

DECEMBER 2025 AT THE IFI

**FESTIVALS**

IFI Kinopolis Polish  
Film Festival 2025

**SPECIAL EVENTS**

Charlie Kaufman at the IFI  
Best of Irish 2025

**IFI@HOME**

Alpha  
Palestine 36



# SAIPAN

GLENN LEYBURN & LISA BARROS D'SA



Irish Film Institute

the arts  
council  
s chomhairle  
ealaíon

funding  
the art of film

# DECEMBER AT THE IFI

### BOOKING FEES

Online and telephone bookings are subject to a booking fee of €1.00 per transaction. There are no booking fees on any ticket purchase made in person at the IFI Box Office.

### POINTS

Members and Loyalty Card holders accrue points which can be exchanged for complimentary tickets.

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IFI FESTIVALS  
IFI SPECIAL EVENTS  
IFI NEW RELEASES, DOCS & CLASSICS  
IFI@HOME

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### ADMISSION PRICES\* Standard Price (Concession Price)

MONDAY – WEDNESDAY	Classified Non-Member	Unclassified Non-Member**	Member
12.30 – 17.00	€12.00 (€10.00)	€11.00 (€9.00)	€10.80 (€8.40)
17.00 – 22.00	€14.00 (€11.00)	€13.00 (€10.00)	€12.60 (€10.20)
THURSDAY – FRIDAY			
11.00 – 17.00	€13.00 (€10.00)	€12.00 (€9.00)	€11.70 (€8.80)
17.00 – 22.00	€15.00 (€12.00)	€14.00 (€11.00)	€13.50 (€11.40)
WEEKEND + BANK HOLIDAYS			
11.00 – 15.00	€13.00 (€10.00)	€12.00 (€9.00)	€11.70 (€8.80)
15.00 – 23.00	€15.00 (€12.00)	€14.00 (€11.00)	€13.50 (€11.40)

Preview Screening Pricing: Non-Member: €16.00 (€14.00) / IFI Member: €14.00 (€12.50)

\*regular IFI screenings, excluding special events \*\* plus €1.50 Daily Membership Fee

MONDAY – WEDNESDAY	Child Ticket Prices		Family Ticket Prices (1 Adult, 3 Kids/2 Adults, 2 Kids)	
	Non-Member	Member	Non-Member	Member
12.30 – 17.00	€7.50	€7.00	€35.00	€30.00
17.00 – 22.00	€8.50	€8.00	€38.00	€35.00
THURSDAY – FRIDAY				
11.00 – 17.00	€7.50	€7.00	€35.00	€32.50
17.00 – 22.00	€9.00	€8.50	€40.00	€38.00

Child and Family ticket prices are available for titles with G, PG, 12A and 15A IFCO classification. These prices are separate to the special prices available for IFI Family screenings.

**OC** Open Captioned - see pg. 3 for programmed screenings.

**AD** Audio Described screenings available on selected titles, ask at Box Office for details.



Eligible for 25 & Under card pricing, offering €5.00 to people aged 16-25 (excludes free-list suspended events such as festivals/70mm). Full details at ifi.ie/25under.



The F-rating is a classification reserved for any film which is directed and/or written by a woman.

For bookings and film information, please see our website, [www.ifi.ie](http://www.ifi.ie), or contact the IFI Box Office on 01 679 5744 (open 12.30 to 21.00 daily) or at 6 Eustace Street, Temple Bar, Dublin 2.

Find us on social media! Search Irish Film Institute



EUROPEA  
CINEMA



Films not classified by IFCO, including festival, one-off, and special screenings, are exhibited under Club rules and are restricted to persons 18 years and over. If you are not an IFI member, a daily membership (€1.50) is required for unclassified films, and this will be added to your transaction.

The exclusivity of films is correct at the time of print. All films exclusive to the IFI are kindly supported by the Arts Council.

# KEY DATES AT A GLANCE

## MON 1ST

OPENING: OSLO STORIES TRILOGY: DREAMS	H
OKEAN ELZY: STORMWATCH	C 20.10

## TUE 2ND

OC SCREENING: BLUE MOON	C 18.20
EULAC CINEMA NIGHT: MALU	C 18.30

## THUR 4TH

OC SCREENING: PILLION	C 16.00
THE DOORS: WHEN YOU'RE STRANGE	C 18.30

## FRI 5TH

OPENING: GAMA BOMB-SURVIVAL OF THE FASTEST	H
OPENING: HORSESHOE	C
OPENING: IT WAS JUST AN ACCIDENT	C
OPENING: IT'S A FINE THING TO SING	H
OPENING: JEAN VIGO: THREE FILMS	H
OPENING: L'ATALANTE	&
OPENING: PALESTINE 36	H
OPENING: SUNSET BOULEVARD	C
HORSESHOE + Q&A	C 18.30

## SAT 6TH

THE DOORS: WHEN YOU'RE STRANGE	C 18.30
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## SUN 7TH

HOW TO SHOOT A GHOST + Q&A	C 15.30
SYNECDOCHE, NEW YORK + Q&A	C 17.30

## MON 8TH

OC SCREENING: IT WAS JUST AN ACCIDENT	C 15.45
IFI & WFT IRELAND: BRIEF ENCOUNTERS 2025	C 18.00

## TUE 9TH

OC SCREENING: HORSESHOE	C 13.40
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## WED 10TH

OC SCREENING: IT WAS JUST AN ACCIDENT	C 18.15
FROM THE VAULTS: CRIMINAL CONVERSATION + Q&A	C 18.30

## THUR 11TH

IFI KINOPOLIS: CHOPIN	C 18.00
OC SCREENING: HORSESHOE	C 20.50

## FRI 12TH

OPENING: IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE	&
OPENING: THE SHINING	C
IFI KINOPOLIS: BEAUTIFUL!	C 18.30

## SAT 13TH

IFI KINOPOLIS: THE SARAGOSSA MANUSCRIPT	C 13.30
IFI KINOPOLIS: HOME SWEET HOME	C 17.20

## SUN 14TH

IFI KINOPOLIS: THIS IS NOT HAPPENING	C 16.10
IFI KINOPOLIS: FRANZ	C 18.00

## MON 15TH

IFI YOUTH PANEL: SINGIN' IN THE RAIN	C 18.00
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## TUE 16TH

OC SCREENING: THE SHINING	C 15.20
IRISH FOCUS: WE ONLY WANT THE EARTH: THE LIFE AND IDEAS OF JAMES CONNOLLY + Q&A	C 18.20

## WED 17TH

WILD STRAWBERRIES: THE BRIDGES OF MADISON COUNTY (OC)	C 11.00
EAFPI DISCOVERIES: THE BOTANIST	C 18.20

## THUR 18TH

OC SCREENING: THE SHINING	C 20.15
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## FRI 19TH

OPENING: ALPHA	H
OPENING: DOG DAY AFTERNOON	C
WILD STRAWBERRIES: THE BRIDGES OF MADISON COUNTY	C 11.00

## SUN 21ST

OC SCREENING: IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE	C 14.00
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## MON 22ND

OC SCREENING: IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE	C 18.10
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## MON 22ND - MON 29TH

OPENING: SCROOGED	H
OPENING: PLANES, TRAINS AND AUTOMOBILES	H
OPENING: WHITE CHRISTMAS	H

## WED 24TH & THUR 25TH

IFI HOLIDAY CLOSURE	C
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## FRI 26TH

OPENING: BOWIE: THE FINAL ACT	C
OPENING: MARTY SUPREME	C
OPENING: SAIPAN (PREVIEWS)	C
OPENING: SENTIMENTAL VALUE	C
OC SCREENING: MARTY SUPREME	C 14.20

## FRI 26TH - TUE 30TH

BEST OF IRISH 2025	C
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## SUN 28TH

IFI FAMILY: THE ADVENTURES OF PRINCE ACHMED	C 11.00
OC SCREENING: SENTIMENTAL VALUE	C 20.20

## TUE 30TH

OC SCREENING: MARTY SUPREME	C 20.15
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## WED 31ST

OC SCREENING: SENTIMENTAL VALUE	C 15.30
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SCAN THE  
QR CODE TO  
VIEW OUR  
PROGRAMME  
ONLINE!



IFI FESTIVALS PRESENT

# IFI KINOPOLIS POLISH FILM FESTIVAL 2025

This year's IFI Kinopolis begins and ends with biopics of great artists. We open with a sterling account of the life of composer Frédéric Chopin, one of Poland's greatest historical artists, and close with an intriguing depiction of author Franz Kafka from one of Polish cinema's greatest current practitioners, Agnieszka Holland. Other highlights include a rare screening to mark the centenary of Wojciech Has, a distinctive and unique voice in the country's history of the medium, while a new film from Wojciech Smarzowski, one of European cinema's best-kept secrets, is always cause for excitement. As ever, this selection reflects the best of what has emerged from the country's remarkable film industry over the last year, and showcases the most estimable talent in front of and behind the camera.

We look forward to welcoming both Irish audiences and those of the Polish diaspora to enjoy this year's festival.

The IFI would like to offer our sincere gratitude to Nikola Sękowska-Moroney, Cultural Affairs and Media Coordinator of the Embassy of Poland in Dublin, and to Agata Dzik, International Department Coordinator of the Pomeranian Film Foundation, for their invaluable assistance and support.

IFI Kinopolis is kindly supported by Treacy Solicitors.

Festival Notes by Kevin Coyne.





## CHOPIN, A SONATA IN PARIS

(CHOPIN, CHOPIN!)

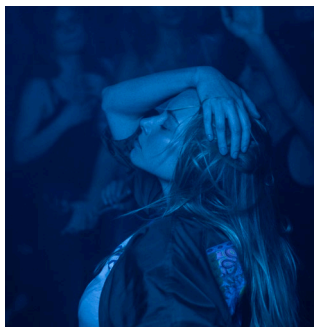
MICHAŁ KWIECIŃSKI

THUR 11TH (18.00)

Director Michał Kwieciński and rising star actor Eryk Kulm reprise their successful collaboration on *Filip* (2022) with this lavish period piece on the life of Poland's greatest composer. Following Chopin (Kulm) in his final years, the film begins with his residence and fame in Paris firmly established, as is his position as the aristocracy's pianist of choice. His friendships and relationships include fellow wanderers and expatriates Franz Liszt (Victor Meutelet) and the Countess Delfina Potocka (Karolina Gruszka), and writer George Sand (Joséphine de la Baume). As the illness that would kill him takes hold, Chopin considers his personal and professional legacy.

The screening will include a special introduction on Frédéric Chopin from acclaimed pianist Hugh Tinney.

133 mins, Poland, 2025, Digital, Subtitled



## BEAUTIFUL!

(PRZEPIEKNE!)

KATARZYNA  
PRIWIEZIENCEW

FRI 12TH (18.30)

Katarzyna Priwiezienczew's deceptively simple film follows six women at different stages of their lives as each strives for fulfilment. Among them: Magda (Marta Nieradkiewicz), who is eager to resume the career she put on hold for her children; teacher Basia (Marta Scislowicz), who must contend with colleague and friend-with-benefits Kuba (Konrad Eleryk) pressuring her for a more conventional relationship; Krystyna (Hanna Śleszyńska), who desperately wants to put the spark back in her marriage; and content creator Julia (Kamila Urzędowska, *Chłopi*), struggling with the constant pressure to reach greater levels of beauty. The experiences of these women make for a funny, touching, and emotionally rewarding piece.

119 mins, Poland, 2025, Digital, Subtitled



## THE SARAGOSSA MANUSCRIPT

(RĘKOPIS ZNALEZIONY  
W SARAGOSSIE)

WOJCIECH HAS

SAT 13TH (13.30)

We celebrate the centenary of one of the great Polish directors with this screening of one of his best-known films. The work of Wojciech Has is famed for its rich, often surreal imagery, a characteristic very much in evidence in *The Saragossa Manuscript*. This labyrinthine set of stories within stories begins with an officer in the Napoleonic Wars finding a book in the house in which he has taken refuge. The pages concern Alfonse (Zbigniew Cybulski), whose travels through Spain lead him to a series of encounters that in turn lead to further tales in this strange, magnificent epic of Polish cinema.

182 mins, Poland, 1965, Digital, Subtitled





## HOME SWEET HOME

(DOM DOBRY)

WOJCIECH SMARZOWSKI

SAT 13TH (17.20)

A peerless chronicler of the ills of Polish society, Wojciech Smarzowski turns his fierce gaze on relationships of coercive control and domestic violence. Vivacious, luminous Gosia (Agata Turkot) meets recently divorced politician Grzesiek (Tomasz Schuchardt) on a dating site. When the two finally meet, they quickly fall in love and are married, living their dream life. However, nothing is as it seems. Her husband's rampant darkness takes charge, gaslighting leading to excuses and forgiveness as her marriage becomes a prison. Never gratuitous, the film, filled with branches of Kieślowskiian consequences to Gosia's choices, is an intense indictment of the institutions that side with the charming, influential monster destroying every particle of Gosia.

107 mins, Poland, 2025, Digital, Subtitled



## THIS IS NOT HAPPENING

(TO SIĘ NIE DZIEJE)

ARTUR WYRZYKOWSKI

SUN 14TH (16.10)

Artur Wyrzykowski's feature debut is an extremely tense and gripping portrayal of parental love even in the face of the most horrific of circumstances. Bartek (Tomasz Schuchardt) is a crisis management expert whose skills come to unexpected use when his teenage son Daniel (Borys Otawa) murders his school bully. Holed up in the apartment of fiancée Maja (Paulina Gałązka), Bartek plans to flee the country with Daniel. When Maja tells him she is pregnant, and suspicion dawns that Daniel's story may not be the whole truth, Bartek's dilemma worsens, forcing decisions upon him as the net closes around his son.

76 mins, Poland, 2025, Digital, Subtitled



## FRANZ

AGNIESZKA HOLLAND

SUN 14TH (18.00)

A self-professed admirer of the Czech writer since her early years, Agnieszka Holland's ambitious biopic manages to combine a straightforward account of Kafka's life with a number of stylistic flourishes that paint him on a much larger canvas, separating the man from the industry that now exists around his name. As portrayed by Idan Weiss (and the likeness is at times uncanny), Kafka is a sensitive young man, introverted and though out of step with the world around him, not above its temptations; as portrayed by Holland, he is a colossus, unique in the canon and a writer whose work deserves better than to be fodder for pop culture references and memes.

127 mins, Czech Republic-Poland-Germany-France-Turkey, 2025, Digital, Subtitled



## ARCHIVE AT LUNCHTIME



Before I Sleep

## COLD COMFORT

Join us for FREE lunchtime screenings on Mondays, Wednesdays and Saturdays of films from the IFI Irish Film Archive. Simply collect your tickets online (with a small booking fee) or at IFI Box Office.

## PROGRAMME ONE

## IGLOO A THÓGAINT

Something of a curiosity, this film was made by the National Film Board of Canada and later translated into Irish to teach Irish schoolchildren the invaluable skill of igloo-building.

Dir. Douglas Wilkinson. 10 mins, Canada, 1949, Digital

## THE MOONMEN

In Kieran Hickey's first film, members of the Half Moon Swimming Club cycle through Dublin's Docklands, Ringsend, and Irishtown to brave the grim winter seas at Dublin's South Wall in the winter of 1964/65.

Dir. Kieran Hickey. 10 mins, Ireland, 1965, Digital, Black & White

## PROGRAMME TWO

## BEFORE I SLEEP

Newly unemployed businessman (Brendan Gleeson) wanders the bustling winter streets of Dublin, cocooned in quiet despair. A film about which Gleeson said, "it's one of the things I've done that I'm most fond of".

Dir. Paul Mercier. 30 mins, Ireland, 1997, Digital

See also From the Vaults: *Criminal Conversation* on pg. 10.

Notes by Sunniva O'Flynn

## EULAC CINEMA NIGHT



## MALU

## PEDRO FREIRE

## TUE 2ND (18.30)

In a cramped house in a Rio de Janeiro favela, Malu (Yara de Novaes), a once-promising actress now unemployed and emotionally volatile, shares a tense, codependent existence with her conservative mother and her estranged adult daughter. Haunted by the memory of her theatrical past and yearning to convert her home into an arts centre, Malu teeters between self-destruction and reconciliation. When her daughter returns to care for her during a grave neurological illness, the three women are forced to confront generational trauma, love, and betrayal. The film becomes a raw, compassionate portrait of a woman struggling to become the version of herself she always imagined.

This screening will be introduced by Ingrid Machado, filmmaker, curator, and founder of Solax Film Club.

The screening is free to attend but ticketed.

EUROPA  
CINEMA  
Creative Europe MEDIA

100 mins, Brazil, 2024, Digital, Subtitled

SPECIAL EVENT



# THE DOORS: WHEN YOU'RE STRANGE

TOM DICILLO

THUR 4TH (18.30) & SAT 6TH (18.30)

The chemistry of four artists made The Doors one of America's most influential rock bands. With rare footage shot from their formation in 1965 to Jim Morrison's death in 1971, news clips, and narration by Johnny Depp, the documentary follows the band through their career, providing insight into the revolutionary impact of their music. To mark the 60th anniversary of the formation of the band, the film will be presented in cinemas in 4K for the first time and feature a newly recorded performance of "Riders on the Storm". Featuring John Densmore, Robby Krieger, and special guests, the song will be performed in exotic locations around the world in partnership with the global nonprofit organisation Playing For Change.

15A

96 mins, USA, 2009, Digital

IFI & WFT IRELAND



# BRIEF ENCOUNTERS SHOWCASE 2025

MON 8TH (18.00)

Women in Film and Television Ireland (WFT), in partnership with the IFI and supported by Coimisiún na Meán and Screen Ireland, are proud to present the WFT Members Short Film Showcase 2025. This programme of nine short films celebrates the work of new and established women filmmakers in Ireland today. The programme will be followed by an awards ceremony.

For more information on WFT Ireland, visit [www.wft.ie](http://www.wft.ie).

**Programme:**

*Heartsick.* Dir. MK Quane

*Boobs.* Dir. Nicola Leddy

*For the Love of Women.* Dir. Órla Morris Toolen

*Glitch.* Dir. Bonnie Dempsey

*Shelter.* Dirs. Leah Egan, Sara Ryan

*Brown Bread.* Dir. Shaunagh Connaire

*Would You Rather.* Dir. Sophie O'Donovan

*I See A Voice.* Dir. Leah Egan

*Nicknames Dublin.* Dir. Jo Lane



101 mins approx.



## SPECIAL EVENT



# HOW TO SHOOT A GHOST

CHARLIE KAUFMAN

SUN 7TH (15.30)

Two newly dead young people meet in the streets of Athens, amid the pulsing cityscape and the ghosts of history. One a translator, the other a photographer, they were outsiders in life; in death they struggle with the residue of their longings and mistakes. They wander the city together, finding consolation in the difficult beauty of existence and its aftermath.

This screening will be followed by a Q&A with director Charlie Kaufman and writer Eva H.D.



27 mins, USA-Greece, 2025, Digital

## SPECIAL EVENT



# SYNECDOCHE, NEW YORK

CHARLIE KAUFMAN

SUN 7TH (17.30)

Perhaps in an attempt to ensure his vision made it to the screen unmediated, writer Charlie Kaufman took on directorial responsibilities for the first time with the remarkable *Synecdoche, New York*. A film of such complexity as to demand repeat viewings to unravel everything it reaches for, it centres on Caden Cotard (Philip Seymour Hoffman), a theatre director whose personal life is falling apart even as a MacArthur Fellowship allows him new professional possibilities. He creates a mimetic New York that expands over the years and decades that follow, blurring the reality and fiction of its cast/population in dizzying ways.

This screening will be followed by a Q&A with director Charlie Kaufman.

124 mins, USA, 2008, Digital  
Notes by Kevin Coyne

FROM THE VAULTS



# CRIMINAL CONVERSATION

KIERAN HICKEY

WED 10TH (18.30)

Two middle-class Dublin couples get together for a Christmas Eve party which degenerates into a kind of Irish *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf* (with a whiff of *Abigail's Party*). Alcohol causes smug exteriors to slip and reveals unpleasant truths.

Like their earlier *Exposure*, this full blown critique of the Irish middle classes, co-authored by Kieran Hickey and Philip Davison, explores infidelity, sexual frustration, and gulfs of misunderstanding between the sexes.

*Criminal Conversation* (a legal term for adultery) reveals the despair of men and women in a country where divorce would not be legalised for another 16 years. The cast of fine young actors in their prime includes Emmet Bergin, Deirdre Donnelly, Peter Caffrey, and Leslie Lalor.

This screening will be followed by a Q&A with writer Philip Davison.

60 mins, Ireland, 1980, Digital  
Notes by Sunniva O'Flynn

IFI YOUTH PANEL



# SINGIN' IN THE RAIN

GENE KELLY & STANLEY DONEN

MON 15TH (18.00)

"What a Glorious Feelin'", the IFI's Youth Panel is screening Gene Kelly and Stanley Donen's *Singin' in the Rain* (1952) as their December choice. This classic film follows the dazzling journey from silent films to talkies, and stars Gene Kelly, Debbie Reynolds, and Donald O'Connor. Filled with iconic dialogue, songs, and choreography, the film is a timeless tribute to cinema's Golden Age. Join the IFI's Youth Panel this December and splash through puddles of infectious energy.

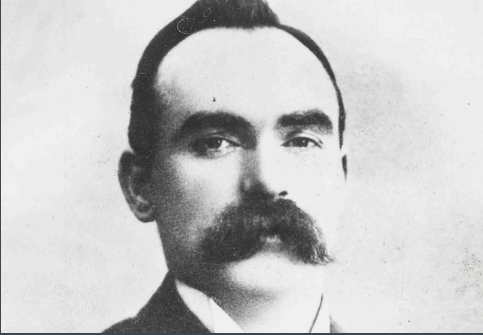
Wear your favourite Christmas jumper to be in with a chance to win tickets to the IFI Youth Panel's January screening!

The IFI Youth Panel is formed from 25 & Under cardholders. The IFI 25 & Under card offers €5.00 tickets to young people aged between 16-25 - see more at [ifi.ie/25under](http://ifi.ie/25under)



103 mins, USA, 1952, Digital

## IRISH FOCUS



## WE ONLY WANT THE EARTH: THE LIFE AND IDEAS OF JAMES CONNOLLY

ALAN GILSENAN

**TUE 16TH (18.20)**

An iconic presence on the landscape of Irish socialism and republicanism, the name of James Connolly looms large in the trade union movement and wherever radical left-wing politics are espoused. Here Alan Gilsenan positions Connolly's radical ideas and political achievements within the contemporary political landscape, as well as documenting his prominent role in the 1916 Rising. The film draws on reflections of many distinguished commentators, union activists and historians, and on performance from musicians and artists such as Christy Moore, Stephen Rea, Esosa Ighodaro, piper David Power, singer Eoghan Ó Ceannabháin, and Connolly's great-great-granddaughter Tamsin Iona Connolly Heron.

The film aims to reclaim Connolly's story and his important social vision and is sure to enlighten and inspire contemporary viewers.

This screening will be followed by a Q&A with director Alan Gilsenan.

88 mins, Ireland, 2025, Digital  
Notes by Sunniva O'Flynn

## EAFFI DISCOVERIES



## THE BOTANIST

(ZHI WU XUE JIA)

JING YI

**WED 17TH (18.20)**

Chinese writer-director Jing Yi's contemplative debut feature draws on his own Xinjiang roots and Kazakh heritage in an evocative exploration of memory and place. Thirteen-year-old Arsin lives with his grandmother in a remote village near Kazakhstan, where life moves untouched, a world out of time. Arsin helps his older brother herd sheep, but he's also a budding botanist cataloguing local flora, finding refuge in the vast natural vistas of Xinjiang, and losing himself in the reverie of traditional folk beliefs. He befriends Meiyu, a Han girl whose nature reminds Arsin of a rare, otherworldly plant. Exquisitely shot in 4:3 aspect ratio to perfectly represent the boy's dreamlike state, we are transported by the wonderful music of Iranian pianist and composer Peyman Yazdanian.

This screening will be introduced by Marie-Pierre Richard (EAFFI Discoveries).

96 mins, China, 2025, Digital, Subtitled  
Notes by Marie-Pierre Richard

WILD STRAWBERRIES



# THE BRIDGES OF MADISON COUNTY

CLINT EASTWOOD

WED 17TH & FRI 19TH (11.00)

Marking 30 years since its release and shortlisted by Wild Strawberries for the May film tour with access>CINEMA, this Clint Eastwood-directed and -starring adaptation of Robert James Waller's novel proved a passionate, will-she-won't-she drama, set against the lush Iowa farmland backdrop with its famed covered bridges. When photographer Robert Kincaid wanders into the settled 1960s homelife of Italian Francesca (Meryl Streep), he sparks four days of an emotional rollercoaster as the pair fall deeply in love. Beautifully shot, deeply moving, heartbreaking yet resolute, a perfect Christmas distraction.

The screening on Wednesday 17th will be Open Captioned.

OC

135 mins, USA, 1995, Digital  
Notes by Alicia McGivern



# BEST OF IRISH 2025

FROM FRI 26TH

At the IFI, we champion the full sweep of Irish film throughout the year - from Oscar-nominated features to amateur films made on a shoestring; from archival restorations to brand new releases. Our cinema screenings are complemented by discussions, Q&As, and introductions, adding great value and context for IFI's discerning audiences. 2025's Top 5 films, which include F-Rated work, internationally focused Irish-produced documentary, and films about formerly underrepresented communities, demonstrate the diversity of our programme and your good taste. We are delighted to re-present our best performing Irish films - giving you another chance to catch something you may have missed or to come back and enjoy one of your favourite Irish films one more time.

Films screening:

*Blue Road: The Edna O'Brien Story*

*Girls & Boys*

*Four Mothers*

*Sanatorium*

*Christy*

And on IFI@Home - our best performing Irish films are:

*Housewife of the Year*

*Kneecap*

*Blue Road: The Edna O'Brien Story*

*Mrs Robinson*

*The Rent Strike*



## PREVIEW SCREENING



## SAIPAN

GLENN LEYBURN &  
LISA BARROS D'SA

**PREVIEWS FROM FRI 26TH  
(GENERAL RELEASE: THUR, JAN 1ST)**

Following *Good Vibrations* (2012), their vibrant chronicle of the life and times of Belfast punk maven Terri Hooley, directors Lisa Barros D'Sa and Glenn Leyburn turn to more recent national cultural history in *Saipan*, an account of one of the most infamous episodes in Irish sport. Having qualified for the 2002 World Cup, led by talismanic captain Roy Keane (Éanna Hardwicke, displaying an impressive glower and very much the hero of the piece) and under the management of Mick McCarthy (Steve Coogan), the Republic of Ireland team arrive on the titular island to prepare for their campaign. Driven and uncompromising, Keane grows increasingly frustrated with the poor resources and his teammates' lack of commitment. Open hostility quickly breaks out between him and the ever-more downtrodden and woebegone McCarthy in a film with appeal far beyond that of the football audience.



90 mins, Ireland-UK, 2025, Digital  
Notes by Kevin Coyne

## IFI FAMILY

THE ADVENTURES  
OF PRINCE ACHMED

(DIE ABENTEUER DES PRINZEN ACHMED)

LOTTE REINIGER

**SUN 28TH (11.00)**

Bring a touch of magic and wonder to your post-Christmas family activities with our screening of the classic silhouette animation, directed by Lotte Reiniger. Adapted from *The Arabian Nights*, it's the tale of a prince tricked into flying a horse by a wicked sorcerer. Landing on a magical island, he falls in love with Princess Peri Banu but their attempts to fly home are spurned by ogres, the sorcerer, and plenty of challenges. What makes this animation stand out is the sheer beauty of the figures, their filigree details cast enchanting shapeshifting shadows, making monsters and demons all the more beguiling in the fantasy world. The earliest surviving feature-length animation, and a true slice of film history on the big screen.

IFI Age Recommendation: 6+

Tickets: €7.00 (Individual), €23.00 (Family of 4)



66 mins, Germany, 1928, Digital  
Notes by Alicia McGivern



THE PERFECT GIFT  
FOR

FILM LOVERS  
THIS  
CHRISTMAS!

Dedicate a seat to a friend or loved one  
in the IFI's big screen and support the  
vital work of the Irish Film Institute.

Visit [ifi.ie/name-a-seat](http://ifi.ie/name-a-seat) for more details.



# CHRISTMAS *at the* IFI Café Bar

## Specials

***Christmas Sambo***  
roast turkey, cranberry,  
stuffing and brie

***Turkey roulade***

***Nut roast***

***Brie Parcels***  
with cranberry sauce

## Drinks

***Mulled Wine***

***Fat-Washed  
Old Fashioned***  
with honey and butter

*Bespoke Christmas menu available for  
groups of 7-20 people upon request -  
email [cafebar@irishfilm.ie](mailto:cafebar@irishfilm.ie)*

NEW RELEASE



# HORSESHOE

EDWIN MULLANE & ADAM O'KEEFFE

FROM FRI 5TH

Four estranged siblings return home to the West of Ireland after the death of their father where they attempt to navigate inheritance, grief, and long-buried grudges. All are at a crossroads in their lives and could do with the support, both financial and emotional, of the family. But trapped together in their childhood home with the ghost of their curmudgeonly father looming in every shadow, the fragile family bonds that have held them together threaten to fall apart.

Blending free-flowing, sibling banter with moments of affection, comedy, and melancholy, this feature debut from Adam O'Keefe and Edwin Mullane, filmed in the harsh winter landscapes of Sligo and Leitrim, is anchored by powerful performances from, among others, Carolyn Bracken, Lalor Roddy, Jed Murray, and Mary Murray.

The opening night screening will be followed by a Q&A with director Edwin Mullane, producer Mo O'Connell, and cast members, hosted by filmmaker Jeda de Bri.

There will be Open Captioned screenings at 13.45 on Tuesday 9th, and 20.50 on Thursday 11th.



88 mins, Ireland, 2025, Digital  
Notes by Sunniva O'Flynn

NEW RELEASE



# IT WAS JUST AN ACCIDENT

JAFAR PANAHI

FROM FRI 5TH

The titular mishap is the catalyst for an escalating series of unfortunate occurrences in Jafar Panahi's latest broadside against the Iranian government. A man is driving at night with his pregnant wife when he accidentally runs over a dog, damaging his car. Local garage owner Vahid thinks he recognises the man as the officer who once tortured him in prison. Driven by a desire for revenge, Vahid kidnaps the stranger. However, as he seeks confirmation of the man's identity from fellow former prisoners, including a bookseller, a wedding photographer, and a newlywed couple, the group grapples with moral dilemmas about vengeance and the possibility of mistaken identity. A welcome streak of mordant gallows humour adds an extra layer to what is already a caustic satire of an oppressive regime and its legacy of trauma.

There will be Open Captioned screenings at 15.45 on Monday 8th, and 18.15 on Wednesday 10th.



105 mins, Iran-France-Luxembourg-USA, 2025, Digital, Subtitled  
Notes by David O'Mahony

IFI CLASSIC



# L'ATALANTE

JEAN VIGO

**CINEMAS & IFI@HOME:  
FROM FRI 5TH**

Few directors have exerted an influence so large with a body of work so small as French director Jean Vigo, who died of tuberculosis in 1934 at the age of 29. This oeuvre, essential viewing for any aspiring cinephile, comprises two short films, the mid-length *Zéro de conduite* (1933), and his sole feature, *L'Atalante*, here given a 4K rerelease. Working with cinematographer Boris Kaufman, Dziga Vertov's younger brother, and Michel Simon, star of Jean Renoir's *Boudu Saved From Drowning* (1932), the film tells of the tumultuous marriage of Jean (Jean Dasté) and Juliette (Dita Parlo) as they and their crew journey through France on the titular barge. A wonder of lyrical beauty, the film is also a tantalising glimpse of what might have been.

See Jean Vigo: Three Films - À Propos de Nice; Taris; Zéro for Conduct - on IFI@Home!



89 mins, France, 1934, 4K Digital,  
Subtitled, Black & White.  
Notes by Kevin Coyne

IFI CLASSIC



# SUNSET BOULEVARD

BILLY WILDER

**FROM FRI 5TH**

Faded silent film star Norma Desmond (Gloria Swanson) resides in Miss Havisham-esque seclusion, planning her comeback (though she hates that word) in an industry that has left her behind. When struggling screenwriter Joe Gillis (William Holden) happens upon Norma's mansion and is ushered in by her director-turned-butler Max Von Mayerling (Erich Von Stroheim), their destinies become darkly intertwined.

Drawing from his casts' experiences (even including footage of Swanson in Von Stroheim's unfinished silent film *Queen Kelly*) and weaving in real-life industry cameos including Buster Keaton, Cecil B. DeMille, and Hedda Hopper, Billy Wilder added to the tension of his exquisitely crafted Hollywood satire which, 75 years on, is ready for its close-up once again.



110 mins, USA, 1950, Digital  
Notes by Saidhbh Ní Dhúlaing

IFI CLASSIC



# IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE

FRANK CAPRA

**CINEMAS: FROM FRI 12TH  
IFI@HOME: FROM  
MON 22ND-29TH**

A film to warm even the coldest of hearts, *It's A Wonderful Life* returns to IFI screens for Christmas. James Stewart is at his most likeable as George Bailey, loyal family man and friend whose selfless nature has seen him spend his whole life in hometown Bedford Falls, despite his thirst for travel and adventure. Facing ruin at the hands of local despot Mr Potter, a desperate George finds himself at a dangerously low ebb. However, a higher power intervenes and sends Clarence Obody (Henry Travers), Angel (Second Class), to show George what life in Bedford Falls would have been like had he never been born.

There will be Open Captioned screenings at 14.00 on Sunday 21st, and 18.10 on Monday 22nd.



130 mins, USA, 1946, 4K Digital  
Notes by Kevin Coyne

IFI CLASSIC



## THE SHINING

STANLEY KUBRICK

FROM FRI 12TH

The best adaptation of Stephen King's work, regardless of what the author himself thinks, *The Shining* is set in the snowy Colorado Rockies, where author and recovering alcoholic Jack Torrance (Jack Nicholson) acts as caretaker for the Overlook Hotel during winter. However, he and his family are not alone, and as the hotel's malign influence over Jack grows, wife Wendy (Shelley Duvall) and young son Danny (Danny Lloyd) are in increasing danger, exacerbated in Danny's case by his nascent psychic abilities. Filled with chilling, indelible imagery and enough puzzles to inspire a raft of theories and documentaries, Kubrick's horror masterpiece will always be best experienced in the darkness of a cinema.

There will be Open Captioned screenings at 15.20 on Tuesday 16th, and 20.15 on Thursday 18th.

16 **OCAD** **U25**

144 mins, UK-USA, 1980, Digital  
Notes by Kevin Coyne

IFI CLASSIC



## DOG DAY AFTERNOON

SIDNEY LUMET

FROM FRI 19TH

Rereleased on the occasion of its fiftieth anniversary, *Dog Day Afternoon* recounts the true story of an attempted bank robbery in Brooklyn, 1972. Sonny (Al Pacino, reuniting with his *Serpico* director) and Sal (the great John Cazale) go ahead as planned with their heist after being abandoned by the third member of their gang. Things immediately go wrong as the bank is almost empty of cash and a hostage situation develops very quickly. In the course of negotiations, it comes out that Sonny's motive was to secure enough money to pay for the sexual reassignment surgery of his lover Leon (Chris Sarandon). Groundbreaking at the time for its thoughtful and sympathetic consideration of gender and sexuality, though of its time when viewed through a contemporary lens, *Dog Day Afternoon* is a gripping, funny, and moving film, a classic of 1970s Hollywood.

15A **U25**

124 mins, USA, 1975, Digital  
Notes by Kevin Coyne

IFI DOC



## BOWIE: THE FINAL ACT

JONATHAN STIASNY

FROM FRI 26TH

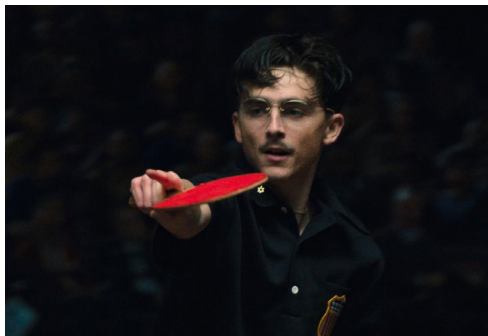
The film explores how David Bowie's last chapter transcended closure and instead became a bold act of reinvention. Beginning with a period of artistic uncertainty in the late 1990s and early 2000s, the documentary follows Bowie's quietly confident comeback, a period which saw him conquer Glastonbury's Pyramid stage, confront his past in suburban South London, experiment with the future of the internet, and write his first musical, all of which culminated in his daring final album *Blackstar*, released just two days before his death. Through rare interviews with collaborators and archival footage and insight into his creative process, the film reveals how Bowie confronted mortality not with resignation but with boundary-pushing ambition. Told by those who knew and worked with Bowie, the film uncovers the strategic brilliance behind the resurrection, and the inexhaustible creativity of this singular artist.

**U25**

90 mins, UK, 2025, Digital  
Notes by David O'Mahony



NEW RELEASE



# MARTY SUPREME

**JOSH SAFDIE**

**FROM FRI 26TH**

Loosely based on the life of Martin Reisman, the flamboyant and eccentric American table tennis champion, *Marty Supreme* stars Timothée Chalamet as Marty Mauser, a talented and ambitious player of the sport. Determined that the world knows his name, Marty is willing to do whatever it takes for the world to know his name, his barrelling momentum grounded only by Rachel (Odessa A'zion). Director Josh Safdie has created a film just as gripping, relentless, and adrenaline-riddled as previous films *Good Time* (2017) and *Uncut Gems* (2019), while Chalamet is sure to be a name that figures heavily in the upcoming awards season.

There will be Open Captioned screenings at 14.20 on Friday 26th, and 20.15 on Tuesday 30th.



149 mins, USA-Finland, Digital, 2025

NEW RELEASE



# SENTIMENTAL VALUE

(AFFEKSJONSVERDI)

**JOACHIM TRIER**

**FROM FRI 26TH**

Stage actress Nora (Renate Reinsve) and her sister Agnes (Inga lbsdatter Lilleaas) are reunited with their estranged father Gustav (Stellan Skarsgård), a once-renowned film director who reappears after their mother's death. Gustav offers Nora the lead role in his new film about his own mother's suicide, but when she declines, he casts American actress Rachel Kemp (Elle Fanning). Joachim Trier, working again with Renate Reinsve, star of his 2022 hit, *The Worst Person in the World*, uses Gustav's autobiographical project as a means to unpack the family's messy history, exposing layers of generational trauma and simmering resentment. Skarsgard is especially memorable as a director who realises that this could be his final chance to make the film he has previously gestured towards, and to heal the rift with his daughter.

There will be Open Captioned screenings at 20.20 on Sunday 28th, and 15.30 on Wednesday 31st.



133 mins, Norway-Germany-Denmark-France-UK, 2025,  
Digital, Subtitled  
Notes by David O'Mahony



# STREAMING THIS DECEMBER ON IFI@HOME



**IFI@**  
HOME

NEW RELEASE



## OSLO STORIES TRILOGY: DREAMS

DAG JOHAN HAUGERUD

FROM MON 1ST

A poetic, multigenerational meditation on first love, memory, and authorship.

*Oslo Stories Trilogy: Sex and Love* are available to stream on IFI@Home!

NEW RELEASE



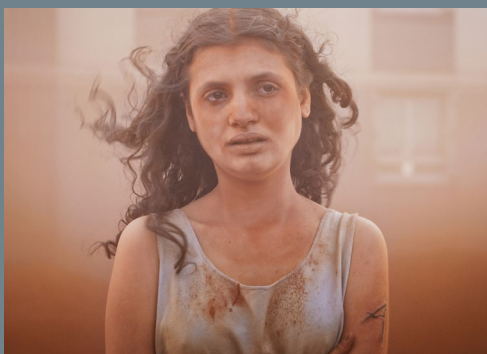
## PALESTINE 36

ANNEMARIE JACIR

FROM FRI 5TH

In 1936, as Palestinian villages revolt against British colonial rule, Yusuf is torn between Jerusalem and his rural home, amidst escalating unrest.

NEW RELEASE



## ALPHA

JULIA DUCOURNAU

FROM FRI 19TH

From the director of *Raw* (2016) and the Palme d'Or-winning *Titane* (2021) comes another wildly unique exploration of the body and identity. Alpha, a troubled teenager, arrives home with a tattoo from a friend as a blood-borne virus grips the nation.

"VERY HOT, VERY FUNNY AND OUTRAGEOUSLY GOOD  
...IT'S A WILD RIDE" ★★★★★

THE STANDARD



TIME OUT



THE UPCOMING



ATTITUDE



THE GUARDIAN



THE TELEGRAPH



THE TIMES

HARRY MELLING  
ALEXANDER SKARSGÅRD

# million

WRITTEN AND DIRECTED BY HARRY LIGHTON

 **XAVIER**  
FESTIVAL DE CANNES  
and official selection  
UN CERTAIN REGARD

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