

VENTNOR FILM SOCIETY SPRING SEASON 2014



LIKE FATHER, LIKE SON (Japan) 2013 Dir: Hirokazu Kore-eda Cert PG (UK) Tues 4th Feb 7.30pm
Runs: 121 mins Cast: Masaharu Fukuyama, Machiko Ono, Yôko Maki. In Japanese (subtitled).

Successful architect and family man Ryota has the perfect life until he learns that his son was swapped at birth and now lives with a lower-class but caring family of shopkeepers. As he faces the life-changing decision of choosing between his natural son and the boy he has raised, he begins to ask himself what sort of father he has really been. This warm-hearted and poignant film, from the director of *I Wish*, is another authentic and captivating portrayal of children and family life.



GLORIA (Chile) 2013 Dir: Sebastián Lelio Cert 15 (UK) Tues 18th Feb 7.30pm
Runs: 110 mins Cast: Paulina Garcia, Sergio Hernández, Diego Fontecilla. In Spanish (subtitled).

Gloria is a 58 year-old divorcee looking for love in the singles bars of Santiago when she meets the older Rodolfo, an ex-naval officer. Now owner of an extreme sports amusement park, he takes her bungee-jumping and paintballing. Romance is on the cards, but they both have emotional baggage and struggle to escape the ties of their pasts. *Gloria* is a compelling portrait of a strong, free-spirited woman who lives life on her own terms and her story of love the second time around is in turn funny, painful and romantic.



THE HUNT (Denmark) 2012 Dir: Thomas Vinterberg Cert 15 (UK) Tues 4th Mar 7.30pm
Runs: 115 mins Cast: Mads Mikkelsen, Thomas Bolarsen, Annika Wedderkopp. In Danish (subtitled).

This tense and frighteningly realistic Danish thriller sees Lucas, a former teacher, struggling to move on from a bitter divorce. Surrounded by good friends in a close community, his life starts to look up until a false accusation is made against him and mass hysteria takes over the town. Lucas is left to fight a lonely battle for his freedom and dignity. From hunting deer with his mates in the opening scene, we watch Lucas become the quarry of a witch hunt where he is guilty until proven innocent.



THE GREAT BEAUTY (Italy) 2013 Dir: Paolo Sorrentino Cert 15 (UK) Tues 18th Mar 7.30pm
Runs: 142 mins Cast: Toni Servillo, Carlo Verdone, Sabrina Ferilli. In Italian (subtitled).

In the heat of a Roman summer, we meet Jep, an ageing journalist and veteran seducer. With just one successful novel to his name he is a familiar, if detached, figure on Rome's party scene. But when he turns 65, a shocking encounter from his past leads him to re-evaluate his life. He begins a long exploration of the city he loves in search of beauty and an understanding of his past. Sorrentino's sumptuous creation of the Roman landscape is a visual feast as we accompany Jep on his breathtaking tour of the Eternal City.



WADJDA (Saudi Arabia) 2012 Dir: Haifaa Al-Mansour Cert PG (UK) Tues 1st Apr 7.30pm
Runs: 97 mins Cast: Abdullrahman Al Gohani, Reem Abdullah, Waad Mohammed. In Arabic (subtitled).

The first feature film made in Saudi Arabia and by the country's first female director, *Wadjda* is the story of a mischievous 10 year-old girl's determination to buy a green bicycle so she can race her friend Abdullah. In a culture where cycling is seen as dangerous to a girl's virtue, her request is refused by her mother, so Wadjda takes matters into her own hands. This is a courageous critique of female oppression but also an engaging and optimistic comedy-drama with a delightfully rebellious young heroine.



A ROYAL AFFAIR (DENMARK) 2012 Dir: Nikolaj Arcel Cert 15 (UK) Tues 15th Apr 7.30pm
Runs: 138 mins Cast: Alicia Vikander, Mads Mikkelsen, Mikkel Boe Følsgaard. In Danish (subtitled).

Set in 18th century Denmark, *A Royal Affair* tells of a love triangle between the increasingly unhinged King Christian VII, his young queen Caroline Matilda and an idealistic royal physician. Together the Queen and the doctor begin a sweeping reform of Denmark but their forbidden affair sets off a conflict that threatens both the lovers and the emerging nation. This beautifully staged period drama combines political intrigue and romantic passion, played out in gorgeous landscapes and an accurate historical setting.



THE SELFISH GIANT (UK) 2013 Dir: Clio Bernard Cert 15 (UK) Tues 29th Apr 7.30pm
Runs: 91 mins Cast: Conner Chapman, Shaun Thomas, Sean Gilder. In English.

On a run-down Yorkshire housing estate, two 13 year-old boys looking for easy money are drawn into the shady world of scrap metal dealing. Aggressive Arbor and the sensitive, horse-loving Swifty trawl the town in a horse and cart, pinching metal to sell to dodgy local dealer, Kitten. When Kitten lines up Swifty as a jockey in his illegal drag races, a rift opens in their friendship and tensions build, with tragic consequences. Despite the stark urban realism of the setting, this is a tender and touching story about friendship.



THE ANGELS' SHARE (UK) 2013 Dir: Ken Loach Cert 15 (UK) Tues 13th May 7.30pm
Runs: 101 mins Cast: Paul Brannigan, John Henshaw, Roger Allam. In English.

When young troublemaker Robbie first holds his newborn son he swears he will give him a better life than he had himself. While placed on a community service order with a group of other no-hopers, he discovers he has a 'nose' for fine whisky and is introduced to the unfamiliar world of the Scottish Highlands. With an eye ever on the main chance, the gang plots a heist to turn this new skill into hard cash. Though grim at times, Ken Loach's latest film is a comic and uplifting tale of redemption and forgiveness.

Ventnor Film Society meets at Ventnor Arts Club, 13 High St, alternate Tuesdays, 7.30pm.
Entrance £5. Parking in Central Car Park or in Grove Rd, free from 6pm.
Bus No. 3 from Boots in Ventnor High St. Open from 6.30pm for drinks and snacks.
Booking essential: email ventnorfilmsociety@hotmail.com
Full details at www.ventnorfilmsociety.wix.com/vfilms and On The Wight