



WELCOME TO LINCOLN FILM SOCIETY'S AUTUMN NEWSLETTER.....

With the season approaching halfway, the Committee felt it would be helpful for members to know about developments in the Society. We have decided to do this through the medium of a newsletter, which we plan to issue twice a year.

COMMITTEE NEWS

PROGRAMME CHANGES: We have to inform members that Bishop Grosseteste College have notified us that they are carrying out some improvements to the acoustic properties of and the heating system in the Bishop Greaves Theatre in the New Year. This will result in the Theatre being closed for the whole of January and February. We will therefore be unable to show the following films planned for those 2 months or hold our annual party.

FILMS AFFECTED	1	2	3
1. The Mark of an Angel (Jan 7th)			
2. Samson & Delilah (Jan 14th)			
3. A Prophet (Jan 28th)			
4. Me & Orson Welles (Feb 4th)			
5. Everlasting Moments (Feb 18th)			

The Committee is seriously unhappy about this state of affairs. We are urgently trying to arrange alternative dates to show the films affected later in the season. Members will be informed of those dates as soon as possible.

FUTURE DIRECTION OF THE SOCIETY

With major developments in film technology likely to change the way films in the future are made and shown, and with the growth in membership we have seen since lifting the cap on membership numbers, the Committee is currently discussing how we might develop the Society further.

Ideas include

- moving projection to a digital format
- increasing the number of films we show
- organising events such as mini-seasons and festivals.

Discussions are at an early stage but we hope to conclude them in the New Year. Whatever is decided, we aim to ensure that Film Society will continue to improve its position as the only place in the district regularly showing quality contemporary films from around the world.

FILM SOUND: The Committee is aware of members' concerns over the quality of film sound. It has been identified as an electrical problem with the projector. We will use the time we have while the Theatre is unavailable to carry out a diagnostic investigation & solve the problem permanently.

MEMBERSHIP

Membership this season has exceeded all expectations. The list closed on September 30th at 374, 6% up on last season and the highest we have ever achieved.

The Committee realises that this figure may put pressure on availability of seats for popular films. We monitor attendances and will use the information when deciding membership numbers for next season.

THE CLASSIC FILM

Audience reaction to this season's Classic film (see p.2) was mixed, to say the least. It is a good time therefore for the Committee to explain its thinking about the place of such films in the programme.

Besides reflecting the best of contemporary world cinema, Lincoln Film Society also wishes to include some of the great films from days gone by, to show the evolution of the art of film. This is part of its *raison d'être* and serves to remind audiences of what drew so many people to the cinema in the first place.

However, Classic films are, by definition, of their moment. They can seem dated. Though one member commented on the reaction slip: "There are better classics available," the inclusion of a Classic film depends on 2 things: availability and print quality. Most come through the BFI. Restoring prints is both costly & time consuming and the supply is therefore limited, especially these days. This year our choice was not that wide.

Yet, while 'Les Demoiselles' did not prove popular, it did appeal to some of our members. That is as it should be. We intend therefore to continue choosing a Classic film, but will discuss how to respond to the criticism of this year's choice in an effort to make next year's film a more enjoyable experience for all.

.....SCREENINGS..... AND AUDIENCE REACTIONS

Through the year, Committee members try to keep up to date with new film releases, to ensure we have the best selection to choose from when picking the season's programme.

Among the films Committee members have seen so far are:

Please Give: an amusing film by Nicole Holofcener which explores the lives of a New York couple and their daughter and deals with antiques, property development and growing up.

Whatever Works: Woody Allen raises laughs in this film about a grumpy old man (well played by Larry David) who marries a much younger woman and then meets his in-laws!

The Happiest Girl in The World: an enjoyable bone dry satire from Romania which pokes fun at the new consumerism sweeping the country.

Rashomon: Kurosawa's classic about crime and punishment, in a brand new print.

Heartbreaker: a French rom-com with Romain Duris excellent as a professional breaker-up of 'unsatisfactory' relationships

London River: Brenda Blethyn is outstanding in this Rachid Bouchareb ('Days of Glory') film about the less obvious human cost of the 2007 London bombings.

Carlos: a biopic of 'Carlos the Jackal', the 1980s international terrorist.

The Illusionist: Sylvain Chomet's tribute to Jacques Tati. An animated delight in every way.

Went the Day Well?: Alberto Cavalcanti's 1943 film of Nazi preparations for invasion of Britain and what happens when the people of the village they take over fight back. 60 years later this is still an eye opener.

Vincere: the moving story of Mussolini's illegitimate son and his mother and how Il Duce airbrushed them from history.

The Battle of Algiers: Pontecorvo's masterly account of the eponymous battle

The Girl With The Dragon Tattoo; The Girl Who Played With Fire: the first 2 films in the Millenium trilogy of novels by Stieg Larsson. Faithful to the books and powerful cinema.

Carancho: Another outstanding film from Argentina, this thriller stars the excellent Ricardo Darin a corrupt lawyer who has a change of heart. The film has a stunning ending.

How I Ended This Summer: a Russian thriller that begins slowly but develops into a nail biting story. Filmed on Arctic location, the cinematography is as important as the acting & both are outstanding.

Miral: directed by Julian Schnabel and starring Hiam Abbass ('Lemon Tree') & Freida Pinto ('Slumdog Millionaire'), this is a powerful drama from the world of Middle Eastern politics.

Archipelago: a new British film by director Joanna Hogg charts the breakdown in relationships within a well-to-do family during a summer holiday in the Scilly Isles.

Animal Kingdom: a modern day crime drama from Australia which explores the amorality of those completely outside the law and will have audiences on the edge of their seats.

The Debt: a new thriller from John (Shakespeare in Love) Madden, set in the world of espionage.

Another Year: Mike Leigh's latest film is a poignant but truthful study of friendship and growing old. Lesley Manville, Jim Broadbent and Ruth Sheen star.

Broken Embraces



5 4 3 2 1

No Data Recorded

Four Lions



5 4 3 2 1

16% 49% 22% 6% 7%

The White Ribbon



5 4 3 2 1

5% 28% 32% 15% 20%

Lemon Tree



5 4 3 2 1

28% 60% 12% 0% 0%

The Scouting Book for Boys



5 4 3 2 1

7% 23% 37% 23% 10%

The Secret in Their Eyes



5 4 3 2 1

85% 12% 5% 0% 0%

Departures



5 4 3 2 1

55% 41% 2% 0% 2%

Les Demoiselles de Rochefort



5 4 3 2 1

7% 7% 23% 11% 52%