

# Bridport **FILM** SOCIETY

WORLD CINEMA ON YOUR DOORSTEP

**57th Season:**

27 September 2022 - 21 March 2023



[www.bridportfilmsociety.co.uk](http://www.bridportfilmsociety.co.uk)  
[info@bridportfilmsociety.co.uk](mailto:info@bridportfilmsociety.co.uk)

Screening at the  
Bridport Arts Centre



## Welcome to our 57th season

Bridport Film Society exists to offer film-lovers a carefully balanced programme of world and independent cinema. We continually monitor releases, reviews, and cinephile websites to identify films of interest, and welcome recommendations from members and friends. Over six months we view, discuss, and argue about scores of films before making a final selection based on a balance of genres, nationality, style, and tone. There comes a point in our selection process when, in order to keep the programme to just 12 films, we have to reject some really excellent films and those are hard decisions to make.

Or that is the usual pattern. This year in fact we found the process more challenging than usual. Possibly we are only now feeling the impact of the halt in productions during the Covid crisis, but there seemed to be fewer films than usual from which to choose, and a less obvious group of twelve. We are also increasingly running into the problem of films being locked up by streaming services such as Apple, Disney, Netflix and Mubi, which means we cannot access them. An example this year is *Prayers For The Stolen* – a stunning Mexican film that was one of our hot favourites, but viewable only on Amazon – watch it if you can. Despite these problems we are confident that our selection this year will again delight, inspire and provoke you.

We like to start each section (in September and January) with films that will lighten moods and lift spirits and we hope we have been able to do so again. We will be continuing with the popular short film at the start of most screenings and are grateful to the DepicT! Encounters Short Film and Animation Festival, hosted at Watershed in Bristol, for allowing us to show these. If you want to know more go to [www.depict.org](http://www.depict.org).

Our fortnightly screenings are highly sociable and we think you'll agree that membership (at just under £3 a film) offers amazing value for money.

Since the Arts Centre no longer has catering rights in the building, we are hoping that this season the Arts Club will provide us with a bar at the start of each evening.

For our first screening we have chosen *Summer of Soul*, a film which is simultaneously a stunning social documentary of 1969, and a concert of some fantastic music.

*Tristan*



# The Films 2022

## Summer of Soul

Ahmir "Questlove" Thompson | USA | 2021 |  
1h 57 minutes | English



This magnificent documentary of the forgotten 1969 Harlem Cultural festival, just one year after the 1968 riots, gives moving context to rediscovered footage of Stevie Wonder, Mahalia Jackson, B B King, Nina Simone, a very young and cool Hugh Masakela and other soul icons in their prime. This Sundance award-winner is an absolute joy, uncovering a treasure trove of pulse-racing, heart-stopping live music footage unseen for half a century. **RM**

**"This is a portrait of an era, it's also a snapshot of a revolutionary mood."** Sarah Ward, Concrete Playground

24 September 2022



## La Mif (The Fam)

Fred Bailiff | France | 2022 | 110 minutes |  
French with English subtitles



A group of teenage girls have been placed in a residential care home with social workers. They live under the same roof but haven't chosen each other. This experience creates unexpected tensions and intimacies. An incident triggers a chain of over-reactions but their lust for life also strengthens bonds. Just like a family. **TA**

**"Powered by skittering, unpredictable energy and adolescent emotional eruptions, it's a smartly structured portrait of a de facto family unit...."** Wendy Ide, Observer

11 October 2022



## Balloon

Pema Tseden | Tibet | 2019 | 102 minutes |  
Chinese, Tibetan with English Subtitles



Using mainly untrained actors, writer/director Tseden explores the collision between modernity and tradition in 1980s Tibet as the necessity of family planning conflicts with indigenous culture and threatens relationships. A gentle film, impeccably respectful and often lightened with comic details, such as sheep being transported on motorbikes. **JD**

**Winner, Best screenplay, Chicago 2019  
plus many awards in Asia**

25 October 2022



# Compartment No 6

Juho Kuosmanen | Russia | 2021 |  
107 minutes | Russian with English Subtitles



A young Finnish woman escapes an enigmatic love affair in Moscow by boarding a train to the arctic port of Murmansk. Forced to share the long journey and a tiny sleeping car with a Russian miner, the unexpected encounter leads the occupants of Compartment no. 6 to face the truth about their own yearning for human connection. **LW**

**Nine awards and ten nominations**

**"The performances are first-rate. The actors take what they need but otherwise depend on the truth of the characters"** The Spectator, Deborah Ross

8 November 2022



# Everything Went Fine

Francoise Ozon | France | 2022 |  
1h 53 minutes | French with English Subtitles



After a stroke leaves him partially paralyzed 85-year-old André Bernheim (André Dussolier) demands that his eldest daughter, Emmanuèle (Sophie Marceau), helps him die. With the grudging support of her younger sister Pascale (Géraldine Pailhas) the two women set about realising their father's wish. The film is surprisingly uplifting, with touches of humour and joy stirred into the mix. **NH**

**"André Dussolier and Sophie Marceau are outstanding as a father and daughter whose tricky relationship is upended when he asks for her help to die."** Peter Bradshaw, The Guardian July 2021

22 November 2022



# Luzzu

Alex Camilleri | Maltese | 2021 | 95 minutes |  
English and Maltese with English subtitles



Real-life fisherman Jesmark Scicluna leads a cast of largely non-professional actors in this impressive study of an industry – and way of life – in crisis. Will he eke out a meagre living at sea for his wife and new-born son? Or will he decommission his boat in exchange for an EU pay out and cast his lot with a black-market operation that is decimating the Mediterranean fish population and local livelihoods. **RM**

**"It's an impressive feature debut from the Maltese filmmaker, making the most of stunning setting and performances."** Nikki Baughan, BFI

6 December 2022



# Master Cheng

Mika Kaurismäki | Finland | 2019 | 114 minutes |  
Finnish & Mandarin with English subtitles



Following the death of his wife, professional chef Cheng travels from Shanghai with his young son to a remote village in Finland to find an old Finnish friend. Nobody seems to know his friend but local café owner Sirkka offers him accommodation and in return Cheng helps her in the kitchen, surprising the locals with the delights of Chinese cuisine. **TA** **"If it's cinematic comfort food you seek, there's something rather soothing about this tale of a sad stranger embraced by a community who unquestioningly welcome him as one of their own."** Wendy Ide, Observer

10 January 2023



# Parallel Mothers

Pedro Almodóvar | Spain | 2022 |  
123 minutes | Spanish with English Subtitles



Two women, Janis and Ana, coincide in a maternity pre-natal room. The few words they exchange in these hours will create a very close bond between the two. Almodóvar interlinks their stories with plot twists and turns, gives us a serious, emotionally grounded look at maternal bonds and the draw of family and, most importantly, raises the spectre of the atrocities committed by the Franco regime, only recently allowed voice in Spain. **RM** **"Pedro Almodóvar's poetic conviction and creative fluidity flow through this drama."** Peter Bradshaw, The Guardian

24 January 2023



# Photograph

Ritesh Batra | India | 2019 |  
110 minutes | Hindi with English Subtitles



A struggling street photographer in Mumbai, pressured to marry by his grandmother, convinces a shy stranger to pose as his fiancée. The pair develop a connection that transforms them in a way they could not expect. There is a fairy tale quality to the story with exquisitely framed shots and the loving portrayal of the city of Mumbai. **LW**

**Ten nominations for Critics' Choice Film Awards, India 2020**

**"Photograph is a feel-good movie that is very soothing, where the dramatic edges are exposed and resolved without generating any tension."** Fotogramas, Jordi Batlle Caminal

7 February 2023



# Tramontane

Vatche Boulghourhian | Lebanon | 2017 |  
1h 45 minutes | Arabic with English Subtitles



Lebanese singer, Barakat Jabour, plays Rabih, a young man who is blind like the actor himself. Rabih lives in a small village in Lebanon. He sings in a choir and edits Braille documents for an income. When he tries to apply for a passport he discovers that his identification card is a forgery. He realises that everything he has been told about his birth and childhood is a lie. We join him on a road trip to try and discover the truth of his identity. **NH**

**"Noble in its intentions and subtly gripping..."**

Oliver Johnston, The Up Coming, Sept 2017.

*Permission to screen without charge by shop.terracottadistribution.com*

21 February 2023



# Shoplifters

Hirokazu Kore-eda | Japan | 2018 |  
121 minutes | Japanese with English subtitles



On the margins of Tokyo, a dysfunctional band of outsiders is united by fierce loyalty and a penchant for petty theft. Their life changes from care-free and matter-of-fact to something more dramatic as they open their doors to a beleaguered young girl. When the young son is arrested, secrets are exposed that upend their tenuous, below-the-radar existence. **TA**

**"This is a film with no set pieces or major plot twists but it is wholly absorbing and it will steal your heart."** Deborah Ross, Spectator

7 March 2023



# Playground

Laura Wandel | Belgium | 2021 |  
72 minutes | French with English Subtitles



Young Nora's well-meaning attempt to intervene when she sees her older brother Abel being bullied in the school playground shows how the taint of victimhood can override the bonds of friendship and family; and how doing the right thing can backfire. Frédéric Noirhomme's camera is virtually a character in the story and equally impressive is the sound. With the camera locked on Nora's tearful saucer eyes, much of the tension is created, vividly, outside the frame. A debut feature by writer-director Laura Wandel, it is piercingly insightful without ever labouring the point. A remarkable achievement. **JD**

21 March 2023



**Followed by the Annual General Meeting**

# Join the Society

## 2022 – 23 Season Membership Annual Subscriptions

Adult ..... £35  
Students (over 16 and under 25) ..... £20

- To apply for membership please send a request to [bridportfilm@gmail.com](mailto:bridportfilm@gmail.com). Applications will be accepted on a first-come basis, and you will receive instructions on how to pay online. Membership cards can be collected at the door at your first screening.
- Membership is limited to approximately 210 because of the capacity of the venue and is transferable within a family (provided over age 16).
- Members may bring occasional guests (see below).

## Guests

Members may request guest tickets by email at £5 each for non-members (students £2).

Details of how to do so are on membership cards.

Please be at the venue by 7.30pm to claim your guest tickets or you may lose them.

Guest requests received after midday on the day of the screening may not be honoured.

Our agreements with film distributors dictate that we may not sell unreserved tickets at the door on the evening of the film.

Non-members must remember to pre-book as guests and are accepted on a space-available basis only. *If not pre-booked, you will be turned away.*

## Get In Touch

**For further information, please contact us:**

- email [bridportfilm@gmail.com](mailto:bridportfilm@gmail.com)
- visit our brand new, fresh website at [www.bridportfilmsociety.co.uk](http://www.bridportfilmsociety.co.uk)
- visit our page at [www.facebook.com](http://www.facebook.com)

## Film Evenings

Films are screened fortnightly on Tuesday evenings at 7.45pm, beginning on Sept 27th, exclusively for members and guests.

Our venue is the Bridport Arts Centre.

Doors and the bar open at 7pm.

Membership cards must be presented at the door



## Diary dates for the 57th Season

### 2022

27 September	<i>Summer of Soul</i>
11 October	<i>La Mif</i>
25 October	<i>Balloon</i>
8 November	<i>Compartment No 6</i>
22 November	<i>Everything Went Fine</i>
6 December	<i>Luzzu</i>

### 2023

10 January	<i>Master Cheng</i>
24 January	<i>Parallel Mothers</i>
7 February	<i>Photograph</i>
21 February	<i>Tramontane</i>
7 March	<i>Shoplifters</i>
21 March	<i>Playground</i>

# Bridport FILM SOCIETY

For more information, contact us:

facebook:

Bridport Film Society

email:

[bridportfilm@gmail.com](mailto:bridportfilm@gmail.com)

Or visit our website:

[www.bridportfilmsociety.co.uk](http://www.bridportfilmsociety.co.uk)

### Committee

Chris Pike, *Chair*

Julia Borland, *Treasurer*

Rosie Mathisen, *Secretary*

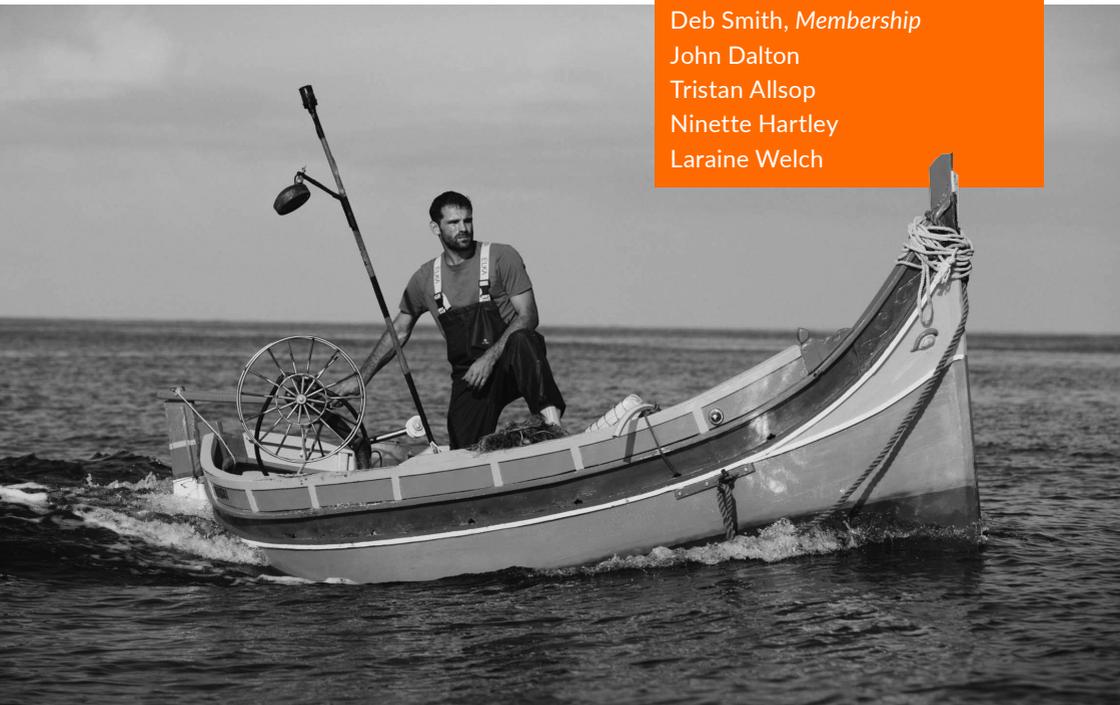
Deb Smith, *Membership*

John Dalton

Tristan Allsop

Ninette Hartley

Laraine Welch



World cinema on your doorstep