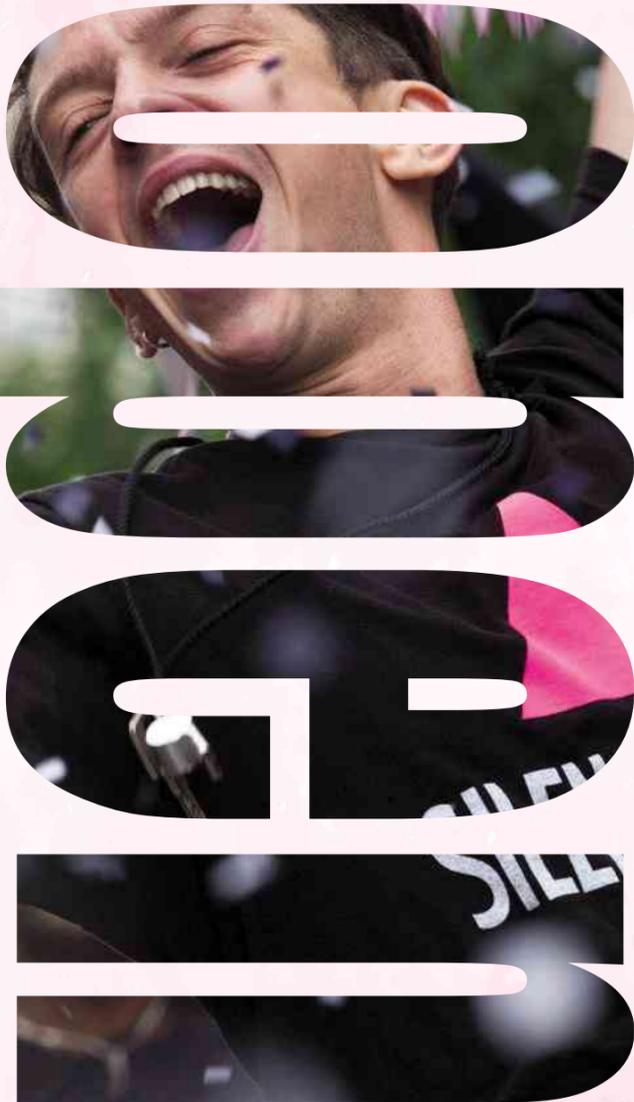


Open Film Society 2018 & 2019



October 31 6.30 P.M.

AFTER THE STORM

Japanese 2016 117 minutes Hirokazu Kore-eda

A prize-winning novelist has split up with his wife and is reduced to working as a private investigator. He gambles his money rather than pay child support. Then the events of a stormy night offer him a chance to reconnect with his family. Renowned director Kore-eda, maker of *Our Little Sister*, has produced yet another beautiful, humane, funny yet melancholy drama.



November 7 6.30 P.M.

HAPPY END

French/English 2017 108 minutes Michael Haneke

The Laurents are a dysfunctional family of the wealthy French bourgeoisie. Their lives may seem elegant but they have their problems. These problems consist of a mixture of Haneke's usual themes: covert filming, suspected murder, dementia, racial discomfort, suicide, euthanasia and dissolution, all played out to the background of the migrant crisis at Calais. Excellent cast includes Isabelle Huppert, Jean-Louis Trintignant and Toby Jones.



November 14 6.30 P.M.

A FANTASTIC WOMAN

Spanish 2018 104 minutes Sebastián Lelio

Marina is a transgender woman in a society (Santiago, Chile) that doesn't yet accept the idea. When her partner Orlando dies, she is treated with disrespect, even being suspected of murder and denied an opportunity to mourn him. Orlando's family don't appear to see her as a fellow human being and she is very isolated. The film stars Daniela Vega, herself a transgender actress who sensitively portrays Marina's courage in a very hostile world. Multiple award winner including 2018 Oscar for best foreign language film.

November 21 6.30 P.M.

LOVELESS

Russian 2017 124 minutes Andrey Zvyagintsev

This is a story of modern Russia. We are introduced to two parents whose affection for each other is long forgotten and who are having an acrimonious separation. Their aspirational demands for status, money and new relationships over-ride their love for their son, a shy and unhappy twelve-year-old, who overhears their arguments and disappears one night into the Russian winter. Every bleak and icy shot emphasises the coldness and desperation of the characters. If you remember 'Leviathan' you will know what to expect! Jury Prize at Cannes, 2017.

November 28 6.30 P.M.

THE SQUARE

Swedish 2017 151 minutes Ruben Östlund

Christian (Claes Bang), a famous Stockholm art curator, finds himself in personal and professional crisis as he tries to set up a controversial new exhibit, *The Square*, which is 'a sanctuary of trust and caring within which we all share equal rights and obligations'. Unfortunately Christian's professional aims and personal morals do not square up! Along the way he meets Anne (Elizabeth Moss) and a complicated story unfolds. This excellent satire won the 2017 Palme d'Or at Cannes.

December 5 6.30 P.M.

THELMA

Norwegian 2017 116 minutes Joachim Trier

On arrival as a student in Oslo, Thelma's sheltered life sets her apart from her peers. Her parents seek to control her and there are hints of something terrible in her childhood. A passion for a fellow woman student seems to trigger an epileptic fit and it's hard to say if the forces at work are psychological or supernatural. Like Trier's previous films a sense of dread pervades everything. **Warning:** Strobe lighting effects in one scene may make this film unsuitable for some.



NO FILM ON 12 December

December 19 6.30 P.M.

FUNNY COW

English 2017 102 minutes Adrian Shergold

Stand-up comedy in northern working men's clubs is a hard school, especially if you're a woman. Maxine Peak stars as the eponymous comedienne with support from Paddy Considine and Tony Pitts and an original score from Richard Hawley. Shot on location in Leeds, Bradford, Saltaire and Harrogate, this movie offers a glimpse into a world that is rarely seen and frequently misunderstood.

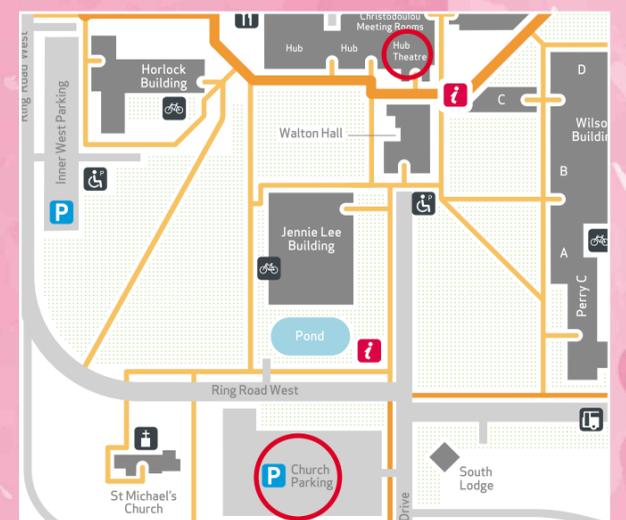
Open Film 2018

October 24 6.30 P.M.

THE MIDWIFE

French 2017 117 minutes Martin Provost with Catherine Deneuve, Catherine Frot

Claire, a midwife, is very committed to her work but faces a number of problems. Technological developments and a new hospital threaten to change her role and make it much less satisfying. Then Beatrice, her deceased father's spendthrift amoral mistress, contacts her after a very long time. How these two women, almost exact opposites, come together to resolve their differences is carefully told in this clever film.



You can visit our website at <http://www.openfilmsociety.co.uk/>

You can tweet about us on http://www.twitter.com/OU_Film

The Open Film Society may be contacted by emailing j.p.twomey@open.ac.uk. Films will be shown in the Open University Hub Theatre on Walton Hall Campus, entrance to which is from Groveway (H9) or Brickhill Street (V10). Please park in Church Parking (see map). Full membership of the Society costs £76 (equivalent to £2.53 per film). Associate membership (5-film pass) at £27 allows entry to any FIVE films. Guests are welcome with tickets (1-film pass) on sale at the door 15 minutes before each performance at a cost of £6.50 per film (£5.50 concessions with proof of status). Drinks and snacks can be bought in the Hub Bar from 5.30 pm. No one under the age of 16 can be admitted.

Open Film 2019

January 9 6.30 P.M.

REDOUBTABLE

French 2016 107 minutes Michel Hazanavicius

The film recounts Jean-Luc Godard's involvement in the events of 1968. Though revered in France for his films, his political views and actions cause pain to his friends and young wife. Stylish and witty, the film is a delight for those who either love, or love to hate the French.



January 9 8.30 P.M.

BREATHLESS

French 1960 90 minutes Jean-Luc Godard

Godard said 'to make a film all you need is a girl and a gun'. This gangster story is his first feature and was a revolution in cinema. A sense of reality comes from the documentary treatment. The film tells the story of Michel who steals a car and shoots a policeman.

January 16 6.30 P.M.

THE ROAD TO MANDALAY

Chinese 2016 108 minutes Midi Z

A young Burmese girl, Lien Ching, meets Gua, from the same town, as they head to Bangkok to pursue a better life. Their relationship develops into an unlikely romance. Lien struggles to find work and gets arrested. She has to rely on Gua's help.

January 23 6.30 P.M.

GLORY

Bulgarian 2016 101 minutes Kristina Grozeva, Petar Valchanov

A railway worker finds millions in cash and hands the money in. The head of PR realises that this can be used to cover up a scandal by presenting the stuttering railwayman as a hero, but setting him up for a fall. An excellent follow-up to *The Lesson*, this was inspired by a real event. Best international film at Edinburgh, 2017.

January 30 6.30 P.M.

LET THE SUNSHINE IN

French 2017 94 minutes Claire Denis

Juliette Binoche plays Isabelle, a divorced Parisian artist in search of another shot at love, but refusing to settle for any of the men in her life. The film chronicles her struggle and confronts the difficulty of desire in middle age. She is helped by Gerard Depardieu, making an appearance as a therapist with ulterior motives.

February 6 6.30 P.M.

MARLINA, THE MURDERER, IN FOUR ACTS

Indonesian 2017 93 minutes Mouly Surya

Marlina is saving to pay for her husband's funeral. Marcus the local gang boss warns her that his gang will soon be visiting with robbery and rape in mind. With just enough time to prepare, Marlina kills all seven intruders and has to flee. Her journey takes in buses, bars and music, the birth of a child and prison.



February 13 6.30 P.M.

MARJORIE PRIME

English 2017 99 minutes Michael Almereyda

An old woman with dementia has her life retold to her by a hologram of a young version of her dead husband. The hologram interacts with her and her family to build an ever more complex and not altogether accurate version of her painful past. This futuristic exploration of memory was a prize winner at Sundance.

February 20 6.30 P.M.

120 BPM

French 2017 143 minutes Robin Campillo

As the AIDS crisis develops in the 1990s, French gay activists take direct action against government hypocrisy and big-business inertia. Entwined with the political struggle, we witness the highly personal tale of three young men and their different responses to their predicament. César award for best film, 2018.

February 27 6.30 P.M.

MOUNTAINS MAY DEPART

Chinese 2015 126 minutes Zhangke Jia

The story of a woman's life is suggested by her experiences at three different times: 1999, 2014 and 2025. This well-acted drama shows how Tao makes and regrets some of her choices, learns to live with life's pleasures and vicissitudes, and embraces the future. We also see how her choices affect the three men in her life.

March 6 6.30 P.M.

CLASH

Arabic 2016 97 minutes Mohamed Diab

Egypt, summer 2013 and the short-lived presidency of Mohammed Morsi is ending. Protesters for and against the Muslim Brotherhood are being held inside a police truck, providing an intense and claustrophobic setting for this film. Will they overcome their differences to survive turmoil?



March 13 6.30 P.M.

FÉLICITÉ

Lingala/French 2017 129 minutes Alain Gomis

A self-possessed survivor, Félicité is a singer with a son, Samo. When he has a motorbike accident she has to find money to pay for his surgery. She rushes around Kinshasa (DRC) seeking loans and calling in favours, a process that reveals her past. Within this haste there are interludes of singing with her band.

March 20 6.30 P.M.

LOST IN PARIS

French 2016 85 minutes Fiona Gordon, Dominique Abel

From the partnership that brought us *Rumba*, we have a Canadian librarian searching Paris for her lost, over-sexed, eighty-eight-year-old aunt. With the river Seine for a backdrop, this catalogue of calamities should keep you amused for the first half of the evening.

March 20 8.15 P.M.

I GOT LIFE!

French 2017 89 minutes Blandine Lenoir

In our second comedy tonight, Aurore at fifty is facing divorce, redundancy, impending grand-motherhood and a growing feeling of exclusion. How is a girl to cope? A chance encounter with the love of her youth may lead to a reversal in fortune.

March 27 6.30 P.M.

IN BETWEEN

Hebrew/Arabic 2016 103 minutes Maysaloun Hamoud

Three young Palestinian women sharing an apartment in Tel Aviv constantly find themselves torn between traditional culture and the modern world. With distinct personalities they discover the price of freedom.

April 3 6.30 P.M.

A GENTLE CREATURE

Russian 2017 143 minutes Sergey Loznitsa

A parcel sent by a woman to her husband in prison is returned unopened. Unable to find out what has happened, she sets out on an arduous journey to Siberia. On the way she meets people struggling amid mistrust and oppression. Bleak yet powerful, the film is very engrossing and provocative.

April 10 6.30 P.M.

A WOMAN'S LIFE

French 2016 116 minutes Stéphane Brizé

Jeanne is an aristocratic heiress in nineteenth-century France, who having just finished a convent education, is idealistically setting out in adult life. We follow her from the hopefulness of youth to the disillusionment of middle age. An atmospheric adaptation of a Maupassant novel.

April 17 6.30 P.M.

I AM NOT A WITCH

English/Chewa 2017 93 minutes Rungano Nyoni

In rural Zambia, spilling water is no laughing matter. When eight-year-old Shula is blamed for such an incident and then accused of witchcraft, she is nearly lynched and the choice then presented to her is stark. Either accept incarceration in a 'witch's camp' or be turned into a goat! BAFTA award for best new director.

NO FILM ON 24 April

May 1 6.30 P.M.

HOTEL SALVATION

Hindi 2016 102 minutes Shubhashish Bhutani

A son takes his father to the holy city of Varanasi to die. But when the father gains renewed vitality, the son finds it increasingly difficult to deal with his responsibilities to his family back home and to his father. This beautiful film meditates effectively on making the most of life.

May 8 6.30 P.M.

THE SHEPHERD

Spanish 2016 98 minutes Jonathan Cenxual Burley

This modern western tells how a reclusive herdsman angers his neighbours when his refusal to sell land to developers affects their chances of making money. Violence and tragedy ensue. This admirably crafted film poignantly explores greed and hardship in rural Spain.

May 15 6.30 P.M.

WESTERN

German/Bulgarian 2017 121 minutes Valeska Grisebach

German construction workers are building a water plant in Bulgaria. Tension rises as a newcomer to the German group mixes with locals. Written and produced by Grisebach, this is a gripping study of masculinity, worthy of John Ford.

May 22 6.30 P.M.

THE DEATH OF LOUIS XIV

Latin/French 2016 115 minutes Albert Serra

Louis XIV, the Sun King, slowly dies and we are voyeurs at the event. The physicians do not want to be blamed for what is coming. The ladies of the court try to keep the king's spirits up, and the courtiers fear what will happen when he dies. At 73, Jean-Pierre Léaud as Louis gives the best performance of his career.

May 22 8.35 P.M.

THE 400 BLOWS

French 1959 99 minutes François Truffaut

Here is Jean-Pierre Léaud at a very young age. As Antoine, he is in trouble at home and in school, ignored by his parents and written off by everyone. He decides to swan off and drifts into petty crime. After he is arrested he goes to a juvenile detention centre where nothing improves. A classic that made Truffaut's name.