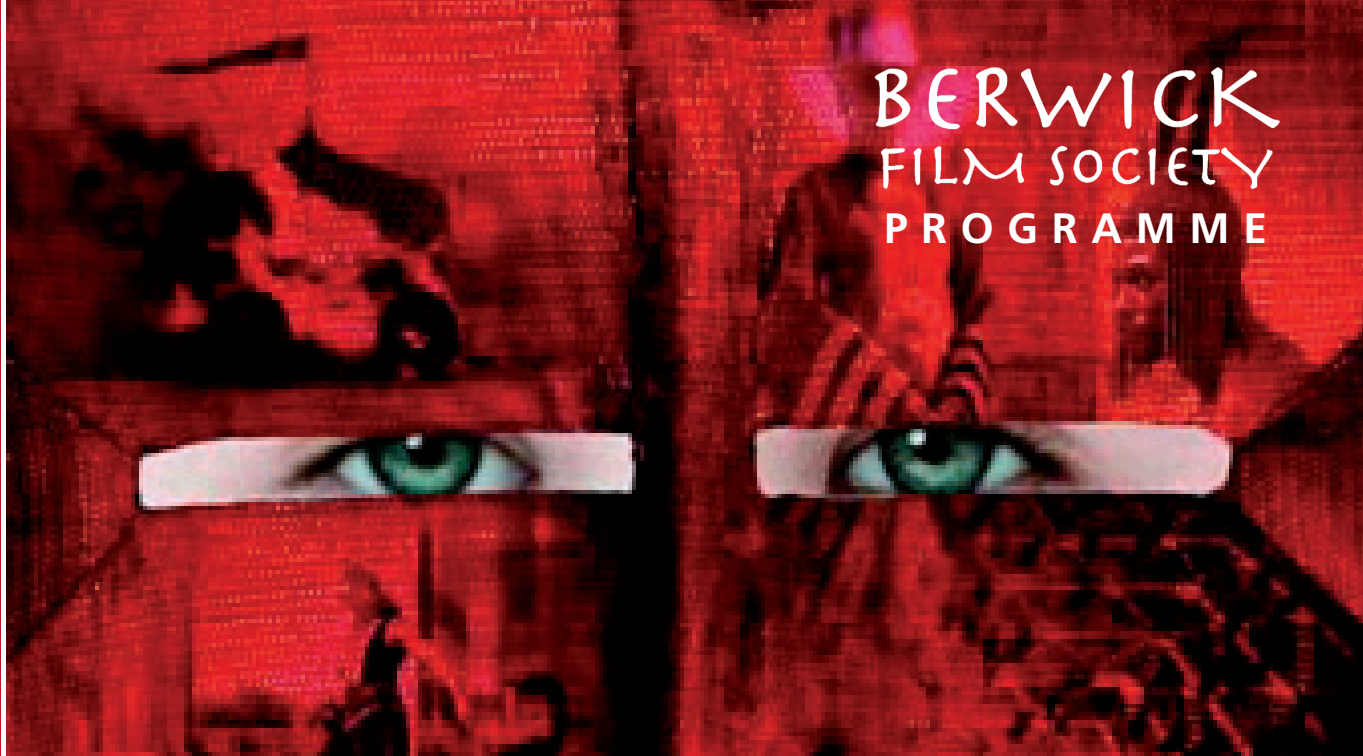


FILMS 2009/10



BERWICK
FILM SOCIETY
PROGRAMME

Welcome to our Film Season – our latest line-up of enticing films from different corners of the globe awaits you!

We've moved venue and are delighted to be screening in Berwick's new-look, dedicated film & theatre space: The Maltings Theatre, Eastern Lane, Berwick. Now we can provide you with the essential film-going elements we've been striving for: comfy seats, good access, the big screen, and a characterful bar for meeting up with friends beforehand and to chat about our films afterwards. And of course we'll be there with a warm welcome! Do join us at our new venue for some marvellous film-watching.

Our Season Membership fee has been kept the same as last season, at around £3 per film for 9 cracking titles which you might not otherwise get the chance to see on the big screen. And more: as a member you are also entitled to special deal tickets and one free film at this year's Berwick Film & Media Arts Festival (18-20 September). All in all, splendid value, so please complete and return the tear-out form on page 5 and support our work to bring quality international cinema to the area. Alternatively, our filmnight tickets will be available on the door at the same price as The Maltings: £5. Dates are easy to remember: we screen on the last Wednesday of each month from September to May inclusive, (except in December when the date is brought forward). See the back page for a quick summary.

From crescendo thriller to gentle sunny meander and dazzling fantasy to dramatised reality, our Season has the lot – and we can't wait to place this feast before your eyes and ears! Do come along and make an evening of it, we'd love to see you.

Genni, Maurice, Claire and John, The Berwick Film Society Team



Wednesday 30th September 2009 at 7.30pm

**I've Loved You So Long
(Il y a longtemps que je t'aime) (12A)**

France/Germany 2008 | 1hr 57min | Dir: Philippe Claudel | Cast: Kristin Scott Thomas, Elsa Zylberstein
Language: French, English subtitles | **Type:** Psychological Mystery Drama | **Awards:** BAFTA 2009 Best Foreign Language Film + 12 other wins, 11 nominations

Novelist Philippe Claudel's first feature film is the powerful and absorbing study of a woman with a mysterious past. Adapting to domestic life and friendships after a long absence proves hard, but her caring younger sister offers unexpected support. A hypersensitive performance by Kristin Scott Thomas (a challenging role in which she is consistently on screen) continues to earn a well-deserved shower of accolades for her highly-skilled character portrayal.

"A deeply involving, beautifully-acted and expertly constructed human drama by and for grown-ups."
Peter Bradshaw, The Guardian

Wednesday 28th October 2009 at 7.30pm

Il Divo (15)

Italy/France 2008 | 1hr 57min | Dir: Paolo Sorrentino
Cast: Toni Servillo, Anna Bonaiuto, | **Language:** Italian, English subtitles | **Type:** Political Drama
Awards: Jury Prize Cannes 2008 + 8 other wins, 14 nominations

And you thought our politicians were badly behaved? Controversial career politician Giulio Andreotti landed the role of Italy's prime minister seven times, despite a plethora of links to crime and corruption with countless scandals unearthed. A visually dazzling kaleidoscope from Italy's most lauded young director, alongside some truly captivating acting.

"Sorrentino's skill is to tell his story almost entirely visually. (He) surprises with every new shot, camera move, juxtaposition, snippet of humour and dollop of dread. As a character assassination, it's delicious and deadly."
David Calhoun, Time Out.





Wednesday 25th November 2009 at 7.30pm

The Visitor (15)

USA 2007 (UK release 2008) | 1hr 44 min | Dir: Thomas McCarthy | Cast: Richard Jenkins, Danai Gurira, Haaz Sleiman, Hiam Abbass | Language: English | Type: Drama | Awards: Oscar nomination 2009 Best Lead Actor + 12 wins, 11 other nominations

A college professor's uneventful life is changed irrevocably when he returns from a business trip to an unwelcome surprise. From then on his awkwardness gradually gives way to curiosity, until shared humanity invites an awakening, inclusion and a big change in perspective. From the Director of *"The Station Agent"* (a past BFS audience favourite), comes this gentle film with occasional drama and some touching moments.

"Beautifully paced, understated, telling details expressed with the slightest of brush strokes, this small movie has enjoyed huge success on the festival circuit". Martin Hoyle, Financial Times



Wednesday 16th December 2009 at 7.30pm

Dean Spanley (U)

New Zealand /UK 2008 | 1hr 40 min | Dir: Toa Fraser | Cast: Peter O'Toole, Jeremy Northam, Sam Neill | Language: English | Type: Period Comedy | Awards: 2 nominations

Based on a little-known 1936 novella by the Irish author Baron Dunsany, this delightful film stars Jeremy Northam as an Edwardian publisher exasperated by his cantankerous elderly father, played by Peter O'Toole (a dotty yet powerful performance). The two men meet Dean Spanley (Sam Neill), a peppery churchman, who declares himself the reincarnation of a departed soul. Especially recommended for dog lovers ...

"Wilfully whimsical and determinedly eccentric ...if you fall for Dean Spanley, you'll fall hard."
Anna Smith, Empire Magazine



Wednesday 27th January 2010 at 7.30pm

North Face (Nordwand) (12A)

Germany/ Austria/ Switzerland 2008) | 2hr 1min | Dir: Philipp Stölzl | **Cast:** Benno Fürmann, Florian Lukas, Johanna Wokalek
Language: German, Swiss-German, French, Italian, with English subtitles | **Type:** Real-life Adventure Drama | **Awards:** 1 win

Since 1935, at least sixty-four climbers have died attempting the infamous North Face of the Eiger, earning it the German nickname, Mordwand, or "murder wall", a play on the face's real German name Nordwand. Today, it still puts fear into the heart of any climber.

Back in the 1930s the North Face had yet to be conquered and two young German men, friends since childhood, held the passionate dream of being the first to succeed. A woman journalist who shares a past with them has the chance to scoop their pioneering climb. But Nature's force has its own plans to make the expedition a monumental challenge. Don't miss this!

"A mountaineering adventure more tense, more edge-of-the-seat suspenseful, than "Touching The Void"? Almost incredibly, this German drama, based on a true story, is that film."
Anthony Quinn, The Independent

Wednesday 24th February 2010 at 7.30pm

Anything For Her (Pour elle) (15)

France 2008 (UK release 2009)
1hr 37min | Dir: Fred Cavayé
Cast: Vincent Lindon, Diane Kruger
Language: French, English subtitles
Type: Thriller | **Awards:** César nomination 2009, Best First Work

Suspend disbelief and sink your teeth into this Gallic thriller. Perfect married life is shattered by a drama with bleak implications for a family torn apart. A husband's desperation to seek justice results in a high-risk strategy with a nail-biting plot. Tense and atmospheric.

"...Director Fred Cavayé serves up a taut tale that tantalisingly leaves his incarcerated heroine's innocence dangling." Neil Smith, Total Film



MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

please complete all details in block capitals:



FORENAME(s) SURNAME

ADDRESS

..... Postcode.....

PHONE Email

(Please provide email if you are an email user, as it saves postage costs. We will never pass your details to any third party). Please write your email address clearly to avoid errors when we email you.

"I/We enclose a cheque for £____ for membership 2009/10 (£28 per person, payable to "Berwick Film Society").

Please now mail this form to:
Berwick Film Society, 79 Main Street, Spittal,
Berwick-upon-Tweed TD15 1RD, Northumberland.

Phone: 07779 663860 Email: info@berwickfilmsociety.co.uk
Website: www.berwickfilmsociety.co.uk

AUDIENCE RESPONSES TO LAST SEASON'S FILMS (2008/09)

	excellent	good	fair	poor	votes	% favourable
The Counterfeiters	63	18	2	0	83	93%
The Orphanage	27	24	11	1	62	81%
Lars and the Real Girl	44	27	4	2	77	87%
Half Moon	22	24	12	3	61	77%
The Italian	59	31	4	0	94	90%
After the Wedding	43	14	5	2	64	88%
The Band's Visit	37	34	6	1	78	84%
36 Quai des Orfèvres	35	23	6	3	67	84%
The Darjeeling Limited	15	29	16	1	61	74%

Film Seasons are programmed by the BFS team.

Programming decisions are taken on the basis of past audience feedback, purpose-viewing a wide selection of films, title availability and the trust of our membership.



Martins The Printers are proud to support Berwick Film Society, and wish them every success for their 2009/10 season.

Printers of full colour books, catalogues, programmes, brochures and posters.

www.martins-the-printers.com

Berwick Film Society has gratefully received funding support towards equipment from Lottery Awards for All and for event attendance from Northern Film & Media.

**NORTHERN
FILM+MEDIA**
investing in people and ideas



We also acknowledge with warm thanks the continued support of Martins the Printers and Simprim Studio in the production of this brochure.

Berwick Film Society is run entirely by a small team of volunteers:

Coordinator: Genni Poole **Finance:** Maurice Ward
Membership: Claire Ward **Key Volunteer:** John Spiers
 Also regular help on film nights from Jessie Dodds and Rogan Grant

We need volunteer stewards at our new venue!

Please contact us:
info@berwickfilmsociety.co.uk or 07779 663860



Wednesday 31st March 2010 at 7.30pm
The Fall (15)

India/UK/US 2006 (UK release 2008) | 1hr 57min
Dir: Tarsem Singh | **Cast:** Lee Pace, Catinca Untaru
Language: English | **Type:** Story-telling Drama
Awards: 3 wins, 2 nominations

In a hospital on the outskirts of 1920s Los Angeles, a near-paralysed stuntman from early Hollywood days begins to tell a fellow patient, a little girl with a broken arm, a fantastical story he invents about six mythical heroes. Thanks to his fractured state of mind and her vivid imagination, the line between fiction and reality starts to blur. Bursting with imagery, this bold and visually stunning work, filmed as a labour of love over four years in locations across the world, results in a dazzling and memorable piece of wizardry.

"A realm of endless labyrinths, lush forests and tangled cities, it's a genuinely dream-like film that's enhanced by the deliberately silent movie-like storytelling"
 Saxon Bullock, Film 4



Wednesday 28th April 2010 at 7.30pm

Fugitive Pieces (15)

Canada/Greece 2007 (UK release 2009) | 1hr 44min | Dir: Jeremy Podeswa | Cast: Stephen Dillane, Rade Serbedzija, Rosamund Pike | Language: English; Greek, Yiddish, German with English subtitles | Type: Post WWII Drama | Awards: 6 wins, 6 nominations

An adaptation of award-winning Canadian poet Anne Michaels's novel from 1996. A Polish child, haunted by witnessing his family's slaughter during the Holocaust, escapes to Greece, then comes of age in Canada, where writing becomes his refuge. An emotionally-charged and powerful story of loss, love's healing touch and the struggle to let the past go so that the future can begin.

"Fugitive Pieces is a soft and sweetly written adaptation"
Kevin Maher, The Times

Wednesday 26th May 2010 at 7.30pm

Conversations With My Gardener (Dialogue avec mon jardinier) (12A)

France 2007 (UK release 2008) | 1hr 49min | Dir: Jean Becker | Cast: Daniel Auteuil, Jean-Pierre Darroussin | Language: French, English subtitles | Type: Light Drama | Awards: César nomination 2009, Best Actor

We like to finish our Seasons on a delightfully mellow note and this is no exception. A troubled Parisian painter retreats to his dilapidated country home and begins its renovation by hiring a gardener – who turns out to be an old schoolmate. An affectionate relationship develops from their contrasted lives and values. Auteuil and Darroussin bring irresistible humour and sympathy to this sunny and poignant meditation.

"A gentle and humane work that's beautifully acted by Auteuil and Darroussin" Tom Dawson, Film Four



2009	Fri 18th- Sun 20th September	Berwick Film & Media Arts Festival A weekend of inspired moving image works
	Weds 30th September 7.30pm	I've Loved You So Long (12A) Psychological drama of a woman with a mysterious past
	Weds 28th October 7.30pm	Il Divo (15) Dazzling visual style fires this Italian political drama
	Weds 25th November 7.30pm	The Visitor (15) Touching story of a solitary life unexpectedly transformed
	Weds 16th December 7.30pm	Dean Spanley (U) An impressive cast star in one quirky Edwardian tale
2010	Weds 27th January 7.30pm	North Face (12A) Gripping dramatisation of 1930s Eiger expedition
	Weds 24th February 7.30pm	Anything For Her (15) Will love conquer all obstacles in this taut Gallic thriller?
	Weds 31st March 7.30pm	The Fall (15) Visually sumptuous story within a story
	Weds 28th April 7.30pm	Fugitive Pieces (15) Book adaptation of post WWII child-to-adult transition
	Weds 26th May 7.30pm	Conversations With My Gardener (12A) Poignant and humorous reunion in sun-filled France

Film Society screenings are now held in our new venue: **The Maltings Theatre, Eastern Lane, Berwick-upon-Tweed** at 7.30pm on the last Wednesday of the month (except in December '09, see details).

Membership is £28 for 9 films, plus discounts to Berwick Film & Media Arts Festival, 18-20 September 2009.

Non-members pay a door charge in line with the Maltings own prices, currently £5.

Contact, screening and film information :

www.berwickfilmsociety.co.uk

email: info@berwickfilmsociety.co.uk

Tel: 07779 663860

Front cover: The Fall

Content: Genni Poole

Design: Simprim Studio

Print: www.martins-the-printers.com