

THE-REX

PROGRAMME

CINDERELLA

MAY 2015

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

MAY 2015 • ISSUE 122
www.therexberkhamsted.com

01442 877759

Mon-Sat 10.30-6.30pm Sun 4.30-5.30pm

THE-REX

CINEMA BERKHAMSTED

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Films At A Glance 16-17

Rants and Pants 27

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)

Disabled and flat access: through the gate on High Street (right of apartments)

Director: James Hannaway
01442 877999

Advertising: Lynn Hendry
01442 877999

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01296 668739

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 MAY



FORCE MAJEURE

An avalanche turns everything upside down

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FILMS OF THE MONTH



LOST RIVER

Ryan G's first directorial outing.

Odd but visually - wow

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FAR FROM THE MADDING CROWD

Most entrancing landscape film ever shot in these Isles

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JAUJA

All in all, a quietly magical piece of cinema

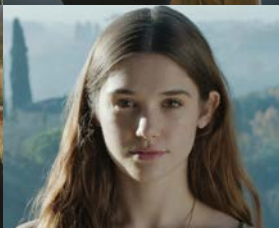
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JOHN WICK

Keanu is back in action where he belongs

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MAY FILMS



Whiplash

You really know heavyweight drama season is here when even the smallest of independents comes out of nowhere and completely floors you.

Andrew (Miles Teller) is a talented, dedicated 19-year-old drummer at the fictional Schaffer Conservatory of Music in New York City. He's cherry-picked for a place in the school's studio jazz band by Terence Fletcher (an astonishing JK Simmons) a conductor who wanders the halls at night, his footsteps a metronomic clack-clack-clack, listening out for prospective young Gene Krupers he can hammer into brilliance.

"Trying to make a thriller about jazz is like trying to make a horror movie about All Bran (then again...) You are starting with a subject that inspires, in fans, the exact opposite of what feels like an emotion to the rest of us. Damien Chazelle has done just that." (*Empire*)

Writer director, the young Chazelle, responsible for last year's wonderfully bonkers *Grand Piano*, infuses his own experiences as a jazz drummer. (uh oh) *Whiplash* fizzles with energy. Simmons nabbed the BAFTA for best supporting actor; JK takes on the roll of Fletcher with such scary power; it won him a 2015 Oscar. Well deserved too. Spot him in 100 films, great as sarcastic cops/baddies/dads.

Director: Damien Chazelle
 Cast: Miles Teller, J. K. Simmons, Melissa Benoist
 Duration: 106 mins
 Origin: USA 2014
 Certificate: 15

When...

Fri 1 7.30



Insurgent

Based on the second novel of Veronica Roth's Divergent trilogy, Insurgent follows protagonist Beatrice (Tris) Prior amidst a post-apocalyptic Chicago dystopia.

With an impending war looming ominously, Tris must question herself and her surviving friends in a story exploring love, death, grief, loyalty and forgiveness.

It's a fantastic action packed teen flick with the increasingly believable and watchable Shailene Woodley (Tris) at its centre, and who, with the help from her absurdly pretty friends continues her fight against a powerful alliance which threatens to tear society apart. Fabulous, but only for big kids and CGI action junkies.

Director: Robert Schwentke
 Cast: Shailene Woodley, Theo James, Miles Teller, Kate Winslet
 Duration: 119 mins
 Origin: USA 2015
 Certificate: 12A

When...

Sat 2 2.00
Tue 26 2.00



Blade Runner: The Final Cut

We're inching closer to 2019, when *Blade Runner* is set, and yet flying cars and slave androids are still the stuff of electric dreams. Harrison Ford is Rick Deckard, a bounty hunter tasked with eliminating a group of replicants (fancy name for androids) who have escaped from servitude and are now residing somewhere in a rain drenched, neo-noir Los Angeles. These replicants, led by a sympathetic Rutger Hauer, have developed their own consciousness, some even believing they are human. It's a theme that has been explored in many sci-fi stories but *Blade Runner* delivers it with a mature subtlety. Ridley Scott's seminal sci-fi opus was unfairly ignored upon initial release in 1982 but eventually found its feet on home video. It has since filtered through many editions and re-releases until this, the 'final' and finest cut, which Scott himself edited together; removing many unnecessary components such as the narration, and replacing the original's happy ending with an existential one. It is a film rich with texture and atmosphere; Scott's attention to detail and Vangelis' moody score lift Philip K. Dick's novel to new heights. Oh, and it still looks impossibly gorgeous. (*Jack Whiting*)

Director: Ridley Scott
 Cast: Harrison Ford, Rutger Hauer,
 Daryl Hannah, Sean Young
 Duration: 118 mins
 Origin: USA 2007
 Certificate: 15

When...

Sat 2 7.00



Second Best Exotic Marigold Hotel

Upon its 2012 release, *The Best Exotic Marigold Hotel* became a sleeper hit at the UK box office making it the fourth highest grossing film of that year (and caused mayhem at *The Rex*). So, unsurprisingly, we now have *The SECOND Best Exotic Marigold Hotel* which sees Sonny (Dev Patel) finding business tough in preparation of his imminent marriage to the love of his life, Sunaina (Tina Desai). He has his eye on an old closed down hotel now that his first has only a single remaining vacancy, posing a predicament for fresh arrivals Guy (Richard Gere) and Lavinia (Tamsin Greig). Evelyn and Douglas (Judi Dench and Bill Nighy) have now joined the Jaipur workforce, while Norman and Carol (Ronald Pickup and Diana Hardcastle) are negotiating the tricky waters of an exclusive relationship, while Madge (Celia Imrie) juggles two eligible and wealthy suitors. Perhaps the only one knowing all the answers is newly installed co-manager of the hotel, Muriel (Maggie Smith) the keeper of everyone's secrets. As the demands of a traditional Indian wedding threaten to engulf them all, an unexpected way forward presents itself. Delicious stuff, pure unbridled entertainment. Come and escape with us on the big screen.

Director: John Madden
 Cast: Judi Dench, Maggie Smith, Bill Nighy
 Duration: 122 mins
 Origin: UK/USA 2015
 Certificate: PG

When...

Sun	3, 10	6.00
Mon	11	2.00
Wed	13	2.00, 7.30
Thu	14	2.00



Cinderella

Disney appears to be on a roll with live-action updates of their beloved classics and this sugary adaptation is no exception. **Dumbo and Pinocchio are up next.**

Lily James (of *Downton Abbey*) is Cinders, finding herself in a Freudian nightmare when her mother dies and she gets a hateful stepmother and two awful stepsisters Drisella and Anastasia. A fairy godmother steps in (a dotty typecast Helena Bonham Carter looking delicious) and after the ball there's the glass slipper with all its brutally explicit conjugal symbolism. Richard Madden (of *Game of Thrones*) plays the prince: his court attire seems to include very tight and revealing trousers. (Directions to the Ball no doubt?)

It doesn't do anything particularly interesting with its material, but Kenneth Branagh applies a deft touch as director, refraining from the overuse of digital effects where possible. Unlike Alice in Wonderland, Maleficent, and Oz the Great and Powerful, Cinderella doesn't try to subvert the tone of these stories by going darker, or dipping its toes in Tolkien's pool, instead it aims the other way, being almost too faithful, too pristine – completely innocent and without irony – but still sumptuous all the same. (*research Jack Whiting*) Don't listen and don't miss.

Director: Kenneth Branagh
 Cast: Cate Blanchett, Lily James, Helena Bonham Carter, Hayley Atwell
 Duration: 113 mins
 Origin: USA 2015
 Certificate: U

When...

Mon 4	7.30	
Sat 9	2.00	Mon 25 7.30
Sat 23	2.00	Wed 27 2.00



A Little Chaos

French landscape gardening history is reinvented in Alan Rickman's period romance, played out in Louis XIV's Palace of Versailles.

Set in 1682, *A Little Chaos* re-imagines the creation of the Rockwork Grove, a unique element of the breathtaking gardens at the Palace of Versailles, where King Louis XIV's celebrated landscape designer, Andre Le Notre (Matthias Schoenaerts) is tasked with overseeing the creation of an outdoor ballroom as part of the Sun King's grand expansion plans.

Le Notre turns to talented outsider, Sabine De Barra (Kate Winslet) to bring a fresh perspective to the project and is initially unsettled by her free-thinking style, but slowly starts to appreciate the value of a little chaos in her methods. However, Sabine struggles with class barriers as she and Andre become romantically involved and her fight against patriarchy and sabotage tests her determination to its limits.

"The performances are excellent. Winslet manages emotional honesty within anachronistic confines, and Schoenaerts escapes with dignity." (*Guardian*)

"There is little screen chemistry between Winslet and Schoenaerts..."? (*Independent*)

"The film is powdered to the nines, with a wig count of *The Madness of King George* proportions and a lot of supporting cleavage." (*Telegraph*)

So come for the proportions and the cleavage.



Director: Alan Rickman
Cast: Alan Rickman, Kate Winslet, Matthias Schoenaerts, Helen McCrory, Stanley Tucci
Duration: 116 mins
Origin: UK 2015
Certificate: 12A

When...

Tue 5	2.00, 7.30
Wed 6	2.00, 7.30
Thur 7	2.00, 7.30



While We're Young

Noah Baumbach's *While We're Young* is a comedy of middle youth: the story of one man's midlife crisis, made more exquisitely horrible by his making a fool of himself, not with a younger woman, but a younger man. It is not a sexual relationship, but something more painfully intimate: a matter of self-esteem and social status.

Ben Stiller and Naomi Watts star as Josh and Cornelia, a childless New York married couple in their mid-forties. As their other friends all start having children, they gravitate toward a young hipster couple, Jamie (Adam Driver) and Darby (Amanda Seyfried). He's an aspiring documentary filmmaker, Josh is already a top doc-director. Soon the older couple begins enjoying the energy they feel hanging out with the younger generation, but eventually Josh begins to suspect his new best friend might not be as straightforward and trustworthy as he thought.

"Noah Baumbach's excruciatingly pleasurable portrait of Ben Stiller and Naomi Watts as a middle-aged couple who befriend dazzling twentysomethings would be unbearably sad if it weren't so funny." (*Guardian*)

"Director Noah Baumbach returns older, wiser and funnier with this insightful comedy of midlife manners and meltdown." (*Observer*) Midlifers and hipsters, don't miss. The rest of us can take the night off.

Director: Noah Baumbach
Cast: Ben Stiller, Naomi Watts
Duration: 97 mins
Origin: USA 2014
Certificate: 15



Force Majeure

A critical favourite and word-of-mouth sensation at last year's Cannes Festival, where it took the Jury Prize in *Un Certain Regard*, this wickedly funny and precisely observed psychodrama tells the story of a model Swedish family – handsome businessman Tomas, his willowy wife Ebba and their pre-teen children, on a skiing holiday in the French Alps.

The sun is shining and the slopes are spectacular but, during lunch at a mountainside restaurant, an avalanche turns everything upside down. With panicked diners fleeing in all directions, Ebba calls out for her husband as she tries to protect their children. Tomas, however, makes a decision that will shake the family's world to its core.

"A minor-key appraisal of modern marriage that manages to be funny, sad and, sadly, true. Just don't watch it on your anniversary." (*Total Film*)

"A brittle black comedy that has plenty to say about modern manhood and the human survival instinct." (*Empire*)

"Östlund (the director) invites us to look at ourselves honestly. He points out our inconsistencies, attempts to hold us to account for our worst hypocrisies. *Force Majeure* is a frightening film. It brushes off our surface layer to reach the icy truth underneath." (*Guardian*) Don't miss.

Director: Ruben Östlund
Cast: Johannes Kuhnke, Lisa Loven Kongsli
Duration: 119 mins
Origin: Sweden/France/Norway 2014
Certificate: 15

When...

Fri 8 7.30
Sat 9 7.00

When...

Mon 11 7.30
Sun 31 6.00



Everything Is Illuminated

This deliberately returns to The Rex, after three years absence. It tells a tale of hope set against historic despair. It is a surprising and beautifully judged tale about three unmatched characters thrown together on a journey. By the end they will have stolen each other's heart and yours.

Taken from Jonathan Safran Foer best-seller, it reads on screen like a true story. 'Jonfen' (Elijah) journeys from America in search of the woman he believes saved his grandfather's life during the Nazi massacre of a lost Ukrainian village. With only a creased photograph he sets off with the unlikely Alex (Eugene Hutz), his grandfather (Boris Leskin) and his "seeing-eye" bitch, 'Sammy Davis Jr-junior'. Alex's perplexed Ukrainian 'guide' and his butchery of spoken English set the tone for his beautifully judged narration. Much of the music is his too.

That's his real band playing at the station! Liev Schreiber's direction is unhurried and priceless, another happy surprise (look him up). He clearly understands that the best films come when the story is let out and the actors are freed from acting.

It is haunting, uplifting, heartbreaking and funny, and one of the best and favourite independent films at the Rex across ten years. It will stay with you.

Director: Liev Schreiber
Cast: Eugene Hutz, Elijah Wood, Boris Leskin
Duration: 105 mins
Origin: USA 2005
Certificate: 12A



Good Kill

Director Andrew Niccol, writer of The Truman Show, emphasises the callousness behind the soulless face of modern US drone warfare.

Ethan Hawke terrifically plays Major Tommy Egan, a former Air Force pilot who now remotely eliminates targets in Afghanistan from a military compound near Las Vegas. As the missiles fly, his conscience rattles and the cracks begin to show as his marriage slowly unravels and he begins to find solace at the bottom of the bottle.

The psychological drama that develops surrounding Egan and his family lends an added richness to what is already a deeply thought-provoking piece of filmmaking. Highlighting the increased used of 'video-game' kill tactics, Good Kill brilliantly questions the ethics of war that enables the ability to play God from lofty perches.

"A sophisticated, provocative and thoroughly modern war film that makes Clint Eastwood's recent American Sniper look slow to find its target." (*Telegraph*)

"It's nice to see the always compelling Hawke - here, tenser and more laconic than ever, in a role where his face's deep stress lines come into their own." (*Observer*) (research Chris Coetsee)
Don't miss.

Director: Andrew Niccol
Cast: Ethan Hawke, January Jones, Zoë Kravitz
Duration: 102 mins
Origin: USA 2014
Certificate: 15

When...

Tue 12

2.00, 7.30

When...

Thu 14

7.30



Director: Simon Curtis
 Cast: Helen Mirren, Ryan Reynolds, Daniel Brühl
 Duration: 109 mins
 Origin: USA 2015
 Certificate: 12A

Woman In Gold

This is the remarkable true story of one woman's journey to reclaim her heritage and seek justice for what happened to her family.

Sixty years after she fled Vienna during World War II, an elderly Jewish woman, Maria Altmann (Helen Mirren), starts her journey to retrieve family possessions seized by the Nazis, among them Klimt's famous painting 'Portrait of Adele Bloch-Bauer I'. Together with her inexperienced but plucky young lawyer Randy Schoenberg (Ryan Reynolds) she embarks upon a major battle which takes them all the way to the heart of the Austrian establishment and the U.S. Supreme Court, and forces her to confront difficult truths about the past.

"Helen Mirren and Ryan Reynolds – a partnership the world wasn't waiting for." (*Guardian*)

"Sadly, though, the film seems to think the mere presence of Mirren as a wisecracking widow will be enough for us to forgive its multitude of sins, especially making the gallery owners and their lawyers out to be heel-clicking Nazis in all but name and uniform." (*Telegraph*)

"Mirren is wonderful as the frank, spirited, adorable Maria, a shimmering bright spot in a not so dazzling film." (*LA Times*) It also shadows Judi Dench's *Philomena* in everything but name. But come for Helen.

When...

Fri 15	7.30		
Sat 16	7.00	Mon 18	2.00
Sun 17	6.00	Tue 19	2.00



The Spongebob Movie: Sponge Out of Water

After their first cinematic outing over a decade ago, SpongeBob SquarePants and the gang return for another aquatic odyssey.

The film is about a pirate (Antonio Banderas) who steals a magical book, which tells the story that unfolds on screen: Bikini Bottom is an undersea world where SpongeBob, an employee of the popular Krusty Krab fast-food joint, guards the secret recipe for its best burgers. A rival called Plankton, owner of the grisly restaurant the Chum Bucket, wants to steal the recipe, a scroll kept in a bottle, but it vanishes in some weird hole in the space-time continuum; a catastrophe seemingly triggered by the pirate's unauthorised reading of the magic book.

"The film moves like a pyjama case full of angry weasels, and finds ingenious ways to cram every scene with just one more loopy, disposable gag or slapstick thwack. It may not be the year's best animated film, but it's almost certainly the most." (*Telegraph*)

Like the Lego Movie, *Sponge out of Water* will appeal to adults because it is completely absurd, and the most fun you can have in a cinema or sober. (research Jack Whiting)

Bob's name is warning enough.

Directors: Paul Tibbitt, Mike Mitchell
 Cast: Tom Kenny, Antonio Banderas, Bill Fagerbakke
 Duration: 93 mins
 Origin: USA 2015
 Certificate: U

When...

Sat 16 2.00



The Dark Horse

Written and directed by James Napier Robertson, *The Dark Horse* is an inspiring true story based on the life of a charismatic, little-known New Zealand hero, Genesis Potini, played by Cliff Curtis (*Whale Rider*). Once a heralded chess champion, Genesis has spent the last few years in and out of mental institutions, battling with severe bipolar disorder. After being released from the psychiatric ward for one more chance at life, he moves in with Ariki, his gang-patched and distant brother, and Ariki's soon-to-be-patched teenage son, Mana.

Needing a purpose and a reason to get out of the gang house, Genesis joins a rough-as-guts local chess club, with the wild idea of coaching the motley crew of kids to the national chess championship. On the way, Gen must face the responsibility that comes with being a leader, navigate conflict within the gang world and try to survive the potentially devastating strife that breaks out between him and his brother over his nephew's future.

"The script could have done without the odd bout of heavy-handed chess symbolism ("a king for a king") but it's a solidly entertaining drama with an intriguingly unconventional lead." (*Guardian*) Don't miss.

Director: James Napier Robertson
 Cast: Cliff Curtis, James Rolleston, Kirk Torrance
 Duration: 125 mins
 Origin: New Zealand 2014
 Certificate: PG

When...

Mon 18 7.30

THE ODYSSEY

MAY FILMS: 01727 453088

DATE	FILM	TIME
1 FRI	ST ALBANS FILM FESTIVAL OPENING SECRET FILM	7.00
2 SAT	SPONGEBOB MOVIE	2.00
2 SAT	GOOD KILL	7.00
3 SUN	ST ALBANS FILM FESTIVAL CLOSING CEREMONY	7.00
4 MON	CINDERELLA	7.00
5 TUE	THE WATER DIVINER	7.30
6 WED	THE WATER DIVINER	2.00, 7.30
7 THU	SECOND BEST EXOTIC MARIGOLD HOTEL	7.30
8 FRI	BLADE RUNNER	7.30
9 SAT	CINDERELLA	2.00
9 SAT	JOHN WICK	7.00
10 SUN	CINDERELLA	1.30
10 SUN	FAR FROM THE MADDING CROWD (1967)	6.00
11 MON	A LITTLE CHAOS	7.30
12 TUE	A LITTLE CHAOS	7.30
13 WED	A LITTLE CHAOS	2.00, 7.30
14 THU	WHILE WE'RE YOUNG	7.30
15 FRI	FAST & FURIOUS 7	7.30
16 SAT	SPONGEBOB MOVIE	2.00
16 SAT	FAST & FURIOUS 7	7.00
17 SUN	A LITTLE CHAOS	1.30
17 SUN	THE FACE OF AN ANGEL	6.00
18 MON	STILL ALICE	7.30
19 TUE	WOMAN IN GOLD	7.30
20 WED	WOMAN IN GOLD	2.00, 7.30
21 THU	WOMAN IN GOLD	7.30
22 FRI	COBAIN: MONTAGE OF HECK	7.30
23 SAT	HOME	2.00
23 SAT	SELMA	7.00
24 SUN	THE SOUND OF MUSIC	4.00
25 MON	THE SHINING SPECIAL EVENT	4.00
26 TUE	SPONGEBOB MOVIE	2.00
26 TUE	SAMBA	7.30
27 WED	CINDERELLA	2.00
27 WED	SAMBA	7.30
28 THU	CINDERELLA	2.00
28 THU	CHILD 44	7.30
29 FRI	FAR FROM THE MADDING CROWD (2015)	7.30
30 SAT	ALADDIN	2.00
30 SAT	FAR FROM THE MADDING CROWD (2015)	7.00
31 SUN	FAR FROM THE MADDING CROWD (2015)	1.30
31 SUN	FAR FROM THE MADDING CROWD (2015)	6.00

COMING SOON REX

BACK BY DEMAND

A Little Chaos
Cinderella
Wild Tales
Woman in Gold

NEW RELEASES

Avengers: Age of Ultron
Far From The Madding Crowd
Child 44
Timbuktu



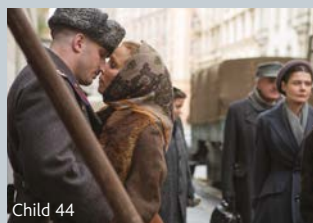
Avengers: Age of Ultron



Timbuktu



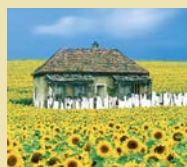
Far From The Madding Crowd



Child 44

THE REX

MAY FILMS:
01442 877759



DATE	FILM	TIME	PAGE
1 FRI	WHIPLASH	7.30	8
2 SAT	INSURGENT	2.00	8
2 SAT	BLADE RUNNER	7.00	9
3 SUN	THE SECOND BEST EXOTIC MARIGOLD HOTEL	6.00	9
4 MON	CINDERELLA	7.30	10
5 TUE	A LITTLE CHAOS	2.00, 7.30	11
6 WED	A LITTLE CHAOS	2.00, 7.30	11
7 THU	A LITTLE CHAOS	2.00, 7.30	11
8 FRI	WHILE WE'RE YOUNG	7.30	12
9 SAT	CINDERELLA	2.00	10
9 SAT	WHILE WE'RE YOUNG	7.00	12
10 SUN	THE SECOND BEST EXOTIC MARIGOLD HOTEL	6.00	9
11 MON	THE SECOND BEST EXOTIC MARIGOLD HOTEL	2.00	9
11 MON	FORCE MAJEURE	7.30	12
12 TUE	EVERYTHING IS ILLUMINATED TBC	2.00, 7.30	13
13 WED	THE SECOND BEST EXOTIC MARIGOLD HOTEL	2.00, 7.30	9
14 THU	THE SECOND BEST EXOTIC MARIGOLD HOTEL	2.00	9
14 THU	GOOD KILL	7.30	13
15 FRI	WOMAN IN GOLD	7.30	14
16 SAT	SPONGEBOB SQUAREPANTS	2.00	15
16 SAT	WOMAN IN GOLD	7.00	14
17 SUN	WOMAN IN GOLD	6.00	14
18 MON	WOMAN IN GOLD	2.00	14
18 MON	THE DARK HORSE	7.30	15
19 TUE	WOMAN IN GOLD	2.00	14
19 TUE	THE WATER DIVINER	7.30	18
20 WED	THE WATER DIVINER	2.00, 7.30	18
21 THU	FAR FROM THE MADDING CROWD (ORIGINAL)	2.00	19
21 THU	LOST RIVER	7.30	19
22 FRI	SAMBA	7.30	20
23 SAT	CINDERELLA	2.00	10
23 SAT	SAMBA	7.00	20
24 SUN	FAR FROM THE MADDING CROWD (ORIGINAL)	6.00	19
25 MON	CINDERELLA	7.30	10
26 TUE	INSURGENT	2.00	8
26 TUE	JAUJA	7.30	26
27 WED	CINDERELLA	2.00	10
27 WED	THE FACE OF AN ANGEL	7.30	21
28 THU	HOME	2.00	22
28 THU	JOHN WICK	7.30	23
29 FRI	FAST AND FURIOUS 7	7.30	24
30 SAT	FAST AND FURIOUS 7	2.00	24
30 SAT	COBAIN: MONTAGE OF HECK	7.00	24
31 SUN	FORCE MAJEURE	6.00	12



The Water Diviner

Russell Crowe's undeterred commitment to storytelling provides a steady pulse in his directorial debut.

Set four years after the Battle of Gallipoli, Australian farmer Joshua Connor (Crowe) travels to Turkey to seek out his three missing sons and return them to their homeland. Upon his arrival at an Istanbul hotel he meets the mysterious and ridiculously gorgeous manager Ayshe (Kurylenko) who finds it in herself to help him. As he desperately searches for the truth while struggling with his own inner demons, Connor must keep the faint glimmer of hope alive.

Beautifully shot by cinematographer Andrew Lesnie (The Lord of the Rings trilogy) each scene is a treat for the eyes, perfectly capturing a bloodied and bruised post-war landscape.

"Russell Crowe's first effort as a director provides four movies for the price of one." (*Times*)

"A postcard war melodrama illuminated by beautiful colours and sunshine-through-leaves lighting." (*Guardian*)

It would be easy to dismiss *The Water Diviner* as overly-melodramatic but look past the surface and there is a considerable amount of depth in what is a well-constructed and sturdy feature. (*research Chris Coetsee*) And the well-constructed and sturdy Russell Crowe, has made a good job of it.

Director: Russell Crowe
 Cast: Olga Kurylenko, Jai Courtney, Russell Crowe
 Duration: 111 mins
 Origin: Australia/Turkey/USA 2014
 Certificate: 15

When...

Tue 19 7.30
Wed 20 2.00, 7.30



Far From The Madding Crowd

While we wait for Thomas Vinterberg's imminent adaptation of *Far from the Madding Crowd*, here is the restored re-release of John Schlesinger's mighty 1967 version, superbly photographed by Nicholas Roeg.

Julie Christie plays Bathsheba Everdene, a country heiress who is loved by three men, all of different temperaments and representing contrasting ideas of masculinity. There is the solid, reliable Gabriel Oak (Alan Bates) the reserved landowner William Boldwood (Peter Finch) and the dashing swordsman Frank Troy (Terence Stamp). Convinced that she is the intellectual superior of all three, Bathsheba loses many early opportunities for lasting happiness. It is Finch, in particular, who endures agonies of jealousy and doubt as she strings him along.

"Christie carries the film with her own insouciant vulnerability. A classic." (*Guardian*)

"One of the most entrancing and elemental landscape films ever shot in these Isles." (*Time Out*)

"Splendidly lusty fare, its feet deep in the mud of the English countryside, its head in the lens-flared glare of a dreamy tragi-romantic sky." (*Observer*)

"Quality oozes from every pore." (*Times*) Beware: its every pore is 168 minutes long.

Director: John Schlesinger
 Cast: Julie Christie, Peter Finch, Alan Bates, Terence Stamp
 Duration: 170 mins
 Origin: USA 1967
 Certificate: U

When...

Thu 21 2.00
Sun 24 6.00



Lost River

Ryan Gosling has taken it upon himself to hide his lovely face behind the camera and become a filmmaker. This debut *Lost River*, might be a curious failure.

Christina Hendricks is a single mother behind on her rent payments who takes a job at a seedy nightclub run by banker/entrepreneur Dave (the consistently terrifying presence of Ben Mendelsohn).

Meanwhile her son Bones (Iain De Caestecker) rummages around for discarded copper to sell to scrap merchants. Here, he risks provoking the wrath of the local psychopath: Dr Who!

Perhaps, borrowing from Terrence Malick to David Lynch, *Lost River* is certainly a looker, and needs to be seen on the big screen. Alas, restraint it seems was not on his mind when writing. It is as though Gosling had his shots mapped out before any idea of story was sewn together. Ryan disagrees Jack, and I'm with him.

Every actor must want to try their hand at filmmaking, and with their experience at the hands of lessers on-set, you can see why, but Ryan, get your identity crisis sorted out first. Still, imitation is the sincerest form of flattery. (Ask Evesham? But as I am deaf in the flattery (and insult) dept, imitation equals no imagination, betrayal & theft.) (*research Jack Whiting*)

Ryan is not copying here. Come and see why the critics are tarts.

Director: Ryan Gosling
 Cast: Christina Hendricks, Saoirse Ronan, Iain De Caestecker
 Duration: 95 mins
 Origin: USA 2014
 Certificate: 15

When...

Thu 21 7.30



Samba

Duo Olivier Nakache and Éric Toledano, recognisable for their artistry behind esteemed Rex-favourite *The Intouchables*, return to co-direct this playful but firmly grounded story.

Also making a welcome reappearance is lead actor Omar Sy who's evergreen appeal helps to bring about some much needed lighter elements to an otherwise reserved character and low-beat tale. Having arrived from Senegal a decade earlier, Samba Cissé has spent his new life in France working a series of low-paid menial jobs, sending most of what little money he earns back to his mother. When he suddenly finds himself faced with deportation, voluntary immigration worker Alice (*Gainsbourg*) is assigned to his case. She is a burnt out senior executive, trying to find a new direction. As a powerful romance slowly blossoms between the two, they must come to terms with the ever-growing complications of their brief yet intimate encounter.

"A highly polished, widely appealing big-budget French movie." (*Variety*)

Interspersed with genuine laugh-out-loud moments, this is a film that stands strongly on its own two feet without getting wildly lost in a political sandstorm. It is here to be enjoyed. (research Chris Coetsee) Don't miss.

Directors: Olivier Nakache, Eric Toledano
Cast: Omar Sy, Charlotte Gainsbourg, Tahar Rahim
Duration: 120 mins
Origin: France 2014
Certificate: 15

When...

Fri 22 7.30
Sat 23 7.00



Jauja

Another month, another masterclass from an Argentinean director in a refreshing shake-up of the classic Western genre with some period drama thrown in for good measure.

Jauja, set in 1880s Argentina, stars Viggo Mortensen as cautious Danish army captain Gunnar Dinesen who has been posted to a wild and windy stretch of coastland inhabited by the mysterious and mostly-feared indigenous people. Accompanied by his fellow soldiers and his daughter, his concern is heightened when she, young Ingeborg (Viilbjørk Malling Agger) disappears along with one of the youthful squad members. Dinesen sets out in hot pursuit in what becomes one of the most original adventure tales in recent memory.

The performances from the cast merge wonderfully with Alonso's filmmaking, keeping you glued to the narrative as you linger and lurch, tiptoe then hop from one shot to the next. A wholly immersive experience.

"All in all, a quietly magical piece of cinema, a mind-bender of the subtlest kind." (*Observer*)

"Challengingly spellbinding." (*Empire*)

"For all its evocation of the 'classical' western, Jauja also, at moments, conjures a chilled-out Alejandro Jodorowsky." (*Sight and Sound*) (research Chris Coetsee) Must be seen on the big screen. Don't miss.

Director: Lisandro Alonso
Cast: Viggo Mortensen, Ghita Nørby, Viilbjørk Malling Agger
Duration: 108 mins
Origin: Argentina 2014
Certificate: 15

When...

Tue 26 7.30



The Face Of An Angel

Michael Winterbottom's latest feature follows a failed filmmaker (uh oh) and an American journalist as they investigate the murder of a British student.

Based upon the real-life murder of Meredith Kercher and the acquitted Amanda Knox, only the names and locations have been changed in what becomes an intriguing but muddled account. Having travelled to Siena to begin his research for a film on the case, Thomas (Brühl) embroils himself in the darker details surrounding the mystery, tormenting himself in the process while Cara Delevingne's debut performance as an English barmaid is both striking and charming and adds a refreshing note to an otherwise hanging sense of Gothic dread throughout.

Littered with perplexing dream sequences, the story lacks a solid sense of clarity and while it's certainly not without point, the non-conclusive reality of actual events may feel hauntingly similar. "A fascinating but perplexing film, which typifies its director's (phoney) offbeat approach to whatever subject he tackles." (*Independent*)

"The Face of an Angel ties itself up in some strange knots, but Michael Winterbottom conjures up a haunting gothic atmosphere in Siena." (*Time Out*) (research Chris Coetsee).

Winterbottom: why are the unreliable, indulgent and phoney, applauded so loudly by show-biz chatterers? Come and see.



Director: Michael Winterbottom
 Cast: Kate Beckinsale, Daniel Brühl, Cara Delevingne
 Duration: 101 mins
 Origin: Italy/Spain/UK 2015
 Certificate: 15

When...

Wed 27 7.30



Director: Tim Johnson
 Voices: Rihanna, Jim Parsons, Steve Martin
 Duration: 94 mins
 Origin: USA 2015
 Certificate: U

Home

There's an otherworldly sensation of déjà vu when watching Home. Probably because it is essentially a caffeinated, sherbet coated version of Lilo & Stitch.

Based on popular 2007 children's novel The True Meaning of Smekday, the story centres on Oh (voiced by Jim Parsons) a misfit alien whose friendly but pushy people, the Boov, led by the blustering Captain Smek (Steve Martin) plan to take over the Earth. (Lost already?) Oh ends up on the run from his own kind and forms an unlikely friendship with young human Tip (Rihanna who, unsurprisingly, is on most of its soundtrack) who is trying to find the mother (Jennifer Lopez, also on the soundtrack) she lost touch with during the Boov invasion. (You are now) This peculiar oddity sees DreamWorks animation at their lowest creatively. When their last was the wonderful How to Train Your Dragon 2, this seems all the more puzzling. Perhaps it is simply providing a stopgap for when the next Kung Fu Panda or Madagascar comes along to Hoover up parents' matinee wallets. (research Jack Whiting) Mustn't get too clever with kids films, neither in the making nor in critique. Is it fun? Yes. So come.

When...

Thu 28 2.00



John Wick

Keanu Reeves, with his solemn facial expressions and quiet demeanour, is a man with a dark past, who's effortless skill at dispatching goons is brought back into the spotlight.

When his 1969 Mustang is pinched (the price you pay for driving a rare model around a dodgy area it seems) and his adorable puppy, given to him as a gift by his dying wife, is murdered by thugs working for the Russian mob, John Wick, as you can imagine, gets pretty fed up.

The set up is so simple it's almost insulting, yet the plot is merely the framework in which to hang such wondrously executed sequences. Thanks to director Chad Stahelski's past work as a stunt coordinator, there's no holding back in Wick's world; no camera cut-aways or fussy, quick editing; every punch, every gunshot, every exit wound is beautifully framed in a ballet of blood and bullets. John Wick does with guns what The Raid (and its mind-boggling sequel) did with fists; make it all look effortlessly cool. Folks, you have it all wrong, this is the sort of b-movie thriller that Taken wishes it was. Step aside Liam Neeson, Neo's back.

(Jack Whiting)



Director: Chad Stahelski
Cast: Keanu Reeves, Ian McShane, Willem Dafoe
Duration: 101 mins
Origin: USA/Canada/China 2014
Certificate: 15

When...

Thu 28 7.30



Director: James Wan
 Cast: Vin Diesel, Dwayne Johnson,
 Paul Walker
 Duration: 137 mins
 Origin: USA 2015
 Certificate: 12A

When...

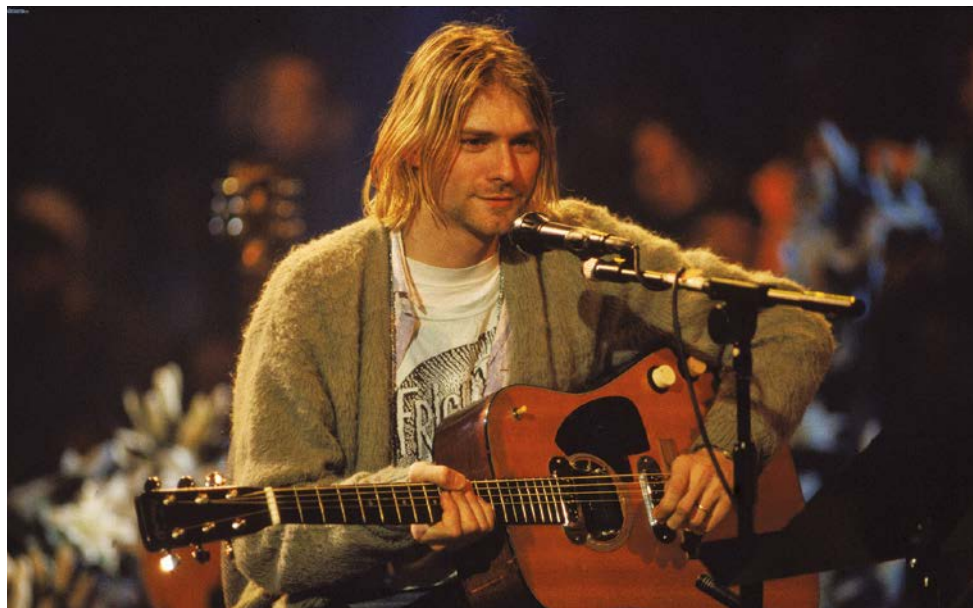
Fri 29 7.30
Sat 30 2.00

Fast and Furious 7

Can you believe it? This once modest (by today's standards) franchise has gathered considerable momentum, and now part 7 is one of the biggest box office hits on the planet.

Torretto (Vin Diesel) O'Connor (the late Paul Walker, who's character gets an affectionate, if slightly bizarre send off) and the rest of the muscle gang must face off against Jason Statham; a dangerous ex-Special Forces chap (is there no other form of previous employment in action movies?) who pops up now and then like the terminator to cause havoc. Cue cars parachuting out of planes, cars pirouetting around cliff edges, and cars literally jumping from one Dubai skyscraper to the next and the next. Over the top clearly isn't in their vocabulary, but the physics and physical defying stunts are part of its charm.

The real question is when will it all end? 6 had the tagline 'All roads lead to this', and now this one sports the rather catchy 'One last ride.' But with its overarching soap opera narrative, the end of the road is nowhere to be seen. If having hackneyed British villains is a tradition they should bring to inevitable sequels, may I suggest Jeremy Clarkson for the next one? (*Jack Whiting*)



Cobain: Montage Of Heck

The biggest and brightest emerging star of the 1990s grunge scene is given the full biographical treatment in Brett Morgen's superb rockumentary.

Although strewn with weighty contributions from the likes of Courtney Love and Krist Novoselic, a real treat is the eclectic mix of the Cobain's journal entries, drawings, home movies, scrawled notes and never-before-heard audio.

Without doubt the masterstroke comes in the ingenious animated segments that bring Kurt's scribbles to life, marvellously accompanied by orchestral renditions of Nirvana's most recognisable hits.

"A galvanising portrait of a life: not deified, not vilified, but blazingly vivid." (*Total Film*)

"The film emphasises Cobain's creativity as well as the work ethic that went alongside his well-chronicled drug use." (*Independent*)

A celebration of life rather than an inquest into his death, *Montage of Heck* chronicles the bitter-sweet blend of love and tragedy. It would have been so easy to produce "just another documentary". The difference here is the sensation that lingers as the final shot fades. You've lived and breathed it.

(research Chris Coetsee)

It is here by demand, not by an audience of fans in their forties, but by 16 year old ushers at the Rex and Odyssey! How did that happen..?



Director:	Brett Morgen
Cast:	Kurt Cobain, Courtney Love, Dave Grohl
Duration:	132 mins
Origin:	USA 2015
Certificate:	15

When...

Sat 30 7.00

Babies: The wrong end of the nappy

The Rex owes an apology to all the new parents we have just insulted and thrown out of the building with the bath water. As a result of my making fun of our baby matinees in April's programme some weird out-of-proportion slow-news weekend broke loose. It is true, I stuck out for the baby matinees from the off, in spite of because of complaints from the older audience (not all of them) and complaints from the staff about their complaints (all of them). Which is why 'May Contain Babies' Tuesday matinees lasted so long.

As for the nappies, which caused such a national stir. There were a few stray nappies, but nothing to cause Daily Mail freelancers to dash 'all this way' and spend two/three hours knocking at my door and hanging around the green to get the 'full story'.

I thought they were estate agents so didn't open it. Finally, when I went outside to confront them, they complained they had been sent 'all the way' from London by the Mail (a whole 25 minutes I pointed out). They got nothing they came for but wrote it up anyway. The Telegraph rang, as did the Times, Heart Radio and the Mail Online. I talked to none but each published something anyway. As I guessed nobody listens, I did talk to Three Counties Radio. The whole circus was finished off by Rod Liddle in the Sunday Times enjoying the notion: 'Any party that promises to put 'my child first' middle class mums in prison and confiscate their babies gets my vote'. Good clear thinking Rod, it's Ukup for you then.

The unwelcome congratulations I received and this ridiculous press coverage has made me accountable. The whole idea was to give new young parents a taste of normality. My own daughter has a new baby (and with a tank for a pram). The nappies and fierce new mothers caught the tabloid dribble, but the real reason for stopping baby matinees was spelt out and emphasised clearly.

We cannot show above 12A certificate films with new born babies present. This sly, nasty



"Oh no... I thought parents weren't supposed to be an embarrassment until you're 14...?"

little detail came from somebody threatening to jeopardise the Rex cinema licence. It alone was the straw.

I apologise to you appreciative new parents who took care of the Rex. We'll look into the certificate rules over the summer, and providing we can sort out the tanks and enjoy polite exchanges, will endeavour to reinstate May Contain Babies in the Autumn – at the Odyssey too.

Ps From this non-event came one decent header, in the Mail, uncharacteristically...
"Cinema manager throws his toys out of the pram..."