

## ANALYSIS of BERWICK FILM SOCIETY QUESTIONNAIRE 2011

**100 questionnaires were returned. The numbers of 'votes' under each heading therefore also represents the percentage in relation to the total number of returns.**

**Q1: How long have you been a BFS Member?**

a) One season	33
b) Two or more seasons	47
c) Since BFS started in 2006	18
d) <i>No reply or unclear</i>	2

**Q2: In future film seasons would you like to see :**

(please tick those which apply, & ignore those you don't want)

Comments

a) more classic / older films ?	36	
b) more light-hearted films ?	31	
c) more exciting / suspenseful films ?	25	
d) more films with experimental styles of narrative ?	16	
e) more films with contemporary, real life themes ?	28	
f) more art-related films ?	19	
g) more documentaries ?	15	
h) other ? (please specify in space below)		
i) Keep the balance more or less as it is.	56	

**Q3: What factors would put you off attending BFS films ?**

(please rate each one according to your strength of feeling: 1 = least offputting, up to 5 = most offputting)

	1	2	3	4	5	<i>No reply/ unclear</i>
a) subtitled films	79	9	4	0	0	7
b) frequent strong language	32	12	22	14	12	7
c) scenes of graphic violence	16	8	18	16	38	4
d) explicit sexual content	29	18	24	11	11	6
e) running time substantially more than 2 hours	39	19	15	8	12	6
f) older films (i.e. not recent releases)	59	21	10	0	1	8
g) other (please specify)						

**Q4: If you attended the Extra Screenings this season (Jan 12<sup>th</sup> "Lebanon" and March 16<sup>th</sup> "Sin Nombre"), do you feel BFS should include films similar to these in future seasons? (please choose one option below) :**

a) strongly in favour of including similar films	32	Please comment here if you have something additional you want to say:
b) moderately in favour of including similar films	15	
c) neutral	16	
d) moderately against including similar films	13	
e) strongly against including similar films	1	
f) <i>No reply or unclear</i>	23	

**Q5: If you didn't attend the Extra Screenings this season (Jan and March), why was this?**

a) You didn't want to see those particular films (please give reasons)	15	Reasons?
b) You had other commitments on those evenings	48	
c) Other	1	
d) <i>Attended one film but not both</i>	38	

**Comments on Extra Screenings:**

- "Lebanon was stunning; don't particularly want to see more of how debased humans can become in debasing situations (*Sin Nombre!*)."
- "More movies the better!"
- "I don't like violent films."
- "Happy to be challenged."
- "Whether I can face it largely depends on life circumstances at the time. Sometimes enough is enough."
- "Rather too violent for our tastes."
- "Too heavy & depressing."
- "Not to my taste I'm afraid."
- "Enjoyed both films but don't want too many films each month."
- "Two excellent films."
- "I don't mind the extra screenings, but I'm not sure I would attend if they are of the same ilk as those selected this season - sorry!"
- "Overload of conflict situations, aggression in many of the films."
- "Good to have a few films each season which are more edgy."
- "Found *Sin Nombre* hard to watch for longer than the first 15 minutes!"
- "Didn't attend *Lebanon* because of graphic violence... Appreciate the need to cater for broad spectrum of taste."
- "Too depressing."
- [Extra screenings] "Only because that means more of your great selections!"
- "More movies!"
- "I enjoyed both films, as I do most others!"
- "Only saw *Lebanon* - would not have done so if I had realised how horrific it was! Did not think the warning was strong enough. Thought-provoking film, however. Did not go to 2nd one as I felt it might be too horrific like the first."
- "[In favour] But must be a difficult balance to encourage people to come to them without deterring membership renewals!"
- "*Lebanon* - too violent; put off by reviews in media."
- "*Lebanon* was truly excellent, memorable ...."
- "*Lebanon* very resonating."

- "The more films the better! I don't understand why the attendance was not as good at the Extra Screenings. I wonder if people were put off by over-emphasis on the fact they may find them 'challenging'."
- "I thought *Sin Nombre* and *Lebanon* were 2 of the best."
- "Graphic BUT compelling."
- "I saw one of them but found it too gruelling. It's good to be warned about them so that we have a choice."
- "I knew I wouldn't enjoy sitting through *Lebanon*. I watched *Sin Nombre* and appreciated its message, but didn't enjoy the experience."
- "*Sin Nombre* was outstanding."
- "*Lebanon* was gripping and did not seem especially violent."
- "*Lebanon* - too harrowing."
- "Very interesting BUT utterly depressing."

**Q6 : If BFS includes more challenging or specialised films in future programmes, which of the following would you prefer? (please tick one) :**

a) to integrate them into the main programme	19
b) to offer these always as Extra Screenings	73
c) <i>No reply or unclear</i>	8

**Q7 : What is your continuation of BFS Membership dependent upon?**

(please mark each one in order of importance, 1 = least important, 5 = most important)

	1	2	3	4	5	No reply
a) membership cost per season	24	21	24	12	12	7
b) number of films offered in one season	11	15	31	20	16	7
c) film titles selected	12	8	16	18	40	6
d) the current venue at The Maltings	12	2	21	23	34	7
e) other (please specify below)						

**Q8 : Please give a rating on the following aspects of BFS's service to its members**

(1 = Poor, 2 =Fair, 3 = Good, 4 =Very Good, 5 = Excellent)

	1	2	3	4	5	No reply
a) Value for money for members	1	0	3	15	80	1
b) Programming choices overall	0	1	12	41	44	2
c) Variety of films shown	0	5	13	32	47	3
d) Printed programme produced each season	1	2	4	29	63	1
e) Communication with members (face to face, email, snail mail)	1	1	9	28	58	3
f) Website (if you make use of this)	2	1	3	17	24	53

**Q9 : Please add below anything you want to say about any aspect of BFS's work**

[A wide variety of additional comments was received, providing us with useful responses and suggestions. It's impossible to satisfy everyone's preferences all of the time, so we shall continue with our aim to please the majority of our supporters the majority of the time! We are encouraged that our endeavours to bring international cinema to Berwick are being well received overall and we look forward to bringing more great titles to the big screen in the future. Thank you for your support.]

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