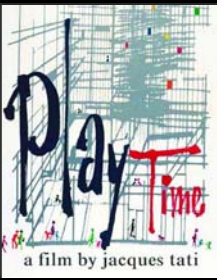
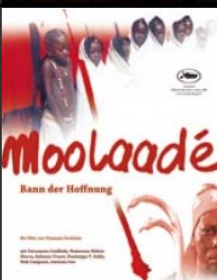


Screenings are at the RL Campbell Theatre, Bendigo Library, on Thursdays at 7:30pm



* Titles marked with an asterisk are from the National Film and Video Lending Service

Bendigo Film Society

2007

Become a member of the Bendigo Film Society, which has been presenting great works of cinema since 1961. This year's program allows you to immerse yourself in film with other film-lovers, and even have a chat after the film (some discussions are planned). Highlights include some superb animated features (Triplets of Belleville, Spirited Away, Yellow Submarine), a series of classics by the acknowledged greats (Welles, Hitchcock, Ozu, Tati, Scorsese, Varda, Bertolucci), the greatest silent film ever made (Murnau's Sunrise, with live score created specially for us), and some fabulous, thought-provoking contemporary world cinema (both English & foreign language). We'll also include a selection of short films from Australia's oldest film school (VCA, formerly Swinburne). And to top it off we'll uncover some exciting Central Victorian filmmaking talent at our Bendigo Framed weekend in May.

Free Films

This weekend festival will give you a taste of some great films from Hong Kong, Finland and Iran, and a film noir classic from Orson Welles. There's no charge for these films but you can join the film society at the door to access our exciting 2007 program.

In the Mood for Love* Sat 17 Feb 2pm
Wong Kar-Wai (Hong Kong 2001)

This story of a couple who suspect their spouses of affairs is "a genuinely wonderful movie; at once old-fashioned and entirely contemporary, subtly erotic, effortlessly cool." Romantic movies can tell a love story, but how many put the viewer so deeply inside a yearning heart that we feel as if we are falling in love right along?

The Man Without a Past Sat 17 Feb 7:30pm
Aki Kaurismäki (Finland 2002) M

On arrival in Helsinki, a man is viciously mugged and given up for dead - but miraculously revives. Without memory, the man wanders off into the city, moves in with the homeless living in freight containers, and eventually begins to put his life back together. A droll, deadpan comedy complete with nods to '50s B-movies, rock'n'roll, and fairytale romance, but also addressing social and political issues.

A Touch of Evil* Sun 18 Feb 2pm
Orson Welles (USA 1958) M

From the director of *Citizen Kane* comes a classic film noir "tale of corruption and conscience, played out in the strip joints and motels of a sleazy border town. ... *A Touch of Evil* endures as a superbly kinky masterpiece of technique, imagination, and audacity." With Orson Welles, Charlton Heston, Janet Leigh, Marlene Dietrich. Don't miss the famous opening 3 minute tracking shot.

A Taste of Cherry Sun 18 Feb 7:30pm
Abbas Kiarostami (Iran 1997) PG

A man drives around villages and the desert hills offering a series of carefully selected unusually well paid work: he's not looking for a pick-up but, as we discover after a while, someone to help in his planned suicide. Kiarostami's Cannes *Palme d'Or* winner is low on narrative drive, slowly but steadily revealing more and more information, visual and verbal, until we are totally caught up in his protagonist's psychological and ethical dilemma - suicide is forbidden to Muslims.

Members Only Screenings

Little Fish* 1 March 7:30pm
Rowan Woods (Australia 2005) MA15+

This intimate compelling film about an ex-heroin addict trying to stay clean and realise her dreams of owning a small business, is made all the stronger by a superb cast (Cate Blanchett, Noni Hazelhurst, Hugo Weaving). *Little Fish* picked up most of the acting awards at the AFI Awards in 2005 including Best Actor, Best Actress, Best Supporting Actress, as well as Best Editing & Best Sound. "Blanchett is at her best in a complex, gripping role.... Weaving is a revelation, going completely against type".

Spirited Away 15 March 7:30pm
Hayao Miyazaki (Japan 2002) PG

Hayao Miyazaki's breathtakingly beautiful and poetic animated feature about 10-year-old girl who wanders into a world of strange creatures and illogical rules. "such a landmark in animation that labeling it a masterpiece almost seems inadequate."

Mean Streets* 29 March 7:30pm
Martin Scorsese (USA 1973)

The Godfather made the mob glamorous. *Mean Streets* made it real. Martin Scorsese's ferocious, grimy 1973 classic is just as good as Coppola's masterpiece, but it shows us criminal life lower down the food chain. "...a gritty, one-of-a-kind, unromantic, down-and-dirty look at the streets of New York like no film had portrayed those streets and their people before." With Harvey Keitel & Robert de Niro.

Look Both Ways* 12 April 7:30pm
Sarah Watt (Australia 2005) M

The feature debut by Sarah Watt, starring Justine Clarke and William McInnes, is a warm, gentle inventive comedy about death, disaster, catastrophe and cancer. It also won a large swag of AFI Awards in 2005: Best Film, Best Direction, Best Original Screenplay, Best Supporting Actor (Anthony Hayes). "Watt's sensitive, controlled handling of the various strands of the narrative is very impressive; these aren't just interesting characters, they're flawed but beautiful human beings, and your heart reaches out to them as they pick their way through the difficulties of simply living."

Lilya 4-ever 26 April 7:30pm
Lukas Moodysson (Denmark/Sweden 2003) MA15+

This young Swedish director, crafts a stunner of a film out of familiar turf. Lilya, 16, is dumped by her mother in the former Soviet Union. Drifting through Europe, she lives on scraps and the cash she gets from selling her body. Oksana Akinshina is unforgettable as Lilya. "What *Lilya 4-Ever* has in common with the greatest films is its spiritual transcendence. Don't miss it."

Moolaadé 10 May 7:30pm
Ousmane Sembène (Senegal 2004) M

Often called 'the father of African film' Sembène here tackles the

controversy of female circumcision in a passionate drama set in a rural village, in which a woman valiantly stands up against the "purification", exposing it for the misogynistic fraud it is. "Solemnity rarely taints Sembène's films; his anger and indignation are invariably tempered by his warmth, humour and generosity of spirit."

Bendigo Framed Saturday 26 / Sunday 27 May

We invite Central Victorian filmmakers (young and old) to submit short films of all styles for screening during this weekend dedicated to local filmmakers, amateur and professional. An opportunity for filmmakers to mix and mingle. Start making your films now. Closing Date 1st May. Full details on our website <http://latrobe.edu.au/bfs/festival.htm>. Enquiries Ely Coyle 0400791457.

Yellow Submarine* 7 June 7:30pm
George Dunning (UK 1969)

All is peace, love, and music in gentle Pepperland until the wicked Blue Meanies take over. The Beatles come to the rescue in their yellow submarine, meeting all kinds of strange and interesting characters along the way. Although critically dismissed by some at the time, it is now seen as an important film, leading the charge against Disney-style animation. "the animation itself is so rich and experimental and outrageously imaginative that it amounts to its very own festival of animation.". And of course it has all those catchy Beatles songs. Come in FANCY DRESS.

The Gleaners and I 21 June 7:30pm
Agnes Varda (France 2000) G

The "gleaners" of the title are real people who live off the surplus of others by scavenging. This bewitching documentary by Agnes Varda, one of cinema's greats, mischievously fuses the past with the present, the rich with the poor, the idle with workaholic and manages to be both poetic and a personal reflection on aging. "... an impressive personal study. It's a little sad, a little funny, intimate and universal."

2046 5 July 7:30pm
Wong Kar-Wai (France/Hong Kong 2004) M

"Sumptuous follow-up to *In the Mood for Love*. ... It's not just the stunning production design, exquisite camerawork and superbly used music, which together give the film the febrile intensity of a nineteenth-century opera. It's also the subtlety and complexity that distinguish Wong's charting of the emotional odyssey undergone by Chow Mo Wan (Tony Leung) as he goes through a series of relationships with different but likewise lovely women: a prostitute, a gambler, a cabaret singer, and his landlord's daughter. "The film is a beautiful reverie, a kind of poem about lovers briefly glimpsed and never forgotten."

Triplets of Belleville* 19 July 7:30pm
Sylvain Chomet (Canada 2003) PG

This stunning animated feature by Sylvain Chomet is a weird and wonderful, strange and spellbinding adult film brimming with imagination and energy at every turn, about a cyclist kidnapped during the Tour de France and whisked to Belleville, a lavish Québécois twist on Manhattan. Relish the film's deadpan grotesquery, its flair for invention, its clever gags, or simply its sensational blending of cel animation and computer-enhanced backgrounds and action

The Marey Project* 2 August 7:30pm
James Clayden (Australia, 2005)

Australian artist James Clayden has long been known for his painting and theatre work, but in recent years his innovative experiments with film and video have come to the fore. The Marey Project (referring to the pioneering cinema inventor Etienne-Jules Marey) mixes Clayden's penchant for abstraction with strong narrative elements: a series of kinky sex murders, and the making of a film. It is a powerful, remarkable and mysterious piece, among the peaks of recent Australian cinema. **We plan to have a discussion with the director, James Clayden, and actor, Ian Scott, after the screening**

The Conformist* 16 August 7:30pm
Bernardo Bertolucci (Italy 1970)

One of the really great political films and Bertolucci's best, this multi-layered reworking of an Alberto Moravia novel about a man (Jean-Louis Trintignant) who joins the Italian Fascist party and agrees to murder a left wing professor. "A great film, drunkenly beautiful and deeply disturbing."

Dark Days 30 August 7:30pm
Marc Singer (USA 2000) M15+

A startling and moving documentary depicting the true stories of a community of people living underground in some of the many subterranean railway tunnels in New York City. Created by Marc Singer, who lived among his subjects for 2 years. "A genuinely enriching and educational experience, *Dark Days* is deliciously committed and daring fare." Enhanced by DJ Shadow's spare, muted electronica and turntable scratchings. *Best Documentary* at 2000 Sundance Film Festival.

Vertigo* 13th September 7:30pm
Alfred Hitchcock (USA 1958) PG

The greatest film ever made? So say the critics at *Senses of Cinema*. James Stewart plays a detective who has left the police force because his fear of heights has caused, he believes, a tragedy. When an old college friend summons him to investigate the eccentric actions of his psychologically perplexing wife (Kim Novak), Stewart's life takes a new, obsessive course from which he never recovers. "A rich, resonant meditation of male romantic obsession. Not only does Hitchcock demonstrate a total mastery of cinematic point-of-view, but he turns what might have been mere melodrama into film poetry. Perhaps his greatest film."

Red Lights (Feux Rouges) 7th September 7:30pm
Cedric Kahn (France 2004) M

"Kahn's (Hitchcockian) adaptation of Georges Simenon's tale of marital strife confirms that he's one of the best French directors at work today. a marvellously intelligent blend of stylish suspense and perceptive psychological study.... But it's Kahn's control of mood that best distinguishes his films, and music, colour, composition, camera movement and cutting are all here masterfully combined to create a genuinely nightmarish atmosphere of unease."

Turtles Can Fly 11th October 7:30pm
Bahman Ghobadi (Iraq/Iran 2005) M

The first feature made in Iraq since the fall of Saddam Hussein, is set and shot among the Kurdish people on the border between Iraq and Turkey. It's the eve of the American invasion and we find ourselves with a group of refugee children who dig up land-mines and sell them for food. "A fairy tale that is tragic, haunting and often oddly beautiful".

Sunrise* 25th October 7:30pm
FW Murnau (USA 1927) G

Many critics claim this melodramatic love story as the greatest silent film of all time. "*Sunrise* conquered time and gravity with a freedom that was startling to its first audiences. To see it today is to be astonished by the boldness of its visual experimentation." *Sunrise* will be screened with a live music score

Mysterious Skin 8th November 7:30pm
Gregg Araki (USA 2005) R18+

Masterful and harrowing adaptation of Scott Heim's novel about two youths struggling to come to terms with earlier sexual abuse by their coach. ... Araki creates a powerfully intimate tone through first-person framing of conversations and lush, meticulous attention to pattern, colour and texture - fingers on a face, rain on a window, cereal on a floor. ... It's a film full of characters gazing upwards in hope of a fantastical escape that cannot come. for all of its depictions of atrocities and human sadness, it's a rare thing of vulnerable beauty."

Tokyo Story* 22nd November 7:30pm
Yasujiro Ozu (Japan 1953) PG

"No story could be simpler. An old couple come to the city to visit their children and grandchildren. Their children are busy, and the old people upset their routines. In a quiet way, without anyone admitting it, the visit goes badly. The parents return home. A few days later, the grandmother dies. Now it is the turn of the children to make a journey. From these few elements Yasujiro Ozu made one of the greatest films of all time". "One of the most quietly powerful studies of the gradual and inevitable erosion of the family in a rapidly changing world."

Playtime 6th December 7:30pm
Jacques Tati (France 1967) G

In Jacques Tati's most brilliant film, he takes on modern technology via the parallel paths of Monsieur Hulot and a group of American tourists. "So richly conceived and choreographed that its lack of a plot is compensated by a wealth of memorable incidents, sight gags, gestures and satiric notions."

Membership

Membership costs \$55, \$40 (concession) \$90 (partners). Join at the door or mail details (name, address, email) and cheque to Bendigo Film Society, PO Box 567 Bendigo 3552.

Committee

The committee is made up of Ellie Coyle (pres) 0400791457, Brett Marshall (sec) 0422039010, Melodye Howard (treas) 0424950408. Also Justin Bull, Paul Fletcher, Allan Hercus, Graham McGinniskin, Bev Penwill, Shirley Reid, Margaret Taylor

WWW

web: See our web site at <http://latrobe.edu.au/bfs> for more details and sources of quotes.
Or visit <http://www.myspace.com/bendigofilmsociety>
email: bendigofilmsociety@yahoo.com.au

