



VERNON FILM SOCIETY

Sept. to
Dec.

2010

VERNON TOWNE THEATRE
2910—30th Ave

ADMISSION
\$7.00

www.vernonfilmsociety.bc.ca

Watch for our
annual
DOCS PLUS
Fall Film Festival
Nov. 15—18,
2010

THE KIDS ARE ALL RIGHT



MONDAY, Sept. 13

United States - 104 min

14A (Sexually suggestive scenes)

"Witty, urbane and thoroughly entertaining."

- Los Angeles Times

Working with an award-winning cast and a fearless script, director Lisa Cholodenko redefines the contemporary family in this crowd-pleasing comedy. Paying close attention to the everyday nuances of family life, the story centers on the mid-life parenting crisis of a long-time lesbian couple whose lives are thrown upside down when the anonymous sperm donor and "father" of their two teen-age children unexpectedly enters their lives. Jules (Julianne Moore) and Nic (Annette Bening) have been together nearly 20 years, raising their two teenage children, Laser and Joni, in Los Angeles. When Joni turns 18 and exercises her right to contact her father, she inadvertently invites complication into her ordered family life. Enter Paul (Mark Ruffalo), the anonymous donor, a free-spirited bachelor who is happy to meet his offspring. Their first encounter, kept secret from the "moms," is understandably awkward, but soon the kids are regularly hanging out with the congenial Paul, until Laser inadvertently reveals their subterfuge to his parents. Jules takes the news fairly well, but the ever-uptight Nic reacts unfavourably, worried about Paul's potential influence on her kids, and responds by inviting him over for the first of two brilliantly observed dinner party scenes. As Paul enthusiastically becomes a tentative, adjunct member of the household, family bonds are tested - the kids embrace and relate to him. Jules develops an improbable attraction to him, and Nic increasingly feels like she's losing her grip. Anchored by the endearingly quirky comic performances of Bening, Moore and Ruffalo, this is a hilarious and generous portrait of the churning tensions within every family.

THE GIRL WITH THE DRAGON TATTOO



MONDAY, Sept. 27

Sweden - 153 min

18A (Sexual violence)

"A compelling thriller to begin with, but it adds the rare quality of having a heroine more fascinating than the story."

- Chicago Sun-Times

Forty years ago, Harriet Vanger disappeared from a family gathering on the island owned and inhabited by the powerful Vanger clan. Her body was never found, yet her beloved uncle is convinced it was murder and that the killer is a member of his own tightly knit but dysfunctional family. He employs disgraced financial journalist Mikael Blomkvist (Michael Nyqvist) and the tattooed and troubled but resourceful computer hacker Lisbeth Salander (Noomi Rapace) to investigate. When the pair link Harriet's disappearance to a number of grotesque murders from almost forty years ago, they begin to unravel a dark and appalling family history. But the Vanger's are a secretive clan, and Blomkvist and Salander are about to find out just how far they are prepared to go to protect themselves.

Author Stieg Larsson, who died suddenly in 2004, left behind three unpublished novels, known as the "Millennium" trilogy, which have become a global sensation. "The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo" is one of the decade's major literary success stories, selling over 8,000,000 copies worldwide and the film adaptation is the highest grossing Swedish film in history and 2009's highest-grossing European production.

In Swedish with English subtitles

**Because of the length of this film,
our 2nd show will be at 8:00 pm**

I AM LOVE



MONDAY, Oct. 4

Italy - 120 min.

14A (Sexually suggestive scenes)

"In every sense, *I Am Love* is a stunning achievement."

- Variety

An official selection of the 2009 Toronto International Film Festival®, *I Am Love* moves through the cultivated world of a wealthy and distinguished Milanese family. Exquisitely shot, beautifully paced and conceived, it is a film of ritual and order, centered on a massive mansion whose airy rooms convey the power and stature of the Recchi family.

The story begins as the family gathers to celebrate the birthday of its patriarch, the man who built their small empire. Handsome grandson Edoardo introduces his new girlfriend to the family; his sister, Elisabetta, presents a painting she has made to her grandfather; a young man who beat the unbeatable Edoardo in a race earlier in the day makes a surprise appearance on the door-step; and finally, the grandfather announces his succession plan to his family. All of these events mark the beginning of a narrative that sees the carefully controlled, hyper-refined sphere of the Recchis come under increasing strain. Slowly, but inexorably, a series of apparently small, almost innocuous, transgressions begins to unsettle the veneer of manners and etiquette. Edoardo's parents' relationship undergoes its first strains, the stranger that topped him in the race turns out to be a central character in the drama, and his sister's life follows its own striking and separate path. Finally, the family business that is the source of all their wealth and comfort falls under siege. Sexual and class politics play a key role. Featuring a cast headed by Tilda Swinton, this is a film in which tradition and modernity collide.

In Italian with English Subtitles

GET LOW



MONDAY, Oct. 18

USA - 100 min

PG (Violence and coarse language)

“Resonating with warmth and sardonic wit and containing a majestic performance by Robert Duvall.”

- New York Observer

An audience favourite at the 2009 Toronto International Film Festival®, *Get Low* is a poignant and surprisingly insightful folk tale about pain, guilt, loss and loneliness, and how - if we're lucky - it's never too late to earn a little friendship and forgiveness. American legend Robert Duvall returns to the screen in the larger-than-life lead role of Felix Bush, a notorious hermit who rejoins society only to plan his own funeral party.

For the past forty years, Felix has lived as a hermit deep in the Tennessee backwoods. Rumours about his violent past abound. One day Bush walks into the local funeral parlour and announces to Frank Quinn (Bill Murray), “Bout time for me to get low. Down to business. I need a funeral.” More importantly, he wants a funeral party, an event that will draw all his friends and enemies to his shack in the woods for a final reckoning - and he wants to throw the party while he's still alive. Based on a true story, *Get Low* has the feel of a classic American tale. Its style evokes westerns both old and new. There is something of Robert Altman's *McCabe & Mrs. Miller* in first time director Aaron Schneider's storytelling, whose straightforward simplicity is reflected in the evocative bluegrass-flavoured score and by the film's richly composed images. The beauty of the cinematography serves as a backdrop to resonant performances from each actor. Lucas Black (*Jarhead*, *All the Pretty Horses*) more than holds his own as the undertaker's sidekick, playing against Murray's sly rhythms with upright sincerity. Taking the role of Felix's former lover, (Sissy Spacek) is a pure pleasure to watch in her scenes with Duvall.

And for Duvall, *Get Low* marks a welcome return. His every moment here is a lesson in living before the camera. It stands with his best-ever performances, lending this classic story from a bygone era a quiet majesty.

THE GIRL WHO PLAYED WITH FIRE



MONDAY, Nov. 1

Sweden - 129 min

18A (Sexually suggestive scenes)

“A firecracker of a story - sharply written, superbly acted, and fast-paced.” - ReelViews

Two journalists on the verge of exposing their story in the political magazine Millennium about an extensive sex trafficking operation between Eastern Europe and Sweden are brutally murdered. The key suspect is Lisbeth Salander, the troubled, wise-beyond-her-years genius hacker, whose finger prints are found on the murder weapon.

Mikael Blomkvist, Millennium's publisher and former disgraced journalist who befriended Salander during a previous investigation, is alone in his belief in Salander's innocence and swiftly plunges into an examination of the slayings which will implicate highly placed members of Swedish society, business and government. Fully aware that Salander is fierce when fearful, he is desperate to get to her before she is cornered and alone but she is nowhere to be found.

Digging deeper, Blomkvist also unearths some heart-wrenching facts about Salander's past life. Committed to psychiatric care at age 12, declared legally incompetent at 18, she is the product of an unjust and corrupt system.

Meanwhile, the elusive Salander herself is drawn into a murderous hunt in which she is the prey, and which compels her to revisit her dark past.

In Swedish with English subtitles

Watch for the 3rd film in the trilogy,

The Girl Who Kicked the Hornet's Nest, in Jan. 2011

MID-AUGUST LUNCH



MONDAY, Nov. 29

Italy - 75 min

G (No advisory)

“A gem whose intelligent, gentle, deadpan humor is entirely irresistible.”

- Hollywood Reporter

Charming and unpretentious, *Mid-August Lunch* is a gentle portrait about the joys and regrets of old age and the pleasures of food and companionship.

The story follows Gianni (Gianni Di Gregorio, who also wrote and directed the film), a placid 50-something bachelor who grudgingly agrees to look after a quirky collection of four elderly ladies in his tiny Roman apartment during Ferragosto, the Italian holiday celebrated on August 15.

During non-holidays, the only residents are Gianni and his strong-minded elderly mother, Valeria (Valeria De Francis). However on the eve of Ferragosto, he's approached by building manager Luigi (Alfonso Santagata) and blackmailed into looking after Luigi's mother for two nights in exchange for forgiving certain tenant debts. But when Luigi comes to the apartment, he's brought his aunt, Maria (Maria Cali), as well as his mother, Marina (Manna Cacciotti). Soon after, Gianni's doctor friend, Marcello (Marcello Ottolenghi), pays a call, asking if he can leave his mother, Grazia (Grazia Cesarini Sforza), for “just one night.” As it happens, the four women, each with her own obstinate personality, prove quite a handful for Gianni.

Featuring remarkable performances from its elderly cast, *Mid-August Lunch* is an absolute delight that doesn't shy away from depicting the indignities of growing old, and yet manages to invest all of its elderly characters with dignity.

In Italian with English subtitles

SCORE: A HOCKEY MUSICAL



MONDAY, Dec. 13

Canada - 100 min

Not yet rated

Not yet released, the film will have its premiere at Toronto International Film Festival in Sept. 2010

In the follow-up to his Film Circuit hits *Saint Ralph* and *One Week*, director Michael Mc-Gowan returns with *Score: A Hockey Musical*, a charming and exuberant homage to hockey. The film focuses on Farley Gordon (Noah Reid), a 17-year-old who's so naturally gifted at the sport that he makes Wayne Gretzky look like Tie Domi.

Home-schooled by his flakey parents (Olivia Newton John and songwriter Marc Jordan), Farley has little congress with the outside world. His parents find competition vulgar, preventing him from ever playing an organized game of hockey. Farley's life is changed forever when he's spotted by Walt Acom, the owner of a junior hockey team. The young teen is an immediate sensation. But fame is a double-edged sword, and soon Farley's core beliefs (most notably his pacifism) are sorely tested. Can Farley remain true to himself or will he give in to pressure from his teammates and drop his gloves? And will his lifelong non-romance romance with his best friend Eve ever come to fruition? *Score: A Hockey Musical* is peppered with Canadiana and host to numerous cameo appearances by the likes of Theo Fleury, Nelly Furtado and Walter Gretzky. But it is the very fact that the characters break into song in the middle of the narrative that give the film its distinctive flavour. Whether on the ice or in the dressing room, the film is a full-on musical, with the cast breaking into song in the strangest of environments and situations. Lyrically, the numbers are downright hilarious while the choreography is surprisingly complex.

The film gently and affectionately mocks our near-religious obsession with the game.

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FILM SCHEDULE

Sept. 13	The Kids Are All Right
Sept. 27	The Girl With the Dragon Tattoo
Oct. 4	I Am Love
Oct. 18	Get Low
Nov. 1	The Girl Who Played With Fire
Nov. 29	Mid-August Lunch
Dec. 13	Score: A Hockey Musical

FILM TIMES

5:15 & 7:45 pm

Advance tickets on sale at the
Towne Theatre and
Bean Scene Coffee House
1 week prior to each film

VIDEOSCAPE

LOOKING FOR SOMETHING DIFFERENT TO WATCH?

**Check out our collection of classic, foreign,
and Canadian films at the Vernon Public Art Gallery.
It includes over 500 titles from 44 countries
70 new titles being added in Aug., 2010**