

# BENDIGO FILM SOCIETY

Member of the Federation of Victorian Film Societies A154392  
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February 2001

Dear Members and Friends...

The Bendigo Film Society is your local film group and has operated since 1961. Our aim is to give members a chance to view some of the best cinema available in Australia, as well as looking back at some of the classics.

Membership entitles you to attend all screenings and also covers a regular newsletter that gives more information about our films as well as other film-related news. Members are always entitled (and encouraged) to bring a guest on two occasions during the year, and enjoy concession rates (\$8.50) at the Star Cinema. That's \$1.11 per movie!

**Program** We are gearing up for a great movie season. This year the program is built around themes, kicking off with Woody Allen, the director and star. Everything you always wanted to know about sex (but were afraid to ask) will be screened at La Trobe's campus,

and again at our regular venue, the Campbell Theatrette, Thursday 22 February. The autumn theme will be film-noir, with two from the classic period and a couple of post-classical films with Polanski's Repulsion a nice pivot for this segment. During the second half of the year we will sample Kubrick's repertoire and feature a selection of French cinema with short films to match.

The program is not limited to themes, interesting as they may be, and will include other features and shorts. Some of the highlights must be Deepa Mehta's Fire, to coincide with International Women's day 8<sup>th</sup> March; 199 tense minutes under water The Boat (Das Boot) and the Italian epic 1900 (Novecento).

Around Easter, Jacques Soddell, whom many of you know as one of the Society's past-presidents, will present a selection of experimental silent movies complemented with musical improvisation by local musicians including himself. Jacques is known to extract music even from microbes, hence this feature is not to be missed.

The must-see this year of course is Stanley Kubrick's space-odyssey 2001. Apparently in re-make and I am sure the local cinemas won't let this opportunity slip by. With a bit of luck we

will be able to arrange a special screening or concession for BFS members.

Visit our website for detailed information about the society's 2001 program:

[www.bendigo.latrobe.edu.au/bfs/](http://www.bendigo.latrobe.edu.au/bfs/)

**Membership** We hope you will join (again) and encourage your friends to join as well. You will note that membership, at \$49 (\$39 concession), is even more generous than previous years and we have instituted a partnered membership, where you and your partner can join for \$69 only.

To join, please send a cheque with this slip to  
Bendigo Film Society  
PO Box 567 Bendigo Vic 3552

Name .....  
(Partner's name: .....)  
Address .....  
Phone ..... eMail .....

Pick up your membership card at the next screening. Please indicate if you can help as 16/35mm projectionist, with ushering or tea & coffee.



OR turn up for our  
**FREE-SCREENINGS,**  
Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> and  
Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> February  
(starting 1:30pm).

You'd be crazy not to...

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## Program February - March

Some of the movies have not been classified; content may challenge, offend or not be suitable for children. Details are correct at the time of publication and the Bendigo Film Society reserves the right to substitute films should the need arise. All films are shown every 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday, at the Campbell Theatre in the Bendigo Library, Hargraves Street Bendigo. Membership \$49 yearly, \$39 concession, \$69 partnered. No membership required for 17 & 18 February.

**Saturday 17 February 1:30pm Annie Hall (M)** Woody Allen 1977 USA.

Bittersweet, cerebral romantic comedy about New York couple's neurotic love affair. This 70s hit remains a favourite with Allen connoisseurs, and also pleases fans of intellectual, humorous, yet melancholic relationship studies.

3:30 **L.A. Confidential (R)** Curtis Hanson 1997 USA.

Rock-hard-boiled mystery about three cops' lives intertwining as they investigate a multiple murder. Gritty, yet glamorous portrait of postwar Los Angeles' corrupt underside is a must for noir-fans prepared for wrenching violence.



8:00 **The Shining (R)** Stanley Kubrick 1980 USA

Chilling drama about remote hotel caretaker slowly going insane. Though some reviewers found its story cold, this remains a cult favourite, ideal for Jack Nicholson fans, and eerie suspense lovers.

**Sunday 18 February 1:30pm Kuldesak**

Lesnmana, Achnas, Riza and Mantovani 1998 Indonesia.

A collaboration of four Indonesian film makers, Kuldesak intercuts the stories of four young urbanites exploring problems and dilemmas in contemporary Jakarta. The film showcases the country's young talents and potentials.

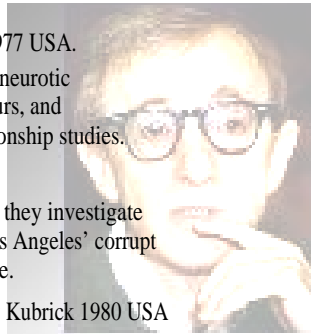
3:30 **One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest (R)** Milos Forman 1975 USA.

While the people may seem crazy, it is the system which defines craziness, and by doing so, it is the system which has problems; not those who suffer under it. Few other films have made such a strong impression on repeated generations of filmgoers. Winner of four '75 Academy Awards.



8:00 **Marius and Jeannette (M)** Robert Guediguian 1997 France.

This deeply humanistic film reinstates the provincial working class as the subject of French cinema. Fans of intelligent, character-driven drama will enjoy romance and politics blending with a tender love story and a wealth of appealing performances.



**Thursday 22 February 7:30 Dear Diary (Caro diario)** Nanni

Moretti 1994 Italy. Three-part examination of modern Italy culminates in director's comic-nightmare journey through health-care system. Was received rapturously at Cannes where it won the Best Director Award. Art-house fans seeking thought-provoking fare will enjoy wry, poignant comedy blending autobiography, social satire, and road movie.

9:30 **Everything You Always Wanted to Know**

**About Sex (but were afraid to ask)** Woody Allen 1972 USA.

This Woody Allen classic answers some of the timeless (and tasteless) questions about society's oldest taboo: sex. It consists of a series of vignettes, one of which has Gene Wilder experiencing a woolly love affair with a sheep, and another has Tony Randall and Burt Reynolds showing an unorthodox view of sex - from the inside out. Allen once said about sex: "It's the most fun I've ever had without laughing." Allen's confronting style may not sit well with all viewers and it may not be everything you always wanted to know about sex, but as a comedy it's everything you've always known about Woody Allen.



**8 March International Women's day 7:30 Fire** Deepa Mehta 1996 India. The first in a trilogy

encompassing 'Fire', 'Earth' and 'Water', Deepa Mehta's engrossing study of a lesbian affair interweaves sexual repression, pressure-cooker desire, crumbling patriarchy and cultural transformation in contemporary India. The tugging away of traditional structures reflects social changes and the tension of modernism occurring across the sub-continent. Taboo-busting drama about forbidden passion between two Indian wives. This accomplished blend of melodrama, social criticism pleases drama fans and viewers interested in racial and gender issues.

9:45 **Romance** Catherine Breillat 1999 France. A sexually explicit film that is more concerned with the psychological implications of sex than the physical act itself. Marie (Caroline Ducey), a young primary school teacher, is deeply disturbed by her narcissistic male model boyfriend's behaviour, who refuses to show her any kind of physical affection. In an attempt to find a balance between the physical and emotional aspects of love, she embarks on a succession of brief encounters of the purely carnal kind with Paolo (played by Italian porn star Rocco Siffredi) and Robert (Francois Berleand). The film was originally refused classification (ie: banned) in Australia by the Office of Film and Literature Classification for contravening the guidelines of an 'R' rating. This decision was later overturned by the Classification Review Board, thus re-igniting the debate of censorship and public morality in Australia.

**22 March 7:30 Stranger than Paradise** Jim

Jarmusch 1984 USA. Jarmusch's debut feature is a dead pan masterpiece, utilising to great effect its low key performances, static camera movement and grungy, sparse locations. Shot in high contrast black and white by Tom DeCillo, this quirky road movie presents a unique outsiders view of America and the characters that inhabit its fringes. The films cool, episodic style, slipping casually between melancholy and off the wall humour became a distinct Jarmusch trade mark.

9:15 **Repulsion** Roman Polanski 1965 USA.

Riveting, legendary psychological drama/thriller about the mental deterioration of a sexually repressed woman. Non-gory yet deeply disturbing journey into hallucinatory madness is still effective for today's horror fans and genre devotees.

