

BRITISH FEDERATION OF FILM SOCIETIES

FEBRUARY 2011 e-NEWSREEL

NEWS

CREATIVE ENGLAND CONSULTATION OPEN

Creative England, the new body that will support the growth of the creative industries in England, has embarked upon its first stage of formation by outlining proposed strategic priorities for film for the first year of operation.

[Creative England: A Consultation on Strategic Priorities for Film for 2011/12](#) sets out the draft film strategy for the coming year, and is now open for responses.

BFFS will be putting in a response and we urge English film societies to do the same. It is important that film societies and community cinemas take this opportunity to be heard and help form the future of funding in England.

To submit your view on the proposal go [here](#). Views must be submitted before 31st March 2011. Email any questions to info@creativeengland.co.uk.

ICO SCREENING DAYS

Due to funding cuts the April ICO Screening Days has been cancelled. The ICO team are hoping to return with an event in November. For further information telephone 0207 636 7120 or email

enquiries@independentcinemaoffice.org.uk.

EM MEDIA

The UK Film Council has awarded additional funding to EM Media to support projects affected by the closure of Screen East. EM Media has launched **EM Media East** – a temporary scheme, to support those projects which had previously been given a commitment of funding from Screen East.

For more information go to: www.em-media.org.uk

FILM SOCIETY NEWS

CRYSTAL PALACE PICTURES

In January, Crystal Palace Pictures were joined for the evening by BFFS President Derek Malcolm, who had presented them with their Distinction for Best New Film Society at the BFFS Film Society of the Year Awards 2010. He talked about his time in film and offered some anecdotes about the great and good of cinema. He then introduced his favourite film of 2009 *White Ribbon*.

www.crystalpalacepictures.com

HDMI LINK – ADVICE FROM BUDLEIGH FILM SOCIETY

Thanks to Stuart Yerrell of Budleigh Film Society for sharing his experience of upgrading to a HDMI link:

‘When the Budleigh Film Society started three years ago it installed its equipment in the local public hall. The layout of the building dictated that nearly 40 metres of video cable were needed to link the DVD player to the projector. Although fairly satisfactory, this was susceptible to interference, particularly from an upgraded audio loop put in place last year.

‘The problem has been overcome by installing an ‘HDMI Extender’, which consists of two small low-voltage units: one by the DVD player which boosts its HDMI output, and one by the projector to attenuate the signal before feeding it to the projector’s digital video input. Although the total cost of the units was around £100 they are linked by low-cost Cat5 cable, which is considerably cheaper (and less cumbersome) than the alternative of three well-screened cables for analogue component video.

‘The all-digital HDMI link is giving us significantly better picture quality, much appreciated by our members. Also the units can handle signals up to 1080i/p, so we are ready, if or when the time comes, to upgrade to BluRay.’

‘INTRODUCTION TO FILM STUDIES’ COURSE FROM SWINDON FILM SOCIETY.

Swindon Film Society is organising a short ‘Introduction to Film Studies’ course, starting on 19th March.

Inspired by the focus on film education at the BFFS National Conference last September, the group's chair Barbara Hoffbauer contacted the local 6th Form/HE College to find out the possibilities of collaborating on a short course tailored for SFS members.

One of the college lecturers will be delivering a Saturday morning course running over three consecutive weeks at Swindon Arts Centre.

Barbara Hoffbauer said: *'When we first proposed the idea to members we were overwhelmed by the response, and have had to limit the numbers attending – so we are already thinking that we might repeat and build on the event next year.'*

Anybody wanting more information about the course, perhaps with a view to setting up something similar, can contact Barbara on swindonfilm@ntlworld.com

EVENTS

THE HIPPODROME FESTIVAL OF SILENT CINEMA - BO'NESS 18TH-20TH MARCH.

The Hippodrome was Scotland's first purpose build cinema, opening in 1912. After a £2million restoration it reopened in 2009. This year, the Hippodrome is hosting Scotland's first silent film festival.

Stars of cinema such as Keaton, Chaplin and Laurel and Hardy will all be represented across the weekend, accompanied by the best of the world's silent film piano accompanists. The weekend will also be filled with events and workshops, along with the premiere of a score composed by local school students and a fascinating look at the history of the Hippodrome.

For more information go to:

http://www.falkirk.gov.uk/services/community/cultural_services/museums/museum_venues/hippodrome/silent_film/silent_film.aspx

WIMBLEDON SHORTS FILM FESTIVAL

On Saturday June 18th 2011, Wimbledon Film Club hosts the fourth Wimbledon Shorts Film Festival. Notable people from across the film industry are organising and judging the event and submissions are now open for everyone from experienced directors to first time filmmakers.

Wimbledon Shorts is dedicated to showcasing new and innovative work in film and video from around the world. Whether your film is narrative driven, animated or experimental, they're looking for films that challenge or shift the boundaries of conventional filmmaking – just as long as it's under 15 minutes!

Submission forms and more information can be found at: www.wimbledonshorts.com

BFFS SOUTH WEST GROUP

- BFFS Devon and Cornwall Network Film Day : 10th April 2011, Launceston Town Hall
- BFFS South West Group Spring Viewing Session and AGM : 1st May 2011, Electric Picture House, Wotton Under Edge

BFFS YORKSHIRE GROUP

- BFFS Yorkshire Group Viewing Session: 22nd May 2011, National Media Museum, Bradford
- BFFS Yorkshire Group AGM: 19th June, The Courthouse, Otley
- BFFS Yorkshire Group Residential Weekend: 2nd - 5th December 2011, Cober Hill Conference Centre, Scarborough

FESTIVALS, FESTIVALS, FESTIVALS

- [Swindon Film Festival](#) : 4-14 March 2011
- [Birds Eye View Film Festival](#) : 8-17 March 2011
- [Minghella Film Festival](#) : 11-13 March 2011
- [Global Village Film Festival](#) : 12-19 March 2011
- [Forest Row Comedy Film Festival](#) : 17-20 March 2011
- [Hippodrome Festival of Silent Cinema](#) : 18-20 March 2011
- [London Australian Film Festival](#) : March 2011
- [Llanberis Mountain Film Festival](#) : 18-20 March 2011
- [London Asian Film Festival \(Tongues on Fire\)](#) : 18-27 March 2011

- [Bradford International Film Festival](#) : 17-27 March 2011
- [Pennine Film Festival](#) : 21-25 March
- [Flatpack Film Festival](#) : 24-27 March 2011
- [Borderlines Film Festival](#) : 25 March-10 April 2011
- [London Lesbian and Gay Film Festival](#) : 31 March-6 April
- [London Independent Film Festival](#) : 14-25 April 2011
- [East End Film Festival](#) : 27 April-2 May 2011
- [LIDF](#) - The London International Documentary Festival : 5-15 May

NEW RELEASES

[Client 9](#): Dogwoof, 4 Mar

[Ballast](#): Axiom Films, 18 Mar

[Benda Bilili!](#): Trinity Filmed Entertainment, 18 Mar

[Louise-Michel](#): Axiom Films, 1 Apr

[Passenger Side](#): Axiom Films, 1 Apr

[Cold Weather](#): Axiom Films, 15 Apr

[A Small Act](#): Dogwoof, 15 Apr

BFFS BOOKING SCHEME NEWS

FEATURED DISTRIBUTOR: DOCSPACE

BFFS is delighted to continue to offer Docspace titles on the BFFS Booking Scheme. Docspace are committed to bringing documentaries to new audiences and their range of titles covers everything from the Spanish Civil War to the life of Mozart.

The Swenkas: *The Swenkas* explores the world of a small group of men in post-apartheid South Africa whose efforts to dress in flashy suits is more than a simple exercise in vanity. Competing to find the most stylish brings them success and pride and makes them inspirational to others in their community. 'A wonderful insight into an amazing and unexpected social group', was the reaction of just one of the audience members at a recent film society screening.

Docspace titles available on the scheme: [hyperlink]

- China Blue
- El Perro Negro
- His Big White Self
- In Search of Mozart
- Lomax the Songhunter
- Odessa Odessa
- The Devil's Miner
- The Shutka Book of Records
- The Swenkas

For more details visit the [Docspace website](#).

The next BFFS Booking Scheme Newsletter will be sent out in March. If you wish to add your name to the mailing list get in touch with BFFS Booking Scheme Coordinator Bryony Forde at bryony.bffs@gmail.com

REMINDERS

BFFS MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL 2011

Membership for 2011 is open now. For the joining form and guidance notes please visit:

<http://www.bffs.org.uk/membership>.

If you would like to receive this newsletter in PDF form, please email bryony.bffs@gmail.com

THE BFFS TEAM