Etel who will be on hand to answer your questions after the screening.

## FILMS AT RHEGED

SAT FROM 11:00, RHEGED, PENRITH

Extending our partnership with Rheged we will be having two events in the IMAX theatre on Saturday. Buses are available to and from Rheged at suitable times for people to see one or both of the events and there is free parking (see p31). Food and drink is available along with a range of shops and exhibitions. Entry to the films is ticketed as usual, or free for pass-holders.

## KESWICK PEACE & HUMAN RIGHTS GROUP

SAT 09:30 & SUN 09:30 THEATRE BY THE LAKE

A new collaboration with the Keswick Peace and Human Rights Group who have sponsored two films and guests as part of our 'Doing Good' theme.

## THE AUDIENCE AWARD

THROUGHOUT THE FESTIVAL

Have your say on our film programme for 2012 and vote for your favourite film in our annual audience award.





thursday

23<sup>rd</sup>

FEBRUARY

Q&A

19:30, THEATRE BY THE LAKE

### IN LOVE WITH ALMA COGAN

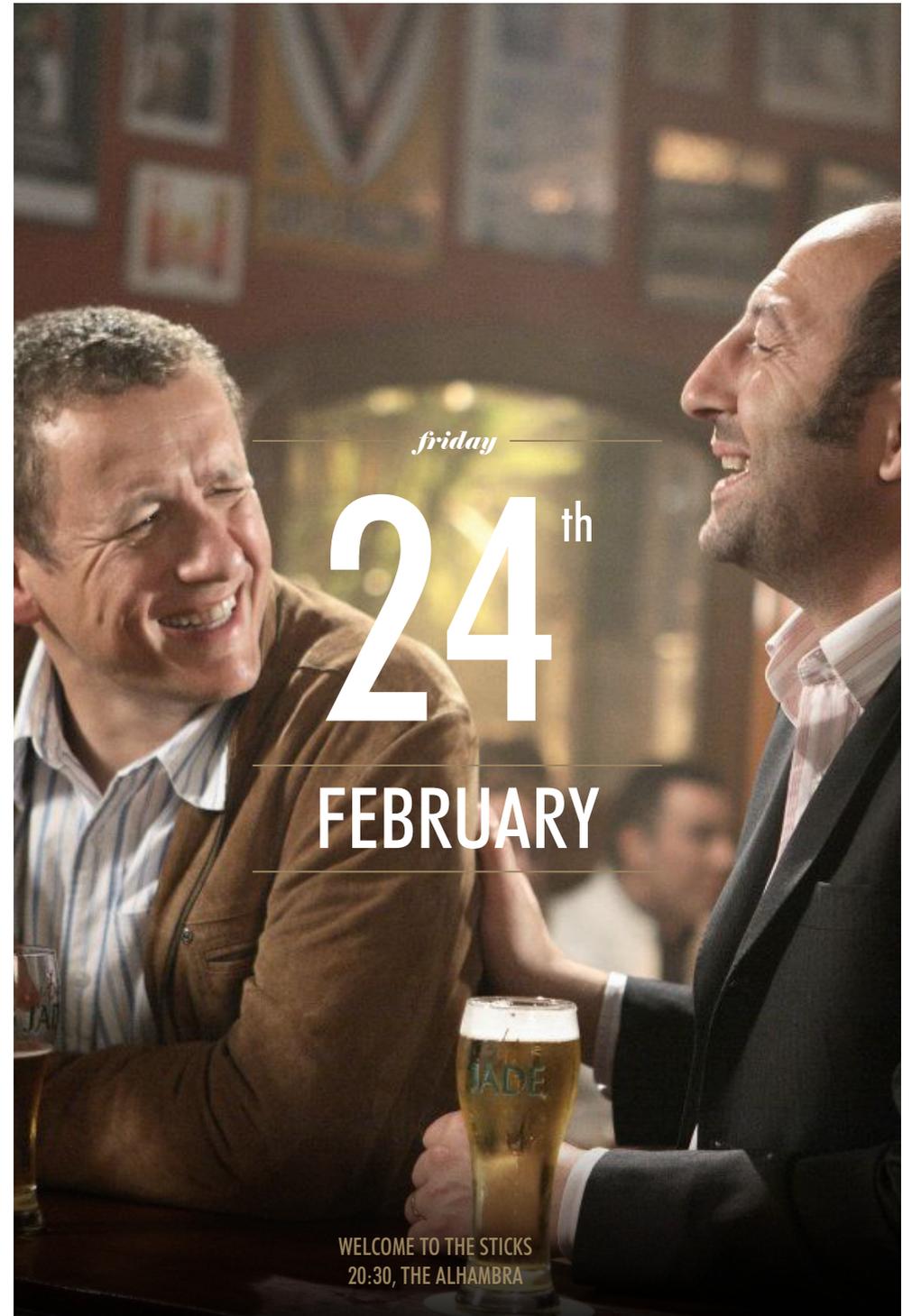
THEME: SOUNDING GOOD / HOMAGE TO JOHN HURT  
TONY BRITTEN, 2011, UK, 94M

This gentle romantic comedy tells the story of Norman, the manager of the theatre on the pier at a once grand East Coast holiday resort. Norman has worked at the theatre all his life and despite the efforts of Sandra, his long-serving and suffering assistant, he will not accept that the local council, which owns the theatre may be serious about putting it into the hands of commercial management. As the plot unfolds, Norman realises that it may be time to move on and put behind him

the ghost of the fifties and sixties singing star Alma Cogan.

Starring Roger Lloyd-Pack and Niamh Cusack with John Hurt in a cameo role and with original music by Tony Britten this new film will resonate with Keswickians. The potential closure of the theatre in the film resonating with the threat to the cinema in Keswick and the role of the RNLI in the film with our Mountain Rescue.

Includes Q&A with Tony Britten.  
Thanks to Capriol Films.



friday

24<sup>th</sup>

FEBRUARY

WELCOME TO THE STICKS  
20:30, THE ALHAMBRA



UK 1<sup>ST</sup>

13:00, THEATRE BY THE LAKE  
**DAVID AND KAMAL**

THEME: LOOKING GOOD  
KIKUO KAWASAKI, 2011, USA/ISRAEL, 78M

Kamal is a nine-year old Arab boy living in Jerusalem with his grandfather, mother, and sisters. Everyday he goes to the Old City and tries to sell postcards but he is thwarted by bullies and constantly discouraged by his strict grandfather. David is a Jewish boy, also aged nine, who is in Jerusalem to visit his father, whom he hasn't seen in years. Thinking that he is carrying a large amount of money Kamal steals from David resulting in a chase in which Kamal escapes. But when David runs into the same bullies that have been targeting Kamal, Kamal rescues him, and another chase begins. Together, the two boys must learn the true meanings of friendship, trust and sacrifice.

Awards include: Best Children's Film Tiburon; World Cinema Award Best Feature, Washington DC; Best of the Fest, Palm Beach

Thanks to Eleven Arts.



UK 1<sup>ST</sup>

13:00, THE ALHAMBRA  
**PARDON**

THEME: FEELING VERY GOOD  
MERT BAYKAL, 2006, TURKEY, 94M

Based on a true event which for many epitomises the faults in the Turkish legal system, *Pardon* tells the tragicomic story of three friends who end up in prison when they are mistaken as members of a terrorist organization.

The Writer, Ferhan Sensoy is a popular director and actor in Turkish theatre where he is well-known for his spontaneous political criticism. He generally performs on stage in his own theatre which means that not many outsiders get to see his work. *Pardon*, in that sense, is reaching out to people who can not come to watch his plays.

A posting from Istanbul on the IMDB states: "The story is one of the true stories of Turkey about its legal system faults. The acting and directing is superb. I have watched it three times in the same week and laughed each time."

Thanks to Plato Films.



UK 1<sup>ST</sup>

15:15, THEATRE BY THE LAKE  
**VACATION (KYUKA)**

THEME: LOOKING GOOD  
HAJIME KADOI, 2008, JAPAN, 115M

Vacation is the story of Toru Hirai (Kaoru Kobayashi) a middle-aged bachelor who works as a prison guard on death row and lives with his older sister and her husband. Hirai's sister is determined to marry him off to a divorced single mother of a 6 year old son Tatsuya, who is suspicious of his new father. In exchange for a one-week vacation, for a proper honeymoon to get to know his new family, Hirai volunteers to 'support' illustrator Shinichi Kaneda (Hidetoshi Nishijima) who is about to be executed by hanging. There is little emotion in the film, apart from the fear that every character is harbouring for the future, until the trauma of Kaneda's terrifying death. Kadoi shows the hard choices and personal sacrifices the ideal Japanese husband and father will make for his family.

Kobayashi and Nishijima won acting awards at Yokohama film festival 2009.

Thanks to Eleven Arts.



UK 1<sup>ST</sup>

15:15, THE ALHAMBRA  
**NO PAIN NO GAIN**

THEME: FEELING VERY GOOD  
SAM TURCOTTE, 2005, USA, 104M

The film tells the story of a highly intelligent former state champion bodybuilder from small town Ohio who has become obsessed with his scientific research and, consequently, has let his world-class physique go. He journeys to the mecca of bodybuilding, Los Angeles, to prove himself. Determined to reveal his new ideas to the world, the awkward yet sincere bodybuilder realizes he has no choice but to get back in supreme shape, compete in the ultimate "Mr. West Coast" bodybuilding competition and use his own body as the perfect reflection of his mind's work. Amidst the LA-freaks, Hollywood wannabes, and outrageous gym culture of Los Angeles, the now determined bodybuilder struggles to preserve an integrity of the mind, body, and spirit that is so apparently void in this strange new land.

Thanks to Sam Turcotte.



17:30, THE ALHAMBRA

## CELL 211

THEME: LOOKING GOOD

DANIEL MONZON, 2009, SPAIN, 113M

Billed as 'Die Hard meets A Prophet', Cell 211 takes us into a Spanish jail with Juan, a new guard who tries to impress by reporting in a day early. That sort of attitude is never a good idea and events mean that Juan needs to rely on his wits to survive.

According to Philip French, this excellent Spanish picture has all the traditional 'Big House, Prison Movie' ingredients: the fair but weak governor, the contrasted good and bad warders, the charismatic convict leader (a knockout performance from Luis Tosar, famously menacing in Michael Mann's *Miami Vice*), the old lag, the slimy informer, the destructive riot, and the familiar message that the trouble is due to overcrowding, penny-pinching and the lack of either creative work or serious attempts at rehabilitation.

'Sheer story telling pizazz' – the Guardian

Thanks to Lionsgate.



18:00, THEATRE BY THE LAKE

## GNARR

THEME: LOOKING GOOD

GAUKUR ULFARSSON, 2010, ICELAND, 93M

The film follows the efforts of Jon Gnarr, an Icelandic comedian/TV show actor/perpetual goofball, to become Mayor of Reykjavik. Following the credit crunch in 2008 the krona collapsed and the whole country effectively went bankrupt under the debts incurred by its over extended banks.

The government took its fair share of the blame and in 2009 Gnarr launched The Best Party, a satirical political party that parodies Icelandic politics and aims to make the life of its citizens more fun. Standing in the municipal election of 2010 Gnarr promised free towels in all swimming pools, a polar bear for the Reykjavik zoo, all kinds of things for weaklings, and an incorruptible and drug-free parliament by 2020.

Thanks to Sigvaldi Kárason and Stray Dog Films.



20:30, THEATRE BY THE LAKE

## THE YELLOW SEA

THEME: LOOKING GOOD

HONG-JIN NA, 2010, SOUTH KOREA, 157M

This highly efficient Korean thriller from the director of the ultra-violent *The Chaser* has an unremarkable plot: a taxi driver at the end of his tether is induced to carry out a murder in Seoul and finds himself crushed between two different branches of the mafia and goes on the run. The film does, however, in addition to moving with the speed of a bullet, have three distinctive features; it's the first Korean thriller to have attracted a major investment from a Hollywood studio; knives and axes are the gangsters' weapons of choice and they go about their work gleefully in pools of blood; and, the desperate hero comes from Yanji City in the curious Chinese enclave of Yanbian, an autonomous prefecture abutting China, Russia and North Korea largely populated by Koreans carrying Chinese identity papers. "One of the bloodiest movies I've ever seen" Phillip French, The Observer

Thanks to Eureka Video.



20:30, THE ALHAMBRA

## WELCOME TO THE STICKS

THEME: FEELING VERY GOOD

DANY BOON, 2007, FRANCE, 106M

This gem of a comedy explores the north/south divide in France. The film plays on cultural and linguistic differences as the hero, Philippe, travels from suave and comfy meridional France to take up a post-office manager's job in his country's grim north which most of the French consider to be populated with hard drinking unemployed rednecks speaking an incomprehensible local dialect – Ch'ti.

The film is brought to life for a British audience through inspired subtitling which succeeds in matching French mis-speaks with plausible English equivalents in a tour de force which, says the Guardian, merits the creation of a whole new Oscar category. Allied to "the ingenuity of the writing, the fluency and comic timing of the actors, in particular the assured direction of Dany Boon, who happens to be a Ch'ti himself", the Sticks and the town of Bergues are destined to charm.

Thanks To Pathe



saturday

# 25<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY

TYRANNOSAUR  
20:15, THEATRE BY THE LAKE

saturday



Q&A DOC

09:30, THEATRE BY THE LAKE  
**THE KIDS BRITAIN  
DOESN'T WANT**

THEME: DOING GOOD  
DAVID MODELL, PRODUCERS: RACHEL SEIFERT  
& ADAM WARNER, 2010, UK, 49M  
IN PARTNERSHIP WITH KESWICK PEACE AND  
HUMAN RIGHTS GROUP

This film is the disturbing story of what happens to children when they seek asylum in Britain. Every year, thousands of children come from all over the world to Britain seeking refuge from persecution, terrorism and war. But many find this country is not the place of safety that they hoped. Instead they are met by a culture of disbelief and an asylum system that can cause them profound psychological and physical harm. Through the stories of a 10-year-old Iranian boy, a 16-year-old Afghan and a 22-year-old Ugandan woman, this film explores the experiences of young people who have been brutalized by the British asylum system. First shown on Channel Four Dispatches, Nov 2010.

Includes a Q&A with Rachel Seifert & Clare Sambrook.  
Thanks to Dartmouth Films.



Q&A

11:00, THE ALHAMBRA  
**WAYS TO LIVE FOREVER**

THEME: FEELING GOOD  
GUSTAVO RON, 2010, SPAIN/UK, 95M

Adapted from Sally Nicholls' novel, *Ways to Live Forever* is a touching and inspiring film about 12 year old Sam, played by Robbie Kay. Sam is the narrator of the film, through the medium of his video diary. He reveals much about himself, when, while making a list of important things about himself, the fact that he is dying of leukaemia merits only 4th place.

He loves facts, he wants to know about UFOs and horror movies and airships and ghosts and how it feels to kiss a girl. He wants to know the facts about dying. Sam needs the answers to the questions nobody will answer.

Also starring Ben Chaplin, Emilia Fox and Greta Scacchi, *Ways to Live Forever* has been an official entry in the Amsterdam, Tallinn, Terra di Siena and Indianapolis Festivals.

Thanks to Gustavo Ron.



11:15, RHEGED (PENRITH)

## THE GREAT WHITE SILENCE

THEME: LOOKING GOOD

A FILM BY HERBERT PONTING, 1924, UK, 106M  
A BFI NATIONAL ARCHIVE RESTORATION

A hundred years ago the British Antarctic Expedition (1910-1913) led by Captain Scott set out on its ill-fated race to the South Pole. Joining Scott on board the Terra Nova was official photographer and cinematographer Herbert Ponting, and the images that he captured have fired imaginations ever since.

Ponting filmed almost every aspect of the expedition including the fascinating preparations for the assault on the Pole.

Ponting used his footage in various forms over the years and in 1924 he re-edited it into this remarkable feature. The BFI National Archive has restored the film and reintroduced the film's sophisticated use of colour along with a new score.

Thanks to The BFI.



13:30, THEATRE BY THE LAKE

## LOU (+ SAILCLOTH UK, 18 MINS)

THEME: FEELING GOOD? / HOMAGE TO JOHN HURT  
BELINDA CHAYKO, 2010, AUS, 82 MINS

*Lou*: The film takes place almost entirely on a property in the cane country of northern New South Wales, where single mother Rhea (Emily Barclay) survives by barring the door against debt collectors. To help make ends meet, she agrees to find room for Doyle (John Hurt), an old sailor with Alzheimer's disease who is the paternal grandfather of her three young daughters - an exotic figure in this setting, with his faraway eyes, English accent and sensitive, ravaged face. This is a slightly dangerous coming-of-age fantasy.

'As a dissection of familial relations, *Lou* is flawless and the deliberately understated emotions of its principle characters are also part of the film's charm' *Lucy Popescu*

Thanks to Matchbox Films.

This session also includes a screening of Elfar Adalsteins' *Sailcloth* starring John Hurt and among the short films tipped to land an Oscar nomination.



DOUBLE BILL, 13:30, RHEGED

## CALL OF THE WHITE

THEME: LOOKING GOOD

ELLIOTT FORGE, 2010, UK, 45M

DOC

## SHERPAS, THE TRUE HEROES OF EVEREST

THEME: LOOKING GOOD

HARI THAPA & FRANK SENN, 2009,  
SWITZERLAND/NEPAL, 51M

UK 1<sup>ST</sup>

DOC

FOR BUS TIMES TO RHEGED SEE P31

*Call Of The White*: Could you ski to the South Pole? That was the challenge that British Adventurer, Felicity Aston put to 'ordinary women' from around the Commonwealth as she set out to create the most international all-female expedition ever to the South Pole. Late in 2009, Felicity led a team from places as diverse as Jamaica, India, Singapore and Cyprus - some of whom had never even seen snow - on a 900 km skiing trek across the Antarctic, one of the toughest and most notoriously hazardous journeys on the planet. Eighty-mile-an-hour winds ripped through base camp; frostbite and injuries were an everyday occurrence;

but they also shared beliefs, ideas and philosophies and broke no less than six World Records. Snowline has produced a documentary about the project mostly from over 3,500 individual clips of footage shot by members of the team.

Thanks to Snowline.

*Sherpas, The True Heroes of Everest* focuses on the hired Sherpas of a Swiss Everest Expedition Team. Among the Sherpas is Dawa, who has climbed the Everest summit thirteen times. The film heroically showcases the role of Sherpas who make it possible for the big-pocketed Western climbers to reach the summit. Made by documentary makers at Swiss Television plus Hari Thapa, film-maker in Kathmandu the film has won prizes at a number of film festivals including Best Film at Kathmandu.

Thanks to Hari Thapa



14:00, THE ALHAMBRA

## OSPREY SHORT FILM AWARDS

Screening of all the shortlisted films and the announcement of the winners in each category. (See page 12)



16:30, THEATRE BY THE LAKE

## THE YEAR DOLLY PARTON WAS MY MOM

THEME: SOUNDING GOOD

TARA JONES, 2011, CANADA, 95M

Montreal writer/director Tara Johns, in her feature debut, takes us back to the '70s, the dreadful fashions and interior decor drenched in a dewy nostalgic haze, to tell the simple story of 11-year-old Elizabeth, who longs to get her first period so she can be like her friends. When Elizabeth discovers she is adopted it sparks a bout of preteen rebellion and confusion.

If her mom isn't her real mom, then maybe her idol is; she's determined to get to a Dolly Parton concert to find out. This leads to a cathartic cross-country trek by a mother searching for a daughter searching for a mother - both of them really searching for themselves. Parton's participation, allowing a few of her songs to be re-recorded by Canadian artists and providing a voice-over finale, add much to the film's appeal.

Thanks to Palomar Films.



16:30, THE ALHAMBRA

## 50/50

THEME: FEELING GOOD?

JONATHAN LEVINE, 2010, UK, 99M

Inspired by the real-life experiences of screenwriter Will Reiser, director Jonathan Levine's 50/50 is the story of a 27-year-old cancer patient's battle to beat the disease with the help of his friend. It has received strong reviews and – unusually for a comedy – is considered an outside bet for an Oscar nomination next year

Joseph Gordon-Levitt plays the somewhat portentously named Adam Lerner, a young writer working for a National Public Radio station in Seattle, who is told out of the blue he has spinal cancer with a 50-50 chance of recovery. He gets along with a little help and hindrance from his friends, family and fellow patients, and the movie and Adam himself treat his situation with considerable humour. 'The absence of self-pity and sentimentality is something of a change.' Philip French. 'this is a film that does all the difficult stuff so very well' Robbie Collin

Thanks to Lionsgate.



20:15, THE ALHAMBRA

## TYRANNOSAUR

THEME: LOOKING GOOD

PADDY CONSIDINE, 2011, UK, 91M

Actor Paddy Considine has seen his first feature garlanded at the British independent film awards (Best Film, Best Actress and Best Debut Director) and at Sundance (World Cinema Directing Award, Special Jury Prize Drama). Peter Mullan is a gambling, washed-up widower Joseph, a man plagued by violence and a rage that is driving him to self-destruction.

As Joseph's life spirals into turmoil a chance of redemption appears in the form of Hannah, a Christian charity shop worker. Their relationship develops to reveal that Hannah is hiding a secret of her own with devastating results for both of their lives. The performances roar off the screen, Mullan is fantastic but the real revelation of the film is the performance of Olivia Colman; so good in fact that you forget this is a movie. While it is difficult to watch, critics have showered the film with praise.

Thanks to StudioCanal.



22:00, THE ALHAMBRA

## BIRD ON A WIRE

THEME: SOUNDING GOOD

TONY PALMER, 1972, UK, 120M

Tony Palmer's film about Leonard Cohen's 1972 European Tour from Dublin to Jerusalem. Having gone missing soon after completion, the film is only now receiving its first official release almost 40 years later. This version has been re-constructed by Palmer from the original sound tracks and around 3000 fragments of film.

Interweaving live concert footage with backstage encounters, the film follows a mostly bewildered band and management as they deal with exploding speakers, backstage groupies and the vagaries of an artist with an extremely delicate temperament. Palmer has commented on Cohen's power over an audience simply by his presence; "authority doesn't really describe it; transparent goodness is probably closer, and a profound belief that it is the poet's responsibility to address the political problems of the world."

With an Introduction by Tony Palmer.  
Thanks to Tony Palmer



DOUBLE BILL, 20:30, THEATRE BY THE LAKE  
**THE NAKED CIVIL SERVANT**

THEME: HOMAGE TO JOHN HURT  
 JACK GOLD, 1975, UK, 85 MINS

**AN ENGLISHMAN IN NEW YORK**

THEME: HOMAGE TO JOHN HURT  
 RICHARD LAXTON, 2009, UK, 75M

*The Naked Civil Servant:* Quentin Crisp was born Denis Pratt on Christmas Day 1908. As an openly gay man in a much less tolerant era, he suffered abuse and rejection in his quest to “make them understand”. Whether or not he made society understand homosexuality, he certainly raised awareness of it and you could argue that freedom of sexual choice would not be as accepted today were it not for his courage and determination.

Thames’s television adaptation of Crisp’s autobiography, *The Naked Civil Servant*, eight years after he wrote it took Britain by storm and made Crisp an overnight celebrity. John Hurt’s unforgettable performance as Crisp won him a BAFTA for Best Actor, while director Jack Gold won the Academy’s

highest commendation, The Desmond Davies Award, for outstanding creative contribution to television. Credit for the film’s success also goes to screenwriter Philip Mackie and producer Verity Lambert. Perhaps the highest praise is Crisp’s christening of John Hurt as his “representative on earth.”

Thanks to Freemantle Media

*An Englishman In New York:* Quentin Crisp moved to America at age seventy-two, “when people my age rocked themselves asleep in nursing home. Not me! I want my time lived!” And live his life Quentin Crisp certainly did. Setting off on the journey of a lifetime to New York City on September 13, 1981, the out-spoken Quentin Crisp was immediately embraced by New Yorkers and before long wine and dined by celebrities in every corner of the city.

Mr. Crisp’s romantic view of New York and America was coloured by wartime relationships with GIs in London and by a love of Hollywood movies. The film was nominated and won prizes at a number of festivals.

Thanks to Momentum Pictures.

26<sup>th</sup>

FEBRUARY



MELANCHOLIA  
 17:30, THE ALHAMBRA



09:30, THEATRE BY THE LAKE

## THE CHILDREN OF DIYARBAKIR

THEME: DOING GOOD

MIRAZ BEZAR, 2009, GERMANY/TURKEY, 101M  
IN PARTNERSHIP WITH KESWICK PEACE AND HUMAN RIGHTS GROUP

Gulistan and her younger brother, Firat, have a normal childhood with their mum and dad, a Kurdish journalist, and new baby brother. On their way back from a wedding, the family is stopped by three gunmen, who shoot the parents dead in front of the kids. The kids' aunt, an underground Kurdish activist, moves in to care for them, but she's later kidnapped. Left alone the children have to work out how to survive. Their life gets harder.

In the days that follow, the paths of the two children, along with those of Dilara and Nuri, will all intersect in ways that have surprising impact due to the unexpected restraint with which their roles are played.

The film has won awards at 10 international festivals

Includes Q&A with Mustafa Gündoğdu.  
Thanks to The Match Factory.



09:30, STUDIO THEATRE, THEATRE BY THE LAKE

## WAGNER

THEME: SOUNDING GOOD

TONY PALMER, UK, 1983, 466M

Tony Palmer's epic film was made to celebrate the 100th anniversary of Wagner's death. Filmed in 200 locations, many where the actual historical events took place, it is only now released on DVD as Palmer wishes it to be viewed. The film portrays Wagner's life and work, from before the 1848 Revolution, through his exile in Switzerland, his rescue by King Ludwig II of Bavaria to the final triumph at Bayreuth, and sets his radical musical and political ideas in the context of his life and times. The Vienna Philharmonic Orchestra is conducted by Sir George Solti. The cast includes Richard Burton, Laurence Olivier, John Gielgud, Ralph Richardson, Vanessa Redgrave and László Gálfi.

"This film is one of the truly great experiences of the cinema." *The Guardian*

The film will be screened in two parts with a one hour interval and introduced by Tony Palmer. Thanks to Tony Palmer.



12:30, THEATRE BY THE LAKE

## LITTLE MOTH (XUE CHAN)

THEME: LOOKING GOOD

TAO PANG, CHINA, 2007, 99M

Luo Jiang and Guihua, a poor, middle-aged couple with few prospects, decide to buy an 11-year-old girl, Xiao Ezi (aka "Little Moth"), for \$140 in rural China. Xiao Ezi's life is in peril, as she is forced to earn money for her new parents as a beggar while suffering from a blood disease that leaves her unable to walk. Her greedy adoptive father refuses to buy her medicine, while Guihua's growing maternal affection wracks her with guilt. With virtually no budget, a hand-held digital camera and a cast of non-professionals, Peng Tao turns the sordid street life of small town China into a chain-reaction tale of human cruelty and unforgettable suspense.

"A gripping, convincing and (appropriately) upsetting work of rigorous unsentimentality" *Neil Young, Jigsaw Lounge*

Thanks to the director Tao Pang.



12:30, THE ALHAMBRA

## MIA SARAH

THEME: FEELING VERY GOOD

GUSTAVO RON, SPAIN, 2006, 103M

In this comedy from Spain, a young girl in her twenties, Marina, and her teenage brother, Samuel, have lost their parents in an accident three years ago. Samuel has taken it hard. He hasn't left their apartment in these last three years and has created a bizarre world for himself and his once-famous literary grandfather. His eccentricity and cleverness scares off the tutors hired to educate him. Marina has no life as she is consumed with taking care of Samuel and working across the street as a waitress.

Marina accidentally meets up with a psychologist, Gabriel, and asks him to be her brother's tutor. Almost immediately, Gabriel has a powerful positive effect on Samuel. And Gabriel becomes smitten with Marina. The student Samuel reverses roles and begins to teach the shy Gabriel how to attract women.

Thanks to Gustavo Ron.



15:00, THEATRE BY THE LAKE

## IN CONVERSATION WITH JOHN HURT

An interview and Q&A with John Hurt including clips of some of his films.

“Britain’s superbly eccentric import John Hurt is a perfect example of how huge, wondrous gifts can come in small, unadorned packages. His magnetic, often bedeviled portraits have touched the souls of film-goers internationally for over four decades, and there seems to be no end to the depth of this man’s talent. Stretching the boundaries every which way but loose, he continues to be an acting textbook in the art of metamorphosis” *IMDB.com*

Look him up on the film database and he has 173 entries as actor with 9 in 2011 including roles as diverse as Control in *Tinker, Tailor, Soldier, Spy* and Ollivander in *Harry Potter*. At the English film festival in Dinard last year there were as many young people flocking around him for his autograph as remembered him from the ‘70s as Quentin Crisp, in *Midnight Express* or as *The Elephant Man*.



15:00, THE ALHAMBRA

## A SEPARATION (JODAEIYE NADER AZ SIMIN)

THEME: LOOKING GOOD

ASQHAR FARHADI, 2011, IRAN, 123M

In this multi-award winning film (including Golden Berlin Bear, 2011) Nader and Simin argue about living abroad. Simin wants to leave Iran to provide better opportunities for their only daughter, Termeh. However, Nader refuses to go because he thinks he must stay and take care of his father who suffers from Alzheimer’s. Their argument has escalated into a demand for divorce. The film shows a middle-class household under siege; there are semi-unsolved mysteries, angry confrontations and family burdens: an ageing parent and two children from warring camps appearing to make friends.

“Farhadi, like Michael Haneke, in his 2005 film *Hidden* takes a scalpel to his bourgeois homeland. With great power and subtlety, (he) transforms this ugly quarrel into a contemporary tragedy.” Peter Bradshaw, Guardian

Thanks to Artificial Eye



17:30, THEATRE BY THE LAKE

## TALES FROM THE SHIPYARD

THEME: LOOKING GOOD

A COLLECTION OF ARCHIVE MATERIAL, ALLOW 150M

Once again we welcome Jan Faull from the BFI who brings a curated selection of old film, this time *Tales From The Shipyard*. Those who came last year to her collection *King Coal* will have enjoyed local film from Cumbria and the North West.

*Tales from the Shipyard* is the second in the BFI collection *This Working Life* a three-part celebration of Britain’s industrial heritage as seen through the eyes of filmmakers from the Victorian era to the present day. The remaining part which will be compiled for next year by the BFI will be on the steel industry.

Paul Rotha’s modernist classic *Shipyard* (1935, 24min) filmed at Barrow in Furness and featuring local shipbuilders Vickers, captures the building of a liner with the eye of a painter. A rare opportunity that should not be missed.

With a Q&A with Jan Faull from the BFI. Thanks to the BFI



17:30, THE ALHAMBRA

## MELANCHOLIA

THEME: LOOKING GOOD / HOMAGE TO JOHN HURT  
LARS VON TRIER, 2011, DENMARK, 136M

The narrative revolves around two sisters during and shortly after the wedding party of one of them, while Earth is about to collide with an approaching rogue planet. The film prominently features music from Richard Wagner’s prelude to his opera *Tristan und Isolde*. Trier’s initial inspiration for the film came from a depressive episode he suffered and the insight that depressed people remain calm in stressful situations.

The film was much feted at Festivals and the lead actresses gave prize-winning performances. Lars von Trier ‘has made one of the most unforgettable, unshakably unique films of this year.’ Jim Tudor. ‘A crazily bold, visually enthralling, and emotionally seismic drama about the meaning of existence’ Sukhdev Sandhu.

Thanks to Artificial Eye



21:00, THEATRE BY THE LAKE

## CARANCHO

THEME: LOOKING GOOD

PABLO TRAPERO, 2010, ARGENTINA, 107M

Rooted in real life – injury and death from car accidents are now alarmingly common in Argentina – Trapero’s film feels almost like a documentary in its early scenes outlining the mostly nocturnal work of ambulance medic Luján (Gusman), on the one hand, and ambulance-chasing lawyer Sosa (Darin), on the other.

‘...A taut, suspenseful noir thriller, alert to the psychological needs and doubts of its clearly star-cross’d lovers and to the visceral physicality of both hospital work and criminal violence alike. Darin and Gusman, each of them excellent, receive sterling support ... while superb camera work and editing create a mood of tense immediacy from the attention-catching start to the spiralling chaos of the extraordinarily gripping finale.’ Geoff Andrews Time Out.

Thanks to Axiom Films

On general release from 2nd March 2012

For more information see [axiomfilms.co.uk](http://axiomfilms.co.uk)



21:00, THE ALHAMBRA

## BABYCALL

THEME: LOOKING GOOD

PÅL SLETAUNE, 2011, NORWAY, 96M

Single mother Anna (Noomi Rapace) is moved with her 8 year old son Anders (Vetle Qvenild Werring) to a secret address outside Oslo, fleeing as they are from her abusive husband. Fearing for their lives, Anna is perpetually terrified that she and her vulnerable son will be found at any moment. So that Anders can sleep in his own bed, and to allay the suspicions of her supposed protectors, Anna invests in a babycall monitor.

However, sequestered in the symmetrical monotone concrete of the flat, a legacy of short-sighted 1960s Oslo architecture, Anna hears the babycall pick up the distressed voice of another troubled child. When no trace of this child can be found, Anna’s fragile psychological state is called into question. “Another unusual, and unsettling, urban thriller” *onemetal.com*

Thanks to Soda Pictures.

# TICKETS & TRAVEL

### TRAVEL TO THE FESTIVAL:

Keswick is a beautiful town on Derwentwater in the Northern Lake District. But it isn’t as far away as you might think...

**BY CAR:** For a scenic route through the Lake District, leave the M6 at J36 and take the A591 via Windermere, Ambleside and Grasmere. After dark and from the North a better choice is to leave at J40 (Penrith) and take the A66.

**BY TRAIN:** The nearest railway station to Keswick is Penrith, served by Virgin Trains. The station is 17 miles from Keswick but a bus service, taking forty minutes, connects Penrith railway station with Keswick bus station. Taxis from Keswick will meet trains at Penrith by prior arrangement.

**BY BUS:** If you are already in the North West of England why not take the Lakeslink 555 (Lancaster to Carlisle via Kendal, Windermere, Ambleside, Keswick)

### TRAVEL FROM KESWICK TO RHEGED, PENRITH

X50 Buses from Keswick\* to Rheged:  
10.20 (arrives 10.57) / 12.20 (arrives 12.57)

X50 Buses from Rheged to Keswick:  
13.27 (arrives 14:02) / 15.27 (arrives 16:02)

\*The X50 stops outside Booth Supermarket

Alternatively if you wish to drive, there is plenty of Free Parking available at Rheged.

### TICKET TYPES:

	PASS	SINGLE
Club members	£35	£4
Non-members	£45	£5
Concessions*	£25	£3
Student Saturday Pass**	£10	

**PLEASE NOTE:** Passes allow entry for all events and talks, but do not guarantee a place to any particular event. We request for events in the Studio that pass holders reserve a ticket (at no additional charge) to ensure a place.

- Single tickets are available on the door 1/2 hour prior to each film.
- On Thursday, passes are available to collect / buy from 18:30 from Theatre By The Lake.

\* Concessions are for under 16 year olds in full time education/unwaged only.

\*\* Available for students in full time education/unwaged under 16’s. Allows entry to events on Saturday only.

## FOR TICKETS & PASSES PLEASE CONTACT:

KESWICK THEATRE BY THE LAKE

TEL: 01768 774411

VISIT: [WWW.THEATREBYTHELAKE.CO.UK](http://WWW.THEATREBYTHELAKE.CO.UK)



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**11th March** Judy's affordable Vintage fair

**24th March** Andy Kirkpatrick lecture – one of the funniest mountaineers

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 017687 73888 [www.thesquareorange.co.uk](http://www.thesquareorange.co.uk)



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[www.yha.org.uk](http://www.yha.org.uk)

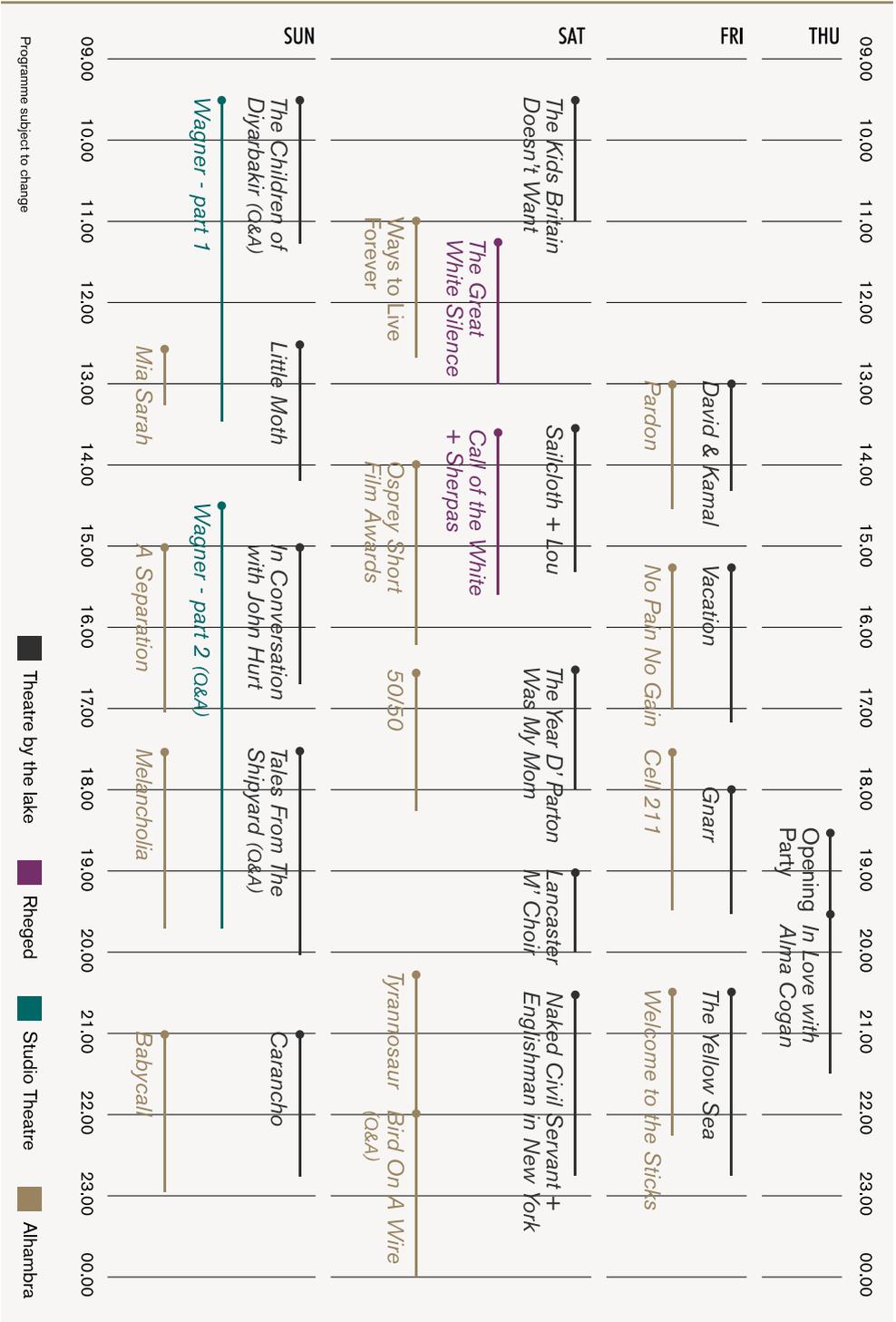
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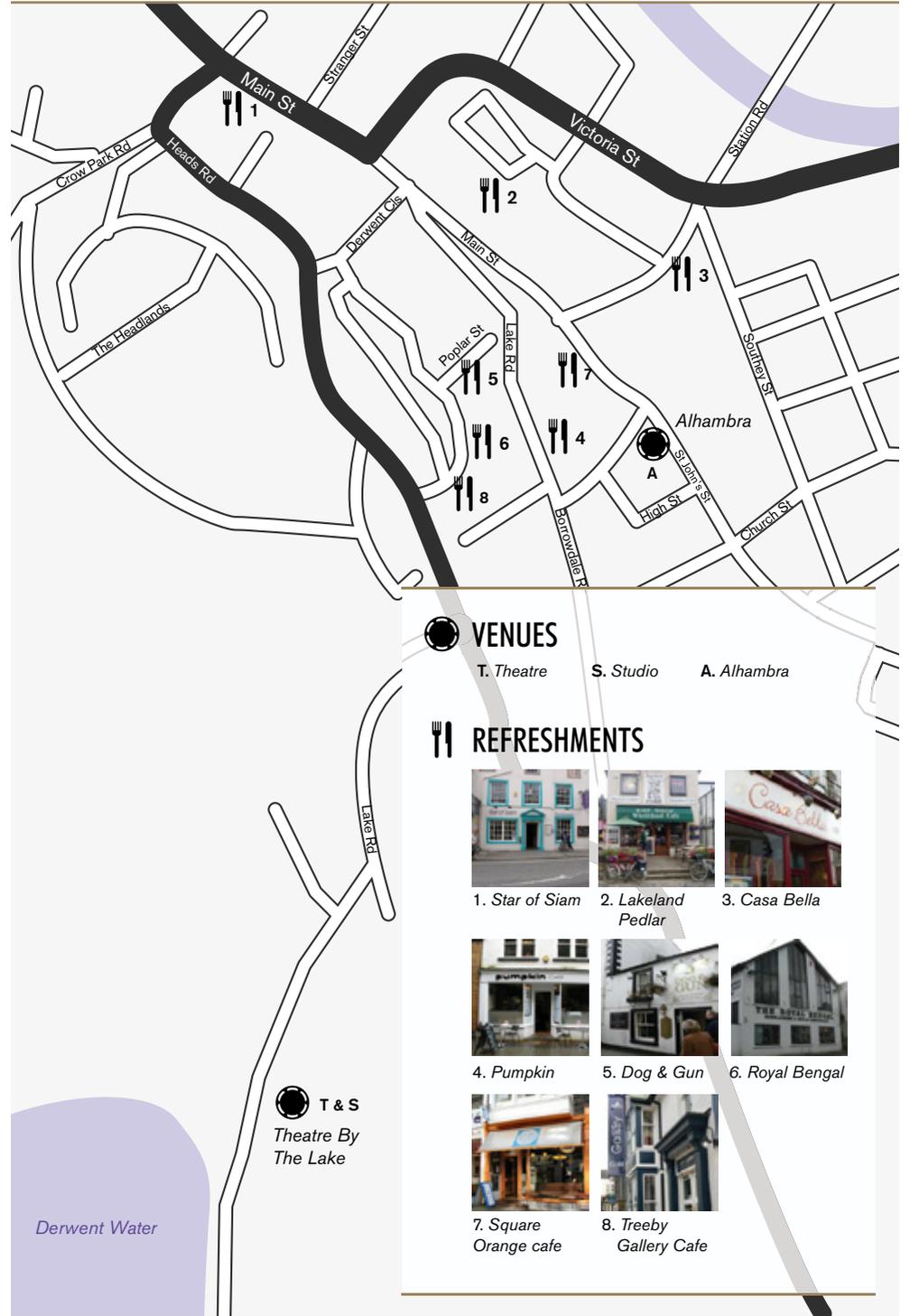
Programme subject to change

Theatre by the lake

Rheged

Studio Theatre

Alhambra



## THEATRE BY THE LAKE

THU

18:30 Opening Party  
19:30 *In Love with Alma Cogan*

## RHEGED & STUDIO THEATRE

## THE ALHAMBRA

FRI

13:00 *David & Kamal*  
15:15 *Vacation*  
18:00 *Gnar*  
20:30 *The Yellow Sea*

SAT

09:30 *The Kids Britain Doesn't Want (Q&A)*  
13:30 *Saicloth + Lou*  
16:30 *The Year Dolly Parton Was My Mom*  
19:00 *Lancaster Millennium Choir*  
20:30 *Naked Civil Servant*  
22.10 *Englishman in New York*

### Rheged

11:15 *The Great White Silence*  
13:30 *Call of the White & Sherpas*

13:00 *Pardon*  
15:15 *No Pain No Gain*  
17:30 *Cell 211*  
20:30 *Welcome to the Sticks*

11:00 *Ways to Live Forever (Q&A)*  
14:00 *Osprey Short Film Awards*  
16:30 *50/50*  
20:15 *Tyrannosaur*  
22.00 *Bird on a Wire (Q&A)*

SUN

09:30 *The Children of Diyarbakir (Q&A)*  
12:20 *Little Moth*  
15:00 *In Conversation with John Hurt*  
17:30 *Tales from the Shipyard (Q&A)*  
21:00 *Carancho*

### Studio Theatre

09:30 *Wagner (Part 1)*  
Introduced by Tony Palmer  
14:30 *Wagner (Part 2)*

12:30 *Mia Sarah*  
15:00 *A Separation (Nadir & Simin)*  
17:30 *Melancholia*  
21:00 *Babycall*