U3AC Film Group



Established in October 1999 with the much -valued contribution of the Arts Picturehouse Cambridge management, the aim of the U3AC Film Group is to show a wide range of the best in both historic and contemporary world cinema from all countries, generations and genres, and our programmes take a robust and adventurous approach to the history of cinema. The Group's shows take place at the Arts Picturehouse every Tuesday during term time, and our films are shown in in Screen 3. There are no ads or trailers which means that all of our films commence promptly at. 1.00 pm other than when an epic or exceptionally lengthy film is shown, and members are kindly requested to adhere to the start time of 1.00 pm as a dark cinema can be hazardous. Members are most welcome to attend our post screen discussions and to make suggestions for future showings.

The cost of our season of Tuesday shows remains at £45 per term.

Members are kindly requested to ensure that all electronic devices are switched off or in the case of mobile phones switched to silent mode, and under no circumstances should photography/filming take place in the cinema.

Spring term 2025

14 January Chinatown

Dir: Roman Polanski: USA 1974 (130 mins) In a legendary performance, Jack Nicholson stars as private eye Jake Gittes. Hired by a mysterious woman to investigate Hollis Mulwray, the chief engineer of the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power, Gittes' sleuthing brings him into contact with Mulwray's wife (Faye Dunnaway), a stunning socialite with secrets of her own. As a determined Gittes delves deeper he soon realises that the City of Angels has a dark side.

Wild Strawberries Dir: Ingmar Bergman: Sweden 1957 (91 mins)

Dr Borg an elderly emotionally distant professor, travels to Lund University with his daughter-in-law to receive an honorary degree. The trip forces him to re-examine past choices and his future. The film's original title is Smultonstället which literally means "the wild strawberry patch" but idiomatically signifies a hidden gem of a place, often with personal or sentimental value, and not widely known.

28 January Mr Klein

2025 Holocaust Memorial Day)

Dir: Joseph Losey: France/Italy 1976 (123 mins) Paris 1942. Robert Klein (Alain Delon) cannot find any fault with the state of affairs in German occupied France. He has a well-furnished flat, a mistress, and business is booming. Jews, facing discrimination because of laws edicted by the French government are desperate to sell valuable works of art, and it is easy for him to get them at bargain prices. His cosy life is disrupted when he realises that there is another Robert Klein in Paris, a Jew with a rather mysterious behaviour. Very soon, this homonymy attracts the close, and menacing attention of the police on the established art trader. (This film follows on from the 27 January

Dir: Billy Wilder: USA 1944 (107 mins)

4 February La Chimera Dir: Alice Rohrwacher: Italy/France/Switzerland 2024 (130 mins) Just out of jail, crumpled English archaeologist Arthur reconnects with his wayward crew of accomplices, a happy-go-lucky collective of grave-robbers who survive by looting Etruscan tombs and fencing the ancient treasures they dig up.

11 February The Manchurian Candidate Dir: John Frankenheimer: USA 1962 (126 mins) A US Army platoon, captured by Communists during the Korean War, is whisked to Manchuria for three nightmarish days of experimental drug and hypnosis-induced "brainwashing". The aftermath transforms one of the captors, decorated with the Congressional Medal of Honor, into an operational assassin with a mission. and with a domineering mother who has intentions to promote her henpecked husband's political career. (This brilliant thriller is one of my favourite films and seen very many times - Jeremy).

Dir: Ibraham Nash'at: Germany/USA 2023 (91 mins) 18 February Hollywoodgate This documentary follows with unprecedented access to one of the most secretive cabals in the world, a group of Talib leaders in their first year back in power in Afghanistan. The director captures something of the plight of the ordinary people of Kabul, a distant afterthought for these war-obsessed men consumed by the thrill of new toys- the US weapons and equipment left behind worth an estimated \$7 bn - and the threat of old enemies.

25 February **Double Indemnity**

Insurance man Walter Neff schemes the perfect murder with the beautiful wife of one of his clients, kill her husband and make off with the insurance money. But Walter's colleague- a shrewd insurance investigator has a feeling that not all is as it seems with the widow's claim.

4 March La Strada

Dir: Federico Fellini: Italy 1954 (104 mins) When Gelsomina (Giulietta Masina) a naïve young woman is purchased from her impoverished mother by brutish strongman Zampanò (Anthony Quinn) to be his wife and partner, she loyally endures her husband's coldness and abuse as they travel the Italian countryside performing together. Soon Zampanò must deal with his jealousy and conflicted feelings about Gelsomina when she finds a kindred spirit in Il Matto (Richard Basehart), the carefree circus fool, and contemplates leaving Zampanò.

11 March The Red Circle (Le Circle Rouge)

Dir: Jean-Pierre Melville: France/Italy 1970 (140 mins)

Master thief Corey (Alain Delon) is fresh out of prison. But instead of toeing the line of law-abiding freedom, he finds his steps leading back to the shadowy world of crime, crossing paths with a notorious escapee and an alcoholic ex-cop. As the unlikely trio plots a heist against impossible odds, their trail is pursued by a relentless inspector and fate begins to seal their destinies.

18 March The Taste of Things (La Passion de Dodin Bouffant):

Dir Tràn Anh Hùng: France 2023 (134 mins)

Set in 1889, the film depicts a romance between a cook and the gourmet she works for. The character of the gourmet she works for is based on Dodin-Bouffant, created by Swiss author Marcel Rouff in his 1924 novel La Vie et la passion de Dodin – Bouffant gourmet (The Passionate Epìcure).

Our First Show after the Easter break will be at 1.00 pm on Tuesday 22 April 2025

Tickets for U3AC Film Group screenings

Tickets for single shows are available on the door for the standard cinema ticket price. U3AC members can get a reduced-price ticket by first purchasing a U3AC 10-week Term Card (or adding this to your existing Picturehouse Membership), and then obtaining a paper ticket (at no additional cost) on the day.

- Buy a 10-week film term card for the discounted price of £45. This allows you entry to each of the 10 films screened at 1 pm each Tuesday of the term, at no extra cost.
 - To get set up, register at any till at the Cambridge Arts Picturehouse near the beginning of a term. Bring your U3AC membership card as proof of eligibility to this scheme.
 - The Picturehouse staff will issue you with a plastic Picturehouse Membership card, which stores your 10 free U3AC screening ticket credits on it, lasting the whole of the 10-week term.
 - Please keep this card and renew it at any Arts Picturehouse till before each term (you cannot do this over the phone or on the U3AC or Picturehouse websites).
 - Note: If you already have a plastic Picturehouse Membership card, either one for which you've paid an annual fee or a prior U3AC Term Card, Picturehouse staff will add the current U3AC term to your existing card.
- 2. You will need a paper ticket to gain entry to each week's U3AC film.
 - Present your plastic Picturehouse Membership card at any till in the cinema to get your 'free' ticket to the current week's U3AC film.

Show this to the usher at the door to gain entry to the film.