

Diary dates for the 59th Season

2024

| | |
|-------------|---------------------|
| October 1 | American Fiction |
| October 15 | Four Daughters |
| October 29 | Rosalie |
| November 12 | Io Capitano |
| November 26 | Paris Memories |
| December 10 | The Taste of Things |

2025

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|-------------|-----------------------------------|
| January 7 | Ama Gloria |
| January 21 | The Painter and the Thief |
| February 4 | That They May Face the Rising Sun |
| February 18 | Opponent |
| March 4 | Rose |
| March 18 | Much Ado About Dying |
| April 1 | 60th anniversary bonus film |

Bridport FILM SOCIETY

For more information, contact us:

facebook: Bridport Film Society

email: bridportfilm@gmail.com

Or visit our website:

www.bridportfilmsociety.co.uk

Committee

Chris Pike, *Chair*

Julia Borland, *Treasurer*

Deb Smith, *Membership*

Film Selection Group

Tristan Allsop

John Dalton

Rosie Mathisen

Diana Segal

Laraine Welch



World cinema on your doorstep

Bridport FILM SOCIETY

WORLD CINEMA ON YOUR DOORSTEP

60TH
ANNIVERSARY

59th Season:

1 October 2024 – 1 April 2025



www.bridportfilmsociety.co.uk
info@bridportfilmsociety.co.uk

Screening at the
Bridport Arts Centre



Welcome to our 59th season

With one season cancelled by Covid, 2025 marks our 60th year.

In all those years, through carefully curated screenings we have aimed to deliver a balanced programme of independent films that reflects the breadth and depth of world cinema and fosters a sense of discovery and exploration. We continue that aim with enthusiasm and hard work.

In making our selection each season we continually monitor releases, reviews, and cinephile websites to identify films of interest, and welcome recommendations from members and friends. Over a period of six months or so we view, discuss, and argue about scores of films before making a final selection based on a balance of genres, nationality, style, and tone.

Some years it is easier to achieve our aims than others and we are, of course, constrained by the films that are actually available. We try to include as wide a spread of nationalities and cultures as we can, but this year, we have again found ourselves short in South America, and also in the Far East, India, and Asia. But, surely, our first criterion must be that the films we choose are the best that we see. We cannot in all conscience screen a second-rate film simply because it is from Mexico or Argentina. I have also written previously about the increasing strictures being placed on our choices by streaming platforms that lock up some excellent films in exclusive deals, and that problem continues. That said, this season we have films from Tunisia, Sweden, France, the Cape Verde Islands, Africa, Denmark, Lithuania, Ireland, as well as the USA and UK

We like to start each half of our programme 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 each screening.

Our fortnightly screenings are highly sociable and we think you'll agree that at just over £3 a film this offers amazing value for money. The Arts Centre will continue to provide us with a bar at the start of each screening.

Tristan

Bonus Film April 1st

A film to celebrate 60 years of our existence. This film has yet to be chosen but will reflect our history and our success. Full details will be given during the season.



Join the Society

2024 – 25 Season Membership Annual Subscriptions

| | |
|---------------------------------------|-----|
| Adult | £40 |
| Students (over 16 and under 25) | £20 |

- To apply for membership please send a request to 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

Film Evenings

Films are screened fortnightly on Tuesday evenings at 7.45pm, beginning on October 1st, 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



Get In Touch

For further information, please contact us:

- email bridportfilm@gmail.com
- visit our website at www.bridportfilmsociety.co.uk
- visit our page on facebook

Opponent

18 February 2025

Milad Alami | Sweden/Iran | 2023 | 1h 59' |
Swedish/Iranian with English subtitles



A tense and complex drama dealing with masculinity, intimacy and violence, and drawing on some of the director's experiences as a refugee in Sweden. After a devastating rumour circulates about him at home, Iman is forced to flee a good and prosperous life in Tehran with his family. As an asylum seeker in Sweden Iman, an Olympic wrestler, is persuaded to join the national team to bolster his asylum case but his former contacts and personal demons resurface as he does this. *DS*



Rose

4 March 2025

Niels Arden Oplev | Denmark | 2023 | 1h 46' | Danish/
French with English subtitles



In this honest and heartfelt drama we follow two sisters on a trip to Paris. The elder, Inger, played by Sophie Grabol, suffers from schizophrenia, and lives in a psychiatric clinic with carers and an over-protective mother. Younger Ellen sees the holiday as an opportunity to bond with her sister.

Travelling on an organised coach trip the two sisters encounter an antagonistic fellow passenger. His distaste for Inger's illness, and resurfacing memories, make for a challenging trip. *DS*



Much Ado About Dying

18 March 2025

Simon Chambers | UK | 2023 | 1h 24' | English



A vital, uplifting and often funny film about an extraordinary, infuriating man, and about the crisis in our social care system. Simon finds his life upended when he is called back to London from India to care for his retired gay actor uncle David, whose anarchic spirit is unbreakable. He refuses to go into a care home, insisting on dying in the squalor of his tumble-down house. He can't remember where he put his false teeth but still knows all the lines from his beloved Shakespeare plays.

"... few documentaries are more honest, self-scrutinising and revelatory about ageing, familial love and its limits, and the whole tragicomic process of dying." Leslie Felperin, Guardian



Followed by the Annual General Meeting

The Films 2024

American Fiction

Cord Jefferson | USA | 2023 | 1h 57' | English



Based on Erasure by Percival Everett, Jeffrey Wright stars as Monk, a frustrated novelist fed up with the establishment profiting from “Black” entertainment that relies on tired and offensive tropes. To prove his point, he writes an outlandish “Black” book of his own, a book that propels him to the heart of hypocrisy and the madness he claims to disdain. **TA**

“By turns laugh-out-loud funny and quietly poignant while grounded by a deeply sympathetic turn from Jeffrey Wright.” Kevin Maher, Times

1 October 2024



Four Daughters

Kaouther Ben Hania | France, Germany, Tunisia | 2022 | 1 h 59' | Arabic with English subtitles



The lives of four spirited, striking daughters of an unhappily married Tunisian mother, Olfa Hamrouni, are explored in this inventive and compelling docu-drama. The two youngest, Eya and Tayssir, remain at home with their mother. The two older girls, Rahma and Ghofrane, were radicalised as teenagers and left to join Islamic State in Libya, making headlines around the world. **RM**

“This is an emotionally wrenching film that takes its subjects to bruising places. But it’s also full of love, optimism and defiant humour.” The Guardian.

15 October 2024



Rosalie

Stephanie Di Giusto | France | 2023 | 1h 55' | French with English subtitles



Based on a true story. France, 1870s. Rosalie is a young woman unlike any other. She hides a secret: she was born with a face and body covered in hair. She has concealed her peculiarity all her life to stay safe, shaving to fit in. Until Abel, an indebted bar owner unaware of her secret, marries Rosalie for her dowry. Will Abel be able to love Rosalie and see her as the woman she is, once he finds out the truth? **LW**

“A very watchable, offbeat slice of period drama.”

Lesley Felperin, Hollywood Reporter

29 October 2024



Io Capitano

Matteo Garrone | Senegal/Morocco/Italy | 2023 | 2h 1' | Wolof & French with English subtitles



A flamboyant, action-packed and colourful treatment of the journey of economic migrants across the Sahara from Senegal to Europe. You get a sense of what motivates them, and the horrors they face on the way and while the ending appears jubilant we know all too well that after the film ends their troubles have only just begun. JD

Many awards for Best Film, Best Director & Best Cinematography and swept the board at Venice.

12 November 2024



Paris Memories

Alice Winocour | France | 2023 | 1h 44' | French with English subtitles



After an idyllic evening of red wine and a motorcycle ride home, Mia (Virginie Efira) stops at a bistro to take shelter from a downpour. Her reprieve is shattered when a gunman opens fire. Three months later, with a frustratingly hazy memory of the attack, Mia finds herself numbed and unable to resume her life. When she remembers that a stranger helped her make it through the attack, she resolves to find him, if only to make sure that he is alive. TA

"Without preciousness or platitudes, Winocour and Efira plumb the stark and sometimes painful truth of what it means to commit to the world of the living."

Stephanie Zacharek, TIME Magazine

26 November 2024



The Taste of Things

Tran Anh Hung | France | 2023 | 2 h 15' | French with English subtitles



Dodin is renowned throughout the world for the exquisite menus he invents; Eugénie helps him bring these ideas to life. A paean to the pleasures of a carefully prepared meal and set against an exquisite backdrop of manor house and rural idyll, this is more than a film about food. It is a reflection on artists, and the ways in which they communicate through their work. RM

"A feast for the senses.... But in a way, the food is the least interesting thing about it." BFI

10 December 2024



Ama Gloria

Marie Amachoukeli | Cape Verde Islands | 2023 | 1h 24' |
French and Kabuverdianu with English subtitles



Six-year-old Cléo loves her nanny Gloria more than anything. When Gloria must suddenly return to Cape Verde to care for her own children, Cléo makes her promise that they will see each other very soon. Gloria invites Cléo to her island and the two must make the most of their last summer together. TA

"The considerable power of Ama Gloria lies in its unmatched portrait of one brave little heart."

Jessica Kiang, Variety



7 January 2025

The Painter and the Thief

Benjamin Ree Norway | 2020 | 1h 42' |
Norwegian & English with English subtitles



A Czech artist befriends the criminal who stole one of her iconic paintings from an Oslo gallery, to understand his intent and hoping to recover the painting. A truly remarkable fly-on-the-wall documentary with more human interest and narrative urgency than most feature films. JD

"As fiction this would surely be dismissed as totally unbelievable; since it's not, this portrait of two totally fascinating characters proves to be as riveting as any thriller." David Stratton, The Australian.



21 January 2025

That They May Face the Rising Sun

Pat Collins | Ireland | 2023 | 1h 51' | English



Based on acclaimed Irish author John McGahern's award-winning book of the same name. Joe and Kate Rutledge have returned from London to live and work in a small, rural community in Ireland. Now deeply embedded in the life around them, the drama of a year in their lives and those of the memorable characters that move about them unfolds through the rituals of work, play and the passing seasons. LW

"... a lyrical, loving celebration of the everyday."

Allan Hunter, Screen International



4 February 2025