

THE-REX

M A G A Z I N E

KON TIKI
JANUARY 2015

"possibly Britain's most beautiful cinema.." (BBC)
Britain's Best Cinema - Guardian Film Awards 2014

JANUARY 2015 • ISSUE 118
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Mon-Sat 10.30-6.30pm Sun 4.30-5.30pm

THE-REX

CINEMA BERKHAMSTED

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St Albans 26-28

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BOX OFFICE: 01442 877759

Mon to Sat 10.30-6.30
Sun 4.30-5.30

SEAT PRICES

Circle	£9.00
Concessions	£7.50
Table	£11.00
Concessions	£9.50
Royal Box Seat (Seats 6)	£13.00
Whole Royal Box	£73.00
All matinees	£5, £6.50, £10 (box)

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The Rex
High Street (Three Close Lane)
Berkhamsted, Herts HP4 2FG
www.therexberkhamsted.com

**"Unhesitatingly The Rex
is the best cinema I have
ever.." (STimes Culture)**

BEST IN JANUARY



KON TIKI

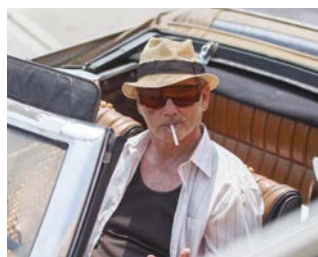
Daring Stunning Beautiful Infuriating Unmissable
Page 16

FILMS OF THE MONTH



THE GRANDMASTER

Huge skies Breathtaking
choreography Gorgeous faces
Page 9



ST VINCENT

Bill Murray doing everything he
does best in one film.
Being Bill Murray
Page 10



THE HOMESMAN

Tommy Lee Jones doing everything
he does best...
Page 12



WHAT WE DO IN THE SHADOWS

Blistering madcap NZ yarn spinning.
Audience in on every gag every step.
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COMING SOON

BACK BY DEMAND

St Vincent

Paddington

Kon Tiki

The Hobbit: Battle of The Five Armies

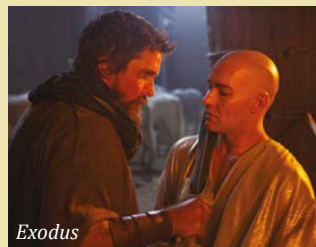
The Hunger Games: Mockingjay

NEW RELEASES

Annie

Big Eyes

Exodus



Exodus



Annie



Big Eyes



The Hobbit

REX JANUARY FILMS AT A GLANCE

DATE	FILM	TIME	PAGE
1 THU	HAPPY NEW YEAR		
2 FRI	PADDINGTON	7.30	8
3 SAT	PADDINGTON	2.00, 7.00	8
4 SUN	PADDINGTON	6.00	8
5 MON	THE GRANDMASTER	2.00, 7.30	9
6 TUE	PADDINGTON (BABIES!!)	12.30	8
6 TUE	THE IMITATION GAME	7.30	9
7 WED	THE IMITATION GAME	2.00, 7.30	9
8 THU	THE IMITATION GAME	2.00, 7.30	9
9 FRI	ST VINCENT	7.30	10
10 SAT	PENGUINS OF MADAGASCAR	2.00	11
10 SAT	ST VINCENT	7.00	10
11 SUN	ST VINCENT	6.00	10
12 MON	ST VINCENT	2.00	10
12 MON	CITIZENFOUR	7.30	11
13 TUE	ST VINCENT (BABIES!!)	12.30	10
13 TUE	MR TURNER	7.30	12
14 WED	MR TURNER	2.00, 7.30	12
15 THU	THE HOMESMAN	2.00, 7.30	12
16 FRI	BLACK SEA	7.30	13
17 SAT	TINKERBELL & THE LEGEND...	2.00	13
17 SAT	HUNGER GAMES: MOCKINGJAY PART 1	7.00	14
18 SUN	HUNGER GAMES: MOCKINGJAY PART 1	6.00	14
19 MON	HUNGER GAMES: MOCKINGJAY PART 1	2.00	14
19 MON	LEVIATHAN	7.30	15
20 TUE	MY OLD LADY (BABIES !!)	12.30, 7.30	15
21 WED	KON TIKI	2.00, 7.30	16
22 THU	MY OLD LADY	2.00	15
22 THU	FURY	7.30	16
23 FRI	WHAT WE DO IN THE SHADOWS	7.30	17
24 SAT	PADDINGTON	2.00	8
24 SAT	DUMB AND DUMBER TO	7.00	17
25 SUN	INTERSTELLAR	6.00	18
26 MON	DUMB AND DUMBER TO	2.00	17
26 MON	LIFE ITSELF	7.30	18
27 TUE	INTERSTELLAR (BABIES !!)	12.30	18
27 TUE	HOCKNEY	7.30	19
28 WED	UNBROKEN	2.00, 7.30	19
29 THU	HOCKNEY	2.00	19
29 THU	UNBROKEN	7.30	19
30 FRI	BIRDMAN	7.30	20
31 SAT	THE HOBBIT: BATTLE OF THE FIVE ARMIES	2.00	21
31 SAT	BIRDMAN	7.00	20



JANUARY FILMS



Paddington

From the beloved novels by Michael Bond and with an all star cast including Jim Broadbent, Hugh Bonneville and Sally Hawkins, **Paddington** tells the story of the comic misadventures of a young Peruvian bear (Ben Wishaw) whom, after crossing oceans ends up in London in search of a new home.

Lost and alone, he begins to realise that city life is not all he had imagined, until he encounters the kindly Brown family who read the label round his neck that says "Please look after this bear. Thank you," and offer him a temporary haven. It looks as though his luck has changed until this rarest of bears catches the eye of the museum taxidermist.

"A charming and sweet-natured family film, full of wit and fun, skewed towards young children but cheekily speckled with sly gags pitched at the older audience." (*Guardian*)

"Paddington is enchanting." (*Standard*)

"Endearing, hilarious, and for humans of a certain vintage, tearfully nostalgic." (*Times*)

"Through it all runs the touching story of an outsider making a new home for himself, and discovering that in the end, whatever our differences, anyone in London can fit in." (*Independent*)

"Please look after this bear", says the tag around Paddington's neck. Rest assured, they have." (*Observer*) We all know the story, come and see if they get it half-right. Bring the street.

Director: Paul King
 Cast: Ben Wishaw, Sally Hawkins, Hugh Bonneville
 Duration: 95 mins
 Origin: UK 2014
 Certificate: PG

When...

Fri	2	7.30
Sat	3	2.00, 7.00
Sun	4	6.00
Tue	6	12.30
Sat	24	2.00



The Grandmaster

The Grandmaster is a delicate and beautifully shot drama that follows Ip Man, a martial artist who became Bruce Lee's mentor.

Ip is played impressively by Tony Leung (the spit of Barack Obama; anyone?) as a modest champion of Southern martial artists in their struggle for technical supremacy over the Northerners.

Gong Yutian (Wang Qingxiang) a Northerner, is the retiring grandmaster.

He nominates Ip to take his place. Occupying at least as much screen time is Gong's daughter, Gong Er. This is the luminous Zhang Ziyi, who supplies the quivering, pulsating emotions conspicuously lacking in him.

Ip Man is ostensibly happily married but... Gong Er is Ip's equal, possibly even his martial arts superior and she is as fascinated by him as he is her.

Director Wong Kar-Wai (In the Mood for Love) shoots his fight sequences with a handcrafted gentleness reminiscent of Ang Lee's Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon, but the real flare is in the romance between the leads.

"Has any filmmaker ever made melancholy this seductive? You leave this flawed, deeply beautiful film with no doubt that you've seen an indisputable cinematic grandmaster in action." (*Rolling Stone*)

The Grandmaster is a scattered and sprawling period epic that finally has a UK release. It has been well worth the wait. (*Jack Whiting*) Stunning and beautifully staged for the big screen. Don't miss.

Director:	Kar-wai Wong.
Cast:	ony Leung, Qingxiang Wang, Ziyi Zhang
Duration:	108 mins
Origin:	Hong Kong/China 2013
Certificate:	15

When...

Mon 5 2.00, 7.30



The Imitation Game

Based on Andrew Hodges' biography and marking the English-language debut of Norwegian director, Morten Tyldum (Headhunters) The Imitation Game begins with Turing's (Benedict Cumberbatch) arrest in 1951 on charges of gross indecency.

Little did officials know they were actually incriminating the pioneer of modern-day computing. Famously leading a motley group of scholars, linguists, chess champions and intelligence officers, Turing was credited with cracking the so-called unbreakable codes of Germany's World War II Enigma machine.

Flashbacks to his schooldays and his years at Bletchley Park paint a touching account of a man with few intellectual equals and even fewer social graces.

Turing alienates his colleagues, exasperates his military masters and seems blithely unaware of the impact his blunt candour has on those around him.

His rational mind also makes him blind to the sexism of his era as he becomes a fond champion of Joan Clarke (Keira Knightley) an equally formidable intellect with the disadvantage of being a mere 'gel'.

"Benedict Cumberbatch is odds-on for an Oscar nomination (at the very least) for his brilliant turn as Alan Turing... It's the performance of his career in what is also the best British film of the year." (*Independent*)

"It's all anchored in a storming performance from Cumberbatch: you'll be deciphering his work long after the credits roll." (*Time Out*)

Hope the hype does it no harm.

Director:	Morten Tyldum
Cast:	Benedict Cumberbatch, Keira Knightley
Duration:	113 mins
Origin:	UK/USA
Certificate:	12A

When...

Tue 6 7.30

Wed 7 2.00, 7.30

Thu 8 2.00, 7.30



St Vincent

Maggie (Melissa McCarthy), a single mother, moves into a new home in Brooklyn with her 12-year-old son, Oliver (Jaeden Lieberher). Forced to work long hours, she reluctantly leaves Oliver in the care of their new neighbour for a fee. Vincent (Bill Murray) a retired curmudgeon with a penchant for booze and gambling. An odd friendship blossoms between man and boy. Along with pregnant stripper, Daka (miscast Naomi Watts) Vincent brings Oliver along on all the stops that make up his daily routine: the track, a strip bar and the local dive.

"Together, these characters form a kind of surrogate family, with Murray at the head of the table. Of course he's no saint, what would be the point? Predictably, he's a much more complex personality than meets the eye. The huge bonus is getting to know him feels a little like peeking through a window into the actor's own soul. What more can this be, if not a ticket to movie heaven." (*Variety*)

The story is predictable and slides easily into the sentimental "Which is a shame, because Bill Murray is genuinely brilliant. His performance manages to be powerful, minutely detailed and yet almost completely invisible. There is some terrific acting going on and the wonderful thing is you can't see it." (*M.Bond.Event*) Sounds perfect, and with nominations dripping all over him, don't miss.

Director: Theodore Melfi
 Cast: Bill Murray, Naomi Watts, Melissa McCarthy
 Duration: 102 mins
 Origin: USA 2014
 Certificate: 12A

When...

Fri	9	7.30
Sat	10	7.00
Sun	11	6.00
Mon	12	2.00
Tue	13	12.30



Penguins of Madagascar

The quartet of flightless birds from the Madagascar films are back starring in their own feature.

Skipper and his crew: brainy Kowalski (Chris Miller) rugged Rico (John DiMaggio) and young rookie, Private (Christopher Knights) are the most hilarious covert birds in the global espionage business.

The opening of the movie finds the penguins trying to break into Fort Knox to steal the last remaining vending machine containing Private's favourite snack food, 1960's era Cheesy Dibbles, for his birthday.

But events take a more serious turn as the gang comes into conflict and has to team up with the high-tech organization: North Wind whose motto: "no-one breaks the dept" should get them far in the kids laughter dept. Led by handsome and husky Agent Classified (Benedict Cumberbatch; he's everywhere) the new group includes the seal, Short Fuse (Ken Jeong), an explosives expert; snow owl, Eva (Annet Mahendru), an intelligence analyst with a Russian accent: the object of Kowalski's affections; and hulking Norwegian bear, Corporal (Peter Stormare) who constantly wants to embrace his four new bird friends. Together, they must stop the villainous Dr. Octavius Brine, voiced by John Malkovich, from not only eliminating the whole penguin race, but destroying the world as we know it.

The hype sounds very fab indeed, but keep disappointment close at hand.

"Smile and wave boys, smile and wave..."

Directors: Eric Darnell, Simon Smith
Voices: Benedict Cumberbatch, Tom McGrath, John Malkovich
Duration: 92 mins
Origin: USA 2014
Certificate: U

When...

Sat 10 2.00



Citizenfour

Laura Poitras's film shows the first extensive interviews with Edward Snowden. This documentary is about that very remarkable man, the former NSA intelligence analyst Edward Snowden, shown here speaking out personally for the first time about all the staggering things governments are doing to our privacy. Fundamentally, privacy is being abolished, not eroded, not diminished, not encroached upon but abolished. And being constructed in its place is a colossal digital new Stasi, driven by a creepy intoxication with what is now technically possible, combined with politicians' age-old infatuation with snooping, bullying and collecting secret, personal information "Yet in spite of the evidence put in the public domain about this, there has been a bafflingly tepid response from the libertarian right, who have let themselves be bamboozled by the "terrorism" argument. There's also been a worrying placidity from some progressive opinion-formers who appear to assume that social media means we have surrendered our right to privacy. But we haven't." (*Guardian*)

"Laura Poitras's Citizenfour was a project shrouded in secrecy, before it was unveiled with explosive, entirely justified zeal, as a last-minute addition to the 2014 London Film Festival. Everybody needs to see it." (*Telegraph*)

"Bold, unblinking filmmaking, no less than a living document of a global scandal." (*Empire*)

"Its 114 minutes cackle with the nervous energy of revelation." (*Guardian*) Come, it might keep you off facebook for... all of five minutes?

Director: Laura Poitras
Cast: Edward Snowden
Duration: 113 mins
Origin: Germany/USA 2014
Certificate: 15

When...

Mon 12 7.30



Mr Turner

A supremely enjoyable biopic of the British artist known as 'the painter of light' Joseph Mallord William Turner, played tenderly by Timothy Spall (who spent two years learning to paint like Turner).

The film begins in 1826, with Turner 51 years old. He works from a studio in his London town house where his housekeeper Hannah and elderly father, William Senior keep things ticking over.

The film spans a quarter century until his death in 1851 and follows him wherever he goes.

In Margate, Turner meets a friendly landlady (Marion Bailey) who comes to play an important role in his later life.

At the Royal Academy we see him walking around, joking curmudgeonly with friends and winding up John Constable.

We get towed into the paintings as he creates them: The Fighting Temeraire and Rain, Steam and Speed.

"If there is one film you should see on the largest screen possible (at the Rex and Odyssey) this year, it is Mr Turner, which is not merely the portrait of an artist but a full-frontal, joyous bellyflop into the seascapes of his paintings." (*Times*)

Winning Spall the best actor prize at Cannes 2014 he looks set to be a strong contender for the 2015 BAFTAS. (research Anna Shepherd). It's Mike Leigh, so it's long, it's measured to within a hair, and it's Timothy Spall's finest bottom-lip hour.

Director:	Mike Leigh
Cast:	Timothy Spall, Marion Bailey, Paul Jesson
Duration:	149 mins
Origin:	UK 2014
Certificate:	12A

When...

Tue 13 7.30
Wed 14 2.00, 7.30



The Homesman

When three women living on the edge of the American frontier are driven mad by harsh pioneer life, the task of saving them falls to the pious, independent-minded Mary Bee Cuddy (Hilary Swank). Transporting the women by covered wagon to Iowa, she soon realizes just how daunting the journey will be, so by chance employs a low-life drifter George Briggs (Tommy Lee Jones) after rescuing him from a left-to-die lynching. The unlikely pair and the three women (Grace Gummer, Miranda Otto and Sonja Richter) head east, where a waiting minister and his wife (Meryl Streep) have offered to take the women in. But the group first must traverse the harsh Nebraska Territories marked by stark beauty, psychological peril and constant threat.

"Not since John Wayne and Montgomery Clift set off on their epic cattle drive in Howard Hawks's Red River has there been a more unusual pairing than Tommy Lee Jones and Hilary Swank in this new magnificent TL Jones's feature film." (*Independent*)

"It is a muscular, heartfelt picture, tempered with shrewd sympathy and insight." (*Guardian*)

"The film is a tonal nightmare, lurching uneasily from hang 'em and shoot 'em cowboy comedy to gruesome vignettes from the lives of frontier women." (*Times*)

"Puts a fresh, female spin on the western." (*Total Film*)
 Come for big Tommy and gritty Hilary S: the perfect, unlikely, cowboy match.

Director:	Tommy Lee Jones
Cast:	Tommy Lee Jones, Hilary Swank, Meryl Streep, John Lithgow, Tim Nelson
Duration:	123 mins
Origin:	USA 2014
Certificate:	15

When...

Thu 15 2.00, 7.30



Black Sea

A suspenseful adventure thriller directed by Oscar winner, Kevin Macdonald, **Black Sea** stars Jude Law as a struggling submariner (with Scottish accent!) who hears of the potential \$40m bounty lying at the bottom of the Black Sea. He sees freedom: the chance to escape, to win his family back and support properly away from their ugly submarine life. He gathers together a crew who have given their marriages or health or happiness to their work, grinding hard to make ends meet only to be discarded by heavyweight employers. Hence they are ripe for this reckless underwater mission to salvage a gold-laden German U-boat. An initial flurry carried on a wave of desperation, sees a real chance to get rich, and beat their evil ex-paymasters. Predictably, the mood gradually shifts to one of suppressed torment, claustrophobic agitation and the inevitability of... From *Touching The Void* to this, Kevin Macdonald is a director at his best in desperate tales of survival. But this is fiction and these are not real everyday mountaineering heroes, struggling to make their way. They are not friends either. They are gold diggers suffocating "amid pumping pistons and clanging pipes of this claustrophobic setting." (*Observer*) It's the *Treasure of the Sierra Madre* told in 1948 by Ford and Bogart alongside a thousand tales of lust for gold told over centuries. Stick to what you know Kevin...

Director:	Kevin Macdonald
Cast:	Jude Law, Scoot McNairy, David Threlfall
Duration:	115 mins
Origin:	USA 2014
Certificate:	15

When...

Fri 16 7.30



Tinker Bell And The Legend Of The NeverBeast

Another year, another Tinker Bell adventure (now the seventh!!) **Neverbeast will no doubt have its followers. Parents might not be one of them.**

"Tinker Bell herself plays second fiddle here to her animal-loving friend Fawn (Ginnifer Goodwin) who befriends ancient monster the NeverBeast after removing a pin from his paw.

Back in Pixie Hollow, the rest of the fairies are convinced that the beast threatens them with death and destruction, but Fawn knows better.

Clearly taken with the big guy, she refuses to believe he's the destructive force the legend of the NeverBeast says he is. Its compact running time of just over an hour will ensure grownups are in and out before their lattes cool.

"Though our heroine remains more self-reliant than most Disney princesses, the film is too mild to constitute any kind of statement; the animation's blandly functional, while the songs fly straight between the ears. Better than last year's *Pirate Fairy*, but it still feels like a short padded to feature length so that more of that sweet 3D (2-D here) surcharge can be extracted from parents' pockets." (*Guardian*)

Thankfully no such surcharge applies here. (*Jack Whiting*)

Director:	Steve Loter
Cast:	Mae Whitman, Raven-Symone, Lucy Liu
Duration:	76 mins
Origin:	USA 2014
Certificate:	U

When...

Sat 17 2.00



Director: Francis Lawrence
Cast: Jennifer Lawrence, Josh Hutcherson, Liam Hemsworth
Duration: 123 mins
Origin: USA 2014
Certificate: 12A

The Hunger Games: Mockingjay Part 1

Another year, another Hunger Games.

Do you think they just churned them out all in one go like the Hobbit, or did they let the actors and crew go home for tea? I guess Philip Seymour Hoffman might be a clue...

There are so many changes to costumes with whole new sets built, it must be like making a new film every time, but who knows?

Katniss carries on with her athletic outfits and faithful bow (I'm sure there was picture of her in full sexy all-fighting catsuit, but wearing peep-toe sandals with sensible socks...? More grey beard and pullover than full-on fighting gear.)

Nevertheless, she's here again winning against all odds in the first of the last two-parter to milk the franchise just a little more.

Still fans love it, Stanley Tucci is still in there and mean nasty Donald Sutherland looks better the more evil he gets, but sadly, can't find the best thing in it - Toby Jones.

You'll come no matter what it says here, so best not to give too much of the story away.

When...

Sat 17	7.00
Sun 18	6.00
Mon 19	2.00



Leviathan

The great trial of Job is reborn in this magnificent Russian movie, first seen at Cannes 2014. Kolia (Alexey Serebriakov) is a car mechanic with a modest property on prime real estate: a beautiful spot on the Barents Sea, but the crooked mayor Vadim, a wonderful show of Russian mafia chutzpa from Roman Madyanov, looking like Boris Yeltsin, wants this land. 'Wants' means 'Will Have'. Kolia's old army buddy, Dimitri (Vladimir Vdovichenkov), now a slick Moscow lawyer, has an incriminating file on Vadim to persuade Vadim to back down, but attempting to blackmail Russia's well-connected gangster class is a little dangerous. Leviathan shows a world governed by drunken, depressed men: everyone is drowning in vodka and despair.

"The wonder of Andrey Zvyagintsev's brilliant new film is that it works both as a Chekhovian family tragedy and as an extremely barbed satire on corruption in contemporary Russia." (*Independent*)

"Stunningly shot and superbly acted, especially by Madyanov, this is film-making on a grand scale." (*Guardian*)

"It's visceral, rebellious fare. Let's hope it repeats the success of Nikita Mikhalkov's 1994 *Burnt By The Sun* and takes home the trophy at the Academy awards." (*Observer*)

"A modern classic weaving together rich characters, witty satire, thriller elements and political bite. Among the finest films of 2014." (*Film4*) And you'll see it here first-ish, but ahead of the awards circus. Don't miss.

Director: Andrey Zvyagintsev
 Cast: Vladimir Vdovichenkov, Elena Lyadova, Aleksey Serebryakov
 Duration: 141 mins
 Origin: Russia 2014
 Certificate: 18

When...

Mon 19 7.30



My Old Lady

Mathias Gold (Kevin Kline) is a down-on-his-luck New Yorker who inherits a Parisian apartment from his late, estranged father.

The inheritance has come along in the nick of time: Mathias is penniless and homeless after a string of failed marriages and barely managed alcoholism.

But when he arrives in France to sell the vast domicile, he's shocked to discover a live-in tenant who is not prepared to budge. His apartment is 'viager'; an ancient French estate system with complex rules regarding its resale, and the feisty Englishwoman, Mathilde Girard (Maggie Smith) who has lived in the apartment with her daughter, Chloe (Kristen Scott Thomas) for many years, can by contract collect monthly payments from Mathias until her death.

"It all sounds like a ripe set-up for a gentle farce in which the star of Downtown Abbey gets to play a wily curmudgeon while the increasingly frustrated hero schemes to dislodge her. But despite appearances, Although it appears to be played with a light touch, *My Old Lady* is not a comedy. It's a drama about family secrets, loss, regret and redemption, and a turgid one at that." (*Telegraph*)

"My Old Lady is affecting, even if many of the revelations and high voltage speeches occur at predictable moments. But if you can look past this formulaic side, it's a movie worth seeing." (*Washington Post*) Come and see.

Director: Isreal Horowitz
 Cast: Maggie Smith, Kevin Kline, Kristin Scott Thomas
 Duration: 107 mins
 Origin: UK/France/USA 2014
 Certificate: 12A

When...

Tue 20 12.30, 7.30
Thu 22 2.00



Kon Tiki

Billed as the most expensive Norwegian film ever made, Kon-Tiki is a plucky historical drama based around the adventures of Thor Heyerdahl (Pål Sverre Valheim Hagen). Pulling together a rag-tag crew of like-minded adventurers, he sets out on a 5,000miles quest across the pacific to demonstrate his theory that Peruvian mariners sailed from South America to Polynesia centuries before Christopher Columbus.

This fearless group, aboard their balsa tree trunk raft, pit themselves against everything the Southern Ocean could throw at them. On the run up to its release, Kon-Tiki has found itself compared to other recent adventure epics (namely Tracks and Life of Pi) but should be noted for its largely impressive visuals, its dedication to authenticity and the revelation that it was filmed simultaneously in both Norwegian and English.

"Part history lesson, part classic adventure tale and often stunning to watch." (*Toronto Star*)

"It's a terrifically engaging throwback to the uplifting, irony-free, outdoorsy '50s yarns..." (*New York Post*)

"The men are handsome, the sea is pretty and if the sharks look as rubbery as last week's chicken, at least they add some drama, blood and guts."

(*New York Times*)

"While the wind goes out of its sails a few times along the way, this is a ravishingly photographed, old-fashioned man-against-the-elements adventure epic propelled by human-scaled heroics."

(*Chicago Sun-Times*)

Director: Espen Sandberg, Joachim Roenning
 Cast: Pal Hagen
 Duration: 119 mins
 Origin: Norway
 Certificate: 15

When...

Wed 21

2.00, 7.30



Fury

April, 1945. As the Allies make their final push in the European Theatre, a battle-hardened army sergeant named Wardaddy (Brad Pitt) a grizzled veteran of the African and European campaigns, commands a Sherman tank named Fury. Under his command is a ragtag bunch, including a terrified kid called Norman, played by the cherubic Logan Lerman. Outnumbered and outgunned, Wardaddy and his men face overwhelming odds in their heroic attempts to strike at the heart of Nazi Germany. "Your eyes see it," mourns one of them, "but your head don't make no sense of it."

"Ayer does well in creating the weird listless boredom of war, interspersed with sudden frenzies of violence and fear as the soldiers engage the enemy. In the end, Pitt's men seem destined for their own Alamo or Little Bighorn in the German countryside." (*Guardian*)

"Loud, intense, violent, relentless, Fury doesn't stop until the credits roll, thanks to Ayer's cracking direction and a committed cast. The best WW2 movie in some time." (*Total Film*).

"As a vision of the fag-end of war, David Ayer's Fury is both set-piece impressive and claustrophobically exciting, with a simple and coherent story."

(*Financial Times*)

Sounds worth more than the first critics grumblings during its build up. If nothing else, come for Brad's finest claustrophobic non-acting close ups and all the others in the tank...

Director: David Ayer
 Cast: Shia LaBeouf, Brad Pitt, Logan Lerman
 Duration: 134 mins
 Origin: USA 2014
 Certificate: 15

When...

Thu 22

7.30



What We Do In The Shadows

With the success of the brilliant *Flight of the Concorde* already under his belt, Jermaine Clement partners Taika Waititi to co-direct and star in one of the outstanding comedies of the year.

Set in the murky suburbs of Wellington, New Zealand, this gut-busting mockumentary follows a trio of Vampires who, confounded by their inability to adapt to 21st century life, are in eternal torment, confined to their antiquated house in avoidance of sunlight, missing out on all the fun in life (or death).

Things only get worse for the group, as recently sired Nick (Cori Gonzalez-Macuer) begins to lead an awkwardly open lifestyle, bringing unwanted attention and additional trouble to their already beleaguered existence. Throw into the mix a particularly hairy Rhys Darby and his pack of Werewolves (not Swearwolves) and you have the making of a full-bodied comedy smash. Based on a 2006 short from Waititi and Clement, this may give the impression of being slightly overstretched. Nonetheless, the writing strongly delivers and provides plenty of laughter and amusement that even the most cold-blooded of critics could sink their fangs into.

"The vampire mockumentary you've been longing for." (*Times*) Not me Miss.

"At least one funny line a minute, and it's amazing what legs the basic joke has." (*Telegraph*) Not to be missed, especially by those who wouldn't be seen dead near a vampire movie.

Director: Jermaine Clement
 Cast: Jermaine Clement, Taika Waititi
 Duration: 85 mins
 Origin: New Zealand/USA
 Certificate: 15

When...

Fri 23 7.30



Dumb and Dumber To

Jim Carrey and Jeff Daniels prove middle aged men can still do comedy by returning as Harry and Lloyd (impossible to decide which of the two is dumber) for this technically second sequel (remember *Dumb and Dumberer*? No, neither did I).

This time we find out that Lloyd has been institutionalised, though Harry visits to change his nappies. The new quest for these two Dumb Quixotes is to leave home (Providence, Rhode Island) and find the fruit of Harry's loom, a daughter (Rachel Melvin) Harry never knew existed but who might gift Lloyd with a needed kidney.

The 1994 original, to many people's surprise, is considered a minor modern classic. It had just the right combination of cheekiness and naïve sincerity to go with the plethora of wind gags. This however, confirms it was a one hit wonder.

Yet not everyone hated it, "I'd be lying if I said this movie didn't crack me up on more than a few occasions." (*Guardian*) Careful Guardian, one mustn't be caught cracking up.

Respect to Carey and Daniels for actually giving this a go, but as two respectable actors in their fifties, they don't need this, the nineties happened already. (*Jack Whiting*) It is worth seeing (or not) for this curiosity alone...?

Directors: Bobby and Peter Farrelly
 Cast: Jim Carrey, Jeff Daniels, Laurie Holden
 Duration: 109 mins
 Origin: USA 2014
 Certificate: 15

When...

Sat 24 7.00
Mon 26 2.00



Interstellar

Our planet isn't in the best condition; blight has swept the globe, destroying nearly all crops other than corn. As the human race scurries in the dirt to farm and protect what little remains, remnants of NASA are instead looking to the stars for salvation.

A team of astronauts, led by Matthew McConaughey's stoically smouldering Cooper, venture into the great beyond in search of a new home for humanity. Starlight whirls, planets, and spacecraft cartwheel through nothingness.

An odyssey where Einstein's theory of relativity is a heart-breaking reality?

Once tipped for Spielberg, this long gestating project, born from the theories of physicist Kip Thorne, it lands in Christopher Nolan's hands. Where, once again embracing celluloid, keeping CGI to a minimum, *Interstellar* is as filmic as it gets (shot on expensive 70mm film stock – not digital.)

Deafening (the church organ score will pummel your senses) [but not here at the Rex/*Odyssey*] disjointed and exhausting perhaps, but so overwhelming, visually and emotionally there might be tears [oh dear]. Even Kubrick's 2001 was lambasted on first release (1968). Now look at it! Nolan has taken his gargantuan budget and used it to fuel ambition. That commands respect. (*research Jack Whiting*) Not so sure Jack. Indulgence and a neglected script might prove otherwise. At 10 mins short of three hours, it is more likely to be the audience who commands respect...?

Director:	Christopher Nolan
Cast:	Matthew McConaughey, Anne Hathaway, Jessica Chastain, Michael Caine
Duration:	169 mins
Origin:	USA/UK 2014
Certificate:	12A

When...

Sun 25 6.00
Tue 27 12.30



Life Itself

Roger Ebert's phenomenal impact is measurable by the extent of his influence within the world of cinema.

Film critic for the Chicago Sun-Times from 1967 until his death last April, his sharp and insightful outlook transformed the way a generation viewed film. Steve James' sensitively weighted documentary explores the twilight years of arguably America's most profound critic. He was one of the most fervent early champions of Martin Scorsese. His battle with cancer, his remarkable perseverance and the rediscovery of his iconic voice through social media. It's all here, powerfully sewn together with the guidance of Ebert's family, colleagues and closest friends.

With an unprecedented level of access to the final year of Roger's life, James crafts one of the decade's most revealing portraits, capturing Ebert's incredible resolve and stark refusal to give in to adversity.

This unflinching feature makes excellent use of a wonderful array of material, including archive footage from the numerous review shows co-hosted with the late Gene Siskel, showcasing the best of what was a playful yet often contentious rivalry.

What is created is a warm and fitting tribute, reflecting on his enduring love for movies and for life itself.

"Taking its title from Ebert's bestselling memoir, this lovely, insightful film is a splendidly watchable tribute to a truly cinematic life." (*Observer*)

Funny, even staunch critic-haters loved and respected Roger Ebert

Director:	Steve James
Duration:	121 mins
Origin:	USA 2014
Certificate:	15

When...

Mon 26 7.30



Hockney: A Life In Pictures

This spirited documentary spans the artist's career. Director Randall Wright, whose previous subjects include Lucien Freud and Sister Wendy Beckett, has researched a spectrum of archive material, which is pieced together with kaleidoscopic verve. Richest of these is Hockney's own home-movie footage, giving candid insight into the painter's relationship with his Bradford roots and the father he credits with teaching him to never care what the neighbours think. The film reflects on Hockney's formative years in the British Pop Art Scene and his experience as a gay man as the Aids crisis takes hold, as well as his years working in California. As a character, Hockney emerges as a man of great friendships and a loyal cast of fellow artists chronicle his personal and artistic journey, each in possession of a crisp wit, bringing humour and light to the life of an artist who continues to broaden horizons.

"An unqualified, life-enhancing joy from start to finish!" (*Sunday Times*)

"As gently hypnotic and fulfilling as one of Hockney's own works." (*Time Out*)

"Wider perspectives are needed now," states David Hockney, referencing both technical ways of seeing and the parameters of what we choose to see.

These are two screenings outside London. It is back at the Rex now and at the Odyssey for the first time.

A rare man, a rare opportunity. Don't miss.

Director: Randall Wright
Duration: 112 mins
Origin: UK 2014
Certificate: 15

When...

Tue 27 7.30
Thu 29 2.00



Unbroken

Angelina Jolie directs and produces **Unbroken**, an epic drama that follows the incredible life of Olympian war hero, Louis "Louie" Zamperini (played by young British actor, Jack O'Connell). It's the height of the 2nd World War. Along with two other crewman, he survived in a raft for 47 days after their plane ditches into the sea, only to be caught by the Japanese Navy and sent to a prisoner-of-war camp. As an Italian immigrant kid, he is picked on and bullied, but Zamperini overcomes all of this and more to make the US Olympic team for the 1936 Berlin games. While he doesn't win a medal, his storming final lap wins admiring reviews. Next, after being shot down during the war, and surviving in a rubber dinghy for four weeks, fending off sharks and eating raw albatross. His third act enjoys the horror of Japanese captivity. A fey, sadistic Japanese camp commandant develops an unhealthy interest in him, with curious partiality one minute, barbaric cruelty the next. "(Jack O'Connell's) performance is raw, brave and agonising." (*Times*)

"Though high-minded and well-intentioned and on an epic scale, there's something stodgy and safety-first about it." (*Guardian*) Oh dear, more handrails!

"Angelina Jolie's film is a gorgeously shot (of course it is. She knows all the best cameramen!) but it fails to get under the skin." (*Time Out*) Come for Jack O'C.

Director: Angelina Jolie
Cast: Jack O'Connell, Domhnall Gleeson, Garrett Hedlund

Duration: 137 mins
Origin: USA 2014
Certificate: 15

When...

Wed 28 2.00, 7.30
Thu 29 7.30



Birdman

Impossible to define, Birdman is one of those rare films that effortlessly transcends genres to become something wholly unique.

Michael Keaton is Riggan Thomson, an actor who raked in the cash in the early 1990s as a superhero in a blockbuster franchise (a clear nod to Keaton's own days as Batman). He hasn't made a Birdman film in years, but it is still part of him. Quite literally: there's a booming voice in his head and it gives him superhuman powers. "Is Birdman a figment of Riggan's imagination?"

Whatever it is, Riggan has problems. He's trying to reinvent himself as a director and star on Broadway. But Birdman is shitting on the plan, telling Riggan to make a reality TV show." (*Time Out*)

There are streaks of 42nd Street, The Producers and Sunset Boulevard here, but otherwise, Birdman isn't much like anything else at all. Think Black Swan directed by Mel Brooks and you're in the vicinity, but only just.

"This is the role of Keaton's career, and he could hardly be better supported (Naomi Watts, Emma Stone, Andrea Riseborough, Edward Norton)." (*Telegraph*)

Director Alejandro Gonzalez Iñárritu has a string of wonderful films to his name: 21 Grams, Amores Perros and Biutiful but Birdman could well be his best, if not his most ambitious. (*Jack Whiting*) Vying for awards, come and see if it's worth a few.

Director: Alejandro González Iñárritu
Cast: Michael Keaton, Edward Norton, Naomi Watts
Duration: 119 mins
Origin: USA 2014
Certificate: 15

When...

Fri	30	7.30
Sat	31	7.00



The Hobbit: The Battle of the Five Armies

By now there's no use converting the unconvinced. As the 'defining chapter' graces our screens in all its bombastic sheen, that poor little book has been stretched into nearly nine hours.

We pick up right where chapter two left off. The dragon Smaug (Cumberbatch's soothing tones) has escaped and heads straight for the nearby town. Now that Bilbo (Freeman), Thorin (Armitage) and his band of dwarves have conquered the mountain, a much larger challenge awaits them.

Meanwhile Sir Ian McGandalf arrives just in time to warn our heroes of an impending evil with armies of orcs and goblins on the march. They join an increasingly crowded battle royale including elves, eagles, and men that make up the chaotic third act. The modest subtitle to Tolkien's original book was *There and Back Again*. The films have pumped this up to: *There. And there! Almost There! Not Quite There! Not Quite Almost There!* And who cares that 'Back Again' is largely missing? A multi-movie adaptation of "The Silmarillion, with the last one naturally split into two parts, might test my newfound enthusiasm. But for now, these Bilbo Baggins' adventures have a winning innocence and buoyancy." (*Guardian*)

OR...

"It's like a sea of Dairylea: an endless, formless, highly processed mass of nothingness. Another big cheesy dose of goblets, codpieces, prosthetics and hairy feet." (*Camilla Long*)



Director:	Peter Jackson
Cast:	Martin Freeman, Ian McKellen, Cate Blanchett
Duration:	144 mins
Origin:	New Zealand/USA 2014
Certificate:	12A

When...

Sat 31 2.00

In the rain again: The Rex 22nd Nov 2014



Linda Topping wrote: Thank you so much for providing such wonderful entertainment, even in the rain we queue. Your Rex kids are wonderful, keeping us warm with coffee and programmes. Days later at the bar Linda added in person "I'm addicted to this place. It's like as if I was into tattoos, I'd be covered from head to foot..."



...and this is the reason for the queue 10 years earlier. Welcome home.



Odyssey opening weekend 27th-30th November 2014

(above) Top cinematic designer Ed Mauger leaning against his own hand built sound rack inside the Odyssey projection box. (below left) Ushers, guests, tables and steps mingle in red and black. (right) James Hannaway



“Not just a thing of beauty...”



Photo: Stephen Green

My first visit to the Odyssey last night, and I am so impressed. Its so amazingly unlikely that anything so civilised should have been the outcome when just a short time ago we were looking at demolition and luxury flats - the Odyssey is just a triumph of what is possible if people work hard and want it enough. But its not just a thing of beauty - its a fantastic cinema - the picture on the huge screen is immaculate and the sound superb. I would really love

to see some music films there to test it out. Well done again to all involved. *Rob Smith*

This is one of many heartfelt comments on Facebook. Thank you for all your comments, including those who can't get through on our temporary phonelines and others who wonder "what the hell is going on..." In five years nothing has come easy, the opening is no exception. Thanks for being patient.



Photos: Jacqui Adams

COMING SOON

BACK BY DEMAND

The Hobbit: Battle of The Five Armies
 Paddington
 The Hunger Games: Mockingjay
 St Vincent
 Kon Tiki

NEW RELEASES

Annie
 Big Eyes
 Exodus



Annie



Big Eyes



Exodus



The Hobbit

THE ODYSSEY

JANUARY FILMS AT A GLANCE

(only Saturday matinees in January)

DATE	FILM	TIME
1 THU	HAPPY NEW YEAR	
2 FRI	WHAT WE DID ON OUR HOLIDAY	7.30
3 SAT	TINKER BELL AND THE LEGEND...	2.00
3 SAT	MY OLD LADY	7.00
4 SUN	THE IMITATION GAME	6.00
5 MON	THE IMITATION GAME	7.30
6 TUE	KON TIKI	7.30
7 WED	PADDINGTON	7.30
8 THU	THE 100 YEAR OLD MAN WHO...	7.30
9 FRI	WHAT WE DO IN THE SHADOWS	7.30
10 SAT	PADDINGTON	2.00
10 SAT	INTERSTELLAR	6.00
11 SUN	PADDINGTON	6.00
12 MON	HOCKNEY	7.30
13 TUE	LEVIATHAN	7.30
14 WED	THE HOMESMAN	7.30
15 THU	ST VINCENT	7.30
16 FRI	ST VINCENT	7.30
17 SAT	PENGUINS OF MADAGASCAR	2.00
17 SAT	ST VINCENT	7.00
18 SUN	WINTER SLEEP	5.00
19 MON	MR TURNER	7.30
20 TUE	MR TURNER	7.30
21 WED	GRAND BUDAPEST HOTEL	7.30
22 THU	THE GRANDMASTER	7.30
23 FRI	HUNGER GAMES: MOCKINGJAY PART 1	7.30
24 SAT	PADDINGTON	2.00
24 SAT	HUNGER GAMES: MOCKINGJAY PART 1	7.00
25 SUN	2001: A SPACE ODYSSEY	5.00
26 MON	UNBROKEN	7.30
27 TUE	UNBROKEN	7.30
28 WED	BIRDMAN	7.30
29 THU	BIRDMAN	7.30
30 FRI	DUMB AND DUMBER TO	7.30
31 SAT	THE HOBBIT: BATTLE OF THE FIVE ARMIES	2.00
31 SAT	DUMB AND DUMBER TO	7.00