

Film @ the Pound: Global Village Film Festival

The Global Village Film Festival screened films from four different continents and was a huge success, more tickets were sold than previous years with four sell out shows. The festival was held in Corsham, Wiltshire and screened films in the surrounding villages, Lacock, Biddestone, Neston, Box and Colerne. Since the first festival in 2003 we have taken films to a variety of venues in these villages: churches, pubs, stately homes, village halls and Lacock Abbey.

The Festival screens world cinema at its best. We opened our gala evening at the newly refurbished Pound Arts Centre, with the magical film "Once" a winner at Sundance, a simple but sincere love story set in Dublin. The evening included a pre-show event with musicians "Brian Madigan and friends" playing extracts from the movies, forming part of a film focused quiz, while the committee served canapés.

This year we wanted to squeeze in more screenings, so for the first time we ran two double bills on our opening (gala) and closing nights. This proved to be very successful. On opening night, the second film was "Venus" in Corsham and our closing night double bill screened "Safety Last" and "Nosferatu" in St Bartholomew's Church, Corsham.

Since we started the festival we have screened a silent movie on the last night and it has always sold out, this year over 130 tickets were sold for Harold Lloyd classic "Safety Last". This was a fun packed finale to the festival and attracted a younger audience made up of families and young people. We have been lucky enough to work with local composer and musician James Harpham who every year spends six weeks composing an original score to compliment the film in true silent movie style. Traditionally the pianist would improvise while he watched the film, James has a different approach and composes a score for piano and clarinet, which this year included over 100 musical signatures.

The Festival also held an animation workshop for young people aged 9+ again at The Pound Arts Centre this was supported financially by BFFS South West Group. The finished animations were then screened before the family film in Box the following Sunday. This was a great opportunity for the young people involved to see their work on the big screen and went down well.

We screen shorts by students from Corsham Comprehensive School studying A level Media Studies as well as local film maker Oscar Stringer.

To see the animations made, view our festival programme and get the contact details for James Harpham, Oscar Stringer (Chairman) and Brian Madigan.

Visit our website www.fatp.co.uk