



GALWAY FILM SOCIETY

AUTUMN/WINTER SEASON 2008

28TH SEPTEMBER-7TH DECEMBER

INFORMATION/BOOKING TOWN HALL THEATRE
PHONE 091/569777



WWW.ACCESSCINEMA.IE

SUN 28 SEPT 8.15^{PM}



PRICELESS

DIR: PIERRE SALVADORI

FRANCE 2006

104 MINS

Audrey Tautou brings all her charm to her role as Irene, who likes to hunt for sugar daddies on the French Riviera and is addicted to all things expensive and luxurious. However, one evening after her latest conquest conks out in their bedroom, she visits the hotel bar where she meets a mild-mannered young bartender and, through an amusing set of circumstances, mistakes him for a wealthy potential client. Their encounter sets off a classic screwball comedy with an inimitable Gallic flavour. The film boasts some gorgeous sets and fabulous locations, as well as two splendid performances from its charming lead actors as it explores, always with a light touch, love and commerce and the "fronts" we put on to attract each other.

Nominted for the Golden Trailer award for Best Foreign Romance 2008.

SUN 05 OCT 8.15^{PM}



MY BROTHER IS AN ONLY CHILD

DIR: DANIELE LUCHETTI

ITALY 2007

108 MINS

The film follows the mirrored experiences of two politically-divided brothers from working-class Latina (the Mussolini-built town outside Rome), the awkward, interrogative Accio and his older Casanova-skilled brother Manrico. Manrico gets ever deeper involved with the revolutionary left, while the sharp-tongued Accio, expelled from his seminary, falls under the influence of a band of thuggish Fascist 'aristocrats'. A great deal of this film's lightness and humour comes from the acting, not least the spiky performances of Vittorio Emanuele Propizio as adolescent and Elio Germano as mature Accio. Based on Antonio Pennacchi's bestselling novel, // *Fasciocomunista* the film is as lively, witty, funny and intelligent a meditation on Italy's Fascist inheritance as we're likely to get.

Nominated for European Film Award 2007.

SUN 12 OCT 8.15^{PM}



XXY

DIR: LUCIA PUENZO

ARGENTINA 2007

90 MINS

15-year-old Alex is struggling with mood swings, parental constraints and teenage crushes. To protect their precious child, her parents relocated from Buenos Aires to a remote costal area of Uruguay when Alex was born with a genital ambiguity. But noble intentions are thwarted by Alex's blossoming sexuality, and she and her parents are increasingly pressured to choose whether she will live as a boy or a girl. The hermaphrodite issue might seem shocking, but we are never allowed to forget that this is a family with a much-loved child at its centre. Established novelist, Lucia Puenzo, with the support of some of Argentina's finest actors, has shaped a sensitive, captivating and finely balanced film on a difficult subject.

Winner of the Cannes International Critics' Week Grand Prize 2007.

SUN 19 OCT 8.15^{PM}



SUMMER HOURS

DIR: OLIVIER ASSAYAS

FRANCE 2008

102 MINS

At her rural retreat Helene is celebrating her 75th birthday with her two sons, Frederic and Jeremie as well as their wives and kids, and her daughter, Adrienne (Juliette Binoche). The atmosphere is summery, but with a discernible edge. Helene's house is a shrine to the paintings and acquired artworks of her late brother. Helene uses the family gathering to decide about how to dispose of the artifacts after her death. Rather than see them sold off piecemeal, she wants them to be preserved as a private collection in a museum. Some time after that Helene dies. Largely through the fine ensemble playing the film develops a subtle feel for the undercurrents that divide the siblings and the generational change that is taking place now that their mother is gone. Assayas' script has a distinct whiff of Eric Rohmer.

Nominated for the Golden Berlin Bear in 2007

SUN 26 OCT 8.15^{PM}

NO FILM

SUN 02 NOV 8.15^{PM}



THE EDGE OF HEAVEN

DIR: FATIH AKIN

GERMANY/TURKEY/ITALY 2007

120 MINS

Nejat, a second generation Turk has attained what might be the greatest distinction Germany has to offer: he is a university professor lecturing on Goethe. His rascally old father, also in Germany has offered cohabitation rights to the Turkish prostitute Yeter who is eager to escape bullying Muslim activists who patrol the red-light district, but doesn't yet see Ali's darker side. The narrative then spins off sideways to investigate the situation of Yeter's fugitive daughter Ayten and her relationship with an idealist young German, Lotte who between them are reviving the spirit of Baader-Meinhof for a new generation. Fatih Akin's new film is an intriguing, complex, beautifully acted and directed piece of work about the tension between Germany and Turkey, guilt, cultural division and the gulf between generations with a fiercely directed satire at the political institutions involved.

Won numerous awards including Best Screenplay, Cannes Film Festival 2007.

SUN 09 NOV 8.15^{PM}



THE POPE'S TOILET

DIR: CESAR CHARLONE

BRAZIL/URUGUAY/France 2007

90 MINS

The inhabitants of Melo, a small Uruguayan town bordering Brazil, make their living as best they can, but business is not booming. Then news comes through that Pope John Paul II is visiting and many seize the opportunity to capitalise on this once in a lifetime opportunity. For Beto, this involves investing the family's meagre savings in the construction of a toilet that will service the tourists during their time in the town. An engaging drama of human aspiration which takes its initial idea from the 1988 Papal visit to Melo. While focusing on Beto's race against time to construct the lavatory, the film-makers are able to set his struggle against the larger canvas of the community's colourful adventures. The result is an elegantly crafted tale of the frenzy that ensues when a celebrity comes to town.

Won a number of awards including the International Jury Award at Sao Paulo I.F.F. 2007

SUN 16 NOV 8.15^{PM}



EMMAS BLISS

DIR: SVEN TADDICKEN

GERMANY 2006

96 MINS

Emma is a sexually frustrated farming woman whose farm is about to be repossessed by creditors. Max is a terminally ill car dealer who steals money from his employer and absconds only to crash his car through the fence surrounding Emma's farmyard. Rural and urban ways collide with beguiling results in this acclaimed fable-like romance. A skilfully-handled 'charmer' that has proved hugely popular with festival audiences around the world. There's an awful lot to like about Emma's Bliss: warm performances, Daniela Knapp's alluring widescreen cinematography and the wry humour that prevents proceedings from becoming either too cloyingly sweet or too oppressively tragic. Award winning actress, Jordis Triebel as Emma is superb, she "throws herself into Emma's animal-like nature with gusto, though never going over the top and always remaining aware of the character's full inner life".

Won several awards in Germany including the Cinema Writers Circle Award in 2006

SUN 23 NOV 8.15^{PM}



COUSCOUS

DIR: ABDEL KECHICHE

FRANCE 2007

151 MINS

Kechiche's new film is an expansive ensemble comedy-drama filmed in the southern French port of Sète, and centred on a North African dockside community. In his sixties, Slimane Beiji is tired of a life of toil in a shipyard, and wants to realise his long-cherished dream, opening a floating restaurant specialising in fish-and-couscous dishes. But local dignitaries have to be persuaded that the venture has a future. And then there are Beiji's friends and family - including the new woman in his life, his ex-wife and a host of neighbours - who have their own parts to play in the success or failure of his dream. "Couscous is an affectionate, intimate portrait of a port, a community and a culture, and confirms Kechiche as one of the new filmmakers with the keenest eye for the cultural complexity of 21st century France". - Jonathan Romney, The Times BFI London Film Festival, 2007

Won a number of awards including the French Syndicate of Cinema Critics awards 2008 for best film.

SUN 30 NOV 8.15^{PM}



THE VISITOR

DIR: THOMAS MCCARTHY

USA 2007

106 MINS

McCarthy's modest tale of friendship is a welcome alternative to the prevailing political rhetoric that promotes fear of "enemies in our midst". His heartfelt, often funny, story is the self-discovery of Connecticut widower Walter Vale, who befriends the Syrian drummer Tarek and the Senegalese street vendor who have rented his rarely visited pied a terre through the kind of scam that victimises immigrants in New York every day. Their uneasy meeting turns into a tentative friendship and Walter, a stiff WASP who exhibits many symptoms of "white man's disease", begins playing the conga drum under Tarek's patient instruction. Anything he does requiring rhythm is an instant joke, but the academic has a crash course in immigrants' reality when Tarek is arrested and dragged away to an immigration jail. When Tarek's mother, Mouna visits from Detroit, an unlikely romance is sparked between the man, who just lost his wife, and the woman who fears losing her son. Alongside McCarthy's tender treatment of strangers who would never meet, except for chance is a chilling view of life for immigrants who have the bad luck of being caught by law enforcement.

Won Best Director, Best Actor and Best Supporting Actress at Method Fest. 2008.

MEMBERSHIP/SEASON TICKET FOR ALL ABOVE NINE FILMS
GUEST ADMISSION TO SINGLE FILMS
INFORMATION/BOOKING: TOWN HALL THEATRE

€36/32 (Concession)
€8/6 (Concession)
Phone 091/569777

MEMBERS ARE REQUESTED TO TAKE THEIR SEATS 10 MINS BEFORE SCREENING.



SPECIAL SCREENINGS (MATINEE)

SUN 05 OCT 4.00PM

PERSEPOLIS

DIR: VINCENT PARRONAU

FRANCE 2007

95 MINS

This moving, perceptive and extremely funny film is based on the two volumes of Marjane Satrapi's comic-strip autobiography about growing up in Iran under the Shah and the ayatollahs. It opens with Marjane looking back on her life from a French airport as she prepares to embark on a journey home. It then unfolds in an extended flashback beginning in 1978 when she was nine years old, in the last repressive days of the Shah, soon to be replaced with the imprisonment, torture and execution of the mullahs, accompanied by something new, the subordination and humiliation of women. *Persepolis* is a painful, even tragic tale of alienation, persecution, frustration and exile. But it never gets sentimental and it doesn't give way to self-pity nor explode in impotent anger. Instead, it combines witty, caustic observation with a warm humanity and a deep sense of life's absurdity. Marjane is a lovely character, a serious, rebellious, humorous young woman with a zest for life and a commitment to Orwellian truths.

Joint Winner – Jury Prize, Cannes Film Festival 2007

The above film will be screened in association with Galway One World Centre.



SUN 12 OCT 4.00PM

MAN ON WIRE

DIR: JAMES MARSH

USA 2008

102 MINS

A man walks on a high-wire across the Twin Towers in New York in one of the most wildly entertaining documentaries of recent years. This film of daredevil Philippe Petit, who brought together a motley crew to help him realise his dream of crossing from the top of one tower to the other in 1974, is an adventure tale that astonishes in every respect. The film is structured in a movie-within-a-movie fashion, with the action of that day hurtling forward in segments, as Petit's background and previous high-wire stunts is told chronologically. "It culminates on the morning of August 7, 1974 when Philippe dances on the wire with no safety net for almost an hour, crossing it eight times before he is arrested for what becomes known as "the artistic crime of the century"



A double prize-winner at Sundance Film Festival (jury and audience awards).



SPECIAL CHRISTMAS SCREENING

SCROOGE

SUN 07 DEC 4.00PM

DIR. BRIAN DESMOND HURST

UK 1951

88 MINS

Miserly Ebenezer Scrooge, (Alistair Sim) learns the error of his ways through the intervention of the ghost of his former partner, and through three Christmas spirits. No Christmas is complete without the performance of Charles Dicken's immortal classic "A Christmas Carol". There is almost universal agreement that this version, directed by Brian Desmond Hurst and starring the great and greatly missed Alistair Sim, is the best of the many versions of this essential Christmas Classic. **Great Christmas entertainment for all age groups.**

The above film will be screened in a party atmosphere with carol singing, spot prizes and light refreshments 30mins prior to screening.

ADMISSION €6/5 (Concession)

Information/booking Town Hall Theatre phone 091-569777