

THE-REX

M A G A Z I N E

ISSUE
101

BLANCANIEVES
AUGUST 2013...

"Unhesitatingly The Rex is the best cinema I have ever seen..."
(Sunday Times 2012)

"possibly Britain's most beautiful cinema..." (BBC)

AUGUST 2013 Issue 101
www.therexberkhamsted.com

01442 877759
Mon-Sat 10.30-6pm Sun 4.30-5.30pm

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SEAT PRICES (+ REX DONATION £1.00)	
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All matinees £5, £6.50, £10 (box) +1	

BOX OFFICE:	01442 877759
Mon to Sat	10.30 – 6.00
Sun	4.30 – 6.30

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

Some of the girls and boys you see at the Box Office and Bar:

Dayna Archer	Ellen Manners
Julia Childs	Liam Parker
Ally Clifton	Amberly Rose
Kitty Clucas	Georgia Rose
Nicola Darvell	Sid Sagar
Ashley Davis	Alex Smith
Romy Davis	Alex Stephenson
Alice Fishman	Liam Stephenson
Karina Gale	Tina Thorpe
Ollie Gower	Amy Tobin
Elizabeth Hannaway	Jordan Turner
Billie Hendry-Hughes	Bethanné Wallman
Natalie Jones	James Wallman
Abigail Kellett	Jack Whiting
Amelia Kellett	Olivia Wilson
Lydia Kellett	Roz Wilson
Tatjana LeBoff	Keymea Yazdanian
Emily Main	Yalda Yazdanian

Ushers:

Amy, Amy P, Annabel, Becca, Cameron, Ellen W, Ellie, Freya, Hannah, James, Katie, Lizzie, Luke, Meg, Patrick, Sophie, Zoe

Sally Rowbotham In charge
Alun Rees Chief projectionist (ret'd)
Jon Waugh Projectionist
Anna Shepherd Projectionist & writer
Martin Coffill Projectionist
Jacquie Rose Chief Admin
Oliver Hicks Best Boy (ret'd)
Simon Messenger Writer
Jack Whiting Writer
Jane Clucas & Lynn Hendry PR/Sales/FoH

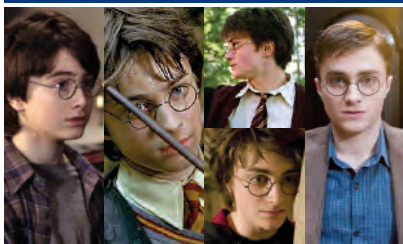
Andrew Dixon Resident Artist
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Paul Fullagar, Alan Clooney Advisors and Investors
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Demiurge Design Magazine Design 01296 668739
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James Hannaway ceo 01442 877999
Betty Patterson Company Secretary and THE ORIGINAL VISIONARY of The Rex.

The Rex

High Street (Three Close Lane) Berkhamsted HP4 2FG
www.therexberkhamsted.com

BEST IN AUGUST



Harry Potter

Harry P's first 5 films will celebrate our first five August Friday Matinees.

Fri 2/9/16/23/30 2.00. USA

FILMS OF THE MONTH



Wadja

A girl on a bike? Must be a dream...?

Unmissable.

Tue 13 7.30. Germany/Saudi Arabia 2013



Blancanieves (Snow White)

Black & White & Gorgeous Spanish Snow White.

Mon 19 7.30. Spain 2013



The Moo Man

One man's dedication to his 55 cows.

Tue 20 7.30. UK 2013

SWING GATE INVADES THE REX...



“**S**wing Gate School Nursery and reception classes (ages 3-5) came to look around the Rex. Mrs Hardwick is the child whisperer who kept them under control. They have been working on all things film related and are even working on their own story lines! Well their mothers will think they are amazing works of art!”

This trip was arranged by parents and teachers from Swing Gate. The Rex is happy to invite all other reception classes across Berkhamsted, to do the same. They came for a short film, an even shorter talk then a whizz around the whole building including the magical projection box... Call Jo Littlejohn (swing Gate mum and Rexite) on 877999.



tranquility on a rare July afternoon

THE GLORIOUS WILSONS AND 1920'S REX GIRLS...





AUGUST EVENINGS



Behind the Candelabra

Thu 1 7.30

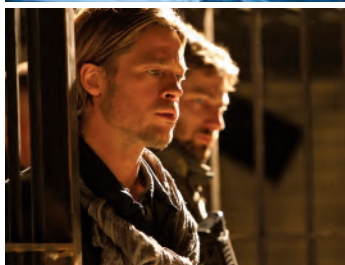
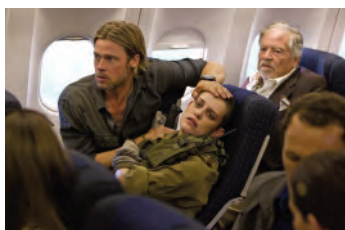
Audiences and critics alike are swooning over this (next-last or more-to-come?) Soderbergh film. Although, he has moved into HBO with this, so opening doors to television, should he decide to return from the farm.

Although he successfully sued the Daily Mirror in 1958 for suggesting he was homosexual, it was nevertheless a Hollywood open secret that Liberace was batting for the other side. Between 1976 and 1982 he was in a serious relationship with Scott Thorson, whom he 'promoted' to his bling-bling chauffeur. Soderbergh drew on his autobiography to make this HBO biopic. A convincing Douglas does his best big acting as Lee Liberace, but I wish Matt Damon would have tried a few Jason Bourne kicks to get out of it. He seems like a fish in the wrong Jacuzzi from the off. With Rob Lowe as Liberace's pinch-faced plastic surgeon, a supercilious Aykroyd as his agent and Debbie Reynolds as his sanctified mother, it is by turns funny, melodramatic, shocking, sad and overacted. That Soderbergh treats the source material with his usual piercing intelligence, is some compensation for those who can't be doing with all that camp stuff. "A magnificent guilt trip..." (*Telegraph*) Back by demand after selling out in July.



Director: Steven Soderbergh
Starring: Michael Douglas, Matt Damon, Dan Aykroyd, Debbie Reynolds
Certificate: 15
Duration: 118 mins
Origin: USA 2013
By: Entertainment One UK





Director: Marc Forster
Starring: Brad Pitt, James Badge Dale, Matthew Fox
Certificate: 15
Duration: 116 mins
Origin: Malta 2013
By: Paramount International Pictures

World War Zed

**Fri 2 7.30, Sat 3 7.00,
Sun 4 6.00**

Zombies! They're everywhere! And there are plenty more to be found in Marc Forster's incredibly tense but bloodless account of a world in the grip of an undead pandemic.

Based on the novel by zombie expert Max Brooks (zombie expert, Jack?) WWZed follows Brad Pitt's UN fixer Gerry Lane, a sort of political James Bond hopping around the globe to find the source of the plague and develop a cure; fending off his fair share of flesh eaters on the way.

After narrowly escaping an attack in Boston, Gerry relocates with his family to a secure aircraft carrier in the Atlantic that also holds the world's big wigs. But before he can catch a breather, Gerry's jetted off to South Korea, Jerusalem, and eventually, wait for it – Cardiff, to find out what the hell is going on.

Yes, lack of blood (but zombie purists, don't lose a limb over it) WWZed is relentlessly paced (these buggers are of the sprinting variety) and terrifyingly real. Which comes as a pleasant surprise in the light of its reportedly troubled production (including fallouts with Pitt and Forster, and a totally new ending). WWZed is a slickly made, Hollywood interpretation of a zombie apocalypse. You won't find any blood, but it has plenty of guts. (*research Jack Whiting*) oh dear, but might be better than you think?



We Steal Secrets: The Story of Wikileaks

Mon 5 7.30



Academy Award-winning director Alex Gibney (Mea Maxima Culpa, Enron and an upcoming Lance Armstrong documentary) turns his attention to one of recent history's most divisive figures, Julian Assange.

In 2006, the website wikileaks.org was launched by Australian internet activist Julian Assange, the site's mandate involved regularly publishing top-secret documents and covert information, often regarding governments and their respective military operations. The US government in particular.

This documentary provides a thorough examination of how Wikileaks and its head permeated the public psyche. It also details the controversy that followed the release of Bradley Manning's leaked files. Gibney is never more at home than when confronting the audiences assumptions about the subject of his work. "We steal secrets" is actually how a former CIA director describes the work of America's primary spooks.

"This thorough, engrossing film shows how idealistic Aussie hacker Julian Assange took on the might of the US, exposing their military and diplomatic misconduct, then allowed his own murky personal life to tarnish his credibility." (*TimeOut*)

Despite Gibney not personally interviewing Assange, his film feels like the inside story. (Assange's going rate for an interview was \$1million! Gibney never pays his subjects) (*research Anna Shepherd*) Julian Assange is no Jason Bourne, has little humility and there is something creepily unsettling about him. Don't miss.

Director: Alex Gibney
Certificate: 15
Duration: 130 mins
Origin: USA 2013
By: Universal Pictures (UK) Ltd

Populaire Tue 6 7.30

Director: Régis Roinsard
Starring: Romain Duris, Deborah François, Bérénice Bejo
Certificate: 12A
Duration: 111 mins
Origin: France 2013
By: Entertainment One UK

This sumptuous and chic French romantic comedy, starring Romain Duris and Déborah François sparkles with vintage Hollywood charm.

Set in the spring of 1958: 21 year-old Rose Pamphyle (Déborah François) lives with her grouchy widower father who runs the local village shop. Rose dreams of escaping her village and the inevitability of becoming a bored housewife.

Travelling to Lisieux in Normandy, Rose applies for a job as a secretary to insurance broker Louis Echard (Romain Duris). Despite the interview being a disaster; Rose reveals a real skill: typing at great speed. Louis, a former athlete, decides to train Rose to compete in a regional speed-typing competition; and then on to the world championships! "Pastel-coloured sets and suave costumes nail the period vibe, while our lead male revels in society's chauvinist attitudes with wit as sharp as his side-parting." (*Glasgow Film Fest*)

"The chemistry between the two leads is positively nuclear, and the film's effervescent, spot-on evocation of the period in its visual style and soundtrack is a joy to absorb." (*Screen Daily*)

This fine blend of Pygmalion, popular American cinema and Mad Men references is a winning combination. (*research Anna Shepherd*)

A winning synopsis from Ms Shepherd, describing possibly one of the easiest, most engaging, beautifully staged, and enjoyable films of our ninth year.

Back by demand, so don't dare miss.



Thérèse Desqueyroux

Wed 7 7.30



Audrey Tautou plays the title character Thérèse, created by François Mauriac in his 1927 Nobel prize winning novel.

His mysterious novel of dark provincial passion is gloriously brought to the screen by the late Claude Miller (who died last year at the age of 70). Sumptuously photographed to capture the full beauty of the pine-forested Landes area in Southwest France, Thérèse Desqueyroux is a beautifully realised drama of exquisite taste. Pre-war France, Thérèse is a free-spirit and a free-thinker whose family own half the forests around Bordeaux. In the tradition of old money, she is married off to the neighbouring landowner's son, Bernard (Gilles Lellouche). Wedded less for love than for convenience; Thérèse hopes marriage will help cure her of the thoughts racing around her head. Married life is easy at first; living in the lap of luxury in their pinewood estate. But Thérèse soon begins to feel increasingly stifled. Desperate to escape the confines of her indentured marriage, she is compelled to take drastic action. "Stifling like an airless house, Miller's adaptation of the period novel is a beautiful and measured epitaph." (*Empire*)

Audrey Tautou's central performance as Thérèse is utterly mesmerising, and unmissable. (*research Anna Shepherd*) Indeed it is, so don't miss her or Gilles Lallouche or Anaïs Demoustier or the whole largely unknown cast.

Director: Claude Miller
Starring: Audrey Tautou, Gilles Lellouche
Certificate: 12A
Duration: 110 mins
Origin: France 2013
By: Curzon Film World

The Stand Up Guys

Thu 8 7.30

Director: Fisher Stevens
Starring: Al Pacino, Alan Arkin, Christopher Walken
Certificate: 15
Duration: 95 mins
Origin: USA 2013
By: Entertainment Film Distributors

Crime Comedies with ageing actors seem to be all the rage, with Reds 2 and The Last Stand also 2013 releases, it's time for Val (Pacino) Hirsch (Arkin) and Doc (Walken) to take the reins. And parts are surprisingly good! Three old gang wise guys meet up after one has been in jail for 28 years, and have a night to remember. The catch is that Doc has been ordered by their old boss to kill his best friend Val before morning (In Bruges, anybody?). Brothels are visited, pharmacies are broken into for Viagra, women in distress are rescued, and by the morning Val seems resigned to his fate. Can his old friend really go through with it, or has one old dog seen his last day?

"Beautiful young women queue up to kiss, screw and flirt with our heroes (grand-daughters, nurses, prostitutes; they all want a piece of these wise guys.) Young men, meanwhile, get kicked in the nuts. It's a wet dream come true." (*Standard*)

"With a little bit of chutzpah and a fistful of Viagra, the tough guys of yesteryear can still come staggering back to make a decent movie" (*Guardian*)

Have these old boys seen their last days? (*research Will Newis*) No Will, these are the real coolest of cool wise guys, rarely if ever stud leads. They'll live forever.



The East Fri 9 7.30



The East, is a suspenseful and provocative espionage thriller from acclaimed writer-director Zal Batmanglij and Brit Marling. Brit also stars as former FBI agent Sarah Moss. She is starting a new career at an elite private intelligence firm that ruthlessly protects the interests of its A-list corporate clientele. Handpicked for a plum assignment by the company's head honcho, Sharon (Patricia Clarkson), Sarah goes deep undercover to infiltrate The East, an elusive, anarchist collective seeking revenge against big corporations guilty of covering up criminal activity. Determined, highly-trained and resourceful, Sarah soon ingratiates herself with the group, overcoming their initial suspicions and joining them on their next action or 'jam'. But living closely with the intensely committed members of The East, Sarah finds herself torn between her two worlds as she starts to 'connect' with anarchist Benji (Alexander Skarsgård). (didn't see that coming)

"When the movie's thriving on uncertainty, pinning Jane between two camps with equally sinister potential, it has a prickly ingenuity and promise. So it's gripping, for just under an hour." (*Telegraph*)

"A slick, grungy espionage thriller so in tune with the times it's almost uncanny." (*This Is London*)

"When it becomes sanctimonious, it'll make you fidgety and contrary. I left craving a Big Mac." (*Guardian*) Unless you're Clint Eastwood, it's best to stay on one side of the camera or other.

Director: Zal Batmanglij
Starring: Brit Marling, Ellen Page, Alexander Skarsgård, Toby Kebbell
Certificate: 15
Duration: 116 mins
Origin: USA 2013
By: Twentieth Century Fox

The Internship Sat 10 7.00

Director: Shawn Levy
Starring: Vince Vaughn, Owen Wilson, Rose Byrne
Certificate: 12A
Duration: 119 mins
Origin: USA 2013
By: Twentieth Century Fox

Billy (Vince Vaughn) and Nick (Owen Wilson) are salesmen whose careers have been torpedoed by the digital world. Trying to prove they are not obsolete, they defy the odds by talking their way into a coveted internship at Google, along with a battalion of brilliant college students. But, gaining entrance to this utopia is only half the battle. Now they must compete with a group of the nation's most elite, tech-savvy geniuses to prove that necessity really is the mother of re-invention.

"Error Code 404: Laughs Not Found." (*Guardian*)

"It's a testament to the duo's jazzy comic chemistry that they wring some laughs from this dated, frankly sinister premise." (*Time Out*)

"Getting explicit sponsorship from Google is one thing; acting as an extended ad for Silicon Valley's finest strip joint does seem a bit seedy." (*Observer*) 'a bit seedy'? It's Vince Vaughan in an advert for Google, seedy? Pity about the ever swapping sad-smiley face of Owen Wilson. He can steal it in these side-kick roles, but much better when he's out there in front à la *Midnight in Paris*. It could be a curiosity. Come and see?



The Great Gatsby

Sun 11 6.00



For this new adaptation of F. Scott Fitzgerald's bittersweet novel set during New York's gaudy jazz era, director Luhrmann has turned it into a pantomime with a 21st century soundtrack. Leonardo DiCaprio as the maverick new-money millionaire Jay Gatsby is always good, even in a bad movie, and Carey Mulligan is perfect as Daisy, his unobtainable love.

However, the critics have panned it, but who cares for them. What most of them missed is that there was no reason to remake a film from a book that was unfilmable in the first place. F-Scott Fitzgerald's Great-American novel is said to be an epic parable of excess and its consequences, but it is more than that, and that's the bit nobody can film. So too they say that shooting it in 3D was a real masterstroke.

Come to the Rex to see what all the fuss is about. Even in 2-D it is said to be the only setting to see it for 100 miles. So come five or ten and see for yourself.

Director: Baz Luhrmann
Starring: Leonardo DiCaprio, Carey Mulligan, Tobey Maguire, Joel Edgerton
Certificate: 12A
Duration: 143 mins
Origin: Australia/USA 2013
By: Warner Brothers

Like Someone In Love

Mon 12 7.30

Director: Abbas Kiarostami
Starring: Rin Takanashi, Tadashi Okuno
Certificate: 12A
Duration: 109 mins
Origin: France/Japan 2013
By: New Wave Films

Following Certified Copy, Abbas Kiarostami's latest enigmatic sketch, is a modern Tokyo story in which Akiko, a young woman, both fiancée and escort, is sent to the home of Takeshi, an ageing professor who accidentally assumes the mantle of grandfather. Meanwhile a grandmother is reduced to a series of plaintive voice-mail messages, and a neighbour talks of her thwarted desires to become a wife. (*Observer*)

What happens next is unclear; sleep? sex? soup? But the following morning, Takashi drives Akiko to university, where she bumps into her boyfriend Noriaki. For the sake of saving face, their relationship takes on yet another layer of simulation: Noriaki assumes his partner and her client are grandfather and granddaughter, and Takashi obligingly slips into the role. On they drive together, this surrogate family unit, until reality at last comes hurtling through the window.

"A hint of Hitchcock and numerous allusions to Ozu inform this film of surfaces and deceptions, which sees Kiarostami experimenting with audiovisual mismatches, mirror images and confined spaces." (*Empire*)
 "Kiarostami is a magician of cinema: the Iranian director's films riffle through your mind like card tricks, and just when you find yourself thoroughly bamboozled, you discover with a yelp of glee that the ace of hearts has been in your pocket all along." (*Telegraph*) It sounds remarkable, come and see.



Wadjda **Tue 13 7.30**

The first film ever to be entirely shot in Saudi Arabia by the country's first female director: Haifaa Al-Mansour. Everyday on her way to school, Wadjda passes a green bicycle which she dreams of one day owning. The need to prove she can beat her friend Abdullah in a bike race prompts 11 year old Wadjda to start saving money to buy the bike. She listens to western pop music, makes her own mix tapes and has her own business selling plaited friendship bracelets. Wadjda may sound like an ordinary girl, if somewhat rebellious, but she lives in a country where cinemas are banned and women are not allowed to drive or vote. The film charts these injustices faced by Saudi women. The travails of the child protagonist mirror those of a wider society. Wadjda spends as much time roaming the never-before-filmed streets of Riyadh as it does behind closed doors. Opening up a previously unseen world. "It is a film that's hopeful of the changes that a younger generation could bring." (S&S)

"Modest as it may look, this is boundary-pushing cinema in all the best ways, and what a thrill it is to hear those boundaries creak." (*Telegraph*) Brought to you in Berkhamsted (and other neighbouring towns!?) all the way from Saudi Arabia. For the sheer triumph of Al-Mansour's first feature this deserves to be seen. (Anna Shepherd) It is a great little film, beautifully told and acted, and would be wherever it was made. Don't miss.

Director: Haifaa Al-Mansour
Starring: Reem Abdullah, Waad Mohammed, Sultan Al Assaf
Certificate: PG
Duration: 98 mins
Origin: Germany/Saudi Arabia 2013
By: Soda Pictures

Breathe In

Wed 14 7.30

Director: Drake Doremus
Starring: Guy Pearce, Amy Ryan, Felicity Jones
Certificate: 15
Duration: 98 mins
Origin: USA 2013
By: Curzon Film World

A British exchange student (Felicity Jones) disrupts the lives of an upstate New York household.

Keith Reynolds (Guy Pearce) feels stuck in his job, teaching music at the local high school where his daughter Lauren is a pupil.

While his marriage appears to have fallen into routine; he begins to nostalgically view his youthful days as a struggling rock musician. Though his wife Megan is glad they've left that behind them.

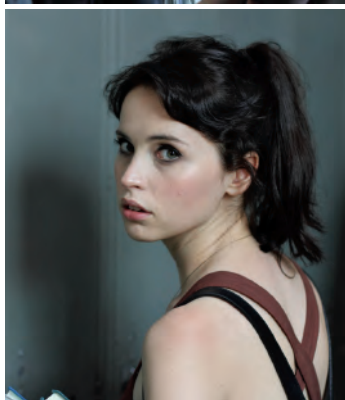
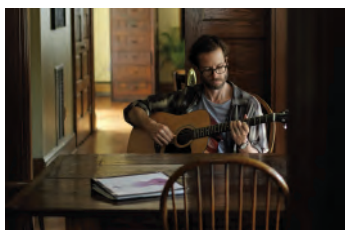
But when Megan decides to host British high school senior Sophie, an exchange student from England, it alters the Reynolds's home's equilibrium. Keith begins to see her as a fellow artist and outsider; finding the impulsive nature that he has so successfully repressed once again bubbling to the surface.

"It may not sound much, but it's a rare drama confident enough to offer a portrait of normality, then let things elegantly unravel." (*TotalFilm*)

"Emotionally engaging, enjoyable drama with a thoughtful script, composed direction and a pair of perfectly pitched performances from Felicity Jones and Guy Pearce." (*Evening Standard*)

Come and see Guy Pearce playing a lead role and also Kyle MacLachlan whose faces and talent don't appear on the big screen often enough.

(research Anna Shepherd) It wasn't well received or considered to be a good choice for opening the (still troubled) Edinburgh Film Festival, but don't let it put you off.



Magic Mike

Thu 15 7.30

Director:	Steven Soderbergh
Starring:	Matthew McConaughey, Channing Tatum
Certificate:	15
Duration:	110 mins
Origin:	USA 2012
By:	Lionsgate Films UK

Back the following summer to cheer the ladies? This Soderbergh movie takes place in the milieu of male strip-clubs in Tampa, Florida, but its interest is in the lives of these strippers. It's about masculinity as something to sell, something performed, and something that may not last forever. The title role is played by Channing Tatum, who started his career as a male stripper in Tampa, aged 19! This is based on his own experiences. Tatum has shown promise elsewhere, but it's under Soderbergh's guidance that he feels wholly energised and harnessed. Beyond the role's physical demands, he nails the dramatic ones, too: Mike's dream, and hope of escape, is to build highly uncomfortable-looking custom furniture out of junk!

"Soderbergh composes the movie with matter-of-fact care, giving us wide views of the choreographed routines without cutting too fast. He's made a classy film on a tacky subject, without dressing it up in ways to betray the setting, or apologise for what it's about."

(Telegraph)

"For all its social insightfulness, this isn't an inward-looking indie movie in a minor-key. Soderbergh is out to give audiences a good time, and he succeeds. Its trajectory may be predictable, but that doesn't stop Magic Mike being the best movie about dudes disrobing since *Brokeback Mountain*." *(Total Film)*

Worth the strip? You decide.





Director: Louis Leterrier
Starring: Jesse Eisenberg, Woody Harrelson, Morgan Freeman
Certificate: 12A
Duration: 115 mins
Origin: USA 2013
By: Entertainment One UK



Now You See Me

Fri 16 7.30, Sat 17 7.00

Now You See Me pits an elite FBI squad in a game of cat and mouse against The Four Horsemen, a team of four of the best magicians (illusionists!) in the world.

For their final act in Vegas, The Horsemen run a daring heist against a rich and corrupt (never) businessman and shower their ill gotten gains on their audience by sending one unsuspecting audience member to the Parisian bank to steal 30 million euros. This is investigated by the FBI who have no real idea other than magic for the stunt.

"Woody Harrelson secretes an oily charm. He's pretty much a stalwart these days, a pleasingly erratic, twitchy presence in an otherwise straight-laced world." (*LW Lies*)

"For a good stretch Now You See Me is engaging and eye-popping and the cast are clearly having a ball, even if our 'heroes' aren't as lovably roguish as, say Danny Ocean's mob, Eisenberg unleashes all his Social Network arrogance" (*Time Out*)

Bringing back the surprisingly good duo of Jesse Eisenberg and Woody Harrelson from *Zombieland*, not to mention Michael Caine and Morgan Freeman, the premise is promising, the cast excellent. Judge for yourself what seems to have divided critics and viewers alike. It has to be better than Burt Wonderstone at the least. (*research Will Newis*). No Will, Burt W had Alan Arkin, this has Jesse Eis, and it's no Prestige.

Roman Holiday

Sun 18 6.00



Audrey Hepburn's first starring role won her a Best Actress Oscar in 1954; illuminating her unique qualities from the start.

Hepburn plays Ann, bored princess (of an unnamed country) who is slowly being driven to despair by the toll of endless engagements.

While in the bustling city of Rome, Ann makes her escape for 24 hours of fun. She happens to meet American Journalist Joe Bradley (dashing handsome Gregory Peck). Recognising a hot news story, Joe pretends not to recognise the princess and offers to give her a guided tour of Rome.

Eddie Albert plays Joe's friend Irving, who is excellent as the bewildered and breezy photographer who surreptitiously snaps the unwitting princess on her tour.

"It's a beautiful snapshot into the past, both for the historic look of Rome and to witness the birth of the romantic comedy." (7MPictures)

"Timeless, exuberant classic, with Hepburn's naïve sense of fun and perfectly charming performance matched equally by Peck's lauche and charismatic worldly American." (Empire)

Filmed entirely in Rome, the location does rather dominate the movie; however, it turns the viewer into a willing tourist. (the location, it's beauty, it's sunshine and a time lost, is the whole reason for the film)

Come and escape to Italy for 2 hours of fun with real stars, Miss Hepburn and Mr Peck. (research Anna Shepherd)

Director: William Wyler
Starring: Gregory Peck, Audrey Hepburn
Certificate: U
Duration: 118 mins
Origin: UK/USA 1953
By: Park Circus Films

Blancanieves

Mon 19 7.30

Director: Pablo Berger
Starring: Macarena García, Maribel Verdú, Daniel Cacho
Certificate: 12A
Duration: 105 mins
Origin: Spain/France/Belgium 2013
By: Studiocanal

Spanish writer-director Pablo Berger situates his version of Snow White not in fantasyland but in the historical context of 1920s southern Spain.

Carmencita, is the newborn daughter of a celebrated matador. After being injured by a bull at a corrida, his pregnant flamenco singer/dancer wife goes into early labour from the shock, but does not survive the birth.

Heartbroken and badly injured, Villalta takes the nurse who attends him – Encarna (Maribel Verdu – Pan's Labyrinth, Y Tu Mamá También) as his carer and then his wife. Encarna plays the role of the evil stepmother who sends Carmencita away to live with her grandmother.

Circumstances lead Carmencita into the path of a circus troupe of six bullfighting dwarves (they mimic the matadors with a heifer rather than a bull).

"In Blancanieves, the pleasure resides as much in the layers upon layers of references to film history, to Spanish history, to fairytales, to Hollywood entertainment, as it does in the story of a little girl who loses everything" (Sight&Sound)

"It feels saturated with pleasure: it is extremely pleasurable to watch, and shows every sign of having been extremely pleasurable to make." (Guardian)

Blancanieves is a treasure, and with a 12A rating, this silent Spanish splendour is sure to be enjoyed by all. (Anna Shepherd)
 We should have run it for a week. Don't miss this one unforgettable outing.



The Moo Man

Tue 20 7.30



Could 2013's most heartbreaking story be between a man and his prize dairy cow?

As an advert for steering clear of supermarket milk, this is hard to beat. Stephen Hook, a wonderfully relaxed on-camera presence, makes for a charismatic master of ceremonies. A dairy farmer with a homemade retail operation selling 'raw' milk, who has managed to make his family farm pay, just about. Mr Hook may be the fantasy-farmer of townies' fantasies: ruminative, canny, genial and wistfully affectionate to his animals, but he puts a human, articulate face on the vexed, and vexing, subject of food production. A low-key pleasure.

Andy Heathcote's lo-fi observational documentary appears, from the outset, to be a piece of brazen advertorial for British dairy farmers, their exploitation by wholesalers and supermarket chains, and the gradual dwindling of their ancient trade. But there's something else; a kind of bovine romance (a bov-rom) between Hook and his prize cow, Ida. Indeed, this may be the first ever big screen weepie heavily featuring steaming manure.

A lovely little film which amounts to much more than perhaps intended.

An uplifting and refreshing documentary, it says much about our changing times and social responsibility.

It will be talked about for the rest of the year. So come and start it off.

Directors: Heike Bachelier, Andy Heathcote
Certificate: U
Duration: 98 mins
Origin: UK 2013
By: November Films Ltd

Summer In February

Wed 21 7.30

Director: Christopher Menaul
Starring: Dominic Cooper, Emily Browning, Dan Stevens, Hattie Morahan
Certificate: 15
Duration: 101 mins
Origin: UK 2013
By: Metrodome Distributors

Under the looming shadow of World War One, a group of free-spirited artists known as the Lamorna Group settled in west Cornwall. They included Alfred 'A. J.' Munnings, an unpleasant, brash and volatile man who painted horses, became president of the Royal Academy and thought he was better than Stubbs. Based on Jonathan Smith's novel and actual events, director Menaul's film focuses on the fateful love triangle between Munnings, the wealthy bohemian Florence Carter-Wood, and the Lamorna Estate's land agent, Gilbert Evans. The affair unsettled the laissez-faire dynamic of the artists' colony, and this captures both their passions and the social mores of the time.

With performances from Dominic Cooper, Emily Browning and Downton's Dan Stevens as the tormented lovers, the Cornish locations shine, evocatively shot using many of the original locations at Heligan and Helford.

So if you think Dominic Cooper should have stopped at The History Boys, then come for Cornwall, it at least, will soothe your soul.



Pitch Perfect

Thu 22 7.30



Arriving at her new college, Beca (Anna Kendrick) at first unable to fit in with any clique; finds herself cajoled into joining an a cappella group of all girl singers.

This highly amusing campus comedy follows the rivalry between two singing groups; one male, The Treblemakers, one female, The Bellas; to climb their way to the top of the cutthroat world of college a cappella.

Beginning their fight for victory from auditions at university; where one of The Treblemakers competes for Beca's affections; all the way to the International Championship Finals at the Lincoln Centre.

The numbers are taken seriously and are admirably choreographed, and the performances are sprightly. Rebel Wilson as a Tasmanian student who styles herself Fat Amy and Anna Kendrick as the lively freshman are excellent, and John Michael Higgins and Elizabeth Banks are a hilarious double act as the TV dance commentators. Though it suggests itself as 'Glee: The Movie', Pitch Perfect is, pleasingly much closer to 'Mean Girls: The Musical'. It has Mean Girls' catty wit and shrewdly observed characters.

Pitch Perfect goes to ruder, stranger places than Glee would ever dare, certainly among the best teen movies to come along in a while.

(Anna Shepherd) Back for another welcome bash here in the summer holidays.

Director: Jason Moore
Starring: Anna Kendrick, Brittany Snow, Rebel Wilson
Certificate: 12A
Duration: 112 mins
Origin: USA 2012
By: Universal Pictures (UK) Ltd

This Is The End

Fri 23 7.30

Director: Adam Goldberg
Starring: James Franco, Paul Rudd
Certificate: 15
Duration: 107 mins
Origin: USA 2013
By: Sony Pictures Releasing

Superbad, Knocked Up, Fanboys and Pineapple Express. They all lead to weed, dick jokes and nerdy humor.

Thus, This... What else would we expect from the fantastic screenwriting partnership of Seth Rogen and Evan Goldberg. We start off with Jay Baruchel, Seth's long time Canadian buddy coming to visit him in that city of angels. One joint leads to another and they eventually end up at a house party at James Franco's house with what seems like all of Hollywood's young elite, Rhianna, Emma Watson, Jason Eigel, Michael Cera and a few more, having the time of their lives! That is until the apocalypse comes. People are being lasered up to heaven in shiny blue beams, while our protagonists are not. Six are left in the house, including a brilliant Danny McBride, and with limited drugs, food and water, can they find a way to be beamed up to heaven, or are they doomed to be tormented by demons, cannibals and devils for all eternity? (*Let's hope so*)

"If you've ever wanted the Schadenfreude-y satisfaction of seeing a celebrity perish, This Is The End has something for you. Several times over." (*Total Film*)

Make of it what you will, there will always be a market for these films, and I for one will continue to love them. (*Will Newis*) Sadly Will, you and too many others. Please miss.



Pretty Woman

Sat 24 7.00



In Gary Marshall's silly take on *Pymalion*, she (Julia) discovers a sense of self worth, while he (Rick) discovers his own "core of emotional vulnerability". Well never mind all that. You know the story and all you 'Dirty Dancers' who asked for it, better be here to join in the classic chorus. It's back here by suggestion to brighten a Saturday night in August. Landing in Los Angeles for a week of tortuous negotiation, ruthless self-confident corporate tycoon Edward (Richard Gere) hires eccentric hooker Kit (Julia Roberts) as his disarming escort, wining and dining his opponents while grooming and schooling her in the finer points of a 'better' life. It was the 'sleeper' hit of 1989 and the film which at a stroke restored Richard Gere to the major league and made Julia into a mega-star. An unashamed and exploitative chick-flick, don't miss it on the big screen.

Director: Garry Marshall
Starring: Julia Roberts, Richard Gere
Certificate: 15
Duration: 120 mins
Origin: USA 1989
By: Buena Vista International (BVI)

The Bling Ring

Sun 25 6.00

Director: Sofia Coppola
Starring: Israel Broussard, Emma Watson
Certificate: 15
Duration: 90 mins
Origin: USA 2013
By: Studiocanal

Oscar filmmaker Sofia Coppola takes us inside the world of these teens, where their youthful naïveté and excitement is amplified by today's culture of celebrity and luxury brand obsession. The members of the Bling Ring introduce us to 'temptations that any teenager would find hard to resist.' My arse. And what starts out as 'youthful fun' spins out of control, revealing a sobering view of our modern culture "The film is surface-shallow, but only because the culture it reflects is arguably too superficial to withstand any kind of analysis.

Emma Watson is the most prolific member of the gang's cast, delivering a perfectly judged performance of brittle, shiny mindlessness

For all the superficiality of the subject, it looks beautiful – there's plenty of Coppola's favourite blues and greys on display. The burglaries themselves are shot almost as reportage by cinematographer Harris Savides, who died during filming." (*Uncut*)

"The film soon reveals itself to be grimly repetitious, simply showing these kids stealing, then partying, taking pictures of themselves and putting them on Facebook, over and over again, until they are caught." (*Standard*)

For a satire on today's celebrity culture, *The Bling Ring* is hard to beat. (*Guardian*) It is also empty and without merit or empathy. Simply, you will not like or care for these kids, and even less for those they rob. Keys under the mat, Paris?



Monsters University

Mon 26 7.30



The guys n' gals over at Pixar are starting to relax their originality in favour of falling back on older brands (including an upcoming *Nemo* sequel). But that doesn't mean this origin story can't stand on its own two legs.

Billy Crystal and John Goodman are warmly welcomed back as one eyed, green bogey Mike and walking blue carpet Sulley, respectively. We've jumped back a few years and they've swapped 9 to 5 for semesters and afterschool scare classes as they attempt to graduate, well, the clue is in the title. "Monsters University aces a two-part test: first, appealing to kids with gorgeous animation that teases out every pink hair on a beastly art student; then luring in parents with several knowing jokes about strumming your guitar on the quad or playing beer pong. Behind the gentleness lies a significant message of sticking up for honesty, along with the value of studying hard." (*Time Out*)

"It succeeds both as a broadening of the Monsters universe and as a film in its own right. Monsters University had a tough task, and it's passed with honours." (*Empire*)

Though with tuition fees the way they are at the moment, I imagine Mike and Sulley will be paying off their loans way into their Monsters Inc. careers. (*Jack Whiting*). It's on bank holiday Monday eve too, so bring the street.

Director: Dan Scanlon
Starring: Billy Crystal, John Goodman, Helen Mirren
Certificate: U
Duration: 110 mins
Origin: USA 2013
By: Walt Disney Int'l

Frances Ha

Tue 27 7.30, Wed 28 7.30

Director: Noah Baumbach
Starring: Greta Gerwig, Mickey Sumner, Adam Driver
Certificate: 15
Duration: 86 mins
Origin: USA 2013
By: Metrodome Distributors

Co-written by Director Noah Baumbach and leading actress Greta Gerwig, Frances Ha is a smart and witty tale of a young woman on the way to becoming herself, but who is just not there quite yet.

After Baumbach's breakout film, *The Squid and the Whale* in 2005; which kick-started Jesse Eisenberg on his journey to leading role success (see *Now You See Me*) he now sets the stage for Greta Gerwig.

In their second collaboration, the first being *Greenberg* in 2010, Gerwig continues to compel the audience in this sharply observed drama.

At the age of 27, Frances is both marginally employed and romantically unattached. Set in present day New York and in crisp black and white; Frances Ha has been called a modern day version of Woody Allen's 'Manhattan'. As New York's and Allen's contemporary; this is something Baumbach strives for: "Those movies Woody Allen made in black and white, they're so majestic, they bring this epic quality to essentially intimate stories".

It's worth recalling, Baumbach's casting of Gerwig in *Greenberg* was before Woody Allen cast her in last year's *To Rome With Love*.

Comfortably confident storytelling makes this witty and articulate account of friendship and the pains of adulthood well worthwhile watching.

(review *Anna Shepherd*) They say it's one not to miss, come and see.



Pacific Rim Thu 29 7.30



The concept of giant monsters battling giant robots isn't one that requires a huge amount of tactical thought, yet Guillermo del Toro infuses his behemoth of a movie with enthusiasm you won't find in Michael Bay comparatives.

The human race is locked in an epic struggle with the menacing kaiju – huge beasts that have risen quite literally from a crack in the bottom of the Pacific Ocean (think Godzilla's angry cousins, but bigger, and scarier). As they spew out from their inter-dimensional portal (don't ask) they begin to wreak havoc on the major cities around the world. The humans are not completely outgunned however. To combat such a threat they develop their own towering, mechanical monstrosities, dubbed jaegers (bombs?) to punch their ugly faces in.

Idris Elba, Charlie Hunnam and the particularly outstanding Rinko Kikuchi (Oscar-nommed in Babel) are part of the Pan Pacific Defence Corps (say that fast) made up of US, UK, China, Russia and Australia, all whom pilot the humongous hunks of metal.

The scraps, being the obvious focal points, are incredibly striking; with a wash of neon colours, rain soaked ruins and punching aplenty. Pacific Rim overflows with electric imagery and eccentric imagination. It thinks big, does big, and in doing so it never fails to astound. (*Jack Whiting*) In Guillermo's hands it is no less ridiculous, but he knows how to play it. Don't miss.

Director: Guillermo Toro
Starring: Idris Elba, Charlie Hunnam, Rinko Kikuchi
Certificate: 12A
Duration: 131 mins
Origin: USA 2013
By: Warner Brothers

The Wolverine Fri 30 7.30, Sat 31 7.00

Director: James Mangold
Starring: Hugh Jackman, Famke Janssen, Will Yun Lee, Tao Okamoto
Certificate: 12A
Duration: 126 mins
Origin: USA 2013
By: Twentieth Century Fox

The ever increasingly muscular Hugh Jackman returns as the titular anti-hero with the indestructible skeleton and incredibly short temper, to tear up the streets of Tokyo.

Now an ex X-Man, and having nightmares over the loss of Jean Grey (from previous X-outing), Wolverine is wondering the streets like a disillusioned hobo. His luck changes when a mysterious woman invites him to Japan at the request of her master whom he saved way, way back in WWII. You can probably smell a double-cross coming but that won't matter once he's fighting ninjas and samurai.

Adamantium meets Japanese steel. Reviews aren't out at the time of writing but it promises to bury the X-Men Origins debacle and start afresh. Opting for a mature story (Darren Aronofsky was originally attached) that'll give the Aussie more to chew on. Director James Mangold also has a great track record with Walk the Line, 3:10 to Yuma and... Knight and Day? Okay it isn't perfect but I believe the now weary looking franchise in safe hands. (*Jack Whiting*) Come and see, if only for Huge Jackman's muscles, mutton-chops and the inner peace of knowing he won't be singing.



COMING SOON

New releases

Kick-Ass
More Indie:
Silence
The next 3 Harry P's Sat
Mats

Back by demand

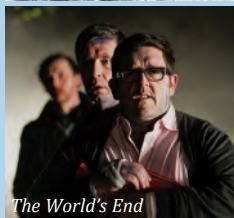
Behind The Candelabra
The Moo Man
Blancanieves
Populaire



Only God Forgives



The Lone Ranger



The World's End



Lovelace

AUGUST FILMS AT A GLANCE

Please check times carefully and watch out for early shows.

1	Thur	The Croods	2.00
1	Thur	Behind the Candelabra	7.30
2	Fri	Harry P & the Philosophers Stone	2.00
2	Fri	World War Z	7.30
3	Sat	Despicable Me 2	2.00
3	Sat	World War Z	7.00
4	Sun	World War Z	6.00
5	Mon	World War Z	2.00
5	Mon	The Story of WikiLeaks	7.30
6	Tue	Despicable Me 2	12.30
6	Tue	Populaire	7.30
7	Wed	Les Miserables	2.00
7	Wed	Therese Desqueyroux	7.30
8	Thur	Despicable Me 2	2.00
8	Thur	The Stand Up Guys	7.30
9	Fri	Harry P & the Chamber of Secrets	2.00
9	Fri	The East	7.30
10	Sat	Despicable Me 2	2.00
10	Sat	The Internship	7.00
11	Sun	The Great Gatsby	6.00
12	Mon	Chimpanzee	2.00
12	Mon	Like Someone in Love	7.30
13	Tue	The Internship	12.30
13	Tue	Wadjda	7.30
14	Wed	The Secret Garden	2.00
14	Wed	Breathe In	7.30
15	Thur	Renoir	2.00
15	Thur	Magic Mike	7.30
16	Fri	Harry P & the Prisoner of Azkaban	2.00
16	Fri	Now You See Me	7.30
17	Sat	Back to the Future	2.00
17	Sat	Now You See Me	7.00
18	Sun	Roman Holiday	6.00
19	Mon	Mamma Mia	2.00
19	Mon	Blancanieves	7.30
20	Tue	Chicken Run	12.30
20	Tue	The Moo Man	7.30
21	Wed	Summer In February	2.00, 7.30
22	Thur	Pitch Perfect	2.00, 7.30
23	Fri	Harry P & the Goblet of Fire	2.00
23	Fri	This Is The End	7.30
24	Sat	Monster's University	2.00
24	Sat	Pretty Woman	7.00
25	Sun	Bling Ring	6.00
26	Mon	Monsters University	7.30
27	Tue	Monsters University	12.30
27	Tue	Frances Ha	7.30
28	Wed	Despicable Me 2	2.00
28	Wed	Frances Ha	7.30
29	Thur	Monsters University	2.00
29	Thur	Pacific Rim	7.30
30	Fri	Harry P & the Order of the Phoenix	2.00
30	Fri	Wolverine	7.30
31	Sat	Monsters University	2.00
31	Sat	Wolverine	7.00



AUGUST MATINEES

ALL MATINEES: Balcony £5.00 • Table seats £6.50 • Royal Box seats £10.00
Matinee Warning: May contain babies

The Croods

Thu 1 2.00



Prehistoric shenanigans aplenty as DreamWorks animation mix their tried and tested Shrek formula with a strong Flintstones vibe, albeit with less wit. Ice Age fans apply here. Eep (Emma Stone) is your average teenager – curious, rebellious, desperately longing to leave the nest. But there's one crucial difference: She's living in prehistoric times. Most of her days are spent in a dark hollow, which Eep and her family only emerge from when her strict father Grug (Nicolas Cage) allows. But after their home is destroyed by continental drift, the brood known as the Croods must reluctantly hit the road. They're joined on their quest by Guy (Ryan Reynolds), a strapping young hunter who's invented this thing called fire and who sparks some amorous feelings in Eep.

"Its jokes, such as they are, depend on showing a family surviving major geological and climate changes in the prehistoric world and behaving like typical American suburbanites." (*Observer*) It looks pretty and will keep kids content, though adults will struggle to have a yabba-dabba-do time. (*Jack Whiting*) A fabulous story for the whole family. Oddly educational, with some accurate observations and well researched, but much more, it is very funny.

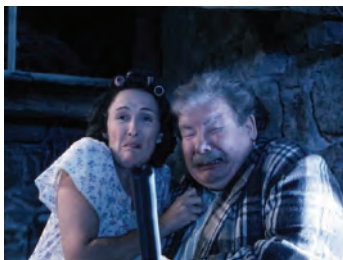
Directors: Chris Sanders, Kirk Micco
Starring: Ryan Reynolds, Catherine Keener, Emma Stone, Nicolas Cage
Certificate: U
Duration: 99 mins
Origin: USA 2013
By: Twentieth Century Fox

Harry Potter & The Philosopher's Stone

Fri 2 2.00

Director: Chris Columbus
Starring: Daniel Radcliffe, Emma Watson, Rupert Grint, Richard Griffiths
Certificate: PG
Duration: 152 mins
Origin: USA 2001
By: Warner Brothers

Harry lives in a cupboard under the stairs. But he's also a wizard with a rather evil enemy.



Despicable Me 2

Sat 3 2.00, Tue 6 12.30



More minion madness with the sequel to the extremely popular Despicable Me. We have our favourite ex-super villain Gru adjusting to his new family life and an honest way of living.

However it's never that simple. Gru is enlisted by the Anti-Villain League to uncover the culprit behind an Arctic Laboratory stolen with a giant magnet. Inside the lab is a secret chemical which turns living beings into evil killing robots, and this mutagen must not be used at any cost. More minions, more despicable(ness) good things come in small packages.

But Carell and Wiig make a splendid vocal pair – Nick and Nora Charles with ice guns and lipstick Tasers and the candy-colored 3-D (glorious Rex 2-D) animation is always enthralling.' (*Time Out*)

"The real stars of the Despicable Me series are, of course, Gru's sweetcorn-shaped minions (Kevin, Stuart et al). Infatigable, indestructible, impossible to keep a straight face around, they're deployed in full force here as gag Polyfills." (*Total Film*)

With Steve Carell, Russell Brand and Miranda Cosgrove, possibly the best children's film out this year, one to watch regardless of how much you loved the first one, the kids will thank you. (*Will Newis*). They just might this time, but you (big kids) will love it more.

Directors: Pierre Coffin, Chris Renaud
Starring: Steve Carell, Steve Coogan
Certificate: U
Duration: 98 mins
Origin: USA 2013
By: Universal Pictures (UK) Ltd

World War Z

Mon 5 2.00

Director: Marc Forster
Starring: Brad Pitt, James Badge Dale, Matthew Fox
Certificate: 15
Duration: 116 mins
Origin: Malta 2013
By: Paramount International Pictures

Zombies! They're everywhere! And there are plenty more to be found in Marc Forster's incredibly tense but bloodless account of a world in the grip of an undead pandemic.

Based on the novel by zombie expert Max Brooks (zombie expert, Jack?) WWZed follows Brad Pitt's UN fixer Gerry Lane, a sort of political James Bond hopping around the globe to find the source of the plague and develop a cure; fending off his fair share of flesh eaters on the way.

After narrowly escaping an attack in Boston, Gerry relocates with his family to a secure aircraft carrier in the Atlantic that also holds the world's big wigs. But before he can catch a breather, Gerry's jetted off to South Korea, Jerusalem, and eventually, wait for it – Cardiff, to find out what the hell is going on.

Yes, lack of blood (but zombie purists, don't lose a limb over it) WWZed is relentlessly paced (these buggers are of the sprinting variety) and terrifyingly real. Which comes as a pleasant surprise in the light of its reportedly troubled production (including fallouts with Pitt and Forster, and a totally new ending). WWZed is a slickly made, Hollywood interpretation of a zombie apocalypse. You won't find any blood, but it has plenty of guts. (*research Jack Whiting*) oh dear, but might be better than you think?



Les Misérables

Wed 7 2.00



'Lay Miz' is back at the Rex for the last-ish time, in its full Oz-Anglo-Yank whining glory on our sumptuous sound screen.

It has had doubting critics waxing such things as "Even as a non-believer in this kind of 'sung through' musical, I was battered into submission by this mesmeric, compelling film. For dignity and intelligence it's Hugh Jackman, with an unexpectedly vulnerable turn from grumpy old bear Russell Crowe..." (*PB Guardian*)

The stars have hyper-whinged on about the miracle of their full throated outbursts recorded live on set as though they'd never heard of Fred Astaire or Sinatra/Crosby/Celeste Holm's unforgettable live routines in *High Society*. So, why let a short cinematic memory get in the way of a good self-seeking review? Remember too The Royal Shakespeare Company (RSC) created it (directed by Trevor Nunn) at The Barbican in 1985 to scurvy reviews. They then took it, as is, to the West End where it went mad, servicing a million coach trips by an all-devouring Mammia audience (on the same coach years later). Cameron Macintosh jumped at it and the rest is... over acted, over warbled, over long and over here, with trillions in the bank for sweet Cameron Mac. Nevertheless, well loved all the same by kleenex audiences everywhere. Enjoy one final(?) summer blub.

Director: Tom Hooper
Starring: Russell Crowe, Anne Hathaway, Hugh Jackman
Certificate: 12A
Duration: 158 mins
Origin: USA 2013
By: Universal Pictures (UK) Ltd

Despicable Me 2

Thu 8 2.00, Sat 10 2.00

Directors: Pierre Coffin, Chris Renaud
Starring: Steve Carell, Steve Coogan
Certificate: U
Duration: 98 mins
Origin: USA 2013
By: Universal Pictures (UK) Ltd

More minion madness with the sequel to the extremely popular Despicable Me. We have our favourite ex-super villain Gru adjusting to his new family life and an honest way of living.

However it's never that simple. Gru is enlisted by the Anti-Villain League to uncover the culprit behind an Arctic Laboratory stolen with a giant magnet. Inside the lab is a secret chemical which turns living beings into evil killing robots, and this mutagen must not be used at any cost. More minions, more despicable(ness) good things come in small packages.

But Carell and Wiig make a splendid vocal pair – Nick and Nora Charles with ice guns and lipstick Tasers and the candy-colored 3-D (glorious Rex 2-D) animation is always enthralling.' (*Time Out*)

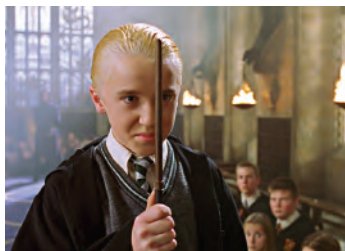
"The real stars of the Despicable Me series are, of course, Gru's sweetcorn-shaped minions (Kevin, Stuart et al). Infatigable, indestructible, impossible to keep a straight face around, they're deployed in full force here as gag Polyfills." (*Total Film*)

With Steve Carell, Russell Brand and Miranda Cosgrove, possibly the best children's film out this year, one to watch regardless of how much you loved the first one, the kids will thank you. (*Will Newis*). They just might this time, but you (big kids) will love it more.



Harry Potter & The Chamber Of Secrets

Fri 9 2.00



It's Harry's second year at Hogwarts... but Lord Voldemort has returned.

Director: Chris Columbus
Starring: John Cleese, Daniel Radcliffe, Emma Watson
Certificate: PG
Duration: 161 mins
Origin: USA 2002
By: Warner Brothers

Chimpanzee

Mon 12 2.00

Director: Mark Linfield, Alastair Fothergill
Certificate: U
Duration: 78 mins
Origin: USA 2002
By: Walt Disney Int'l

Disney family documentary about a young chimp who is separated from his troop and then adopted by an older male.

Chimpanzee is a throwback to Disney in the 1950s: a natural history film about a baby animal growing up despite external threats.

It's a live action Bambi, set among apes. The cinematography is glorious on a big screen and the footage of how primates nurture, feed and hunt is second to none. The film breaks new ground by showing the extent to which chimpanzees use tools. It doesn't flinch from depicting how territorial they are or how eagerly they feed off the flesh of monkeys.

One understandable concession to child audiences is that some of the more upsetting details such as a chimpanzee being eaten by a leopard are mentioned, but left off-screen. (That's a shame) Much credit must go to British directors Alastair Fothergill and Mark Linfield, not to mention their intrepid crew.

Fothergill made the stunning *African Cats* in 2010. *Chimpanzee* shows his pedigree.

"While Oscar's story is heart-warming, it feels like a better fit for a short film, even if the footage deserves the big-screen treatment." (*Time Out*) Well worth your family time.



The Internship

Tue 13 12.30



Billy (Vince Vaughn) and Nick (Owen Wilson) are salesmen whose careers have been torpedoed by the digital world. Trying to prove they are not obsolete, they defy the odds by talking their way into a coveted internship at Google, along with a battalion of brilliant college students. But, gaining entrance to this utopia is only half the battle. Now they must compete with a group of the nation's most elite, tech-savvy geniuses to prove that necessity really is the mother of re-invention.

"Error Code 404: Laughs Not Found." (*Guardian*)

"It's a testament to the duo's jazzy comic chemistry that they wring some laughs from this dated, frankly sinister premise." (*Time Out*)

"Getting explicit sponsorship from Google is one thing; acting as an extended ad for Silicon Valley's finest strip joint does seem a bit seedy." (*Observer*) 'a bit seedy'? It's Vince Vaughn in an advert for Google, seedy? Pity about the ever swapping sad-smiley face of Owen Wilson. He can steal it in these side-kick roles, but much better when he's out there in front à la *Midnight in Paris*. It could be a curiosity. Come and see?

Director: Shawn Levy
Starring: Vince Vaughn, Owen Wilson, Rose Byrne
Certificate: 12A
Duration: 119 mins
Origin: USA 2013
By: Twentieth Century Fox

The Secret Garden

Wed 14 2.00

Director: Agnieszka Holland
Starring: Maggie Smith, John Lynch
Certificate: U
Duration: 101 mins
Origin: USA 1993
By: Warner Brothers

This is one of the most enduring and magical children's stories of all time. One that carries all its weight into adulthood, with long memories of childhood and all the dreams, wishes and hopes we had and still have for our children. Orphaned by an earthquake, Mary travels from India to live in her uncle's large Yorkshire house. In the grounds a robin shows her a locked, walled garden which a local boy, Dickon teaches her to cultivate. One night, she discovers a young invalid, her cousin Colin, and visits him secretly. In spring she and Dickon take him to the garden despite his tantrums. Gradually Colin regains his strength. They send a message through the ether to his father. Beware: It's Hollywood, so let's hope they get it right. Don't let six year olds miss it. It might even inspire them to read it, then they will remember it forever. Don't miss.



Renoir Thu 15 2.00



Based on the biography "Le Tableau Amoureux," by Jacques Renoir, the film tells the story of the arrival of artist's model Andrée Heuschling (a compelling Christa Theret) to the estate of recently widowed Pierre-Auguste (Michel Bouquet) at Cagnes-sur-Mer. It is 1915 and France is war torn, his second son, the future celebrated Jean Renoir (Vincent Rottiers) has returned to convalesce from injuries sustained in battle. Each Renoir languishes in torpor and blocked inspiration. Enter fiery red-head Andrée to re-ignite their passions and become the muse to both father and son. A fabulous recipe for all hell to break loose, which according to critics; doesn't. "Not building to a compelling drama, leaves the film in a quiet, temperate realm that scarcely makes the pulse race." (*Hollywood Reporter*) Sounds perfect; what would Hollywood know about 'a quiet temperate realm'? "Interestingly, convicted art forger Guy Ribes (famous for his Renoir fakes!) was hired to paint live-action on set; it is indeed his hands convincingly painting in the Renoir style – a shame the film isn't quite so convincing." (*Telegraph*) "But, there are worse things than luxuriating in two-hours on the Côte d'Azur at the hands of Mark Ping Bing Lee's luscious cinematography." (*Time Out*) Come for that alone; or a film beautiful to watch, imbued with the light and characteristics of a Renoir masterpiece, without being one itself...

Director: Gilles Bourdos
Starring: Michel Bouquet, Christa Theret, Vincent Rottiers
Certificate: 12A
Duration: 111 mins
Origin: France 2012
By: Soda Pictures

Harry Potter & The Prisoner Of Azkaban Fri 16 2.00

Director: Alfonso Cuarón
Starring: Gary Oldman, Daniel Radcliffe, Rupert Grint, Emily Watson
Certificate: PG
Duration: 142 mins
Origin: USA 2004
By: Warner Brothers

Trouble is brewing in the wizarding world. Sirius Black has escaped prison and is coming after Harry.



Back To The Future

Sat 17 2.00



Computer generated blockbusters of recent times are making big box office, but you can't argue that good honest charm and wit is sorely missing. Thankfully this 25th Anniversary (2010) re-release of Back to the Future reminds us how it's done. Robert Zemeckis' timeless classic combines perfect pacing with forever remembered performances, by Fox and Lloyd.

Teenager Marty McFly gets stuck in 1955 thanks to a time-travelling DeLorean. It's eccentric inventor Doc Brown (the immortal Christopher Lloyd) must find a way to get Marty back to the future. The golden rule is never to interact with anyone, or the consequences could be that... Marty was never born!

"Marty's on a mission to make his dad George McFly (Glover) man up, avoid getting it on with his own mum and invent rock 'n' roll. And it's just as good as it was in 1985." (*Total Film*)

The fable's emotional hook stems from something most of us would have pondered at some point. What were our parents like in their youth? BTTF injects this with sci-fi fantasy and humour, forging a rollicking yarn. "Despite all the denim, the film hasn't dated that badly because it gazes lovingly backwards, to the era when America was the World's innocent good-guy." (*Tot Film*)

Old fans and first-timers over 10 will love it... (*JW*)

Director: Robert Zemeckis
Starring: Michael J Fox
Certificate: PG
Duration: 115 mins
Origin: USA 1985
By: Universal Pictures

Mamma Mia

Mon 19 2.00

Director: Phyllida Lloyd
Starring: Meryl Streep, Pierce Brosnan, Colin Firth, Christine Baranski, Julie Walters
Certificate: PG
Duration: 98 mins
Origin: UK, USA 2008
By: Universal Pictures (UK) Ltd

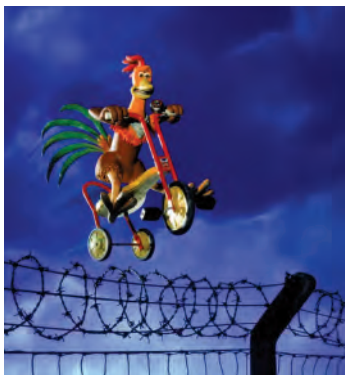
Back to tip you over the edge in August. The story's fluffy and the music's beige, but the actors go for it and throw themselves at the terrible script, making the whole a marginally less irritating affair. They're having far too much fun for their age. To add further insult... the sky is blue the whole time!

Come, be reminded how tepid it is, while dancing in the aisles on an August afternoon.



Chicken Run

Tue 20 12.30



"It's The Great Escape...with chickens" (*Empire*)

Chicken Run is a comedy escape drama with a touch of passion set in 1950's England on Mrs. Tweedy's sinister Yorks chicken farm, where most of the birds have resigned themselves to a short and uneventful life of producing eggs and ending up as the main course of someone's Sunday roast. Ginger the hen is determined to escape from the battery farm. She's held back by her meek comrades – until Rocky, a wisecracking Yankee rooster, shows up and inspires them to new heights. But can they escape before the deadly Chicken Pie Machine gets up and running?

'A sharp, witty movie that finally answers the age-old question: what do chickens do when you're not looking?' (*Mail*)

"Chicken Run not only proves that Aardman clay stop-frame animation can deliver a full-length feature with panache; it offers genuinely superb entertainment as well." (*Empire*)

"The sophisticated humor of Peter Lord and Nick Park's very funny comedy is more likely to strike a nerve with adults." (*MovieReport*)

Directors: Nick Park, Peter Lord
Voices: Mel Gibson, Julia Sawalha, Benjamin Whitrow, Miranda Richardson

Certificate: U
Duration: 84 mins
Origin: UK 2000
By: Twentieth Century Fox

Summer In February

Wed 21 2.00

Director: Christopher Menaul
Starring: Dominic Cooper, Emily Browning, Dan Stevens, Hattie Morahan
Certificate: 15
Duration: 101 mins
Origin: UK 2013
By: Metrodome Distributors

Under the looming shadow of World War One, a group of free-spirited artists known as the Lamorna Group settled in west Cornwall. They included Alfred 'A. J.' Munnings, an unpleasant, brash and volatile man who painted horses, became president of the Royal Academy and thought he was better than Stubbs. Based on Jonathan Smith's novel and actual events, director Menaul's film focuses on the fateful love triangle between Munnings, the wealthy bohemian Florence Carter-Wood, and the Lamorna Estate's land agent, Gilbert Evans. The affair unsettled the laissez-faire dynamic of the artists' colony, and this captures both their passions and the social mores of the time.

With performances from Dominic Cooper, Emily Browning and Downton's Dan Stevens as the tormented lovers, the Cornish locations shine, evocatively shot using many of the original locations at Heligan and Helford.

So if you think Dominic Cooper should have stopped at The History Boys, then come for Cornwall, it at least, will soothe your soul.



Pitch Perfect

Thu 22 2.00



Arriving at her new college, Beca (Anna Kendrick) at first unable to fit in with any clique; finds herself cajoled into joining an a cappella group of all girl singers.

This highly amusing campus comedy follows the rivalry between two singing groups; one male, The Treblemakers, one female, The Bellas; to climb their way to the top of the cutthroat world of college a cappella.

Beginning their fight for victory from auditions at university; where one of The Treblemakers competes for Beca's affections; all the way to the International Championship Finals at the Lincoln Centre.

The numbers are taken seriously and are admirably choreographed, and the performances are sprightly. Rebel Wilson as a Tasmanian student who styles herself Fat Amy and Anna Kendrick as the lively freshman are excellent, and John Michael Higgins and Elizabeth Banks are a hilarious double act as the TV dance commentators.

Though it suggests itself as 'Glee: The Movie', Pitch Perfect is, pleasingly much closer to 'Mean Girls: The Musical'. It has Mean Girls' catty wit and shrewdly observed characters.

Pitch Perfect goes to ruder, stranger places than Glee would ever dare, certainly among the best teen movies to come along in a while.

(*Anna Shepherd*) Back for another welcome bash here in the summer holidays.

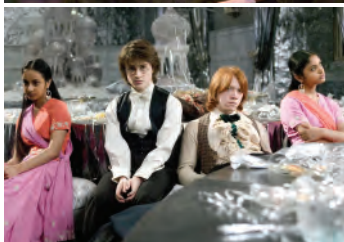
Director: Jason Moore
Starring: Anna Kendrick, Brittany Snow, Rebel Wilson
Certificate: 12A
Duration: 112 mins
Origin: USA 2012
By: Universal Pictures (UK) Ltd

Harry Potter & The Goblet Of Fire

Fri 23 2.00

Director: Mike Newell
Starring: Robbie Coltrane, Michael Gambon, Daniel Radcliffe, Emma Watson
Certificate: 12A
Duration: 157 mins
Origin: USA 2005
By: Warner Brothers

Harry enters the deadly Triwizard Tournament, along with Robert Pattinson.





Director: Dan Scanlon
Starring: Billy Crystal, John Goodman, Helen Mirren
Certificate: U
Duration: 110 mins
Origin: USA 2013
By: Warner Brothers



Monsters University

**Sat 24 2.00, Tue 27 12.30,
 Thu 29 2.00, Sat 31 2.00**

The guys n' gals over at Pixar are starting to relax their originality in favour of falling back on older brands (including an upcoming Nemo sequel). But that doesn't mean this origin story can't stand on its own two legs.

Billy Crystal and John Goodman are warmly welcomed back as one eyed, green bogey Mike and walking blue carpet Sulley, respectively. We've jumped back a few years and they've swapped 9 to 5 for semesters and afterschool scare classes as they attempt to graduate, well, the clue is in the title. "Monsters University aces a two-part test: first, appealing to kids with gorgeous animation that teases out every pink hair on a beastly art student; then luring in parents with several knowing jokes about strumming your guitar on the quad or playing beer pong. Behind the gentleness lies a significant message of sticking up for honesty, along with the value of studying hard."

(Time Out)

"It succeeds both as a broadening of the Monsters universe and as a film in its own right. Monsters University had a tough task, and it's passed with honours." (Empire)

Though with tuition fees the way they are at the moment, I imagine Mike and Sulley will be paying off their loans way into their Monsters Inc. careers. (Jack Whiting). It's on bank holiday Monday eve too, so bring the street.



Despicable Me 2

Wed 28 2.00



More minion madness with the sequel to the extremely popular Despicable Me. We have our favourite ex-super villain Gru adjusting to his new family life and an honest way of living.

However it's never that simple. Gru is enlisted by the Anti-Villain League to uncover the culprit behind an Arctic Laboratory stolen with a giant magnet. Inside the lab is a secret chemical which turns living beings into evil killing robots, and this mutagen must not be used at any cost. More minions, more despicable(ness) good things come in small packages.

But Carell and Wiig make a splendid vocal pair – Nick and Nora Charles with ice guns and lipstick Tasers and the candy-colored 3-D (glorious Rex 2-D) animation is always enthralling.' (*Time Out*)

"The real stars of the Despicable Me series are, of course, Gru's sweetcorn-shaped minions (Kevin, Stuart et al). Infatigable, indestructible, impossible to keep a straight face around, they're deployed in full force here as gag Polyfills." (*Total Film*)

With Steve Carell, Russell Brand and Miranda Cosgrove, possibly the best children's film out this year, one to watch regardless of how much you loved the first one, the kids will thank you. (*Will Newis*). They just might this time, but you (big kids) will love it more.

Directors: Pierre Coffin, Chris Renaud
Starring: Steve Carell, Steve Coogan
Certificate: U
Duration: 98 mins
Origin: USA 2013
By: Universal Pictures (UK) Ltd

Harry Potter & The Order Of The Phoenix

Fri 30 2.00

Director: David Yates
Starring: Helena Bonham Carter, Daniel Radcliffe, Emma Watson, Rupert Grint, Ralph Fiennes
Certificate: 12A
Duration: 138 mins
Origin: UK/USA 2013
By: Warner Brothers

The Ministry of Magic doesn't want to know about Voldemort. It's up to Harry to spark the rebellion against the growing dictatorship at Hogwarts.



LIGHT MY FIRE...



All the old Odeon titanic steelwork has been removed. As these pictures show, cutting down the industrial steel girders provided a vivid spectacle in sound and fire and sparks, with no special effects, CGI, green screen or stunt doubles. It is fantastic on two levels; the sheer excitement of being there to see it, and that work is earnestly going ahead after over a year of

planning, shocks and delays. On the outside too the new roof is under construction and the façade wall under repair and reconstruction, a face-lift, botox if you like, so when it's all done you can eye it from across the road and agree 'That's had some nice work done'. And beautiful it will be. Not quite decided what shade yet, too white might be too thin and open to getting grubby too soon.





Perhaps we should ask what you think...? There will be strong signage and some art deco lines to break up the wall's expanse, and of course it will beautifully lit.

We're all aware how personal colour is, and how very emotive. Therefore it should not be chosen lightly, and never by committee or personal preference. It has to work

as the right colour for the building and its surroundings. This is a long thought, being spontaneously mused about here and thrown open as I write, to artists/designers /anybody's input. It might even be fund raising opportunity, or a prize-winning event? Or somebody to blame...? The usual contact names are at the end of these pages.

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Barcelona, CineEurope Trade Show 2013



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Above is the artwork for the 12ft banner to go up on the scaffolding as soon as it's safe. The other two pictures are from Barcelona. One of the other best things about this 'job' is every international gathering/event/festival takes place in a sublime location. Pity I care little for sublime locations. This one is the CineEurope Trade Show in Barcelona (end of June). Anna Shepherd (seen with friends at Monsters Uni) Ed Mauger and I went to look for deals on new projection, sound, seating and clever systems. Our biggest surprise was how much this huge

insider industry knew about the tiny Rex and curiously, the Odyssey? So much so, big shots from big companies came to find us at the fair! A fantastic reception, we even got booted out of a much-invited party. A mere week later and we have started serious talks with one of the World's top manufacturers of the highest quality projection and sound. They came from Belgium last week to see the Rex and the Odyssey site. So, that reluctant trip to Barcelona, has already been worth the misery of leaving Berkhamsted. Even their popcorn stands looked pretty fazz...!

CONTACT:

Jill Taylor - Co-ordinator: jill.leslie1@btopenworld.com

James Hannaway - Personal email: hannaway07@btinternet.com

Websites: odysseypictures.co.uk therexberkhamsted.com

Rex admin line: 01442 877999

