



British Silents, the BFI and Cambridge Arts Picturehouse present

The 15th British Silent Film Festival

19-22 April 2012











WELCOME The 15th British Silent Film Festival

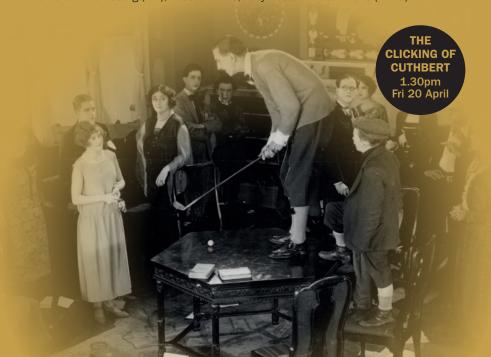
British Silents, the BFI and Cambridge Arts Picturehouse welcome you to the 15th Annual British Silent Film Festival. The year that has seen *The Artist* sweep the board at the BAFTAs and Oscars is the perfect moment to celebrate silent film. In our most ambitious and packed programme to date, we are bringing you the best of the British silent films held in the BFI National Archive along with must-see titles from collections around the UK and abroad. Highlights include Jacques Feyder's stunning *Visages d'Enfants*, a unique programme of unseen British short films held at the EYE Film institute, Amsterdam and the fabulous Dodge Brothers playing their unique brand of Americana to Soviet prison drama, *The Ghost That Never Returns*.

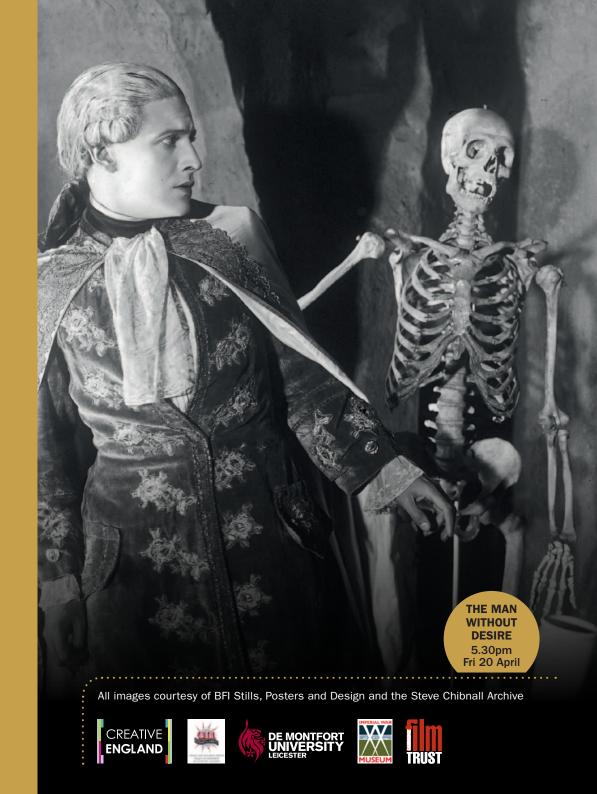
To celebrate 15 years of the British Silent Film Festival we have selected some favourite films from past events including: A Couple of Down and Outs, a moving precursor to War Horse, Hepworth's wonderfully pictorial Mist in the Valley and Henry Edwards' charming Owd Bob. A touch of horror is supplied by Fred Paul's Grand Guignol films and witty satire by Ivor Montagu and chums. There are also plenty of new discoveries with a literary twist, including the silent adaptations of P.G Wodehouse's golfing tales and W.W. Jacobs' lyrical portraits of coastal life.

The Festival is programmed and organised by Laraine Porter, Bryony Dixon and Neil Brand in association with Sue Porter, Tony Fletcher, Paul Marygold and Pete Groschl and the Cinema and Television History (CATH) Research Centre, De Montfort University.

Musical accompaniment will be provided by Neil Brand (UK), Gunter Buchwald (Germany), Stephen Horne (UK) and John Sweeney (UK), the Bronnt Industries, Rob Harbron and Miranda Rutter and The Dodge Brothers.

Special thanks to: Michael Eaton, The Archive Film Agency, Steve Chibnall, Tony Jones, Toby Haggith and Matt Lee (Imperial War Museum), Elif Rongen, Eye Film Institute, Amsterdam. Will Fowler and Jo Botting (BFI), Lobster Films, Lucy Betts and Jen Evans (BBFC).





THURSDAY 19 APRIL

10.30am

The Bachelor's Baby

Romantic comedy about a bachelor who discovers an abandoned baby on a motorcycle tour of the Lake District. He hands the foundling to a retired captain living next door to his childhood sweetheart and her young niece. Meanwhile, assuming it stolen, the child's mother and an array of interfering busybodies set out to look for the child in a series of comic interludes, mistaken identities and baby swaps.

Dir: Arthur Rooke. With: Malcolm Tod, Tom Reynolds, Peggy Woodward, Constance Worth, Haidie Wright. GB 1922, 67mins

Plus

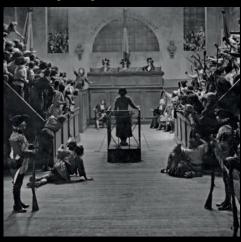
Ordeal by Golf

In the first of our P.G. Wodehouse golfing tales, golf is clearly much more than just a game. Wen an elderly boss seeks to appoint a new company treasurer, he challenges the two potential candidates to a golfing match as 'the only way to judge a man's true character'. But is beating the boss really such a good idea?

Dir: Andrew P Wilson. With: Harry Beasley. GB 1924, 26mins

1.15pm Dickens at 200

The Only Way



The final major Dickens adaptation of the silent era, *The Only Way* is a lavish adaptation of the popular stage adaptation of *A Tale of Two Cities*. Directed by Herbert Wilcox, it stars legendary theatre actor-manager Sir John Martin Harvey as Sydney Carton, the English advocate given the chance to redeem his wasted life by saving the life of his near double: a French aristocrat in exile from revolutionary France.

Dir: Herbert Wilcox. With: John Martin-Harvey, Ben Webster, Madge Stuart, Jean Jay. GB 1926, 107mins

1.30pm BSFF at 15

Young Woodley

One of the most impressive and sensitively directed British films of the late silent era, *Young Woodley* is based on John Van Druten's controversial stage play of 1925. It's the story of a dreamy young college boy who falls for the Headmaster's wife, the beautiful Laura Simmons. Originally shot in 1928 as a full-blooded silent, the film remained unreleased until 1930 when it was remade as an early sound feature.

Dir: Thomas Bentley. With: Marjorie Hume, Robin Irvine, Sam Livesey, John Cromer. GB 1928, 94 mins

Plus

Young Woodley Sound Trailer 1930, 3.5mins

3.30pm | BSFF at 15

The Grand Guignel Programme.

Fred Paul's Grand Guignol series, are tales with a macabre twist The four surviving episodes A Game for Two, The Jest, The Gentle Doctor and The Last Appeal are presented with an introduction written by Michael Eaton.

5.30pm | Manning Haynes and Lydia Hayward adaptations of W.W. Jacobs' short stories

Dir: Fred Paul. GB 1921, approx 70mins

A Will and a Way

In the peaceful village of Claybury the recently deceased, Sportin' Green, leaves his



fortune to his nephew Foxy on the proviso that he marries the first woman to ask him. There are echoes of Buster Keaton's Seven Chances as an array of fortune-seeking widows, elderly spinsters and men in drag, vie with each other to pop the question

Dir: Manning Haynes. With: Ernest Hendry, Johnny Butt, Cynthia Murtagh, Charles Ashton. GB 1922, 45mins

Plus

The Boatswain's Mate

At the Beehive Inn, the widowed landlady Mrs Waters has no shortage of gentlemen admirers willing to 'marry a pub'. But she wants to marry an 'ero and pub regular George sets out to prove himself.

Dir: Manning Haynes. With: Florence Turner, Victor Maclagen, Johnny Butt. GB 1924, 26mins

7pm | Gala Screening Visages d'Enfants (Faces of Children)



'If I could select only one film from the entire French production of the 1920s, surely it is Faces of Children that I would save' (Jean Mitry). Set in a poor Swiss Alpine community, this tale, seen through the eyes of a

young orphaned boy, is the perfect example of French poetic realism

Dir: Jacques Feyder. With: Jean Forest, Victor Vina, Arlette Pevran, Henri Duval. France 1925, 114mins

THURSDAY 19 APRIL

FRIDAY 20 APRIL

9am BSFF at 15 Short film programme

The Ones That Got away!

A tantalising programme of shorts displaying the rich diversity held in the BFI National Archive. Includes comedies such as *The Cheekiest Man on Earth* (1908) and *A New Hat for Nothing* (1910), Arthur Melbourne Cooper's mechanical animation *Road Hogs in Toyland* (1911), to moral tales like *A Great Temptation* (1906) and the Edison Company's adaptation of the Tennyson poem *Lady Clare* (1912) filmed at Arundel Castle.

Presented by Tony Fletcher

Dir: Various. Running time 85mins

11am BSFF at 15 The Imperial War Museum presents

Women, Film and the First World War

A fascinating selection of films about women's contribution during the Great War, including the recently restored *The Woman's Portion* about how to accept separation and loss of husbands fighting on the Front (screened with a new piano score by composer lan Lynn), with Land Army recruitment propaganda and films to encourage the use of National Kitchens.

Programme will be presented by Matt Lee and Toby Haggith

Dir: Various. GB 1917-1918. Running time approx 80mins

11am

Tansy

Alma Taylor stars as Tansy, a shepherd girl caught up in a love triangle between two brothers played out against the backdrop of the Sussex Downs and displaying all the pictorial beauty and naturalism for which Hepworth was renowned.

Dir: Cecil M. Hepworth. With: Alma Taylor, James Carew, Gerald Ames, Hugh Clifton. GB 1921, 63mins **1.30pm** P G Wodehouse in silent films + readings.

Two classics from P.G. Wodehouse's golfing tales, presented with readings from the original stories.

The Clicking of Cuthbert

Set in the suburban paradise of Wood Hills where two rival camps, The Golfers and The Cultured, vie for supremacy. When Cuthbert is forced to retrieve a ball, accidentally smashed through the window into a literary society meeting, he falls for the charms of poetess Adeline. But she wants an intellectual, so Cuthbert attends readings of Soviet 'misery lit' by a famous visiting Bolshevik in the hope of becoming one.

Plus

The Long Hole



Two rival golfers compete for the attention of an attractive young woman; they decide to settle the matter with a round of golf comprising a single hole. En route, the pair are forced to

play fast and loose with the rules as they deal with the mud of an English summer and balls accidentally chipped into motorcars and boats.

Dir: Andrew P. Wilson. With: Roger Keyes, Harry Beasley, Charles Courtneidge, Daphne Williams. GB 1924, 25mins/32mins

1.30pm | BSFF at 15

The Lure of Crooning Water

Romance and melodrama mingle in this tale of a city seductress who lures a farmer away from his wife and family. Ivy Duke plays a famous actress ordered by her doctor-lover to take a rest cure at the idyllic Crooning Water Farm. But she's unable to resist flirting with the unworldly farmer (Guy Newall).

Dir: Arthur Rooke. Starring: Guy Newall, Ivy Duke, Douglas Munro, Mary Dibley. GB 1920, 104mins

3.30pm | Manning Haynes and Lydia Hayward adaptations of W.W. Jacobs short stories

The Head of the Family

Set in a Kentish seafaring community, Mrs Green is bullied by her second husband who threatens to sell off the family home that belonged to her son, lost at sea and presumed dead. But when the despairing woman meets a friendly sailor looking for lodgings, the two hatch a plan to thwart her husband's schemes. The locations and cinematography are a delight.

Dir: Manning Haynes. Starring: Johnny Butt, Daisy England, Charles Ashton, Moore Marriott. GB 1922, 73mins

With

Rough Seas Around British Coasts

A mesmerising film displaying the power of high tides and rough seas.

GB, 1929, 9mins

3.30pm BSFF at 15

Lady Windermere's Fan

The first film adaptation of Oscar Wilde's satire on Victorian marriage and society. Lady Windermere, convinced that her husband is being unfaithful, is further distressed to discover that the 'other woman' has been invited to her birthday ball. So she embarks on her own affair to get even.

Dir: Fred Paul. With: Milton Rosmer, Irene Rooke, Nigel Playfair, Netta Westcott. GB 1916, 72mins

5.30pm The British Board of Film Classification at 100!

What the Silent Censor Saw

To celebrate 100 years of film classification by the BBFC we look at the history of this remarkable institution and its decision-making processes. Featuring clips from films illustrating various censorship issues – sex, drugs and bullfighting as well as the witty spoof, *Cut it Out:* a Day in the Life of a film Censor.

Introduced by Lucy Betts of the BBFC and Bryony Dixon of the BFI

Dir: various. Running time approx. 90mins.

5.30pm

The Man Without Desire

Adrian Brunel's first feature film is a fascinating gothic curio, filmed on location in Venice, the story shifts between the 18th and 20th centuries. Novello's other-worldly beauty and sexual ambiguity is perfect for the role of the nobleman waking from a state of suspended animation.

Dir: Adrian Brunel. With Ivor Novello, Nina Vanno, Sergio Mari, Christopher Walker. GB 1923, 107mins

7.15pm | BSFF at 15

Gala Screening The First Born



With new musical score from Stephen Horne

A tour de force of late silent filmmaking and a heady mix of politics, infidelity, sex and passion, The First Born was adapted by Miles Mander from his own novel and play with a script by Alma Reville, Alfred Hitchcock's talented wife. It concerns the rocky but passionate relationship between Sir Hugh Boycott (Mander) and his young bride Madeleine, (Carroll) which founders when she fails to produce an heir. Recently restored by the BFI National Archive with its original delicate tinting.

Dir: Miles Mander. With: Miles Mander, Madeleine Carroll, John Loder. GB 1928, 88mins.

9.00pm

Reception in the Old Library, Emmanuel College.

FRIDAY 20 APRIL

SATURDAY 21 APRIL

9am

Livingstone

A rare screening of this fascinating biopic starring actor, director and explorer M.A. Wetherell in the title role. The film traces Livingstone's physical and spiritual journey from his humble Scottish home to Africa and his fight against slavery. Shot on the stunning locations visited by Livingstone himself and with the indigenous African tribes people playing themselves.

Dir: M.A. Wetherell. With: M.A. Wetherell, Molly Rogers, Douglas Cator, Robson Paige. GB 1926 62mins

Presented in association with the Archive Film Agency

9am | BSFF at 15

Mist in the Valley

A lonely heiress, played by Alma Taylor runs away from an unhappy home. She meets her future husband whilst destitute and they soon marry. However, their happiness is short-lived as her father is murdered and our heroine becomes the prime suspect.

Dir: Cecil M. Hepworth. With: Alma Taylor, G.H. Mulcaster, James Carew, Esme Hubbard. UK 1923, 75mins

11am

Fun Before the Footlights: The Origins of Undergraduate Humour

The British tradition of absurdist humour didn't start with The Goons, Pete and Dud, or Monty Python – not by a long chalk. The slightly silly antics of the so-called intelligentsia are to be found in a series of short films of the 1920s which delight in anti establishment cheek and a desire to take the mick out of cinema itself (outrageous!). With an introduction by Jo Botting (BFI)

Dir: various. Running time 90mins

11am | Family Matinee.

Silent film fun with Animal Stars of the Silent Screen

The Artist's 'Uggie' proved how important it is to have a clever dog in your silent movie and we've

got a kennel full - driving cars, doing tricks and getting their owners out of scrapes - fun silent comedies for the whole family with films from crime-fighting dogs in 1906 to Charley Chase trying to bath a Great Dane in 1927, all introduced, explained and accompanied by Neil Brand.

Dir: various. Running time approx 80mins

1.30pm

Fante Anna (Gypsy Anna)

Presented in association with The Norwegian Film Institute and Lillehammer University, this is one of the great Norwegian silents. Anna, a gypsy child is discovered in the arms of her dead mother by a farmhand and adopted by his employers. As the years pass, Anna falls in love with her stepbrother but Jon, the farmhand, has also fallen for the free-spirited Anna. This newly restored film is here presented by composer Halldor Krogh whose new symphonic music score will be played with the film.

Presented in association with The Norwegian Film Institute and <u>Lillehammer University</u>



Dir: Rasmus Breistein. With: Asta Neilson, Einar Tveito, Johanne Bruhn. Norway, 1920

3.30pm

LIVINGSTONE

9.00am

The Bohemian Girl

Based on William Balfe's operetta of the same name, Knoles' production boasts a cast of theatrical luminaries, including rare glimpse of Helen Terry, and stars Ivor Novello as Thaddeus, an exiled Polish officer who joins a gypsy community in Bohemia to escape the Austrian military. Here he meets and falls in Iove with Arline, a young woman of noble birth brought up as a gypsy.

Dir: Harley Knoles. Starring: Ivor Novello, Helen Terry, Gladys Cooper, Constance Collier. GB 1922, 70mins.

3.30pm | Robert Falcon Scott Centenary.

The Great White Silence

In 1910, Captain Robert Falcon Scott led what he hoped would be the first successful team to reach the South Pole. Scott's decision to include a professional cameraman in his expedition was a remarkable one for its time, and it is thanks to his vision – and to Herbert Ponting's superb eye – that, a century later, we have this astonishing visual account of his tragic quest. The BFI National Archive restored the film in 2010 with original tints and tones and a newly commissioned score by Simon Fisher-Turner.

Dir: Herbert G. Ponting. With: Capt. Robert Falcon Scott. GB 1924, 108mins

5.30pm

A Couple of Down and Outs

In this timely reprise for the *War Horse* of its day, a man recognizes the horse that he tended on the battlefields of the First World War as it is being led off to the knacker's yard. Man and horse go on the run in a beautifully told tale of official brutality and individual compassion.

Print courtesy of the EYE Film Institute Amsterdam.

Dir: Walter Summers. With: Rex Davis, Edna Best. GB 1923, 64mins

7pm

Gala Screening Turksib

With live music from Bronnt Industries Kapital This masterpiece of Soviet filmmaking describes the construction of the great Turkestan-Siberia railway as it progresses 1445km through the vast Steppes and deserts of Kazakhstan. Turin's film captures the revolutionary fervour of the endeavour with its symphonic form and rhythms, backed by Bronnt Industries fabulous new score.

'A lyrical, humane, superbly edited masterpiece' (The Guardian).

Dir: Viktor Turin, USSR 1929, 78mins

9pm

Gala Screening Here's a Health to the Barley Mow

A cornucopia of short s from the acclaimed BFI DVD release, *Here's a Health to the Barley Mow*, featuring a century of folk customs from Mummers and Morris dancers to ancient rural games and village customs. Live musical accompaniment will be provided by concertina player Rob Harbron and Miranda Rutter on fiddle, in what promises to be a unique and unmissable event.

Dir: various. GB. Total running time approx 80mins.



SATURDAY 21 APRIL



The Blackguard

Based on Raymond Paton's 1923 novel about Based on Raymond Paton's 1923 novel about a penniless and wounded violinist who saves a young Russian princess from execution during the 1917 Russian Revolution. A fine example of the Film Europe ideal, *The Blackguard* was shot at UFA's Babelsberg Studios in Germany as a co-production with Gainsborough and is noteworthy for Hitchcock's contribution as Art Director.

Dir: Graham Cutts. With: Jane Novak, Walter Rilla, Frank Stanmore. GB/Germany 1925, 80mins

9.15am

Owd Bob

Edwards' charming tale of love and rivalry in the Cumbrian hills. With his loyal dog Bob close by his side, young farmer James Moore is new to the valley, much to the annoyance of long-standing landowner Adam McAdam. However, real trouble comes to this close-knit community with the discovery of the bodies of savagely killed sheep.

Dir: Henry Edwards. With: Ralph Forbes, James Carew, J. Fisher. GB 1924, 68mins

Ask the Experts: Silent Film in the 21st Century

The worldwide success of *The Artist* has focused attention on silent cinema like never before but is it the *result* of increased interest in silent cinema rather than a cause? In this panel session specialists from the 'British Silent Film Festival', explain their passion for silent film, look at other examples of silent film in the 21st century and trace the development of silent film in the 20th century to explain its enduring appeal.

Includes Otto Kylmälä's short film The Force that through the Green Fuse Drives the Flower (2011)

11am

The Golden Butterfly/Der Goldene Schmetterling

Our final P.G. Wodehouse adaptation is very different from his golfing tales. Directed by the legendary Michael Curtiz, this is the story of a young restaurant cashier (Damita) who longs to be a dancer. A handsome impresario promises to make her a star, so she abandons her job and the boss who has fallen in love with her. But things go horribly

wrong when an accident at the London Coliseum threatens to ruin her life. Includes a few Cambridge locations!

Dir: Michael Curtiz. With: Lily Damita, Jack Trevor, Hermann Leffler, Nils Asther. Germany 1926, 95mins

1.30pm

Short film programme

A selection of British silent shorts, probably not seen here since their original release a century ago, from the Desmet Collection at EYE in the Netherlands. It includes amongst others, Didums and the Bathing Machine, the mad-cap Tilly girls in Tilly in a Boarding House, A Canine Sherlock Holmes, and Picture Palace Pie Cans.

Dir: various. Running time approx 80mins

1.30pm | BSFF at 15

Kipps: The Story of a Simple Soul

A sensitive adaptation of H. G. Wells gentle comedy of social manners with a near perfect, natural performance by George K Arthur (which was praised by Charlie Chaplin who attended the preview with H. G. Wells himself) in the lead role. Other things to enjoy are the nicely photographed seaside locations and the intriguing possibility that Josef Von Sternberg was involved with the production.

Dir: Harold Shaw. With: George K Arthur, Edna Flugrath, Teddy Arundell. GB 1921, 88mins

3.30pm

The Annual Rachael Low Lecture

Presented by Ian Christie

Britain could make it! Fifteen years of British Silents discoveries, and why we need to dig further into the mysterious 'teens .

When the British Silent Festival began fifteen years ago, very little was known or seen from the silent era in British production beyond Hitchcock. Now silent film is booming, and it is clear that Britain had some outstanding talents, even though many of the films are lost. In this Rachael Low lecture, lan Christie will be looking back at some of the Festival's 15 years of discoveries, and taking a closer look at the period we still know least about: the mysterious 'teens.

lan Christie is a film historian, critic and curator, who teaches at Birkbeck College and regularly appears in television coverage of film history. He wrote the BBC Centenary of Cinema series, *The Last Machine*, presented by Terry Gilliam, and curated the BFI DVD of R W Paul's collected films.

5.30pm at The West Road Concert Hall Gala Screening accompanied by The Dodge Brothers

The Ghost That Never Returns



unnamed
South
American
country,
Jose Real
is jailed for
his activism
at an oil
refinery.

Exasperated at his popularity with the prison inmates, the authorities decide to eliminate him by promising him one day's freedom and then sending an assassin to follow him. Together they ride trains and track across desert landscapes in a deadly game of cat and mouse that only one can survive. The Dodges breathe rhythmic life into a classic of Soviet cinema; a movie you may never have heard of but after seeing it, one you will never forget.

Dir: Abram Room. With: B. Ferdinandov, Olga Zhizneva, Maksim Stralikh. USSR 1929. Performance will last approx 80mins.

8.30pm Closing event on the rooftop terrace of the Varsity Hotel

Highlights of the British Silent Film

Over the past 14 years the British Silent Film Festival has uncovered a host of fascinating films almost unknown by the British public. This selection of feature films, actualities, animations, comedies, local films, travelogues, nature and exploration films aims to inspire you to know more about the first 35 years of your film heritage. With live music.

SUNDAY 22 APRIL

Timetable

THU 19 APRIL

9am onwards - Registration

10.30am A Bachelor's Baby + Ordeal by Golf

1.15pm The Only Way 1.30pm Young Woodley

3.30pm Grand Guignol programme

The Boatswain's Mate + A Will and a Way 5.30pm

Visages d'Enfants 7pm

FRIDAY 20 APRIL

The Ones that Got Away – short film programme 9am

Imperial War Museum programme 11am

11am

1.30pm The Long Hole + The Clicking of Cuthbert

1.30pm The Lure of Crooning Water

The Head of the Family + Rough Seas Around 3.30pm

British Coasts

3.30pm Lady Windermere's Fan What the Silent Censor Saw 5.30pm 5.30pm The Man Without Desire 7.15pm The First Born. Gala Screening Reception in the Old Library ma9 10.30pm Silent Comedies in the Cafe Bar

SATURDAY 21 APRIL

Livingstone 9am 9am Mist in the Valley

11am Fun Before the Footlights: the Origins of

Undergraduate Humour

Animal stars of the silent screen 11am

1.30pm Gypsy Anna/Fante Anna 3.30pm The Great White Silence 3.30pm The Bohemian Girl

A Couple of Down and Outs 5.30pm 7pm Turksib. Gala Screening

Here's a Health to the Barley Mow. Gala 9pm

Screening

SUNDAY 22 APRIL

The Blackguard 9am 9.15am Owd Bob

Ask the Experts: Silent Film in the 11am

21st Century

11am Der Goldene Schmetterling

1.30pm British Short films from the Desmet Collection

Kipps: the Story of a Simple Soul 1.30pm

3.30pm The Annual Rachael Low Lecture by Ian Christie

The Ghost that Never Returns with the Dodge 5.30pm

Brothers. Gala Screening

8.30pm Closing event. Highlights of the British

Silent Film

Booking information

Full Festival Pass £95 (£65 concessions)

£40 Festival Day Pass

(£30 concessions)

Delegate passes allow access to all screenings and events in all venues, including a 10% discount on all drinks and food at the Arts Picturehouse Cafe Bar

Individual events*

Family

Adult	£9
APH Member	£7
Concession	£8
Child	£6

(2 adults and 2 kids)

*Excluding gala screenings see below

Gala Screenings

(£9 concessions)

HOW TO BOOK

ONLINE*

www.picturehouse.co.uk BY TELEPHONE* 0871 902 5720

IN PERSON

At any till at the Picturehouse

*£1.60 charge per transaction for telephone and internet bookings (Members exempt).

HOW TO FIND US

38-39 St Andrew's Street. Cambridge CB2 3AR

