

Berwick Film Society: Autumn 2026



**Wednesday
16 September 2pm & 7pm**
La Grazia
(Grace) (12A)

Italy 2025 | 2hr 12m | Dir: Paolo Sorrentino | Cast: Toni Servillo, Anna Ferzetti | Language: Italian (subtitled)

From the internationally acclaimed writer-director Paolo Sorrentino (*Il Divo*, *Youth*) comes an intimate study of a fictional Italian president, widowed and in his final months of office, during which he navigates both private and moral dilemmas. Performed brilliantly by the droll and magnetic lead actor Toni Servillo (a frequent collaborator of the director's), this feature delivers a stylised and skilful exploration of love, duty and personal freedom. An accomplished portrait.

"...all of the characters here are totally convincing both in their political dealings and in their personal lives...[director] Sorrentino's best work for years"

Mansel Stimpson
Film Review Daily



**Wednesday
30 September 2pm & 7pm**
Miroirs No. 3 (15)

Germany 2026 | 1hr 26m | Dir: Christian Petzold | Cast: Paula Beer, Barbara Auer | Language: German, French (subtitled)

During a weekend getaway to the countryside, Berliner student Laura miraculously survives a calamitous event. Physically unharmed but deeply shaken, she is scooped up by bystander Betty, whose husband and son observe the incomer warily. Will this ease over time? Eventually the secretive past can no longer be ignored and Laura will need to confront her own life. This gently-paced psychological intrigue is director Petzold's latest film partnership with actor Paula Beer, also the lead in two erstwhile BFS screenings: *Undine* and *Frantz*.

"Suspense melts away into golden summer days in [Petzold's] low-key psychodrama"
Savina Petkova, Sight & Sound



**Wednesday
14 October 2pm & 7pm**
Cotton Queen (tbcert)

Sudan, Germany etc. 2025
1hr 29m | Dir: Suzannah Mirghani
Cast: Mihad Murtada, Rabha Mohamed Mahmoud | Language: Arabic (subtitled)

In a cotton-growing Sudanese village, teenager Nafisa is raised on heroic tales recounted by her grandmother, the village matriarch Al-sit, of the historic struggle against British colonizers. When a smart-suited businessman arrives with a plan to introduce genetically modified cotton, Nafisa finds herself at the centre of a power struggle that will determine the village's future. This is the first feature written and directed by a Sudanese woman to attain an international release.

"Confidently blends coming of age drama and history lesson as a young woman finds herself caught between traditional expectations and new possibilities"
Allan Hunter, Screen International



**Wednesday
21 October 2pm & 7pm**
The Stranger
(L'Étranger) (15)

France 2025 | 2hrs 2m
Dir: François Ozon | Cast: Benjamin Voisin, Rebecca Marder | Language: French, Arabic (subtitled)

A languid, beautifully-crafted adaptation of the 1940s Albert Camus novella, set in the swelter of post-colonial French Algiers. Apathetic, emotionally detached Frenchman Mersault is unmoved by personal and global events until a fateful encounter, prompted by the prejudice of the era, challenges his indifference. Director Ozon comments that the story's origin feels strikingly modern, exploring issues of alienation, mortality and the search for meaning in an increasingly disconnected world.

"...lustrously beautiful and superbly realised modern take on the Camus classic... [it] passionately honours the original text while bringing a contemporary perspective to its themes of empire and race"
Peter Bradshaw, The Guardian



**Wednesday
11 November 2pm & 7pm**
The Last Viking
(Den sidste viking) (15)

Denmark, Sweden 2025 | 1hr 56m
Dir: Anders Thomas Jensen
Cast: Mads Mikkelsen, Sofie Gråbøl
Language : Danish, Swedish (subtitled)

Mads Mikkelsen with the worst perm? Anything goes in this darkly-humoured hybrid that celebrates personality differences and unorthodox behaviour. Amidst serial wackiness, it's peppered with dark surprises. Storyline? Wildly bizarre, yet tender. Characters? Inventively diverse, some with deeply scarred pasts. Anticipate mirth alongside abrupt changes of mood and tempo: here's one heck of a rollercoaster ride.

"...a dark romp, a tour de force, a parable of crisp dark humour that subtly packs a message... delivered quietly, but paints a strong message of tolerance... provides moving insight into the world of mental discordance and questions what is 'normal!'"

Peter Bodie, Film Ireland



**Wednesday
25 November 2pm & 7pm**
Our Land (12A)

UK 2025 | 1hr 30m | Dir: Orban Wallace | Producers: Leo Smith, Rebecca Wolff, Charlie Phillips
Language: English

Currently the public has legal access to just 8% of the English countryside compared to Scotland where, under the Land Reform (Scotland) Act 2003, people can freely explore the great majority of land and inland waters north of the Border. This film juxtaposes both sides of the debate around our access to England's natural environment, giving the views both of Right to Roam campaigners and opposing landowners who regard themselves as its rightful stewards.

"Wallace's film advocates for dialogue between the two sides and is itself a key part of an ongoing conversation"
Wendy Ide, The Observer

ABOUT BERWICK FILM SOCIETY

When and Where

BFS films are screened on Wednesdays at 2pm & 7pm (see dates over).

Our venue is The Maltings Cinema, Berwick Barracks (entry via Ravensdowne side gates). Cosy, comfortable and accessible, with good sound and plenty of legroom!

Each BFS film Season runs from January through to the end of the calendar year. Twelve films are split into two programmes: Spring (6 films from January to May) and Autumn (a further 6 films from September to end November). Each programme is carefully curated from the best of recent global releases. Check out the BFS website for further information : www.berwickfilmsociety.co.uk

What and Who

As an independent community organisation, BFS has been bringing top quality world cinema to Berwick since 2006, to widen horizons and give glimpses into other cultures, landscapes and issues. BFS offers a variety-packed array of film genres, styles and tempos in a dedicated cinema space.

Get ready for a stimulating, thought-provoking carpet ride around the globe!

The BFS Team consists of Genni (Coordinator), John (Membership), Cian (Treasurer), Chris (Stewarding) and Mills (Marketing). We each give our time and experience voluntarily, ably assisted at filmshows by BFS stewards. The Team share the desire to **keep cinema alive** against the tide of omnipresent streaming.

JOIN BFS!

Become a BFS Member for just £15 a year! Join at any point through our annual film season, the earlier the better. Membership entitles you to buy up to two tickets per BFS film at £6 each. Simply follow the instructions on the *Sign Up* page of the BFS website. Non-members are welcome at our filmshows at the normal cinema ticket price.

Choose the films you want to see from our carefully-selected programme for £6 per member's ticket (current price) for that Big Screen experience. We hope you'll come to them all! BFS reserves the right to make an occasional programme change or addition if deemed necessary, notified in advance and published on the BFS website.

Book your BFS tickets via The Maltings website, or in person at the box office (45 mins. before any film). *We recommend booking in advance* to avoid disappointment and downloading your tickets to your phone, or collecting them ahead if you can, so as to swerve the pre-filmshow queues at the box office.

Parking is available in the Parade Car Park (max 3 hrs) or use on-street spaces (clock card required for both). For disabled parking contact The Maltings in advance to book an on-site space (blue card eligibility). Please allow time to park as we aim to start films on time (no adverts!)

What else do you get? As well as the great Member's ticket discount, you'll also receive the latest BFS printed film brochure twice a year by post (or download it online) and an email reminder before each filmshow.

Website: www.berwickfilmsociety.co.uk

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BERWICK
FILM SOCIETY
PROGRAMME

21st Year

FILMS Sept - Nov 2026