

# FILM

Director: Trevor Steele Taylor  
Programme Co-ordinator: Aurora Drummer  
Projection Team: Janadie Cupido, Anthony Marx

Durations and age restrictions appear below the text  
Abbreviations: A = all; N = nudity; PG = parental guidance;  
S = sex; V = violence; L = language

Venue: Olive Schreiner Hall, Monument  
Tickets: R18

## 15 AMAZING

A Special Selection of New International Cinema

### THE GHOST WRITER (France/UK 2010)

Director: Roman Polanski  
Cast: Ewan McGregor, Jon Bernthal, Kim Cattrall, Pierce Brosnan  
Courtesy of Nu-Metro  
Roman Polanski is truly one of the all-time masters of cinema and like all great cinema artists (Peckinpah, Pasolini, Robbe-Grillet) constantly pursued by the "hounds of Hell". A new Polanski film is an occasion and *The Ghost Writer* is an occasion to be treasured. With elements of his most claustrophobic work such as *The Tenant* and *What?* this gripping thriller about a ghost writer for an ex-British Prime Minister who begins to find considerable dirt on the man is a *tour de force*. Ewan McGregor refashions his pursue to become the creature that Polanski at a younger age would have played himself. The 77-year-old director won Best Director at the Berlin Film Festival for the film.  
Sun 20 June 17:00 & Fri 2 July 20:00 (2 hrs 8 mins)  
Age Restriction: PG 13

### INNOCENT (UK 2010)

a.k.a. *Daughters of Eve/Silip*  
Director: Helen Blizard  
Cast: Harriet Neville, Paul Gilmore, Adrian Lukas, Marina Neil  
An impressive début film and a life-affirming story of a young girl's resistance to being bullied by her classmates. Georgie is an artistic, sensitive teenager who loves her guitar and finds fulfilment in writing songs and depressing poems. She lives with her disinterested aunt, her parents both being dead. A clique of girls mercilessly bully her at school and when things get really dangerously out of kilter her path intersects with a middle-aged man who, sickened after a self-congratulatory high school reunion, is tormented by memories of one of his classmates who was driven to suicide by constant bullying. Important themes are dealt with and the film succeeds enormously making one by turns livid with anger at the pomposity of the school as an institution and immense engagement with Georgie's problems.  
\* We refer you to the programme of the films of Britain's seminal female director Jane Arden  
Sun 20 June 20:00 & Sat 3 July 12:00 (1 hr 30 mins)  
Age Restriction: PG 13 (V)

### ANTICHRIST (Denmark 2009)

Written & director: Lars von Trier  
Cast: Charlotte Gainsbourg, Willem Dafoe  
Courtesy of Video Vision  
Beginning in glistening beauty as in slow motion black and white, a naked couple passionately make love to the strains of Handel's *Leave me to weep over my cruel fate* as the snow falls outside. As they climax, in an adjoining room, their two-year-old son falls to his death. The therapist husband takes his traumatised wife to a forest called Eden heavy with portents to come – a crow, a fox, a snake. 'Nature is Satan's Church' and through chapter headings of Pain, Grief and Despair we are with them on a roller-coaster ride into a place where chaos reigns! *Antichrist* is anti-commercial, anti-art-house, anti-media. The film re-invents cinema and in so doing re-affirms the power of the visual image as poetry and philosophy with access to the viscera.  
Sun 20 June 22:00 & Sat 26 June 22:00 (1 hr 44 mins)  
Age Restriction: 18 (SNLV)

### BRIGHT STAR (UK/Australia/New Zealand 2010)

Director: Jane Campion  
Cast: Abbie Cornish, Ben Whishaw, Kerry Fox  
Courtesy of Ster-Kinekor  
The intense and doomed relationship that developed between the poet John Keats and his neighbour Fanny Brawne is given lyrical treatment by Jane Campion along the lines of a traditional ballad. The result is a sensitive, unpretentious, eloquent film about artistic creativity and its relationship to living. Campion's view is that their world was light-filled, literally leaking light and although Keats dies leaving Fanny alone, the unique spirit of their love cannot be extinguished.  
Mon 21 June 17:30 & Sat 3 July 17:30 (1 hr 59 mins)  
Age Restriction: PG

### LONDON RIVER (France/UK/Algeria 2009)

Director: Rachid Bouchareb  
Cast: Sotigui Kouyate, Brenda Blethyn, Francis Magee, Sami Bouajila  
Courtesy of Video Vision  
When a woman who manages a small rural farm hears about the London bus bombing she begins to worry about her daughter and heads for the city. Simultaneously a Senegalese forest worker in France is concerned about his estranged son and leaves for England. Their paths intersect and different as they are they find a common purpose in searching for their children. For his extraordinary performance Kouyate won the Silver Bear for Best Actor at the Berlin Film Festival.  
Mon 21 June 20:00 & Sun 4 July 15:00 (1 hr 30 mins)  
Age Restriction: PG

### LEAVING (France 2009)

a.k.a. *Partir*  
Director: Catherine Corsini  
Cast: Kristen Scott-Thomas, Sergi Lopez, Yvan Attal  
Courtesy of the Labia  
A modern "Lady Chatterley" but viewed with both a very female and very French eye as comfortably married Suzanne seeks adventure in the arms of Catalan-workman Ivan. In the words of director Catherine Corsini – "I wanted to show a woman who dares to go for adventure. She won't compromise in the least. Even her children can't hold her back. I tried to show desire and its irruption in an ordinary, ordered existence. All psychology is eliminated and pure impulsion takes over, being that of bodies looking to come together or flee."  
Tues 22 June 17:30 & Sun 4 July 17:30 (1 hr 25 mins)  
Age Restriction: 15 (SN)

### SAMSON AND DELILAH (Australia 2009)

Director: Warwick Thornton  
Cast: Rowan McNamara, Marissa Gibson, Matjili Gibson, Scott Thornton  
Courtesy of Video Vision  
Set in the Aboriginal community in Australia this remarkable, almost wordless love story of two rootless, abused young people trying to find a life for themselves in the city away from the "reservations" is heart-rending. Samson is so brutalised he can sometimes barely see through the haze of his glue sniffing. Hard-hitting and sometimes painful to watch the film has a beauty of true compassion that shines out of the much-molested Delilah's intrinsic goodness. The cast of non-actors are superb especially Merissa Gibson as Delilah.  
Tues 22 June 20:00 & Fri 2 July 17:30 (1 hr 41 mins)  
Age Restriction: PG 13

### TERRORISM CONSIDERED AS ONE OF THE FINE ARTS (UK 2010)

Director: Peter Whitehead  
Cast: Sophie Strohmeier, Liza Tsygina-Whitehead, Samantha Berger  
Courtesy of Contemporary Films  
Adapting its title and theme from Thomas De Quincey's murder text, this long-overdue return to narrative cinema by the great British filmmaker Peter Whitehead is based around a mesmerising psycho-geographical exploration of modern day Vienna. The film incorporates a record of the subversive underbelly of the city into a poetic meditation on conspiracy theory, eco-terrorism, time and cinema, retracing the story of *The Third Man*. Adapted from a trilogy of Whitehead's own *Nohzone* novels, the objective and subjective becomes blurred as the film director merges with the fictional detective in a journey into the murky activities of covert counter-insurgency groups. Kaleidoscopic in intent, the film mixes Noh theatre, Victorian novels, Vienna after the war, opium, domain names and Jacob's ladder "pitched twixt Heaven and Charring Cross".  
Wed 23 June 17:30 & Wed 30 June 22:00 (2 hrs 20 mins)  
Age Restriction: 18 (SN)

## LOOKING FOR ERIC (UK/France 2009)

Director: Ken Loach

Cast: Eric Cantona, Steve Evets

Courtesy of Video Vision

Ken Loach's latest hymn to the common man gets under the skin of British maleness. If one has to programme a film with football in it this is definitely the one. Ken Loach is the master of social realism and with *Looking for Eric* he has produced a surprisingly heart-warming movie. Eric Bishop, a forty-something postal worker and avid Manchester United fan has a life that is something of a mess. One night, alone in his room getting high he conjures up an alter ego, Eric Cantona, footballer of note, who takes on the role of a life-coach (played by Cantona himself).

Wed 23 June 20:00 & Sun 4 July 12:00 (1 hr 56 mins)

Age Restriction: PG

## DOWN TERRACE (UK 2009)

Director: Ben Wheatley

Cast: Robin Hill, Julia Deakin, David Schaal

Courtesy of Magnolia

An unexpected delight – a British film that is extremely funny, extremely nasty and extremely gripping! Father and son, Bill and Karl are fresh out of jail for an unspecified crime but they are obsessed to find out who snitched on them. They return to their terrace abode in Brighton where wife/mum does the traditional housewife thing but is not averse to a bit of rough stuff. It soon becomes apparent that this suburban house is packed with gangsters such as Pringle who takes his baby along on jobs, Karl's hard-nosed pregnant girlfriend and a nasty piece of work called Eric. An auspicious feature film debut for Ben Wheatley, chiefly known as a television comedy writer. They return to their terrace abode in Brighton where wife/mum does the traditional housewife thing but is not averse to a bit of rough stuff. It soon becomes apparent that this suburban house is packed with gangsters such as Pringle who takes his baby along on jobs, Karl's hard-nosed pregnant girlfriend and a nasty piece of work called Eric. An auspicious feature film debut for Ben Wheatley, chiefly known as a television comedy writer.

Thurs 24 June 20:00 & Sun 4 July 10:00 (1 hr 30 mins)

Age Restriction: 18 (VL)

## LET THE RIGHT ONE IN (Sweden 2009)

Director: Tomas Alfredson

Cast: Lina Leandersson, Kare Hedebrant

Courtesy of the Labia

There has been no time in history apart from the Victorian era when the "vampire" has been more popular and then, as now, teenage girls are probably the bulk of the market. The vampires themselves have got younger though progressing from the decaying Dracula through Buffy to the teenage bloodsuckers of *Twilight*. The little vampire in this stunning film "has been 12 for a very long time." She is a pretty, extraordinary figure, waif-like and feral with a thick tangle of black hair. In the heart of one of Sweden's most frigid suburbs, young Oskar, so pale he is almost translucent, is mercilessly bullied at school. When the little vampire moves into the flat next door and he "invites her in" the two lonely youngsters find a common purpose and the bullies are doomed.

Thurs 24 June 22:00 & Wed 30 June 20:00 (1 hr 38 mins)

Age Restriction: 15 (SNV)

## SOUNDTRACK FOR A REVOLUTION (USA 2009)

Directors: Bill Guttentag & Dan Sturman

With: The Blind Boys of Alabama, Joss Stone, Richie Havens, John Legend

Courtesy of Video Vision

A compelling and extremely effective documentary about the Civil Rights Movement, the Anti-War Movement and the music that is a doorway to discussion about the absurdities of segregation and the puerility of violence. Music created a sense of solidarity for protest and the songs wind their way through the film forming the connective tissue that holds the discussion together. Spurred on to give a reality to what for his school-age daughter was "history" co-director Guttentag sought to make tangible that talking about "just wars" or any other euphemism that justifies violence is the path of the unimaginative. The film twists your insides and renders the times of protest tangible.

Fri 25 June 15:00 & Fri 2 July 15:00 (1 hr 22 mins)

Age Restriction: PG

## GODFORSAKEN (Pakistan/UK/France 2010)

Director: Jamil Dehlavi

Cast: Annabel Wright, Trevor White, Nick Ashdon, Vernon Dobtcheff

Courtesy of Dehlavi Films

A film of remarkable beauty tells the story of a fallen angel seeking redemption for failing in his given task to protect a child. Dehlavi's elegant

camerawork circling the angel as he desperately juggles between two women – the drug-addicted pole-dancer who is the mother of the dead child and the new wife of the other woman's ex-husband, whose child he delivers in a parking garage. Forever startling the images burn themselves on the mind, the bizarre mask worn by the pole dancer, the wounds on the angel's back where his wings fell off when he became "Godforsaken" and the breath-taking last frame when the angel takes a decision of monumental import.

Fri 25 June 20:00 & Tues 29 June 17:30 (1 hr 21 mins)

Age Restriction: PG 13

## THE ROAD (USA/Australia 2009)

Director: John Hillcoat

Cast: Viggo Mortensen, Kodi Smit-McPhee, Charlize Theron

Courtesy of Video Vision

The Road is a requiem for the death of our civilization devastated along with the planet leaving a world bleached of life and colour. It is within this world stripped of every certainty that a man and woman give birth to a baby boy. "Sooner or later" the wife predicts, "they will catch up with us". "They will rape us, kill us and eat us". Ten years later, the father (Mortensen) and the boy (Smit-McPhee) are on the road fleeing the "they" referred to by his departed wife with whom he conducts an interior dialogue. Through a sprawling network of cracked concrete highways and a landscape peppered with ash and snow the travellers head for the coast and an un-promised hope of survival. Superbly adapted from Cormac McCarthy's novel the film has visuals invested with horror like old photographs, indistinct in the corners redolent of fading memory.

Tues 29 June 20:00 & Sun 4 July 20:00 (1 hr 51 mins)

Age Restriction: 15 (V)

## BAD LIEUTENANT: PORT OF CALL NEW ORLEANS (USA/Germany 2009)

Director: Werner Herzog

Cast: Nicholas Cage, Eva Mendes, Val Kilmer

In a post-Katrina New Orleans, Terence McDonagh is one of the few cops left in town after a mass exodus. In name only – a follow up to Abel Ferrara's movie with Harvey Keitel refashioned by Nicholas Cage. Werner Herzog retains his power to amaze and, in Cage he might have found a successor to his legendary collaborator Klaus Kinski. The corrupt, backache-plagued, drug-addicted cop moves through a hurricane-ravaged, semi-flooded city searching for a killer, with his behaviour becoming more erratic, out of his depth and out of his mind. An atmospheric film that is rich and strange.

Sat 3 July 20:00 (2 hrs 2 mins)

Age Restriction: 18 (SNVL)

## JANE ARDEN & JACK BOND

It comes as something of a surprise when looking at British film history to see how few female directors there were until recent times. In the early seventies Jane Arden stood almost alone as a female voice in a male dominated industry. Along with her partner Jack Bond she was responsible for three remarkable films, which were thought lost after she took her life in the early eighties. Now meticulously restored, they are once again available to astound a new generation of audiences. We thank the British Film Institute for their commitment to the preservation of important cinema and the effort they have put into the re-presentation of these remarkable works.

## SEPARATION (UK 1967)

Director: Jack Bond

Cast: Jane Arden, David De Keyser,

Ann Lynn, Ian Quarrier

Courtesy of Contemporary Films

While Separation is directed by Jack Bond and based on a story by Jane Arden, Arden could be said to direct the film from within.

The film's ostensible narrative circles around a protagonist called Jane played by Arden who is torn between a husband and a lover, as well as being haunted by voices from her past, mainly her mother and her child self. The actor playing Jane's husband also plays her psychiatrist, both men trying to reduce her to discourse on behaviour but here, the woman (Jane) is her own explorer of the troubling terrain of her own body and the bodies of others. Black and white film is randomly punctuated by colour as Jane lives spread-eagled on a bed, wearing a wedding veil next to her lover while the previous scene replays on a screen behind them. The soundtrack is fuelled by great music from Procol Harum.

Mon 21 June 15:00 (1 hr 33 mins)

Age Restriction: 18 (SN)



Anti Clock (see p.44)

## THE OTHER SIDE OF THE UNDERNEATH (UK 1972)

Director/Writer: Jane Arden

Cast: Sheila Allen, Susanka Fraey, Liz Danciger, Ann Lynn, Jane Arden  
Courtesy of Contemporary Films

After being dragged out of a lake, a nameless young woman finds herself committed to a countryside group therapy session where the main therapist (Arden herself) guides the female patients through a gruelling series of encounters, which slip in and out of reality. Created with the participation of Arden's Holocaust Theatre Company, an avant-garde group of players who cut loose here in sequences of mounting hysteria including a half-naked woman crucified and mounted in the air.

Tues 22 June 15:00 (1 hr 46 mins)

Age Restriction: 18 (SNVL)

## ANTI CLOCK (UK 1980)

Directors: Jane Arden & Jack Bond

Written by Jane Arden

Cast: Sebastian Saville, Suzan Cameron, Liz Saville, Louise Temple

A study of the psychological state of Joseph Sapha, a self-destructive young man cursed with the ability to receive constant visions of the future. Unable to deal with his memories he can only relate to a professor (also himself) attempting to reprogram and unravel these complex thought processes. The film disappeared almost immediately after release primarily because of Arden's suicide. Extremely strange and often hypnotically beautiful the film is awash with provocative ideas about the nature of the human mind, political freedom and aesthetic perception.

Wed 23 15:00 (1 hr 47 mins)

Age Restriction: 18 (SN)



The National Arts Festival welcomes director Jamil Dehlavi for a retrospective of his work.

Jamil Dehlavi, an Indo-Pakistani-French filmmaker was born in Calcutta to an Indian father and French mother. The family moved to Pakistan after 1947 where his father worked in the Pakistan Foreign Service, giving Jamil an opportunity to travel to various foreign locations, specifically in Europe. This also gave him a chance to learn several languages and to become exposed to the international world of art and cinema. Dehlavi studied at Oxford University, pursued law and was called to the Bar at Lincoln's Inn in London. He later made his way to New York where he spent three years studying cinema at Columbia University, obtaining a Master of Fine Arts (MFA) in film directing. He also made his first film while he was there, fell in love with this line of work, and has never looked back since.

## GODFORSAKEN (Pakistan/UK/France 2010)

Fri 25 June 20:00 & Tues 29 17:30 (1 hr 21 mins)

Age Restriction: PG

\* See 15 Amazing programme

## INFINITE JUSTICE (UK/Pakistan 2006)

Director: Jamil Dehlavi

Cast: Kevin Collins, Raza Jaffrey, Jennifer Calvert, Constantine Gregory

The film, winner of the FIPRESCI International Critics Prize, is loosely based on the months leading to the death of the American Jewish journalist Daniel Pearl who was investigating links between Pakistan, Al Qaeda and 9/11 when he was kidnapped by Islamic fundamentalists. His beheading was filmed by his captors. Dehlavi's uncompromising film strikes to the heart of the international stand-off between East and West and postulates whether professional observers such as Pearl are merely puppets in a wider conspiracy controlled not by governments or idealists but by shadowy middle-men with their own murky agendas. At no point does Dehlavi allow himself to take sides, instead presenting his story from multiple viewpoints. *Infinite Justice* – the name given by the Americans to their operation to topple the Taliban in Afghanistan – is a hard-hitting but always intelligent contemplation on American world policy and the reaction to it by the Muslim world.

Sat 26 June 20:00 & Thurs 1 July 20:00 (1 hr 33 mins)

Age Restriction: 15 (V)

## JINNAH (Pakistan 1999)

Director: Jamil Dehlavi

Cast: Christopher Lee, James Fox, Maria Aitken, Shashi Kapoor  
Courtesy of Magnolia

The story of Mohammed Ali Jinnah, founder of Pakistan. Dehlavi portrays the two main characters – Jinnah and his sister Fatima – with such endearing sensitivity and impeccable credibility, while also capturing the high political drama that marked the history of the struggle for Pakistan. The device he uses so skilfully is to challenge Jinnah into responding to the critique of both his leadership and his goal. This enables an exposition by way of answering charges levelled against him of the rationale for Pakistan, as well as the treachery and betrayals that culminate in Jinnah's break from Congress and his stormy relationship with Lord Mountbatten. Christopher Lee plays Jinnah with conviction and his performance is outstanding.

Sun 27 June 20:00 & Mon 28 June 15:00

Age Restriction: PG

## IMMACULATE CONCEPTION (UK/Pakistan 1992)

Director: Jamil Dehlavi

Cast: Melissa Leo, James Wilby, Shabana Azmi, Zia Mohyeddin

Under Benazir Bhutto's government, Dehlavi returned to Pakistan to make *Immaculate Conception* the story of a childless English-American couple who visit a fertility shrine in Karachi with devastating results. The shoot was not without difficulties of its own as the Gulf War had just begun and anti-Western feeling was high. Despite the political problems the film was completed successfully and went on to win the Special Jury Prize at the Dinard Film Festival and was selected for the Panorama in Berlin. "Intelligent and buzzing with ideas, the film is perceptive, entertaining and pungent like *A Passage to India* drained of its hope and liberal goodwill." (The Observer). "The film is immaculate, its conception is challenging and imaginative and the location work is terrific. A very shrewd understanding of the world's two-way cultural desires." (The Guardian)

Sun 27 June 17:30 & Thurs 1 July 15:00 (1 hr 58 mins)

Age Restriction: 15 (SV)

## BORN OF FIRE (UK 1983)

Director: Jamil Dehlavi

Cast: Peter Firth, Suzan Crowley, Stefan Kalipha

A gifted British flautist goes into the wilds of Turkey to engage in a musical and mystical battle with a Master Musician/Magician, a supernatural creature who plans to destroy the world by fire. Drawing on a myth of the universal unconscious which appears to span every countries mythology – like Robert Johnson playing the blues with the Devil at the crossroads – the white musician/magician and the black musician/magician battle it out with the power of sound for the soul of humankind.

Mon 28 June 22:00 (1 hr 39 mins)

Age Restriction: PG 13

## THE BLOOD OF HUSSAIN (Pakistan 1981)

Director: Jamil Dehlavi

Cast: Salman Peerjada, Kika Markham, Durriya Kazi

An abstract essay on tyranny, this controversial film is a fictional account of a military dictatorship and the revolutionary movement against it. Shot on location in Pakistan, Dehlavi recast the martyrdom of Prophet Mohammed's grandson, who fought against the tyranny of the Yazid, the most notorious despot in the history of Islam, in the context of modern Pakistan. The film was finished a fortnight before General Zia came to power, and for that sin of political clairvoyance, he was forced to leave the country and live in exile. The film was selected for the Director's Fortnight in Cannes and won the Grand Prize at the Taormina Film Festival in Sicily.

Mon 28 June 17:30 (1 hr 38 mins)

Age Restriction: PG

## TOWERS OF SILENCE (Pakistan 1975)

Director: Jamil Dehlavi

Cast: Judy van Hook, Jamil Dehlavi, Ajaz Ahmed

A surreal impression of a young boy's ritualistic obsession with death. Beautiful and awesome – a mystical journey into a soul possessed portraying ever-recurring problems and fears of mankind such as life and death, religion and rebellion, love and despair. "Dehlavi is a poet with the camera." (The Pakistan Times). "A startling fairy tale of our time." (The Dawn, Pakistan). "The film speaks well of the future of Pakistani cinema." (The Times of India)

Wed 30 June 12:00 (25 mins)

Age Restriction: PG

# 2010 STANDARD BANK YOUNG ARTIST FOR FILM CLAIRE ANGELIQUE

## MY BLACK LITTLE HEART

(Denmark/Germany/South Africa 2008)

Director: Claire Angelique

Cast: Skyf Umlungu (Claire Angelique), Ingrid Bithiah Diener, Simon Erasmus, Graham Barnes

A film to take the breath away, the multi-talented Claire Angelique's feature film directorial debut is so good that it is miraculous. Produced by Lars von Trier's people Zentropa and shot by Anthony Dod Mantle (*Slumdog Millionaire*), the film shows a vision of Durban that is beautiful and hellish. A young girl (played by Angelique) addicted to heroin, working as a dancer, porn actress and sometime prostitute finds the foetus of a Nigerian baby lying on the beach. This moment informs the horrifying progress of her story as Nigerian drug lords take advice from their shaman and bloody voodoo practices involve her and her pregnant best friend. Uncompromising, the film is vicious and painted with garish brush strokes. The girl's gang rape by a crowd of black passengers at the back of a bus is almost unbearable to watch and the frequent injections into arms and other anatomical regions are pursued with the camera firmly placed as an observer. The subject matter could not be darker and the deeply personal narrative is as naked as one can get. The soundtrack by Chris Letcher is a considerable plus.

Sun 27 June 22:00 & Mon 28 June 20:00 (1 hr 30 mins)

Age Restriction: 18 (SNVL)



Claire Angelique

## CLAIRE ANGELIQUE TALKS PART 1 & PART 2

Claire will introduce discussion on her work illustrated with screening a selection of her short films such as:

*My BLACK LITTLE HEART PROMO, X = RAPE, NO-VICE, SOLID WASTE, SEXE, HOMOPHOBIA – THE RACISM WITHIN, IT SMELLS DISGUSTING, GOLEM'S EFFECT, I LOVE THIS COUNTRY BECAUSE....., HYPE, PALACE OF BONE (OR PARTS THEREOF)*

Part 1: Sun 27 June 12:00 (1 hr)

Part 2: Sun 27 June 18:00 (1 hr)

Age Restriction: 18 (SNVL)

# THE LABYRINTHINE CINEMA OF ALAIN ROBBE-GRILLET & MARGUERITE DURAS

Presented with the kind assistance of the French Institute in Johannesburg (IFAS), the French Embassy and Culturesfrance.



Robbe-Grillet

The French writers Alain Robbe-Grillet and Marguerite Duras were the masters of the literary movement the *Nouveau Roman*, a literary style that was non-linear, concise and mysterious. Remarkably both Robbe-Grillet and Duras were as devoted to filmmaking as they were to literary output and their films stand as unique and fascinating works of personal vision.

## THE IMMORTAL (France 1963)

a.k.a. *L'Immortelle*

Director/Writer: Alain Robbe-Grillet

Cast: Francoise Brion, Jacques Doniol-Valcroze, Catherine Robbe-Grillet

Robbe-Grillet's first solo directorial feature scripted before *Last Year at Marienbad* was the winner of the most highly acclaimed critic's award the Prix Louis Delluc. *The Immortal* deals with a trio of characters designated in the published screenplay, as simply L, M, and N. This film enigma tells the story of N who falls in love with an elusive stranger in Istanbul. She disappears mysteriously and he is determined to find her again.

Mon 21 June 12:00 (1 hr 40 mins)

Age Restriction: 15(S)

## TRANS-EUROPE EXPRESS (France 1966)

Director/Writer: Alain Robbe-Grillet

Cast: Jean-Louis Trintignant, Marie-France Pisier, Alain Robbe-Grillet

Banned in England in 1967, the film became a *success de scandale* and even when screened in select locations, was generally shorn of its most infamous scene of naked girls in cages. Jean (played by Robbe-Grillet) writes a screenplay while on board the Trans Europe Express. Trintignant plays the protagonist of the film-within-the-film, a professional drug smuggler with sado-masochistic tendencies who gets involved with double-dealing between Paris and Antwerp.

Tues 22 June 12:00 (1 hr 45 mins)

Age Restriction: 18 (SNV)



Trans-Europe Express

## THE MAN WHO LIES (France/Czechoslovakia 1968)

a.k.a. *L'Homme qui Ment*

Director/Writer: Alain Robbe-Grillet

Cast: Jean-Louis Trintignant, Ivan Mistrik, Sylvie Breal, Sylvia Turbova

Stranger Boris turns up in a remote Czech village, claiming to be someone who left many years ago, a friend of a resistance fighter who was shot in the war. As inconsistencies in his story begin to stack up, local residents become suspicious. Of this character Robbe-Grillet says: "Boris is someone in the act of creating himself. Boris does not lie – he speaks. He is the modern hero who has chosen his words as the guarantee of his own reality." Winner of the Best Actor Award (Trintignant) and Best Screenplay (Robbe-Grillet) at the 1968 Berlin Film Festival.

Wed 23 June 12:00 (1 hr 35 mins)

Age Restriction: 15 (S)

## EDEN AND AFTER (France/Tunisia/Czechoslovakia 1970)

a.k.a. *L'Eden et Apres*

Director/Writer: Alain Robbe-Grillet

Cast: Catherine Jourdan, Pierre Zimmer, Richard Leduc, Loraine Rainery

Robbe-Grillet's first excursion into colour is a heady blend of free-form hedonism and hallucinogenic sexual experimentation. Catherine accepts some powder offered to her by a mysterious stranger Duchemin. He disappears and she sets off to North Africa to find him living for real all the hallucinations she witnessed earlier. This film is about colours. About the blue and the white of the landscape and about the red that comes to stain it cruelly.

Thurs 24 June 12:00 (1 hr 33 mins)

Age Restriction: 18 (SNV)

## GRADIVA

*C'est Gradiva qui vous Appelle*

Fri 25 June 22:00 & Tues 29 June 22:00 (1 hr 58 mins)

Age Restriction: 18 (SNV)

\*For Robbe-Grillet's final masterpiece see the programme "Don't Bring the Kids".

## THE TRUCK (France 1977)

a.k.a. *Le Camion*

Director/Writer: Marguerite Duras

Cast: Gerard Depardieu, Marguerite Duras

"I wanted to make cinema because the films people made with my novels were completely unbearable." – Duras.

The central question asked by Depardieu of Duras in *The Truck* is: "Is this going to be a film?" "This is a film" is Duras' reply. Seated in her Paris flat Depardieu listens to the film read to him by Duras. His role is to be a truck driver picking up an old woman hitchhiker to be played by Duras, who recounts her life. Every day she does this, stopping cars and telling her life story as if for the first time. Cinema which requires the visual imagination of the viewer – Cinema in its purest form.

Fri 25 June 12:00 (1 hr 20 mins)

Age Restriction: PG

**LE NAVIRE NIGHT** (France 1979)

Director/Writer: Marguerite Duras

Cast: Dominique Sanda, Bulle Ogier, Mathieu Carriere

"I approach cinema with the intention to murder it" – Duras.

The story of two tragic lovers who never meet. The girl is dying of leukaemia and dare not risk face-to-face contact. For days and nights they live with the phone, sleeping by the receiver, speaking or remaining silent. A dark orgasm, with neither touchin. Eyes closed, just voices. Benoit Jacquot and Duras provide the disembodied voices heard.

Mon 28 June 12:00 (1 hr 35 mins)

Age Restriction: PG

**AGATHA** (France 1981)

a.k.a. *Agatha et les illimetees*

Director/Writer: Marguerite Duras

Cast: Bulle Ogier, Yann Andrea

The story of a seaside holiday told by a brother and sister whose (platonic?) incest is declared. It is by the absence of things that the film unfolds, the lack of light that we call light, the lack of life that we call life and the lack of love that we call love. Duras gives us less to see but more to hear and, as always, more to think about.

Tues 29 June 12:00 (1 hr 30 mins)

Age Restriction: PG

**THE MAN OF THE ATLANTIC** (France 1982)

a.k.a. *L'Homme Atlantique*

Director/Writer Marguerite Duras

"I really don't care if anyone sees my film." – Duras

In seeing the film is of very little importance as there are hardly any filmic images, it's almost a black screen. Filming in absentia! This film about writing and the disappearance of the image is a rebalancing of cinema, a culmination of Duras' discoveries about the autonomy of the soundtrack to return the writer's voice to their writing.

Wed 30 June 12:00 (45 mins)

Age Restriction: PG

**THE CHILDREN** (France 1984)

a.k.a. *Les Enfants*

Director/Writer: Marguerite Duras (with Jean Mascolo)

Cast: Axel Bogousslavsky, Daniel Gelin, Andre Dussolier, Pierre Arditi

"I don't know if I have discovered filmmaking but I have made films." – Duras

In *The Children*, Ernest the child says, "I don't want to go back to school because at school they teach me things I don't know." Simply stated by Duras: "This is an infinitely desperate comic film whose subject is knowledge."

Thurs 1 July 12:00 (1 hr 34 mins)

Age Restriction: A

**EVEN DWARVES STARTED SMALL**

A programme of very rare and very wonderful short films by the animators Jan Lenica (from Poland), Raoul Servais (from Belgium) and Jan Svankmayer (from the Czech Republic)

NB: These short films are individually shown at the screenings of some of the full-length films.

**A** (Poland 1969)

Director: Jan Lenica

A writer is persecuted by an enormous and abusive letter A. Just as he thinks he has gotten rid of it, a giant B appears.

Mon 21 June 12:00 (10 mins)

Age Restriction: PG

**FANTORRO, THE LAST ARBITER** (Poland/France 1971)

a.k.a. *Fatorro, le Dernier Justicer*

Director: Jan Lenica

A rare and magical work.

Wed 23 June 12:00 (10 mins)

Age Restriction: PG

**RHINOCEROS** (Poland/Germany 1974)

a.k.a. *Die Nashorner*

Director: Jan Lenica

Based on the surrealist play by Eugene Ionesco in which the citizens of Paris are turning into pachyderms.

Tues 22 June 12:00 (10 mins)

Age Restriction: PG

**WOMAN AS A FLOWER** (France 1975)

a.k.a. *La Femme Fleur*

Director: Jan Lenica

Text: Andre Pierre de Mandiargues

A celebration of the eroticism of woman and the beauty of the naked female body.

Thurs 24 June 12:00 (11 mins)

Age Restriction: 15 (S)

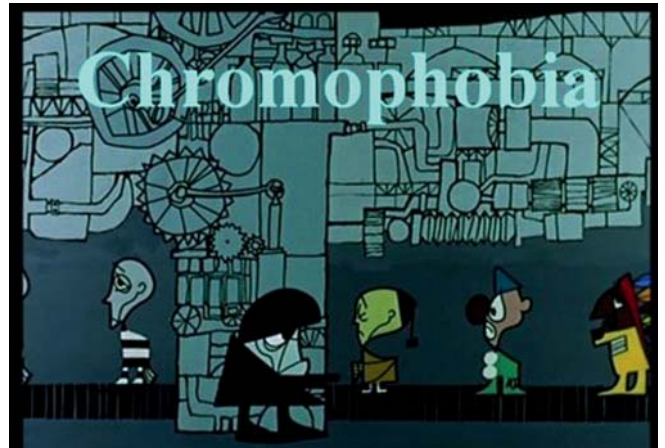
**CHROMOPHOBIA** (Belgium 1969)

Director: Raoul Servais

An invading army destroys all colour in a harmless town and brings it into a state of depression. Then a jester arrives.

Mon 28 June 12:00 (10 mins)

Age Restriction: PG



**THE FALSE NOTE** (Belgium 1970)

a.k.a. *De Valse Noot*

Director: Raoul Servais

A day in the life of an organ grinder, down on his luck, who wanders the streets of Paris, dreaming about what might be.

Tues 29 June 12:00 (10 mins)

Age Restriction: PG

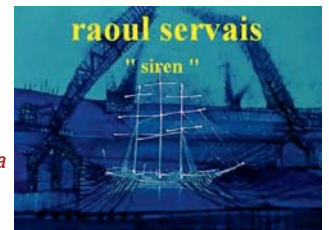
**SIRENE** (Belgium 1971)

Director: Raoul Servais

Monster-like cranes dominate a harbour like prehistoric reptiles. The only human being is a fisherman who has witnessed an encounter between a sailor and a mermaid.

Thurs 1 July 12:00 (9 mins)

Age Restriction: PG



**JABERWOCKY**

(Czech Republic 1971)

*Jahlav aneb Saticky Slameneho Huberta*

Director: Jan Svankmayer

Lewis Carroll's poem is read and

followed by a free-form depiction of

animated images and toys from childhood, repeatedly overturned by a live cat.

Fri 25 June 12:00 (14 mins)

Age Restriction: PG

**LEONARDO'S DIARY** (Czech Republic 1972)

*Leonarduv Denik*

Director: Jan Svankmayer

Animated drawings inspired by Leonardo da Vinci are inter-cut with strangely similar live action scenes.

Wed 30 June 12:00 (14 mins)

Age Restriction: PG

# THE SOCIETY FOR THE SUPPRESSION OF SAVAGERY

## The Camera Goes into the Heart Of Darkness – Oh the Horror!

The National Arts Festival thanks the Italian Cultural Centre, the Brazilian Embassy and the Goethe Institute for their kind assistance with some of these films.

### AFRICA ADDIO (Italy 1966)

*Directors: Gualtiero Jacopetti & Franco Proserpi*

As colonialism came to an end in the early-sixties, a continent of unstable nations was left tragically unprepared for their newfound independence. Over a three-year period, documentary filmmakers Jacopetti and Proserpi, risked their lives to be among the few eyewitnesses to Africa's agony. From the genocide in Zanzibar to the Watusi and Mau Mau massacres, from mercenary assaults in the Congo and to industrial complicity in apartheid. When the film was released, critics not wanting to see what was clearly happening before their eyes accused the filmmakers of racism and exploitation. This is the full-reconstituted Director's Cut.

*Mon 21 June 22:00 (2 hrs 19 mins)*

*Age Restriction: 18 (SVNL)*

### ADDIO UNCLE TOM (Italy 1971)

a.k.a. *Addio Zio Tom*

*Directors: Gualtiero Jacopetti & Franco Proserpi*

After been pilloried for *Africa Addio*, the directors were back at the dawn of the seventies with this exploration of race relations in modern America including jaw-dropping depictions of White oppression, radical Black rage and a time-travel dramatisation of slave trade atrocities, all shown in horrifyingly graphic and debasing detail. The American distributors insisted on a re-cut removing much of the race-war politics. Jacopetti and Proserpi were way ahead of their time. The film is arguably one of the most radical ever made.

This is the full Director's Cut.

*Tues 22 June 22:00 (2 hrs 16 mins)*

*Age Restriction: 18 (SLNV)*

### BLACK GOD WHITE DEVIL (Brazil 1964)

a.k.a. *Deus e o Diabolo na Terra do Sol*

*Director: Glauber Rocha*

*Cast: Geraldo del Rey, Yona Magalhaes, Othon Bastos*

Director Rocha was only 22-years old when he changed Brazilian cinema overnight with this astonishing, symphonic epic. At Cannes, a pantheon of greats – Bunuel, Pasolini, Bertolucci, Godard and Sergio Leone – enthusiastically praised the film. The opening shots of a landscape of fly-infested carcasses of cattle and horses and the introduction of the character of Antonio das Mortes more than influenced the development of the Italian western and Sergio Leone owes a lot to Rocha. But it is the wide range of influences from Brazilian Art Brut to Franz Fanon to Eisenstein that makes Rocha a truly amazing cinematic master. "So I've told you a story of truth and imagination ... this world is unjustly divided for the land belongs to man not to God nor to the Devil." – the narrator sings

*Tues 29 June 15:00 (2 hrs 5 mins)*

*Age Restriction: 15 (SV)*

### BURDEN OF DREAMS (USA 1982)

*Director: Les Blank*

For nearly five years, acclaimed German filmmaker Werner Herzog desperately tired to complete the most ambitious film of his career – *Fitzcarraldo*, the story of one man's attempt to build an opera house deep in the Amazon jungle. Documentary filmmaker Les Blank captured the unfolding of this production, made all the more perilous by Herzog's determination to shoot the most daunting scenes without models or special effects, including a sequence requiring hundreds of the local inhabitants to pull a full-sized, 320-ton steamship over a small mountain. The result is an extraordinary document of the filmmaking process and a unique look into the single-minded passion of one of cinema's most fearless directors. Winner of a British Academy Award for best documentary in 1982. Derek Malcolm (of the Guardian, London) picked it in "Century of Films" as one of the best 100 films of the 20th century.

*Tues 29 June 10:00 (1 hr 35 mins)*

*Age Restriction: PG*



### FATA MORGANA (Germany 1971)

*Director: Werner Herzog*

*Narrated by Lotte Eisner*

Herzog examines creation's mythology. Beginning with five minutes of shots of airplanes landing in remote locations, he takes us through three chapters – the creation, paradise and the golden age all designed to consider man's place as part of existence on earth. Each shot has been purposefully constructed – pictures, words and music – worked and reworked into imagery of sound and vision that is both sublime and subliminal. Shot in locations all over Africa and accompanied by music that is classical, African, experimental and incorporating Leonard Cohen and Blind Faith. It is a film like no other – or perhaps like few others.

*Wed 23 June 22:00 (1 hr 17 mins)*

*Age Restriction: PG*

### HEART OF DARKNESS (UK 1994)

*Director: Nicolas Roeg*

*Cast: Tim Roth, Isaach de Bankolé, John Malkovich*

From the opening frames, as the camera examines like a landscape, the skin of elephants accompanied by a music concrete amalgam of the raised voices of men and trumpeting of elephants, it is clear the directorial voice is thoroughly in control. Roeg had wanted to film Joseph Conrad's influential novella for many years and when the chance came his way he grabbed it with relish. The journey into the brutal green wasteland, up the Congo River in search of the enigmatic Kurtz was also the basis of Coppola's *Apocalypse Now* and as brilliant as that film was, Roeg's version is on one hand more traditional and on the other burning with the horror.

*Thurs 1 July 17:30 (1 hr 40 mins)*

*Age Restriction: 18 (V)*

### IRACEMA – AN AMAZONIC SHAG (Brazil 1976)

a.k.a. *Iracema – Uma Tansa Amazonica*

*Directors: Jorge Bodansky and Orlande Senna*

*Cast: Edna de Cassia, Paulo Cesar Pereiro*

A fifteen-year old whore meets a truck driver and travels with him along the Amazon Forest through Transamazonica, the longest Brazilian highway built by the military government. When the truck driver drops her off, she is submitted to the most decadent forms of prostitution to survive. Banned in Brazil for many years because the film exposed the myriad crimes of the regime, from the ecological wasting of the Amazonian forest, to slave work and infantile prostitution. Largely improvised, the apparent realism drew accusations that the female lead really was a young prostitute. The title is a multi-levelled joke – *Iracema* is an anagram for "America" while going Transamazonica can be translated equally as going across the Amazon as "raping" the Amazon.

*Wed 30 June 10:00 (1 hr 30 mins)*

*Age Restriction: 18 (SNV)*

### THE LION HAS SEVEN HEADS (Brazil/Italy/Congo 1971)

a.k.a. *Der Leone Have Sept Cabecas*

*Director: Glauber Rocha*

*Cast: Jean-Pierre Leaud, Rada Rassimov, Gabriele Tinti*

*Courtesy of The Other Cinema*

Glauber Rocha's extraordinary and exuberant allegory on colonialism operates strangely as a companion piece to *Africa Addio* – tough and extreme but surprisingly clear and considered. Rocha was the leading light of the Brazilian New Wave. Made in five languages, this veritable tower of Babel seeks by showing the viciousness of colonial exploitation to show equally the inevitability of Africa violently taking up arms against the exploiters.

*Wed 30 June 15:00 (1 hr 37 mins)*

*Age Restriction: 16 (NVL)*

### SILVA THE ZULU (Italy/SA 1927)

*Director: Attilio Gatti*

A rare recovery of a lost South African film shot in Natal by an Italian anthropological filmmaker. The silent film will be accompanied by live music.

*Sat 26 June 12:00 (1 hr 4mins)*

*Age Restriction: A*

# THE SENTIENT WORLD – THE CINEMA OF JAPAN

Presented with the kind assistance of the Japanese Embassy and the Japan Foundation.

Japanese cinema as in all Japanese art is intrinsically linked to seasonal changes and the world of natural order and water – the sea, the rain, the dew – is a powerful symbol of the spiritual.

## AFTER THE RAIN (Brazil/Italy/Congo 1971)

a.k.a. *Ame Agaru*

Director: Takeshi Koizumi

Cast: Akira Tearae, Yoshiko Miyzaki, Shiro Mifune

Written by the great Japanese director Akira Kurosawa, who died before filming could begin, the project was given to Kurosawa's long-time collaborator Takeshi Koizumi. A master-less samurai and his wife are staying at an inn during a rainstorm. Everyone is waiting for the rain to end and the raging river to subside so that they can cross over. The samurai is a kind man who tries to help everybody pass the time. This is a sweet and gentle film where nothing much happens and yet we get to know a bunch of very good people and learn a lesson about the value of kindness and honesty.

Tues 22 June 10:00 (1 hr 32 mins)

Age Restriction: PG

## AUGUST IN THE WATER (Japan 1995)

a.k.a. *Mizu No Naka No Hachigatsu*

Director: Sogo Ishii

Cast: Rena Komine, Shinsuke Aoki, Reiko Matsuo

Two meteorites land in an area of Japan causing a drought. People start collapsing from what is termed a 'turning to stone disease'. In Genkai City a schoolgirl goes into a coma. When she awakens she realises the truth about the disease. Visually the film is a wonder with impressive use of natural lighting in bright interiors and beautifully composed Zen-like static shots of the assorted esoteric ephemera. Ishii's almost transcendental style of filmmaking comes, he says from within himself. Be it conversations with squeaking dolphins or the clumps of mushrooms surrounding the meteor, which grow lysergically, drama takes a firm backseat to dream logic.

Wed 23 June 10:00 (1 hr 57 mins)

Age Restriction: PG

## A SCENE AT THE SEA (Japan 1991)

a.k.a. *Ano Natsu Ichiban Shizukana Umi*

Director: Takeshi Kitano

Cast: Kuroko Maki, Hiroko Oshima

Charting the course of a relationship of a boy and his girlfriend – both profoundly deaf – when the former decides to teach himself to surf. Kitano turns it into a gently funny, very moving love story. It is not just its quiet humanity but the meticulous editing that is reminiscent of the great Japanese film master Ozu.

Thurs 24 June 10:00 (1 hr 41 mins)

Age Restriction: PG

## MISTY KID OF WIND – THE GLASS CAPE (Japan 1989)

a.k.a. *Kaze no Matasaburo – Garasu no Manto*

Director: Shunya Ito

Cast: Toshiyuki Amagasa, Fumi Dan, Misato Hayase

This beautiful tale is set in a small mountain village in the 1920s. Fatherless Karin meets and befriends Saburo Takada who is known as 'the misty kid of the wind'. She and her classmates begin to realise that he has superhuman powers and he becomes her protector.

Fri 25 June 10:00 (1 hr 47 mins)

Age Restriction: PG



Alice in Wonderland

# THE MAD-HATTER'S TEA PARTY

Six fantasy films – three for the kids and three for the grown-ups – all of them inhabiting a world which is through the looking glass, down the rabbit warren, pausing to chat to the caterpillar and turning left at the croquet green.

## BRING THE KIDS

### ALICE IN WONDERLAND (USA/UK 2010)

Director: Tim Burton

Cast: Mia Wasikowska, Johnny Depp, Anne Hathaway, Crispin Glover

From Walt Disney Pictures comes this epic fantasy adventure, which is a magical and imaginative twist on one of the most beloved stories of all time, Lewis Carroll's *Alice in Wonderland*. Set some years after Alice's first foray down the rabbit hole Alice discovers at a house party that she is to be engaged and that the announcement is to be made that very day. Looking for some way of escape she spies a white rabbit disappear down a hole and follows him, returning to Wonderland where she is re-united with all of her childhood friends including The White Rabbit, Tweedledee and Tweedledum, The March Hare, The Dormouse, The Caterpillar, The Cheshire Cat, and of course, The Mad Hatter.

Mon 21 June 10:00 & Sat 26 June 10:00 (1 hr 41 mins)

Age Restriction: A

### CORALINE

Director: Henry Selick

Courtesy of Nu-Metro

First off: it's Coraline, not Caroline. In this animated film a feisty and curious 11-year-old (blue-haired puppet) who is bored with her parents discovers a hidden doorway in their new house. At night, it transforms into a passage to a strange mirror world where doubles of her usually distracted parents lavish attention on her. The only fact is that these other parents' eyes have been replaced by black buttons serves as a warning that something isn't right. It's a story told with care and love in which the details, emotional notes, over-the-top delights, and profoundly scary bits are all executed equally well. Based on Neil Gaiman's best-selling book, Selick's script remixes fairy-tale tropes familiar from the Brothers Grimm and Lewis Carroll and injects them with enough novelty to make the result both fresh and timeless.

Mon 28 June 10:00 & Fri 2 July 10:00 (1 hr 30 mins)

Age Restriction: A (Recommended 10)

### THE IMAGINARIUM OF DOCTOR PARNASSUS

(USA/UK 2009)

Director: Terry Gilliam

Cast: Heath Ledger, Christopher Plummer, Lily Cole Johnny Depp, Tom Waits

Courtesy of Nu-Metro

The Imaginarium in the travelling show of Dr Parnassus allows members of the audience to choose between light and joy or darkness and gloom. Having made a pact with Old Nick thousands of years before trading his daughter (on her reaching 16) for eternal youth, Parnassus now realises the error of his ways as his daughter's birthday looms. Negotiating another deal with Old Nick, Parnassus enlists a wild, compelling and comical collection of characters as he races against time, across a landscape of surreal obstacles to undo the mistakes of his past. A gorgeous morality tale of extraordinary beauty.

Sat 27 June 10:00 & Sat 3 July 10:00 (2 hrs 3 mins)

Age Restriction: A

## DON'T BRING THE KIDS

### GRADIVA (France/Belgium 2008)

(*C'est Gradiva qui vous Appelle*)

Director: Alain Robbe-Grillet

Cast: James Wilby, Arielle Dombasle, Dany Verissimo, Farid Chopel

Courtesy of Wide Management

While researching the history of Delacroix paintings in Morocco, art historian John Locke gets a tip on some undiscovered sketches of an alluring woman. Soon he begins to see the girl throughout the city, sometimes real and other times appearing like a ghost, she guides him through a whirlwind of dark and erotic encounters involving a subservient handmaiden, the mysterious S&M-orientated Club of the Golden Triangle and Gradiva, a woman murdered in a past century who seems to be controlling his destiny. Sourced from an influential 1903 novel by Wilhelm Jensen – a psychoanalytic favourite – the film is austere, immaculate, precise and voluminously erotic with meditations on time, memory and psychological dislocation fitting from the author of the classic *Last Year at Marienbad*.

\* We refer you to the separate focus on the films of Robbe-Grillet and Marguerite Duras.

Fri 25 June 22:00 & Tues 29 June 22:00 (1 hr 58 mins)

Age Restriction: 18 (SNV)

## HELL'S GROUND (Pakistan/UK 2008/09)

a.k.a. Zibahkhana

Director: Omar Ali Khan

Cast: Rehan, Najma Malik

Courtesy of Mondo Macabro

Arguably the first slasher/horror/erotic film to be shot in Pakistan. Five teenagers on their way to a rock concert are menaced by flesh-eating mutations and then fall into the clutches of a family of 'back woods' killers. Incorporating copious amounts of gore alongside a splattering of social commentary and slices of dark humour the film is, nevertheless distinctly Pakistani in perspective. Imaginatively shot it is the first film in history where the killer girls wear burkahs.

Fri 2 July 22:00 (1 hr 30 mins)

Age Restriction: 18 (SVN)

## MOTHER OF TEARS (Italy 2009)

a.k.a. Mater Lacrimosa

Director: Dario Argento

Cast: Asia Argento, Udo Kier, Daria Niccolodi

Courtesy of Video Vision

Mater Lacrimosa's destructive spirit has been taken up by a gang of Italian beauties who are hell-bent on spreading her doctrine of carnal pleasure and general carnage. Argento, an accredited master of the gothic with a good few masterpieces under his belt, pulls out all the stops here submitting his (often unclothed) daughter to all manner of dangers and indignities and his ex-wife Daria Niccolodi to an unpleasant and brutal demise. The final apotheosis amongst the naked harpies in the den of tears is something to behold.

Sat 3 July 22:00 (1 hr 37 mins)

Age Restriction: 18 (SNVL)

# SOUTH AFRICA

Cityscapes feature prominently this year – spacecraft hovering over Joeys, the spine that runs down Capeys, drug taking in Durbs.

## CITY BREATH – Festival of Video Poetry and Performance

(South Africa 2009)

Directed and curated by Kai Lossgott

A series of short films, which together form a holistic presentation of independent South African work:

- CIRCLES (dir: Terry Westby-Nunn)
- I WALK THE STREET WITH LOOSE PARTS (dir: Ryan Kruger)
- SOUND AND SIGN LANGUAGE POEMS (dir: Lolette Smith)
- BETWEEN (dir: Colleen Alborough)
- FRAGMENTED (dir: Khanyisele Mbongwa)
- CITY GIRL (dir: Niklas Zimmer)
- (UN)VEILING (dir: Mandilakhe Yengo)
- WAITRESS (dir: Ananda Fuchs)
- THE ELECTRICIAN (dir: Terry Westby-Nunn)
- WALKING IN PLASTIC (dir: Kai Loogott)
- TERRA OBSCURA (dir: Maia Grotepass)
- PLAYER 1.1 (dir: Mark Wilby)
- THIS PLACE FOREVER (EXCERPT) (dir: Fabian Oliver Wargau)
- TV PROGRAMS 001: POWERLINES/WEB OF LIFE (dir: Nileru)
- KAROHANO (dir: Jeanette Ginslov)
- BURN (I LOST A POEM) (dir: Erica Luttich)
- OMDAT EK DIE STADTSRUMOER (dir: Koeka Stander)
- WAITING (dir: Rat Western)
- TO THOSE WHO BELONGS THE EARTH SHALL BELONG THESKY UP TO THE HEAVENS (dir: Maaik Bakker)
- JACKSON 5 (dir: Sean Buch)
- ELSEWHERE: CAPE TOWN (dir: Anders Weberg and Robert Willim)

Thurs 1 July 10:00 (1 hr 10 mins)

Age Restriction: PG



## DISTRICT 9 (New Zealand/USA/South Africa 2009)

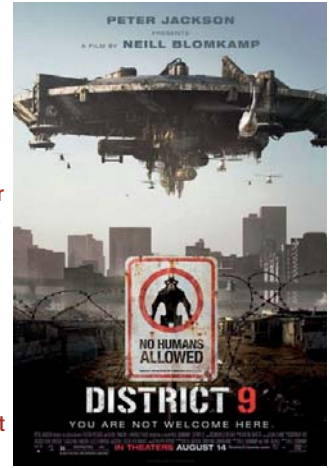
Director: Neill Blomkamp.

Cast: Sharlto Copley, Mandla Gaduka, Jason Cope, David James

South Africa is so obsessed with illegal aliens that it is exciting to see such xenophobia sub-textualised with such finesse into the best Sci-Fi movie in yonks. Johannesburg has been inundated with Illegal Aliens from Outer Space, designed to resemble a hideous form of cricket which plagued Johannesburg until a few years ago called the Parktown Prawn. The Spacy Invaders are rounded up and put into detention camps but the locals get restless and a bureaucratic Afrikaans policeman (a brilliant performance by Sharlto Copley) is commissioned to sort them out. The incisive humour mixes apartheid references and Rainbow Nation clichés into a heady mélange.

Sat 26 June 15:00 & Thurs 1 July 22:00 (1 hr 51 mins)

Age Restriction: 13 (V)



## JOZI (South Africa 2010)

Director: Craig Freimond

Cast: Carl Beukes, Lionel Newton, Lindiwe Matshikiza.

Courtesy of Video Vision

A hot new film that has South Africa's critics united – "It is one of the best local films I have watched in a long time." (Doreen Premdev: TVPlus) – "A traffic jam of witty lines in a surreal drama about surviving Johannesburg." (Debashine Thangwvelo: The Star) – "Unique and truly South African." (Paul Boekooi: Rapport). A successful comedy writer who feels overwhelmed by crime, politics, pessimism and a feather-duster salesman, spurred on by the desertion of his girlfriend, goes on a madcap journey through the country trying to recover his elusive sense of humour. Jozi is the affectionate name given by locals to Johannesburg.

Thurs 24 June 17:30 & Sat 3 July 15:00 (1 hr 30 mins)

Age Restriction: PG

## LONG STREET (South Africa 2009)

Director: Revel Fox

Cast: Sannie Fox, Roberta Fox, David Butler, Busi Mhlongo

The eponymous Long Street, which is the central spine running from the residential area nestling at the foot of Table Mountain down to Cape Town harbour, provides a symbol for the trajectory of a young musician Sia who struggles to escape from her heroin dependence to pursue her musical career. A very personal project for director Revel Fox whose daughter's story this essentially is and he stars both his daughter and his wife in the seminal roles of themselves. But beyond reliving an episode of his own family history the film is also a love poem to Cape Town. In every frame one can feel the director's adoration for the city as well as his love for the city's music, which permeates the film.

Sat 26 June 17:30 & Fri 2 July 12:00 (1 hr 30 mins)

Age Restriction: PG 13

## THE SILVER FEZ (South Africa 2009)

Director: Lloyd Ross & Rian Malan

A wonderfully engaging documentary about two opposing Malay choirs in Cape Town preparing to do battle for the coveted Silver Fez trophy. What is remarkable about the film is that we really get to know all the participants intimately and are concerned for their aspirations and success. By the time the competition arrives we feel that we have gone the full journey with them.

Thurs 24 June 15:00 (1 hr 27 mins)

Age Restriction: A

## THE UNITED COLOURS OF YEOVILLE (South Africa 2010)

Director: Savo Tufegdzc

In the early nineties, Tufegdzc who was an intrinsic part of the "Rocky Street Scene" in Yeoville made a sometimes infuriatingly chaotic fly on the wall documentary about the bohemian lifestyle that was in full bloom in the area. Now, many years later and with the gift of hindsight he has produced a mesmerising look at that brief period in Johannesburg's history when the flag was flying for freedom, integration, free love, drug experimentation and the downfall of apartheid. An absolute must for those who were there and for those who were not.

Fri 25 June 17:30 & Wed 30 June 17:30 (1 hr 30 mins)