

54th Season!

# ILKLEY FILM SOCIETY



**MEMBERS' CHOICE 20 FILMS FOR 23/24**



**£50 MEMBERSHIP COVERS ALL 20 FILMS  
OR CHOOSE £38 LIMITED MEMBERSHIP FOR 10 FILMS**

## WHY JOIN US?

Convenient venue with raked seating: Ilkley Playhouse

Convivial, optional post show discussion with complimentary glass of wine or juice

Complimentary Christmas and end of season sociable events with wine and refreshments

Hard of hearing subtitles, hearing loop and film notes to enhance your appreciation of the films

## INCREDIBLE VALUE!

**£50 MEMBERSHIP COVERS ALL 20 FILMS  
SO EACH COSTS LESS THAN A COFFEE!**

**All our films are critically acclaimed**

**More than half represent the best of world cinema**

**Films chosen by members from a long list provided  
by the committee across a range of genres**

## SOME HIGHLIGHTS THIS YEAR

Oscar winning 'Tár' with Cate Blanchett; 'A Bunch of Amateurs': Heartwarming portrayal of Bradford's Movie Makers Club.

## AUTUMN AUDIENCE PLEASERS

### 10 September 2023 **Empire of Light (15)**

*Dir: Sam Mendes, UK, 2022, 115 mins.*

Olivia Coleman's great performance as cinema manager battling depression, abuse and skinhead Britain in a fabulous cinema setting. A complex mix of romance and social realism and undoubtedly a love letter to the cinema. A mixed response from critics but audiences loved it!

### 17 September 2023 **Between Two Worlds (12A)**

*Dir: Emmanuel Carrère, France, 2021, 106 mins. Subtitles*

Newcomer Hélène Lambert excels alongside Juliette Binoche in this gritty and timely drama about friendship and lies on the breadline, based on a best-selling non-fiction book. Marianne (Binoche) is a successful writer who is working undercover as a cleaner in order to gather material for her next book, an exposé of the experiences of the contract cleaners who toil every night for minimum wage, with minimal workers' rights. But is lying and misleading justifiable, even when the aims are laudable?



### 1 October 2023 **Lunana: A Yak In The Classroom (PG)**

*Dir: Pawo Chorning Dorji, Bhutan, 2019, 110 mins. Subtitles*

A reluctant schoolteacher (he wants to be a singer in Australia) is assigned to a village in the remotest part of Bhutan, only accessible by mule on mountain tracks. He finds a school with no blackboard or writing materials – and there really is a yak in the classroom. Extreme culture shock is followed by adaptation and a growing sense of responsibility until he is faced with a critical decision. Bhutan's first entry for the Academy Awards.

### 15 October 2023 **Hello, Bookstore (PG)**

*Dir: A. B. Zax, USA, 2022, 86 mins. Hard of hearing subtitles*

In the shadow of the pandemic, a small-town rallies to protect a beloved local bookstore. A landmark in Lenox, Massachusetts, the bookstore is a magical, beatnik gem thanks to its owner Matt Tannenbaum, whose passion for stories runs deep. This intimate portrait of the bookstore and the family at its heart offers a journey through good times, hard times, and the stories hidden on the shelves. A compelling and heartwarming documentary.



## WARM WINTER WATCHES



### 29 October 2023 **Alcarràs (15) +AGM**

*Dirs: Carla Simón & Sonia Castelo, Spain, 2022, 120 mins. Subtitles*

The Solé family spends every summer picking peaches in their orchard in the village of Alcarràs. But this year's crop may be their last, as they face eviction. Plans for the land, including cutting

down the peach trees and installing solar panels, cause a rift in this large, tight-knit family. For the first time, they face an uncertain future and risk losing more than their orchard. Carla Simón's spellbinding second feature focuses, in exquisite detail, on the rhythms of extended family life in rural Spain.

### 5 November 2023 **Aftersun (12A)**

*Dir: Charlotte Wells, UK, 2022, 96 mins.*

Written by the director her debut film won the best film of 2022 in the Sight and Sound poll. Paul Mescal is troubled but loving father, Calum with newcomer Frankie Corio as 11 year old Sophie in this coming-of-age drama set in a fading Turkish resort in the 1990s. Sophie treasures this rare time with her idealistic father who tries to hide signs of depression and financial worries from his daughter.

### 12 November 2023 **The Quiet Girl (12) Change from published programme**

*Dir: Colm Bairéad, Ireland, 2022, 95 mins. Subtitles*

Set in rural Ireland in 1981, this film tells the story of a young girl, Cáit, who is sent away for the summer from her dysfunctional family to live with "her mother's people", a middle-aged couple she has never met. Slowly, in the care of this couple, Cáit blossoms and discovers a new way of living, but in this house where affection grows and there are meant to be no secrets, she discovers one. First Oscar nominated film in Gaelic.

### 26 November 2023 **The Banshees of Inisherin (15)**

*Dir: Martin McDonagh, UK/USA, 114 mins.*



McDonagh (*In Bruges*) here reunites Colin Farrell and Dominic Gleeson in a black tragi-comedy set on a fictional Irish island in 1923. They are two lifelong friends who find themselves at an impasse when one declares himself bored with the other and ends their relationship with alarming consequences for them both. Deservedly multi-award winning.

### NOTE 6pm START 10 December 2023 **Utama (12A)**

*Dir: Alejandro Loayza Grisi, Bolivia, 2022, 87 mins. Subtitles*

In the high plains of the Andes an elderly Quechua-speaking couple, Virginio and Sisa, have lived for decades, grazing their llamas in a worsening environment – there is no rain, the village well is empty, and Virginio is unwell. When their grandson visits from the city he wants them to return with him so that Virginio can be treated and Sisa can end her daily ordeal of carrying water from the river. Breathtaking cinematography and fine performances by a non-professional caste.

### NOTE 8pm START **A Bunch Of Amateurs (12A)**

*Dir: Kim Hopkins, UK, 2022, 95 mins.*

In one of the documentary hits of the year we look behind the scenes at Bradford Movie Makers, one of the world's oldest amateur film making groups, as its dwindling and ageing membership battle to keep their beloved hobby afloat – and to remake the opening scene of the musical *Oklahoma!* (Oh What A Beautiful Mornin') with an octogenarian colleague who can't ride a horse. Frequently hilarious, sometimes deeply moving – and rather inspiring.

### 7 January 2024 **The Blue Caftan (12A)**

*Dir: Maryam Touzani, Morocco, 2022, 112 mins. Subtitles*

Halim and Mina run a traditional caftan shop in one of Morocco's oldest medinas. In order to keep up with demanding customers, they hire a talented young man as an apprentice. The film explores many kinds of love amongst lush fabrics and golden light in this tense, compassionate and quietly captivating film. This is a nuanced and empathetic tale about sexuality and mortality and an insight into the skills of a traditional craft.

### 21 January 2024

### **The Unlikely Pilgrimage of Harold Fry (12A)**

*Dir: Hettie MacDonald, U.K, 2022, 107 mins.*

An excellent adaptation of Rachel Joyce's bestselling novel about an old man who traverses England on foot trying to save a friend dying of cancer. It could have been twee or sentimental but is spare and restrained, indeed wonderfully tender and full of feeling. Broadbent is so real and sincere it doesn't feel like acting, and Wilton equals him. The countryside is beautifully shot as well.

Reviews were mixed but audiences loved it!





#### 4 February 2024 **Godland (12)**

*Dir: Hlynur Pálmason, Iceland, 2022, 143 mins. Subtitles*

In the late 19th century, a young Danish priest travels to a remote part of Iceland to build a church and photograph its people. But the deeper he goes into the unforgiving landscape, the more he strays from his purpose, the mission and morality. Necessarily bleak but shot through with moments of humour, the beautifully

filmed *Godland* serves as a gently absorbing meditation on mortality.

#### 18 February 2024 **Cairo Conspiracy (12)**

*Dir: Tarik Saleh, Egypt, 2022, 119 mins. Subtitles*

Adam, the son of a fisherman, is offered the privilege to study at the Al-Azhar University in Cairo, the epicentre of power in Sunni Islam. When the Grand Imam dies suddenly, Adam becomes a pawn in the conflict between Egypt's religious and political elites. An engrossing story, full of betrayal and chicanery, which casts the Egyptian political-military complex and the religious hierarchy as riddled with corruption. An effective thriller, actually made in Turkey.

#### 3 March 2024 **Tár (15)**

*Dir: Todd Field, USA, 2022, 158 mins.*

*Hard of hearing subtitles*

In this multi award winning film Cate Blanchett is outstanding as renowned and arrogant conductor Lydia Tár, very sure of her status and heavily feted in the world of international classical music. She lives with her wife Sharon and their adopted daughter but relationships become strained as she slowly implodes when facing accusations of abuse and sexual misconduct.



### SPRING AND SUMMER SPECIALS



#### 17 March 2024 **Love According To Dalva (15)**

*Dir: Emmanuelle Nicot, France, 2022, 83 mins. Subtitles*

Dalva, a 12-year-old, appears and behaves like an older woman. When she is released from her abusive household she forms a bond with Jayden, a compassionate social worker, and Samia, a teen with a temper. Dalva, played

by a magnetic Zelda Samson, begins to embrace childhood and the possibility of a fresh start. An uncomfortable watch but a delicately handled tale of parental abuse.

#### 7 April 2024 **Joyland (15)**

*Dir: Saim Sadiq, Pakistan, 2022, 126 mins. Subtitles*

As a traditional and happily patriarchal Rana family longs for a baby boy, the youngest of the men secretly joins an 'erotic' dance theatre and becomes infatuated with a trans starlet. Their impossible love story slowly illuminates the entire Rana family's desire for sexual rebellion. Saim Sadiq's directorial debut is a picture of integrity, passion and bravery. It keeps a sharp, neo-realist eye on the everyday lives of its characters, but can be discomfiting in its intimacy.

#### 21 April 2024 **God's Creatures (15)**

*Dir: Sacla Davis & Anna Rose Holmer, Ireland, 100 mins.*

A mother (Emily Watson) tells a lie for her beloved son (Paul Mescal), ripping apart their family. Set in a remote, close-knit Irish fishing village it is a tense, emotional tale. "We're all God's Creatures in the dark", says Watson's character, in another strong performance. Note the clever claustrophobic sound setting and admire the cinematography of lush Irish landscape.

#### 28 April 2024 **The Eight Mountains (12)**

*Dir: Felix van Groeningen & Charlotte Vandermeersch, Italy, 2023, 147 mins. Subtitles*

This rich, beautiful and inexpressibly sad film is about the friendship between men who can't talk about their feelings and lose the great game of life. Set in the breathtaking, wonderfully photographed Alpine valley, which includes the slopes of Mont Blanc and the Matterhorn, the 'eight mountains' of the title refers to the eight highest peaks of Nepal: a mysterious symbol of worldly ambition and conquest.



#### 12 May 2024 **Confession (no BBFC rating)**

*Dir. Yong Seok Yoon, South Korea, 2022, 105 mins. Subtitles*

Yoo Min-ho, CEO of an IT company, becomes a suspect in the murder (in a locked room!) of his mistress. His new, mysterious lawyer Ms. Yang has never lost a case, but to get to the truth, and with the court case imminent, Min-ho needs to tell her all his secrets, including his criminal activities. *Confession* thrives in its simplicity, chemistry and ability to show multiple truths and lies without losing narrative focus.

#### 2 June 2024 **Are You There, God? It's Me, Margaret (13)**

*Dir: Kelly Fremon Craig, USA, 2022 106 mins. Hard of hearing subtitles*

The Seventies have never felt further away than in the new adaptation of Judy Blume's 1970 coming-of-age bestseller which was praised for its depiction of the trials of growing up and became essential reading for generations of young girls who looked to adolescence with a mixture of delight and terror. But today it's hard not to envy a teenager who has to contend with nothing more challenging than friendly peer pressure over bra sizes and frustration that she hasn't yet had her period.

# ILKLEY FILM SOCIETY 2023/4 SEASON

**10 September** Empire of Light  
**17 September** Between Two Worlds  
**1 October** Lunana: A Yak in the Classroom  
**15 October** Hello, Bookstore  
**29 October** Alcarràs +AGM  
**5 November** Aftersun  
**12 November** The Quiet Girl  
**26 November** The Banshees of Inisherin  
**10 December** DOUBLE BILL **6pm Start**  
6.00pm Utama  
8.00pm A Bunch of Amateurs

## 2024

**7 January** The Blue Caftan  
**21 January** The Unlikely Pilgrimage of Harold Fry  
**4 February** Godland  
**18 February** Cairo Conspiracy  
**3 March** Tár  
**17 March** Love According to Dalva  
**7 April** Joyland  
**21 April** God's Creatures  
**28 April** The Eight Mountains  
**12 May** Confession  
**2 June** Are You There, God? It's Me, Margaret

## ILKLEY FILM SOCIETY

**JOIN US!**

**VENUE:** Ilkley Playhouse,  
Weston Road, Ilkley

Screenings start at 8.00pm  
unless otherwise stated

**See below for membership details**

### TICKET PER FILM

Guest £5.00 / Student Guest £3.00

Membership cards will be posted  
no later than end of August.

Double bill on 10th December 2023  
counts as one choice.

For up-to-date programmes visit  
[www.ilkleyfilmsociety.org.uk](http://www.ilkleyfilmsociety.org.uk)

For any further information, contact  
the Secretary, Dave Howell,  
on 01943 430 097 or  
email: [davehowell@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:davehowell@blueyonder.co.uk)

## Membership Application Form

Full membership £50.00  Limited membership £38.00

Full-time student £25.00  Total membership fees £ .....

I enclose a cheque for £..... made payable to 'Ilkley Film Society'

Or you can pay by bank transfer. Post/email your application form to the address below.  
Bank details will be sent to you with your membership card to enable you to make payment.

Name(s): .....

Address: .....

..... Post Code: .....

Email: .....

We will not pass details to any individual or organisation: these are solely used to contact you about IFS.  
See our privacy policy on our website. Please indicate your consent here  and return asap to  
Richard Smith, The Mistal, Langbar Road, ILKLEY LS29 0ED, or email [richardgsmith2@gmail.com](mailto:richardgsmith2@gmail.com).  
Membership of the Society is limited and applications will be treated by the date order in which they are received.