



Winter & Spring
2016

THEEB

Tuesday January 26th @ 8PM



Directed by Naji Abu Nowar, United Arab Emirates 2015

Cert: Club, 118 Minutes, Language: Arabic

Young Theeb lives with his tribe in a forgotten corner of the Ottoman Empire. Having recently lost his father, Theeb is being raised by his brother Hussein, who tries to teach him the Bedouin way of life. But the boy is more interested in mischief. Their lives are interrupted when a British Army Officer arrives on a mysterious mission.

Not wanting to dishonour his late father's reputation, Hussein agrees to escort the officer to a well. Fearful of separation, Theeb follows Hussein. Since the outbreak of the First World War, this harsh terrain has become the hunting ground of Ottoman mercenaries, Arab revolutionaries and outcast Bedouin raiders. If Theeb (meaning 'wolf' in Arabic) is to survive, he must quickly learn about adulthood, trust and betrayal, and live up to the name his father gave him.

THE CONNECTION

Tuesday February 16th @ 8PM



Directed by : Cedric Jimenez, France 2014

Cert: 15A, 135 Minutes, Language: French

The true story behind the Hollywood hit The French Connection is now told from the European perspective in this exciting police drama.

This tough, fascinating film tells the little known story of how a ruthless international drug syndicate came undone. Director Cédric Jimenez grew up in Marseille during this turbulent time, and he has imbued the film with rich period detail around its grim central story.

For fans of the type of epic mob movies Martin Scorsese used to make, with plenty of action and a killer soundtrack, this exciting chapter in the story of organised crime is not to be missed. - Alliance Francaise French Film Festival 2014

Tuesday March 1st @ 8PM

OLDER THAN IRELAND



Directed by Alex Fegan, Ireland 2015

Cert: PG, 81 Minutes, Language: English

Older Than Ireland is a landmark feature documentary that explores what it means to have lived one hundred years in Ireland, as seen through the eyes of its oldest citizens.

Featuring thirty men and women, this remarkable group of centenarians, all born before 1916, are the last generation to have borne witness to Ireland's bloody transition from a newly formed fledgling republic through to its development into a mature European state. These centenarians are our living history and it is through their wit, wisdom and philosophy that the film explores the more universal themes of life. From youth to true love, from loss to regrets, from the meaning of life to the existence of a life hereafter — the centenarians have an opinion on it all. Older Than Ireland is a film that pays homage to this unique group of remarkable individuals.

Tuesday March 29th @ 8PM

99 HOMES



Directed by Ramin Bahrani, USA 2014

Cert: 15A, 110 Minutes, Language: English

99 Homes is a searing, impeccably acted indictment of capitalism, especially as it functions in present-day American real estate. The film focuses on Florida construction worker Dennis Nash (Andrew Garfield), who has fallen irretrievably behind on his mortgage payments due to lack of work. Desperate to keep the home he shares with his mother and son, his last-ditch attempt with the court system fails, and the family is tossed out by a fast-talking bank representative named Rick Carver (Michael Shannon) and a cadre of cops and hirelings. In a surprising turn of events, Nash soon finds himself accepting a job as one of Carver's flunkies and thus enters a morass of moral ambiguity. Bahrani, whose films consistently focus on the plight of the have-nots, here creates a timely and gripping modern reimagining of the Faustian bargain, demonstrating the lengths someone will go to in order to become a "have".

TANGERINES (MANDARIINID)

Tuesday April 19th @ 8PM



Directed by Zaza Urushadze, Estonia/Georgia, 2013

Cert: Club, 89 Minutes, Language: Estonian / Russian / Georgian

Set during the brutal 1992 Georgian-Abkhazian conflict, Zaza Urushadze's anti-war story roots itself in the neutral viewpoint of elderly Estonian farmer Ivo (Lembit Ulfsak).

After a shootout between Georgian soldiers and Chechen mercenaries near the local tangerine orchard, Ivo finds himself nursing two wounded men from opposite sides in his small house. As both men get better and Ivo remains stoically neutral, refusing to allow bloodshed under his own roof, the stage is set for a brilliant examination of conflict and humanity.

Strong performances and an atmospheric soundtrack add to this simple yet tense and emotionally-powerful piece.

THE GRUMP (MIELENSÄPAHOITAJA)

Tuesday May 17th @ 8PM



Directed by : Dome Karukoski, Finland/Iceland, 2014

Cert: TBC, 104 Minutes, Language: Finnish

The Grump (Antti Litja) is a stubborn, sour-faced old farmer with a rose-tinted view of the past. After a bad fall, he is forced to move from his family farm to the city home of his career-focussed daughter-in-law. Struggling to exist in this new world, the old man seems to do nothing but clash with everyone around him. But slowly it becomes apparent that the old fellow could still teach the modern world a trick or two!

Based on the popular novel by Finnish author Tuomas Kyrö, The Grump is a charming and comedic culture-clash satire from up-and-coming director Dome Karukoski (Lapland Odyssey).

Tuesday June 7th @ 8PM

TAXI TEHRAN



Directed by Jafar Panahi, Iran 2015

Cert: Club, 81 Minutes, Language: Farsi

Winner of the Golden Bear at this year's Berlinale, Panahi's latest is perhaps his most playful film yet. Riffing on the narrative structure pioneered in Kiarostami's 10, it's mostly set and entirely shot from inside a car: a taxi of sorts, with Panahi playing himself as an affable amateur cabbie. After giving rides around Tehran to a motley array of passengers – from a rabid reactionary and a liberal teacher to a man selling pirate DVDs and women heading to a shrine – he finally collects his niece, a sassy youngster making a little movie herself for school. Cue a discussion of how film should represent reality (or not!): a subject clearly close to Panahi's heart, given his standing with the Iranian authorities. Despite its concern with ethics, aesthetics and politics, the film oozes disarming charm and mischievous wit, slyly reminding us that cinema, for better or worse, always trades in illusion.

Tuesday June 28th @ 8PM

RAMS (HRUTAR)



Directed by Grimur Hakonarson, Iceland, 2015

Cert: TBC, 93 Minutes, Language: Icelandic

Gummi (Sigurdur Sigurjónsson) and Kiddi (Theodór Júlíusson) are brothers. They have both dedicated their lives to tending sheep and their farms are next door to each other. But they have not spoken in over 40 years, a feud that has reduced any necessary communication between them to be carried out via written messages delivered by Kiddi's dog.

However when one of their sheep contracts a contagious disease, the livelihood of the brothers and the entire rural community they are a part of comes under threat. Can the brothers set aside their differences under the circumstances?

Writer-director Hakonarson beautifully captures the tragicomic plight of the brothers against the stark beauty of the Icelandic valleys to deliver a charming and moving drama.



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