

# Keswick Film Autumn 2017



**Alternative Films**

**From Around the World**

**Every Sunday**

**Keswick Film**  
at the  
**Alhambra**  
St John's Street  
Keswick





[www.keswickfilmclub.org](http://www.keswickfilmclub.org)



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 (now 'Cinema for All') including Best Programme four times, Best Website and Film Society of the Year. Anyone can come to a film, and we have over 200 members who benefit from even cheaper viewings.

#### LOCATION

The Alhambra Cinema, St. John's Street, Keswick, CA12 5AG, in the North Lake District. Leave the Market Square at the south end (The Royal Oak) 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. Most films are screened on Sundays at 5pm, but check in this brochure.

**Email us** at [info@keswickfilmclub.org](mailto:info@keswickfilmclub.org)

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## Autumn Programme 2017

### The Alhambra Cinema, Keswick

#### TICKETS

You do not need to be a member to see the films, but it will save you money if you attend more than ten films, including all Film Festival films, over the course of the two seasons in the year.

*Tickets:* £5.00 for non members; £4.00 for members; £3.00 for students, under 16s and benefit claimants.

*Membership:* £10 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 or the Chair's flat - top flat, 36 Station Street, Keswick, or at any club screening. Membership form available from our website.

*Season Pass:* £45 (Autumn season 2017 - for Members Only).

Membership also entitles attendance of Caldbeck Area Film Society and Brampton Film Club at members' rates and vice versa.

**Non-members are very welcome.**

#### COMMITTEE

Chair: Vaughan Ames (017687 80969), [info@keswickfilmclub.org](mailto:info@keswickfilmclub.org)

Vice Chair: David Miller Secretary: David Andrews

Treasurer: Paul Titley (acting) Membership Secretary: Elspeth Payne

Committee Members: Ian Payne (Festival Co-ordinator),  
Stephen Brown, Ann Martin, Angela Jackson, Alan Naylor,  
Stephen Pye, Tom Rennie, Mike Newsns.

*Keswick Film Club is a voluntarily-run, not-for-profit organisation  
Registered Charity No. 1083395*

Note: F Rated films in the brochure denote significant female involvement - director, writer or actor.

Sunday 10th September at 5pm  
**A MAN CALLED OVE**  
(En man som heter Ove)

Director: Hannes Holm. Sweden, 2015 (15) 1hr 56min.  
In Swedish with English subtitles.



Welcome back to Keswick Film! We have another season of films from around the world for you to enjoy.

After your summer break, are you ready to laugh? Ready to cry? Before we get stuck into some more thought-provoking films, we have a great season starter for you!

Meet Ove, the grumpy old man to beat even Victor Meldrew. He's lost his wife and his job and the only thing that stops him from committing suicide is that there would be no-one to moan at the neighbours all the while if he did...that and the fact that he is 'so bad at dying', as his new neighbour Parvaneh tells him.



You won't be surprised to know that Parvaneh also brings some hope into his life ('no-one should be alone...not even you'), so save some of your tears for the

feel-good moments too.

*'It is not hard to understand why 'A Man Called Ove', adapted from the best-selling novel by Fredrik Backman, has been such a huge success in Sweden. Writer-director Hannes Holm knows just how to mix the pathos, whimsy and the humour' - Geoffrey Macnab, Independent.*

Sunday 17th September at 5pm

## THE OLIVE TREE (El Olivo)

Director: Icíar Bollaín. Spain 2016 (15, F) 1hr 38min.  
In Spanish and German with English subtitles.

As a small child, Anna watches in horror as her family sell her grandfather's favourite 1000-year-old olive tree to help pay for a tourist restaurant.



Wind forward a dozen years and her grandfather has fallen into depression and dementia; does he miss his tree?

Anna discovers the tree has been bought by a Dusseldorf energy company as a symbol of its green policies; can she get it back?

What follows is her crazy mission, with a couple of friends, to go to Dusseldorf to rescue the tree, involving big business and the German environmental movement along the way.

The film is directed by Icíar Bollaín (we had her *'Even the Rain'* here in 2012 and *'Take My Eyes'* at the 2005 Festival) and written by her partner, multi-award winning Paul Laverty, Ken Loach's collaborator (*'I, Daniel Blake'*, *'The Wind that Shakes the Barley'*). Anna Castillo, who plays Anna, gets good reviews all round too, so this should be a treat for us all.



*'This is a small, soulful film that has two stars: the feisty Spanish actress Anna Castillo and a vast, gnarled, thousand-year-old olive tree' - Kate Muir, The Times.*

Sunday 24th September at 5pm

## CERTAIN WOMEN

Director: Kelly Reichardt. USA 2016 (12A, F) 1hr 47min.  
In English.

If you have seen any Kelly Reichardt movies, you will know she wants to draw you into the characters, asking you to think about their lives and their reaction to events: *'From her terrific debut feature 'River of Grass' through 'Meek's Cutoff' and 'Wendy and Lucy', Reichardt has given us incomplete, quietly suffering women who feel their way into change. Her M.O. is to allow their unexpressed longings to hang quietly in the air so we can feel them too, and watch what happens when they try to act on them'* – Ella Taylor, NPR.



*'Certain Women'* lets us see into the lives of four women in windswept Montana. Firstly, we meet Laura - Laura Dern playing a small-town lawyer, frustrated by the men she represents not respecting her abilities and yearning for more from her life.

Then we see Gina (Michelle Williams) who is fighting her teenage daughter and trying to hold her family together while planning a new house.



Lastly, newcomer Lily Gladstone leaves her horses for a while to take an evening class, where she falls for the teacher, Kristen Stewart.



*'These are normal people, like you and me, and it's that relatability that makes Reichardt's work here so powerful'* – Brian Tallerco, RogerEbert.com.

Sunday 1st October at 5pm

## **LAND OF MINE** (Under Sandet)

Director: Martin Zandvliet. Denmark 2015 (15) 1hr 40min.

In German and Danish with English subtitles.

At the end of World War Two, the Germans, suspecting that the allies intend to invade through Denmark, bury two MILLION land mines on the beaches of the west coast there. *'And so, following the war's end, the British and Danes forced 2,000 German prisoners of war to locate and defuse those land mines ... by hand.*

*So here we have a horrible human situation in which we understand both points of view. On the one hand, we have the Allies thinking, "You planted them. You get them out." You have a people anticipating their children running on the beach and getting dismembered. You have an entire coastline rendered unusable. On the other hand, you have these pathetic German kids — some of them underage teens conscripted in the last desperate phase of the war — who are victims of Hitler almost as much as the Allies' - Mick LaSalle, San Francisco Chronicle.*

This is, then, a war film, but not about the war. Martin Zandvliet's story takes up this dichotomy by following a tough Danish sergeant, put in charge of the PoWs, who starts off hating them as Nazis but, inevitably, begins to sympathise with them as they carry out their gruesome task. It will hardly be a spoiler to tell you that there are some explosions, but Zandvliet manages to echo the tension the Germans would have been feeling: *'He keeps outguessing us, and this outguessing serves an important function. With a task like this, there's no such thing as routine and not one moment that is safe' - LaSalle again.*

*'Writer-director Zandvliet has crafted a handsome, affecting and questioning film about post-war revenge and forgiveness' - Brad Wheeler, Globe and Mail.*



Sunday 8th October at 5pm

## AQUARIUS

Director: Kleber Mendonça Filho. Brazil 2016 (18, F) 2hr 23min.  
In Portuguese with English subtitles.



Imagine you have been living in the same place for most of your adult life, in a beautiful spot with beautiful views (this should be pretty easy for us in Keswick!). Your life has been wrapped up, not just in the place, but in the building itself. Along comes a developer who sees a chance to make a fortune by knocking down your home and building a newer, flashier apartment block. He offers you lots of money to move; what would you do?

Well, everyone in Clara's beachside block in Recife has agreed to sell... but she wants to stay. A retired music critic, she loves it here and has no need of the money. The developer, and even her friends and family think she is mad and try to persuade her to move...

The film is not about a 'David and Goliath' fight over the flat though. It *'turns out to be less about the twists and turns of Clara's story and more about the confounding experience of aging, the mind-body conundrum, and how the physical environment becomes such a potent signifier of time, memory and meaning'* - Ann Hornaday, Washington Post. *'...besides being a study of a woman under duress, the film is a portrait of a society where many traditional values, like its buildings, are at risk of being annihilated simply for the sake of modernity and money'* - Geoff Andrew, Time Out.

The film was nominated for the Palme d'Or at Cannes, and it is Sonya Braga (made famous by her role in *'Kiss of the Spider Woman'* back in 1985) who gets much credit for this: her *'evident strength, intelligence and vitality are essential to the character of the embattled but stubborn Clara'* - Geoff Andrew again.

Sunday 15th October at 5pm

## FRANTZ

Director: François Ozon. France/Germany 2016 (12A, F) 1hr 53min.  
In French and German with English subtitles.



It is 1919, only a few weeks after the war has ended and the inhabitants of Quedlinburg - a small town in Germany - are trying to come to terms with losing the war and losing their loved ones. Anna cannot get over her fiancé, Frantz: she is even still living with his parents. She visits Frantz's grave every day. One day she sees a stranger placing flowers on the grave. He turns out to be Adrien...a Frenchman. What is he doing there? How did he know Frantz?

François Ozon has built a reputation around thought-provoking films that don't fit into any one genre, that often blur the boundaries of both gender and sexuality ('8 Women', 'Swimming Pool', 'Jeune & Jolie'). He is also famous for producing films fast, averaging more than one a year. 'Frantz' is different; it is based on a little-known 1932 film 'Broken Lullaby', though the second half is completely new, written by Ozon. A romantic mystery, it comes over as an homage to Alfred Hitchcock's 'Vertigo', 'although Ozon being Ozon, every riff and tribute is upside down, back to front, and bilingual to boot' - Robbie Collin, Telegraph.

Anna and Frantz's family start off not trusting Adrien - even hating him as a Frenchman - but gradually they grow to like him as they find out how he knew Frantz. But is he telling the truth? Would knowing the truth help anyway? What should Anna do about her growing feelings for him?





Sunday 22nd October at 5pm

## THE AGE OF SHADOWS

Director: Jee-woon Kim. S Korea 2016 (15) 2hr 18min.

In Korean and Japanese with English subtitles.



'The Age Of Shadows' is a tremendous thriller, combining Hitchcockian elements with action set-pieces and a slippery plot line as full of twists and betrayals as one of John Le Carre's Cold War thrillers. It is set in Korea in the 1920s. The country is under the yoke of the Japanese but there is a ferocious resistance movement' - Geoffrey Macnab, Independent. Need I say more?! Expect double-agents, double-crossing, and lots of action!

Sunday 29th October at 5pm

## IN SYRIA (Insyriated)

Director: Philippe Van Leeuw. Belgium 2017 (15) 1hr 25min.

In Arabic with English subtitles.



With Syria dominating the news for so long, this film tries to show what it is like for the general population, living in fear each day. 'Set entirely in a Damascus apartment under siege from a world in conflict, this tautly-constructed, intensely claustrophobic drama offers a sometimes nerve-shredding depiction of what happens when conflict impinges on domestic space' - Jonathan Romney, Screen International.

Sunday 5th November at 5pm

## THE GRADUATE - AT RHEGED

**\*\*Memories of the 60s - Celebrating 60s films \*\***

Director: Mike Nichols. USA 1967 (12A) 1hr 41min.

In English.



If I ask you to name your favourite 1960s film, which one would come to your mind? No doubt we would get 100 different answers from 100 people...and we probably will when we ask the question at Rheged today. We have chosen 'The Graduate' to watch - mainly because it was such a great film, but also because it has just been re-released in a beautiful 4K digital version which should look fantastic at Rheged.

Do I need to tell you about the film? Dustin Hoffman made his name here as Ben, fresh out of university and sitting around at home looking for things not to do until he strikes up a...'liaison' with Mrs Robinson (Anne Bancroft), one of his parents' friends. His embarrassed attempts at sex are both funny and sad, and things get worse when he meets and falls for her daughter Elaine (Katherine Ross), who is due to get married soon... can love prevail? Will Mrs Robinson allow it? Will Elaine find out about his relationship with her mother? If you can't remember, all I will say is that it is a fantastic ride while he woos them both, ably assisted by the great music from Simon and Garfunkel.

After the film, instead of our usual meal, we are going to have some 60s snacks to eat while we discuss this and other 60s films. We will be joined by two professors from University College London who will tell us about the 1960s film memories of British cinema-goers they have collected over the last two years. They want to add yours too, so bring along your thoughts to share while you enjoy a great movie...and maybe some cheese and pineapple on sticks!

Sunday 12th November at 5pm

## **GOD'S OWN COUNTRY**

Director: Francis Lee. UK 2017 (NC) 1hr 44min.  
In English.



Many parts of the world make claim to being 'God's Own Country', including New Zealand and even the Lake District. In this case it is Yorkshire, and, to the Saxby family, it might be a bit tongue in cheek; their lives on an inexorably failing livestock farm cannot seem to be anything remotely like heaven.

Martin (Ian Hart) has had a stroke and is virtually incapacitated. This leaves his mother (Gemma Jones) to worry and his son, John (Josh O'Connor), to shoulder most of the work, against his will and temperament: he had wanted to go to university with all his mates. John is left morose and virtually an alcoholic, getting blind drunk most nights in the local. *'And what does he live for, now? When he is in town for livestock auctions, Johnny has fleeting sexual encounters with people he meets there'* - Peter Bradshaw, Guardian. Note the word 'people' here: John may not be out of the closet, but he is gay. His life changes for the better, finally, when his father hires a Romanian, Gheorge, to help out...

So we are in 'Brokeback Yorkshire' territory here. Like Brokeback, their relationship grows to be more than they thought. *'Under battered Yorkshire skies, with grime beneath its nails and soil clodding up the treads of its boots, Francis Lee's outstanding feature debut 'God's Own Country' is a work of rough-hewn alchemy. But instead of gold, from the muck and straw it spins a thrillingly real story of gay love'* - Jessica Kiang, BBC.com.

*'It is a film which lives and dies by the performances which Lee gets from his cast, and these are excellent: sharp, intelligent and emotionally generous'* - Bradshaw again.

Sunday 19th November at 5pm

## **HOTEL SALVATION** (Mukti Bhawan)

Director: Shubhashish Bhutiani. India 2016 (PG) 1hr 42min.

In Hindi with English subtitles.



If the Marigold Hotel was set up for old English people to enjoy a long and fulfilling retirement, then Hotel Salvation has been set up for old Indian people to pass their last days before they die...and they are limited to 15 days! *"If you die, good for you. If you don't, go back home" the proprietor tells them* - Amber Wilkinson, Eye for Film.

But *'Hotel Salvation'* is much more to do with a father and son relationship - even family relations generally - than dying. A wry, gentle comedy drama, it follows the events after Daya has a dream and decides he is ready to die. He wants to do this on the banks of the sacred Ganges at Varanasi, so, naturally, he 'asks' his son Rajiv to take him there.

Rajiv is a modern man, much more interested in making money than worrying about traditions, but, nonetheless, he gets time off work and off they go.

Once in Varanasi, they book into Hotel Salvation. *'Daya immediately settles in, making friends with the delightful widow Vimla and avidly following his favorite TV show 'Flying Saucer' with the other terminal residents. He has never seemed better. Rajiv gnaws his nails, torn between wanting his father to live and his anxiety to get back to work. His stress is palpable and one feels for his dilemma, at the same time one knows he has a big lesson to learn in that place'* - Deborah Young, Hollywood Reporter.

Is 15 days long enough? You will have to come along and see...



Sunday 26th November at 5pm

## THE OTHER SIDE OF HOPE

(Toivon tuolla puolen)

Director: Aki Kaurismäki. Finland 2017 (12A) 1hr 40min.

In Finnish, Arabic and Swedish with English subtitles.

This is not (quite) your average Aki Kaurismäki film: *'If you know the Finnish director Aki Kaurismäki, you'll know he makes the driest of dry black comedies that rarely put a step further than a Helsinki bar – with a quiffed rockabilly band and pack of cigarettes never far away. His films are gems of poker-faced comic absurdism, full of expressionless faces and gloomy rooms. That's still the case with 'The Other Side of Hope' – but this time the veteran filmmaker's mind is on the European refugee crisis. In his own idiosyncratic way Kaurismäki addresses this hot topic by asking: why would anyone want to come to horrible old Finland anyway?'* - Dave Calhoun, Time Out.

*'...with 'The Other Side Of Hope' he delivers what is easily his most political movie yet, a two-finger salute to cold-hearted bureaucracy and his homeland's apathy in the face of the humanitarian crisis. In true Kaurismäki style, of course, it's done with bone-dry wit, a gentle streak of melancholy, fixed cameras and a smattering of silly sight gags'* - Phil de Semlyen, Empire.

Two stories collide here: when salesman Waldemar Wikström wins big at cards, he decides to open a restaurant, where homeless and jobless Syrian refugee Khaled decides to sleep. Accepting the job he is offered by Wikström, Khaled begins to have hope...but is his hope misplaced? Will Finland accept him?

As de Semlyen goes on to say about Kaurismäki, *'His wit and humanism carve out a special if rarely heralded niche for his films. This one will linger longer than most'*.



Sunday 3rd December at 5pm

## THE GHOUL

Director: Gareth Tunley. UK 2016 (15) 1hr 25min.

In English.



Chris, a detective, feigns mental illness to get near the psychiatrist treating his suspect. *'Except that, from these fake, fictive therapy sessions, a different truth will emerge...*

*All the pieces of the puzzle are there, but the parallel pathways offered by Chris' co-existent insider and outsider POVs lead together – again and again – to a place that neither one alone could reach... 'The Ghoul' is the best journey through a damaged brain you will take all year – and the sign of a very impressive new British filmmaking talent' - Anton Bitel, Projected Figures.*

Sunday 10th December at 5pm

## THE MIDWIFE (Sage Femme)

Director: Martin Provost. France 2017 (12A, F) 1hr 57min.

In French with English subtitles.

Catherine Frot plays Claire in the title role - a woman whose life is her work and her garden; and she is happy with that...until along comes her father's ex-mistress, Beatrice, who walked out 30 years ago. Played by Catherine Deneuve, Beatrice is the complete opposite of Claire - a freewheeling lush who gambles for a living and drinks wine with her breakfast.

Why has Beatrice come back into Claire's life? Beatrice is impossible, *'But the great Deneuve plays her with such endearing spirit, such an irreducible weave of dignity and desperation, that our exasperation is tempered with genuine affection...Frot has the trickier, more recessive role, one that might easily be underestimated by those who*

*don't know her as one of her country's nimblest comic talents' - Justin Chang, Los Angeles Times. We have a great chance here to get to know them both.*



Sunday 17th December at 5pm  
**AFTER THE STORM**  
(Umi yori mo mada fukaku)

Director: Hirokazu Koreeda. Japan 2016 (PG) 1hr 55min.  
In Japanese with English subtitles.



Last Christmas, we finished the season with *'Our Little Sister'* - also by Hirokazu Koreeda. At the time, we said *'Koreeda does not so much tell a story as allow small events in the lives of his characters to show us the way'*. Well, 'small events' got in the way when we tried to show this film at the film festival; the DVD wouldn't play! After several requests, we decided to show it again here.

*'Hirokazu Koreeda has drawn comparisons to Yasujiro Ozu in the way he's not as interested in major plot twists or set pieces as he is in subtle human emotion, typically hinging on family dynamics'* - Brian Tallerico, RogerEbert.com.

*'No modern filmmaker has as sure a grasp on family dynamics as Hirokazu Koreeda'* - Tom Huddleston, Time Out.

In *'After The Storm'*, he concentrates on two people (played by Hiroshige Abe and Kirin Kiki, both of whom will be familiar to you from his previous films) - Ryota, who has made nothing of his life and regrets it now, and his ageing mother, Yoshiko.

Ryota is a feckless character; he has given up trying to be a novelist and become a private detective. He gambles too much and has been divorced by his wife, Kyoko, losing touch with his son, Shingo, in the process...and now his father has died.

The storm of the title hits and he is stuck inside his mother's house overnight with Kyoko and Shingo while the wind and rain rage outside... Can he make amends to his family?

We hope you have a great Christmas and a happy New Year - see you all next season!

## September

- Sunday 10th 5pm **A Man Called Ove**  
Sweden (15) Funny, sad, and moving story of a grumpy old man
- Sunday 17th 5pm **The Olive Tree**  
Spain (15, F) 'Save the tree!'
- Sunday 24th 5pm **Certain Women**  
USA (12A, F) Four women's stories in small-town USA

## October

- Sunday 1st 5pm **Land of Mine**  
Denmark (15) German PoWs forced to clear mines in Denmark
- Sunday 8th 5pm **Aquarius**  
Brazil (18, F) A woman's desire to stay in her threatened home
- Sunday 15th 5pm **Frantz**  
France/Germany (12A, F) Who is the Frenchman at the German's grave?
- Sunday 22nd 5pm **The Age of Shadows**  
S Korea (15) Double crossing action in Korea
- Sunday 29th 5pm **In Syria**  
Belgium (15) Under siege in an apartment in Damascus

## November

- Sunday 5th 5pm **The Graduate at Rheged**  
USA (12A) Ben tries for Mrs Robinson...and her daughter
- Sunday 12th 5pm **God's Own Country**  
UK (15) Life and love on a Yorkshire farm
- Sunday 19th 5pm **Hotel Salvation**  
India (PG) Life and death in a Varanasi hotel
- Sunday 26th 5pm **The Other Side of Hope**  
Finland (12A) Syrian refugee tries to make a life in Finland

## December

- Sunday 3rd 5pm **The Ghoul**  
UK (15) Is he the detective...or the patient?
- Sunday 10th 5pm **The Midwife**  
France (12A, F) Two women meet after 30 years apart
- Sunday 17th 5pm **After the Storm**  
Japan (PG) A man is stuck with his mother, ex-wife and son

Note: F Rated films denote significant female involvement - director, writer or actor.

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