

Fri 16 & Sat 17 Jan (2 days)

7.45pm

### **BLINDNESS** (18)

City Of God director Fernando Meirelles transplants the Nobel laureate José Saramago's apocalyptic novel.

'Blindness is a drum-tight drama, with superb, hallucinatory, images of urban collapse. It has a real coil of horror at its centre, yet is lightened with gentleness and humour. . . This is bold, masterly, film-making.' (Peter Bradshaw, 'The Guardian')

Canada, 2008, 121 mins

Tue 20 Jan (1 day only)

7.45pm

### **THE SILENCE OF LORNA** (15)

The latest addition to the much admired Dardenne brothers' cannon of intensely naturalistic Belgian cinema.

Lorna, a young Albanian woman living in Belgium, uses less than reputable means in her attempts to become the owner of a snack bar, ultimately finding herself at the crux of a crisis of conscience.

Belgium (subtitled), 2008, 105 mins

Wed 21 Jan

7.45pm

### **ON THE RAILS - STEAM AND DIESEL**

Railway material compiled by Staffordshire Film Archive for the Railway Museum at York and their Centenary of Steam event.

Staffordshire Film Archive

Free Admission

Thu 22 Jan (1 day only)

7.45pm

### **THE ROMANCE OF ASTREA AND CELADON** (12A)

One of Eric Rohmer's most surprising works yet, an adaptation of the seventeenth century French classic novel, L'Astrée; a comedy set in 5th century Gaul, where the eponymous couple endure the tribulations visited upon them by nymphs and druids in the manner of Shakespeare's pastoral comedies.

'A work of great charm and intelligence', (Geoff Andrews, 'Time Out')

France (subtitled), 2008, 109 mins

Fri 23 & Sat 24 Jan (2 days)

7.45pm

### **W.** (15)

Oliver Stone's unexpectedly even-handed and restrained examination of George Bush's psyche, tracing his life from the age of 21 to the Invasion of Iraq. Josh Brolin offers a convincing interpretation of George W Bush in an entertaining portrait of the intrigues and mindsets at the heart of American political life.

USA, 2008, 129 mins

#### **Monday Screen**

#### **Festive / Family films and Paul Newman's westerns**

All presentations begin at 7.45pm and are open to all free of charge. Please pick up the Monday Screen programme for full details.

## **Booking**

The Box Office is open at 7pm on days when there is a charge for admission.

Seat prices are now £5 (full price) and £3.50 (concessions). Numbered seats may be reserved in advance but they may not be collected or paid for in advance.

Season tickets for the films in this programme are £30.00 (full price) and £20.00 (concessions).

Carers accompanying disabled customers to the Film Theatre will be admitted free of charge.

**Telephone reservations** may be made at any time on our answering machine **01782 411188**. Please call before 2pm for same day reservations. Please speak clearly, stating the film title, date and time, your name and a phone number in case there is any query. We will reserve the best available seats. If you prefer to speak to us in person, phone between 12.30 and 1.30 pm, Mon, Tue, Thu and Fri (not Wed). Reserved tickets must be claimed 20 minutes before the performance. Tickets not claimed will be released for resale.

**Monday Screen** and **Staffordshire Film Archive** are free of charge.

No tickets are required and seats are occupied on a first come first served basis.

#### **Facilities for disabled people**



The Film Theatre is fitted with an audio loop system and the sound from ALL screened films may be heard by switching an appropriately fitted hearing aid to the 'T' position.

Films denoted AD available have a DTS audio description track available via infra-red headsets.

The Film Theatre is equipped with special facilities to make films available to everyone. Please talk to us about your requirements whatever your disability; alternatively we can be contacted by emailing [access@stokefilm.eclipse.co.uk](mailto:access@stokefilm.eclipse.co.uk)

#### **Volunteers**

We are very grateful to the many volunteers who give their time to make the Film Theatre possible. If you would like to help please contact us on 01782 413622.

#### **How to find us**

The Film Theatre is in College Road, just round the corner from Stoke on Trent railway station. There is free supervised parking by the Film Theatre in the evenings.

Web: [www.stokefilmtheatre.org.uk](http://www.stokefilmtheatre.org.uk)

Email: [admin@stokefilm.eclipse.co.uk](mailto:admin@stokefilm.eclipse.co.uk)

Director: John Jordan; Programming: Russell Heath  
Stoke Film Theatre, College Road, Stoke on Trent ST4 2EF  
Tel: 01782 411188 (24 hrs)

Front cover: Josh Brolin in 'W.'

This has been another Simply Ears Ahead Production • Email: [noel@nsdesign.uk.net](mailto:noel@nsdesign.uk.net)

FILM  
THEATRE

Stoke on Trent's Independent Cinema



2 Dec 2008 -  
24 Jan 2009

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

College Road ST4 2EF 01782 411188

**Tue 2 Dec (1 day only) 7.45pm**

**RENT** (12A)

A musical based on Puccini's La bohème, adapted from the acclaimed Broadway show, including most of the original cast. Rent follows one year in the life of friends living the Bohemian life in New York's East Village, from Christmas eves 1989 to 1990.

*Worlds AIDS Day presentation Free Admission*

*USA, 2005, 134 mins*

**Wed 3 Dec 7.45pm**

**PREMIERE - A FLAVOUR OF STAFFORDSHIRE**

A new film exploring the food and drink of Staffordshire, its delicacies, varieties and characters, as well as the companies behind them.

*Staffordshire Film Archive Free Admission*

**Thu 4 Dec (1 day only) 7.45pm**

**TIMES AND WINDS** (15)

Times And Winds unfolds in an unnamed rural Turkish village, revolving around the pre-occupations of three children. Reha Erdem suspensefully weaves themes of sibling jealousy and patricide, in a languid and mesmerising drama with majestic imagery and music. 'One of the discoveries of the year, an exquisite affirmation of film as art.' (Hannah McGill, 'Sight & Sound')

*Turkey (subtitled), 2006, 111 mins*

**Fri 5 & Sat 6 Dec (2 days) 7.45pm**

**Plus Matinee Showing on Sat 6 Dec 3pm**



**THE BOY IN THE STRIPED PYJAMAS** (12A)

Mark Herman's child's-eye view of the Holocaust is a simple tale of unimaginable horror, centred on the friendship formed between two eight year old boys separated by an electric fence.

John Boyne's novel becomes a hugely affecting film, engaging the complexity of the Holocaust in a language that can move children as profoundly as adults.

*UK, 2008, 110 mins*

**Tue 9 & Thu 11 Dec (2 days) 7.45pm**

**COUSCOUS** (15)

Widely held to be the best French film of the year, Abdel Kechiche's drama is perfectly paced with the wit and warmth of classic cinema. Couscous follows the fate of Slimane, the head of a Tunisian immigrant family, as he battles against the odds to open a floating couscous restaurant in a French Mediterranean port.

*France (subtitled), 2008, 154 mins*

**Wed 10 Dec 7.45pm**

**OLD WIVES' TALE CENTENARY: 1908-2008**

Events of 2008, including a preview of an Arnold Bennett TV documentary and the unveiling of a plaque in Bennet's honour in Fountainsbleu.

*Staffordshire Film Archive Free Admission*

**Fri 12 & Sat 13 Dec (2 days) 7.45pm**

**APPALOOSA** (15)

Ed Harris' Marshal Virgil Cole and Viggo Mortenson's deputy Everett Hitch keep the peace in the small mining town of Appaloosa.

Renée Zellweger's good-looking widow and Jeremy Iron's black hat complete the customary principals in a refreshingly traditional western which doesn't try to re-invent the wagon wheel.

*USA, 2008, 114 mins*

**Tue 16 & Thu 18 Dec (2 days) 7.45pm**

**OF TIME AND THE CITY** (12A)

Terence Davies' long overdue return to filmmaking is a eulogy to his birthplace. Davies' poetic, insightful and acerbic monologue, is accompanied by a soaring score, in a sentimental archive footage based documentary-essay of Liverpool's past and present.

*UK, 2008, 72 mins*

**Wed 17 Dec 7.45pm**

**A CHRISTMAS TIME MACHINE**

Christmas archive items, including the Hanley Babes, the Theatre Royal pantomimes and a re-enactment of the Christmas Truce, 1914.

*Staffordshire Film Archive Free Admission*

**Fri 19 & Sat 20 Dec (2 days) 7.45pm**

**Plus Matinee Showing on Sat 20 Dec 3pm**

**BRIDESHEAD REVISITED** (12A)

A polished and star studded new adaptation of Evelyn Waugh's novel, charting the rise and fall of Charles Ryder's infatuations with the noble Marchmain family. Reflecting the decline of the decadent era between the wars, it is an evocative story of forbidden love, and the loss of innocence.

*UK, 2008, 132 mins*

**Fri 2 & Sat 3 Jan (2 days) 7.45pm**

**LET'S TALK ABOUT THE RAIN** (12A)

An ensemble drama rooted in the richly played, likeable characters surrounding Agathe Villanova, a feminist author whose convictions have persuaded to enter into politics. Agnès Jaoui writes, directs and acts in a well received, wryly comic examination of human relationships.

*France (subtitled), 2008, 98 mins*

**Tue 6 Jan (1 day only) 7.45pm**

**ASHES OF TIME REDUX** (15)

Never distributed in Britain in its original incarnation, Wong Kar Wai has restored, re-edited and re-scored his 1994 wuxia film.

Inspired by characters from Louis Cha's novel The Legend Of The Condor Heroes, the film is visually stunning, blending xiá philosophy, the redemption of a Chinese knight errant and spectacular swordplay.

*China (subtitled), 2008, 93 mins*

**Wed 7 Jan 7.45pm**

**PERIOD DRAMAS**

Some excellent examples of dramas filmed by local filmmakers from the 1930s onwards.

*Staffordshire Film Archive Free Admission*

**Thu 8 Jan (1 day only) 7.45pm**

**BADLANDS** (15)

Terrence Malick's dramatisation of the Starkweather-Fugate killing spree of the 1950's Dakota Badlands, with Martin Sheen and Sissy Spacek as lovers on the run after her father's murder.

'Terrence Malick's debut movie looks even more effortless and sublime 35 years on: an unmissable, transcendently beautiful classic', (Peter Bradshaw, 'The Guardian')

*USA, 1973, 94 mins*

**Fri 9 & Sat 10 Jan (2 days) 7.45pm**

**HUNGER** (15)

The stunning debut feature from Turner Prize winning artist Steve McQueen. A hard hitting but sensitively handled dramatisation of the emotive events surrounding the 1981 hunger strike inside the notorious Belfast Maze Prison.

Michael Fassbender is hypnotic as the political protester Bobby Sand. *UK, 2008, 96 mins*

**Tue 13 Jan (1 day only) 7.45pm**

**THE BAADER MEINHOF COMPLEX** (18)

Set in the political turmoil of 1970s Germany, Uli Edel's evocative film documents the violent confrontations between the German State and the left-wing Red Army Faction. Edel's commitment to authenticity is seen in a dispassionate portrayal of events that has invited controversy.

*Germany (subtitled), 2008, 150 mins*

**Wed 14 Jan 7.45pm**

**THE STAFFORDSHIRE REBELS**

A documentary about the Victoria Theatres' The Civil War In Staffordshire documentary and other 1960s documentaries.

*Staffordshire Film Archive Free Admission*

**Thu 15 Jan (1 day only) 7.45pm**

**QUIET CHAOS** (15)

A heartfelt Italian drama starring Nanni Moretti. TV executive Pietro Paladini struggles to cope with day-to-day life following his wife's death; he quits the rat race, preferring to spend his days on a bench in front of his daughter's primary school, where a series of chance encounters help him to recover from his loss.

NB the film includes a sex scene which has attracted notoriety. *Italy (subtitled), 2008 (Subtitled), 112 mins*