

Fri 29 & Sat 30 May (2 days)

7.45pm

A LITTLE CHAOS (Cert TBC)

It's Paris, 1682, and King Louis XIV wants to build a garden at Versailles to showcase the grandeur of France. A project of such scale requires delegation and master landscaper Andre Le Notre appoints Madame Sabine De Barra to the Rockwork Garden. An unexpected choice, given her rejection of stifling symmetry in favour of untamed elements of nature. Courtly intrigue and romance follow, in a period drama about the private and professional struggles of a nonconformist woman in seventeenth century France. Kate Winslet and Matthias Schoenaerts star, with director Alan Rickman taking the role of King Louis XIV amid a stellar cast.

UK, 2014, 116 mins

Tue 2 Jun (1 day only)

7.45pm

PREFAB STORY (Cert TBC)

The conclusion to a short season of the work of Věra Chytilová, introduced by Czech New Wave author Peter Hames. Further details are available in our supplementary programme on The Films of Věra Chytilová.

Czechoslovakia (subtitled), 1979, 96 mins

Thu 4 Jun (1 day only)

7.45pm

A PIGEON SAT ON A BRANCH REFLECTING ON EXISTENCE (12A)

Preceded by Songs from the Second Floor and You, the Living, Roy Andersson's defiantly weird vision of humanity continues - surrealist, absurdist and supremely bleak in equal measure. Inept salesmen attempt to hawk vampire fangs and the former Swedish King Charles XII reappears in modern times, shifting between dreams and reality to reveal man's inhumanity to man. An intriguing, tragicomic indictment of our time, from one of cinemas most singular voices.

Sweden/Germany/Norway/France (subtitled), 2014, 100 mins

Fri 5 & Sat 6 Jun (2 days)

7.45pm

FAR FROM THE MADDING CROWD (12A)

A new version of Thomas Hardy's epic love story, starring Carey Mulligan and Matthias Schoenaerts, directed by Thomas Vinterberg. Bathsheba Everdene is a young woman in Victorian England, who suddenly finds herself in ownership of a large farm after the death of her uncle. The object of three suitors: Gabriel Oak, a shepherd whose hand she has already refused, an older, prosperous landowner William Boldwood and the dashing Sergeant Frank Troy. Bathsheba believes herself the intellectual superior of all three, but lasting happiness proves to be elusive.

USA/UK, 2015, 119 mins

Screen **Wednesday** Staffordshire Film Archive

Please visit our website for full details of our free screenings and for more details on the short season of films by Věra Chytilová.

Booking

Telephone bookings for any film in this programme can be made between 12.30 and 1.30pm on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday only by calling **01782 411188**.

Alternatively, you may book online at www.stokefilmtheatre.org.uk
Every effort will be made to book the seats requested, but we strongly recommend that tickets are booked early to avoid disappointment.

All pre-booked tickets must be paid for in advance and there will be a charge of 50p per transaction to cover the cost of providing this service (please have your Debit/ Credit card details available when phoning). No refunds will be given for uncollected or cancelled tickets.

Tickets are also available on the night of the screening at **The Box Office**, which is open from 7pm.

Seat prices are £6 (full price) and £5.00 (concessions). Cash sales only on the night. Carers accompanying disabled customers to the Film Theatre will be admitted free of charge.

Screen Wednesday (Staffordshire Film Archive) films are free of charge. **No tickets are required** and seats are occupied on a first come, first served basis.

Facilities for disabled people



Audio descriptive narration is available for some films, as indicated by 'Audio description available'.

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@stokefilmtheatre.org.uk

How to find us

The Film Theatre is in College Road, just round the corner from Stoke on Trent railway station.

Parking is free for patrons attending Film Theatre screenings. If the car park barrier is down, please drive up to it and press the illuminated bell symbol, a chime will sound and the barrier will rise a few seconds later.

Web: www.stokefilmtheatre.org.uk

Email: admin@stokefilmtheatre.org.uk

Weekly updates and advance notices are available from our blog or via email, further details and the RSS feed link may be found on the website

Join us!



@StokeFilm



StokeFilmTheatre

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

Registered Charity no. 504600

Front cover: Matthias Schoenaerts and Carey Mulligan in 'Far From The Madding Crowd'

This has been another Simply Ears Ahead Production • Email: noel@sergeantdesign.com



CELEBRATING 40 YEARS OF CULTURAL CINEMA IN STOKE ON TRENT



28th April -
6th June 2015

www.stokefilmtheatre.org.uk

College Road ST4 2EF 01782 411188

Tue 28 Apr (1 day only) 7.45pm

BAFTA SHORTS 2015 ⁽¹⁵⁾

A feature-length selection of short drama, comedy and animated films from the EE British Academy Film Awards (BAFTA), including the BAFTA Award winning and Academy Award nominated films Boogaloo and Graham and The Big Picture. The latter is an animation using life size characters painted on a wall to tell the story of a middle-class family in turmoil. "Exudes a style and confidence that bode well for the state of emerging UK talent." (Dylan Cave, 'Sight & Sound')

UK, 2015, 123 mins

Thu 30 Apr (1 day only) 7.45pm

CATCH ME DADDY ⁽¹⁵⁾

A provocative modern western following the hunt for Laila, who has fled her traditional Muslim family and is on the run with Aaron, her white Scottish boyfriend. As the young couple forge a life together on the edge of the Yorkshire Moors, six dangerous bounty hunters are prowling nearby towns, hired by Laila's father, who wants her dead for the 'dishonour' she has brought upon her family. Daniel Wolfe's debut is a compelling and tense emotional drama, an impressive and occasionally violent film, which has plenty to say about family dynamics, race and class.

UK, 2014, 112 mins

Fri 1 May (1 day only) 7.45pm

IT FOLLOWS ⁽¹⁵⁾

In classic Halloween fashion, It Follows begins with a teenage girl in the suburbs fleeing in utter panic from a malevolent terror only she can see. Director David Robert Mitchell's fresh, nuanced take on John Carpenter's oeuvre builds suspense on sexual paranoia, as Jay searches for the conniving boyfriend responsible for her predicament. Maika Monroe, last seen at the Film Theatre in The Guest, heads a bright young cast as Jay, in a horror rooted in believable and affecting teenage relationships.

USA, 2014, 100 mins, *Audio description available*

Sat 2 & Tue 5 May (2 days) 7.45pm

X+Y ^(12A)

Nathan is a socially awkward teenage boy struggling to find his feet after the death of his father. A maths prodigy with mild Autism, he finds comfort in numbers and struggles to form relationships, especially with his affectionate mother, Julie. Hoping to win a place on the UK National team at the International Mathematics Olympiad, Nathan faces a daunting journey to bustling Taipei for the team training camp.

X+Y is a charming and uplifting tale with an undercurrent of affectionate humour, thanks to superb performances from Asa Butterfield, Sally Hawkins and Rafe Spall as unconventional and anarchic teacher.

UK, 2013, 112 mins

Thu 7 & Fri 8 May (2 days) 7.45pm

WILD TALES ⁽¹⁵⁾

Faced by the vicissitudes and aggravations of modern life, the thought of seeking personal vengeance offers a fleeting diversion for most; here it provides a vibrant theme for crazy ideas and verve. Wild Tales is a delirious portmanteau black comedy from Argentina, presenting six unrelated stories where no corrupt politician, cheating husband, road rage driver or

traffic warden is safe. A wildly funny and cathartic exorcism of the frustrations of daily life.

Argentina/Spain (subtitled), 2014, 122 mins

Sat 9 May (1 day only) 7.45pm

FAR FROM THE MADDING CROWD ^(U)

Thomas Hardy's epic love story. Headstrong and independent, Bathsheba Everdene unexpectedly inherits a large farm in rural Dorset. Struggling to manage it herself, she captivates the hearts and minds of three very different men: an honest and hardworking sheep farmer, a wealthy but tortured landowner and a reckless and violent swordsman. John Schlesinger and cinematographer Nicolas Roeg combine to create an immersive piece of cinema where free spirited and innocent folly leads to tragedy. Starring Julie Christie and Terence Stamp.

UK, 1967, 169 mins

Tue 12 May (1 day only) 7.45pm

APPROPRIATE BEHAVIOUR ⁽¹⁵⁾

A New York set romantic comedy following the travails of Shirin, a wry and adventurous bisexual Brooklynite, on the rebound after an acrimonious break up. Lena Dunham's Girls co-star Desiree Akhavan, writes, directs and stars, navigating a maze of online dating, awkward lingerie shopping and the daunting prospect of teaching film making to five-year-olds. A brash, funny, fresh debut with its own distinctive style and deadpan humour.

UK, 2014, 86 mins

Thu 14 May (1 day only) 7.45pm

DAISIES ⁽¹⁵⁾

The first film in a short season of the work of Věra Chytilová, introduced by Czech New Wave author Peter Hames. Further details are available in our supplementary programme on The Films of Věra Chytilová.

Czechoslovakia (subtitled), 1967, 95 mins

Fri 15 & Sat 16 May (2 days) 7.45pm

WHILE WE'RE YOUNG ⁽¹⁵⁾

Noah Baumbach directs a witty tongue-in-cheek mid-life crisis comedy, reuniting with his Greenberg star Ben Stiller, who plays Josh, a documentary film maker married to Naomi Watts' Cornelia. After befriending Jamie and Darby (Adam Driver and Amanda Seyfried), a cool young bohemian 20-something couple, Cornelia is soon hip-hop dancing while Josh is gleaning rejuvenating fashion tips. Are they simply avoiding the realities of middle-age? And is Jamie quite as guileless as he seems?

A confident tale of generational envy, angst and missed opportunities.

USA, 2014, 97 mins, *Audio description available*

Tue 19 May (1 day only) 7.45pm

DIFRET ^(12A)

On her way home from school, 14-year-old Hirut is kidnapped by a gang of tribesmen, whose leader hopes to force her into marriage. She is beaten and raped, but manages to escape, using a rifle to shoot her abductor in the process. Difret details Hirut's traumatic experience and its consequences, when she is arrested and charged with murder. However, on hearing about her case, a courageous lawyer decides to defend her in an impassioned story offering empowerment and hope.

Ethiopia/USA (subtitled), 2014, 99mins

Thu 21 May (1 day only) 7.45pm

THE DARK HORSE ⁽¹⁵⁾

An inspiring true story based on the life of Genesis Potini, a charismatic and brilliant, New Zealand hero and chess champion, who battled severe bipolar disorder. Released from a psychiatric ward, with one more chance at life, he needs a purpose and a reason to get out of the house. This he finds in coaching a motley crew of kids at risk of slipping deeper into a world of crime. A huge hit in Australia and New Zealand, The Dark Horse doesn't romanticise mental illness or adhere to any triumph over adversity conventions, and it's all the better for it.

New Zealand, 2014, 124 mins

Fri 22 May (1 day only) 7.45pm

THE WATER DIVINER ⁽¹⁵⁾

In his directorial debut, Russell Crowe stars as Joshua Connor, an Australian man who travels to Turkey four years after the Battle of Gallipoli, seeking to locate his three sons lost to the Great War. Mysticism and Joshua's unusual ability to detect water, offer a counterpoint to the grim realities of war and its painful aftermath, in a handsome film with an emotional truth at its heart. A moral fable about the redemptive powers of forgiveness.

Australia/Turkey/USA, 2014, 111 mins

Sat 23 May (1 day only) 7.45pm

THE TALE OF PRINCESS KAGUYA ^(U)

The latest masterpiece from Studio Ghibli is based on a tenth-century Japanese fable, the moving tale of a miniature girl discovered inside a bamboo shoot, who grows up to become the most beautiful young woman in the land. Exquisitely drawn in a style that recalls washed-out Japanese watercolours, the story is spellbinding and melancholic, an instant classic from the hand of Studio Ghibli co-founder and Grave of the Fireflies director Isao Takahata.

Japan (subtitled), 2014, 137 mins

Tue 26 May (1 day only) 7.45pm

KURT COBAIN: MONTAGE OF HECK ⁽¹⁵⁾

The very first authorised portrait of the legendary grunge icon. This remarkable documentary expertly blends together Kurt's personal archive of art, music and never before seen home movies, with animation and revelatory interviews with his family and closest confidants. Montage of Heck focuses on the person rather than the personality, following Kurt from his earliest years in Aberdeen, Washington, through to the height of his fame and unhappy unravelling.

USA, 2015, 132 mins

Thu 28 May (1 day only) 7.45pm

FRUIT OF PARADISE ⁽¹⁸⁾

Part of a short season of the work of Věra Chytilová, introduced by Czech New Wave author Peter Hames. Further details are available in our supplementary programme on The Films of Věra Chytilová.

Czechoslovakia (subtitled), 1970, 95 mins