

Membership

Abergavenny Film Society membership costs £39.00 for a season of 14 films (£26 for students and other concessions on production of proof of status).

Tickets for individual screenings are available on the door. Tickets cost £5.00 (£3.00 for students and other concessions on production of proof of status). All tickets are available on the evening of screening.

Membership of the Society is open to anyone aged 16 and over. Admission to films is open only to over 16s, irrespective of any given film's certificate.

For details contact

Kath Bransom

01873 850167

kjbransom@gmail.com

abergavennyfilmsociety@btinternet.com

or visit our website

abergavennyfilmsociety.com

Aelodaeth

Pris aelodaeth Cymdeithas Ffilm Y Fenni yw £39.00 am dymor o 14 ffilm (£26 i fyfyrwyr a consesiynau eraill ar ôl dangos tystiolaeth o statws).

Pris tocynnau i'r sawl nad yw'n aelodau westeion yw £5.00 (£3 i fyfyrwyr a consesiynau eraill ar ôl dangos tystiolaeth o statws). A cheir y rhain ar noson y dangosiad.

Cynigir i bawb o oedran 16 a throsodd ymaelodi â'r gymdeithas. Mae mynediad i ffilmiau ar agor i bobl dros 16 oed yn unig, heb ystyried tystysgrif unrhyw o'r ffilmiau.

Am fanylion, cysylltwch

Kath Bransom

01873 850167

kjbransom@gmail.com

abergavennyfilmsociety@btinternet.com

neu ymwelwch a'n safle we

abergavennyfilmsociety.com

Showings

Films are shown on Wednesday evenings at 7.30pm, at the Melville Centre, Pen-y-Pound, Abergavenny, NP7 5UD.

Doors open at 6.45pm.

We have a licensed bar and coffee available before the film and during the intermission.

Members are guaranteed a seat if they arrive by 7.20pm.

Dangosiadau

Dangosir ffilmiau ar nos Fercher am 7.30pm, yn y Canolfan Melville, Pen-y-Pound, Y Fenni, NP7 5UD.

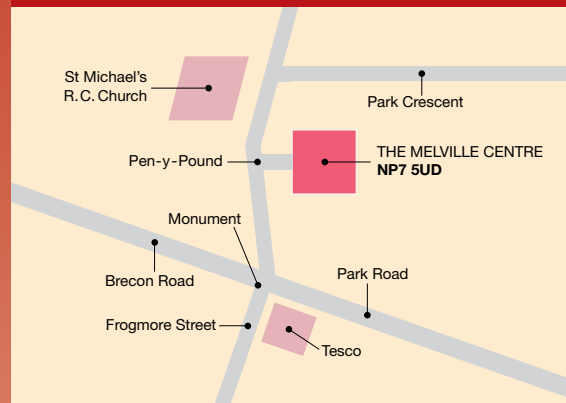
Agorir drysau am 6.45yp.

Mae coffi ar gael cyn y ffilm ac yn ystod yr egwyl.

Mae bar ar gael nawr ym mhob dangosiad.

Sicrheir sedd i aelodau sy'n cyrraedd erbyn 7.20yp.

How to find us



14 FILMS
DIGITAL
PROJECTION

19/20





Land of Mine

18 Mar 2020

Denmark/Germany (2015) 101 mins



Director: Martin Zandvliet

Land of Mine follows the little-known story of the young German prisoners of war who were handed over to Danish authorities in the days following Germany's surrender in May 1945. Tough veteran Sergeant Carl Rasmussen is assigned by Lieutenant Ebbe Jensen to diffuse and remove two million mines on the Danish coast. He takes advantage of the prisoners and orders them to dig up the mines from the sand with their bare hands. Rasmussen promises their freedom and release back to Germany when the task is completed and, after initial hostility, he slowly begins to sympathise with their plight. However, Jensen remains resentful of their former occupiers and steadfast in his belief that the young men should be treated with contempt. Land of Mine explores the moral grey areas between justice and vengeance and offers a timely reminder of the power of forgiveness.



Oscars 2017 - Nominee for Best Foreign Language Film Award

Cold War

01 Apr 2020

Poland (2018) 88 mins



Director: Paweł Pawlikowski

Cold War is a tumultuous love story about two people who, despite their overwhelming passion for each other, are fatefully mismatched. In a series of evocative episodes set across Poland, Berlin, Yugoslavia and Paris in the 1950's, we follow the lives of singer Zula and pianist Wiktor for the fifteen years after their initial meeting. As Zula rises to fame, they perform across Eastern Europe and realise that they must find a way to slip past the Iron Curtain. Following the success of his film Ida, director Pawlikowski shows a continued commitment to explore both the dark heart of Poland and how its twentieth century political wounds and unrest echoed through the emotional lives of its subjects. With beautiful monochrome photography and an outstanding cast, Cold War dances to the music of hard times.



Cannes Film Festival 2018 - Paweł Pawlikowski - Best Director Award



FILM DIARY 2019

25/09/19	The Heiresses	
09/10/19	Capernaum	
23/10/19	Citizen Jane	
06/11/19	Woman at War	
20/11/19	Alone in Berlin	
04/12/19	Birds of Passage	
18/12/19	Welcome to the Sticks <i>Followed by the Christmas social</i>	

FILM DIARY 2020

08/01/20	Shoplifters	
22/01/20	The Sisters Brothers	
05/02/20	Styx	
19/02/20	The White Crow	
04/03/20	The Guardians	
18/03/20	Land of Mine	
01/04/20	Cold War <i>Followed by the AGM</i>	

Abergavenny Film Society is a member of the British Federation of Film Societies (Registered Charity Number 276633)



CINEMA FOR ALL



www.abergavennyfilmsociety.com

SYNOPSIS BY DAVID PRICE



andrew@andrewsmithcreative.com



The Heiresses

25 Sept 2019

 Paraguay/Uruguay/Brazil (2018) 98 mins

Director: Marcelo Martinessi



An immaculate, entirely female-driven drama, *The Heiresses* is Martinessi's debut feature. Both a piercing character study and a commentary on the Paraguayan class structure, it follows Chela and Chiquita who are descended from wealthy families in Asunción, Paraguay. They have been together for over thirty years when their precarious financial situation begins to impact upon their way of life and their relationship. Forced to cope on her own, Chela starts driving for the first time in years, providing a local taxi service to a group of elderly wealthy ladies. Encountering the much younger Angy, they forge a fresh and exhilarating connection. This encourages Chela finally to break out of her shell and embark on a personal revolution in which she engages with the world on new and intimate terms.

Sydney Film Festival 2018 - Winner of the Best Film Award



Capernaum

09 Oct 2019

 Lebanon/USA (2018) 120 mins

Director: Nadine Labaki



This stunningly realised drama charts the journey of children on the edges of society who find hope despite the challenges of their everyday lives. Zain is a young boy living with his family in an impoverished Beirut neighbourhood. Street-wise beyond his years, Zain's resentment towards his parents builds and, following a series of tragic events, he is compelled to sue them for bringing children into such a world. Writer/director Nadine Labaki shows a shocking culture of parents treating children as goods to be bought and sold. Through her skilful storytelling, she widens our understanding to see that none of us is in a position to judge. Featuring astounding performances from its lead child actors, *Capernaum* is a compassionate and unforgettable tale of hope.

Cannes Film Festival 2018 - Winner of the Jury Award



Citizen Jane: Battle for the City

23 Oct 2019

 USA (2016) 92 mins

Director: Matt Tyrnauer



Legendary writer and urban activist Jane Jacobs fought a David-and-Goliath battle against New York City 'master builder' Robert Moses. Her quest was to preserve the historic neighbourhoods of Greenwich Village, Soho and Little Italy against Moses' plans to divide and destroy them with expressways. Her book, *The Death and Life of Great American Cities*, published in 1960, sent shockwaves through the architecture and planning worlds. Exciting and inspirational, *Citizen Jane* delivers a timely and much-needed lesson in how the power of the people can overturn the self-serving plans of the elite.

Hamburg Film Festival 2017

Nominee for the Political Film Award



Woman at War

06 Nov 2019

 Iceland (2018) 100 mins

Director: Benedikt Erlingsson



Of *Horses and Men* Director Benedikt Erlingsson addresses urgent issues with a light touch in this pleasingly off-the-wall combination of absurd comedy and tense drama. Halla seems to lead a quiet and routine existence but her happy and upbeat exterior hides a secret double life. Operating as a committed environmental activist, Halla is known only by her alias, "The Woman of the Mountain." As she begins to plan her boldest operation yet, and as the government attempts to discredit her, she receives unexpected news that forces her to choose between her environmental crusade and the chance of fulfilling another, more personal dream. Icelandic folk musicians provide accompaniment in this playful, touching, confident and stylish film as it follows the fortunes of its fierce and focused heroine.

Hamburg Film Festival 2018

Winner of the Best Feature Award



Alone in Berlin

20 Nov 2019

 France/Germany/UK (2016) 101 mins

Director: Vincent Pérez



Emma Thompson and Brendan Gleeson play an ordinary working-class German couple who quietly wage a personal campaign of anti-Nazi resistance. Uninterested in politics and content to keep to themselves, factory foreman Otto and his dutiful wife Anna are unlikely dissidents. When their son is killed on the battlefield, grief jolts them into action. They launch a silent protest and drop handwritten postcards denouncing Hitler across the city. With terror and paranoia infecting the German capital, their high-risk acts of defiance spark a citywide manhunt. Under mounting pressure to find the culprits, morally ambivalent police inspector Escherich (Daniel Brühl) pursues the case with increasing intensity as the net begins to tighten on the couple. Portraying a singular act of courage through dignified central performances under the stylish direction of Vincent Pérez, *Alone in Berlin* is inspired by a true story and adapted from Hans Fallada's best-selling novel.

Birds of Passage

04 Dec 2019

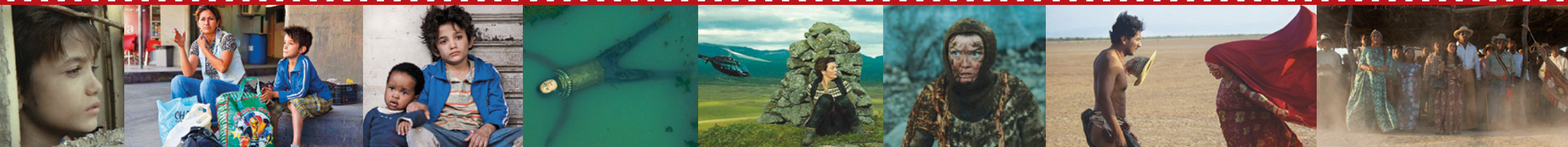
 Colombia/Mexico (2019) 125 mins

Directors: Christina Gallego, Ciro Guerra



Birds of Passage is gripping tale of the origins of the Colombian drug trade as seen through the eyes of a Wayúu family. They became involved in the booming business of selling marijuana to American youth in the 1970's and the film spans three decades of the family being pushed to the brink when greed, passion and honour collide. Cristina Gallego and Ciro Guerra follow up their Oscar-nominated *Embrace of the Serpent* with an unusually clear-eyed and empathetic depiction of the lives, culture and ancestral traditions of indigenous peoples and the impact of outside forces upon them.

Miami Film Festival 2019 - Winner of Best Film Award





Welcome to the Sticks

18 Dec 2019

 France (2008) 106 mins



Director: Dany Boon

Philippe Abrams is a post office director in Salon-de-Provence. His wife, Julie, makes his life unbearable and, in order to please her, Philippe tries to arrange a transfer to the Côte d'Azur. However, his plan backfires and he is transferred to a small town in the North. For the prejudiced Abrams family, the North is an awful, cold region inhabited by uncivilised people who speak an incomprehensible language. Philippe moves there alone and, to his great surprise, he discovers a charming place with welcoming people. He befriends Antoine, the village postman and bell ringer with a possessive mother and, when Philippe returns to Salon, Julie thinks he is lying about his pleasant life in the North! With an ingenious script, sharp comic timing and assured direction, Welcome to the Sticks is a clever observation of cultural differences in France.



Hamburg Film Festival 2008 – Dany Boon – Winner of the Audience Award

The film will be followed by the Christmas social

Shoplifters

08 Jan 2020

 Japan (2018) 121 mins



Director: Hirokazu Kore-eda

Shoplifters is a complex, profoundly moving drama about the forces holding a struggling family together. Osamu, his wife Nobuyu and grandma Hatsue head the Shibatas family. Poverty-stricken and living in a ramshackle Tokyo bungalow, they routinely turn to petty thieving to make ends meet. After one of their shoplifting sessions, Osamu and son Shota happen upon a little girl foraging for scraps in the freezing cold and take her in. Despite the continued hardships of their existence, this newly modified family lives happily until an unforeseen incident begins to test their bond. Focusing on an unconventional domestic unit with insight, compassion and humour, Director Kore-eda gives rare prominence to Japanese society's urban underclass and questions the possibilities of survival within life on the margins.



Cannes Film Festival 2018 – Winner of Palme d'Or

The Sisters Brothers

22 Jan 2020

 USA (2018) 121 mins



Director: Jacques Audiard

John C. Reilly and Joaquin Phoenix star as squabbling siblings in Jacques Audiard's subtle, darkly funny and offbeat modern take on the Western. Set in Oregon in the 1850's, brothers Eli and Charlie are two disreputable guys working for a shadowy man nicknamed The Commodore, played in pleasing cameo by Rutger Hauer. Embarking on a new mission to travel to San Francisco and dispose of an individual with the unlikely name of Hermann Kermit Warm, The Commodore has loaned Eli and Charlie an annoying private detective played by Jake Gyllenhaal. With broad, appealing storytelling and witty narrative, the film is elevated by outstanding performances from Reilly, Phoenix and Gyllenhaal as their characters discover things about each other that they never considered before.

Venice Film Festival 2018 – Jacques Audiard
Silver Lion Award for Best Director



Styx

05 Feb 2020

 Germany/Austria (2018) 94 mins



Director: Wolfgang Fischer

Rieke, a determined and confident Emergency doctor, embodies a Western ideal of happiness and success. She wants to fulfil a long-held dream by sailing alone from Gibraltar to the volcanic Ascension Island. Her voyage changes course drastically when she encounters a damaged boat overloaded with desperate refugees. Stricken by their plight, Rieke feels duty-bound to help them but, as time goes by and the situation develops, she is forced to make difficult decisions. Bolstered by director Wolfgang Fischer's crisp filmmaking and encompassing themes of racism, empathy, Western privilege and moral responsibility, Styx is a provocative, gripping and thought-provoking drama.

Boulder International Film Festival 2019
Winner of Best Feature Film Award



The White Crow

19 Feb 2020

 UK (2018) 122 mins



Director: Ralph Fiennes

The White Crow is a thrilling, ambitious biopic of the virtuosic Russian ballet dancer Rudolf Nureyev whose defection from the USSR to the west stunned the world at the height of the Cold War. Starring Ukrainian dancer Oleg Ivenko as Nureyev in his screen debut, it was inspired by Julie Kavanagh's biography and scripted by David Hare. Moving back and forth through time, this evocative film explores Nureyev's origins and progresses to a stunning finale. Beautifully shot on 16mm, Fiennes brings period texture and emotional depth to this study of a wildly talented man whose dangerous escape to the west reverberated through the worlds of ballet and international relations.

Tokyo International Film Festival 2018
Nominee for Best Film Award



The Guardians

04 Mar 2020

 France/Switzerland (2018) 138 mins



Director: Xavier Beauvois

A quietly affecting human drama of love, loss, and resilience unfolds against the backdrop of World War I in this outstanding film from director Xavier Beauvois (Of Gods and Men). Set in rural France in 1916, The Guardians details the lives of women and girls as they work on a farm run by matriarch Hortense and her loitering daughter Solange. When a romance forms between Hortense's son Georges, a soldier on leave from the frontlines and orphaned teenage farmworker Francine, their love is tested not only by the war but also by the complex social fabric of the community. Composed in painterly images bathed in natural light, The Guardians is a subtle and intimate epic work about the fortitude of women during times of global conflict.

London Film Festival 2017
Nominee for Best Film Award

