

# Plymouth Arts Cinema Film Programme December 2025

Plymouth Arts Cinema at Arts University Plymouth, Tavistock Place, Plymouth, PL4 8AT

www.plymouthartscinema.org | 01752 206114 | info@plymouthartscinema.org

#### Where to find us

Our venue is located inside Arts University Plymouth's main campus at Tavistock Place. Go through Arts University Plymouth's main entrance and turn right, you will face our Box Office and Café-Bar.

#### **Opening Times and How to Book**

The Box Office and Café-bar open Tuesday, Thursday and Friday: 5-8.30pm; Wednesday: 1-8.30pm; Saturday: 1-8pm). You can call the Box Office during these times: 01752 206114.

#### **Ticket Prices**

Standard £9.50 | Matinees £7.50 | Over 66 £8.25 | 25 & Under, Students, AUP Staff, Budget (unwaged/ low income) £4.50 | Bringing in Baby, Family screenings £4.50 | Friends 10% discount and £6.50 on Tuesdays.

#### The Thing With Feathers (15)

#### Friday 28 November - Wednesday 3 December

Fri 28, 6pm Sat 29, 8pm Tue 2, 6pm Wed 3, 2.30pm (Descriptive Subtitles) Wed 3, 8.30pm

Dir. Dylan Southern, UK, 2025, 98 mins. Cast. Benedict Cumberbatch, David Thewlis, Sam Spruel.

Cumberbatch plays a grieving father in the film adaptation of Max Porter's award-winning debut novel. A mother dies, leaving two primary school-aged children and 'Sad Dad'. Before long, 'Crow' emerges from the pages of the book Sad Dad is writing, to peck at the open wounds and shepherd them through their grief, in the only way it knows how. Dylan Southern employs great visual flair to soulfully

explore the chaos, pain and redemption of our most-feared emotion.

This film contains flickering or flashing lights that may affect those with photosensitive epilepsy.

#### Die My Love (15)

#### Friday 28 November - Thursday 4 December

Fri 28, 8.30pm Sat 29, 5.30pm Tue 2, 8.30pm Wed 3, 6pm Thu 4, 8.30pm (Descriptive Subtitles)

Dir. Lynne Ramsay, US, 2025, 118 mins. Cast. Jennifer Lawrence, Robert Pattinson, Sissy Spacek.

City couple Grace and Jackson move to rural Montana to be near Jackson's family and their new home is filled with love, desire and light. That is, until Grace becomes pregnant. Through motherhood, her sanity and the couple's relationship changes irrevocably. With her signature bold and visceral style, Ramsay's adaptation of Ariana Harwicz's acclaimed novel is a shattering portrait of psychosis. Lawrence is mesmerising as Grace —

electrifying and primal, but also impressively controlled, skilfully balancing her anxiety, anger and sense of isolation in a world she increasingly feels detached from. It's an intense yet strikingly beautiful character study and a vital and rewarding piece of cinema.

# French Film Festival: The Stranger (N/C 15+)

## Saturday 29 November - Thursday 4 December

Sat 29, 2.30pm Thu 4, 6pm

Dir. François Ozon, 2025, France, 120 mins. In French with English subtitles. Cast Benjamin Voisin, Rebecca Marder, Swann Arlaud, Pierre Lottin, Denis Lavant. Original title: L'étranger.

Sixty years after Luchino Visconti, François Ozon has adapted a monumental work of literature for the screen – *The Stranger* by Albert Camus. The lead role of Meursault is taken by Benjamin Voisin, the breakout star from Summer of 85.

In 1930s Algeria, the apathetic Meursault shows total indifference to life. His emotional detachment leads to a murder, followed by a trial that scrutinises both the crime and his character. Ozon has said: "The themes in the book

could hardly be more topical: an emotionally absent hero detached from the world, confronting our mortality, the individual's quest for meaning in an increasingly alienating world."

Official competition at the Venice Film Festival.

A crackling yet tasteful erotic charge – Screen Daily

Festival Pass: Get a discount (each ticket for £6.50) when you book tickets for the 3 French Film Festival events at the same time

Free Book Club Session

#### Saturday 6th December, 4–5pm

Join Stéphanie d'Haussy from Alliance Française-Devon for a lively discussion on L'Étranger, Albert Camus's iconic novel still featured in the UK's French A-level syllabus.

Together, we'll delve into the relevance of Meursault's story in the 21st century and examine how the film adaptation compares to the original text.

All are welcome – come share your thoughts (in French or English) and enjoy a thought-provoking literary exchange!

Free to attend, 12 spaces available, advance booking required. If you would like to take part in the book club session, you will be invited to book a space when you

book your cinema tickets (if spaces are still available). You can also book by contacting our Box Office.

#### PLYMOUTH ARTS CINEMA FUNDRAISER

**Brie(f) Encounter (PG)** 

Friday 5 December, 6pm

Dir. David Lean, UK, 1945, 87 mins. Cast. Celia Johnson, Trevor Howard, Stanley Holloway, Joyce Carey.

If you missed our last (sold out) fundraiser, cheese-tasting night, you are in luck! We are doing it again and this time with the beautifully restored Brief Encounter - part of the BFI's melodrama season, Too Much.

This is a special event, raising funds for Plymouth Arts Cinema's new projector.

Each ticket includes a £5 donation to Plymouth Arts Cinema. Please note PAC Friend discounts, complimentary tickets and Champion tickets do not apply to this event.

The event will start in the cinema from 6pm, with a 5-10 mins talk by Matthew Luke Onuki and cheese

tasting, followed by the film. There will be more cheese tasting in the bar area after the screening.

The Bar and Box Office will be open from 5pm, we recommend arriving early for drinks and a chance to take part in our fundraising raffle.

Matthew Onuki Luke has over eight years' experience in the artisan cheese industry. He has worked in some of the top cheesemongers in London, supplying the finest cheeses from the UK and Europe and advising Michelin-starred restaurants on all their cheese needs. Having recently relocated to Plymouth, he now works for the Academy of Cheese, providing cheese education for all.

#### **About the film, Brief Encounter (PG)**

Dir. David Lean, UK, 1945, 87 mins. Cast. Celia Johnson, Trevor Howard, Stanley Holloway, Joyce Carey.

A chance meeting between two married people sparks an impossible chemistry and tragic emotional entanglement, in a film that is rich in pathos and masterfully crafted.

Trapped in a suburban marriage, brittle housewife Laura struggles with her passion for dashing doctor Alec. The film quivers with pent-up emotion in a way that must have

been even more potent on its release in 1945, just months after the end of World War II, than it is today.

'Nothing lasts really, neither happiness nor despair'. Though spoken in the film, the same cannot be said of David Lean and Noël Coward's endlessly moving tale of two people who meet too late to share a life together. It's a masterclass in stiff-upper-lip repression, undercut by Johnson's stridently emotional voiceover.

Too Much: Melodrama on film is a UK-wide season, supported by BFI National Lottery funding, celebrating the vivid visual language, heightened dramatics and emotional pathos at the heart of film melodrama.

#### Blue Moon (15)

#### Friday 5 - Thursday 11 December

Fri 5, 8.30pm

Sat 6, 2.30pm (Descriptive Subtitles)

Sat 6, 5.30pm

Tue 9, 8.30pm

Wed 10, 6pm

Thu 11, 8.30pm

Dir. Richard Linklater, US/Ireland, 2025, 100 mins. Cast. Ethan Hawke, Margot Qualley, Andrew Scott.

Director Richard Linklater and Ethan Hawke reunite to tell the story of legendary lyricist Lorenz Hart's professional break-up with Richard Rodgers - famed for being one half of Rodgers & Hammerstein.

On the evening of 31 March 1943, Hart is at his lowest. Having struggled with alcoholism and his mental health, the songwriter isn't in the best of head spaces on this night. Nevertheless tonight is the night that he confronts his shattered self-confidence in Sardi's bar as his former collaborator Rodgers celebrates the opening night of his ground-breaking hit musical *Oklahoma!* 

Blue Moon is awash with hilarity and heartbreak, delivered to perfection by Linklater.

#### The Marbles (12A)

Saturday 6 - Wednesday 10 December

Sat 6, 8pm Tue 9, 6pm Wed 10, 8.30pm Dir. David Wilkinson, UK, 2025, 113 mins.

In 1801 Lord Elgin controversially removed half the Parthenon's sculptures from their home in Athens, sparking a backlash from his contemporaries. What followed was a 200-year diplomatic battle between Greece and Britain over cultural ownership. This thoughtful documentary reveals the complexities of museum ethics, cultural policy, and the competing claims surrounding ancient artefacts. As the debate continues to evolve during this tale of empire, resistance, and redemption, the question isn't just about marble sculptures but about how we value and preserve cultural heritage in a post-colonial world.

French Film Festival: Colours of Time (N/C 15+)
Wednesday 10 - Thursday 11 December

Film club: after the 2.30pm screening on Wednesday 10th December, you are invited to join us to chat

# about the film (in English and French), around a "goûter" (the traditional French afternoon tea).

Wed 10, 2.30pm Thu 11, 5.45pm

Dir. Cédric Klapisch, 2025, France / Belgium, 124 mins. In French with English subtitles. Cast. Suzanne Lindon, Abraham Wapler, Vincent Macaigne, Julia Piaton, Zinedine Soualem, Paul Kircher. Original title: La Venue de l'avenir.

Period coming-of-age drama film co-written and directed by Cédric Klapisch. The narrative follows four cousins who inherit a house in rural Normandy and retrace the steps of their ancestors in 19th-century Paris. What emerges is a thoughtful comic meditation on changing social mores over approximately 125 years as Klapisch re-examines some much-loved myths and images of French history – particularly from the heyday of Impressionism.

Unashamedly crowd-pleasing ... entertaining and classy – Screen

Festival Pass: Get a discount (each ticket for £6.50) when you book tickets for the 3 French Film Festival events at the same time

NT LIVE: The Fifth Step (15)

#### Saturday 13 - Thursday 18 December

Sat 13, 2.30pm (Descriptive Subtitles) Thu 18, 6pm

Dir. Finn den Hertog, 87 mins. Filmed live from @sohoplace on London's West End.
Cast. Jack Lowden, Martin Freeman.

Olivier Award-winner Jack Lowden is joined by Emmy and BAFTA-winner Martin Freeman in the critically acclaimed and subversively funny new play by David Ireland. After years in the 12-step programme of Alcoholics Anonymous, James becomes a sponsor to newcomer Luka. The pair bond over black coffee, trade stories and build a fragile friendship out of their shared experiences. But as Luka approaches step five – the moment of confession – dangerous truths emerge, threatening the trust on which both of their recoveries depend.

It Was Just An Accident (12A)

**Programmer's Pick** 

#### Friday 12 - Wednesday 17 December

Fri 12, 6pm Sat 13,8pm Tue 16, 6pm Wed 17, 8.30pm

Dir. Jafar Panahi, Iran, 2025, 102 mins. In Persian with English subtitles. Cast. Vahid Mobasseri, Maryam Afshari, Ebrahim Azizi.

A minor traffic accident reunites two men with a shared past. One is set on revenge, but then doubts set in. *It Was Just an Accident* opens as a languid and at times gently humorous road trip, with the actions of each participant keenly observed as it slowly morphs into something altogether different.

Jafar Panahi's critically acclaimed and deserving Palme d'Or winner is a muscular thriller and an engaging morality tale for our times.

Pillion (18)

**Programmer's Pick** 

Friday 12 - Thursday 18 December

Fri 12, 8.30pm Sat 13, 5.30pm Tue 16, 8.30pm Thu 18, 8.30pm

Dir. Harry Lighton, UK, 2025, 106 mins. Cast. Harry Melling, Alexander Skarsgård, Lesley Sharp.

Colin is a quiet, unassuming man with supportive parents whose world is rocked when he enters a dom-sub relationship with towering, attractive biker Ray. Navigating his new role, he learns about its pleasures and pains, including those that come with love, and in the process understanding his own boundaries.

Charming, sexy, tender and sensitively directed, with captivating performances, this is a moving and surprisingly funny film that you will gladly submit to.

The Ice Tower (15)

F-Rated

Wednesday 17 - Tuesday 23 December

Wed 17, 6pm Fri 19, 8.30pm Sat 20, 2.30pm Tue 23, 6pm

Dir. Lucile Hedzihalilovic, France, 2025, 117 mins. In English and French with English subtitles. Cast. Marion Cotillard, Clara Pacini, August Diehl.

Colder than ice, her kiss pierces the heart...

The 1970s. Drawn by the lights of the city in the valley below, 15-year-old orphan Jeanne runs away from a children's home high in the mountains and takes refuge in a film studio which she secretly explores at night. By day, the film The Snow Queen is being shot there, starring the enigmatic Cristina. Jeanne falls instantly under the spell of the beautiful, tormented star, and a mutual fascination develops between the actor and the girl. Little by little, Jeanne starts to play an increasingly important role in the shoot. As her obsession with the Snow Queen's realm grows, between set and screen, film and reality merge in a magical, labyrinthine game. But there is a price to pay. Does Jeanne love the Snow Queen enough to make the sacrifice she demands?

Hadžihalilović won the Silver Bear for Outstanding Artistic Contribution at the Berlin Film Festival.

#### The Double Life of Veronique (15)

#### Saturday 20 December

Sat 20, 8pm

Dir.Krzysztof Kieślowski, Poland, 1991, 93 mins. In Polish and French with English subtitles.

Cast. Irene Jacob, Philippe Volter, Sandrine Dumas,

Krzysztof Kieślowski's international breakthrough remains one of his most beloved films, a ravishing, mysterious rumination on identity, love, and human intuition. Irène Jacob is incandescent as both Weronika, a Polish choir soprano, and her double, Véronique, a French music teacher. Though unknown to each other, the two women share an enigmatic, emotional bond. Aided by Slawomir Idziak's shimmering cinematography and Zbigniew Preisner's haunting, operatic score, Kieślowski creates one of cinema's most purely moving works. *The Double Life of Veronique* is an unforgettable symphony of feeling. Showing as part of our season of Polish films with The Box's exhibition Remember, Respond, Resist.

**Sunset Boulevard (12A)** 

Wednesday 17 - Tuesday 23 December

Wed 17, 2.30pm (with free mince pies!)
Fri 19, 6pm
Sat 20, 5.30pm
Tue 23, 8.30pm

Dir. Billy Wilder, US, 1950, 110 mins. Cast. William Holden, Gloria Swanson, Erich von Stroheim.

Gloria Swanson as Norma Desmond, an aging silent film queen, and William Holden as the struggling writer who is held in thrall by her madness, created two of the screen's most memorable characters in *Sunset Boulevard*. Winner of three Academy Awards, director Billy Wilder's orchestration of the bizarre tale is a true cinematic classic. From the unforgettable opening sequence through the inevitable unfolding of tragic destiny, the film is the definitive statement on the dark and desperate side of Hollywood. Meticulously restored in 4K from rare archival elements, with unmatched visual clarity and a newly expanded 5.1 sound mix, this restoration honors every frame of Billy Wilder's masterpiece.

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## **Princess Mononoke (12A)**

#### **Family Friendly**

## Friday 2 - Saturday 3 January

Fri 2, 2pm (Family Friendly and Bringing in Baby) (In English)

Sat 3, 11am (Family Friendly and Bringing in Baby) (In English)

Sat 3, 5pm (In Japanese with English Subtitles)

Dir. Hayao Miyazaki, Japan, 1997, 134 mins. Voice Cast. Gillian Anderson, Billy Crudup, Claire Danes, Jada Pinkett Smith, Billy Bob Thornton.

From the legendary Studio Ghibli comes an epic masterpiece that has dazzled audiences worldwide with its breathtaking imagination, exhilarating battles, and deep humanity. Inflicted with a deadly curse, the young warrior Ashitaka heads west in search of a cure. There, he stumbles into a bitter conflict between Lady Eboshi, the proud people of Iron Town, and the enigmatic Princess Mononoke, a young girl raised by wolves, who will stop at nothing to prevent the humans from destroying her home and the forest spirits and animal gods who live there.

#### **Sentimental Value (15)**

#### Friday 2 - Thursday 8 January

Fri 2, 5.30pm Sat 3, 8pm Tue 6, 8.15pm Wed 7, 2.30pm Wed 7, 5.45pm Thu 8, 8.15pm

Dir. Joachim Trier, Norway/France/Denmark, 2025, 137 mins. Norwegian, English with English subtitles. Cast. Renate Reinsve, Stellan Skarsgard, Inga Ibsdotter Lilleaas, Elle Fanning.

This Cannes Grand Prix winner reunites Trier with Renate Reinsve, his lead from The Worst Person in the World. Two adult sisters navigate their emotional wounds and futures when their absentee father returns following the death of their mother. Trier tackles the journey of his characters with the gentle humour and lived-in reality that we have come to expect from this director who once again excels in conveying the profound with the lightest of touches.

#### **Dragonfly (15)**

## Friday 2 - Thursday 8 January

Fri 2, 8.30pm Sat 3, 2.30pm (Descriptive Subtitles) Tue 6, 6pm Wed 7, 8.30pm Thu 8, 6pm

Dir. Paul Andrew Williams, UK, 2025, 98 mins. Cast. Brenda Blethyn, Andrea Riseborough, Jason Watkins.

Have we become a nation of strangers? In Dragonfly, neglected pensioner Elsie finds an unexpected ally in her younger neighbour Colleen. Over time, Elsie gains a friend and the troubled Colleen finds a fresh purpose in life as she shops, cleans and cares for her. It brings brighter days for both of them. Elsie's son John resents the way that Colleen has selflessly fulfilled the responsibilities that he has shirked. Simmering tensions bring shocking consequences in a gripping human story straight from the heart of broken Britain.

"A stark, fierce, wonderfully acted film." – ★★★★
The Guardian (Peter Bradshaw)