

## 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). You will also receive reduced admission to Brecon Film Society.

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 Carol Phillips on 01600 780263 or visit our website at [www.abergavennyfilmsociety.com](http://www.abergavennyfilmsociety.com)**

For details of Brecon Film Society, contact Judith Fitton on **01874 623166**.

## 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). Ceir hefyd fynediad rhatach i Cymdeithas Ffilm Aberhonddu.

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 Carol Phillips â 01600 780263 neu ymwelwch â'n safle we [www.abergavennyfilmsociety.com](http://www.abergavennyfilmsociety.com)**

Am fanylion Cymdeithas Ffilm Aberhonddu, cysylltwch Judith Fitton â **01874 623166**.

## Showings

Films are shown on Wednesday evenings at 7.30pm, at the Melville Theatre, Drama Centre, Pen-y-Pound, Abergavenny.

Doors open at 6.45pm.

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

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

## Dangosiadau

Dangosir ffilmiau ar nos Fercher am 7.30pm, yn y Theatr Melville, Ganolfan Ddrama, Pen-y-Pound, Y Fenni.

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.

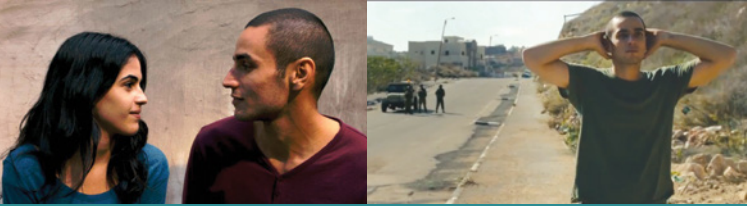
Sicrheir sedd i aelodau sy'n cyrraedd erbyn 7.20yp.

## How to find us



14 FILMS  
DIGITAL  
PROJECTION

15/16



## Omar

 Palestine (2013) 96 mins

Director: *Hany Abu-Assad*

16 Mar 2016



Omar is a charismatic and thoughtful young baker who lives in the West Bank. He climbs routinely over the separation wall to visit friends including the beautiful Nadia. Less out of political conviction than as a way to regain some power in their powerless lives, Omar and two of his friends shoot and kill an Israeli soldier. Omar is arrested by the Israeli military then tortured, tricked into an admission of guilt and forced to work as an informant. A depiction of both personal love and political trials, this film gives a striking portrait of a conflict without end that divides loyalties and makes normal life impossible.

*Nominated for Best Foreign Language Film Oscar 2014*  
*Winner Special Jury Prize Cannes Film Festival 2013*



## Still Life

 UK/Italy (2014) 92 mins

Director: *Uberto Pasolini*

30 Mar 2016

















Eddie Marsan gives a wonderfully restrained and brilliant performance as he plays the unassuming and meticulous council worker John May in this poignant and beautifully observed film. For the past twenty two years, John May has worked tirelessly to locate the next of kin of those who have died alone in the South London area. Financial cutbacks within the Council mean that John is to face redundancy. In his final case, tracking down the family of his elderly neighbour, Billy Stoke, we follow May as he travels outside London to uncover a life of mischief, misadventure, love and regret. Through its subtle examination of loneliness, loss, community values and the human connection, Still Life is a surprisingly absorbing story of life and death.

*Winner of Pasinetti Award, Best Film, Venice 2013*















*The film will be followed by the AGM*



### FILM DIARY 2015

23/09/15	 Dark Horse	
07/10/15	 Phoenix	
21/10/15	 The Salt of the Earth	
04/11/15	 Le Jour se Lève	
18/11/15	 '71	
02/12/15	 Difret	
16/12/15	 Wild Tales <i>Followed by the Christmas social</i>	

### FILM DIARY 2016

06/01/16	 Timbuktu	
20/01/16	 Slow West	
03/02/16	 Ida	
17/02/16	 Trash	
02/03/16	 Force Majeure	
16/03/16	 Omar	
30/03/16	 Still Life <i>Followed by the AGM</i>	



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



[www.abergavennyfilmsociety.com](http://www.abergavennyfilmsociety.com)

SYNOPSIS BY  
DAVID PRICE

SMITHHOLLAND  
CREATIVE

[www.smithholland.co.uk](http://www.smithholland.co.uk)





## Dark Horse

23 Sept 2015

 UK (2015) 85 mins

Director: Louise Osmond



Dark Horse is the fascinating, emotional and inspirational true story of how residents in the former mining community of Cefn Fforest pulled together to pursue a collective dream. Local barmaid, Jan, overhears a pub regular talking about the time when he owned a share in a racehorse. Jan decides to team up with the pub regular and her husband in order to breed a prize-winning racehorse. They pair a thoroughbred mare with an ageing stallion and raise the resulting foal, named Dream Alliance, on their allotment. Uniting other villagers, Jan and her team form a syndicate to fund the raising and training of the foal. They go on to shock and astonish the racing establishment by competing in the Welsh Grand National.

Winner of Audience Award Sundance Film Festival 2015



## Phoenix

7 Oct 2015

 Germany (2014) 98 mins

Director: Christian Petzold



From the director of Barbara and with Nina Hoss in the lead role, Christian Petzold builds up an edgy sense of mystery, betrayal and double take in a superbly crafted melodrama set in post-war Germany. Disfigured concentration camp survivor Nelly (Hoss) has undergone reconstructive facial surgery. She returns to Berlin desperately seeking Johnny (Ronald Zehrfeld), the husband who may have betrayed her to the Nazis. Failing to recognise her and believing her dead, Johnny persuades Nelly to masquerade as her former self in order to claim her inheritance and, obsessed with testing out their love, she finds herself unable to resist. Phoenix is a seductive tale of intrigue and paranoia reflecting a country coming to terms with the raw guilt of the recent past.

## The Salt of the Earth

21 Oct 2015

 France/Brazil/Italy (2014) 109 mins

Directors: Wim Wenders, Juliano Ribeiro Salgado



In creating a portrait of the great documentary photographer and environmentalist, Sebastião Salgado, Wim Wenders and Juliano Salgado have matched hauntingly beautiful images with illuminating testimony. Breathtaking photos of the Brazilian gold mines in the 1970s, the famine in Ethiopia and the genocide of Rwanda confirm Salgado's ability to capture the humanity of a moment as he bore witness to history spanning 40 years. Turning his attention to the environment, Salgado embarked upon rebuilding an entire eco-system in his native Brazil by overseeing the planting of two million trees. The Salt of the Earth draws together the threads of an extraordinary life and is a fitting tribute to an inspirational figure.

Nominated for Best Documentary Feature Oscar 2015



## Le Jour se Lève

4 Nov 2015

 France (1939) 90 mins

Director: Marcel Carné



A crucial film of the French poetic realism movement, Le Jour se Lève is an exquisitely crafted film noir describing an obsessive relationship that leads to a terrible crime, depicted at the start. Foundry worker François (Jean Gabin) flees from the scene of the crime and locks himself in his room, atop many flights of stairs, where he is tracked down quickly by the police. In a series of flashbacks, the film reveals the story of romance, intrigue and trickery that led to the crime. Often considered to be his greatest work, Marcel Carné's fourth collaboration with screenwriter Jacques Prévert is an outstanding example of this classic style.

## '71

18 Nov 2015

 UK (2014) 99 mins


Director: Yann Demange



Deep in the alien landscape of East Belfast during one of the worst years of the Northern Ireland Troubles, Gary Hook, a young British squaddie fresh from basic training, is accidentally abandoned by his unit in the confusion of a terrifying riot. Wounded, lost and unable to distinguish friend from foe, Gary (Jack O'Connell) finds himself trapped in a tightening web of violence and deception. In visceral close-up he is hunted, protected and betrayed in a situation he cannot understand. In one of the most compelling British thrillers for years, Jack O'Connell delivers an exceptionally powerful performance as we are dragged through the terror and cynicism of Belfast in 1971.

## Difret

2 Dec 2015

 Ethiopia/USA (2014) 99 mins

Director: Zeresenay Berhane Mehari



Three hours outside Addis Ababa, a bright 14-year-old girl is on her way home from school when men on horses swoop in and kidnap her. The brave Hirut grabs a rifle and tries to escape but ends up shooting her would-be husband. In her village, the practice of abduction into marriage is common and one of Ethiopia's oldest traditions. Meaza Ashenafi, an empowered and tenacious young lawyer, arrives from the city to represent Hirut and argue that she acted in self-defence. Meaza boldly embarks on a collision course between enforcing civil authority and abiding by customary law, risking the ongoing work of her women's legal-aid practice to save Hirut's life. Difret (meaning courage in Amharic) is an astonishingly accomplished feature debut from writer/director Zeresenay Mehari.







## Wild Tales

Argentina/Spain (2014) 122 mins

Director: *Damian Szifron*

16 Dec 2015



Szifron's zesty black comedy weaves together six short tales of individuals on the verge of a complete meltdown. Frustrated by petty bureaucracy, incensed by a cheating husband, emboldened by extreme road rage or sickened by a desperately unfair and corrupt society, various individuals decide to have their revenge in the most public, aggressive and satisfying way possible. A deliciously dark, shocking, unpredictable and hilarious compendium, *Wild Tales* depicts how modern life and human relationships can drive us mad, behave out of character or seek retribution.

Winner of Audience Award San Sebastián International Film Festival and Sarajevo Film Festival.  
Nominated for Best Foreign Language Film Oscar 2015.



Followed by *Christmas Social*.

## Timbuktu

France/Mauritania (2014) 97 mins

Directors: *Abderrahmane Sissako*

6 Jan 2016



Beautifully filmed against a backdrop of stark desert landscapes, sandy streets and the sparkling river, this is a lucid portrait of the impact foreign jihadi occupation has on everyday life in Timbuktu. The film weaves between small but significant stories of residents as they adjust to living with oppression. A traditional Muslim Tuareg herder lives peacefully with his family in the dunes on the edge of town and plays desert blues. A liberal Imam intercedes for a black woman and berates gunmen for disturbing the peace of his mosque. Sissako's caustic sense of the absurd makes this subtle sense of clashing cultures both funny and petrifying whilst creating a powerful feel of fate inevitably playing itself out.

Nominated for Best Foreign Language Film Oscar 2015



## Slow West

UK/New Zealand ((2015) 84 mins

Director: *John Maclean*

20 Jan 2016



The directorial debut of Scottish filmmaker John Maclean is a brazen and pronounced revisionist Western, pivoting around the relationship between the young lovelorn Jay Cavendish (Kodi Smit-McPhee) and grizzled bounty hunter Silas (Michael Fassbender). Travelling across a barren American frontier wasteland, the duo soon find themselves pursued by a nefarious gang of outlaws with whom Silas has a mysterious connection. With subtle humour, delicate solemnity and masterful direction, *Slow West* announces the arrival of a very exciting talent in Maclean.

Winner of Grand Jury Prize Sundance Film Festival 2015



## Ida

Poland/Denmark (2013) 82 mins

Director: *Pawel Pawlikowski*

3 Feb 2016



In the 1960s, novice nun Anna is about to take her vows in the Catholic Church when the Mother Superior insists that she must visit her aunt Wanda, who reveals that Anna's real name is Ida. It is the first in a chain of revelations about the family that also illuminate the dark shadows of the war and the relationship between the country's Catholic and Jewish populations. Ida and Wanda embark upon a road trip in order to establish what happened to Ida's parents. An austere drama, lightened by jazz and classical music and beautifully composed in black and white, *Ida* is a masterful evocation of intimate dilemmas and the weight of history.

Nominated for Best Foreign Language Film Oscar 2015



## Trash

UK/Brazil (2014) 114 mins

Director: *Stephen Daldry*

17 Feb 2016



When two rubbish-picking teenagers from the slums of Rio de Janeiro find a wallet amongst the daily detritus of their local tip, little do they imagine that their lives are about to change forever. When the local police show up and offer a handsome reward for the return of the wallet, Rafael and Gardo realise that they've found something of great importance. Teaming up with their friend Rato, the three boys begin an extraordinary adventure as they try to keep the wallet, evade the police and uncover the dark secrets contained within. *Trash* shows director Daldry's skill for working with young people. He coaxes wonderful performances from the real-life street children in the lead roles who bring authenticity to this uplifting tale.

Winner of Peoples' Choice Award Rome Film Festival 2014



## Force Majeure

Sweden/France/Norway (2014) 120 mins

Director: *Ruben Östlund*

2 Mar 2016



One single moment can change everything in a relationship. Tomas, Ebba and their children are enjoying a skiing holiday in the French Alps when a relaxed lunchtime suddenly becomes a moment fraught with terror as an avalanche heads towards their mountaintop restaurant. Tomas' instinct for self-preservation is the spark for a razor-sharp examination of love, guilt and devotion that may be even more destructive than the avalanche itself. In this audacious and gripping black comedy, writer/director Ruben Östlund has found an ingenious way to explore the flaws and cracks in a marriage by creating the circumstances in which everything we take for granted is torn away.

Winner of Special Jury Prize Cannes Film Festival 2014

