

## A DATE FOR YOUR DIARIES:

### **Luc Besson's Pterodactyl Adventure Opens The Cambridge Film Festival & The Girls From Dagenham Wrap Things Up!**

#### **30th CAMBRIDGE FILM FESTIVAL**

**16-26 September 2010**

[www.cambridgefilmfestival.org.uk](http://www.cambridgefilmfestival.org.uk)

The 30th Cambridge Film Festival (16-26 Sept) will open on Thursday Sept 16 with the UK Premiere of **Luc Besson's** (*The Fifth Element*, *Leon*, *The Big Blue*) lavish new fantasy costume drama, *The Extraordinary Adventures of Adele Blanc-Sec*, starring **Louise Bourgoin** and **Mattieu Amalric** (*Mesrine*, *The Diving Bell and the Butterfly*).

*"Forget Lara Croft or Indiana Jones, there is a new tomb raider in town, and her name is Adèle Blanc-Sec!"* Mark Adams, Screen Daily.

The Festival will wrap things up on Sunday Sept 26 with **Nigel Cole's** (*Calendar Girls*) eagerly awaited *Made In Dagenham* starring **Sally Hawkins** (*Happy-Go-Lucky*), **Bob Hoskins**, **Miranda Richardson**, **Rosamund Pike** and **Jaime Winstone**.

Over ten days in between the Arts Picturehouse will present a "veritable smorgasbord of new and vintage movies" (Time Out), and celebrate all things cinematic, from the briefest short made on a micro budget, to silent epics on the mighty Air Screen. This year's event promises to present its usual eclectic mix of UK premieres, cult classics international guests, tributes and themed programmes, documentaries and family features.

Says Festival Director **Tony Jones**: " *Luc Besson is a prolific writer, producer and director and a perennial favourite with Cambridge audiences. Over the years we've screened many of his films – Angel-A, Subway, The Last Battle, Leon, Nikita – so we're thrilled to kick off our 30th edition with his latest, **The Extraordinary Adventures of Adele Blanc-Sec**, a romping period adventure which marks a real return to form for the maverick French filmmaker*".

He continues: " We're also really pleased to be able to continue to develop the great Cambridge Film Festival tradition of taking film out of the cinema and onto the streets utilising venues as diverse as the University's Queen's Theatre lecture hall and Jesus Green Lido. Not to mention closing Magdalene Street to traffic, and hiding screens on the banks of The Cam! It all makes for a more diverse and interesting event, and means we reach a much wider audience in the process!"

### 2010 Film Festival Highlights:

\* **UK Premieres & Special Festival Screenings** – *The Extraordinary Adventures of Adele Blanc-Sec* (dir. Luc Besson); *Made In Dagenham* (dir. Nigel Cole); Gareth Edward's low budget sci-fi horror thriller *Monsters*; *Mr Nice* starring **Rhys Ifans** as the infamous drug dealer Howard Marks; *Round Ireland With a Fridge*, based on the book of the same name written by and starring comedian **Tony Hawkes** (dir. Ed Bye); Berlin Silver Bear winner, *If I Want to Whistle, I Whistle* (dir. Florin Serban); Controversial Mexican cannibal horror, *We Are What We Are* (dir. Jorge Michel Grau); *My Afternoons With Margueritte* directed by Jean Becker, (*Conversations With My Gardener*) starring **Gerard Depardieu**; *The Girl Who Kicked the Hornet's Nest*, the third and final adaptation of Stieg Larsson's Millennium trilogy; *Farewell* (dir. Christian Carion), based on the true story of a Russian defector and starring **Emir Kusturica, Guillaume Canet, David Soul** and **Willem Dafoe**; *The Hunter*, Berlin Golden Bear nominee (dir. Rafi Pitts); *From Here to Eternity*, a new print for the 1953 classic WW2 drama starring **Burt Lancaster** and **Deborah Kerr** (dir. **Fred Zinnemann**); US thriller, *Winter's Bone* (dir. Debra Granik); Cannes Jury Prize winner from Romania, *Police, Adjective* (dir. Corneliu Porumboiu); *A Town Called Panic*, the crazy award-winning Belgian animation (dirs. Stephane Aubier, Vincent Patar); *True Legend 3D*, the world's first 3D Kung Fu movie directed by **Yuen Woo Ping**, who directed the Kung Fu scenes in *The Matrix*, *Kill Bill* and *Lethal Weapon*, and starring **Michelle Yeoh**, and *The Messenger*, Oscar nominated for 'Best Original Screenplay', the multi-award winning drama about the lives of US soldiers returning from Iraq, starring **Woody Harrelson, Steve Buscemi, Samantha Morton** and **Ben Foster**;

There will be a strong documentary strand this year featuring:  
*Human Terrain*, the controversial US story of 'Human Terrain Systems' where the US military embedded social scientists with combat troops;  
*Nenette*, an extraordinary film on the oldest inhabitant of the world's oldest zoo, an orang-utan called Nenette, directed by **Nicolas Philibert** (*Etre et Avoir*); *Wagner and Me*, narrated by and featuring

**Stephen Fry**; *Ladies and Gentlemen The Rolling Stones*, featuring rare archive concert footage from 1972; *Genius Within: The Inner Life of Glenn Gould*, a look at the influential and eccentric Canadian pianist; *NokotaHeart* (dir. Sean Garland), The true story and Neo-Western biopic of Leo Kuntz, Vietnam vet turned North Dakota horse rancher and his fight to save the equine legacy of Sitting Bull; *Two In The Wave*, a look at the founding fathers of the Nouvelle Vague, **Jean Luc Godard** and **Francois Truffaut**; *The Desert of Forbidden Art*, a documentary on banned art and artists in the former Soviet Union, narrated by **Sir Ben Kingsley**; *Weird World of Blowfly*, a look at the life of 'dirty rapper' **Clarence Reid**; *Babies*, a quirky, touching story of one year in the life of four babies from around the world, and *Shadowing the Third Man*, about the making of the **Carol Reed** classic spy drama, featuring archive footage and interviews with **Joseph Cotton, Grahame Greene, Alexander Korda, Orson Welles** and **David O Selznick**;

\* **The Dodge Brothers** – Sunday 19 September at 4pm. The Dodge Brothers are the skiffle band which feature BBCTV Culture Show's film critic **Mark Kermode** on double bass. Accompanied by honorary Dodge Brother, pianist **Neil Brand**, they provide a live soundtrack to the classic 1928 melodrama, *Beggars of Life*, starring **Louise Brooks** and **Wallace Beery**.

\* **Kubrick's Napoleon** – Date TBC. An illustrated talk by Jan Harlan (producer and Stanley Kubrick's brother-in-law), which explores Kubrick's greatest ever achievement never to reach the big screen. Through photos from pre-production, primarily sketches, and insider knowledge from the people who knew Kubrick best, we delve into the mythology of the much discussed aborted epic, *Napoleon*.

\* **Unfinished Symphonies** – Saturday 18 Sept 6pm. A partner event to 'Kubrick's Napoleon' (above). Professor Ian Christie considers the 'never-mades' (the unrealised film projects) of four great directors: **Orson Welles** (*The Magnificent Ambersons*), **Sergei Eisenstein** (*Que Viva Mexico!*), **Josef von Sternberg** (*I Claudius*) and **Erich von Stroheim** (*Queen Kelly*).

\* **Stephen Frears Looking Back** – Tuesday 21 Sept 6.30pm. 'In Conversation' event with one of UK's most renowned directors (*My Beautiful Laundrette, Dangerous Liaisons, The Queen, High Fidelity*), and Cambridge graduate, whose most recent film, *Tamara Drewe*, will be released in September.

\* **City Girl** – Monday 20 Sept 7pm, Queen’s Lecture Hall. Film pianists **Neil Brand** and **Gunther Buchwald** accompany **F.W. Murnau’s** 1930 silent classic, *City Girl*. A rare chance to see a scarcely seen Hollywood film from the German director of *Nosferatu*, *Sunrise* and *Faust*. *City Girl* was Murnau’s penultimate film. He died a year later in a car accident aged only 42.

\* **Riverside Screenings** - 3, 4 and 10, 11 September. It’s hard to imagine a more unique Cambridge experience than being punted down the beautiful river Cam, champagne in hand and blankets on knees, to enjoy the magic of cinema as you float down the river as the sun goes down! Following last year’s success, we are delighted to continue our Riverside Screenings, that most luxurious of Film Festival traditions. Once again we are showing an array of fantastic film clips and shorts to be viewed from the comfort of your own chauffeured punt, so whether you are a fan of love & romance or enjoy a bit of fright night on the river, you are guaranteed a different experience every time.

\* **Movies at Jesus Green Lido, Special Pre-Festival Event** - Sunday 12 September 8pm. Situated a stone’s throw away from the river, the Jesus Green Lido is not only a Cambridge institution, but also one of the few remaining of its kind in Britain, and one of the largest in Europe. In this unique environment the Festival will screen for the first time this year a selection of shorts, early silent and under-water classics all loosely based around the theme of water. Plus, punts! So watch from the waters edge or jump in a punt and enjoy another special curtain raiser event before this year’s festival kicks off.

\* **Silents on the Streets** – Free event on Sunday 19 September from 8pm. Following the success of last year’s event, Magdalene and Bridge Streets in Cambridge’s historic city centre will be closed once again to traffic so that five outdoor screens can be erected to show archive and silent films from Cambridge and the region. With music from **Gunther Buchwald** and celebrated silent film pianist **Neil Brand**.

\* **Movies on the Meadows** – A special curtain raiser for this year’s Festival takes place over the August Bank Holiday weekend (27-29 August). An ambitious open-air cinema programme on Cambridge’s Grantchester Meadows. Film fans are invited to bring a blanket and relax under the stars for three special moonlit screenings which include ***Twilight: Eclipse***, the most recent in the teen vampire saga (Aug 27), the Pixar modern classic ***Up*** (Aug 28), and a new subtitled print of the Fritz Lang’s silent classic ***Metropolis*** featuring 27 ‘lost’ minutes now restored (Aug 29). The Movies on the Meadows screenings are part of

the Screen Team, a new project which has been funded by Legacy Trust UK, an independent charity set up to help build a lasting cultural and sporting legacy from the 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games.

\* **First Cambridge Family Film Festival** (to run concurrently with the main festival) – Designed to make a visit to the cinema with youngsters affordable and enjoyable, CFFF will be presenting shorter-length programmes featuring kid’s favourite TV and film characters – old and new – in a family-friendly environment. There’ll even be a chill-out zone if the excitement gets a bit too much for little ones, fancy dress competition, workshops and free craft activities.

Film highlights will include: The team behind the CBeebies hit *Grandpa In My Pocket* will be attending a preview screening of new episodes featuring the pint-sized star; the BAFTA-nominated version of the nation’s favourite bedtime story, *The Gruffalo*; *Small Films for Small People*, an Oliver Postgate programme including *The Clangers*, *Trumpton*, *Ivor the Engine* and *Bagpuss*, as well as an enchanting visit to Rainspell Island with *Rainbow Magic*.

### **Notes to Editors:**

The 30th Cambridge Film Festival runs from 16 to 26 September 2010 and is held primarily at the Arts Picturehouse, 38/39 St Andrew's Street, Cambridge CB2 3AR. Box Office Tel: 0871 704 2050.

The full film and events programme will be available and online from: [www.cambridgefilmfestival.org.uk](http://www.cambridgefilmfestival.org.uk)

Priority for Arts Picturehouse members opens on Friday 27 August with public booking commencing on Saturday 28 August.

The Cambridge Film Festival has received financial investment and support from the Screen East Festival Fund. Screen East is the Regional Screen Agency for the East of England [www.screeneast.co.uk](http://www.screeneast.co.uk)

The Cambridge Film Festival is supported by:

**Funders and Partners:** Screen East, The Legacy Trust, City Screen, BAFTA. Sygma, and 30@30 campaign.

**Major Sponsors:** TTP Group, and Studio 24.

**Sponsors:** Saab Cambridge, Anglia Ruskin University, and Heffers Children’s Bookshop, Chocolat Chocolat, De Luca, Penhaligon's, Limetree Printers, and Trumpington Farm Company.

**Media partners:** BBC Cambridgeshire, BBC Film Network, Heart FM and Cambridge News.

The Festival is produced by the Cambridge Film Trust, registered charity number 1120059.

**For further press information please contact:**

**Clare Wilford PR**

**[clarewilford@hotmail.com](mailto:clarewilford@hotmail.com) or [clarewilford@o2.co.uk](mailto:clarewilford@o2.co.uk)**

**Tel: 020 7729 6751/07545 756 462**