

Sat 24 Jan (1 day only) 7.45pm

THE GRANDMASTER (15)

The Life and times of the legendary Kung Fu master Ip Man. Born into a wealthy family in Foshan, Ip's life changes when his martial arts grandmaster names him as his heir, bypassing his only child Gong Er. Bent on restoring her family honour, she challenges Ip, igniting a relationship between the two that would last a lifetime.

Wong Kar Wai directs a stylish, visually breathtaking work spanning the tumultuous Republican era following the fall of China's last dynasty, a time of chaos, division and war that was also the golden age of Chinese martial arts.

Hong Kong/China (subtitled), 2013, 108 mins

Tue 27 Jan (1 day only) 7.45pm

LEVIATHAN (15)

Kolya and his family live in the house he built on a rocky shore of the remote Kola Peninsula, near the Russian border with Finland. The mayor of a local town wants to acquire the property for redevelopment and Kolya is resisting the compulsory purchase.

Winner of the Best Film Prize at this year's London Film Festival, Andrey Zvyagintsev's Leviathan has a beguiling simplicity, a present day social drama about human insecurity which gradually unwinds to a mythological scale concerning the human condition on earth.

Russia (subtitled), 2014, 141 mins

Thu 29 Jan (1 day only) 7.45pm

STATIONS OF THE CROSS (15)



Maria is a 14 year old girl raised in a closely-knit fundamentalist Catholic community in rural Germany, whose doctrine imbues the possibilities of personal sacrifice as a means of helping others. In the outside world Maria is conflicted, intrigued by the sinful temptations of boys and music, particularly Christian and the gospel choir he belongs to. Stations of the Cross is a

thoughtful, compelling drama, layered through with dry humour, combining both the ridiculous and the sublime.

Germany (subtitled), 2014, 110 mins

Fri 30 Jan & Sat 31 Jan (2 days) 7.45pm

ST. VINCENT (12A)

Vincent is a misanthropic, bawdy, hedonistic, war veteran who likes living alone with his cat in a house that gives "dump" a bad name. Next door 12 year old Oliver's parents have just divorced and his mother Maggie is so desperate for a baby sitter that even Vincent will do at a push. While Oliver accompanies Vincent on his usual routine an unlikely friendship blossoms.

Bill Murray leads an excellent cast including Melissa McCarthy, Naomi Watts, and Jaeden Lieberher in his feature debut, a natural sidekick to Murray's comedic return to form.

USA, 2014, 102 mins

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 Monday and 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



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

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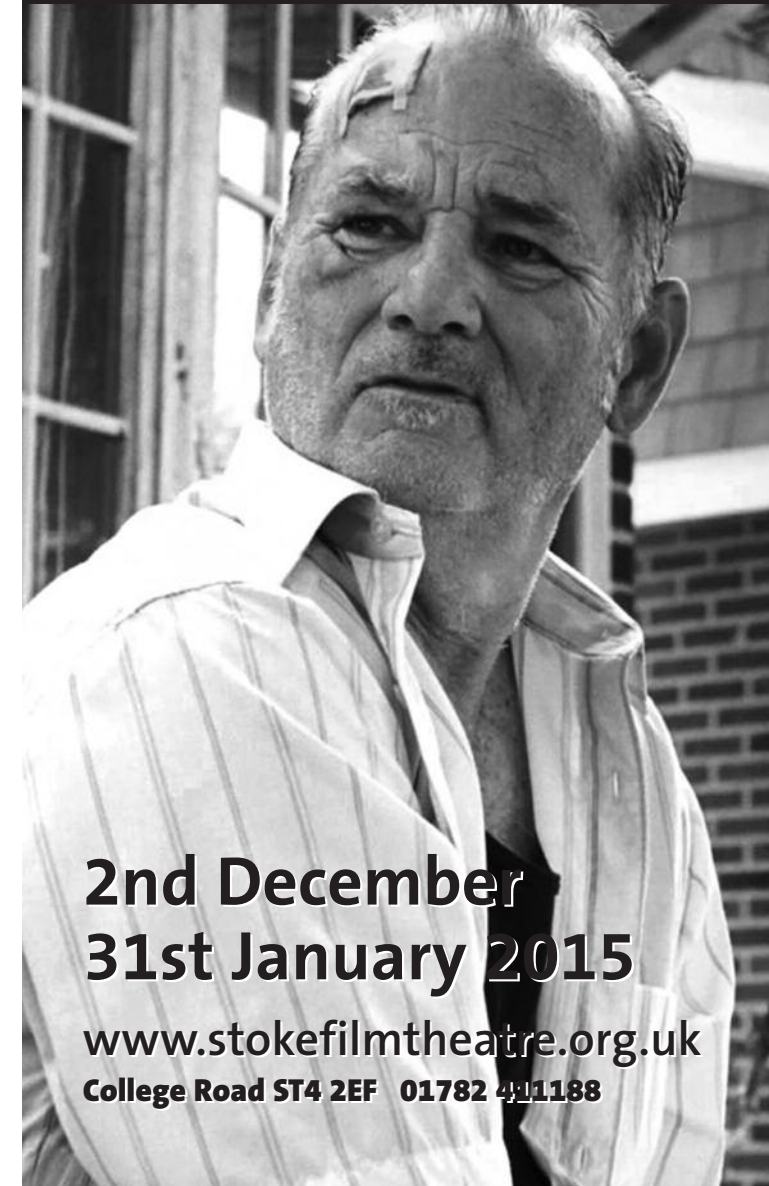
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Front cover: Bill Murray in 'St. Vincent'

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



CELEBRATING 40 YEARS OF CULTURAL
CINEMA IN STOKE ON TRENT



2nd December
31st January 2015

www.stokefilmtheatre.org.uk

College Road ST4 2EF 01782 411188

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

VIOLETTE (15)

Martin Provost's charismatic account of the life of writer Violette Leduc, whose life and work became a model of inspiration for other twentieth century French writers. After initial ambitions of literary success falter, Violette persuades Simone de Beauvoir to read her first manuscript and an intense lifelong relationship is formed, fuelled by Simone's belief that she holds in her hands the destiny of an extraordinary writer. Emmanuelle Devos excels in the title role and Violette is beautifully shot, articulate, intelligent cinema.

France/Belgium (subtitled), 2013, 139 mins

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

STILL THE ENEMY WITHIN (15)

Still The Enemy Within is a gripping documentary giving a unique insight into the 1984-85 British Miners' Strike. Foregoing experts and politicians, the raw emotional story of those involved is woven through stunningly curated archive footage of the strike and never-before-seen interviews with the miners themselves.

A heartfelt tribute to communities hammered by political forces and winner of the Sheffield Documentary Festival's Audience Award.

UK, 2014, 113 mins

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

SERENA (15)



Jennifer Lawrence gives a virtuoso performance in Susanne Bier's extravagant melodrama set in depression-era North Carolina. Serena is the ruthless, brilliant wife of George Pemberton (Bradley Cooper), a business magnate with plans for an international logging dynasty. Plans complicated when she discovers that she cannot bear children and that he had previously fathered a child out of wedlock. An enjoyable tale of bitter jealousy, murder, and cold, unforgiving ambition,

with a strong supporting cast including Rhys Ifans and Toby Jones.

USA/France, 2013, 110 mins, Audio description available

Tue 9 Dec (1 day only) **7.45pm**

NORTHERN SOUL (15)

It is 1974 and small town life and a future on a factory production line, hold little appeal for two Northern boys spellbound by the new black American soul music scene. Together they dream of going to America, to discover super rare records which will help them become the best DJs on the Northern Soul scene.

Northern Soul is an uplifting tale of a youth culture that opened up the horizons of a generation and a journey that tests loyalties to the limit.

UK, 2014, 99 mins

Thu 11 & Fri 12 Dec (2 days) **7.45pm**

FURY (15)

Training Day and End of Watch director David Ayer changes genres for this drama about a tank crew operating behind enemy lines in the final weeks

of WWII. Led by a fierce army sergeant named Wardaddy (Brad Pitt), an exhausted tank unit sets off on a difficult, high-stake mission that will see them outnumbered by a desperate German opposition and fighting against the odds to succeed.

UK/China/USA, 2014, 134 mins, Audio description available

Sat 13 Dec (1 day only) **7.45pm**

THE POSSIBILITIES ARE ENDLESS (12A)

The life-affirming story of Edwyn Collins, who had the contents of his mind effectively deleted following a cerebral haemorrhage. A celebrated lyricist, he was only able to say two phrases after waking up: "the possibilities are endless" and his wife's full name, "Grace Maxwell". This documentary places its audience inside Edwyn's mind as he embarks on a remarkable journey, from the brink of death to the rediscovery of language, music, life and love, as he tries to unlock the story of his past.

UK, 2014, 83 mins

Tue 16 Dec (1 day only) **7.45pm**

NIGHTCRAWLER (15)

Jake Gyllenhaal plays freelance crime journalist Lou Bloom in a low-key, edgy psychological thriller, marking the directorial debut of screenwriter Dan Gilroy. Enconced in the lurid sodium glare of nocturnal Los Angeles, Lou is prepared to go the extra mile in pursuit of a story, readily equipped with a mantra for any occasion. As he becomes increasingly embroiled in this murky, nefarious world he gets more than he bargained for, as a ghoulish and wickedly funny satire on journalism, the job market and self-help culture takes hold.

USA, 2014, 117 mins, Audio description available

Thu 8 to Sat 10 Jan (3 days) **7.45pm**

MR. TURNER (12A)

Mike Leigh's Palme d'Or-winning portrait of the great, if eccentric, British painter J.M.W. Turner. Commencing as his experimental paintings began to be mocked, the film observes his relationship with his housekeeper, his rejection of his children and his scuffles with the Royal Academy, where his antics include antagonising John Constable and John Ruskin.

Timothy Spall brings to life Turner's last quarter century with verve, revelling in a character as vivid as his canvasses. A soulful, sad and joyful work of art about a complicated and contradictory man.

UK, 2014, 150 mins, Audio description available



Tue 13 & Thu 15 Jan (2 days) **7.45pm**

THE IMITATION GAME (12A)

Based on the real life story of legendary cryptanalyst Alan Turing, The Imitation Game portrays the nail-biting race against time faced by Turing and his brilliant team of code-breakers at Bletchley Park, during the darkest days of World War II. Benedict Cumberbatch is sublime as the twitching, socially-outcast genius, a complicated and troubled man whose contributions and genius saved thousands of lives; but whose post-war life placed him at odds with an unenlightened British Establishment.

UK/USA, 2014, 113 mins, Audio description available

Fri 16 Jan (1 day only) **7.45pm**

INTERSTELLAR (12A)

On a troubled Earth, where dwindling food supplies are forcing humankind to explore all possibilities available, a loving father of two is convinced to take part in an interstellar mission, making use of a newly discovered wormhole.

Matthew McConaughey, Anne Hathaway and Jessica Chastain play the intrepid explorers in Christopher Nolan's highly anticipated space-exploration drama seeking a solution to humanity's crisis beyond the solar system.

USA/UK, 2014, 169 mins, Audio description available

Sat 17 & Tue 20 Jan (2 days) **7.45pm**

MY OLD LADY (12A)

Mathias Gold is a cash-strapped New Yorker who inherits an eye-wateringly valuable Parisian apartment from his estranged father. Sensing economic salvation Mathias heads to Paris, only to discover that it is a 'viager', and that its elderly occupant Mathilde has tenant-for-life residential status. A nicely acidic battle of wits follows, in a touching romantic drama adapted by Israel Horovitz from his own Broadway play.

In a stellar cast Maggie Smith plays the imperious Mathilde, whose foibles test the patience of her overly-protective daughter Chloé (Kristen Scott Thomas) and Mathias (Kevin Kline) alike.

UK/France/USA, 2014, 107 mins



Thu 22 Jan (1 day only) **7.45pm**

THE DROP (15)

Bob Saginowski is not the brightest of men, but he's fine with his lot, tending bar for cousin Marv, going to church, and keeping his head down in a Brooklyn neighbourhood, where Marv's days of goodfella status are long gone. But trouble finds Bob when a robbery goes awry and the abandoned dog he rescues brings him into contact with Nadia, a traumatised young woman whose past catches up with them. Director Michaël R. Roskam presents a supremely confident follow up to Bullhead, with this film-noir, beautifully played by Tom Hardy, Noomi Rapace and James Gandolfini.

USA, 2014, 106 mins

Fri 23 Jan (1 day only) **7.45pm**

WHAT WE DO IN THE SHADOWS (15)

A comic mockumentary following the lives of flatmates in Wellington, New Zealand, as they try to get by and overcome life's obstacles. Better known for their work in Flight of the Concorde, Taika Waititi and Jemaine Clement co-direct and appear as Viago and Vladislav, immortal vampires able to avoid sunlight and hit the main artery, but struggling with modern life's trivialities, paying rent, trying to get into nightclubs and keep up with the chore wheel.

New Zealand, 2014, 85 mins