



Talking Pictures

Issue 42
December
2019

 keswickfilmclub

 @keswickfilm

www.keswickfilmclub.org

Spring programme 2020

May we wish you all a merry Christmas and a very happy New Year! We hope you enjoy your Spring Programme.

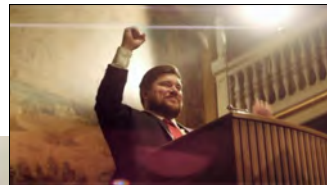
We've decided to have our season drink before the **last** film, as we did last year so **this season will start at 5.00 on 5th January** with our opening film - *'La Belle Epoque'*.

The **Spring Pass** will be on sale there at **£40** - still a great bargain, with twelve films this season! **Another great benefit for members only!**

Have you thought about your passes and tickets for the **21st Keswick Film Festival?** What a great Xmas present too! On sale now; You can ring the Theatre on 017687 74411 or book online via www.keswickfilmfestival.org

After some trouble getting films this time, we have a different look to last season; three French films and three UK. Two of the UK ones are very English - *'Bait'* from Cornwall while *'A Good Woman is Hard to Find'* is a Noirish British gangster movie. Two of the French films fit in the classic 'French Farce' category - the opener *'La Belle Epoque'* and *'Non-Fiction'* - plus we have the UK comedy *'The Two Popes'* which is billed with Latin as it's first language!

'The Two Popes' and *'Marriage Story'* are we continue on our world trip with *'The Third Wife'* from Vietnam and *'Bacurau'* from Brazil. *'A Hidden Life'* is a very welcome back to form for Terrence Malick, and we finish the season with one of Keswick's favourite directors, Hirokazu Koreeda, and *'The Truth'* - which he made in France, conveniently bringing us back to where we began. Along the way, we have some great actors for you, some unknown, many more famous - Daniel Auteuil, Scarlet Johansson, Adam Driver, Juliette Binoche (twice!), Anthony Hopkins and Jonathan Pryce and many others.



We take a break for the 21st Film Festival in February (I hope you



An 'interview' with... Nicki Baker, committee member.



TP - welcome to the committee!

I'm no film buff - as you know, since we've both been regular attendees at the Film

Discussion group. But as I was assured the club could use extra help at the club nights, I decided to give it a go.

So what do you think of the Film Discussion Group?

The films being discussed have provided a good incentive to be more adventurous and go and see a much wider range of offerings than I've seen before; and the group offered my first-ever opportunity to talk to other people about films, with some really stimulating discussions taking place. Some people know so much more than I do, but I'm never made to feel that my views

aren't valid, and I've learnt a lot! **What about the other club films?**

I can't say I want to see every film being shown by the Club - some look like they'd be too grim for my taste. For instance, I've avoided violent films since seeing *'Clockwork Orange'* in the early 1970s, and being quite haunted by its particular nastiness.

Fair enough; so how have the ones you have seen affected you?

They got me thinking about the importance that films have played in my life. My family hardly ever went to the cinema, but even so, there were some rare and memorable exceptions, which have influenced my development.

I still remember Disney wildlife documentary films from the late 50s, and the wonderful 1959 film *'Serengeti Shall Not Die'*, which triggered in me a love of nature and wild scenery, and a great wish to go and see them for myself.

Then later, *'The Longest Day'*, in 1962, was a real eye-opener - a

war film that showed the events from the perspectives of Germans as well as the Allies, showing war as such a terrible thing. This was so much more nuanced than all the previous war films I'd seen which had mainly been very gung-ho and one-sided. There was also *'Carve Her Name With Pride'*, based on a true story of a woman operating clandestinely in occupied France - another first for me: here was a woman being heroic and selfless, and acting on her own initiative, not playing second fiddle to a man. In 1970, came *'Little Big Man'* - showing the First Nations American people in a radically humane, sympathetic light - so different from all the previous ones.

Film can be such a powerful medium. I look forward to seeing many more powerful and absorbing ones - and, yes, the occasional one I could really do without! - at the Alhambra, and the Film Club. If I can do a little bit to support that, it's a pleasure!

Talking Statistics

By Vaughan Ames

When David Miller talked about the 50 Best Movies of the Year in a recent intro, it got me thinking about Film Club favourites: most popular films, favourite directors... So I went looking... Hope you find this interesting too!

Most popular films

For Sunday films, **'Departures'** in Spring 2010 has the highest score with 96.74%, followed by **'Home from Home: Chronicle of a Vision'** in Autumn 2015 with 95.31% and **'Amadeus'** in Spring 2003 with 93.75%. At the Festivals, **'McCullin'** in 2013 comes top with 94.44% , followed by **'Come As You Are'** in 2015 with 93.15% and **'My Love, Don't Cross that River'** in 2015 with 93.06%

Best Attended films

The festivals get top place here, with larger venues: 2019's **'Sometimes, Always, Never'** is

KFC Autumn 2019

Capernaum	90.47%
Woman At War	85.85%
By The Grace of God	83.33%
Pain and Glory	82.20%
Balloon	81.99%
Permission	76.90%
Last Summer	73.02%
The Bird Catcher	71.43%
Varda By Agnes	70.00%
Aniara	64.74%
Ash is Purest White	64.40%
The Crossing	60.64%
The Chambermaid	52.86%
Donbass	39.29%
Photograph	NA

Average audience size: 117

way ahead with 371, followed by 2006's **'March of the Penguins'** with 256 and 2014's **'The Raven on the Jetty'** with 255. **'Whale Rider'** way back in 2002 still has the highest attendance for Sunday films - 241. Second place goes to **'Rabbit-Proof Fence'** from 2003 - 226 - with **'Michael Clayton'** coming third in 2008 - 210. (We haven't beaten 200 in my time - come on everyone, get your friends along!)

Most popular country

Which countries do you expect we had the most films from? This may not be too surprising, as **UK, USA and France** lead the way; the numbers are a bit uncertain as many films come from several countries, but we are looking at around 275 for the UK, 240 for the US and 125 for France.

The countries below this may surprise you more though:

Germany	37
Japan	32
Italy	31
Spain	28
Sweden	21
Canada	19
Iran	19
Australia	18
China	18
Denmark	18
Argentina	17

Who would have thought Canada or Iran would do so well?

Most Popular Director

Given that, to the end of this year, we will have had around 1250 films there are still many directors who's films we have only had once. Nonetheless I had wondered just who is the director we have watched the most...?

I guess this has a lot to do with your programming team's bias - sorry! - and some of these figures are enlarged because they were featured at a festival. Overall though, these are our top directors: -

Ken Loach	10
Hirokazu Koreeda	8
Stephen Frears	8
Nicolas Roeg	7
Pablo Trapero	7
Pedro Almodovar	7
Dardanne Brothers	6
Nuri Bilge Ceylan	6
Francois Ozon	6
Jim Jarmusch	5
Joel & Ethan Coen	5
Michael Haneke	5
Terence Davies	5
Terrence Malick	5

Longest film

'Wagner' walks away with this at 7hr 45mins. It might surprise some of you to know we have only had 22 films longer than 3 hours, though I realise a film you don't enjoy might seem to last forever...Hopefully most of them seem to end all too soon for you!

21st Keswick Film Festival – we need your help!

The Film Festival will run from 27th February to 1st March in 2020 and David Miller has worked his usual magic in assembling a fantastic programme of films. In 2019 we had some record audiences and we are hoping for the same in 2020, however **we need a core of volunteers** to help things run smoothly and maintain our reputation as the friendly festival.

Every year, the feedback we get is that the volunteers really do help make it a memorable weekend for those who come.

There's loads to do such as meeting and greeting, counting votes, counting heads, collecting comments or even introducing films. A full briefing is provided and there is a smart T shirt to wear while you are on duty!

If you are interested, or want more information, please let us know or catch Ian Payne or Mike Newns at a Film Club screening. Thank you in advance.