

2023-24

SEASON



HARROGATE  
FILM SOCIETY

# THE SOCIETY

Welcome to Harrogate Film Society's 68th season! A group of enthusiastic volunteers, with a wide range of interests in film, research and curate our programme. Emphasis is placed on finding the best, most interesting films from across the globe and also award winning and acclaimed films from less well-known mainstream selections. We therefore screen a wide range of films that connect with cinema buffs and casual viewers alike. Our last season proved to be very successful, our ratings survey showing high levels of audience satisfaction.

This success is not just down to the films, but owes a lot to the environment we screen them in. The cinematic experience provided by the Odeon, and their high emphasis on customer care is a winning formula!

Finally, our success is due to the loyalty and enthusiasm of our members, both long-standing and more recent joiners, not forgetting guests who come on a one-off basis. HFS is not just somewhere to watch films. It's a friendly, environment where everyone is welcome. So, turn off the small box in your living room and come along to experience the big screen and big sound of a shared cinematic experience at our local Odeon.

## MEMBERSHIP

Membership is open to anyone aged 16 and over.

### **Full season of 15 films:**

Adults	£52.50
Under 25s	£30.00

### **Guests: Please pay at the desk before the screening.**

Adults	£6
Under 25s	£3

## HOW TO JOIN

- Visit our website and pay online: [harrogatefilmsociety.co.uk](http://harrogatefilmsociety.co.uk)
- Join at a screening using a cheque or credit/debit card – no cash please.
- Pay by bank transfer (contact us for details via email).
- Make a cheque payable to Harrogate Film society and send to:

Julia Dodd, 151, Otley Road, Harrogate, HG2 0AG



[facebook.com/harrogatefilmsociety](https://facebook.com/harrogatefilmsociety)



[Twitter@harrogatefilmsoc](https://twitter.com/harrogatefilmsoc)

Cover design – George Eglese. email: [george@eglese.com](mailto:george@eglese.com)

## WHAT DO WE OFFER?

- Fifteen full-length films.
- Three social evenings at the Odeon (wine or soft drink included in the membership package). Fourth social to be arranged.
- An opportunity to participate in “Film Club” facilitated discussions (with refreshments) after selected films.
- Reduced entry price for additional selected Harrogate Film Society events.
- Headsets are available for those with hearing difficulties.

Films are shown in

Screen 2 at the Odeon, East Parade, Harrogate HG15LB.

Parking is free after 6pm but you must display an orange parking ticket  
- available from the Film Society stall in the foyer.



## **BADLANDS (15) - 50th Anniversary - Members' Choice 11th September**

Director : Terence Malik | USA | 1973 | 94 minutes



Rated as the fourth best crime film of all time, *Badlands* is a truly iconic original: eloquent about the intersection of crime, romanticism and myth making in America, highly innovative in its use of colour, cinematography, editing and voice-over, with an inspired musical soundtrack. This confident, stunning, unforgettable directorial debut also established the careers of lead characters Martin Sheen and Sissy Spacek. P.S.

## **COMPARTMENT NUMBER SIX (15)**

**25th September**

Director : Juho Kuosmanen | Finland | 2021 | 107 Minutes | Subtitled



"An Arctic road movie that takes place in a train". Shot largely within the confines of a real Russian train, the film brilliantly captures the authentic air of its setting, inhabited by two wildly mismatched travellers. Confident directing and excellent performances ensure the film's central theme of overcoming otherness and finding common ground across personal, cultural and geographical borders inspires hope for troubled times. P.S.

## **NEVER LOOK AWAY (15)**

**9th October**

Director: Florian Henckel von Donnersmarck | Germany | 2018 | 189 Minutes | Subtitled



When two German art students fall in love, the girl's father vows to end their relationship, but their lives are already intertwined by a devastating secret. An epic intergenerational tale of art, love, tragedy and politics. Provocative storytelling from the writer/director of the "The Lives of Others" and superb cinematography along with a lustrous, hypnotic score, underpin a stunning masterpiece, one of the best films I have seen. B.J.M.

## **YOU WILL DIE AT TWENTY (12)**

**23rd October**

Director : Amjad Abu Alala | Sudan | 2019 | 103 Minutes | Subtitled



Is it superstition or blind faith that condemns this child to be raised from birth, believing he will die at 20? Taunted by the other boys as "the son of death", Muzamil eventually finds his place memorizing the Quran and working for the village shopkeeper. Though imperfect, being both guileless and cynical, this first feature is visually stunning and beautifully composed. J.D.

## BOILING POINT

6th November

Director : Philip Barantini | UK | 2021 | 92 Minutes



This is a one-shot film, starring the ever-brilliant Stephen Graham. I am lost in admiration for how they managed to achieve this in only 4 takes before the covid lockdown ended the shoot. I can't wait to see it on the big screen! As the pressure ramps up during the evening, it confirmed my belief that the last place I would ever wish to work is in a kitchen!! T.G.

4 BAFTA nominations: Outstanding British Film, Outstanding Debut by a British Writer or Director, Best Actor in a Leading Role and Best Casting.

## THE MAN WHO SOLD HIS SKIN (15)

20th November

Director : Kaouther Ben Hania | Tunisia | 2020 | 15 | 104 Minutes | Subtitled



Nominated best international feature at the 2021 Oscars, this Tunisian film tells a story of two lovers separated by the Syrian civil war. The refugee flees to Lebanon where he allows his back to become a canvas for a famous artist. The film is original, captivating, has many twists, is engaging throughout and thought-provoking with poignant messages about borders, freedom, art and the state of humanity. It's a 'must-see'. B.J.M.

## BLIND AMBITION (12A)

11th December

Directors : Robert Coe & Warwick Ross | Australia | 2021 | 96 Minutes | Subtitled



Here is an inspiring, true-life documentary for you to savour.

Follow four young, Zimbabwean refugees on their uplifting journey to become World Class Sommeliers, representing their country in the 'Olympics of Wine Tasting' at Chateau de Gilly, France. "When Life Closed a Door, they opened a bottle." Heart-warming, with subtle notes of humour. A very fine vintage! D.I.

## WINNERS (PG)

15th January

Director : Hassan Nazer | UK/Iran | 2022 | 85 Minutes | Subtitled



A heartwarming Persian language film with the magic of cinema at its heart. The story features two young children who rush out from school every day with their classmates to sort through rubbish at the local tip, in order to try to make some money for their poverty-stricken families. One day they come across a statue. The boss of the tip, who shares his love of film with them, realises the significance of this statue and decides that they must reunite the statue with its owner. J.G.

## DECISION TO LEAVE (15)

29th January

Director : Park Chan-Wook | South Korea | 2022 | 139 Minutes | Subtitled



A married insomniac detective, investigating the unexplained death of a man in the mountains, becomes obsessed with his widow in this stylish, twisty, mystery romance. Park Chan-Wook described it as 'a love story that does not say the words, "I Love You."' Beautifully filmed on location in South Korea, it received critical acclaim across the world. M.H.

Winner – Best Director - Cannes

## LES MISÉRABLES (15)

12th February

Director : Ladj Ly | France | 2019 | 104 Minutes | Subtitled



Inspired by the Victor Hugo quote "There are no weeds, and no worthless men. There are only bad farmers". First time director Ladj Ly's Les Misérables is an explosive crime drama where already simmering tensions between police, local Muslim leaders and youths in a Paris suburb boil over after a young lad steals a lion cub from a visiting circus. M.H.

## UTAMA (12A)

26th February

Director : Alejandro Loayza Grisi | Bolivia | 2022 | 127 Minutes | Subtitled



A visually stunning film set in the harsh but beautiful highlands of Bolivia. An elderly couple, Virginio and Sisa, have lived out their married life in the traditional way in this vast, challenging landscape. Things come to a head with the visit of a grandson from the city, who is shocked by their way of life in the face of drought and increasing infirmity. The film mirrors the universal dilemma of an elderly couple reluctant to accept the need for change to an easier lifestyle. J.G.

## ROCKS (12A)

11th March

Director: Sarah Gavron | UK | 2019 | 93 Minutes



When 15-year-old Shola 'Rocks' Omotoso is suddenly abandoned by her depression-prone mum, she is forced to fend for herself and younger brother, Emmanuel, in their London council flat. Fearing they will be taken into care and forced apart, she resorts to desperate measures to evade the authorities. Prepare yourself for an uplifting, contemporary tale of Girl Power. D.I.



## THE QUIET GIRL (12A)

**25th March – Double bill**

Director : Colm Bairéad | Ireland | 2022 | 95 Minutes | Subtitled



Beautifully restrained, yet emotionally resonant...a lovely, touching film that says more through hushed understatement than most do using frenzied melodramatic excess. With understated performances and an eye for natural beauty, the film is a poignant exploration of love and loss. It is a cinematic gem, using realism, sensitive direction and a luminous central performance, to create a profoundly moving and immersive film. P.S. The first Irish language film to be nominated for an Oscar - Best International Feature Film

## AN IRISH GOODBYE

**25th March – Double bill**

Directors : Tom Berkely, Ross White | Northern Ireland 2022 | 23 Minutes



Charming, funny, moving and stunningly shot, this film explores themes of tradition, loss and family, whilst also addressing the issue of caring for someone with special needs. Exploring the relationship between two brothers, following the death of their mother, it is a masterclass in storytelling, casting, and cinematography. It is a pleasure to watch unfold, as it captures both comedy and deep emotions. P.S. Oscar – Best Live Action Short Film

## OFFICIAL COMPETITION

**8th April**

Directors : Mariano Cohn, Gastón Duprat | Spain | 2018 | 189 Minutes | Subtitled



A wealthy businessman hires a neurotic director to produce his crowning achievement - a brilliant art film. Spectacular acting performances by the three stars: Penelope Cruz (the 'director'), Antonio Banderas and Oscar Martinez (the competing 'actors') result in a wildly entertaining film. There are many laugh out-loud moments together with searing insights into the craft of filmmaking and how not to make friends! B.J.M.

## FLEE (15)

**22nd April**

Director : Jonas Poher Rasmussen | Denmark/Sweden | 2021 | 89 Minutes | Subtitled



Flee tells the true story of, Amin's incredible journey, as a child refugee, from Afghanistan to Denmark. Travelling over land and sea Amin comes across the best and worst of humanity. Amin's compelling story is beautifully and skilfully told using animation and archive footage. Flee broke records in 2022 gaining Oscar nominations for Best International Film, Best Animation and Best Documentary. M.H.

## SCREEN DATES 2023 – 2024

**Screenings are on Mondays at 7.30 p.m. unless stated otherwise.**

11th September*	<b>BADLANDS</b> (USA)
25th September	<b>COMPARTMENT NO. 6</b> (Finland)
9th October	<b>NEVER LOOK AWAY</b> (Germany) NB 7.15 start
23rd October	<b>YOU WILL DIE AT TWENTY</b> (Sudan)
6th November	<b>BOILING POINT</b> (UK)
20th November	<b>THE MAN WHO SOLD HIS SKIN</b> (Tunisia)
11th December*	<b>BLIND AMBITION</b> (Australia/Zimbabwe)
15th January*	<b>WINNERS</b> (UK/Iran)
29th January	<b>DECISION TO LEAVE</b> (South Korea)
12th February	<b>LES MISÉRABLES</b> (France)
26th February	<b>UTAMA</b> (Bolivia)
11th March	<b>ROCKS</b> (UK)
25th March (Double bill)	<b>THE QUIET GIRL</b> (Ireland), <b>AN IRISH GOODBYE</b> (Northern Ireland)
8th April	<b>OFFICIAL COMPETITION</b> (Spain) NB 7.15 start
22nd April	<b>FLEE</b> (Denmark/Sweden)

\*Social with wine/soft drinks at the Odeon, from 6.45 p.m.

Film Club discussion after certain films – to be arranged

Film quiz and fourth social – to be announced later