

Keswick Film Club

Spring 2011



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

'Copie conforme'
20th February





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. In 2006 we were Film Society of the Year, and in 2010 we were awarded Distinctions for Best Programme and Best Website. 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 (Keswick Lodge 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: September to December - the 'Autumn Season' January to April - the 'Spring Season'. Screenings are usually on Sundays at 5pm, but check in this brochure.

SCREENINGS

Screenings begin with a short introduction, followed, time allowing, by a short film. Film notes are available prior to screenings or on the club website, and we have a voting system - give the film a star rating out of five.

Spring Programme 2011

The Lonsdale Alhambra Cinema, Keswick

TICKETS

Membership is open to everyone and will save you money if you attend more than 5 films over the course of one year, including all Film Festival tickets.

Tickets: £4 for non members; £3 for members; £2.50 for students, under 16s and benefit claimants.

Membership: £5 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) or Chairman's house, 50 St. John's Street, Keswick, or at any club screening

Season Pass: £28 (Spring season 2011)

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

COMMITTEE

Chairman & Membership Secretary:

Rod Evans (017687 74475) info@keswickfilmclub.org

Secretary: Ian Payne

Treasurer: Tom Rennie

Committee Members: Vaughan Ames, Stephen Brown, Deborah Cowin, Angela Jackson, Anita Leaker, Ann Martin (Festival Director), David Miller, Elspeth Payne, Mike Rose-Troup.

Keswick Film Club is a voluntarily-run, not-for-profit organisation

Registered Charity No. 1083395

Sunday 9th January at 5pm

THE KIDS ARE ALL RIGHT

Director: Lisa Cholodenko. USA 2010 15

106 mins.

To open the spring season, we have the winner of the Best Feature at Berlin 2010, a film focusing on lesbian couple Nic (Annette Bening) and Jules (Julianne Moore), who are happily raising their two children (15-year-old Laser and his 18-year-old sister Joni,) when their lives are thrown into turmoil after the kids track down their anonymous sperm-donor father. He turns out to be charismatic restaurateur Paul (Mark Ruffalo) who then cheerfully enters the lives of his biological children and their mothers. His presence triggers a series of unexpected events, causing everyone involved to re-examine their lives and relationships.

Performances and direction are superb, the humour is sharp and intelligent, and relationships finely nuanced - but are the kids really all right?

'A wise, witty and wonderfully life-affirming movie that features a series of sparkling performances.'
Daily Mirror.

'Funny, aching, rueful...' Daily Telegraph



Sunday 16th January at 5pm

ALAMAR

Director: Pedro Gonzalez-Rubio. Mexico 2009 U
73mins. In Spanish with English subtitles.

Alamar is preceded by Oceans Journey, an under-water travelogue by local filmmaker John Walker.

Peter Bradshaw, The Guardian: 'There are some lovely, gentle moments in this documentary-style feature from Mexican director Pedro González-Rubio, set around the ravishingly beautiful coral reef of Banco Chinchorro in the Caribbean off the Mexican coast. Alamar – that is, "to the sea" – shows Jorge, a Yucatan tour guide bonding with his five-year-old son Natan from a failed relationship with an Italian woman, Roberta.'

Sukdhev Sandhu, Daily Telegraph: 'Is it fiction? Is it a documentary? Alamar...feels like a sun-kissed dream-drift. It's a haze of a film, tremulous with emotion, bursting with poignancy... Jorge takes his son on a trip to the reef and there, he offers him an imaginative patrimony: a world of water and birds and fish... memories that will likely swish and echo in the boy's subconscious for ever. It's a man's world that Gonzales-Rubio depicts without sentimentality, but with unusual tenderness...The intimacy between them belies any impression that what you're seeing is fabricated.'



Sunday 23rd January at 5pm

LEAP YEAR (Año bisiesto)

Director: Michael Rowe. Mexico 2010 18 92 mins.
In Spanish with English subtitles.

Winner of the Camera D'Or for Best First Feature at the 2010 Cannes Film Festival, this outstanding debut of Australian director Michael Rowe is a character study in loneliness, featuring an extraordinary leading performance by Mónica Del Carmen.

It is a highly charged sexual thriller, set within the confines of a Mexican apartment, which follows 29 days in the dispirited life of freelance journalist Laura Lopez, as she moves from one anonymous sexual encounter to another. Soon, Laura meets Arturo, and before long she is submitting to demeaning sexual acts as part of their relationship, a tragic psychological reaction to a secret trauma from her past, which occurred on the previous leap year. With a red square around a date on her calendar wall, the wheels are set in motion for what will turn out to be a startling conclusion.

'It's an intense, powerful and at times deeply painful movie, a serious exercise in sexual politics, and Mónica del Carmen as Laura gives an outstanding, brave performance.' Philip French, The Observer.



Sunday 30th January at 5pm

THE ARBOR

Director: Clio Barnard. UK 2009 15 94 mins.

One of the most remarkable films of 2010, nominated for six BIFA Awards, this genre-defying piece is set in Brafferton Arbor, the area of Bradford where late playwright Andrea Dunbar grew up. Dunbar, author of harsh, unflinchingly realistic plays (*Rita, Sue and Bob Too!*) about life in The Arbor, continued to live on the estate until her early death in 1990. For two years director Clio Barnard interviewed people who knew Dunbar, and now has used actors who lip-synch to recordings made with the playwright and her family, largely concentrating on the troubled relationship with her daughter Lorraine. This footage is mixed with newly filmed excerpts from Dunbar's first play (also called *The Arbor*), as acted in the streets where she grew up. 'Moving, bold, unconventional and impeccably staged, *The Arbor* is a worthy tribute to a powerfully artistic voice.' Anna Smith, Empire. 'Revealing, moving and entirely individual. Jonathan Romney, Uncut. 'A compelling insight into a challenging woman.' FilmFour. Number 5 on Sight & Sound's 'Top Ten of 2010.'



Sunday 6th February at 5pm

PEEPLI LIVE

Directors: Anusha Rizvi, Mahmood Farooqui. India 2010 15 104 mins. In Hindi with English subtitles.

Natha a poor farmer from Peepli village in the heart of rural India is about to lose his plot of land due to an unpaid government loan. A quick fix to the problem is the very same government's programme that aids the families of indebted farmers who have committed suicide. As a means of survival, farmer Natha can choose to die!

Anusha Rizvi has a story to tell and she does it without sermonising: her finely-nuanced narrative strikes home in a moving way, as she takes a light-hearted approach to a serious issue. The satire, directed at the media and the government hits hard and convincingly, aided and abetted by a talented, excellently-chosen cast.

'Both a heartfelt and a genuinely funny skewering of India's convoluted caste-consciousness.' Time Out, New York

'Drawing on India's rural-versus-urban divide, Rizvi spins a dynamic, enjoyably-acted yarn that balances farcical humour with a satisfying seriousness.' Tom Dawson, Total Film



The 12th Keswick Film Festival

Dates for your Diary: 10th – 13th February 2010

Once again we are well on the way to having films and guests selected for the Festival in February. We are avoiding half-term again and have changed our marketing this year to try and increase numbers, since arts sponsorship is getting harder to find. So do please invite your friends.

The format will remain very similar to previous years, starting with the party at the Theatre for Pass-holders on Thursday, with food and drink kindly donated by the restaurants in the town. We hope to be joined by Kay Mellor, director of our opening film plus Sue Johnston, well known actor from plays, TV and film. This year we are showing Best of Film Four films with guest Jack Gold, a number of Agnès Varda films following successful screening of her films at the Club, and Best of the Fests as usual. New films include *La Pivellina*, *Two Spirits*, *The Temptation of St Tony* and *Wasteland*. And for something really different come and see the Millennium Choir from Lancaster singing along to the black and white version of *Frankenstein*!

Pick up a Festival Brochure for full details

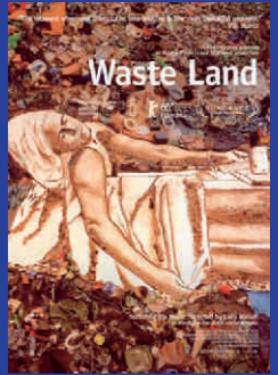
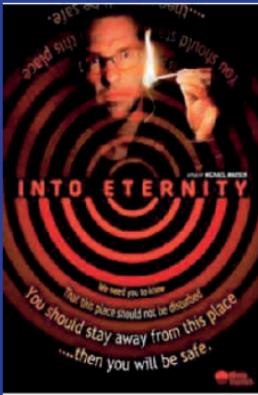
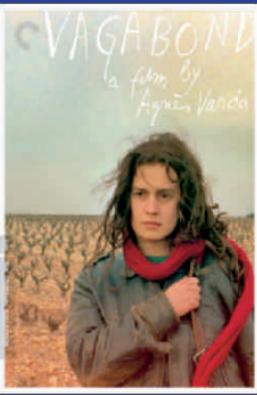
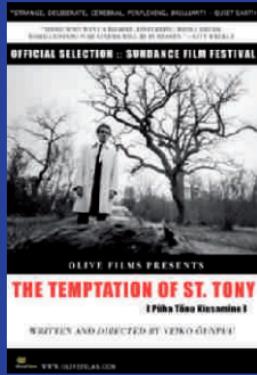
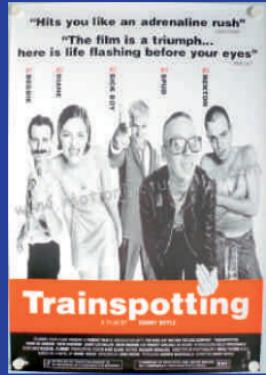
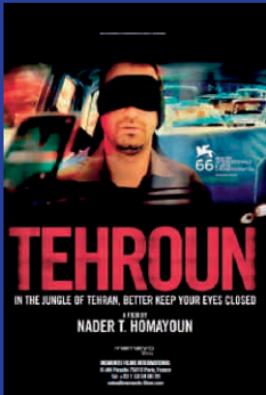
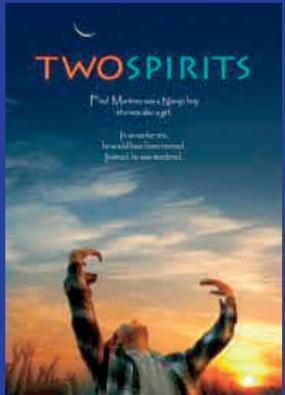
THEATRE BY THE LAKE - TICKETS & INFORMATION - open 9.30am to 8pm daily

017687 74411 or buy online from the Theatre website

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 12th Keswick Film Festival



Sunday 20th February at 5pm

CERTIFIED COPY (COPIE CONFORME)

*Director: Abbas Kiarostami. France/Italy/Iran 2010
12A 106 mins. In French & Italian with English subtitles.*

Iranian director Abbas Kiarostami's first European film features a luminous performance from Juliette Binoche, playing opposite opera singer William Shimel, who makes his screen debut as starchy academic James Miller. At Arezzo in Tuscany, Miller discusses a new book in which he suggests copies can be just as worthwhile as originals. Antiques dealer Binoche drives him to the hill town of Lucignano where they chat and flirt, and when they are assumed to be a married couple neither of them denies it. Is the relationship genuine or an elaborate act of role playing and does it even matter?

'A playful, sun-kissed musing on the blurring of art and life, artifice and reality.' Allan Hunter, Daily Express.

'The movie's strengths are a teasing script and Binoche's chameleon-emotioned performance, which won the Best Actress prize at Cannes.' Nigel Andrews, Financial Times.



Sunday 27th February at 5pm

ENEMIES OF THE PEOPLE

Directors: Rob Lemkin, Thet Sambath.

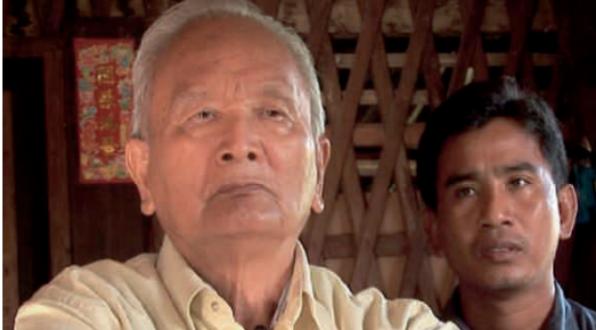
UK/Cambodia 2009 NC 93 mins.

The Khmer Rouge ran one of the twentieth century's most brutal regimes. Yet the Killing Fields of Cambodia remain unexplained. Until now. In *Enemies of the People* the men and women who perpetrated the massacres – from the foot-soldiers who slit throats to the party's ideological leader, Nuon Chea, aka Brother Number Two – break a 30-year silence to give entirely new testimony.

Unprecedented access to the Khmer Rouge has been achieved through a decade of work by one of Cambodia's best investigative journalists, Thet Sambath, who is on a personal quest: he lost his own family in the Killing Fields. The film is his journey to discover not how but why they died. In doing so, he understands for the first time the real story of his country's tragedy.

Special Jury Prize at Sundance 2010

'Stunning...amazing...one of the most gripping films I have seen.' Andrew Marr, BBC Radio 4
'A mission of truth...an inspiring film.' N.Y. Times.



Sunday 6th March at 5pm

ON TOUR (TOURNEE)

Director: Mathieu Amalric. France 2010 15

111mins. In French with English subtitles.

Inspired by a 1913 book by Colette about her experiences in early music halls, this road-movie fulfils Amalric's objective of translating her tale to a modern setting. Amalric himself stars as Joachim, an ex-television producer who has returned to France to manage a troupe of dancers he assembled while in the States. These burlesque ladies are the real deal, an experienced, worldly-wise bunch who work hard and play hard, strutting their stuff around the ports of France. The touching plot is worked out against the background of the troupe's witty routines (more tease than strip), appealing retro music and outrageous costumes, as they perform for actual audiences during the filming. At Cannes 2010 *La Tournée* won the FIPRESCI (critics') Award, and Amalric received the award for Best Director.

'*Tournée* is funny, intelligent, sad-eyed — just like Amalric himself.' Sukhdev Sandhu, Daily Telegraph.

Sunday 13th March at 5pm

UNCLE BOONMEE WHO CAN RECALL HIS PAST LIVES (Loong Boonmee raleuk chat)

Director: Apichatpong Weerasethakul. Thailand 2010 12A 114 mins. In Thai with English subtitles.
Winner of the Palme d'Or at Cannes 2010, this unique and beguiling movie introduces Uncle Boonmee, who, suffering from acute kidney failure, has chosen to spend his final days surrounded by his loved ones in the countryside. To his astonishment, the ghost of his deceased wife appears, along with his long-lost son in non-human form. This unlikely clan then treks through the jungle to a mysterious cave, the birthplace of his first life, and the film takes a series of ravishing, dreamlike detours, achieving a mesmerising reunion of the living with the dead, the natural with the supernatural.

'This is a visionary film in the director's characteristic style: mysterious, dreamlike, gentle, quiet, magical... one of those rare films that contribute to the sum of human happiness.' Peter Bradshaw, The Guardian



Sunday 20th March at 5pm

THE WILDEST DREAM - AT RHEGED

Director: Anthony Geffen. US 2010 PG 94 mins.

We're moving to Rheged's giant IMAX screen to make the most of this stunning cinematographical experience: beautiful shots of Everest form the background to George Mallory's lifelong obsession with conquering the summit and the suggestion that he was first to the top. With a stellar cast of voices including Liam Neeson, Ralph Fiennes and the late Natasha Richardson, the film blends personal accounts, re-enactments, historians' testimonies and photographs from Mallory's life, and the correspondence between him and his wife, creating a compelling movie that is part history, part mountaineering and part love story.

Geffen reconstructs the tragic assault on Everest by Mallory and Sandy Irvine while observing Conrad Anker's and Leo Houlding's attempt to repeat the earlier expedition using the primitive equipment of 1924.

'It's a handsome, deeply affecting picture.' Philip French, The Observer.

'Sheer adventure...terrifying!' The Hollywood Reporter.

Please keep a look-out for further information about the Club's help with transport, and the optional Rheged-hosted dinner to follow.



Sunday 27th March at 5pm

LOOSE CANNONS (MINE VAGANTI)

Director: Ferzan Özpetek. Italy 2010 12A 113 mins.
In Italian with English subtitles.

Both heart-warming comedy and heart-breaking drama have their place in this story which portrays an eccentric cast of characters from a well-to-do Italian family, owners of a pasta-making company, who gather to celebrate the handover of the business from father Vincenzo to eldest son Antonio. Younger son Tommaso decides he'll use the occasion to reveal to his unsuspecting kin that he is gay but, shockingly and farcically, his older sibling pre-empts him by making his own identical announcement. Tommaso is thus left stranded, still keeping his secret...

Undoubtedly comic, *Loose Cannons* is unusual in Italian cinema for focusing on the still entrenched conservatism of many families towards gayness. But it's no sermon: it's a witty, well-observed drama about pretending, about making other people happy, beautifully shot, acted and directed, and with a script full of warmth and richness.

'Engaging, affecting, well-acted and handsomely shot.' Time Out. 'Loose Cannons has it all.' BFI.



Sunday 3rd April at 5pm

OF GODS AND MEN (Des hommes et des dieux)

Director: Xavier Beauvois. France 2010 15

122 mins. In Arabic and French with English subtitles.

Winner of the Grand Prix at this year's Cannes Film Festival, this extraordinarily moving but non-sensationalist drama recounts the true story of a group of eight French Cistercian monks who were caught up in a bloody conflict between the Algerian Army and Muslim Jihadi insurgents. The country is increasingly in the grip of fundamentalist violence, and the brothers must soon decide whether to stay and carry out their duty to their Muslim neighbours, or leave. Aptly striving for simplicity and making a compassionate plea for understanding between cultures, the film muses on the meaning of religious vocation in a violent world.

'The "Last Supper" sequence...is perhaps one of the most sensational things I have seen on the big screen...I found Of Gods and Men thrillingly audacious, moving and real.' Peter Bradshaw, The Guardian



January 2011

Sunday 9th THE KIDS ARE ALL RIGHT (USA, 15)

Sunday 16th ALAMAR (Mexico, U)

Sunday 23rd LEAP YEAR (Mexico, 18)

Sunday 30th THE ARBOR (UK, 15)

February 2011

Sunday 6th PEEPLI LIVE (India, 15)

Thurs 10th - Sun 13th Feb: 12th KESWICK FILM FESTIVAL

Sunday 20th CERTIFIED COPY (Fr/It/Iran, 12A)

Sunday 27th ENEMIES OF THE PEOPLE (UK/Cambodia)

March 2011

Sunday 6th March ON TOUR (France, 15)

Sunday 13th March UNCLE BOONMEE WHO CAN RECALL HIS PAST LIVES (Thailand, 12A)

Sunday 20th March - at Rheged THE WILDEST DREAM (USA, PG)

Sunday 27th March LOOSE CANNONS (Italy, 12A)

April 2011

Sunday 3rd April OF GODS AND MEN (France, 15)

www.keswickfilmclub.org

www.keswickfilmfestival.org