

# THE REX

A P R I L 2 0 2 0

## RONNIE WOOD: SOMEBODY UP THERE LIKES ME

"velveteen glamour and brilliant programming..." (The Guardian)

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

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# THE-REX

CINEMA BERKHAMSTED

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www.therexberkhamsted.com

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

## BEST IN APRIL



### Ronnie Wood: Somebody Up There Likes Me

An off-the-wall documentary about a fabulous One-Off from the up-the-wall world of full-on (it's only) rock'n roll but... Don't dare miss.

See page 16

## FILMS OF THE MONTH



### Casino Royale

Daniel's first and best 007 where he should have hung out his speedos, dropped his gun and greased those pecs - just this once...?

See page 10



### Portrait of a Lady on Fire

Gorgeous, sumptuous, beautiful - and all and none. Stunning, teasing, diverting, riveting, mesmerising and unbearably French. See page 14



### Ragtime

Coalhouse Walker Jnr from far outside, runs with the posh NY society of 1910 - and pays the price. Fantastic from the off.

See page 23



### The Truth

"...is rarely plain and never simple" (Oscar Fingal O'Flahertie etc...) An Irish poet, a Japanese auteur and those two most fabulous French women. Come See page 26



## APRIL FILMS



## Emma

**Austen's classic is given a pastel-coloured refresh in Autumn de Wilde's debut feature** Not only

exquisite in its stylistic flair, with luxurious locations and expressive costume design, this new Emma adaptation focuses on showcasing the timeless wit of its source material. Emma Woodhouse (played by rising star Anya Taylor-Joy) is a multi-layered young adult: spoilt and egotistical, yet also vulnerable and insecure. Living in Georgian- and Regency-era England, she believes she is naturally gifted in romantic matchmaking (despite arguing that she herself will never marry). Focusing her efforts on her friend Harriet Smith (Mia Goth), Emma tries to set her up with the local vicar Mr Elton (Josh O'Connor), disapproving when a lowly farmer proposes to Harriet. Critiquing Emma's meddlesome behaviour is her neighbour and friend, the gentleman Mr Knightley (Johnny Flynn), with whom she shares semi-flirtatious banter. As their chemistry develops, Emma's resolve to stay independent is threatened. Bill Nighy is a wonderful addition to the British talent, offering a splendid portrayal of Emma's hypochondriac father (Mr Woodhouse). Whilst exploring the complexities of growing up, love and redemption, Emma is a visual feast to indulge in. (Rachel Williams)

Director: Autumn de Wilde  
Cast: Anya Taylor-Joy, Gemma Whelan, Tanya Reynolds, Bill Nighy, Mia Goth  
Duration: 125 min  
Origin: UK 2020  
Certificate: U  
Company: Universal Pictures

**When...** Wed 1 7.30  
**Wed 1** 2.00 **Wed 29** 2.00



## Parasite

**From the Palme d'Or to Best Picture, Parasite is a masterpiece worthy of all the praise.**

The first foreign-language film to win Best Picture at the Oscars, Bong Joon-ho beat his personal idols Tarantino and Scorsese to the grand prize (whilst making history). Known for his slick social satires, the South Korean director's latest takes you on a thrilling ride - the less you know going in, the better. A brief introduction: when Ki-woo (Choi Woo-shik) is given the opportunity to tutor the daughter of the wealthy Park family, he bluffs his way into the lucrative position with a forged university degree from his sister Ki-jung (Park So-dam). Realising his own family could fill the other positions in the grand modernist home, they form a plan to infiltrate the household (without the Park family knowing that they are related). On Parasite's universality, Bong Joon-ho stated "it talks about two opposing families, about the rich versus the poor, and that is a universal theme, because we all live in the same country now: that of capitalism." Hilarious and humane, tense and thought-provoking; Parasite promises a sensational cinematic experience not to be missed. (Rachel Williams)

Director: Bong Joon Ho  
Cast: Song Kang Ho, Lee Sun Kyun, Cho Yeo Jeong, Choi Woo Shik, Park So Dam  
Duration: 132 min  
Origin: South Korea 2019 (Subtitled)  
Certificate: 15  
Company: StudioCanal

**When...**  
**Thu 2** 2.00, 7.30  
**Fri 10** 7.30



## Le Mans '66

**James Mangold directs this star studded biography of the revved-up rivalry between two automotive titans, Ford v Ferrari.**

Unlike 2013's *Rush*, which covered the personal rivalry between Formula One drivers James Hunt and Nikki Lauda, this film sides racers against corporate suits. At its centre are two eminently reliable actors. Matt Damon, as race-car-champion-turned-car designer Carroll Shelby, and Christian Bale, as the hot-headed former tank commander Ken Miles. When Shelby is hired by Ford to create the Ford GT that will defeat Ferrari at the Le Mans 24 Hour ordeal, it becomes apparent that the only person who can drive it is Miles. Together, they form a tetchy partnership that sees them take on the giants of racing, and the Ford Motor Company itself. For a sports movie to work for more than just the fans, it has to have drama off the pitch, track or field, with characters to root for, personal demons and a good underdog. *Le Mans '66* duly obliges. Rarely does such muscular studio entertainment kick into higher, faster and more surprising gears than this. (Research Chris Coetsee) A truly exciting ride in dialogue and speed. Well cast too. Running out of road here, so don't miss it now.

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**Director:** James Mangold  
**Cast:** Matt Damon, Christian Bale, Caitriona Balfe, Jon Bernthal  
**Duration:** 152 mins  
**Origin:** USA/France 2019  
**Certificate:** 12A  
**Company:** Walt Disney Studios

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## When...

**Fri 3 2.00 Sat 4 7.00**



## True History Of The Kelly Gang

**The 19th-century Australian outlaw Ned Kelly is given a punk-rock update in Justin Kurzel's bruising historical drama.** Based on Peter Carey's 2001 novel, The film is carved into three sections, titled "Boy", "Man" and "Monitor", each of which takes in a key period of Kelly's brief but seismic existence. In the first, young Ned watches his mother Ellen (Essie Davis) ply a swaggering British sergeant (Charlie Hunnam) with sexual favours, possibly from necessity. Then at 14, foul-mouthed highwayman Harry Power (Russell Crowe) takes on the boy as an apprentice, which all but locks in his fate. Many have played Kelly in the past (including Mick Jagger & Heath Ledger) but George MacKay confidently stands above them all with a blistering, Mad Max-like performance as adult Kelly. Intense and vulnerable in both but perhaps even topping his leading role in 1917. Both so different. Kurzel displayed both beauty and intensity with his take on Macbeth earlier, and this, his latest gets under your nails; images linger for weeks in the memory and, for however much the film deals with myth and history, it feels incredibly immediate. (research Jack Whiting) Another end to end Aussie cracker not to be missed.

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**Director:** Justin Kurzel  
**Cast:** George MacKay, Essie Davis, Nicholas Hoult, Orlando Schwerdt  
**Duration:** 125 min  
**Origin:** UK/France/Australia 2019  
**Certificate:** 18  
**Company:** Picturehouse Entertainment

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## When...

**Fri 3 7.30 Fri 17 7.30**



## Dolittle

**Robert Downey Jr's first post-Avengers role sees him embody Hugh Lofting's classic literary character that has been around for a century.**

Dropping the 'Dr' from the title – because overly simplifying titles seems to be the 'in' thing – John Dolittle (Downey Jr, valiantly attempting something close to a Welsh accent) is a veterinarian who can talk to animals; having rejected his fellow humans after a tragic family death, the good doctor relies on his menagerie of animal companions.

He is summoned to the bedside of Queen Victoria (Jessie Buckley), who is gravely ill. Dolittle decrees that the cure comes from the fruit of the Eden tree on a remote island and so must voyage there with his animal pals in a Pirates-of-the-Caribbean-y way and then voyage back, hoping that he is not too late. It's all very absurd but it's paced for the attention span of a small child and so mostly resembles a live-action cartoon, bouncing from one chaotic set piece to the next, not to mention Emma Thompson voicing a parrot and Rami Malek as a gorilla. A bizarre, yet semi-enjoyable adventure. *(Jack Whiting)*

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**Director:** Stephen Gaghan  
**Cast:** Robert Downey Jr., Antonio Banderas, Michael Sheen, Emma Thompson  
**Duration:** 101 min  
**Origin:** USA/China/UK 2020  
**Certificate:** PG  
**Company:** Universal Pictures

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**When...**

**Sat 4 2.00**



## Casino Royale

**With No Time to Die out of time, Bond may have met his greatest foe in a nasty bout of flu, but here's the Fleming original 007 yarn (and best) and Craig's first (and best) outing.**

Still the pinnacle of his time (nope, not Skyfall or the rest. I'll fight you!! JW) Casino Royale is perhaps the best Bond reboot to surface. Self-assured and oozing with swagger, it spat in the faces of those who doubted Craig could deliver. But as easily as he slipped into a dinner jacket or a gym-strained-six-pack into one-size-fits-all speedos, he fitted the part. Unsung director Martin Campbell, also directed Brosnan's debut in Golden Eye. He guides Casino well. Mads Mikkelsen is the evil-eyed Le Chiffre, the poker-faced villain who weeps blood and all but steals it. Eva Green is one of the best Bond-girls as Vesper Lynd a three-dimensional character who reduces the usually steely spy to a cooling jelly. The sheer ballsiness to hang the film's centerpiece on a high-stakes poker game and yet still ramp up the tension – even if you don't know your 'blinds' from your 'bluffs' – is riveting stuff. *(research Jack Whiting)* The rest fits fabulously too, and where Daniel should have left table.

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**Director:** Martin Campbell  
**Cast:** Daniel Craig, Eva Green, Mads Mikkelsen, Judi Dench  
**Duration:** 141 mins  
**Origin:** USA/UK/Germany/Czech Republic  
**Certificate:** 15  
**Company:** Sony Pictures Releasing

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**When...**

**Sun 5 6.00**



## Lady And The Tramp

**Two chalk and cheese mutts paw their way into our hearts in this 1955 Disney classic.**

Lady is a very pampered cocker spaniel who is used to being the centre of attention. When her loved-up humans depart on vacation, Aunt Sarah arrives to look after their newborn baby, bringing with her a mischievous pair of Siamese cats who cause quite a disturbance in the house. When this outsider purchases a muzzle and puts it on Lady, she runs away, hurt and humiliated. Meeting Tramp, a stray male dog from the 'wrong side of town', he finds a way to free her and whisks her away on a romantic adventure.

A delight for the children and a joy for adults, Lady and the Tramp is a film layered with some truly iconic moments that have helped define Disney for generations. A nostalgic charmer, its token sweetness continues to appeal (rarely can you find such tenderness in bowl of spaghetti). With a full-scale, CGI reboot barking on the horizon, re-live the original one more time. *(Research Chris Coetsee)* Come re-live, or first-time it. At 8 years old, me and our John raced to see it together at the 'Sunhall' on Stanley Road.

Directors: Clyde Geronimi, Wilfred Jackson, Hamilton Luske  
Voices: Peggy Lee, Barbara Luddy, Bill Thompson, Bill Baucon, Stan Freberg  
Duration: 73 mins  
Origin: USA 1955  
Certificate: U  
Company: The Walt Disney Company Ltd

**When...**

**Mon 6 2.00**



## Vitalina Varela

**A woman uncovers her deceased husband's secret life in Pedro Costa's dark dreamscape**

Retelling the true story of a non-professional actor, the Portuguese auteur has chosen Vitalina Varela as his heroine. Travelling from Cape Verde to Portugal, where her husband relocated decades ago, initially promising to send for her once he was settled. Vitalina is determined to track him down and get the answers she has been long been waiting for. However, she is too late, arriving at Lisbon airport just three days after his death. Ignoring a group of women who tell her "there's nothing here for you", Vitalina carries on to his shack in a barrio on the outskirts of the city. Isolated in an unfamiliar place and unable to receive closure (uh?) she experiences a series of hallucinatory episodes which offer glimpses into her past. Connecting only with a Parkinsons diseased priest with from her hometown, the film delves into the experiences of lonely souls submerged in the darkness. Costa revels in dark imagery and takes a minimalist approach, with shadowy long shots reflecting the endurance of its protagonist (and perhaps its audience, too). Come, sink into a mysterious reverie. *(research Rachel Williams)* Or come to make head or tail of it...?

Director: Pedro Costa  
Cast: Vitalina Varela, Ventura, Manuel Tavares Almeida, Francisco Brito, Marina Alves Domingues  
Duration: 125 mins  
Origin: Portugal 2020 (Subtitled)  
Certificate: 12A  
Company: Second Run DVD

**When...**

**Mon 6 7.30**



## Little Women

**Gerwig creates a refreshing and heartwarming film of Louisa May Alcott's coming-of-age classic.** Following up *Lady Bird*, actress-turned-director, Gerwig opted to adapt of novel, by restructuring the much-loved novel to revitalise the narrative. It explores the lives of the four March sisters: Jo (Saoirse Ronan) Meg (Emma Watson) Beth (Eliza Scanlen) and Amy (Florence Pugh). The drama follows the coming of age of the sisters living now in genteel poverty of 1860s New England. Having lost all their family money, 'Marmee' (Laura Dern) and sisters must adjust to a new lifestyle, standing by each other through thick and thin. It opens with Jo as a young committed writer and narrator, waiting outside a New York publishing house. The classic tale traces the sisters' experiences as adults and teenagers through a series of flashbacks, exploring how their lives ambitions develop. The bonds and jealousies in the all-female household is beautifully drawn. Extra exceptional character studies from Timothée Chalamet's heartthrob Laurie and Meryl Streep's haughty Aunt March adding to the infectious energy of the ensemble. A sumptuous film full of warmth and insight. *(research Rachel Williams)* And.. the Oscar fools failed to mention Greta Gerwig. Genteel poverty in America...? Never..! Come again

Director: Greta Gerwig  
 Cast: Saoirse Ronan, Emma Watson, Laura Dern, Florence Pugh, Eliza Scanlen  
 Duration: 135 min  
 Origin: USA 2019  
 Certificate: U  
 Company: Sony Pictures Releasing

When...

Tue 7 2.00



## The Invisible Man

**This. This is how you do horror. No silly monsters or blood-soaked shock imagery; a simple, clever framing of the camera is often all you need to invoke fear in your audience.**

It helps that Elizabeth Moss absolutely sells the idea of a victim of a domestic hell as Celia, a woman trapped in an abusive relationship with Adrian (Oliver-Jackson Cohen) a narcissistic genius-inventor of optical trickery.

Had enough of his manipulation and psycho-bullying, she escapes their cliff-side home. But when news breaks that he's taken his own life, leaving his fortune and house to her, she suspects it may be a far-fetched hoax to lure her back under his control. Of course no one believes her, and a series of increasingly bizarre events push her further away from her friends and family, which increasingly begin to break her rational thinking. Is it all in her mind? Or has Adrian found a way to torment her 'beyond the grave'...? This take on H.G. Wells' classic tale is infused with a terrifying contemporary edge. *(research Jack Whiting)* He is not the '60s bandaged do-gooder whose lit pipe floats on visible strings mid-screen. 'He's a very naughty boy!' Come and be frightened - or laugh.

Director: Leigh Whannell  
 Cast: Elisabeth Moss, Oliver Jackson-Cohen, Aldis Hodge, Storm Reid  
 Duration: 124 min  
 Origin: Australia/USA/Canada 2020  
 Certificate: 15  
 Company: Universal Pictures

When...

Tue 7 7.30 Sat 18 7.00



## Sonic The Hedgehog

**Picture the scene: it's 1991, the war between Nintendo and Sega - two Japanese video-game giants - reaches fever pitch.**

The delightful Super Mario series has secured Nintendo's lead for a while, but all of a sudden Sega launches their own mascot: a hedgehog with running shoes that blew away the competition, and everything changed. Sonic was different. Sonic was cool. Fast forward thirty years and the blue erinaceidae finally gets his big-screen debut. Sticking to the tried and tested E.T formula. Sonic (voiced by Ben Schwartz) flees his homeland and is living as a hermit outside the small American town of Green Hills; he turns to a kindly local sheriff called Tom (James Marsden) after his activities catch the eye of one Dr Robotnik (Jim Carrey - whose Ace Ventura-like persona will surely be the most 90s performance of the 2020s). He is an unhinged and egomaniacal government agent, obsessed with catching the alien.

As Sonic is a children's movie that recognises it may be younger audiences' first introduction to the hedgehog, fans of the game won't find much to hold on to (no nostalgia here), but little ones will be enthralled. (*Jack Whiting*)

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**Director:** Jeff Fowler  
**Cast:** Jim Carrey, James Marsden, Neal McDonough, Tika Sumpter, Ben Schwartz (voice), Adam Pally  
**Duration:** 99 mins  
**Origin:** USA 2020  
**Certificate:** PG  
**Company:** Paramount Pictures UK

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**When...**

**Wed 8 2.00**



## Dark Waters

**Mark Ruffalo gets the blood boiling in this true-life story of compassion, corruption and righteous anger.**

In 1998 Cincinnati, lawyer Robert Bilott is representing multinational chemical company DuPont when Wilbur, a friend of his grandmother, contacts him with a complaint about the toxic runoff from one of their dump sites. Investigating, Robert is horrified to find that according to their own studies, the waste that DuPont is discarding into drinking water sources is permanently harmful to humans. Deciding to take on his former client, he soon finds they have the money, power and government connections to help them muddle the story, deflect the truth and delay their responsibility.

Director Todd Haynes (*Carol, I'm Not There*) brings a gothic texture to the material, aided immeasurably by a wonderfully focussed performance from Ruffalo as an impassioned man for whom everything is harder than it should be. Bill Camp's intense performance as Wilbur and Anne Hathaway's Sarah Bilott both give terrific moments of their own, but they are ultimately locked in step with Ruffalo's journey. A genuine horror story, as are all stories of human disregard and careless abuse regularly perpetrated by scandalous corporations. (*research Chris Coetsee*) A common tale, here gripping and passionately told.

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**Director:** Todd Haynes  
**Cast:** Mark Ruffalo, Anne Hathaway, Tim Robbins, William Jackson Harper  
**Duration:** 127 min  
**Origin:** USA 2019  
**Certificate:** 12A  
**Company:** Entertainment One

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**When...**

**Wed 8 7.30 Thu 30 7.30**



## Star Wars: The Rise Of Skywalker

**Lightsabers to the ready one last time as the biggest entity in movie history closes the book - on the Skywalker saga - with its ninth and final chapter.** The concluding part (and the third in this new trilogy) sees our plucky heroes, Rey (Daisy Ridley), Finn (John Boyega) and Poe (Oscar Isaac), come back together after being scattered to the wind during the events of *The Last Jedi*. Kylo Ren (Adam Driver) has assumed command of the dastardly First Order as it continues to pursue the resistance, led by Leia (bringing back Carrie Fisher, fleetingly, using unused footage from *The Force Awakens*). But there is a much darker evil lurking in the shadows. An evil with a familiar face, who's last minute emergence ties all the chapters together. (Wow - really...?)

JJ Abrams has the unenviable task of delivering a rip-roaring two hours of entertainment, while also pleasing the army of hardcore 'fans' (I use the term loosely because they seem to hate everything new) and conclude the film, and series as a whole, in a way that satisfies. Now, I think a little real break from the Force will do no harm. (*Jack Whiting*).

Dont bet on 'final'. Final? - my R2D2...

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**Director:** J.J. Abrams  
**Cast:** Daisy Ridley, Adam Driver, Billie Lourd, Carrie Fisher, Lupita Nyong'o  
**Duration:** 142 min  
**Origin:** USA 2019  
**Certificate:** 12A  
**Company:** Walt Disney Studios

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**When...**

**Thu 9 2.00**



## Portrait Of A Lady On Fire

**Love is a work of art in Céline Sciamma's staggering subversion of the period drama.**

In the 18th century, second-generation painter Marianne (Merlant) arrives by boat at an isolated manor. She's been commissioned to paint a portrait of Heloise (Haenel) for her wedding, but is instructed by her mother to do it secretly, simply being a companion to Heloise. As they talk, Marianne discovers Heloise's anger at being forced to marry a stranger while still grieving the death of her sister. Over the coming days, Marianne and Heloise become close, helping housemaid Sophie with a deeply personal issue while comparing views on music, painting and love.

Merlant and Haenel deliver wonderfully shaded performances underscored with brittle wit and seriously deep feelings. As they tentatively reveal their mutual attraction, they become more openly charming, yet still on guard. This is a rare film that takes the breath away. Conversations get deeper and more revealing as the story grows, using firelight and music to add unexpected textures. Richly layered and painted with an otherworldly beauty, this is a sure-fire masterpiece in the making. (*Research Chris Coetsee*)

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**Director:** Céline Sciamma  
**Cast:** Noémie Merlant, Adèle Haenel, Luàna Bajrami, Valeria Golino  
**Duration:** 122 min  
**Origin:** France 2019 (Subtitled)  
**Certificate:** 15  
**Company:** Artificial Eye

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**When...**

**Thu 9 7.30**



## Swallows and Amazons

**Arthur Ransome's beloved tales recounting childhood adventures are told anew on the big screen.** The twelve books were named after the title of the first one in the series and set between the two World Wars. Despite some deviations from the original plot, including the addition of heavily over-coated spies, the children, non-actors, are perfectly cast. The Lake District is perfect in all its careless, spectacular beauty and moody tranquillity, fulfilling our love for trees and hills and streams.

As for simple penknife and string adventures, this is a delicious tale set in a time of innocence in a most beautiful part of England.

"A good-natured, if self-conscious period adaptation that grafts on a new grown-up plotline with dastardly spies" (*Guardian*)

"There's a period-appropriate honesty to it, easily mistaken at first for earnestness or nostalgia. It stands apart from any other family film you'll see for a long time." (*Telegraph*)

Much of it was filmed on the endlessly breathtaking, blue Derwent Water at Keswick, where the most special 'Cat Bells' ridge can be seen clearly in many background shots. I will love Keswick in April, forever. Thus this film will come back here again and again. So come again and again.

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Director: Philippa Lowthorpe  
 Cast: Rafe Spall, Kelly Macdonald, Andrew Scott  
 Duration: 97 mins  
 Origin: UK 2016  
 Certificate: PG  
 Company: Studiocanal

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**When...**

**Sat 11 2.00**



## 1917

**As the most technically accomplished war film to date, the screen journey is bigger. The tech is invisible.** Sam Mendes' World War 1 epic tells of two boy soldiers: Schofield and Blake charging on foot through enemy lines on an urgent mission to stop certain massacre. Their General's orders are crystal clear. They must make their way across trenches, mine-fields, battlefields and No-Mans-Land in France with a hand-written note (radio comms cut) to Col. Mackenzie of the Second Battalion. with orders to call off a planned advance against the Germans, mistakenly presumed to be weakened. It is a trap that will result in slaughter of two thousand troops. Armed with one of our greatest living "Lighting Cameramen" DP Roger Deakins, Mendes' camera stalks the boys, chasing behind them into their own unknown (so ours!) in one 'continuous' shot. As battalions clash, planes crash, and artillery assault the senses, these two hapless braves must traverse across the battlelines over two days. 1917 is inspired by a true story told to Sam by his grandfather, who similarly ran as a messenger on the Belgian front. Hence a tense, heart stopping, close-up tale. (*research Jack Whiting*) A bruising two hours. You daren't move, dont try. But don't miss.

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Director: Sam Mendes  
 Cast: Dean-Charles Chapman, George Mackay, Daniel Mays, Colin Firth  
 Duration: 119 min  
 Origin: UK/USA 2020  
 Certificate: 15  
 Company: Entertainment One

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**When...**

**Sat 11 7.00**



## Ghost

**Making pottery still look sexy three decades on, this weepie classic retains an innocence and earnestness that makes it as delightfully comforting as ever.**

Investment banker Sam Wheat (Patrick Swayze) and artist Molly Jensen (Demi Moore) are an idyllic couple moving into their new New York apartment. Their bond is suddenly torn apart when Sam is shot and killed by a mugger. With his soul separated from his body, he's left to fend for his ghostly self and try to reconnect with Molly from the afterlife.

The film has a number of elements that make it virtually irresistible: namely the deft comic touch of Airplane! director Jerry Zucker, who expertly avoids sentimentality; Whoopi Goldberg's legendary Oscar performance as medium Oda Mae Brown, and Moore's ability to cry in a sexier fashion than anyone in recent history. But Ghost is also fundamentally a human tale that touches the hardest heart. And so with chocolates, tissues and ideally, the one you love all within grabbing distance, Ghost is the film to round off a perfect evening of Easter slush. *(research Jack Whiting)* An irresistible Easter Sunday family film indeed. Forget the lovers angle, just bring the chocolates, hankies and the kids... and the street.

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**Director:** Jerry Zucker  
**Cast:** Patrick Swayze, Demi Moore, Whoopi Goldberg, Tony Goldwyn, Stanley Lawrence, Christopher J. Keene  
**Duration:** 126 mins  
**Origin:** USA 1990  
**Certificate:** 12A  
**Company:** Paramount Pictures UK

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**When...**

**Sun 12 6.00**



## Ronnie Wood: Somebody Up There Likes Me

**Oscar-nominated director Mike Figgis shines a light on Rolling Stones guitarist Ronnie Wood, with backing 'vocals' from Mick Jagger, Keith Richards, Rod Stewart and on...**

A rock legend, Ronnie first made waves with Jeff Beck, later with The Faces late '60s - early '70s. For the past 45 years...!!! he has been a member of The Rolling Stones. Against the odds he has not only survived the usual suspects of drink & drugs - and the pox't cancer!! But he's thrived in a business driven by that lucky combo of brilliance, charisma and being in the right place when it mattered. A 'youthfully creased' candid Ronnie reflects on his life with warmth, humour and above all: immense honesty. Figgis traces Wood's life from his childhood in West London to his rock 'n' roll beginnings, the art school influences, his journey to stardom and the characters he met along the way. An iconic list of peers, family and friends witness for us, an extraordinary life on and off stage. A slender, gloriously shot portrait of a Stone who just keeps on Rolling (oh dear!). *(research Chris Coetsee)* A fantastic real folklore yarn of mythical rock 'n roll proportions for Easter Monday. Don't miss. He's invited...

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**Director:** Mike Figgis  
**Cast:** Ronnie Wood, Mick Jagger, Keith Richards  
**Duration:** 82 mins  
**Origin:** UK 2019  
**Certificate:** 15  
**Company:** MusicScreen Ltd

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**When...**

**Mon 13 7.30**



## Missing Link

**Laika is a name that absolutely needs to be remembered.** They are the US cousins of Aardman and still chugging along, one painstaking stop-motion shot at a time. The degree of care that goes into every detail of these films is staggering.

And Missing Link is no slouch. Sir Lionel Frost (Hugh Jackman) plans to distinguish himself among London's professional explorers, by procuring evidence that prehistoric beasts still walk among us. Upon receiving a letter off on spindly-stop-motion legs our hero goes into the woods slow on the heels of this behemoth. As it turns out, 'Mr Link' (or as he's later called... Susan) turns out to be a very chipper mythical beast (Zach Galifianakis). He's a gentle giant just looking for a home, and he's surprisingly literal-minded. This is one of those films where the destination is much less important than the journey, and the slower pacing of the third act allows us to savour the stunning vistas that establish each new setting. While not as grand or quite as exciting as Kubo and the Two Strings (their magnum opus) Missing Link is nevertheless a rare and wonderful specimen. (*research Jack Whiting*) Fantastic, clever and very funny. Come.

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**Director:** Chris Butler  
**Voices:** Zoe Saldana, Hugh Jackman, Timothy Olyphant, Zach Galifianakis, Emma Thompson, Amrita Acharia  
**Duration:** 95 mins  
**Origin:** USA 2019  
**Certificate:** PG  
**Company:** Lionsgate

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**When...**

**Tue 14 2.00**



## Military Wives

**Exploring a choir's journey to the Royal Albert Hall, Military Wives is a sincere ode to the emotional power of music.** Inspired by the country's first choir made up of military wives, made famous by the BBC Two show, this British melodrama is determined not to leave a dry eye in the house. When most of a military base's soldiers are sent to Afghanistan, the sergeant's wife Lisa (Sharon Horgan) is left in charge of organising activities for the other spouses and partners at home. Along with the colonel's wife Kate (Kristin Scott Thomas) - who is determined to boost morale among the women even as she grieves the loss of her own son - they form a choir. Horgan and Scott Thomas' comic chemistry is excellent, as they clash over how to lead the ensemble and the challenges of bringing harmony to the group (both literally and figuratively). Sensitive to the struggles and triumphs these women undergo as they prepare for a public performance, director Peter Cattaneo called the film a celebration of "the emotional power of music, and the catharsis of singing together". Predictable but heartwarming all the same (bring tissues). (*research Rachel Williams*) But strictly - no joining in...!

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**Director:** Peter Cattaneo  
**Cast:** Kristin Scott Thomas, Sharon Horgan, Emma Lowndes  
**Duration:** 113 min  
**Origin:** UK 2019  
**Certificate:** 12A  
**Company:** Lionsgate

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**When...**

**Tue 14 7.30** **Sun 26 6.00**  
**Thu 30 2.00**



Director: Dan Scanlon  
 Cast: Tom Holland, Chris Pratt, Julia Louis-Dreyfus, Octavia Spencer, Ali Wong  
 Duration: 107 min  
 Origin: USA 2020  
 Certificate: U  
 Company: Walt Disney Studios

## When...

**Wed 15** 2.00  
**Sat 25** 2.00

## Onward

**Do families need fathers? Onward delivers a love song to atypical clans, which couldn't end on a sweeter, or clearer, note.**

A charming tale which explores the frayed bond between two elf brothers: shy, introverted Ian (voiced by Tom Holland) and the bumbling Barley (Chris Pratt) who lost their father before they got to know him. Their mum has raised them the best she could in New Mushroomtown, a Middle Earth inspired slice of suburbia brimming with trolls, unicorns, elves etc. And like our world, they live in a landscape where digital technology threatens to replace imagination.

As could have been guessed from the moment "dead dad" entered the picture, Onward is another soul-crushing tearjerker in the tradition of Coco and Inside Out. It's like the Pixar team set up a betting pool on who can make audiences choke on their own tears the fastest. In the end, the affecting simplicity of the family dynamic shines through; Onward isn't just an abstract parable of the absent father, but a relatable tale about how the broken bond between two brothers is mended by a common cause. *(research Jack Whiting)* Sounds fab, if unusual in the cartoon of things. Come and see.



## La Belle Époque

**Virtual reality is taken to new heights in this winning Eternal Sunshine-esque French romance.**

Daniel Auteuil plays cartoonist Victor Drumond, marooned in his sixties and gently withdrawing from an alien world of endless iPad and phone interaction. Kicked out by his wife Marianne (the eternally gorgeous Fanny Ardant) who finds him insufferably boring, he desperately reaches out to friend Antoine who runs a high-end re-enactment service, whereby a client can be transported to any era they desire and live out their fantasy life. When offered the opportunity, Victor doesn't hesitate, wishing to return to a smoke-filled bistro in 1974, the moment he first met Marianne. However, there are complications, as Victor finds himself falling for Margot, the actress playing young Marianne, who happens to be Antoine's on-off girlfriend. Auteuil is great in the lead role, remaining sceptical of the charade but hapless to resist its allure. Writer/director Nicolas Bedos has endless fun, packing the film with moments of joie de vivre to deliver an escapist fantasy as topical as it is touching. An immaculately constructed, achingly romantic joy, exploring both the seductive pull of nostalgia with the dangers of living in the past. (Research Chris Coetsee) Back by huge demand... and Fanny Ardant. Don't miss.

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**Director:** Nicolas Bedos  
**Cast:** Daniel Auteuil, Guillaume Canet, Doria Tillier, Fanny Ardant, Pierre Arditi  
**Duration:** 115 min  
**Origin:** France 2019 (Subtitled)  
**Certificate:** 15  
**Company:** Pathé

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**When...**

**Wed 15 7.30**



## The Call Of The Wild

**Man meets CGI dog in wholesome adventure film**

Adapting Jack London's 1903 literary classic, The Call of the Wild follows the life of Buck, a domesticated St. Bernard/Scotch Collie dog. Stolen from his comfortable Californian home and sold to freight haulers in Yukon, Canada, Buck's life is turned upside down. Driven by a new demand for dogs to pull sleds during the 1890s Gold Rush, after men discover gold in the region, Buck is forced to join a mail delivery dog sled team. After a series of hardships, the canine comes across John Thornton (Harrison Ford), who becomes his new master. Both trying to find their place in the world among the frozen Alaskan Klondike, Harrison Ford stated that his character "has an opportunity to gain humanity in Buck's eyes because of their close relationship. And he gets the courage from Buck to face parts of his life that he didn't have the courage to face prior to this relationship." Exploring the deep bond that a dog can have with man and their fight for survival in dangerous terrain, this is a heartfelt adaptation of London's timeless novel. (Rachel Williams)

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**Director:** Chris Sanders  
**Cast:** Harrison Ford, Karen Gillan, Cara Gee, Dan Stevens  
**Duration:** 100 min  
**Origin:** USA 2020  
**Certificate:** PG  
**Company:** Walt Disney Studios

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**When...**

**Thu 16 2.00**

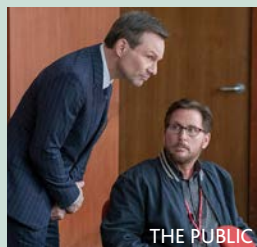
## COMING SOON TO THE ODYSSEY

### BACK BY DEMAND

DARKS WATERS  
THE INVISIBLE MAN  
ONWARD  
MISBEHAVIOUR  
THE SECRET GARDEN  
PARASITE B+W

### NEW RELEASES

LES MISERABLES  
SEVEN SAMURAI  
PLUS...



THE PUBLIC



ANTEBELLUM

PROMISING  
YOUNG WOMAN

THE TRUTH



# THE ODYSSEY

C I N E M A S T A L B A N S

BOX OFFICE: 01727 453088

APRIL	FILM	TIME
1 WED	MILITARY WIVES	7.30
2 THU	PARASITE (S)	7.30
3 FRI	PARASITE (S)	1.00
3 FRI	BOMBSHELL	7.30
4 SAT	SONIC THE HEDGEHOG	2.00
4 SAT	PARASITE (S)	7.00
5 SUN	PARASITE (S)	1.00
5 SUN	EMMA	6.00
6 MON	SONIC THE HEDGEHOG	2.00
6 MON	1917	7.30
7 TUE	SONIC THE HEDGEHOG	2.00
7 TUE	EMMA	7.00
8 WED	THE PERSONAL HISTORY OF DAVID COPPERFIELD	1.00, 7.30
9 THU	DOLITTLE	2.00
9 THU	THE GENTLEMEN	7.00
10 FRI	LITTLE WOMEN	2.00
10 FRI	THE INVISIBLE MAN	7.30
11 SAT	ONWARD	2.00
11 SAT	DARK WATERS	8.00
12 SUN	THE PERSONAL HISTORY OF DAVID COPPERFIELD	5.00
12 SUN	MONTY PYTHON'S LIFE OF BRIAN	9.00
13 MON	MILITARY WIVES	1.00
13 MON	1917	7.00
14 TUE	JOJO RABBIT	2.00
14 TUE	THE INVISIBLE MAN	7.00
15 WED	ONWARD	11.30
15 WED	BOMBSHELL	7.45
16 THU	1917	12.00
16 THU	TRUE HISTORY OF THE KELLY GANG	7.30
17 FRI	ONWARD	2.00
17 FRI	MISBEHAVIOUR	7.30
18 SAT	ONWARD	2.00
18 SAT	KNIVES OUT	7.00
19 SUN	SONIC THE HEDGEHOG	1.00
19 SUN	MONTY PYTHON & THE HOLY GRAIL	5.00
19 SUN	PARASITE (S)	8.15
20 MON	ONWARD	2.00
20 MON	JOJO RABBIT	7.00
21 TUE	MISBEHAVIOUR	12.00
21 TUE	SYSTEM CRASHER (S)	7.30
22 WED	DARK WATERS	1.00
22 WED	ELVIS: THAT'S THE WAY IT IS	7.30
23 THU	MR JONES	7.00
24 FRI	MR JONES	1.00
24 FRI	HUSTLERS	7.30
25 SAT	SONIC THE HEDGEHOG	1.00
25 SAT	MISBEHAVIOUR	5.00
25 SAT	1917	9.00
26 SUN	PARASITE (S)	1.00
26 SUN	LES ENFANTS DU PARADIS (S)(+i)	5.30
27 MON	THE INVISIBLE MAN	1.00
27 MON	DARK WATERS	7.30
28 TUE	MISBEHAVIOUR	12.00
28 TUE	CUNNINGHAM	7.30
29 WED	EMMA	1.00
29 WED	MISBEHAVIOUR	7.30
30 THU	THE ELEPHANT MAN (1980)	7.30

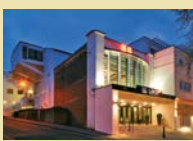
(S) SUBTITLED (+i) INTRO

# THE-REX

BERKHAMSTED

BOX OFFICE:

01442  
877759



MARCH	FILM	TIME	PAGE
1 WED	EMMA	2.00, 7.30	8
2 THU	PARASITE (S)	2.00, 7.30	8
3 FRI	LE MANS '66	2.00	9
3 FRI	TRUE HISTORY OF THE KELLY GANG	7.30	9
4 SAT	DOLITTLE	2.00	10
4 SAT	LE MANS '66	7.00	9
5 SUN	CASINO ROYALE	6.00	10
6 MON	LADY AND THE TRAMP	2.00	11
6 MON	VITALINA VARELA (S)	7.30	11
7 TUE	LITTLE WOMEN	2.00	12
7 TUE	THE INVISIBLE MAN	7.30	12
8 WED	SONIC THE HEDGEHOG	2.00	13
8 WED	DARK WATERS	7.30	13
9 THU	STAR WARS: RISE OF SKYWALKER	2.00	14
9 THU	PORTRAIT OF A LADY ON FIRE (S)	7.30	14
10 FRI	PARASITE (S)	7.30	8
11 SAT	SWALLOWS AND AMAZONS	2.00	15
11 SAT	1917	7.00	15
12 SUN	GHOST	6.00	16
13 MON	RONNIE WOOD: SOMEBODY UP THERE LIKES ME	7.30	16
14 TUE	MISSING LINK	2.00	17
14 TUE	MILITARY WIVES	7.30	17
15 WED	ONWARD	2.00	18
15 WED	LA BELLE ÉPOQUE (S)	7.30	19
16 THU	THE CALL OF THE WILD	2.00	19
16 THU	CALM WITH HORSES	7.30	22
17 FRI	SHAUN THE SHEEP: FARMAGEDDON	2.00	22
17 FRI	TRUE HISTORY OF THE KELLY GANG	7.30	9
18 SAT	THE RAILWAY CHILDREN	2.00	23
18 SAT	THE INVISIBLE MAN	7.00	12
19 SUN	RAGTIME	6.00	23
20 MON	THE PERSONAL HISTORY OF DAVID COPPERFIELD	2.00	24
20 MON	BACURAU (S)	7.30	24
21 TUE	THE GOOD LIAR	2.00	25
21 TUE	MOTHERLESS BROOKLYN	7.30	25
22 WED	MOTHERLESS BROOKLYN	2.00	25
22 WED	THE TRUTH (S)	7.30	26
23 THU	MISBEHAVIOUR	2.00, 7.30	27
24 FRI	JOJO RABBIT	2.00, 7.30	28
25 SAT	ONWARD	2.00	18
25 SAT	THE GENTLEMEN	7.00	28
26 SUN	MILITARY WIVES	6.00	17
27 MON	THE TRUTH (S)	2.00, 7.30	26
28 TUE	RICHARD JEWELL	2.00, 7.30	29
29 WED	EMMA	2.00	8
29 WED	BOMBSHELL	7.30	29
30 THU	MILITARY WIVES	2.00	17
30 THU	DARK WATERS	7.30	13

(S) SUBTITLED

## COMING SOON TO THE REX

### BACK BY DEMAND

JOJO RABBIT

RICHARD JEWELL

PORTRAIT OF LADY ON FIRE

DARK WATER

PARASITE

THE TRUTH

### NEW RELEASES

THE GREAT BUSTER...

THE PAINTED BIRD

ST MAUD

PROMISING YOUNG WOMAN





## Calm With Horses

**Debut director Nick Rowland's remarkable portrait of domestic happiness, a life of crime and the trappings of both.**

After he quits boxing, Douglas (Jarvis) is quickly snapped up by the Dever family, local mobsters who could use his heavyweight skills. Torn between his love for his autistic 5-year-old son Jack and his increasingly violent work, the soft-spoken Douglas is led deeper into the Dever business by his friend Dymna (Keoghan) whose uncles run the family. Backed into a corner, Douglas' true loyalties are tested when he is asked to kill for the first time. All performances here are gritty and grounded in earthy honesty. At the centre, Jarvis is strikingly engaging, wearing his emotional struggles in every movement. Even in his failures, it's clear that he's trying to do the right thing. Alongside him, Keoghan's career continues to go from strength to strength, delivering another astonishingly committed performance as the carefree makeshift prince of this ruling family.

A powerful exploration of how life can sometimes push people in directions that they never wanted to go. (research Chris Coetsee) Beautiful Chris and spot on. It is culturally absolute and brutal: when you're with us - you're with us - and that's it.

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**Director:** Nick Rowland  
**Cast:** Cosmo Jarvis, Ned Dennehy, Barry Keoghan, Niamh Algar, David Wilmot, Anthony Welsh  
**Duration:** 100mins  
**Origin:** UK 2020  
**Certificate:** 15  
**Company:** Altitude Film Distribution

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**When...**

**Thu 16 7.30**



## Shaun the Sheep: Farmageddon

**This sheep-quel mixes the same jolly English eccentricity with a Spielbergian sci-fi twist – and pulls it off with typical Aardman charm, and devastating wit.** A riff on ET with Shaun in the Elliott role. Shaun and his flock encounter Lu-la, an alien who has crash-landed near Mossy Bottom Farm. With government agents hunting her down, Shaun decides to defy farm dog Bitzer and help Lu-la return home. Shaun, the littlest of heroes, provides much delight and fun in a film that has hilarious crossover for both adults and children alike.

Aardman's charming and stupendously popular ruminant again gets by on a steady stream of bleats, squeaks and rubbery facial expressions. The result is another great showcase for the animation house's powers of non-verbal storytelling that's a giddy delight for kids, and just witty and knowing enough for grown-ups eg: one visual gag involving a piece of toast resembling the monolith from Kubrick's 2001 is classic Aardman. It's one giant leap for lamb kind. (Jack Whiting) Farmageddon is pure joy from the painstaking and genius animaters at Aardman's stop-frame-click shop floor. Beyond words. On our screen forever, but don't wait that long. Your whole family will love it now – and all at once.

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**Directors:** Will Becher, Richard Phelan  
**Cast:** Justin Fletcher, Joe Sugg, John Sparkes  
**Duration:** 87min  
**Origin:** UK 2019  
**Certificate:** U  
**Company:** Studio Canal

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**When...**

**Fri 17 2.00**



## The Railway Children

**Always a welcome return of this beautiful film. We keep it alive for new generations to see for the first time on the big screen.**

It perfectly captures the sunny English landscape at a time when children waved at steam trains and Brexit was a wet Farage dream. A tale of innocence, pride and good manners hardship, adversity and the once easy friendship between children and grown-ups. It is a celebration of posh fortitude set in an environment of steam trains, endless summer days and buns for tea. Unashamedly sentimental, it is Lionel Jeffries' faithful 1970s film of Edith Nesbitt's classic children's novel. A chance to choke back a new tear and give new children the chance to be lost in the simple beauty of hills, tracks and polished railways, muckier now, but nobody dies in this film. "Whether today's kids get it is open..." (*Time Out*) But having girls, "Daddy ... my daddy!" as the last steam clears the platform, will for ever be heartbreaking and soaring all at once. If you don't fidgit, there might be buns for tea at home... Or fidgit and miss your buns, but don't miss this perfect summertime treat here at the Rex - ever.

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**Director:** Lionel Jeffries  
**Cast:** Dinah Sheridan, Jenny Agutter, Sally Thomsett, Gary Warren, Bernard Cribbens  
**Duration:** 106 mins  
**Origin:** UK 1970  
**Certificate:** U  
**Company:** Optimum Releasing

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**When...**

**Sat 18 2.00**



## Ragtime

**Milos Forman's 1981 adaptation of E. L. Doctorow's epic featuring the swan song of Hollywood legend James Cagney (and Pat O'Brien).**

Spanning two crucial decades of American history, Doctorow's *Ragtime* was a sprawling fictional chronicle of politics, culture and society between 1900 and 1913. As such, the book presented an immense challenge for Forman.

Centering on issues of social class and social change, Forman's *Ragtime* depicts three of Doctorow's plot threads; the story of an immigrant artist who becomes a filmmaker, the tale of Evelyn Shaw who becomes entangled in a notorious killing, and the saga of Coalhouse Walker Jr (Howard E. Rollins Jr) a talented young black pianist who seeks justice after an incident with a racist fire chief. It is this that takes centre stage, as Rollins, Jr. brilliantly channels the changes he goes through; from youthful romantic love to an impassioned cry of rage. There could be no justice for the likes of Coalhouse Walker in the New York of 1910.

With 8 Oscar nominations, *Ragtime* still remains a loving, beautifully mounted, graceful film that creates its characters with great clarity. (*Research Chris Coetsee*) I have been chasing for *Ragtime* since we opened in 2004. Now it's finally here, don't miss it.

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**Director:** Milos Forman  
**Cast:** James Cagney, Brad Dourif, Moses Gunn, Elizabeth McGovern  
**Duration:** 155 mins  
**Origin:** USA 1981  
**Certificate:** 15  
**Company:** Columbia-Emi-Warner Dists Ltd

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**When...**

**Sun 19 6.00**



## The Personal History Of David Copperfield

**Armando Iannucci combines wit and satire with an fabulous, many-faced cast to create a perfect Dickens film adaptation.** Returning after our gifted anniversary preview in December (followed by a relaxed easy-going Q&A with Armando, who lit up the place and brought his whole family..!) The film went down a storm with The Rex audience ahead of its nationwide release. Its casting, with the remarkable Dev Patel as David, and interesting stylistic touches set the film apart from previous adaptations. Condensing a 600+ page tome into a fast-paced tragicomedy, we follow David's tumultuous journey from birth to grown-up, as he navigates the obstacles of an impoverished orphan to a burgeoning wealthy writer. Aunt Betsey and Mr Dick, Swinton and Laurie excel in panto double act, reflecting both the absurdity and charm of Dickens' characters. Whishaw's Uriah Heep and Capaldi's Mr. Micawber sparkle. During his Q&A, Iannucci said "I was always struck by how fresh and contemporary Dickens felt, while I think we've packaged him away as some Victorian fusty long-winded novelist." It captures the spirit of Dickens' masterful and youthful - mischief. (*Rachel Williams*). A rare Iannucci act of mischief on (Charlie's) mischief. Don't miss. Come - again.

Director: Armando Iannucci  
 Cast: Dev Patel, Hugh Laurie, Tilda Swinton, Gewendoline Christie, Peter Capaldi  
 Duration: 119 min  
 Origin: UK USA 2020  
 Certificate: PG  
 Company: Lionsgate

When...

Mon 20 2.00



## Bacurau

**A remote town fights for survival in this surreal Brazilian western** Set a few years from now in the sertão (outback in northeast Brazil), the film opens in the stars, gradually zooming into Earth to settle on an isolated village named Bacurau. Wiped off the grid, with the place disappearing off maps and GPS, the largely unknown location is full of eccentric characters who take hallucinogens regularly. After the death of her grandmother, Teresa (Bárbara Colen) returns to the matriarchal town for the burial, feeling disturbed by strange occurrences - mobile phone service disappears, the water supply has been stopped, someone spots a UFO and a couple of strangers bike through town. Threatened by a group of wealthy outsiders, the locals must take matters into their own hands. Examining the attempted erasure of a small community, Bacurau's sociopolitical subtext is mirrored in the captivating and unnerving editing, along with a futuristic electronic soundtrack. Director Kleber Mendonça Filho stated "I think the whole atmosphere [of Brazil's north-east] is really feeding into the dystopian nature of the film, and people are recognising it. The film establishes a very strong dialogue with reality." (*research Rachel Williams*) Sounds like the kind of chaos grown from rumour and panic.

Directors: Kleber Mendonça Filho, Juliano Dornelles  
 Cast: Barbara Colen, Thomas Aquino, Silvero Pereira, Thardelly Lima  
 Duration: 131 mins  
 Origin: Brazil 2020 (Subtitled)  
 Certificate: 18  
 Company: MUBI

When...

Mon 20 7.30



## The Good Liar

**Helen Mirren and Ian McKellen share the screen for the very first time in Bill Condon's outrageous cat-and-mouse thriller.**

Ageing career con artist Roy Courtney can hardly believe his luck when he meets well-to-do widow Betty McLeish online. Having lured in his mark with a string of online lies, the two eventually meet. Finding a spark, they each come clean over their various white lies and embark on a relationship. As Betty opens her home and life to him, Roy is surprised to find himself caring about her, turning what should be a cut-and-dry swindle into the most treacherous tightrope walk of his life. As expected, Mirren and McKellen make for a superb double act. Star dahlings front beginning to end. Both playing against type to one extent or another, their performances are deceptively light on any kind of twinkle. Elsewhere Russell Tovey shines in a supporting role as Betty's suspicious grandson Steven, who proves to be a continual thorn in Roy's side. From *The Sting* to the oddball original *Brando/Niven Dirty Rotten Scoundrels*, con artistry has always made for fun cinema. In its own old-fashioned, fall-about way, *The Good Liar* delivers a satisfying sting of its own. (*Research Chris Coetsee*) Come and guess...

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**Director:** Bill Condon  
**Cast:** Helen Mirren, Ian McKellen, Russell Tovey, Jim Carter  
**Duration:** 109 mins  
**Origin:** USA 2019  
**Certificate:** 15  
**Company:** Warner Bros

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**When...**

**Tue 21 2.00**



## Motherless Brooklyn

**Edward Norton writes, directs and stars in Motherless Brooklyn, a stylish but convoluted 50s detective thriller** Twenty years in the making, Norton has finally adapted Jonathan Lethem's novel after acquiring the rights in the 90s. Shifting the setting back to the late 50s, his version allows for smoky jazz clubs and an abundance of tropes seen in classic noir films. Its protagonist is Lionel Essrog (Norton) a private eye with Tourette's syndrome. His father-figure boss, Frank Minna (Bruce Willis) had rescued him from an abusive orphanage, and trained him in the underworld of his New York detective agency. When he witnesses his boss' murder on a secret case, Lionel resolves to solve his murder and find out what he was working on. Utilising his photographic memory, he uncovers a web of secrets among the jazz clubs of Brooklyn and Harlem - meeting community activist Laurie Rose (Gugu Mbatha-Raw) and dangerous city official, Moses Randolph (an excellent Alec Baldwin) along the way. It could do with sharper edits and requires some patience, yet the gorgeous cityscapes and poignant soundtrack contributed by Radiohead's Thom Yorke colours then period well. (*research Rachel Williams*) Now there's an oddball collaboration. Come, see and hear for yourself.

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**Director:** Edward Norton  
**Cast:** Edward Norton, Bruce Willis, Gugu Mbatha-Raw, Michael Kenneth Williams, Leslie Mann, Willem Dafoe  
**Duration:** 144 mins  
**Origin:** USA 2019  
**Certificate:** 15  
**Company:** Warner Bros

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**When...**

**Tue 21 7.30 Wed 22 2.00**



## The Truth

**Catherine Deneuve commands the screen as a movie diva in the twilight of her career in acclaimed arthouse director Hirokazu Kore-eda's first film outside his Japanese homeland.**

Following his Palme d'Or winning *Shoplifters*, Kore-eda heads to Paris for both his first French and English-language film. While the locations and social backdrops have dramatically changed, the filmmaker's skill with powerful and tender portraits of family conflicts is not lost in translation.

Fabienne Dangeville (Catherine Deneuve) is a major star of veteran French cinema. Having just published her memoirs and filming a science fiction drama she doesn't care for, she's faced with familial tensions when her estranged daughter Lumir (Juliette Binoche) returns from New York with her American actor-husband, Hank (Hawke) and young daughter Charlotte in tow. A battle of wits ensues between the mother-daughter duo as Lumir takes issue with Fabienne's rose-tinted version of the past. Smartly reflected by Fabienne's latest role, their strained relationship takes a poignant journey as they both float toward possible reconciliation.

Perfectly cast and masterfully executed, this is yet another sure-fire winner from Kore-eda, undoubtedly one of today's greatest working filmmakers. (*research Chris Coetsee*) Deneuve and Binoche on the same Kore-eda screen. Don't miss.

Director: Hirokazu Koreeda  
 Cast: Catherine Deneuve, Juliette Binoche, Ethan Hawke, Clémentine Grenier, Manon Clavel, Christian Crahay  
 Duration: 107 mins  
 Origin: France 2020 (Subtitled)  
 Certificate: PG  
 Company: Artificial Eye

**When...** **Mon 27 2.00**  
**Wed 22 7.30 Mon 27 7.30**



## Misbehaviour

**Keira Knightley and Jessie Buckley tackle Seventies sexism in this comedy crowd-pleaser.**

Created in the mould of *Made in Dagenham* and *Pride*, director Philippa Lowthorpe offers up an all-female angle on the 1970 Miss World Contest that was disrupted by feminist protests. Knightley plays Sally Alexander, a single mother and mature student struggling to find her voice in an all-male academic environment. When she meets feisty feminist Jo Robinson, the two women soon find common ground. With the Miss World competition fast approaching, Jo, Sally and their fellow Women's Liberation group decide to stage a protest by infiltrating the celebrations. Meanwhile, contest impresario Eric Morley (played with impeccable smarm by Rhys Ifans) and his wife Julia (Keeley Hawes) are worked into a frenzy trying to hush the bad publicity surrounding the show from both feminist groups and anti-apartheid activists protesting the continued appearance of South Africa in the show. Knightley leads a stellar line-up of British talent including *Wild Rose*'s Jessie Buckley as rowdy, lawbreaking Jo, Rhys Ifans, Keeley Hawes and the terrific Gugu Mbatha-Raw who drives the story from within the pageant. *Misbehaviour* is that rare thing; a truly entertaining, clever, funny and nuanced film about gender politics. (Research Chris Coetsee) Sounds fun come and see.



Director: Philippa Lowthorpe  
 Cast: Gugu Mbatha-Raw, Keira Knightley, Keeley Hawes, Jessie Buckley, Suki Waterhouse, Rhys Ifans  
 Duration: 106 min  
 Origin: UK/France 2020  
 Certificate: 12A  
 Company: Walt Disney Studios

**When...**

**Thu 23 2.00, 7.30**



## Jojo Rabbit

**Taika Waititi offers a hilarious perspective on the insanity of Nazism in this brazen, boisterous comedy.** Creating a World War II-set comedy-drama that counts on drawing laughs from one of history's greatest monsters is a big challenge even for Waititi, a filmmaker whose deadpan New Zealand wit has given us everything from the vampire mockumentary *What We Do In The Shadows* to the coming-of-age *Boy* to his spot-on *Hunt For The Wilderpeople*. This fantasy war movie, focuses on ten-year-old German boy Johannes (Roman Griffin Davis). He has grown up in Nazi Germany idolising Hitler but when he discovers his mother (Scarlett Johansson doesn't, but is instead harbouring a Jewish girl Elsa (Thomasin McKenzie) in their home, his outlook begins to change, much to the dismay of his Führer-shaped imaginary friend. The two standout young actors are alone, worth the price of tickets, with each providing the kind of heart which sits at the film's own heart. Looking at how impressionable kids can be so easily manipulated, *Jojo Rabbit* shows us that prejudice and hate are not behaviours born of the soul, but ideologies and beliefs indoctrinated into us by others. (*Research Chris Coetsee*) Fantastic. Come also to laugh out loud... and cry in secret.

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**Director:** Taika Waititi  
**Cast:** Roman Griffin Davis, Thomasin McKenzie, Scarlett Johansson, Sam Rockwell, Rebel Wilson  
**Duration:** 109 min  
**Origin:** Czech Republic/New Zealand/USA 2020  
**Certificate:** 12A  
**Company:** Walt Disney Studios

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**When...**

**Fri 24 2.00, 7.30**



## The Gentlemen

**After more than a decade of Hollywood hits (and misses) – culminating in *Aladdin*, of all things – Guy Ritchie is back on home turf with this unapologetically, nonPC (poseur Guy - never!) gangster yarn.** Brace yourself for a swank-fest. American Mickey (Matthew McConaughey) is ready for early retirement. A languid self-made crim, he has lots of connected friends, a trophy wife, Rosalind (Michelle Dockery) and a marijuana empire to sell to the highest bidder. Nerdy, greedy, penny-pinching millionaire Matthew (Jeremy Strong) is interested in getting his hands on all that weed. So is Dry Eye (Henry Golding) a footsoldier in a Chinese syndicate who has no respect for his elders and less for Mickey. Yet, in true Ritchie style, this is complicated by a story we are told through the eyes of scuzzy private investigator Fletcher (Hugh Grant, sounding like Jonathan Ross) who is relaying the plot to Mickey's right-hand-man, Ray (Charlie Hunnam) for blackmail. If you can just about follow the needlessly convoluted narrative and stomach the usual suspect of unpleasant humour, you can almost say Ritchie has made a welcome return. (*research Jack Whiting*) Welcome? This depends on which side of Guy's, nice-public school-boy-but-wannabe-a-real-life-horny-gangster, you lads like to dress...

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**Director:** Guy Ritchie  
**Cast:** Matthew McConaughey, Charlie Hunnam, Michelle Dockery, Hugh Grant, Henry Golding  
**Duration:** 113 min  
**Origin:** USA 2020  
**Certificate:** 18  
**Company:** Entertainment Film Distribution

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**When...**

**Sat 25 7.00**



## Richard Jewell

**Clint Eastwood (pushing 90!) adds a new addition to his gallery of unexpected American heroes courtesy of this tale of a do-gooder who was first celebrated and then unjustly vilified by the FBI and reviled by the media.** At the 1996 Olympic games in Atlanta, Richard Jewell (Paul Walter Hauser) alerts the police to a suspicious backpack that contained three pipe bombs. His brave efforts to evacuate the crowd saved lives before the bomb exploded, killing just one person, and injuring 100 others. Suddenly, this thirtysomething misfit who lives with his mum (Kathy Bates) is hailed as a conquering hero by the press. Word gets out the FBI is sniffing around Jewell's apartment. Apparently he fits some quack-expert's hero-complex, deliberately planting bombs to play the hero by finding them. Without hard evidence to arrest, they leaked their suspicions to the city's press... uh oh. To turn up the heat hoping that he would crack and confess. Hauser's performance keeps the film from collapsing under moments of silliness and dramatic licensing: his portrayal of Jewell is poignant, lonely and vulnerable maintaining that tricky balance between laugh-at and laugh-with. (*research Jack Whiting*). Clint has never lost his nerve, even after a few turkeys. Keep going Big-Man. Don't miss.

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**Director:** Clint Eastwood  
**Cast:** Paul Walter Hauser, Olivia Wilde, Sam Rockwell, Jon Hamm, Kathy Bates, Nina Arianda  
**Duration:** 131 mins  
**Origin:** USA 2019  
**Certificate:** 15  
**Company:** Warner Bros Entertainment UK Ltd.

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**When...**

**Tue 28 2.00, 7.30**



## Bombshell

**Three mega-blondes dazzle in Jay Roach's darkly satirical drama.** Taking place in the midst of the 2015 election cycle that quietly saw Donald Trump ascend to his eventual presidential victory, Bombshell brings to life the sexual harassment scandal that hit Fox network when two of its high ranking employees; star anchor Megyn Kelly (Theron) and Gretchen Carlson (Kidman) first accuse and then bring down Roger Ailes, the right-wing Chairman and CEO of the network. Joining them, Robbie's character Kayla, a fictional amalgamation of dozens of ambitious young women, struggles with her own personal exploitation by Ailes during his reign. Roach takes us behind the scenes of the shape-shifting Fox News landscape, aided by some truly sublime performances. Theron simply disappears into the role of Kelly. Complete with facial prosthetics, contact lenses and a voice lowered to the point where she damaged her vocal chords while filming, she should find herself in serious award contention this season. Robbie is similarly outstanding at portraying Kayla's frail mental state while John Lithgow cracks open Ailes ugliness with one bullish line after the other. A punchy, telling insight into women in the Media in times of change. (*Chris Coetsee*) Much more promising than the poster looks. Come and see.

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**Director:** Jay Roach  
**Cast:** Charlize Theron, Nicole Kidman, Margot Robbie, Allison Janney, Mark Duplass  
**Duration:** 109 min  
**Origin:** USA/Canada 2020  
**Certificate:** 15  
**Company:** Lionsgate

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**When...**

**Wed 29 7.30**

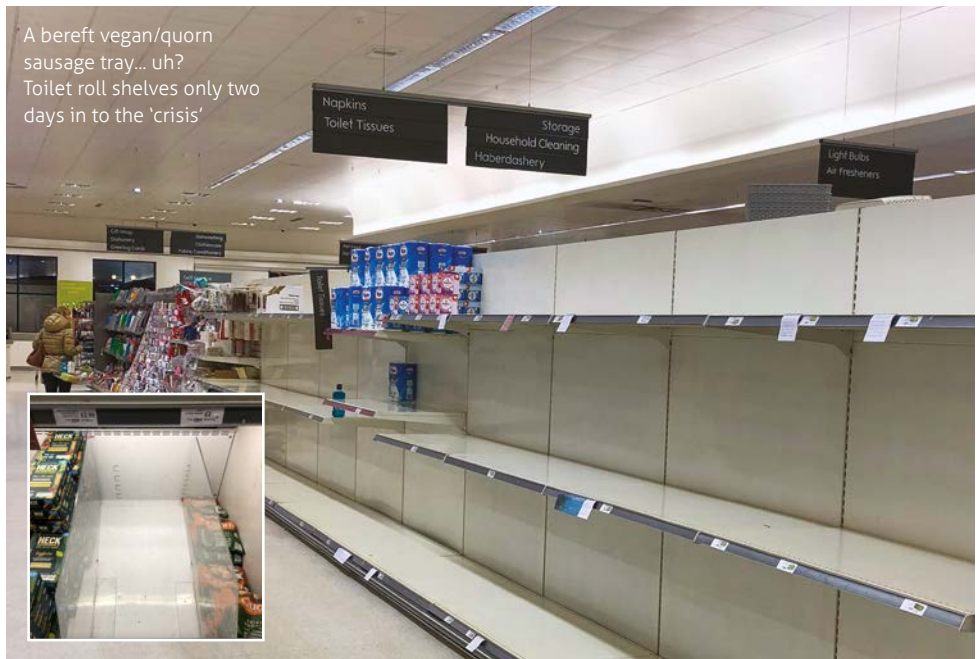
# “Corona-Corona - where you been so long...?”

(Dylan-kinda 1963)

It's Saturday night 14th March 2020 and all is not well with the world... I heard news from the BBC World Service that sales of 'epidemic disaster' novels have now hit the ceiling. At the forefront is Albert Camus' 1947 *The Plague* – about a pandemic started by an obscure government that wipes out the world's population. It was written partly in allegorically to the rise of Nazism in Europe. "What is wrong with you...?" You've emptied shelves of essentials (pictured). Now you're buying up books about world devastation! Panic breeds unreasonable behaviour (as does populism, hence screeching 'Strictly..' & President D.Trump) "What is wrong with You?" "Hell is Other people" (Jean Paul Sartre) or gruffly "Mud can make you prisoner, the plains can make you dry, snow can burn your eyes - but only people make you cry." (Lee Marvin). That is what is wrong with you.

You are 'other people' as we all are - in the great wasteland of the THEM. That's what makes us panicky, greedy, self-seeking etc deep in our bellies.

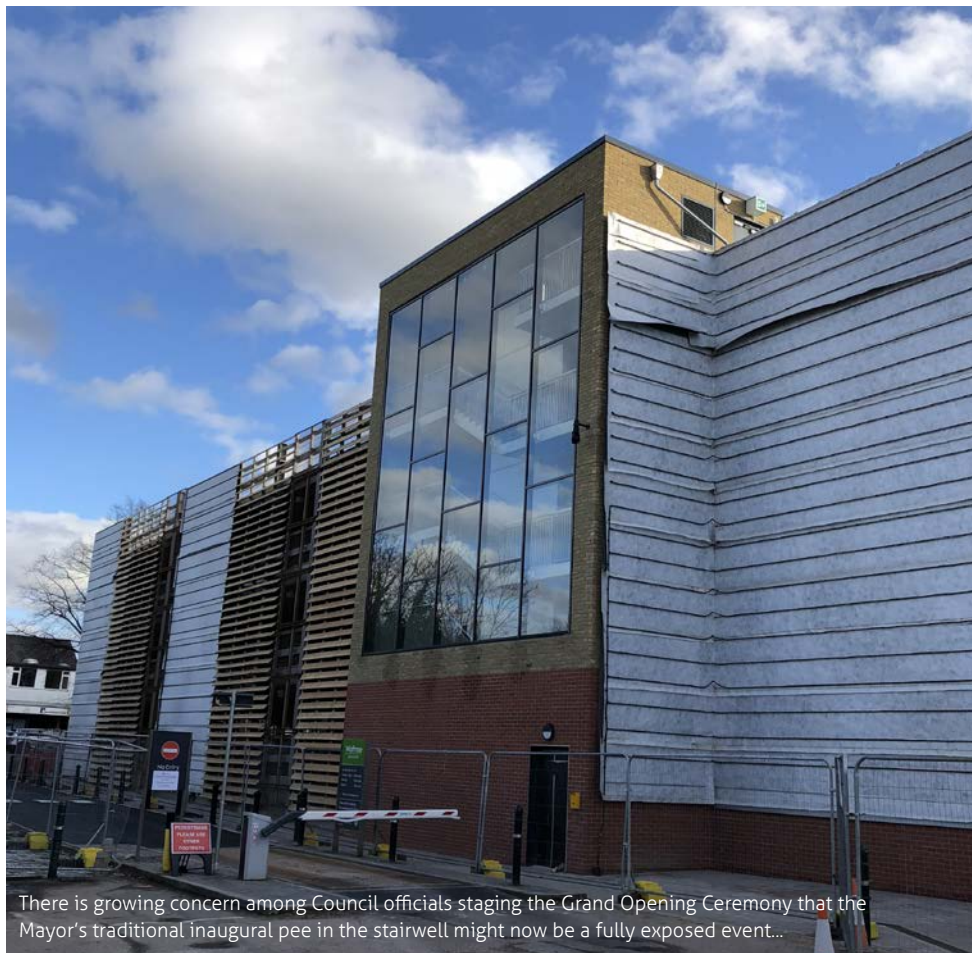
Who needs war with multi-million dollar bombs and mass destruction to rebuild, when a microscopic seed can lay-waste to the earth's human population without breaking step, sweat or a window – and with only bodies to burn. Far be it from me to suggest conspiracy (seen too many films). But right now, we are at the worst of all panic stations – agreeing to every whimsical controlling measure governments and medics throw, and without question. What a fantastic free-of-charge experiment in lockdown – population control. All without raising a finger, rifle or voice. The military worldwide is wetting itself with glee – which might account for the toilet paper.



It's been 'raging' for months, with microscopically few deaths in a population numbering billions/trillions? across the Earth. More people die of bunions. From all accounts they're all old and most were not well or in hospital already. Where better to enjoy exciting new infections? It seems the rest of us will get over it, some holding all the pink 3-ply, while the rest of us too slow, or living in less space, go bare-arsed. But it's all for the 'greater good' decreed by gov't depts who don't know their own arses from their elbows - which is now the 'recommended' nudge-greeting procedure (elbows of course - heaven forbid bottoms).

Zulu: 'not yet lad, not yet - hold it... steady - Not yet...!' 'Don't move until you can see the whites of their eyes...' Panic does nothing except create more. So do nothing 'yet', but take what you need and leave some for those Other People in Sartre's Hell. This is written sincerely from one not yet finished with 38 but nudging elbow-closer to that death-zone, happy to wait for that 'not-yet' isolation from that last no-choice gaze at that last pox't ceiling.

**Unofficial advice:** go easy, take it as it comes and please, try self-isolating from panic and the me-me shelves. After all, who wants to die (or live) mean, on top of ugly and undignified.



There is growing concern among Council officials staging the Grand Opening Ceremony that the Mayor's traditional inaugural pee in the stairwell might now be a fully exposed event...

# my happy place

News editor Maudie Manton on the glamorous gem giving soulless multiplexes a run for their money



## THE REX CINEMA

An evening at this impossibly charming art-deco cinema in Berkhamsted (a mere half-hour train journey from Euston) offers not just 90-odd minutes of sedentary escapism but the most gorgeous, speakeasy-feel surroundings you'll find this side of the 21st century. Boasting 'no popcorn, no flaccid hot dogs' and enough legroom to accommodate the world's tallest man, it's a cinema experience with bygone elegance by the bucketload.

PHOTOGRAPH ANDREW CROWLEY

Now Maudie... wherever you and Living Etc have come from - you can stay as long as you like. A Happy Place indeed it is. We rarely know who comes once or twice, loves it then runs off into a sunset of their own.... lonely and bereft to pine for the place for ever... Dissolve to - sunset backdrop, a fan blowing a soft breeze through her hair... cue strings... And Cut. Thanks for coming and thank you for writing so beautifully about our 'house'. Say hello next time you're here. We're staying open until 'they' come to chain the doors. And even then, don't 'they' realise we have Harrison Ford and Bruce Willis 30ft high anytime we need them - or starring in something decent worth seeing (or not). Bring family, friends and the street... next time.