

FILMS 2018 / 19



**BERWICK
FILM SOCIETY
PROGRAMME**

Welcome to BFS season 2018/19

Dip into these pages for the feast of films on offer in Berwick Film Society's latest programme. Throughout the year the team finds, researches and previews a big range of international films. Whittled down and cherry-picked, only the finest are ultimately selected – the crème de la crème of world cinema, ready to be relished.

Diversity is at the core of our programming: diversity of genres, nationalities and topics and we celebrate this ethos wholeheartedly to provide you, our audience, with stimulating variety. The marvel of film offers you insight, food for thought, enjoyment and motive for discussion. From Chile to Sweden to Mongolia, our movies this season will take you to dizzying heights, through gripping moments and even into infectious absurdity!

BFS offers a subscription of 11 international films for £37 – under £4 per film. By signing up for a season (September to May), you get a superb deal, plus you support a community organisation with charitable status. BFS hires The Maltings bar for refreshments before and after the film and there are quality pre-film suppers available from the on-site restaurant. Meet up with friends and family!

What's to lose? Sign up now, or try us first – all are welcome. We can't wait for you to be part of our audience for this fabulous batch of films coming up.

Genni, Maurice and John, the Berwick Film Society Team.

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

Berwick Film Society 79 Main Street Spittal Berwick upon Tweed TD15 1RD





Tuesday 11 September 2018 at 7.30pm
A Fantastic Woman (Una mujer fantástica) (15)

Chile/Germany/Spain/US 2017 (UK release 2018) | 1hr 44min | Dir: Sebastián Lelio
Cast: Daniela Vega, Francisco Reyes, Luis Gnecco | Language: Spanish with English subtitles
Awards: Oscar winner Best Foreign Language Film 2018, 19 other wins + 37 nominations

In a moody Santiago nightclub, waitress and aspiring chanteuse Marina joins her partner Orlando in celebration of their future together. Unexpectedly, fate plays its hand and Marina must face a myriad of prejudices when, instead of being left to rebuild after a life-changing event, she is treated with suspicion and scorn.

Combining a striking performance by actor Daniela Vega with perceptive screenwriting from Sebastián Lelio and Gonzalo Maza, this gloriously Almodóvaresque character portrayal conveys societal bigotry towards gender identity through a positively absorbing drama. Simultaneously, it quietly invites us to challenge our own attitudes and deepen our understanding.

"It may be a timely film, but it is its timelessness, as well as its depths of compassion, which qualify it as a great one" Ryan Gilbey, The Guardian at Berlin Film Festival 2017

"...with [Daniela] Vega in the lead, her arresting screen charisma lends itself to some truly lovely and wonderful bits of fire and magic" Katie Walsh, Tribune News Service



Tuesday 30 October 2018 at 7.30pm **Custody (Jusqu'à la garde) (15)**

France 2017 (UK release 2018) | 1hr 33min | Dir: Xavier Legrand
Cast: Léa Drucker, Denis Ménochet, Thomas Gioria | Language: French with English subtitles | Awards: 6 wins, 10 nominations

Whilst a custody battle over a child has been visited before on film, what singles out this gripping view of a fragmented family is the naturalistic acting and directorial intuition, fleshing out the very real dilemmas and pitfalls of the situation.

Miriam is wary of trusting ex-husband Antoine, despite his assurances. Is he now deserving of the chance to be a dad to his boy again? The journey faced is hazardous as tensions build, recede, repeat.

This impactful first feature from screenwriter/director Legrand combines perception with nail-biting suspense. Authentically it conveys the taut impasse of a relationship with a toxic history and, at its crux, the need to feel safe with no simple path to achieving it.

"While the word 'exciting' doesn't feel right for such a tough drama, it's certainly perfect as a description of Legrand's debut as a feature-length director and original screenplay author" Fionnuala Halligan, Screen Daily

Note: contains one scene of strong threat

Tuesday 20 November 2018 at 7.30pm

Lost in Paris (Paris pieds nus) (12A)

France 2016 | 1hr 23min | Dir: Fiona Gordon, Dominique Abel | Cast: Fiona Gordon, Dominique Abel, Emmanuelle Riva | Language: French with English subtitles | Awards: 3 wins, 1 nomination

Peppered liberally by the crazily-choreographed antics with which they are fondly identified, director/actor/screenwriter duo Fiona Gordon and Dominique Abel (*The Fairy*) transport themselves to the city of love. She, a small-town librarian in search of a missing older relative; he an enterprising vagrant, combing the city for his next draught-free pitstop. Inevitably their paths cross and in a hectic tangle of limbs, their two lives become embroiled in a non-stop, whimsical adventure.

Starring as the delightful straying aunt, the late actor Emmanuelle Riva plays here her finale, aged 87. Her debut performance was in the classic *Hiroshima mon amour* (1959) and more recently, the Oscar-winning *Amour* (2012).

"With its visually stylish sight gags and broad physical comedy, Lost in Paris blends the whimsy of Wes Anderson with the inventive slapstick of Jacques Tati"

Pat Padua, Washington Post

"...pure of vision, an ambitious accomplishment and undeniably sweet"

Alex Godfrey, Time Out





Tuesday 4 December 2018 at 7.30pm In Between (Bar Bahar) (15)

Israel/France 2016 (UK release 2017) | 1hr 43min | Dir: Maysaloun Hamoud
Cast: Mouna Hawa, Sanah Jammeliéh, Shaden Kanboura | Language: Hebrew, Arabic
with English subtitles | Awards: 14 wins, 15 nominations

Bolstered by friendship and mutual support, three young Palestinian women sharing a flat in the heart of Tel Aviv persevere to create the lives they want, within the constraints of a patriarchal society. Individually, they have different goals and priorities (including fun and parties), but are united by the tightrope they walk between conforming to family/social traditions and faith, and pursuing their individual choices.

Mixing experienced actors with first timers, the narrative exposes what is at stake. This bittersweet directorial debut has resulted in a compassionate, intelligent film which reflects the real dilemmas many women face daily in the context of political/social tensions within a society where going against the grain can only happen behind closed doors.

"Balancing tragicomic relationship blues with sharp sociopolitical observation, Hamoud's slyly subversive drama draws us deep into an often hidden world"
Mark Kermode, The Observer

Note: Contains strong language and one scene of sexual violation.

Tuesday 8 January 2019 at 7.30pm
Scribe (La Mécanique de l'ombre) (15)

France 2016 (UK release 2017) | 1hr 31min | Dir: Thomas Kruihof | Cast: François Cluzet, Denis Podalydès, Alba Rohrwacher | Language: French with English subtitles

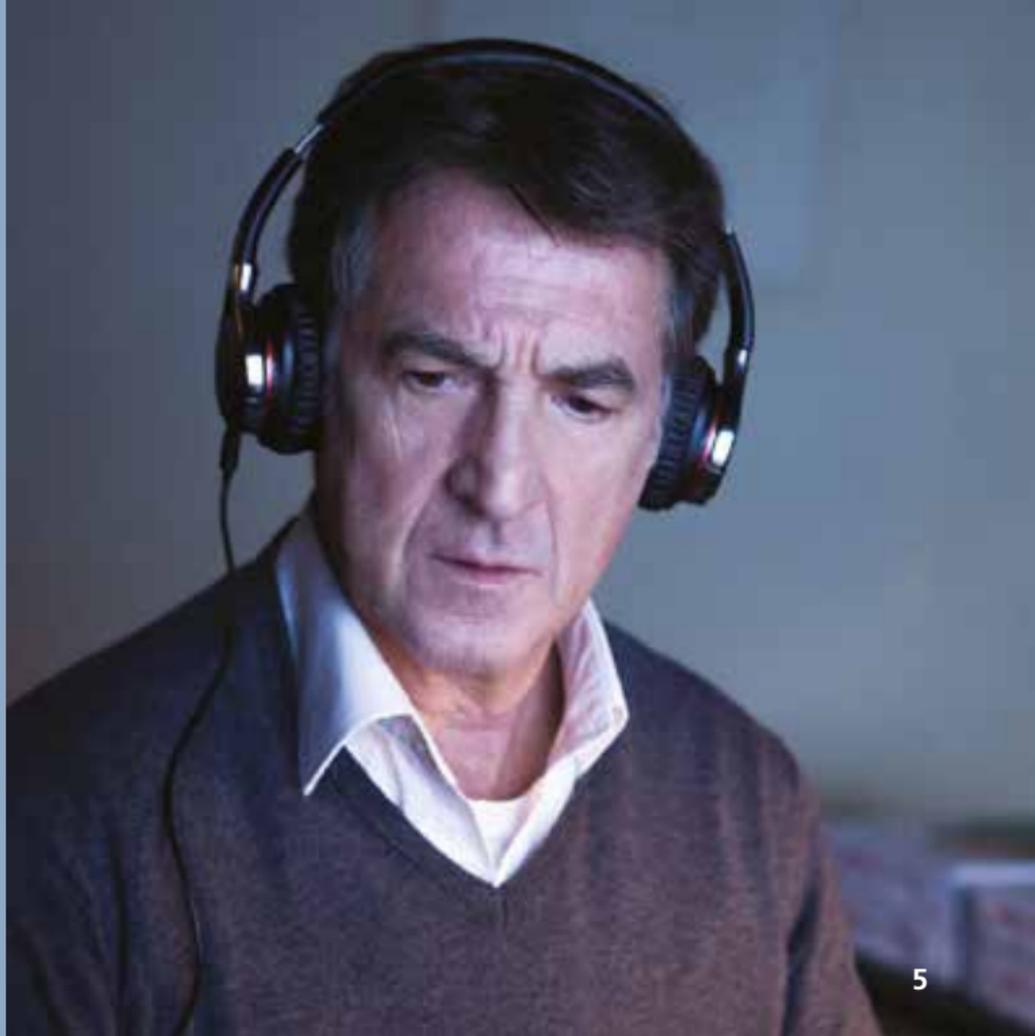
In this furtive low-key thriller, the ubiquitous Francois Cluzet (*Untouchable, Tell No-one*) plays a burnt-out man, Duval, with a troubled past, now desperately seeking regular employment and eager to start life afresh.

Approached casually with a job offer to transcribe recorded phone conversations, Duval relishes the prospect of easy money and a structure to his life which has been elusive. Provided with a sparsely-furnished workspace and specific instructions, he embraces the task at hand. However, rather than contributing to national security as he had supposed, he begins to sense something else may be going on and finds himself immersed in a deadly game of manipulation.

An atmospheric little chiller, not at all far-fetched amidst today's political skullduggery.

"Assiduously controlled and impeccably played, this cunningly convoluted thriller keeps both the protagonist and the viewer guessing until the slickly cynical climax"

David Parker, Empire Magazine





Tuesday 29 January 2019 at 7.30pm

The Square (15)

Sweden/Germany/France/Denmark 2017 (UK release 2018) | 2hr 31min | Dir: Ruben Östlund
Cast: Claes Bang, Elisabeth Moss, Dominic West | Language: Swedish, Danish with English subtitles | Awards: 27 wins & 38 nominations

This mocking satire on the grandiosity of the contemporary art world and complacency of the privileged classes, spins social observation into squirm-inducing scenarios, memorable incidents and out-of-control performance art. You could well find yourself smirking and wincing in the same moment!

The director-curator of a prestigious modern art museum is caught out when an innovative installation, the square, becomes the scene of a seemingly real incident. A stream of episodes follow which are in turn cringingly amusing, jaw-droppingly bizarre and smartly on the button.

Winner of the Goya award for Best European film 2017, *The Square* is a knife-sharp parody on pretentiousness but above all a clever comment on humanity's foibles, stabbing provocatively at social hypocrisy through a series of superbly punchy vignettes.

"Supremely fresh, witty and thought-provoking" Geoff Andrew, Time Out

APPLICATION FOR BFS SEASON PASS 2018 / 19 – please complete all in block capitals:
£37 FOR 11 FILMS + FILM FESTIVAL FREE SCREENING & DISCOUNTS

FORENAME..... SURNAME

ADDRESS

.....

..... POSTCODE.....

PHONE Email New to BFS? Tick here

IMPORTANT: Please tick box to confirm your agreement to receive BFS screening information.
We will never pass your details to any third party. Note: Season subscriptions are non- transferable.

I/We enclose a cheque for £____ for Season 2018/19 (£37 per person, payable to Berwick Film Society)

Please mail this form to: **Berwick Film Society 79 Main Street Spittal Berwick-upon-Tweed TD15 1RD**

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



AUDIENCE RESPONSES TO LAST SEASON'S FILMS (2017/18)

	excellent	good	fair	poor	votes	% favourable
The Olive Tree	130	41	2	2	175	93%
Sunrise	113	28	2	0	143	94%
The Salesman	58	65	35	1	159	78%
Sweet Bean	106	54	12	1	173	88%
Lady Macbeth	52	56	22	22	152	73%
It's Only the End of the World	41	42	55	23	161	66%
A Man Called Ove	154	18	5	0	177	96%
Les Cowboys	25	56	19	3	103	75%
The Black Hen	30	78	58	9	175	68%
Frantz	132	50	7	0	189	92%
The Other Side of Hope	48	66	17	3	134	80%

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 BFS supporters.



Martins The Printers proudly support Berwick Film Society and wish them every success with their latest season.

Printers of full colour books, catalogues, programmes, brochures and posters. From one copy to many thousands we are able to meet your needs.

www.martins-the-printers.com

Berwick Film Society received setting up funding from several sources. To meet current hire and running costs BFS relies on season subscriptions. BFS is a registered charity no.1174531

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CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS



We acknowledge with warm thanks the work of Martins the Printers and Simprim Studio in the production of this brochure and Greenwood Accountants for their valued advice.

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

Coordinator: Genni Poole **Finance:** Maurice Ward

Subscriptions/Website: John Spiers

Stewards: Bob, Cian, Harriet, Hilary, James, Lothian, Peter

We need more volunteers for occasional or regular help.
Contact: genni@berwickfilmsociety.co.uk



Tuesday 19 February 2019 at 7.30pm **Faces Places (Visages, villages)** (12A)

France 2017 | 1hr 29min | Dirs: Agnès Varda, JR | Language: French with English subtitles
Awards: 33 wins, 32 nominations including an Oscar for best documentary 2018

Agnès Varda is an unusual French filmmaker with nothing to prove yet spades of indefatigable motivation. An adventuress with her own unique style, she recently turned ninety and remains an inspiration. Here, she joins forces with French street artist/photographer JR. Together they explore the rural byways of France in their head-turning camera-style van, taking photos of the people they meet on the road and transforming village walls in delightful ways.

It's simply a joy to be carried along with their joint project, as living dialogue blends with still images to form works of art which resonate with ordinary people. The maestra's natural rapport with her muralist co-creator has resulted in a solid friendship based on humour, ease and mutual respect that is altogether charming to witness. Come with us on this marvellous tour-de-force journey!

"The film works just fine as an anthology of amiable encounters and improvised collaborations" A.O.Scott, New York Times



Tuesday 12 March 2019 at 7.30pm
In The Fade (Aus dem Nichts) (18)

Germany 2017 (UK release 2018) | 1hr 46min | Dir: Fatih Akin | Cast: Diane Kruger, Denis Moschitto, Numan Acar | Language: German, Greek, Turkish with English subtitles | 14 wins including Golden Globe and 17 nominations

This tense, politically-charged thriller turns the tables on what we've become accustomed to hearing and seeing in the media.

A Kurdish ex-prisoner turned straight marries a free-spirited German woman and once settled, they raise a child in a loving relationship. Their stability is shattered by an event which holds huge repercussions, including a highly-charged court case.

Through exposing nationalist reaction to multiculturalism and a flawed justice system, such a story of deeply felt primal retribution would not be so human were it not for the visceral performance of Diane Kruger in this demanding lead role, for which she received Best Actress award at Cannes Film Festival.

"In the Fade is made with skill and precision, both on technical terms and in its performances. Diane Kruger is a marvel, effortlessly portraying a range of emotions, never giving in to sentimental touches, never flinching from her character's behavior" Daniel Eagan, Film Journal International

Note: Contains scenes of drug use, strong imagery and graphic verbal description

Tuesday 26 March 2019 at 7.30pm

The Rider (cert tbc)

US 2017 (UK release 2018) | 1hr 44min | Director: Chloé Zhao | Cast: Brady, Tim and Lily Jandreau | Language: English | Awards: 13 wins, 13 nominations

Having suffered an almost fatal head injury, a cowboy in South Dakota is advised to give up his passion as a rodeo competitor. But it has become his identity and livelihood.

An authentic docu-drama based on a true story and set in the vast landscapes of the dusty Dakota plains, this is as much a contemporary elegy for the Western as it is about the strong bond that exists between a cowboy and his horse.

Performed by genuine rodeo riders and their families alongside professional actors results in a tangible sense of reality, with the lead role played by the tenacious young man on whose life story this film is based.

"The Rider reinvigorates tropes from the western genre of men, horses, honour codes and vast expanses of nature with a refreshing lack of sentimentality, without sacrificing their inherent lyricism and poetry"
Ann Hornaday, Washington Post

Note: Includes scenes of rodeo riding/training, injuries to riders and horse. Frequent strong language





Tuesday 16 April 2019 at 7.30pm

The Wife (cert tbc)

Sweden/UK/USA 2017 | 1hr 40 min | Dir: Björn Runge | Cast: Glenn Close, Jonathan Pryce, Christian Slater | Language: English | Awards: to be announced

A charming, loyal and supportive wife (Glenn Close) had her own ambitions and talent as a young woman, but these were quickly shelved in favour of growing her husband's career as an universally-recognised writer. Given their forty-year marriage has been built upon unequal sacrifice and huge compromise, the cracks are starting to show. But when he is up for the ultimate international literary award, will he be too busy basking in his own greatness to notice?

This film, adapted by Jane Anderson from the sassy novel by Meg Wolitzer, provides a perfect vehicle for two venerated actor veterans. Here, they expertly interpret roles in which their expressions and interactions are at the very forefront of the close-focus narrative.

Amusing, poignant and affecting, savour this tale of self-discovery and the premise that it's never too late to start over.

"It's a smart, supremely watchable and entertaining film, and [Glenn] Close gives a wonderful star turn" Peter Bradshaw, The Guardian

Tuesday 21 May 2019 at 7.30pm
The Eagle Huntress (U)

Mongolia/UK/US 2016 | 1hr 27min | Dir: Otto Bell | Cast: Aisholpan Nurgaiv, Rys Nurgaiv, Daisy Ridley | Language: Kazakh with English subtitles | Awards: 9 wins, 19 nominations including BAFTA

Hunting with eagles is a tribal male tradition which goes back 2,000 years in Kazakh nomadic communities. Here is the true story of a young girl's quest to become the first female huntress in twelve generations of her family. First, she must capture a fledging eagle, train it to hunt, compete with her adult male rivals and finally return the bird to the wild, to continue the circle of life.

Riding across the rugged landscapes of Mongolia, this young girl and her father face temperatures of minus forty degrees and precarious territory. Her ambition is strong and she must prove herself, in order to quiet the doubters and pursue her dreams. With stunning cinematography, this is an inspiring and uplifting tale of a trailblazing young woman's resilience and determination.

"The Eagle Huntress is a remarkable documentary, one that combines superb National Geographic-style photography with a storyline that plays out like a real-life folk tale..."
Geoffrey Macnab, The Independent

Note: Contains two scenes of animal slaughter



2018

Tuesday 11 September 7.30pm

A Fantastic Woman (15)
Braving the backlash with head held high

Thurs 20 – Sun 23 September
Daytime & evening screenings

Berwick Film & Media Arts Festival
BFS Screening to be announced

Tuesday 30 October 7.30pm

Custody (15)
Broken trust in a family triangle

Tuesday 20 November 7.30pm

Lost in Paris (12A)
Tangles and tangos in the city of love

Tuesday 4 December 7.30pm

In Between (15)
Flatmates defy the boundaries

2019

Tuesday 8 January 7.30pm

Scribe (12A)
A mysterious job spells t-r-o-u-b-l-e

Tuesday 29 January 7.30pm

The Square (15)
Provocative satire on social hypocrisy

Tuesday 19 February 7.30pm

Faces Places (12A)
Genial duo transform French villages

Tuesday 12 March 7.30pm

In the Fade (18)
Drama of justice versus retribution

Tuesday 26 March 7.30pm

The Rider (tbc)
Straddling the saddle as a way of life

Tuesday 16 April 7.30pm

The Wife (tbc)
Author steals the limelight once too often

Tuesday 21 May 7.30pm

The Eagle Huntress (U)
She flies her bird and flouts tradition

Berwick Film Society screenings take place in The Maltings Cinema, Eastern Lane, Berwick-upon-Tweed on a Tuesday evening once a month with extra screenings and events. See details adjacent. BFS Seasons run from September to the end of May.

A season pass costs £37 and includes free entry to all films listed, plus discounts at Berwick Film & Media Arts Festival 20-23 September 2018. Apply by downloading the form from our website, use the cut-out form inside our brochure, or sign up at any BFS filmnight. It's a terrific deal!

Everyone is welcome to our filmshows. If you don't hold a Season Pass, you can buy tickets at The Maltings box office on the night or book in advance online via their website. BFS reserve the right to replace any film within the programme if deemed necessary. In such a case, advance notice will be provided via email and the website below.

For screening, season pass and film information:
www.berwickfilmsociety.co.uk
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Front cover: *The Eagle Huntress*

Content: Genni Poole

Print: www.martins-the-printers.com

Design: Simprim Studio