

# THE REX

F E B R U A R Y 2 0 2 0

## THE PERSONAL HISTORY OF DAVID COPPERFIELD

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

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

FEBRUARY 2020 • ISSUE 179  
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# THE-REX

CINEMA BERKHAMSTED

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Films At A Glance 18-19

Rants & Pants 25-27

BOX OFFICE: 01442 877759

Mon to Sat 10.30-6.30

Sun 4.30-5.30

## SEAT PRICES

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Royal Box Seat (Seats 6) £13.00

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Matinees - Upstairs £5, Downstairs £6.50, Royal Box £10

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### The Rex

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

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

## BEST IN FEBRUARY



### 1917

Golden Globe winner Sam Mendes moving and personal tale of two young soldiers' seemingly impossible mission in World War 1.

See page 12

## FILMS OF THE MONTH



### Jojo Rabbit

Farce, fantasy and drama in a Nazi-era coming-of-age story. Dividing the critics. You decide.

See page 14



### Seberg

Portrait of early 1960s French icon Jean Seberg targeted by the FBI for her political and romantic involvement with civil rights activist Hakim Jama. See page 16



### Hustlers

Jennifer Lopez and Constance Wu steal the show as pole-dancing con women in Lorene Scafaria's retelling of a real-life strip club heist. See page 20



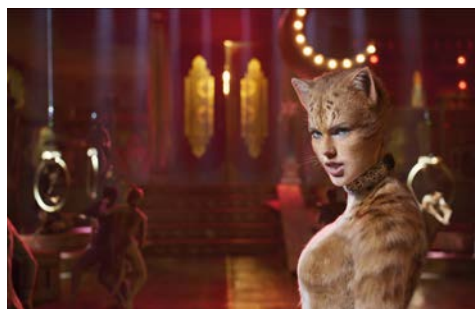
### The Personal History of David Copperfield

Armando Iannucci turns his sharp comic eye to this inspired adaptation of a literary classic, with fabulous casting. See page 21





## FEBRUARY FILMS



## Cats

**You can't talk about Cats, the movie, without mentioning that widely ridiculed trailer.** The one where the sleeky felines are first revealed to be a nightmarish merging of human faces and CGI furball. Well, the bad news is they still resemble one of Dr Moreau's failed experiments. The good news? It sort of doesn't matter in the end; the spirit of Andrew Lloyd Webber's creation is clearly on full display. The story is set over the course of a single night; a tribe of cats called the Jellicles make what is known as "the Jellicle choice" and decide which cat will ascend to the Heaviside Layer and come back to a new life. Much singing and dancing ensues. The lavish visuals and beautifully crafted set design is a sight to behold, even if the cats themselves (featuring Taylor Swift, Judy Dench and newcomer Francesca Hayward) take a little (more like a lot) of time to get fully accustomed to. It won't do anything for the uninitiated, but fans of the 1981 musical will eat it up like catnip. (*research Jack Whiting*) But no, it seems they want to clear this film out with the litter. How can it be worse than that endless show..!?

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**Director:** Tom Hooper  
**Cast:** Idris Elba, Taylor Swift, Ian McKellen, Francesca Hayward, Rebel Wilson, Judi Dench  
**Duration:** 111 min  
**Origin:** UK USA 2019  
**Certificate:** U  
**Company:** Universal Pictures

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**When...**

**Sat 1 2.00 Mon 3 2.00**



## Knives Out

**A glorious blockbuster of chemistry and cinematic wit.** Following a lavish 85th birthday party in his honour, wealthy and successful mystery novelist Harlan Thrombey is found dead with his throat slit. For the police this is an open and shut case of suicide, until master sleuth and debonair detective Benoit Blanc arrives on the scene. Hired by an unknown benefactor, Blanc soon turns his attention to a Cluedo board of suspects; the entire Thrombey clan. Inspired by the plethora of Agatha Christie novels, writer and director Rian Johnson knows how to stage a murder mystery. Murder on the Orient Express this is not. His knotty, deliriously deceptive screenplay plays like an unreliable narrator's recollection of a drunken story they heard secondhand. Daniel Craig is a storm as the ridiculously southern Blanc. Shannon, Curtis and Collette bring malice, spite and greed into each full-frame close-up they get while Chris Evans smarms it up as the rude, spoiled grandson. If you have half as much fun watching Knives Out as it looks like the cast did making it, you are guaranteed a good time. What a reminder that mainstream movies don't need explosions or superpowers to be deliriously entertaining. (*Research Chris Coetsee*) Come, you'll be glad you did.

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**Director:** Rian Johnson  
**Cast:** Christopher Plummer, Ana de Armas, Daniel Craig, Toni Collette, Jamie Lee Curtis  
**Duration:** 137 min  
**Origin:** USA 2019  
**Certificate:** 12A  
**Company:** Lionsgate

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**When...**

**Sat 1 7.00 Wed 5 2.00 Wed 5 7.30**



## Little Women

**Bringing together a strong cast, Greta Gerwig creates a refreshing and heartwarming take on the coming-of-age classic novel.** Following up Lady Bird, actress-turned-director, Gerwig opted for an adaptation of Louisa May Alcott’s novel, taking a familiar story and restructuring it to revitalise the narrative. Little Women explores the lives of the four March sisters: Jo (Saoirse Ronan) Meg (Emma Watson) Beth (Eliza Scanlen) and Amy (Florence Pugh). The family drama follows the coming of age of the sisters and their mother, ‘Marmee’ (Laura Dern) in genteel poverty of 1860s New England. Having lost all their money, the March sisters must adjust to a new lifestyle, standing by each other despite different ideals and trials. It begins 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 various ambitions develop. The camaraderie and jealousy in the all-female household is expertly drawn, with exceptional performances by Timothée Chalamet, as heartthrob Laurie, and Meryl Streep playing the haughty Aunt March adding to the infectious energy of the ensemble. A beautiful film full of warmth and insight. (research Rachel Williams) Indeed. Don’t miss.



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...		Thu 6	7.30
Sun 2	6.00	Wed 12	2.00
Tue 4	2.00	Wed 12	7.30
Tue 4	7.30	Fri 14	2.00
Thu 6	2.00	Sun 23	6.00





## Amanda

**A low-key family drama with a shattering tragedy at its heart, Amanda is a quietly moving celebration of human resilience.**

The devastation and loss caused by terrorist attacks in Paris, Nice and elsewhere form the starting point for this determinedly gentle French film from director and co-writer Mikhaël Hers, about a fictionalised violent incident.

Amanda is a seven-year-old, played by newcomer Isaure Multrier, who is being brought up in Paris by teacher and single mum Sandrine (Ophélie Kolb). Her twentysomething and mostly hopeless, kid brother David (Vincent Lacoste) has to do his bit by minding her a couple of days a week. Things start looking up when a beautiful tenant, Léna (Stacy Martin) moves in and seems to take an interest in him. Then, one day, David, Sandrine and Léna agree to meet up in the park. David is late... Suddenly this hopeless man-boy must step up to a new and to be learned selfless responsibility.

Despite the bloody events at its centre, Amanda is a pleasingly emphatic, and well-intentioned drama. (research Jack Whiting) Faint praise indeed Jack, for such a beautiful character led, and huge tender story of love, loss and care... Do not miss.

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**Director:** Mikhaël Hers  
**Cast:** Vincent Lacoste, Isaure Multrier, Stacy Martin, Ophélie Kolb, Marianne Basler, Jonathan Cohen  
**Duration:** 107 mins  
**Origin:** France 2019 (Subtitled)  
**Certificate:** 15  
**Company:** Artificial Eye Film Co. Ltd

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**When...**

**Mon 3 7.30**



## Uncut Gems

**If you told me Adam Sandler would one day make a comeback worthy of a Best Actor gong, I'd say get outta town.** Yet here we are, in 2020, with his career best.

Sandler is Howard Ratner (all puns intended) a jewelry-store owner in 2012's New York's Diamond District who runs his business like a gambling junkie, thriving on the rush and hot for a new score that might lose him everything. Juggling debt collectors, crazily complicated sports bets, a mistress (Julia Fox) and a wife, (Idina Menzel) turn Howard's life into a series of high-stakes gambles, the most crucial of which centres on a rare black opal, obtained, like almost everything in Howard's life, in a way that is not entirely above board.

Guiding Sandler through this urban nightmare are Josh and Benny Safdie, two young NY filmmakers who portray their city as an anxiety inducing ride. Uncut Gems is the most exhilarating movie experience in recent times. It's a film that is impossible to sit back and watch passively; a clenched-muscle collision of overstimulation. Not to be missed. (research Jack Whiting) Come, take a posh seat, and "rattle your jewelry".

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**Director:** Benny Safdie, Josh Safdie  
**Cast:** Adam Sandler, Kevin Garnett, Idina Menzel, Lakeith Stanfield, Noa Fisher  
**Duration:** 135 min  
**Origin:** USA 2020  
**Certificate:** 15  
**Company:** Netflix

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**When...**

**Fri 7 2.00, 7.30**



## Spies In Disguise

**Inspired by Lucas Martell's charming 2009 short Pigeon: Impossible, this Bond-meets-bird adventure is goofy fun.** Will Smith voices Lance Sterling, a supercool spy sporting a tux, a trimmed goatee and an absurdly over-inflated upper body; he's a suave figure who is an athlete and general warrior in America's cause. Lance's underling-slash-helpmeet is the dorky young scientist and tech whiz Walter Beckett (Tom Holland) who is there to supply the gadgets and generally be the Q to Lance's Bond. Walter's pièce de résistance is a formula for "biodynamic concealment", which would help spies do their work entirely undetected. He's been testing it on his own pet pigeon, but Lance accidentally ingests the results and transforms into a tiny, now-furious bird. So pigeon-Lance – grumpyly complaining all the time about the appalling existential indignity of being a bird (and not a particularly nice one at that) – has to work with Walter in a much more demeaningly submissive way than before. A genuinely funny and unexpectedly emotional buddy comedy, Spies in Disguise might play it safe in some areas, but at least it's not cutting corners. Never. It's not only fab but I know a couple of Potten End boys, who'll be trouble if it's not...

Director: Nick Bruno, Troy Quane  
 Cast: Karen Gillan, Will Smith, Tom Holland, Rashida Jones, Rachel Brosnahan  
 Duration: 102 min  
 Origin: USA 2019  
 Certificate: PG  
 Company: Walt Disney Studios

### When...

Sat 8 2.00  
 Sat 29 2.00



## 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...!

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

### When...

Sat 8 7.00



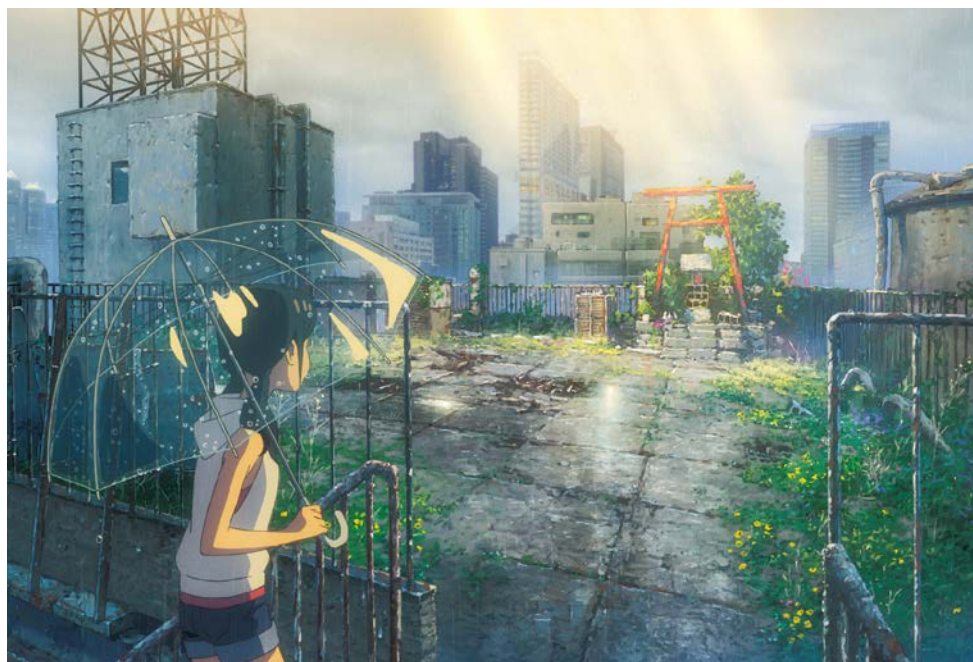
## 1917

**As the most technically accomplished war film to date, Dunkirk has just been stripped to second place.** Sam Mendes' World War 1 epic tells of two young soldier boys; Schofield and Blake as they charge through enemy lines on a mission to save a certain massacre. Their orders from General Erinmore are crystal clear: they must make their way across trenches, mine-fields, battlefields and No-Mans-Land in France to hand-deliver (no radio) a message to Col. Mackenzie commander of the Second Battalion. It contains orders to call off a planned advance against the German army, falsely presumed to be weakened. It is a trap that could result in slaughter of two thousand troops, including Blake's brother. Armed with one of our greatest living "Lighting Cameramen" DP: Roger Deakins, Mendes stalks these men, chasing behind them into their own unknown (so ours!) in one 'continuous' shot. As battalions clash, planes crash, and artillery assaults 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 actually ran as a messenger on the Belgian front. Hence a terrifying, heart stopping, intimate story. (*research Jack Whiting*) A bruising two hours. You can't move, dont try.

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

When...		Sat	15	7.00
Sun 9	6.00	Sun	16	6.00
Mon 10	2.00	Tue	18	7.30
Thu 13	2.00	Tue	25	2.00





## Weathering With You

**Japanese filmmaker and animator Makoto Shinkai's fantastical romance amid the bright lights of modern-day Tokyo.** Torrential rain drowns the city.

With every enormous drop that reaches the ground, Tokyo's citizens long a little harder for the sunshine of summer. 15-year-old Hodaka, a small-town dreamer who's run away from home to the chaotic metropolis, takes a live-in job transcribing for a small publishing company. Down on his luck, his fortunes soon change when he finds himself rushing to the defence of Hina, a "sunshine girl" of legends with the power to momentarily stop the downpour. Already a massive hit in its native Japan and the country's official submission for this year's Best Foreign Language Film category at the Oscars, *Weathering with You* is a stunning tale of young love against the elements. At once passionate, funny and truly heartwarming, it keeps you grounded in reality before whisking you away on a magical journey of exploration through the eyes of two wondrous characters. A beautiful, blustery love story that evokes a storm of emotions. (*Research Chris Coetsee*) Don't let the animation stall you. This is a grown up feature film, deliberately showing here at a grown-up time. Huge and stunning. Cancel the rain. Come.



**Director:** Makoto Shinkai  
**Voices:** Kotaro Daigo, Nana Mori, Sei Hiraizumi, Yûki Kaji  
**Duration:** 112 min  
**Origin:** Japan 2019 (Subtitled)  
**Certificate:** 12A  
**Company:** Anime Ltd

**When...**

**Mon 10 7.30**



## Jojo Rabbit

**Taika Waititi offer 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 sell, even for Waititi, a filmmaker whose deadpan New Zealand wit has given us everything from vampire mockumentary *What We Do In The Shadows* to the coming-of-age territory he explored in *Boy* and *Hunt For The Wilderpeople*. His first war movie and only period piece, focuses on ten-year-old German boy Johannes 'Jojo' Betzler (Roman Griffin Davis). He has grown up in Nazi Germany idolising Adolf Hitler but when he discovers his mother is harbouring 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 worth the price of admission alone with both McKenzie and Davis providing the kind of heart you may not come to expect from such a set-up. Looking at how impressionable youth 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 for Chris's last line, alone...

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

## When...

<b>Tue 11</b>	<b>2.00</b>	<b>Thu 13</b>	<b>7.30</b>
<b>Tue 11</b>	<b>7.30</b>	<b>Thu 20</b>	<b>7.30</b>



## VALENTINE'S DAY

### Some Like It Hot

**Inspired casting by Billy Wilder. In this great spoof, Curtis and Lemmon play jazz musicians on the run from Spats Columbo (George Raft) after witnessing the St Valentine's Day massacre. Broke and desperate to escape Chicago, they become Daphne and Josephine to join Sweet Sue's band and escape to Florida... enter Sugar and the all-time dream train ride for 7am commuters, of all genders, denominations and trousers.**

Interestingly, Wilder deliberately shot it in black and white to avoid the pitfalls of camp or transvestism? Highlights: the Gangland scenes; Pat O'Brien as the world-weary sarcastic cop, Nehemiah Persoff's manic and agitated Little Bonaparte, Tony Curtis' playboy parody of Cary Grant, Jack's Tango with Osgood and that rose, Marilyn in that dress! And what is surely one of the most celebrated closing banter of all time, concluding with Joe E Brown's famous deadpan line...? Guess it as it was delivered, no embellishment OR Google cheating, then argue it between you, then u-tube it.

His Osgood Fielding III is one of Hollywood's all time top ten best-loved characters. Don't miss. Not just for lovers or Valentine dates, bring the street, but remember: it's the wrong end of the lollipop to trust a saxophone player...

Director: Billy Wilder  
 Cast: Marilyn Monroe, Tony Curtis, Jack Lemmon, George Raft, Pat O'Brien  
 Duration: 116 mins  
 Origin: USA 1959  
 Certificate: 12  
 Company: Twentieth Century Fox

When...

Fri 14 7.30



### Bambi

**There have been three peak periods of animated features, all connected with Walt Disney, the flawed genius, and the studio he created.**

The second was the early 90s revival – also known as their renaissance – which included Beauty and the Beast, The Lion King and Aladdin. We're now living in the third period, dominated by the computer-generated Pixar creations owned by Disney, as well as their own behemoths (Frozen, Wreck-it-Ralph etc). We kick-start our week of Disney classics with Bambi, which comes from the very first era. Adapted from Felix Salten's book, it traces the formative seasons of a deer – imbued with human characteristics, as are his companions Flower, the shy skunk, and Thumper, the exuberant rabbit who must learn the lessons of life and love in the forest. The death of his mother at the hands of a hunter ("Man") remains one of cinema's most memorable, even though its height of tension is off-camera. Bambi still has plenty to tell children and strikes a deft artistic balance between naturalism and cartoonery. (research Jack Whiting) Who can forget those first leggy attempts to walk – on ice. Everybody's favourite Disney weepy. Lots of hankies.

Director: David Hand  
 Voices: Paul Behn, Donnie Dunagan, Bobby Stewart, Hardy Albright, John Sutherland, Paula Winslowe  
 Duration: 66 mins  
 Origin: USA 1942  
 Certificate: U  
 Company: The Walt Disney Company Ltd

When...

Sat 15 2.00





## Aladdin

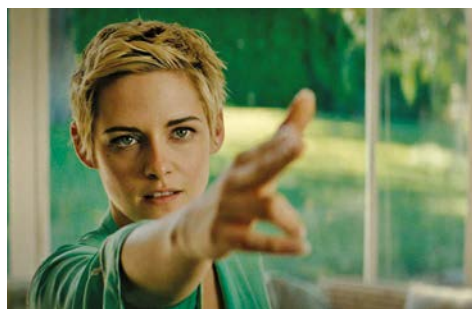
**Aladdin was a particular highlight of Disney's renaissance throughout the nineties. Made even more magical by Robin Williams' show stealing turn as the genie.**

"Kids will be captivated and enchanted by this classic Arabian Nights fable, where street urchin Aladdin uses a magical oil lamp and its (fab improv-motormouth) genie to win the love of Princess Jasmine and defeat the evil Jafar. There's plenty for adults too, particularly the film's delightful songs and numerous sophisticated references." (*Radio Times*) How very 1950's *Radio Times*. Delightful. Even in two-dimensions, it's a typical Williams performance, a scattergun burst of impersonations (everyone from Groucho Marx to Arnold Schwarzenegger) and weird transformations (the genie morphs into a submarine, a stereotypical Frenchman, a harem girl, and a talking lampshade). "The visual ingenuity is effortlessly matched by Williams's fast-tipped improvised comedy. His riff on the standard three wishes is quite inspired: "No substitutes, exchanges or refunds." (*Film4*) Aladdin is pure Disney; with all the ingredients working together to produce a timeless one-off. Underneath the sappy carpet ride, you have Listen With Mother bland, hummable tunes. Robin Williams' wit, speed and gorgeous charm captivates still. He is much missed, so don't you miss it now, child or bigger.

Directora: Ron Clements, John Musker  
Voices: Robin Williams, Scott Weinge  
Duration: 91 mins  
Origin: USA 1993  
Certificate: U  
Company: Buena Vista International UK

**When...**

**Mon 17 2.00**



## Seberg

**Kristen Stewart captures the spirit of a martyred icon as the French New Wave's tragic poster girl.**

This is not an airy, shimmering, life-spanning biopic. The star of Jean-Luc Godard's *Breathless* suffered years of harassment and surveillance from the FBI for supporting the Black Panthers in the late 1960s, all of which contributed to her crippling depression and anxiety. More in line with Francis Ford Coppola's *The Conversation*, it's a blunt portrait of a woman, a political activist, a movie star, whose life was hounded and kicked into submission by the pox'd FBI. The real draw here, is Kristen Stewart who captures her beautifully. Her Jean is the beating heart of the film. She is mesmerising. It's a performance utterly defined through her eyes and movement. To step into the shoes of such an icon is a daring move and we are rewarded with a decade-defining turn from Kristen. Looking past the fictional bolt-on of conflicted FBI agent Solomon, Seberg champions the once vibrant strength and defiance of its subject and stands up for her truth. (*Research Chris Coetsee*) An early European iconic girl, whose original style gifted the 60s its first look. Find her, she has never stopped being fresher than ever. Come.

Director: Benedict Andrews  
Cast: Kristen Stewart, Margaret Qualley, Zazie Beetz, Stephen Root, Vince Vaughn, Anthony Mackie  
Duration: 102 mins  
Origin: USA 2019  
Certificate: 15  
Company: Universal Studios

**When...**

**Mon 17 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) Nice gag Jack. 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.

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

When...

Tue 18 2.00 Fri 21 2.00



## 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...

Wed 19 2.00

## COMING SOON TO THE ODYSSEY

### BACK BY DEMAND

BOMBSHELL

1917

KNIVES OUT

THE GENTLEMEN

JOJO RABBIT

### NEW RELEASES

PARASITE

DOLITTLE

BIRDS OF PREY

PLUS...



ANNE FRANK:  
PARALLEL STORIES



A BEAUTIFUL DAY IN THE  
NEIGHBOURHOOD



THE LIGHTHOUSE



LITTLE JOE



# THE ODYSSEY

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

BOX OFFICE: 01727 453088

FEBRUARY	FILM	TIME
1 SAT	CATS	1.00
1 SAT	KNIVES OUT	7.00
2 SUN	LITTLE WOMEN	1.00
2 SUN	STAR WARS: THE RISE OF SKYWALKER	7.00
3 MON	LITTLE WOMEN	7.30
4 TUE	OFFICIAL SECRETS	7.30
5 WED	KNIVES OUT	1.00, 7.30
6 THU	KNIVES OUT	1.00
6 THU	LITTLE WOMEN	7.30
7 FRI	JOJO RABBIT	5.00, 9.00
8 SAT	FROZEN 2	11.30
8 SAT	JOJO RABBIT	4.00
8 SAT	1917	8.30
9 SUN	STAR WARS: THE RISE OF SKYWALKER	12.00
9 SUN	1917	5.00, 9.15
10 MON	1917	1.00, 7.30
11 TUE	1917	12.00
11 TUE	LITTLE WOMEN	7.30
12 WED	1917	1.00
12 WED	JOJO RABBIT	7.30
13 THU	LOST IN TRANSLATION	7.30
14 FRI	HIS GIRL FRIDAY	5.00
14 FRI	ROMEO + JULIET (1996)	9.00
15 SAT	SPIES IN DISGUISE	12.00
15 SAT	LADY AND THE TRAMP (1955)	4.00
15 SAT	BOMBSHELL	7.30
16 SUN	JUMANJI: THE NEXT LEVEL	11.00
16 SUN	LITTLE WOMEN	3.30
16 SUN	NT ENCORE: PRESENT LAUGHTER	8.00
17 MON	JUMANJI: THE NEXT LEVEL	1.00
17 MON	STAR WARS: THE RISE OF SKYWALKER	7.30
18 TUE	FROZEN 2	12.00
18 TUE	CATS	7.30
19 WED	LITTLE WOMEN	12.00
19 WED	JUMANJI: THE NEXT LEVEL	5.00
19 WED	JOJO RABBIT	9.00
20 THU	STAR WARS: THE RISE OF SKYWALKER	1.00
20 THU	THE PERSONAL HISTORY OF DAVID COPPERFIELD	7.30
21 FRI	THE PERSONAL HISTORY OF DAVID COPPERFIELD	1.00
21 FRI	UNCUT GEMS	7.30
22 SAT	JUMANJI: THE NEXT LEVEL	1.00
22 SAT	THE PERSONAL HISTORY OF DAVID COPPERFIELD	7.00
23 SUN	JOJO RABBIT	1.00
23 SUN	1917	6.00
24 MON	1917	1.00
24 MON	THE NIGHTINGALE	7.30
25 TUE	OFFICIAL SECRETS	12.00
25 TUE	THE 400 BLOWS (S) (+i)	7.30
26 WED	1917	1.00
26 WED	JOJO RABBIT	7.30
27 THU	THE PERSONAL HISTORY OF DAVID COPPERFIELD	1.00
27 THU	THE PERSONAL HISTORY OF DAVID COPPERFIELD	7.30
28 FRI	LITTLE WOMEN	1.00
28 FRI	THE GENTLEMEN	7.30
29 SAT	CATS	1.00
29 SAT	EVENT: THE COMPANY OF WOLVES (+i)	6.30
(S) SUBTITLED (+i) INTRO		



# THE-REX

BERKHAMSTED

BOX OFFICE:

01442  
877759



FEBRUARY	FILM	TIME	PAGE
1 SAT	CATS	2.00	8
1 SAT	KNIVES OUT	7.00	8
2 SUN	LITTLE WOMEN	6.00	9
3 MON	CATS	2.00	8
3 MON	AMANDA (S)	7.30	10
4 TUE	LITTLE WOMEN	2.00, 7.30	9
5 WED	KNIVES OUT	2.00, 7.30	8
6 THU	LITTLE WOMEN	2.00, 7.30	9
7 FRI	UNCUT GEMS	2.00, 7.30	10
8 SAT	SPIES IN DISGUISE	2.00	11
8 SAT	STAR WARS: RISE OF SKYWALKER	7.00	11
9 SUN	1917	6.00	12
10 MON	1917	2.00	12
10 MON	WEATHERING WITH YOU (S)	7.30	13
11 TUE	JOJO RABBIT	2.00, 7.30	14
12 WED	LITTLE WOMEN	2.00, 7.30	9
13 THU	1917	2.00	12
13 THU	JOJO RABBIT	7.30	14
14 FRI	LITTLE WOMEN	2.00	9
14 FRI	SOME LIKE IT HOT	7.30	15
15 SAT	BAMBI	2.00	15
15 SAT	1917	7.00	12
16 SUN	1917	6.00	12
17 MON	ALADDIN	2.00	16
17 MON	SEBERG	7.30	16
18 TUE	SHAUN THE SHEEP: FARMAGEDDON	2.00	17
18 TUE	1917	7.30	12
19 WED	LADY AND THE TRAMP	2.00	17
19 WED	HUSTLERS	7.30	20
20 THU	DUMBO	2.00	20
20 THU	JOJO RABBIT	7.30	14
21 FRI	SHAUN THE SHEEP: FARMAGEDDON	2.00	17
21 FRI	THE PERSONAL HISTORY OF DAVID COPPERFIELD	7.30	21
22 SAT	PINOCCHIO	2.00	22
22 SAT	THE PERSONAL HISTORY OF DAVID COPPERFIELD	7.00	21
23 SUN	LITTLE WOMEN	6.00	9
24 MON	THE PERSONAL HISTORY OF DAVID COPPERFIELD	2.00	21
24 MON	A HIDDEN LIFE	7.30	22
25 TUE	1917	2.00	12
25 TUE	BOMBSHELL	7.30	23
26 WED	THE PERSONAL HISTORY OF DAVID COPPERFIELD	2.00	21
26 WED	THE PERSONAL HISTORY OF DAVID COPPERFIELD	7.30	21
27 THU	BOMBSHELL	2.00, 7.30	23
28 FRI	THE GENTLEMEN	2.00, 7.30	24
29 SAT	SPIES IN DISGUISE	2.00	11
29 SAT	THE PERSONAL HISTORY OF DAVID COPPERFIELD	7.00	21

(S) SUBTITLED

## COMING SOON TO THE REX

### BACK BY DEMAND

BOMBSHELL

LA BELLE EPOQUE

1917

THE PERSONAL HISTORY OF  
DAVID COPPERFIELD

### NEW RELEASES

BIRDS OF PREY

QUEEN &amp; SLIM

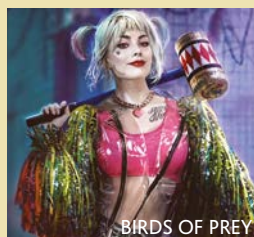
PARASITE

THE MAN WHO KILLED  
DON QUIXOTE

PORTRAIT OF A  
LADY ON FIRE



THE MAN WHO KILLED  
DON QUIXOTE



BIRDS OF PREY



QUEEN & SLIM



## Hustlers

**An era-defining film that Hollywood didn't know it needed; Hustlers is female empowerment writ large as J-Lo and co. strut their stuff.** Adapted from a magazine article about a scam perpetrated by a group of dancers at a New York strip club, Lorene Scafaria's wildly entertaining comedy offers both a welcome twist in the crime thriller genre, and a "I can't believe this actually happened" true-story drama in one clever and subverting package. "This whole country's a strip club." This is the grand philosophy of dancer Ramona (Lopez) you're either the ones throwing the money, or you're the ones catching it from a pole. The original article frames the women in a Robin Hood contest; drugging and robbing Wall Street one creep at a time to afford a better life for themselves and their families at a time of financial disarray. Here, it plays out with the slickness of a Steven Soderbergh thriller; this all sounds headier than Hustlers' marketing would have you believe, but rest assured this is a tremendously entertaining film, and one of the year's sleeper hits. *(research Jack Whiting)* We pushed for it, and now it's whispered for awards. So come sisters, you won't be sorry. So don't miss it now.

Director: Lorene Scafaria  
 Cast: Jennifer Lopez, Constance Wu, Keke Palmer, Lili Reinhart, Stormi Maya, Madeline Brewer, Julia Stiles  
 Duration: 110 mins  
 Origin: USA 2019  
 Certificate: 15  
 Company: STX International

When...

Wed 19 7.30



## Dumbo

**Disney's 'little elephant who was all ears' embodies the heart of its classic-era features**

Originally conceived as a short film, Dumbo was rushed through production following the box-office failure of Fantasia, emerging as one of the studio's most timeless melodramas. Finished in a year and a half, compared to the five years it took to make Bambi, its simplicity pays off – focusing more on pulling the right emotional strings. When a young circus elephant is born with comically large ears, he is given the nickname Dumbo and a lifetime of ridicule. After his mother, Mrs. Jumbo, witnesses a group of kids cruelly mocking her child, she catches one of them with her trunk, leading to her own imprisonment by the circus ringmaster. Dumbo is made to perform dangerous stunts, ostracised by everyone in the circus troupe but Timothy, a mouse who motivates the elephant to become a star. The film was called the "most genial, the most endearing, the most completely precious cartoon feature film ever to emerge from the magical brushes of Walt Disney's wonder-working artists!" by a critic in The New York Times back in 1941. *(research Rachel Williams)* Fabulous. Another original Disney cartoon not to be missed

Director: Ben Sharpsteen  
 Voices: Sterling Holloway, Edward Brophy, Verna Felton, Herman Bing, Cliff Edwards  
 Duration: 62 mins  
 Origin: USA 1941  
 Certificate: U  
 Company: Walt Disney

When...

Thu 20 2.00



## The Personal History Of David Copperfield

**Armando Iannucci combines wit and satire with an A-list cast to create the perfect Dickens film adaptation** Returning after our gifted anniversary preview in December (followed by a relaxed easy-going Q&A with Armando, who brought his whole family...!). The film went down a storm with The Rex audience ahead of its nationwide release. Its diverse casting, with the remarkable Dev Patel as David, and interesting stylistic touches set the film apart from previous adaptations of the novel. Condensing a 600+ page tome into a fast-paced tragicomedy, we follow David's tumultuous journey from birth to adulthood, as he navigates various obstacles as an impoverished orphan to a burgeoning writer in Victorian England. Playing David's Aunt Betsey and Mr Dick, Tilda Swinton and Hugh Laurie excel as an eccentric double act, reflecting both the absurdity and charm of Dickensian characterisation. Ben Whishaw's performance as the manipulative Uriah Heep and Peter Capaldi as Mr. Micawber add to the fun. During his Q&A, Iannucci said "I was always struck by how fresh and contemporary Dickens felt and I think we've packaged him away as some Victorian fusty long-winded novelist." Not to be missed, the film captures the spirit of Dickens' masterful (and youthful- mischief) storytelling. (Rachel Williams). Must not miss.



**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...

<b>Fri</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>7.30</b>	<b>Wed</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>2.00</b>
<b>Sat</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>7.00</b>	<b>Wed</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>7.30</b>
<b>Mon</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>2.00</b>	<b>Sat</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>7.00</b>





## Pinocchio

**80 years old, one of Disney's greatest remains as charming and emotionally resonant as ever.**

Mister Geppetto, a lonely old toy-maker, sees his dream of having a son come true when he is visited by the kindly Blue Fairy. With one turn of her wand, one of his puppets, Pinocchio, comes to life, but he is still wooden. If Pinocchio proves himself brave, true, and unselfish, she will make him into a real boy. Disney's second feature-length animated film followed after the success of *Snow White*. It was made during Disney's 1940s golden era, alongside *Fantasia*, *Dumbo* and *Bambi*. It became one of Disney's most enduring, mature and beautifully-imagined perfect works, a coming-of-age story about a boy who overcame temptation and learned courage in the face of fear and danger. It is a parable for children, and generations have grown up remembering the words "let your conscience be your guide" and "a lie keeps growing until it's as plain as the nose on your face." It isn't just a concocted fable or a silly fairy tale, but a heartening story with some beautifully crafted lessons in life. *(Research Chris Coetsee)* Fantastic – amongst a treasure of Disney originals, some here for the first time.

**Directors:** Hamilton Luske, Ben Sharpsteen  
**Voices:** Dickie Jones, Christian Rub, Cliff Edwards, Evelyn Venable, Walter Catlett, Frank Darro  
**Duration:** 88 mins  
**Origin:** USA 1940  
**Certificate:** 88 mins  
**Company:** The Walt Disney Company Ltd

**When...**

**Sat 22 2.00**



## A Hidden Life

**Terrence Malick's lyrical, haunting tale of an Austrian farmer who defied the Third Reich.**

August Diehl stars as Franz Jägerstätter, a modest, soft-spoken Catholic. Living among Austria's mountains, Franz and wife Fani (Valerie Pachner) are happily running their farm, deeply involved in the community as they raise their three young daughters. Having served compulsory military duty, Franz is unnerved when Hitler takes power, demanding an oath of loyalty from his soldiers. Unable to violate his personal understanding of right and wrong, he faces a harrowing test of faith and spirit as the fear of execution threatens. As much a career summation as Scorsese's *The Irishman*, *A Hidden Life* combines every stylistic element from across Malick's near 50-year filmography, channeling the earthiness of early classics *Badlands* and *Days of Heaven* with whirling, voiceover montages prevalent in his recent work. Terrific central performances from Diehl and Pachner give sombre strength and real emotional core to a couple caught between corrosive power and the new horror of their once beautiful home. Destined to be one of the year's most distinctive films, certain to be divisive. The manner of all Malick's films to one degree or another (and too long). *(Research Chris Coetsee)* Brilliant Chris.

**Director:** Terrence Malick  
**Cast:** August Diehl, Valerie Pachner, Michael Nyqvist, Matthias Schoenaerts  
**Duration:** 174 mins  
**Origin:** Germany 2019  
**Certificate:** 12A  
**Company:** 20th Century Fox Film Co. Ltd

**When...**

**Mon 24 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.



**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

### When...

<b>Tue</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>7.30</b>
<b>Thu</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>2.00, 7.30</b>



## 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-realife-horny-gangster, you lads like to dress...

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

**When...**

**Fri 28 2.00, 7.30**



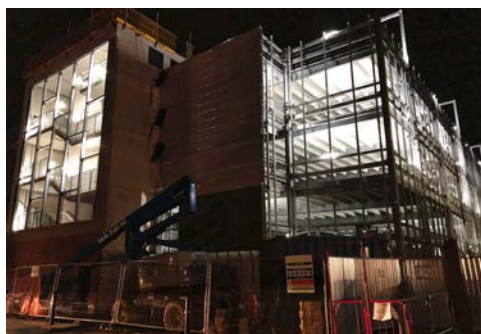
## (Warning: Contains much deserved ugly imagery with matching words)

**D**ear Dacorum Borough Council Hemel Hempstead At no risk at all, of loss or favour, and no apology for a single word. There are no favours, only loss. And I don't care 'a-monkey's-dick' who gets upset... You'll have to get over it, just like we will, for ever in full sight of your steel lump where once there was a tranquil space with a few cars. As for those pox't public council meetings which grudgingly meet 'on our behalf' to casually dismiss us, the time is long overdue to argofuckyourselves. With that strict 5 minutes of humiliating Say, menaced by the town-hall clock, only tongue-tied can be the result. As for those smug faces right there, who knew the outcome all along... The public gallery, always justifiably furious, watched as the sickening, feeble weasel mouths spouted platitudes for the 'Greater Good'. I for one, will never tire of pointing at you – nor of bringing this Town-planning debacle to your door, nor whining about it, too late is only too late if we drop the finger. Let it follow you from the steps of the cemetery gates. Pictures show the devastating loss of tranquility with this careless, lazy and ill considered, planning for a future already gone. There are NO MORE High St shops to drive to. The pictures show the green meadow-moor lost to 'temporary' mud, the original L.Kings Rd ground car space with trees, rooftops and a huge sky, now turned in to this stinking, unnecessary civic lump (shot from the same spot).

Note the lighting. This hateful intrusion will be lit 24/7. The grand H&S Exec (ex-jobsworths: remember them?) will insist. Goodbye environmental care.

Then to that sweet, planning-approved, wet-afterthought - The faux BRICKWORK. How pretty. Yeah yeah. there there... A slimy apology from a grinning rapist seeking forgiveness.

Sincerely, JH (Master-pisser into the wind)



**Rex Winners** A fraction of the Rex's best loved - winning our affection last year for fabulous production, storytelling and understated non-acting.



### Honeyland

Set in Macedonia, most moving Docu/drama of beekeeping high in the unforgiving, steep sharp crags of the Balkans. (Macedonia)



### Woman At War

(Film & best Actress... Halldóra Geirharðsdóttir ) Inventive, faultless film making. The real Wonder Woman is in Iceland



### Balloon

Tense, Tense, Tense. True adventure - Very nasty Stasi vs Loving Family. (East Germany)



### Farmageddon

Best wittiest funniest Animation. Effortlessly clever, audience fully inclusive from tinies to oldies. (Aardman UK 2019)



### Shoplifters

A warm, moving story of a close-knit Japanese family living by its wits on the wrong side of the tracks. (Japan 2019)



### Never Look Away

Kurt Barnert 1950's escape from East Germany to West. Stunning, beautiful, watching paint dry for 3 hours, feels like 30 minutes. (Italy/Germany)



### The Keeper

Bert Trautmann (1923-2013) Heroic Man City goalie from 1949 to 1964....!! Despised for being German post-war, but hero when played on with a broken neck in 1956 cup final & won. (UK 2018)



### Hustlers

Hot J-Lo pole t&b. Clever scam, hot smut l&ch-revenge, true-ish yarn. (a USA surprise)



### The Personal History Of David Copperfield

Armando Iannucci's & Rex 15th anniversary preview. Perfect. Will be back. (UK 2019)



## 2020 Baftas/Oscars: LIKELY WINS with Shoulds but Wont...?



**Little Women** (win)



**1917** (win)



**Jojo Rabbit** (should but wont)



**Two Popes** (win)



**Renée for Judy** (win)



**Knives Out** (win)



**Harriet** (should but wont)



**Marriage Story** (win)



**Le Mans '66**  
(Matt should but wont)

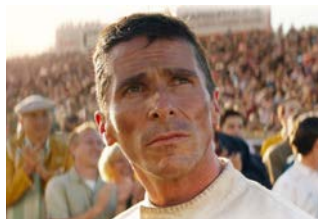
## SHOULD NOT WIN a Monkey's but will...?



**Joker**



**Rocketman**



**Le Mans '66** (Bale's big  
acting shouldn't but will)