

THE-REX

M A G A Z I N E

THÉRÈSE DESQUEYROUX
JULY 2013...

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

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

JULY 2013 Issue 100
www.therexberkhamsted.com

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

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Natalie Jones	James Wallman
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Amelia Kellett	Olivia Wilson
Lydia Kellett	Roz Wilson
Tatjana LeBoff	Keymea Yazdanian
Emily Main	Yalda Yazdanian

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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
Darren Flindall Maintenance
Paul Fullagar, Alan Clooney Advisors and Investors
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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 JULY

Two French, one Brit and one American Shakespeare...



Much Ado About Nothing

Mon 1 7.30/Sun 7 6.00. USA 2013



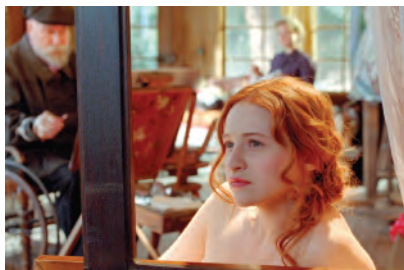
Summer In February

Tue 16 / Wed 17 7.30. UK 2013



Thérèse Desqueyroux

Mon 22 7.30. France 2013



Renoir

Mon 29 7.30. France 2012

LONDON CALLING...



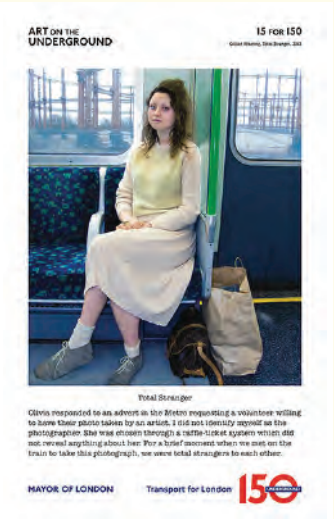
OLIVIA WILSON: THE FACE AT GLOUCESTER RD



I randomly emailed in to a competition I saw in the Metro newspaper asking for people who might be interested in being involved with an art project to celebrate 150 years of the London Underground. I have no idea why because I never enter anything but I did, and it turns out I was randomly picked a bit like the Rex raffle. Then, all I was told was to come in to London on a specific day and that we would be getting on the District line Eastbound and I was to sit on a particular seat in a certain carriage and 'the artist', they were never named so there was an air of mystery from the beginning, would get on a few stops later and sit opposite and take my photograph. It was all about a brief encounter of strangers. It all worked out, no members of the public got in the way and I didn't even realise it was Gillian Wearing until we went for tea later and that was that.
OW

What a fantastic thing to do. Livi has been at the Rex since she was tiny, or so it feels. Even throughout her gap across South America and college years, she seemed always here. So, Underground Schmunderground, Livi is our face! As is Oliver John Hicks', his became the darling face of the matinee dears; the cappuccino kid, who in mischief referred to our panting art-house films as 'foreign muck'. His dream of being a

soldier finally came true this year. After six gruelling months in hard-as-nails training for mortal combat, he stands guard dead still, at Buckingham Palace. That's him, a Grenadier, a speck in red tunic and busby at the sentry box (pic by: brother Will). The ethereal Shard snap from inside The Tower of London in May, was taken by another ex-ish Rex face: Elizabeth Hannaway. This is the kind of thing that gets nepotism a glorious bad name. My children (one blood) all on the same page...





J U L Y E V E N I N G S

Much Ado About Nothing **Mon 1** 7.30



Shakespeare's classic comedy is given a clever and contemporary make-over in Joss Whedon's latest film; shot in crisp black and white in just 12 days at the director's house and garden in California.

While young lovers Claudio and Hero plan their wedding, family members trick warring friends Beatrice and Benedick into falling for each other.

Whedon's casting of regular collaborator's, familiar with the play and each other from Shakespeare readings at his home, bring a huge joyful swiftness to this tale where 'the course of true love never did run smooth'.

Best known as the creator of Buffy the Vampire Slayer, and writer and director of last summer's Avengers Assemble; Comic-book idol, Whedon's whip crack wit proves a perfect fit for this biting love story of romantic conspiracies.

"A breezy but heartfelt Shakespeare update that should put a smile on the faces of Whedon fans, Bard worshippers and anyone in the mood for a sharp, sassy romance." (*Total Film*)

It's an interesting case of role reversal to compare previous Much Ado and Shakespeare stalwart Kenneth Branagh and his recent Marvel movie adaptation of Thor, to Whedon's 'Comic Book Guy' god, turned sharp and serious auteur. Whedon and Shakespeare are 'a perfect match'.

(research Anna Shepherd) At 107 minutes, Whedon's runs with Shakespeare's breathless banter without skipping a beat of essential narrative. Don't miss.

Director: Joss Whedon
Starring: Alexis Denisof, Amy Acker, Franz Kranz
Certificate: 12A
Duration: 107 mins
Origin: USA 2013
By: Kaleidoscope Films

Populaire **Tue 2** 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!

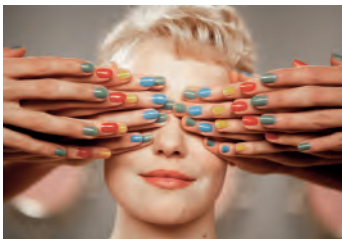
"Pastel-coloured sets and suave costumes nail the period vibe, while our lead male revels in society's chauvinist attitudes with wit as sharp as his side-parting."

(*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 most fulfilling, beautifully staged, and enjoyable films of our ninth year. So don't dare miss.



Fast & Furious 6

Wed 3 7.30



The sixth debacle in the testosterone fueled, steroid pumped petrolhead turned action franchise is perfectly ripped, fast and more furry (dice) than furious. With the sea of complaints to Warner Bros about the young throbbing over illegal glitzy street racing, the last few F&F films have been all about the action, with some dodgy driving and endless gear changes thrown in. After escaping from Agent Hobbs (Dwayne one face Rock) with a heist of millions, the film starts with our favourite crew of low-down crims enjoying their new wealth, thinking their life-of-crime and violence is behind them. This all changes when the gang leader Domonic Toretto (Vin Diesel) is visited by Hobbs, who has information concerning a crime syndicate including his long lost, thought dead girlfriend Lettie, who has no memory of her past life. With the thought of rekindling his romance with his lost love, and full pardons for the gang, who could resist. "For audiences who've signed up for the chase/stunt/joke/repeat formula of this franchise, Fast & Furious 6 does everything they ask." (*Little WL*) "The endless chases, stunts and fights are as spectacular and preposterous as the occasional verbal exchanges are sentimental and childish." (*Guardian*) Expect the expected, fast cars, crazy stunts, bald heads and steroids. Team muscle all the way. (*research Will Newis*) But it's on a Wednesday, so shouldn't be too fast...?

Director: Justin Lin
Starring: Vin Diesel, Paul Walker, Dwayne Johnson, Michelle Rodriguez
Certificate: 12A
Duration: 130 mins
Origin: USA 2013
By: Universal Pictures (UK) Ltd

Mud

Thu 4 7.30

Director: Jeff Nichols
Starring: Matthew McConaughey, Tye Sheridan, Sam Shepard, Michael Shannon, Reese Witherspoon
Certificate: 12A
Duration: 130 mins
Origin: USA 2013
By: Entertainment One UK

Back by demand, Mud is the latest American coming of age drama, which weaves together an elaborate plot of poverty, love, youth and violence. We follow the story of two teenagers living on the Mississippi river front with their parents. During an excursion to a nearby island they find Mud, a fugitive on the run from a violent syndicate, and hiding in an abandoned boat. He recruits the teens into his world of bloodshed and retribution, asking them to help locate his girlfriend Juniper, whom he can't contact directly. It isn't long before Juniper comes to town... followed by a string of bounty hunters. But there is much more to it than that.

"It's quite possibly the most beautiful film ever made about the Mississippi River, a bittersweet (but ultimately optimistic) ode to a dying way of life." (*L White L*) "The harshness and the beauty of this economically depressed setting, where nondescript target-strip malls share close quarters with mythically swampy backwoods, is vividly captured in gritty widescreen compositions." (*Time Out*) With hints of Huckleberry Finn and Great Expectations and with a cast including Matthew McConaughey, Reese Witherspoon and two great new-comer Mississippi swamp kids, we can see why Mud is getting an array of plaudits and accolades, long before the new award season is on its feet. Another real gem, heart-warming too, they say. Don't miss.





Director: Todd Phillips
Starring: Bradley Cooper, Zach Galifianakis, Ed Helms, Justin Bartha
Certificate: 15
Duration: 100 mins
Origin: USA 2013
By: Warner Brothers



The Hangover Part III

Fri 5 7.30

Director Todd Phillips and writer Craig Mazin have reached franchise nadir with the final part of this nauseating trilogy; bringing the wolf pack, rather clumsily, full circle.

It's nice to see everyone back at least. Bradley Cooper leads the way again as school teacher Phil; together with Stu (Ed Helms), Dough (Justin Bartha) and everyone's favourite bearded joker Zach Galifianakis as Alan.

"Alan has been "off his meds", you see, so his buddies stage an intervention, and off they go on another ill-fated road trip. En route, they're kidnapped by John Goodman, who wants them to find Mr Chow (Ken Jeong), the Chinese gangster of the previous movies. There are heists, abductions, car chases and other escapades less wacky than previous ones that, inevitably, end back in Las Vegas." (*Guardian*)

"Phillips inexplicably aims at making a standard action movie, complete with stock car chases and break-in scenes that only compound the sense of creative bankruptcy. Humour feels like an afterthought." (*Time Out*)

Nothing manages to draw a genuine guffaw; opting instead for consistent low blows in the hope that something, anything, will stick.

The existence of this Hangover, and its Bangkok predecessor are purely business as usual, proving yet again that, much like Rick Astley, the original was an accidental one hit wonder. (*Jack Whiting*)

Star Trek Into Darkness Sat 6 7.00



In 2009 JJ Abrams re-energised the sagging franchise with warp-speed precision; giving Trekkies a breezy re-introduction to Kirk and co. as well as roping in newbies who wouldn't know their Klingons from their Romulans. Everything is brought forward from the first, lens flare n'all. So with relationships firmly established, it's simply a case of upping the stakes. And boy are the stakes upped; largely in thanks to Benedict Cumberbatch's mysterious menace. A mission to save an indigenous planet from volcanic doom re-introduces us to Kirk (Chris Pine), Spock (Zachary Quinto) and the rest of the Enterprise at their snarky best. It's the arrival of Cumberbatch, however, that causes the crew to start taking things seriously. BFFs Kirk and Spock's bromance reaches fever pitch when things get tough, alas, let us not forget this is summer action fare, so CGI money shots aplenty and at breakneck pace that'll give you whiplash (where you not at the Rex). Into Darkness threatens to go boldly into darker territory as Cumberbatch chews every scene with Shakespearian authority, but it doesn't forget to evolve the charm and warmth of its blistering predecessor. Abrams has the monumental job of kick-starting the new Star Wars trilogy, and judging by this he'll have the full force on his side. (*Jack Whiting*) It shows, when a director is not a fan, the movie boldly works. Bring the street.

Director: J.J. Abrams
Starring: Zachary Quinto, Benedict Cumberbatch, Chris Pine
Certificate: 12A
Duration: 132 mins
Origin: USA 2013
By: Paramount International Pictures

Much Ado About Nothing Sun 7 6.00

Director: Joss Whedon
Starring: Alexis Denisof, Amy Acker, Franz Kranz
Certificate: 12A
Duration: 107 mins
Origin: USA 2013
By: Kaleidoscope Films

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Something In The Air

Mon 8 7.30



Olivier Assayas's latest offering – the moving and honest, **Something in the Air** (aka *Après Mai*), is a semi-autobiographical picture about the lingering aftermath of the May 1968 demonstrations among young Parisian students.

The film opens in 1971, Gilles (whom we assume is Assayas's cinematic alter ego) is a handsome 17-year-old finishing his last year at a suburban Paris Lycée. Preparing for art school, Gilles becomes deeply involved in the counterculture of the time. He takes part in hair-splitting debates and violent demonstrations. Along the way, we are introduced to his friends, lovers, and comrades, who witness the gradual evolution of their hopes and values as they inevitably, begin to grow up. The film is often extremely funny. An example is when Gilles helps his liberal father in the lucrative task of adapting Maigret for French TV, constantly faced with Gilles's withering comments about engaging in such hackwork.

"It brings back a crucial part of the last century, touches on experiences we've all had at some time and is performed with delicacy, sincerity and conviction by a splendid young cast." (*Observer*)

"A coming-of-age drama which boasts delicious camerawork, a perfect soundtrack and fascinating insights into the importance of cinema." (*Standard*) 'LA LUTTE CONTINUE!' (research Anna Shepherd). A journey and beautifully observed, with a pretty good soundtrack. So come.

Director: Olivier Assayas
Starring: Clément Métayer, Lola Créton, Felix Armand, Carole Combes
Certificate: 15
Duration: 122 mins
Origin: France 2013
By: Curzon Film World

A Hijacking

Tue 9 7.30

Director: Tobias Lindholm
Starring: Johan Philip Asbæk, Søren Malling, Dar Salim
Certificate: 15
Duration: 103 mins
Origin: Denmark 2013
By: Arrow Films

A Hijacking is the latest from the magic pen of Tobias Lindholm, the man responsible for *The Hunt* and *Borgen*. It is to many, a Danish approach to *Argo*. We follow the story of a Danish ship captured in the Indian Ocean by Somali pirates and how the ship's cook is forced to be the sole link to the shipping line's CEO in Copenhagen. In a cynical game of life and death with the crew's future on the line, a psychological drama unfolds with the relationship fraying between the increasingly traumatised cook, Mikkelland the pirates.

"As weeks turn into months, Lindholm portrays well the sweaty claustrophobia on board the ship and the tension at home." (*Time Out*)

"But the genius of the film is that only half of it takes place at sea, while the rest plays out in the clinical head office of the shipping company, thousands of miles away in Denmark" (*Independent*) "As the hijacking drags on for months, Mikkell endures the powder-keg unease which is made no more comfortable by the language barrier which separates him from his AK 47-toting captors." (*Little WL*)

Thoroughly rooted in the no-nonsense Danish approach to film making, we have a truly sober, albeit nerve-racking and memorable cat and mouse thriller. (review Will Newis).

Hell at times, it's that good. Not to be missed; this last screening in July.



The Big Wedding

Wed 10 7.30



Back by overwhelmingly ridiculous demand. A fine director, a fine cast, the formula should be there for a relatively pain free film. De Niro plays Don, who has been divorced from his wife Ellie (Diane Keaton) for years, and is now with Bebe (Susan Sarandon) Ellie's oldest best friend. They all get together when their adopted Columbian child Alejandro (Ben Barnes) is about to get married to Missy (Amanda Seyfried) uh oh! Alejandro's biological mother, the very traditional Madonna (Patricia Rae) is to attend the wedding. She doesn't know the grooms parents are divorced. It is time for the divorced couple to pretend once more to be a couple. What fun. (DeNiro and comedy: always worth the ridiculous spectacle?) "The Big Wedding is unabashed and unashamed, though with its cast of top-tier talent, it should be" (*LA Times*) "There's not a bad performance in this movie. De Niro, Keaton and Sarandon are particularly good, what a surprise. But it feels as if all the guests are wearing ID tags overdoing their one plot-point." (*Chicago Times*) A great opportunity to try our new wine list? and at 89 minutes there's not too long to wait until the credits. (*research Will Newis*) Hollywooded from the original French: *Mon Frère se Marie* (2006) Did we miss it? We'll find it to make up for this.

Director: Justin Zackham
Starring: Robert De Niro, Dianne Keaton, Amanda Seyfried
Certificate: 15
Duration: 89 mins
Origin: USA 2013
By: Lionsgate Films UK

A Field In England

Thu 11 7.30

Director: Ben Wheatley
Starring: Julian Barrat, Michael Smiley, Reece Shearsmith
Certificate: 15
Duration: 90 mins
Origin: UK 2013
By: Picturehouse Ent. Ltd.

A black and white, no budget British film with a Civil War setting; A Field in England is one bonkers odyssey.

It is also yet another utterly intriguing, genre-bending project from Ben Wheatley.

Written by his wife, Amy Jump, who worked together on *Kill List* and last year's equally bonkers *Sightseers*. *A Field in England* sets the tone for a 'psychedelic horror'.

"A small group of deserters flee from a raging battle through an overgrown field when they are captured. O'Neil (Michael Smiley), an alchemist, forces the group (including League of Gentleman's Reece Shearsmith and one half of *The Mighty Boosh*, Julian Barratt) to aid him in his search to find a buried treasure. Crossing a vast mushroom circle, which provides their first meal, the group quickly descend into a chaos of arguments, fighting and paranoia, and, as it becomes clear that the treasure might be something other than gold, they slowly become victim to the terrifying energies trapped inside the field." (*Film4*)

"If you only see one black and white horror film about 17th-century deserters and alchemists this year, this should be it." (*Independent*)

Wheatley continues to defy expectations. It would be a sin to keep him from playing with a bigger budget in future. (*Jack Whiting*) No Jack, it would be a sin to take him out of his field.





Behind the Candelabra

**Fri 12 7.30, Sat 13 7.00,
Sun 14 6.00**

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 battling 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 tricks to get out. He is 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 gilt trip..." (*Telegraph*) You decide.



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



Paris Manhattan

Mon 15 7.30



A Woody Allen obsessed Parisienne (Alice Taglioni), fronts this witty French romantic comedy.

In homage to Allen's 'Play It Again, Sam' in which he plays a lonely critic who takes romantic advice from the late Humphrey Bogart. Alice (a lonely pharmacist) has imaginary dialogues with a larger than life-size Woody Allen poster in her Paris apartment, to which he responds with lines of wisdom drawn from his movies.

After seeing Hannah and Her Sisters for the first time in her teens, Alice forms a connection. Due to Allen's prolific work-rate; the two have maintained an annual "relationship" ever since.

Working in her fusspot father's pharmacy; he constantly worries she will never find a good husband. Alice often dispenses DVDs to her customers along with medicines. On her shelves are the complete works of Woody Allen, alongside many of his influences such as Ernst Lubitsch.

Circumstances bring her together with an inventive security alarm installer, Victor.

But Alice's mind is filled with past disappointments and film-fuelled expectations. Each Allen inspired, threaten her chances to win him.

With an unexpected cameo from Woody himself, this neat and charming film is sure to put a smile on your face. (*review Anna Shepherd*) Apart from all that, it is French and it's Monday, so don't miss.

Director: Sophie Lellouche
Starring: Alice Taglioni, Patrick Bruel, Marine Delterme
Certificate: 15
Duration: 77 mins
Origin: France 2012
By: Cinefile

Summer In February

Tue 16 7.30, Wed 17 7.30

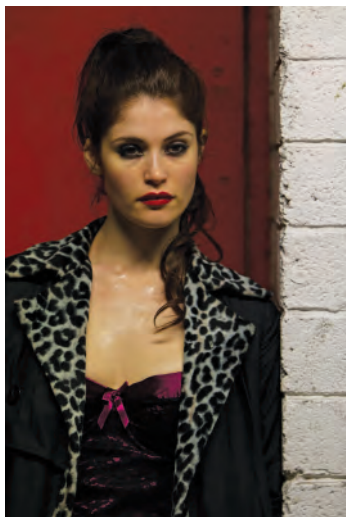
Director: Christopher Menaul
Starring: Dominic Cooper, Emily Browning, Dan Stevens, Hattie Morahan
Certificate: 15
Duration: 101 mins
Origin: UK 2013
By: Metrodome Distributors

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.





Director: Neil Jordan
Starring: Daniel Mays, Sam Riley, Saoirse Ronan, Gemma Arterton
Certificate: 15
Duration: 118 mins
Origin: UK/USA/Ireland 2013
By: Studiocanal



Byzantium Thu 18 7.30

Adapted from her own 2008 National Theatre play *A Vampire Story*; Scriptwriter Moira Buffini (Jane Eyre/Tamara Drewe) and Director Neil Jordan, breathe life into this modern-day vampire tale.

Gemma Arterton and Saoirse Ronan excel as Clara and Eleanor; a damaged mother and daughter. After narrowly fleeing vengeful assailants, they escape to an eerie seaside town; Hastings.

Ruthless and beautiful, Clara uses her considerable charms to seduce the feckless Noel (Daniel Mays). He offers them refuge at 'Byzantium' his run-down guesthouse. Bewitched by her piano playing at the hotel restaurant; Eleanor is befriended by waiter, Frank (Landry Jones). But her compulsion to tell him the truth about her and her mum's lethal secret: they were born 200 years ago and survive on human blood, gets them into more bloody trouble.

"Jordan has crafted a sophisticated Gothic narrative pitched between generic fantasy and more horrific realities." (*LW Lies*)

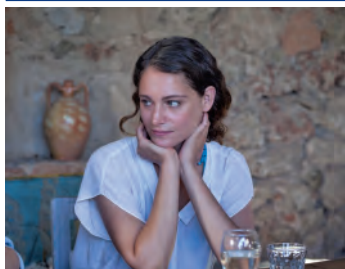
"A haunting, touching and visually sublime reinvention of undead mythology." (*Radio Times*) I say, steady on Radio Times

A worthwhile addition to the vampire genre; with an added touch of Angela Carter-esque feminism, with a great final twist. (review Anna Shepherd)
 Buffini's script and Sean Bobbitt's moody cinematography, add forceful weight to innocent Hastings. The Byzantium neon was built on-set by two of our Rex boys; Darren and Ollie. It might even be the best part of the film?





Director: Richard Linklater
Starring: Ethan Hawke, Julie Delpy
Certificate: 15
Duration: 108 mins
Origin: USA 2013
By: Sony Pictures Releasing



Before Midnight

**Fri 19 7.30, Sat 20 7.00,
Sun 21 6.00**

Before Midnight is the third in director Richard Linklater's 'Before' trilogy.

We again follow the lives of Celine and Jesse, somehow down the line of the Vienna and Paris romps, we find the two lovers in Greece, racing through the amber ruins at sunset, which in a way is symbolic of this film. Now kids are involved and the passionate on-off relationship we saw in past films is gone, what do you chat about so incessantly after almost a decade? And this is where the baggage from the past is dragged up. "Hawke and Delpy remain as charming as ever, and their combined goofiness is more endearing than annoying. Winning, too, is the sense that this peculiar project, though imperfect, could grow old with its audience and its cast." (*Time Out*)

"With the same winning chemistry and a whiff of middle-aged regret, this is sure to be a fittingly bitter-sweet threequel."

(*Total Film*)

The roaring fire that existed with them before is starting to go out, their lives fraught, their relationship dwindling, the question put forward is clear, is love alone enough to keep them together, and can the couple finally achieve their happy ending?

(*research Will Newis*)

What 'winning chemistry'? What 'roaring fire'? They were boring, disingenuous, cardboard cut-out the first time around the block 10ish years ago. Who cares for these two but themselves? You decide.



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



Thérèse Desqueyroux

Mon 22 7.30

Audrey Tautou plays the title character Thérèse, created by François Mauriac's 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, and film.



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

The Great Gatsby

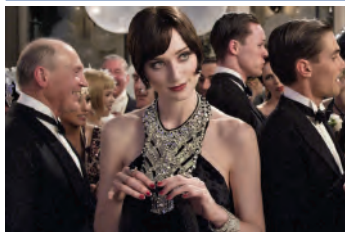
**Tue 23 7.30, Wed 24 7.30,
Thu 25 7.30**

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 the only setting for 100 miles, in which to see it.





Director: Zack Snyder
Starring: Henry Cavill, Amy Adams, Russell Crowe, Michael Shannon
Certificate: 12A
Duration: 143 mins
Origin: USA 2013
By: Warner Brothers



Man Of Steel

**Fri 26 7.30, Sat 27 7.00,
 Sun 28 6.00**

So not to frighten the horses or children, his red pants firmly on the inside and Superman soars into the modern age with an intense, moody soap opera that takes more than a few cues from its Dark Knight cousin.

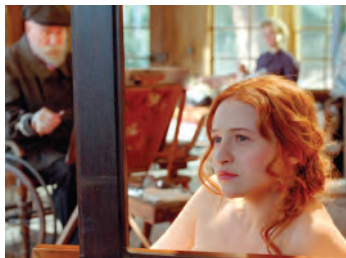
Comic strip baloney, told as serious fact. Most know the set-up by now. On a dying planet in deepest space a royal father (Crowe) rockets his baby-child to Earth. He is not alone though; the crazed Kryptonite General Zod (Michael Shannon) is out of his shackles, and hot on the boy's heels. It's a well-worn back-story but here it feels successfully renewed.

Man of Steel really takes flight during the middle section when Clark Kent/Superman (square-jawed Henry) is fully fleshed through flashbacks; grappling with alienation, two fathers (Earth dad, a brilliant, Kevin Costner) and those ridiculously awesome powers, but never called 'super' so not to offend those who aren't.

Amy Adams pops up as intrepid reporter-cum-love interest Lois Lane to provide moral support, but before they can form a convincing relationship the action ramps up and it's an all CGI explosion dash to the credits.

It makes for a ton of fun mind, but Cavill could learn a thing or two from Christopher Reeve and perhaps play it a little lighter next time. (*research Jack Whiting*) But keep away from horses, dear Henry.





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

Renoir Mon 29 7.30

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. It's Monday, don't miss.



Man Of Steel

Tue 30 7.30



So not to frighten the horses or children, his red pants firmly on the inside and Superman soars into the modern age with an intense, moody soap opera that takes more than a few cues from its Dark Knight cousin.

Comic strip baloney, told as serious fact. Most know the set-up by now. On a dying planet in deepest space a royal father (Crowe) rockets his baby-child to Earth. He is not alone though; the crazed Kryptonite General Zod (Michael Shannon) is out of his shackles, and hot on the boy's heels. It's a well-worn back-story but here it feels successfully renewed.

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Director: Zack Snyder
Starring: Henry Cavill, Amy Adams, Russell Crowe, Michael Shannon
Certificate: 12A
Duration: 143 mins
Origin: USA 2013
By: Warner Brothers

The Great Gatsby

Wed 31 7.30

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

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.

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COMING SOON

New releases

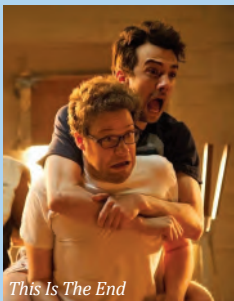
World War Z
The Bling Ring
This Is The End
Despicable Me 2

Back by demand

Behind The Candelabra
A Hijacking
The Great Gatsby



World War Z



This Is The End



The Bling Ring



Despicable Me 2

JULY FILMS AT A GLANCE

Please check times carefully and watch out for early shows.

1	Mon	Much Ado About Nothing	2.00, 7.30
2	Tue	Populaire	12.30, 7.30
3	Wed	Love is All You Need	2.00
3	Wed	Fast & Furious 6	7.30
4	Thu	Much Ado About Nothing	2.00
4	Thu	Mud	7.30
5	Fri	The Hangover part III	7.30
6	Sat	All Stars	2.00
6	Sat	Star Trek Into Darkness	7.00
7	Sun	Much Ado About Nothing	6.00
8	Mon	Conversations with my Gardener	2.00
8	Mon	Something in the Air	7.30
9	Tue	The Big Wedding	12.30
9	Tue	A Hijacking	7.30
10	Wed	The Big Wedding	2.00, 7.30
11	Thu	A Hijacking	2.00
11	Thu	A Field in England	7.30
12	Fri	Behind the Candelabra	7.30
13	Sat	Epic	2.00
13	Sat	Behind the Candelabra	7.00
14	Sun	Behind the Candelabra	6.00
15	Mon	Behind The Candelabra	2.00
15	Mon	Paris Manhattan	7.30
16	Tue	Behind The Candelabra	12.30
16	Tue	Summer in February	7.30
17	Wed	Summer in February	2.00, 7.30
18	Thu	Orchestra Seats	2.00
18	Thu	Byzantium	7.30
19	Fri	Before Midnight	7.30
20	Sat	Jason and the Argonauts	2.00
20	Sat	Before Midnight	7.00
21	Sun	Before Midnight	6.00
22	Mon	Before Midnight	2.00
22	Mon	Therese Desqueyroux	7.30
23	Tue	The Great Gatsby	12.30, 7.30
24	Wed	The Great Gatsby	2.00, 7.30
25	Thu	The Great Gatsby	2.00, 7.30
26	Fri	Man of Steel	7.30
27	Sat	Man of Steel	2.00, 7.00
28	Sun	Man of Steel	6.00
29	Mon	Star Trek Into Darkness	2.00
29	Mon	Renoir	7.30
30	Tue	Epic	12.30
30	Tue	Man of Steel	7.30
31	Wed	Man of Steel	2.00
31	Wed	The Great Gatsby	7.30



J U L Y M A T I N E E S

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



Director: Joss Whedon
Starring: Alexis Denisof, Amy Acker, Franz Kranz
Certificate: 12A
Duration: 107 mins
Origin: USA 2013
By: Kaleidoscope Films



Much Ado About Nothing

Mon 1 2.00, Thu 4 2.00

Shakespeare's classic comedy is given a clever and contemporary make-over in Joss Whedon's latest film; shot in crisp black and white in just 12 days at the director's house and garden in California.

While young lovers Claudio and Hero plan their wedding, family members trick warring friends Beatrice and Benedick into falling for each other.

Whedon's casting of regular collaborator's, familiar with the play and each other from Shakespeare readings at his home, bring a huge joyful swiftness to this tale where 'the course of true love never did run smooth'.

Best known as the creator of Buffy the Vampire Slayer, and writer and director of last summer's Avengers Assemble; Comic-book idol, Whedon's whip crack wit proves a perfect fit for this biting love story of romantic conspiracies.

"A breezy but heartfelt Shakespeare update that should put a smile on the faces of Whedon fans, Bard worshippers and anyone in the mood for a sharp, sassy romance." (*Total Film*)

It's an interesting case of role reversal to compare previous Much Ado and Shakespeare stalwart Kenneth Branagh and his recent Marvel movie adaptation of Thor, to Whedon's 'Comic Book Guy' god, turned sharp and serious auteur.

Whedon and Shakespeare are 'a perfect match'.

(*research Anna Shepherd*) At 107 minutes, Whedon's runs with Shakespeare's breathless banter without skipping a beat of essential narrative. Don't miss.



Populaire

Tue 2 12.30



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 most fulfilling, beautifully staged, and enjoyable films of our ninth year. So don't dare miss.

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

Love Is All You Need

Wed 3 2.00

Director: Susanne Bier
Starring: Pierce Brosnan, Trine Dyrholm
Certificate: 15
Duration: 116 mins
Origin: Denmark/Germany/Italy/
 Sweden 2012
By: Arrow Films

Award winning and remarkable Danish director Susanne Bier co-wrote and directs 'Love Is All You Need' or translated from the Danish: The Bald Hairdresser! We follow the story of Ida (Trine Dyrholm) who comes home following chemo to find her husband in bed with his receptionist lover. Pulling the remnants of herself together, she travels to Italy for her daughter's wedding. Whereupon, she meets Philip (Pierce Brosnan) a miserable widower and estranged father of the groom, who still blames the world for his wife's demise. The result is a cocktail of loss, trust, love, sadness and laughter.

"Bier's film is not an out-and-out romantic comedy so much as a romance with some very funny moments, although the wedding and holiday backdrop are strong reminders of Mamma Mia.

Happily, Brosnan resists bursting into frightening song." *(Telegraph)*

The bumpy path towards the union of their children, the clashes and faux pas of wedding guests, force Philip and Ida together to re-evaluate their notions of family, and the pains and joys of moving on and recovering.

This is a real diversion for Bier, whose previous Rex favourites: the heartbreaking, *Brothers and After The Wedding* were far from romantic comedies. But this film too carries her hallmark of family tragedy turning everyday worlds upside down.

An interesting mix of known faces and Scandinavian storytelling. Don't miss.



All Stars

Sat 6 2.00



Horrified that they might lose their youth club to property developers, best pals Ethan (Stevenson) and Jaden (Osei-Mansfield) decide to stage a street-dance contest to raise enough money to save their beloved hangout. Ethan simultaneously hopes to win over Lucy (Hanae Atkins) with his smart moves. Unfortunately Jaden's parents have banned him from dancing, and Ethan and most of their new All Stars crew are burdened with two left feet. Needless to say, in acclaimed TV director Ben Gregor's highly topical tale, having convinced the club manager (Jensen) that they can pull it off, the boys resolutely set about doing just that. With great music (depending what you call 'music' but whatever you call it, it won't be 'great' it's kids stuff) and dancing from some of Britain's best young performers, a sharply comic script (comical yes, but funny?) and the added bonus of glorious 2D Rex cinematography, ALL STARS is a heartwarming, family-friendly delight. No it isn't/won't be, but what do we know, init?

Director: Ben Gregor
Starring: Theo Stevenson, Akai Osei-Mansfield, Ashley Jensen
Certificate: U
Duration: 106 mins
Origin: UK 2013
By: Vertigo Films

Conversations With My Gardener (Dialogue Avec Mon Jardinier)

Mon 8 2.00

Director: Jean Becker
Starring: Daniel Auteuil, Jean-Pierre Darroussin
Certificate: 12A
Duration: 109 mins
Origin: France 2007
By: Cinefile

Not only is this a blissful tale beautifully told, it brings a French summer landscape into an English July afternoon as it did for the winter in January 2007, when it first came here. It is one of those rare, small films, to lift you miles from here and everywhere else.

A finely observed telling of a poignant friendship between two men who seem to be from different worlds but have merely taken different routes from the same place. This remains part of the film's magic to the end. It tells of a respected Parisian painter on the brink of divorce as he returns to his childhood home and employs a gardener to tame a vegetable patch...

As the gardener nurtures and the painter 'daubs', a friendship grows. Sharing a love of the same place, they begin to see things... Who has most to learn?

It is funny, warm, sad and glows all by itself, as it paints a tender portrait of people coping in their own way. "Perhaps it's their love of food and wine, but France is one of the few countries where films about the land are still made; about how it sustains and nourishes..." (*Standard*) Nothing much happens, but everything. It is beautiful. You will love it. Come, the Rex is it's natural home, pen-knife and a piece of string and all.



The Big Wedding

Tue 9 12.30, Wed 10 2.00



Back by overwhelmingly ridiculous demand. A fine director, a fine cast, the formula should be there for a relatively pain free film. De Niro plays Don, who has been divorced from his wife Ellie (Diane Keaton) for years, and is now with Bebe (Susan Sarandon) Ellie's oldest best friend. They all get together when their adopted Columbian child Alejandro (Ben Barnes) is about to get married to Missy (Amanda Seyfried) uh oh! Alejandro's biological mother, the very traditional Madonna (Patricia Rae) is to attend the wedding. She doesn't know the grooms parents are divorced. It is time for the divorced couple to pretend once more to be a couple. What fun. (DeNiro and comedy: always worth the ridiculous spectacle?) "The Big Wedding is unabashed and unashamed, though with its cast of top-tier talent, it should be" (*LA Times*) "There's not a bad performance in this movie. De Niro, Keaton and Sarandon are particularly good, what a surprise. But it feels as if all the guests are wearing ID tags overdoing their one plot-point." (*Chicago Times*) A great opportunity to try our new wine list? and at 89 minutes there's not too long to wait until the credits. (*research Will Newis*) Hollywooded from the original French: *Mon Frère se Marie* (2006) Did we miss it? We'll find it to make up for this.

Director: Justin Zackham
Starring: Robert De Niro, Katherine Heigl, Amanda Seyfried
Certificate: 15
Duration: 89 mins
Origin: USA 2013
By: Lionsgate Films UK

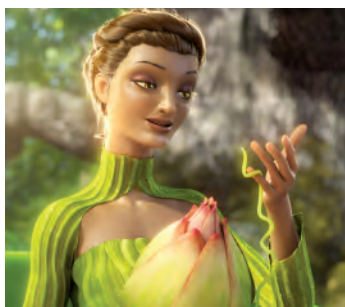
A Hijacking

Thu 11 2.00

Director: Tobias Lindholm
Starring: Johan Philip Asbæk, Søren Malling, Dar Salim
Certificate: 15
Duration: 103 mins
Origin: Denmark 2013
By: Arrow Films

A Hijacking is the latest from the magic pen of Tobias Lindholm, the man responsible for *The Hunt* and *Borgen*. It is to many, a Danish approach to *Argo*. We follow the story of a Danish ship captured in the Indian Ocean by Somali pirates and how the ship's cook is forced to be the sole link to the shipping line's CEO in Copenhagen. In a cynical game of life and death with the crew's future on the line, a psychological drama unfolds with the relationship fraying between the increasingly traumatised cook, Mikkel and the pirates. "As weeks turn into months, Lindholm portrays well the sweaty claustrophobia on board the ship and the tension at home." (*Time Out*) "But the genius of the film is that only half of it takes place at sea, while the rest plays out in the clinical head office of the shipping company, thousands of miles away in Denmark" (*Independent*) "As the hijacking drags on for months, Mikkel endures the powder-keg unease which is made no more comfortable by the language barrier which separates him from his AK 47-toting captors." (*Little WL*) Thoroughly rooted in the no-nonsense Danish approach to film making, we have a truly sober, albeit nerve-racking and memorable cat and mouse thriller. (*review Will Newis*). Hell at times, it's that good. Not to be missed; this last screening in July.





Director: Chris Wedge
Certificate: U
Duration: 102 mins
Origin: USA 2013
By: Twentieth Century Fox

Epic

Sat 13 2.00

The back garden has once again been transformed into the battlefield for good and evil in this Blue Sky Studios' environmental romp (*Ice Age. Rio*) .

Sensitive teen MK (voiced by Amanda Seyfried) returns to the family home, still grieving over the loss of her mother and unable to connect with her professor father or his crackpot theories about little people who live in the forest. Before you can say "Gulliver", she's been shrunk to leafman-size and enlisted in their great conflict with the Boggans, the opposing forces of decay and destruction.

The likes of *Fern Gully*, *The Borrowers* and *Honey I Shrunk the Kids* would serve as better options for eco-friendly fables featuring enlarged plant life and tiny people, yet the consistently arresting animation does a marvellous job of sucking you in.

"It's actually a relief that the action's so relentless, distracting from the writing's inadequacies with swoopy mid-flight skirmishes." (*Total Film*)

"A necessary touch of comedy is provided by a slug and snail, which sounds like the name of a pub you wouldn't want to drinking in." (*Guardian*)

Epic is as void of personality as its indistinct title, but a safe bet for kids to eat up. (*Jack Whiting*)



Behind The Candelabra

Mon 15 2.00, Tue 16 12.30



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 tricks to get out. 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*)
You decide.

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

Summer In February

Wed 17 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.



Orchestra Seats

Thu 18 2.00



This bittersweet comedy moves between three storylines in an upmarket Paris neighbourhood at the intersection of Life, Love and Art.

Jessica (Cecile De France), new in town, becomes a waitress at the chic Bar des Theatres as three major events are about to take place on the same street. Soap-opera star Catherine Versen (Lemerrier) will open a Feydeau farce at the theatre next door, celebrated pianist Jean-François Lefort (Dupontel) will perform a Beethoven concert and financier Jacques Grumberg (Brasseur) will auction off his renowned art collection. Jessica floats between them, becoming part of each of their lives even as she searches unsuccessfully for somewhere to live. "Orchestra Seats possesses wit, wisdom and undeniable charm... There's much to enjoy in esteemed screenwriter Daniele Thompson's latest directorial feature. Charming, if you're in the mood" (*Time Out*)

"Gallic equivalent of Love Actually" (*Channel 4*) No NO Love Actually Schactually. This is French, ergo perfect, not Brit commercial lap-crap. Ahead of the Great G orgy of Luhrmann nonsense, this is a real gallic treasure to brighten your heart on a July afternoon. They know how to run with sentiment without that cloying sentimentality, we can't seem to do anything without. Don't miss.

Director: Daniele Thompson
Starring: Claude Brasseur, Cecile De France, Albert Dupontel, Valérie Lemerrier
Certificate: 12A
Duration: 105 mins
Origin: France 2007
By: Studiocanal

Jason & The

Argonauts Sat 20 2.00

Director: Don Chaffey
Starring: Todd Armstrong, Nancy Kovack, Gary Raymond, Laurence Naismith
Certificate: U
Duration: 104 mins
Origin: UK 1963
By: Sony Pictures Releasing

Jason (Todd Armstrong), rightful heir to the throne of Thessaly, is spared death through the intervention of the goddess Hera (Honor Blackman-Pussy Galore). The other celestial inhabitants of Mount Olympus watch in amusement as Hera surreptitiously aids Jason in his search for the Golden Fleece. Obstacles to this goal include Talos, a giant statue that has come to life, the screeching harpies plaguing blind prophet Phineas (Patrick Troughton an old Dr Who?) a set of huge clashing rocks, the seven-headed hydra, and an army of skeletons. This bravura climactic sequence assured Ray Harryhausen's place in the hearts of 13-year-old boys everywhere in 1963 (some of whom went on to be Steven Spielberg!). Supporting characters include Nancy Kovack as a pre-infanticide Medea and the fabulous Nigel Green as a pacifistic Hercules. Bernard Herrmann's surging musical score was icing on the cake for this greatest of all Ray Harryhausen creations, and a rare tribute to the original's original. He started GCI with cardboard, plasticine and gaffer tape. This is in tribute to Ray Harryhausen who died in May. Kids should come and see where all their button/touchscreen started. Somebody would have done this stuff sooner or later, but Ray H was sooner, while everyone else was napping.





Director: Richard Linklater
Starring: Ethan Hawke, Julie Delpy
Certificate: 15
Duration: 108 mins
Origin: USA 2013
By: Sony Pictures Releasing



Before Midnight

Mon 22 2.00

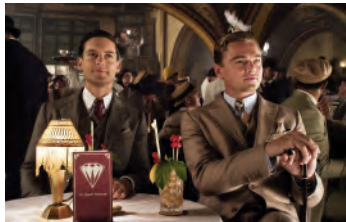
Before Midnight is the third in director Richard Linklater's 'Before' trilogy.

We again follow the lives of Celine and Jesse, somehow down the line of the Vienna and Paris romps, we find the two lovers in Greece, racing through the amber ruins at sunset, which in a way is symbolic of this film. Now kids are involved and the passionate on-off relationship we saw in past films is gone, what do you chat about so incessantly after almost a decade? And this is where the baggage from the past is dragged up. "Hawke and Delpy remain as charming as ever, and their combined goofiness is more endearing than annoying. Winning, too, is the sense that this peculiar project, though imperfect, could grow old with its audience and its cast." (*Time Out*) "With the same winning chemistry and a whiff of middle-aged regret, this is sure to be a fittingly bitter-sweet threequel." (*Total Film*)

The roaring fire that existed with them before is starting to go out, their lives fraught, their relationship dwindling, the question put forward is clear, is love alone enough to keep them together, and can the couple finally achieve their happy ending?

(research Will Newis)

What 'winning chemistry'? What 'roaring fire'? They were boring, disingenuous, cardboard cut-out the first time around the block 10ish years ago. Who cares for these two but themselves? You decide.



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

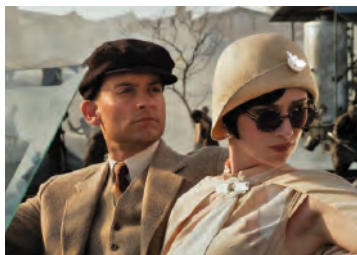
The Great Gatsby

Tue 23 12.30, **Wed 24** 2.00,
Thu 25 2.00

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 the only setting for 100 miles, in which to see it.



Man Of Steel

Sat 27 2.00



So not to frighten the horses or children, his red pants firmly on the inside and Superman soars into the modern age with an intense, moody soap opera that takes more than a few cues from its Dark Knight cousin.

Comic strip baloney, told as serious fact. Most know the set-up by now. On a dying planet in deepest space a royal father (Crowe) rockets his baby-child to Earth. He is not alone though; the crazed Kryptonite General Zod (Michael Shannon) is out of his shackles, and hot on the boy's heels. It's a well-worn back-story but here it feels successfully renewed.

Man of Steel really takes flight during the middle section when Clark Kent/Superman (square-jawed Henry) is fully fleshed through flashbacks; grappling with alienation, two fathers (Earth dad, a brilliant, Kevin Costner) and those ridiculously awesome powers, but never called 'super' so not to offend those who aren't.

Amy Adams pops up as intrepid reporter-cum-love interest Lois Lane to provide moral support, but before they can form a convincing relationship the action ramps up and it's an all CGI explosion dash to the credits.

It makes for a ton of fun mind, but Cavill could learn a thing or two from Christopher Reeve and perhaps play it a little lighter next time. (*research Jack Whiting*) But keep away from horses, dear Henry.

Director: Zack Snyder
Starring: Henry Cavill, Amy Adams, Russell Crowe, Michael Shannon
Certificate: 12A
Duration: 143 mins
Origin: USA 2013
By: Warner Brothers

Star Trek Into Darkness

Mon 29 2.00

Director: J.J. Abrams
Starring: Zachary Quinto, Benedict Cumberbatch, Chris Pine
Certificate: 12A
Duration: 132 mins
Origin: USA 2013
By: Paramount International Pictures

In 2009 JJ Abrams re-energised the sagging franchise with warp-speed precision; giving Trekkies a breezy re-introduction to Kirk and co. as well as roping in newbies who wouldn't know their Klingons from their Romulans.

Everything is brought forward from the first, lens flare n'all. So with relationships firmly established, it's simply a case of upping the stakes. And boy are the stakes upped; largely in thanks to Benedict Cumberbatch's mysterious menace.

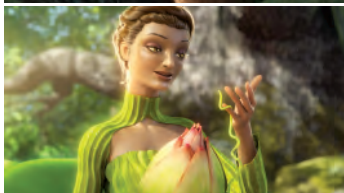
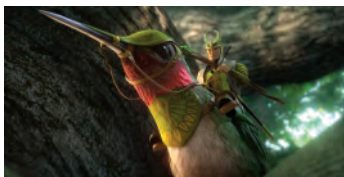
A mission to save an indigenous planet from volcanic doom re-introduces us to Kirk (Chris Pine), Spock (Zachary Quinto) and the rest of the Enterprise at their snarky best. It's the arrival of Cumberbatch, however, that causes the crew to start taking things seriously. BFFs Kirk and Spock's bromance reaches fever pitch when things get tough, alas, let us not forget this is summer action fare, so CGI money shots aplenty and at breakneck pace that'll give you whiplash (where you not at the Rex).

Into Darkness threatens to go boldly into darker territory as Cumberbatch chews every scene with Shakespearian authority, but it doesn't forget to evolve the charm and warmth of its blistering predecessor. Abrams has the monumental job of kick-starting the new Star Wars trilogy, and judging by this he'll have the full force on his side. (*Jack Whiting*) It shows, when a director is not a fan, the movie boldly works. Bring the street.



Epic

Tue 30 12.30



The back garden has once again been transformed into the battlefield for good and evil in this Blue Sky Studios' environmental romp (Ice Age. Rio) .

Sensitive teen MK (voiced by Amanda Seyfried) returns to the family home, still grieving over the loss of her mother and unable to connect with her professor father or his crackpot theories about little people who live in the forest. Before you can say "Gulliver", she's been shrunk to leafman-size and enlisted in their great conflict with the Boggans, the opposing forces of decay and destruction.

The likes of Fern Gully, The Borrowers and Honey I Shrunk the Kids would serve as better options for eco-friendly fables featuring enlarged plant life and tiny people, yet the consistently arresting animation does a marvellous job of sucking you in.

"It's actually a relief that the action's so relentless, distracting from the writing's inadequacies with swoopy mid-flight skirmishes." (*Total Film*)

"A necessary touch of comedy is provided by a slug and snail, which sounds like the name of a pub you wouldn't want to drinking in." (*Guardian*)

Epic is as void of personality as its indistinct title, but a safe bet for kids to eat up. (*Jack Whiting*)

Director: Chris Wedge
Certificate: U
Duration: 102 mins
Origin: USA 2013
By: Twentieth Century Fox

Man Of Steel

Wed 31 2.00

Director: Zack Snyder
Starring: Henry Cavill, Amy Adams, Russell Crowe, Michael Shannon
Certificate: 12A
Duration: 143 mins
Origin: USA 2013
By: Warner Brothers

So not to frighten the horses or children, his red pants firmly on the inside and Superman soars into the modern age with an intense, moody soap opera that takes more than a few cues from its Dark Knight cousin.

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ST ALBANS



The London Road bright and busy c1973

A dull page with dull pictures on a dull June Sunday in 2013. But there's something else. No, not that, something else. There's no yellow brick road and the landscape isn't suddenly flowing with all the colours of the universe or even The Incompetent Dragon's garden, where Aunt Pen 'with a nose like a knife' is transformed into loving kindness. And I'm not hallucinating. The dull day on London Road St Albans, has magically 3-Deed itself into glorious Technicolor. On the front of a high, flat, long, neglected, wall a sudden 3-D shape has appeared. They tell me it is called... SCAFFOLDING.

After three interesting years of meeting every banker, consultant, advisor, carpet-bagger, master builder, contractor in every gin joint (from) every town in all the world, the scaffolding finally walks into mine...

For a split second, the rest of the world we live in with all its stinking wars and rumours of worse, there's somewhere else, a million miles away from it all on this dull Sunday. Our scaffolding is up, and for a split second, I couldn't care less about anything else outside this tiny strip of the London Road on a spitting rainy day.



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The odyssey has driven me to distraction, as you can see. I'm quoting from bed time stories in my sleep and the mere whiff of scaffolding is enough to bring on hallucinations in broad daylight. I am assured this is not common in the scaffolding dept. Those damn tubes are finally up, and they're brighter than Christmas Eve. Procure, our extraordinarily supportive main contractor, has done everything promised in the short five weeks since the company's appointment.



Britain's 'most beautiful van' outside Britain's next most beautiful cinema

Our architect is on top of it, the drawings are approved, planning permission has all been granted, St Albans DC continues to give us unwavering support. There will be more hitches and glitches, but nothing compared to these three years and the last 11 months in particular. The scaffolding is the first, most exciting thing to happen to the old Odeon building since 1995. The restoration has finally begun. So you will have to forgive a little delerium.

To view the latest online broadcast go to www.bbc.co.uk/news/magazine-22750895

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Art deco cinemas saved from demolition



14 June 2013 Last updated at 00:01

James Hannaway has made it his mission to save some of Britain's most stunning art deco cinemas from being demolished.

He began with The Rex in Berkhamsted, Hertfordshire - leading a campaign to restore the building following its closure in 1988. After a huge restoration project, it re-opened in 2004.

Now he is at it again. The old Odeon cinema in St Albans, which has been lying derelict for 15 years, is Hannaway's latest project.

Renamed The Odyssey, building work has just begun to transform the crumbling and neglected cinema into another restored art deco masterpiece.

Video Journalist: John Galliver Producer: Claudia Redmond

Stop/Start is a new series of video features for the BBC News website which follows both new trends that are beginning and old traditions that are coming to an end.

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To view the online recording go to www.bbc.co.uk/news/magazine-22750895

It's all very nice to hear these things, albeit they land somewhere between off, and way off, beam. There was never a mission to save anything, it was all accidental and incidental, with nothing resembling a plan. Some stubbornness may have helped, while simultaneously serving to frustrate my closest advisors, friends and supporters. There was never any ambition or crusade, quite the opposite, but the determination to fight against the casual 'No' or 'You can't do that' be it from expert or committee, has never diminished. In fact it seems to be worse, as I get older. But be assured, there will be no more 'missions' after this odyssey is over. Now it is finally on its way - up and running this time next year, I can thank you, in your thousands, after three long years, for quietly not doubting it would happen. Thank you.