The Great Beauty

Year – 2013

Duration Of The Film – 142 minutes

Genre – Comedy | Drama

Age Or Restricted Viewing

Indicators - 12+

Jep Gambardella has seduced his way through the lavish nightlife of Rome for decades, but after his 65th birthday and a shock from the past, Jep looks past the nightclubs and parties to find a timeless landscape of absurd, exquisite beauty.
The Secret of Kells
by Tomm Moore

Year – 2009

Duration Of The Film – 75 minutes

Genre - Cartoon

Age Or Restricted Viewing Indicators – 0+

Young Brendan lives in a remote medieval outpost under siege from barbarian raids. But a new life of adventure beckons when a celebrated master illuminator arrives from the isle of Iona carrying an ancient but unfinished book, brimming with secret wisdom and powers. To help complete the magical book, Brendan has to overcome his deepest fears on a dangerous quest that takes him into the enchanted forest where mythical creatures hide. It is here that he meets the fairy Aisling, a mysterious young wolf-girl, who helps him along the way. But with the barbarians closing in, will Brendan’s determination and artistic vision illuminate the darkness and show that enlightenment is the best fortification against evil?

Saturday, 4 October, 4.30 pm
Alliance Ethio - Francaise
Paulette

by Jérôme Enrico

Year – 2013
Duration Of The Film – 87 minutes
Genre - Comedy
Age Or Restricted Viewing Indicators - 12+

Paulette lives alone in the projects on the Parisian outskirts. Her meager retirement pension is not enough for her to make ends meet. When she notices the curious trafficking going on at the outside her building one night, Paulette sees it as a sign of fate.

She decides to start selling cannabis. After all, why shouldn’t she do it?

Paulette was once a pastrycook. Her gift for commerce and her cooking talents are so many assets for finding original solutions in the exercise of her new activities.

Saturday 4 October, 6.30 pm
Alliance Ethio - Francaise
Fimfárum 2
by Jan Balej, Vlasta Pospíšilová, Aurel Klimt, Břetislav Pojar

Year – 2006
Duration Of The Film – 97 minutes

Genre - Animated/puppet film
Age Or Restricted Viewing Indicators - 0+

Czech animators Aurel Klimt, Vlasta Pospíšilová, Jan Balej, and Bretislav Pojar -- all giants of the Czech puppet film movement -- each helm one segment of the anthology film Fimfarum 2. A sequel to the original Fimfarum, this feature provides four additional animated episodes adapted from the short stories of Czech fantasist writer Jan Werich, in the same vein as the earlier film.

The first segment, Three Sisters and One Ring, unfolds in Bohemia in the late ‘20s. Three sisters jointly discover a ring, and decide that it will go to the sister who humiliates her husband the most.

The second segment, The Hunchback of Damascus, observes three identical hunchbacks, all gifted swordsmen, and each lame in the right foot and blind in the left eye. The third, Uncle, Why Is the Sea Salty?, dramatizes the experiences of two brothers (a rich one and a poor one), to whom Lucifer bequeaths a magic mill.

And in the fourth segment, Tom Thumb, the title character transcends his dark origins to embark on adventures with The King and the family of The Snow Eater.

Sunday, 5 October, 4.30 pm
Italian Cultural Institute
Couleur de Peau Miel
– Approved for Adoption
by Laurent Boileau/ Jung Henin

Year – 2012
Duration Of The Film – 75 minutes
Genre - animated biographical documentary
Age Or Restricted Viewing Indicators - 11+

The story of cartoonist Jung Henin, one of numerous Korean children adopted by Western European families after the end of the Korean War. Jung was adopted at the age of 5 by a Belgian family. A boy growing between two cultures, from the day he first meets his new siblings, through elementary school, and into his teenage years, when his emerging sense of identity begins to create problems, and later on his journey to Korea in search of his roots…. The filmmaker tells his story using his own animation intercut with family footage and archival film. The result is an animated memoir. “Alive with the pains, joys and rascal spirit of childhood. A vibrant example of hybrid nonfiction filmmaking, using hand-drawn animation, live action, home movies and newsreels in a rich synthesis of personal and historical memory.”- Los Angeles Times. The film received a UNICEF award, among others.

Sunday, 5 October, 6.30 pm
Italian Cultural Institute
Punk Syndrome
Jussi Kärkkäinen, J-P Passi

Awards: Golden Globe Nominee

Year – 2012
Duration Of The Film – 85 minutes

Genre - Documentary
Age Or Restricted Viewing Indicators – 12+

The Punk Syndrome is a film about the Finnish punk rock band, Pertti Kurikan Nimipäivät. The band’s mentally handicapped members, Pertti, Kari, Toni and Sami, play their music with a lot of attitude and pride. We follow these professional musicians on their journey from obscurity to popularity. We watch them fight, fall in love and witness long days in the recording studio and on tour. It’s a film about the essence of punk – it’s a story of handicapped people rebelling against the mainstream.
The Hunt

by Thomas Vinterberg

Year – 2013
Duration Of The Film – 111 minutes
Genre – Drama
Age Or Restricted Viewing Indicators - 12+

Following a tough divorce, 40-year-old Lucas has a new girlfriend, a new job and is in the process of reestablishing his relationship with his teenage son, Marcus. But things go awry. Just a story - a random lie. And as the snow falls and the Christmas lights are lit, the lie spreads like a virus. The shock and mistrust get out of hand, and the small community suddenly finds itself in a collective state of hysteria, while Lucas fights a lonely fight for his life and dignity.

Wednesday, 8 October, 6.30 pm
Alliance Ethio - Francaise
Almanya - Welcome to Germany
by Yasemin Samdereli

Year – 2011
Duration Of The Film – 97 minutes
Genre - Tragicomedy
Age Or Restricted Viewing
Indicators – 6+

Almanya documents the story of a Turkish family. The grandpa as the head of the family has seen his children grow to father more children in Germany. Each member of the large family seems to have their own conflicts about his or her Turkish-German upbringing and personal degree of assimilation. The film flies through timelines and decades, recapping the family’s immigration from Turkey to Germany. But while it humorously spotlights the excitement of grandpa’s past, it also expresses, on the behalf of both the grandparents and their Turkish-born children, a sense of nostalgia for a motherland that lies as a gateway between Europe and Asia.

Thursday, 9 October, 6.30 pm
Goethe Institut
The Last Sentence
by Jan Troell

Year – 2012
Duration Of The Film – 126 minutes

Genre - Drama

Age Or Restricted Viewing
Indicators – 7+

Torgny Segerstedt was one of the leading journalists in Sweden in the 20th century. He fought a one man battle against the Nazi regime until his death in 1945 and during these times his private life was marked by a world of chaos. The Last Sentence is both a psychological love story and a portrayal of the political situation at that time. A dramatic tale about a man who couldn’t be silenced.

Friday, 10 October, 6.30 pm
Alliance Ethio - Francaise
Nova Zembla tells the gripping true story of the legendary failed mission of the late sixteenth century Dutch flotilla trying to find a trading route to Asia across the North Pole. The ship crew, who got stuck in the ice of Nova Zembla and had to survive the dark coldness of winter in the most gruesome of circumstances.

An incredibly powerful story of determination, hardship and a triumph of the human spirit. The sixteenth century Dutch ship crew is leaving the port of Amsterdam and sailing to the northern arctic, where they get stuck in the ice. Two ships take part at the mission and captain De Rijp decides to return while he still can, while the other ship helmed by Willem Barentsz, stubbornly proceeds.

Saturday, 11 October, 6.30 pm
Goethe Institut
Jack Strong
by Władysław Pasikowski

Year – 2014
Duration Of The Film – 128 minutes
Genre - Action | Biography | Crime
Age Or Restricted Viewing Indicators – 15+

This gripping spy thriller tells the true story of a man who dares to challenge the Soviet empire. While planning the maneuvers of the Warsaw Pact forces, Polish army colonel Ryszard Kuklinski has access to top secrets. He gets to know that the American nuclear counterattack against Soviet forces is planned to be executed on Polish territory. Thanks to his determination, he starts a long, lonely and psychologically exhausting cooperation with CIA. From that very moment the life of his family and his own is in constant danger as one careless move may lead to tragedy.

Sunday, 12 October, 6.30 pm
Italian Cultural Institute
A Gun In Each Hand

by Cesc Gay

Leyburn
Year – 2012
Duration Of The Film – 91 minutes
Genre –Comedy
Age Or Restricted Viewing Indicators – 12+

Eight men in their forties are caught up in everyday situations revealing their main conflict: a masculine identity crisis. They all share feelings of bewilderment, and their behavior forms a mosaic of emotions men usually don’t reveal.

J. is depressed and he is the perfect victim for psychoanalysis. E. has lost everything and now lives with his mother and his cat. S. two years later makes an attempt to win his ex-wife back. G with the help of drugs is trying to understand why his wife is having an affair. And the rest of his friends are doing their best with similar catastrophes...

Ordinary men in extraordinary situations are the protagonists of a comic and merciless portrait of men today.

Tuesday, 14 October, 6.30 pm
Italian Cultural Institute
In the heart of Portugal, amid the mountains, the month of August is abuzz with people and activity. Emigrants return home, set off fireworks, fight fires, sing karaoke, hurl themselves from bridges, hunt wild boar, drink beer, make babies. If the director and film crew had got straight to it and resisted the temptation to join in the festivities the synopsis would come down to: Aquele Querido Mês de Agosto (Our Beloved Month of August) follows the affective relationship between a father and daughter, and the daughters’ cousin, all musicians in a dance band. So, love and music then.

Wednesday, 15 October, 6.30 pm
Goethe Institut
El Greco
by Yiannis Smaragdis

Year – 2007
Duration Of The Film – 119 minutes
Genre – Biography | Drama
Age Or Restricted Viewing Indicators – 12+

An epic tale of an uncompromising artist and fighter for freedom, Domenicos Theotokopoulos, known to the world as «El Greco». Set in the 16th century, El Grecos search for freedom, and love, ranges from the courts of Crete and Venice to Toledo in Spain. Here he is confronted by his greatest adversary the Holy Inquisition. Never backing down in his fight with the establishments of his day El Grecos story is one of unusual heroism, betrayal, love, and the power of one man and his creative consciousness to stand out and overcome barbarity and ignorance. An inspiration which lives on to this day.

Thursday, 16 October, 6.30 pm
Alliance Ethio - Francaise
The Selfish Giant
by Clio Barnard

Year – 2012
Duration Of The Film – 91 minutes
Genre - Drama
Age Or Restricted Viewing Indicators – 15+

An official selection at the Cannes Film Festival, The Selfish Giant is a contemporary fable about 13 year old Arbor (Conner Chapman) and his best friend Swifty (Shaun Thomas). Excluded from school and outsiders in their own neighbourhood, the two boys meet Kitten (Sean Gilder), a local scrap dealer. Wandering their town with just a horse and a cart, they begin collecting scrap metal for him. Swifty has a natural gift with horses while Arbor emulates Kitten - keen to impress him and make some money. However, Kitten favors Swifty, leaving Arbor feeling hurt and excluded, driving a wedge between the boys. As Arbor becomes increasingly greedy and exploitative, tensions build, leading to a tragic event that transforms them all.
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