

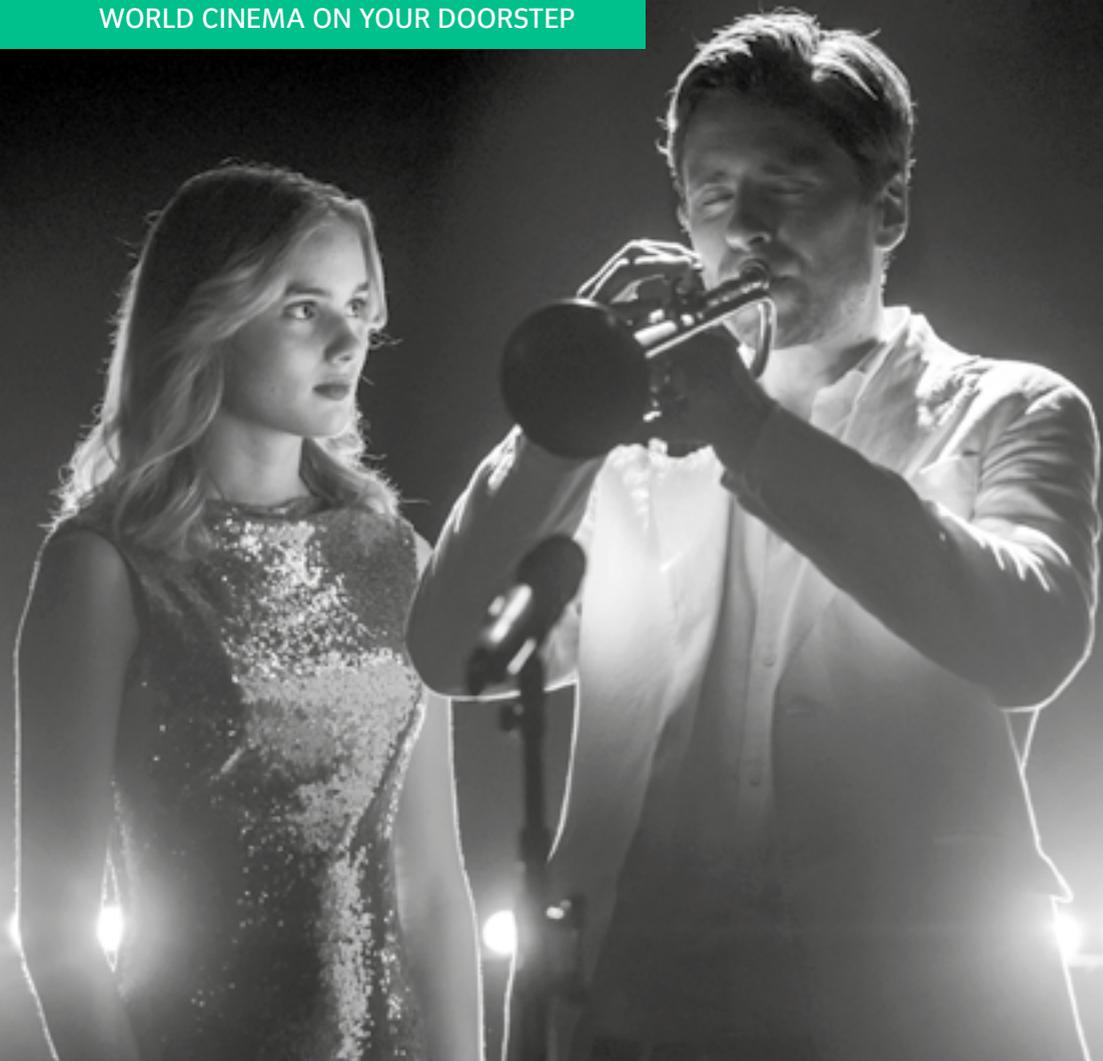
Bridport
FILM
SOCIETY

WORLD CINEMA ON YOUR DOORSTEP

55th Season:

24 September 2019 –

24 March 2020



www.bridportfilmsociety.co.uk
info@bridportfilmsociety.co.uk

Screening at the
Bridport Arts Centre

Welcome to our 55th season.

Each year Bridport Film Society offers film-lovers a carefully balanced programme of world and independent cinema. We continually monitor releases, reviews, and cinephile websites to identify films that may be of interest and over a period of around six months we view, discuss, and argue about scores of films before making a final selection of twelve. There comes a point in our selection process when, in order to keep the programme to just 12 films we have to reject some really excellent films and those are hard decisions to make. Our films are chosen on a balance of genres, nationality, style, and tone. We also try to keep to sensible running times. When a film is much longer than 2 hours (but is in our view fully worthy of inclusion) we try to make the point so you are all aware in advance.

We will be continuing with the popular short film at the start of most screenings and are grateful to the Depict! Encounters Short Film and Animation Festival, hosted at Watershed in Bristol, for allowing us to show these. If you are interested to know more go to www.depict.org.

We are confident that our selection this year will again delight, inspire and provoke you. In recent years we have aimed to start each section (in September and January) with comedies, which had proved very popular. Last year there was a real dearth of good light films, but we hope we have managed to remedy that this season with films that will lighten moods and lift spirits.

Our fortnightly screenings are highly sociable with a pre-film bar and we think you'll agree that membership (at just under £3 a film) offers amazing value for money.

For our first screening we have chosen a delightful Indian film called *Kaakkaa Muttai* (Crow's Egg) about two young slum boys. Note the curious appearance of a health warning that appears at the bottom of the screen every time alcohol or tobacco is mentioned in the film. Clearly a health requirement in India.



Kaakkaa Muttai

by M. Manikandan | India | 2015 | 109 mins |
Tamil with English subtitles



Two boys from the slums have a shared dream and scheme to make enough money to buy a pizza. A multi-layered film; on the surface warm and inviting; feelgood, but with a hard base. There's commentary on class divide and the effects of globalisation, but it's all done with a delicate touch, much humour, and some wonderful songs. Winner of two National Film Awards in 2015. *HK*

"A little gem that's highly recommended and deserves to be celebrated"

Asian News Service

24 September 2019



The Olive Tree

by Iciar Bollain | Spain | 2017 | 100 mins |
Spanish with English subtitles



An old man has fallen into depression and dementia because his grown-up children have sold his beloved ancient olive tree to a corporation somewhere in Europe. The only one who seems to understand him is his twenty-year old granddaughter Alma. Discovering the tree in Germany she determines to get it back and tricks her uncle into driving her there in a flatbed truck to take on corporate intransigence. One energetic, resolute girl against the establishment. *The Olive Tree* is a beautifully shot compassionate film. *NH*

8 October 2019



Capernaum

by Nadine Labaki | Lebanon | 2015 | 123 mins |
Arabic with English subtitles



Twelve-year-old Zain El Hajj, is serving a five-year prison sentence for stabbing someone, and he decides to sue his parents for having given birth to him. Much of the film is in flashback showing events leading up to his arrest and the fights with his family. Capernaum, means chaos; his life on the streets is impossible and he lurches from one disaster to another. An emotional, heart wrenching and humbling film. Superb award-winning performance from the young Zain Al Rafeea and his supporting cast. *NH*

22 October 2019



Border

5 November 2019

by Ali Abassi | Sweden | 2018 | 110 mins |
Swedish with English subtitles



Customs officer Tina is known for her extraordinary sense of smell. She can sniff out the guilt on anyone hiding something. But when Vore, a suspicious-looking man, walks past her, her abilities are challenged for the first time ever. Tina can sense Vore is hiding something she can't identify.

Even worse, she feels a strange attraction to him. As Tina develops a special bond with Vore and discovers his true identity, she also realises the truth about herself. Thrilling, unpredictable, and brilliantly acted, *Border* is a cross between thriller, fairy tale, and love story. *TA*



The Third Wife

19 November 2019

by Ash Mayfair | Vietnam | 2018 | 96 mins |
Vietnamese with English subtitles



A visually stunning film set in 19th century rural Vietnam. Beautiful 14-year-old May becomes the third wife of a wealthy landowner. She quickly learns that her role is to bear a male child, and this potential allows her to enjoy the second highest status in the household. But she doesn't love him, and, taken by surprise by her youthful desires, she has to come to terms with the devastating consequences of forbidden love. *JD*

Best debut director, Chicago 2018.



Woman at War

3 December 2019

by Benedikt Erlingsson | Iceland | 2018 | 101mins |
Icelandic with English subtitles



Halla is a fifty-year-old independent woman. However, behind an apparently quiet routine, she leads a double life as a passionate environmental activist, known by her alias "The Woman of the Mountain". Halla's actions grow bolder, and she succeeds in pausing the negotiations between the Icelandic government and an aluminium corporation. But, as she begins planning her biggest operation yet, an unexpected letter changes everything. *RM*

"Woman at War is an environmental drama wrapped in whimsical comedy and tied with a bow of midlife soul-searching." *The NY Times.*



Tais Toi

by Francis Veber | France | 2004 | 85 mins |
French with English subtitles



A step back in time when two convicts escape from prison and seek revenge in order to retrieve a huge sum of hidden money. After getting thrown in jail, Ruby (Jean Reno), a brooding outlaw, encounters Quentin (G rard Depardieu), a dim-witted and garrulous giant who befriends him and betches his solo escape. Unable to shake the clumsily helpful Quentin, this hilarious, action-packed buddy movie blends fast-paced action with vaudevillian comedy. *RM*

“The performances are laudably deadpan, with Depardieu particularly relishing the chance to indulge in some doltish innocence.” Empire

14 January 2020



Phoenix

by Camilla Strom Henriksen | Norway | 2018 | 86 mins |
Norwegian with English subtitles



Typically Scandinavian tense drama brilliantly acted by the young cast. Teenager Jill has for years behaved as the responsible adult in her small family, caring for her loving but mentally unstable artist mother and her younger brother. Unexpected news that the estranged husband and idolised father will be visiting on Jill’s birthday gives the children much needed hope. When tragedy strikes, Jill keeps it a secret so as not to wreck the party, and life unravels. *JD*

28 January 2020



Our Little Sister

by Hirokazu Kore-eda | Japan | 2015 | 127 mins |
Japanese with English subtitles



Three sisters live in their grandmother’s house, estranged from their mother after their father leaves for another woman. At their father’s funeral they meet their half-sister Suzu for the first time. Immediately taken with her they invite her to live with them and we watch this beautiful story of family love unfold. Superb acting and a wonderfully filmed insight into Japanese culture and way of life. A quiet uplifting film to capture your heart. *NH*

11 February 2020



Behemoth

25 February 2020

by Liang Zhao | China | 2015 | 95 mins | Mandarin with English subtitles

Exempt

Beginning with a mining explosion in Mongolia and ending in a ghost city west of Beijing, Zhao Liang's visionary film details, in one breath-taking sequence after another, the social and ecological devastation behind an economic miracle that may yet prove illusory. It's a poetic documentary, all images and sounds, no interviews, no talking heads. The cinematography is matched by an amazing soundtrack. The narration notes, "Where wealth accumulates and man is uprooted all is decreed by this monster," the "Behemoth" of the title. *TA*



3 Faces

by Jafar Panahi | Iran | 2018 | 100mins | Persian Turkish & Azerbaijani with English subtitles



A gripping drama of the tension between tradition and modernity. Popular Iranian actress Behnaz Jafari is distraught when she sees a provincial girl's video plea for help to pursue drama studies in Tehran against her family's wishes. Behnaz coerces banned director Jafar Panahi to help her find the mystery girl. On the journey they have droll encounters with the quirky residents of the girl's mountain village, also the sanctuary of a wise old revered pre-Islamic Revolution actress - the third face. *JD*

10 March 2020



8th Grade

by Bo Burnham | USA | 2018 | 94 mins | English



Thirteen-year-old Kayla endures a tidal wave of contemporary suburban adolescence as she makes her way through the last week of middle school - the end of her, thus far, disastrous eighth grade year. Bo Burnham's feature film debut may be as contemporary as a Snapchat-filtered selfie, but it's also a deeply thoughtful observation on the universal truths of the agony, ecstasy and everything in between of growing up. Elsie Fisher is outstanding in the lead role: her smart, observant performance gives the audience instant access to her vulnerabilities, hurt feelings and quiet determination. *TA*

24 March 2020



Followed by the Annual General Meeting

Join the Society

2019 – 20 Season Membership Annual Subscriptions

Adult £35

Students (over 16 and under 25) £20

- Application forms are on the programme's insert and are accepted on a first come basis, determined by postmark.
- Membership is limited to approximately 210 because of the capacity of the venue and is transferable within a family (provided over age 16).
- Members may bring occasional guests (see below).

Guests

Guest seats (£5, students £2) must be booked in advance by email or text message.

How to book a guest:

- Contact us prior to midday on the day of the screening, providing your name, number of guest seats requested and the name of the film
- Text us on 07770 261348 or
- Email us at guests@bridportfilmsociety.co.uk

We will reply only if we cannot oblige.

Please be at the venue by 7.30pm to claim your guest tickets or you may lose them.

Guest requests received after midday on the day of the screening may not be honoured.

Our agreements with film distributors dictate that we may not sell unreserved tickets at the door on the evening of the film.

Non-members must remember to pre-book as guests and are accepted on a space-available basis only.

If not pre-booked, you will be turned away.

Get In Touch

For further information, please contact us:

- email info@bridportfilmsociety.co.uk
- visit our website at www.bridportfilmsociety.co.uk
- visit our page at www.facebook.com

Film Evenings

Films are screened fortnightly on Tuesday evenings at 7.45pm, beginning on 24th September, exclusively for members and their guests.

Our venue is the Bridport Arts Centre. Doors and the bar open at 7pm.

Membership cards must be presented at the door



Diary dates for the 55th Season

September 24	Kaakaa Muttai
October 8	The Olive Tree
October 22	Capernaum
November 5	Border
November 19	The Third Wife
December 3	Woman At War
January 14	Tais Toi
January 28	Phoenix
February 11	Our Little Sister
February 25	Behemoth
March 10	3 Faces
March 24	8th Grade

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Or visit our website:
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Committee

Chris Pike, **Chair**
Julia Borland, **Treasurer**
Rosie Mathisen, **Secretary**
Deb Smith, **Membership**
John Dalton
Tristan Allsop
Hugh King
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World cinema on your doorstep