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# WELCOME TO KINOTEKA 15!

Dear cinephiles and cineastes,

It's finally spring of 2017 and the time for KINOTEKA to bloom! So this year, as always, the Polish Film Festival looks to provide audiences with the type of magical escapism that can only be found in film, as well as an opportunity for film-goers of different nationalities to come together and discuss the art and issues of the day.

The festival gets going on the 17th of March at Regent Street Cinema with a screening of the late Andrzej Wajda's final film *Afterimage*, an insightful depiction of Władysław Strzemiński, the avant-garde painter. Following on there will be a Q&A with Paweł Edelman and Michał Kwieciński.

Then it's time for the latest in New Polish Cinema at Regent Street Cinema and ICA. *Blindness* (2016) by Ryszard Bugajski chronicles the dark tale of a Stalinist criminal who's given the eerie nickname 'Bloody Luna', Bartosz M. Kowalski's *Playground* (2016) starts off as a sweet tale of a schoolgirl crush, only to morph into something wholly unexpected, while *The Lure* (2015) is the fantastical tale of human-eating mermaids. Several of the screenings will be followed by Q&As with the directors and actors, so stick around afterwards to get an insider's perspective.

KINOTEKA's retrospective this year belongs to none other than the great Andrzej Wajda. One of the most influential Polish filmmakers ever, in 2000 he was awarded an honorary Oscar for five decades of directorial achievements and then went on to work for almost another two decades. Barbican Centre, Close-Up Cinema and Calvert 22 Gallery present such classics as *The Promised Land* (1975), *The Maids of Wilko* (1979) and *Ashes and Diamonds* (1958).

Undiscovered Masters of Polish Cinema focuses on Wanda Jakubowska (1907–1998) one of the first and most historically important Polish female directors. She was a prisoner at Auschwitz, and when World War II was over she made *The Last Stage* (1948) to recount her true story to the world. ICA screens this film as well as her psychological drama *Encounters In The Dark* (1960).

This year documentaries are at ICA and Regent Street Cinema, including *User-Friendly Death* (2007), perfect for anyone who has the morbid curiosity to learn about what actually happens in a crematorium, *The Man Who Loved Women* (2016), giving an insider's perspective on the world of modelling, and *Something Better This Way Comes* (2014), about a girl's harsh life in the biggest junkyard in Europe.

As always we've got some one-off special screening events, including Janusz Zaorski's latest *Generations* (2016) at UCL. There's also a kids friendly screening of Tomasz Szafranski's family adventure movie *Adventurer's Club* (2015) at POSK Jazz Café.

KINOTEKA comes to an end once more with the Closing Night Gala which takes place at Barbican Centre on the 5th of April. Art-rock sextet British Sea Power will be playing specially commissioned music alongside some of the best Polish animation-shorts. A very unique event, it's not one to be missed.

And there's more of course so read on! We look forward to celebrating Polish films and culture with you soon.

Marlena Lukasiak  
Kinoteka Artistic Director and Producer

Robert Szaniawski  
Polish Cultural Institute Director

## SPECIAL GUESTS

### TOMASZ BAGIŃSKI

Creator of animated films, special effects and story lines for computer games, Bagiński was destined to be a forerunner of Polish new media ever since he made his first film *The Hunt* at the maths department of Warsaw University. His film *The Cathedral* (2002) was nominated for an Oscar for Best Short Animated Film and *Fallen Art* (2004) won a BAFTA for Best Short Animation.

### BRITISH SEA POWER

The indie-rock band from Brighton known for their weird and wonderful lyrics and their magnetic live performances. The band will be on tour throughout the UK this April to promote their sixth and latest studio album, *Let The Dancers Inherit The Party*. Featuring Yan Scott Wilkinson on vocals/guitar, Neil Hamilton Wilkinson on vocals/bass/guitar, Martin Noble on guitar/keyboards, Matthew Wood on drums, Abi Fry on viola/keyboards and Phil Sumner on keyboards/cornet/guitar.

### PAWEŁ EDELMAN

One of the most versatile Polish cinematographers working today. He has made films with such stylistically different directors as Władysław Pasikowski and Andrzej Wajda. He's also one of the few whose career has been successful both in Poland, with films like *Katyrí* (2007) and *Tatarak* (2009), and in America with films such as *Ray* (2004) and *The Pianist* (2002) which he garnered an Oscar nomination for.

### MARCIN KOSZAŁKA

Cinematographer, screenwriter, documentary filmmaker and director, Koszałka has twenty-seven awards to his name, and one of the most well rounded careers in Polish cinema.

He is said to have a bit of an obsession with death, which is most evident in his short documentary *Declaration of Mortality* (2010) where he interviews Piotr Korczak, the legendary, ageing climber. Watch his latest thriller *Red Spider* as part of KINOTEKA 15.

### MICHAŁ KWIECIŃSKI

A producer and director for film and TV. He is the founder and owner of Akson Studio, the hugely prosperous production company that has worked with the likes of Andrzej Wajda, Jerzy Skolimowski and Márta Mészáros to name a few. His most recent directorial work, the TV film *Tomorrow We're Going To The Movies* (2007), garnered much praise as well as awards at the Polish Film and Shanghai International TV festivals.

### PAWEŁ KWIEK

Co-founder and member of the Workshop of the Film Form. A pioneer of video art in Poland, Kwiek works in the fields of experimental film, video, photography and drawing, engaging with the disciplines of philosophy, cybernetics, poetry and sociology. Previously a lecturer at the Film School in Łódź as well as at the Academy of Fine Arts in Warsaw.

### BORYS LANKOSZ

Documentary and feature film maker, Lankosz's career began after graduating from the Film School in Łódź. His diploma film *Evolution* (2002) garnered him much attention setting him up for the future. In 2009 he released *The Reverse*, his first full length movie which enjoyed huge commercial success as well as awards at Camerimage and the Moscow, Seattle and Warsaw International Film festivals, to name a few.

### AGNIESZKA LASOTA

Graduate of the Interior Design Faculty at the Academy of Fine Arts in Warsaw and post-graduate studies at Istituto Europeo di Design in Milan. Working on the border of design and new media, Lasota engages with a complex analysis of the contemporary consumer society. The central, almost obsessively recurring theme of her work is social relations in the rapidly changing world as well as analysing ties in newly emerging society.

### HANNA POLAK

An Oscar-nominated documentarian, Polak is one the most successful Polish women working in the industry. She is also an advocator for the case of homeless children around the world, working with UNICEF. She received critical acclaim for her documentary-short *The Children of Leningradsky* (2005), about the hardships of children's lives in post-Soviet Russia, as well as *Something Better To Come* (2014) which is featured as part of Kinoteka this year.

### KAROL RADZISZEWSKI

Works with film, photography, installations and creates interdisciplinary projects. His archive-based methodology spans across multiple cultural, historical, religious, social and gender references. Since 2005, he's been publisher and editor-in-chief of DIK Fagazine, and is the founder of Queer Archives.

### MICHAŁ ROSA

A writer and director known for such works as *Farba* (1997), *Silence* (2001) and *Scratch* (2008). Most recently he collaborated with Marcin Koszałka on *Happiness Of The World* (2016) which was nominated for two awards at the Polish Film Festival and the Golden Frog at Camerimage. Alongside filmmaking, Rosa lectures at the Krzysztof Kieślowski Faculty of Radio and Television at the University of Silesia.

### MACIEJ STUHR

Stuhr is a theatre and film actor, known in equal parts for his comic and dramatic turns. He studied psychology before taking on acting, something which is always apparent in the way that he explores each new role. He has forty-eight credits to his name, and isn't showing any signs of slowing down. Most recently he stars in *Planet Single* (2016) and new Polish series *Belfer* (2016).

### RYSZARD WAŚKO

An artist working with photography, film, video, drawing, painting, sculpture, installations and performance. Waško studied at the Film School in Łódź, where he was a member of the seminal artists' group, Workshop of the Film Form. In the 1980s he organised the international exhibition *Construction In Process* in Łódź, and in the 1990s, he founded and curated the Museum of Artists operating in Łódź, New York, Tel Aviv, Berlin, Paris, Cardiff and Melbourne.

### HUBERT WORONIECKI

Woroniecki has been working in the fashion industry since 1989 as a photo producer and modelling agent. In 1992 he was the head of the women's department for Glamour models, Paris. Last year he garnered great interest and acclaim for directing *Casablanças: The Man Who Loved Women*, a documentary about the life of John Casablanças, the founder of Elite Model Management.

### ZUZA ZAK

Writer and home-cook, Zak is the author of the popular *Polska* cookbook, which seeks to revitalise traditional Polish food and bring it to a wider audience. Zak studied English, followed by History of Oriental and African Art: giving her a unique approach and interest in the history of food and it's meaning in peoples' lives. The food she cooks is both modern and nostalgic, always rooted in the vast lands of Eastern Europe.

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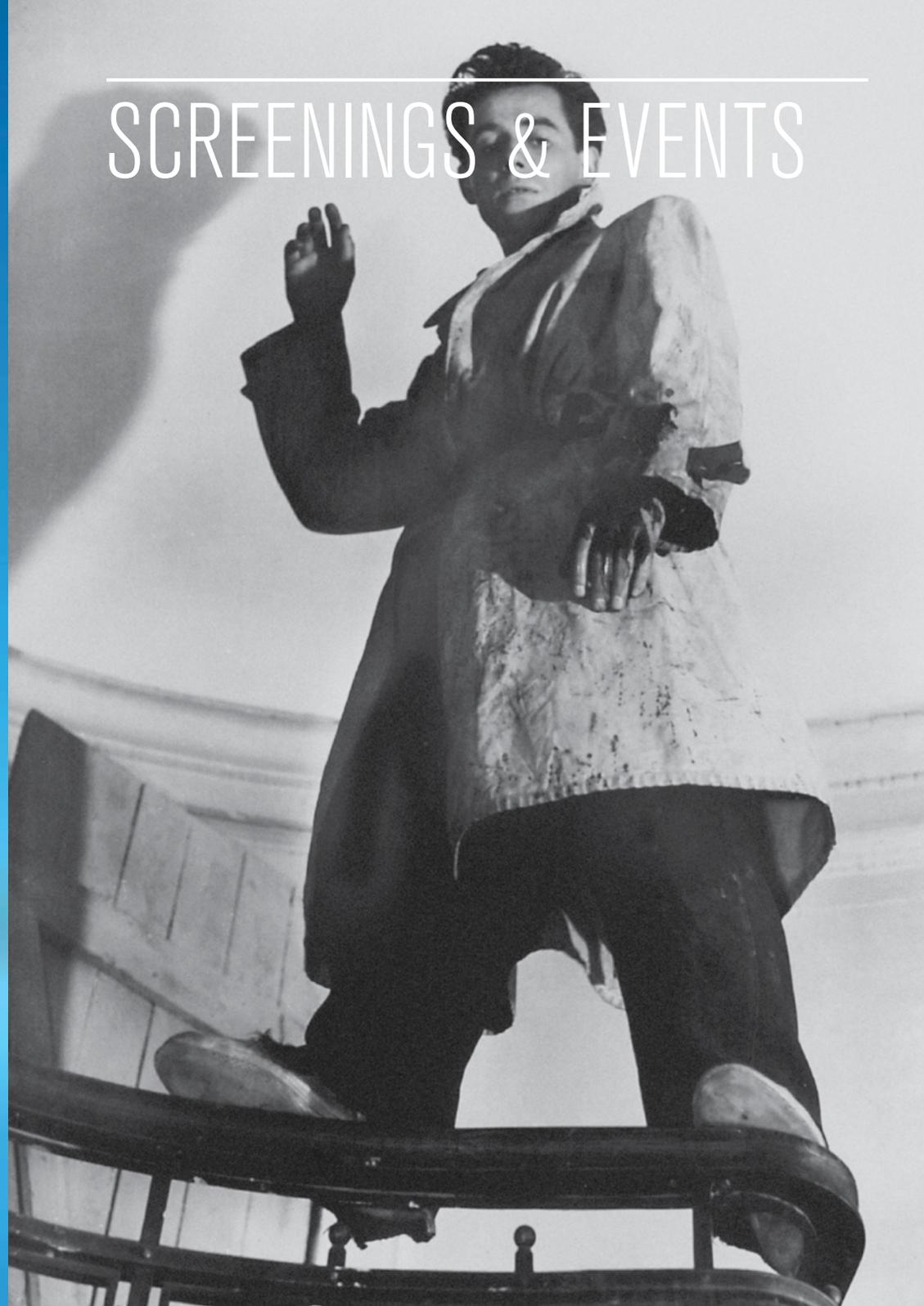


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# SCREENINGS & EVENTS



# OPENING NIGHT GALA



Q&A

FRI 17 MARCH, 19:00  
REGENT STREET CINEMA

## ✂ AFTERIMAGE

Director: Andrzej Wajda  
Writers: Andrzej Wajda, Andrzej Mularczyk  
Cast: Bogusław Linda, Zofia Wichłacz,  
Bronisława Zamachowska  
Poland, 2016, 98 min

Andrzej Wajda's last feature is a biopic about Władysław Strzemiński, the famous Polish avant-garde painter. As much as it's a celebration of the brilliant work one man made, it also sheds light on the difficulties of Strzemiński's life. He was cast out for his views, lost his job, even had his artistic license revoked, and that's only part of it. The film is Wajda's commentary that any true artist will always be suffering in some way, whatever their situation may be.

*Screening followed by a Q&A with Paweł Edelman and Michał Kwieciński*

# NEW POLISH CINEMA



## FAMILY DRAMA

SAT 18 MARCH, 15:00  
REGENT STREET CINEMA

### ✂ THE LAST FAMILY

Director: Jan P. Matuszyński  
Writer: Robert Bolesto  
Cast: Andrzej Seweryn, David Ogrodnik, Aleksandra Konieczna  
Poland, 2016, 123 min

Robert Bolesto's script takes the famous artistic Beksiński family as inspiration and imagines what the dynamic between the members might have been. The head of the house, Zdzisław the gothic painter, video-records his family over twenty-eight years, through their trails and tribulations, loves and deaths and tumultuous times with his menace-son, Tomasz, the acclaimed music journalist and translator. *The Last Family* has garnered prizes across the board but most notably for Best Film at the Polish, Denver International and Lisbon & Estoril film festivals.

SAT 18 MARCH, 20:00  
REGENT STREET CINEMA



Q&A

## ROMANTIC COMEDY

### ✂ PLANET SINGLE

Director: Mitja Okorn  
Writers: Sam Akina, Urszula Antoniak  
Cast: Maciej Stuhr, Agnieszka Wiedłocha  
Poland, 2016, 136 min

Mitja Okorn brings something a little lighter to New Polish Cinema with *Planet Single*, a romantic comedy reminiscent of *The Proposal* (2009) and *How To Lose a Guy In 10 Days* (2003). The story follows Tomek (Maciej Stuhr) a charismatic TV personality who gets any woman and anything he wants. He meets Ania (Agnieszka Wiedłocha) an introverted music teacher who's looking for Mr. Right on a dating website. Tomek brings her onto his talk-show and shows her how to open up and be more discerning when meeting men. It's all going so well and he seems to be falling for her, that is until she does meet someone online.

Screening followed by a Q&A with Maciej Stuhr

SUN 19 MARCH, 15:00  
REGENT STREET CINEMA



## TEEN DRAMA

### ✂ PLAYGROUND

Director: Bartosz M. Kowalski  
Writers: Bartosz M. Kowalski, Stanisław Warwas  
Cast: Michalina Świstuć, Nicolas Przygoda, Przemysław Baliński  
Poland, 2016, 82 min

Bartosz M. Kowalski presents a psychological thriller in his latest film, *Playground*. The story starts out innocently enough on the last day of school before summer. Small town girl Gabrysia, played by Michalina Świstuć in her first film role, has a crush on a fellow classmate and decides that she can't keep it to herself anymore. She manages to get him to meet her in secret, but what was supposed to be a declaration of love turns into something wholly unexpected. The film has been nominated for awards at Camerimage and the London Film Festival, and Kowalski won the prize for Best Debut Director at the Polish Film Festival.

SUN 19 MARCH, 17:00  
REGENT STREET CINEMA



## POLITICAL DRAMA

### ✂ BLINDNESS

Director: Ryszard Bugajski  
Writer: Ryszard Bugajski  
Cast: Maria Mamon, Małgorzata Zajączkowska, Janusz Gajos, Marek Kalita  
Poland, 2016, 110 min

Blindness is the true story of Julia Brystiger, an infamous member of security in Stalinist Poland. She had many nicknames throughout her time, but none more enduring than 'Bloody Luna', which came about due to the particularly harsh way she would torture prisoners. By the end of her life however, she renounced Communism, found salvation in religion and begged forgiveness for her sins. Blindness was nominated for a Golden Frog and a Golden Lion at Camerimage and the Polish Film Festival respectively.

SUN 19 MARCH, 19:30  
REGENT STREET CINEMA



## HOLOCAUST DRAMA

### ✂ HAPPINESS OF THE WORLD

Director: Michał Rosa  
Writer: Michał Rosa  
Cast: Karolina Gruszka, Mateusz Lickindorf, Grzegorz Palkowski, Dariusz Chojnacki  
Poland, 2016, 98 min

The story of a journalist who travels to Silesia in search of an author of guidebooks whom he admires. What he finds when he arrives is a house full of weird and wonderful residents, who each seem to live in their own fantastical realities. Rosa's film has been labelled Wes Anderson-esque for its meticulously crafted scenes and beautiful accompanying score. So far Happiness of the World has been nominated at Camerimage and has won awards for Best Score and Best Set Decoration at the Polish Film Festival.

*Screening will be followed by a Q&A with Michał Rosa*

Supported by UK Jewish Film

SUN 26 MARCH, 17:30  
REGENT STREET CINEMA



## MUSICAL

### ✂ THE LURE

Director: Agnieszka Smoczyńska  
Writer: Robert Bolesło  
Cast: Marta Mazurek, Michalina Olszańska, Kinga Preis  
Poland, 2015, 92 min

If you're looking for something completely new and fantastical, then you can end your search here! Agnieszka Smoczyńska's tale of singer mermaids who feast on humans should do the trick. Follow Silver (Marta Mazurek) and Golden (Michalina Olszańska) as they try to carve out a new life for themselves on the dry land of Warsaw's music scene, whilst falling in love with fellow bandmates and resisting the urge to eat them. The Lure has won eleven awards at international film festivals, most notably the Special Jury Prize at Sundance.

SUN 26 MARCH, 19:30  
REGENT STREET CINEMA



## PERIOD DRAMA

### ✂ ECCENTRICS, THE SUNNY SIDE OF THE STREET

Director: Janusz Majewski  
Writer: Włodzimierz Kowalewski, Janusz Majewski  
Cast: Maciej Stuhr, Natalia Rybicka, Sonia Bohosiewicz  
Poland, 2016, 112 min

Janusz Majewski's latest film is a blast back to the swinging 50s of Poland. It follows Fabian (Maciej Stuhr) as he returns to Poland from England and forms a swing band. It turns out to be much more successful than anyone had anticipated, especially once the beautiful and talented singer Modesta (Natalia Rybicka) joins the band and falls in love with him. Soon the couple are living the high life as the king and queen of swing, but how long will they stay at the top before dreams of a more Western life start to muddy the waters?

TUES 21 MARCH, 18:30

ICA CINEMA 1



Q&amp;A

## THRILLER

## ✂ THE RED SPIDER

Director: Marcin Koszałka

Writers: Marcin Koszałka, Łukasz M. Maciejewski

Cast: Filip Pławiak, Adam Woronowicz, Julia Klijowska

Poland/Czech Republic/Slovakia, 2015, 90 min

Loosely based on the serial killer (so-called Vampire of Kraków) who tormented Poland in the 60s, Koszałka's directorial debut is more of a thriller than biopic, exploring the evil tendencies of people and how they come to be the worst versions of themselves. Filip Pławiak stars as the curious Karol who finds the serial killer and unable to tear himself away, begins to stalk him, eventually getting himself tangled in something he really shouldn't have. *The Red Spider* was nominated ten times and has won four awards since its release.

*Screening followed by Q&A with Marcin Koszałka*

## DOCUMENTARIES



Q&amp;A

SAT 18 MARCH, 17:30  
REGENT STREET CINEMA

## ✂ CASABLANCAS: THE MAN WHO LOVED WOMEN

Director: Hubert Woroniecki

Writer: Hubert Woroniecki

Cast: John Casablancas, Giselle Bündchen, Naomi Campbell  
France, 2016, 89 min

The story of John Casablancas, the man who introduced supermodels to the world. He started Elite Model Management in Paris in the 1970s which would turn out to be one of the most successful and global names within the fashion industry, and which saw the rise of models such as Cindy Crawford, Linda Evangelista, Giselle Bündchen and Naomi Campbell among many others. His life was filled with glamour, beauty, success and material happiness, and as much as Woroniecki's film is a colourful feast for the eye, we also see that none of it would have been without hard work and perseverance.

*Followed by Q&A with Hubert Woroniecki*



Q&amp;A

SAT 18 MARCH, 15:20  
BARBICAN

## ✂ SOMETHING BETTER TO COME

Director: Hanna Polak

Writer: Hanna Polak

Poland/Denmark/Japan/  
Netherlands/USA, 2014, 98 min

A deeply touching documentary about the lives of the people who are forced to live in a junkyard in Moscow. The Svalka is the biggest wasteland in Europe and lies just thirteen miles from the Kremlin. Inside the guarded junkyard there's a world unto itself, run by mafia and inhabited by those who have no prospects. Polak filmed Yula for fourteen years, chronicling her life in the Svalka from adolescence to adulthood. As the years moved on, Yula's hope for a better life kept diminishing until she figured a way out. The director has won nine awards at international film and documentary festivals.

*Followed by Q&A with Hanna Polak*  
Part of Chronic Youth Film Festival.  
Full details: [barbican.org.uk](http://barbican.org.uk)

# FILM FOCUS: MARCIN KOSZAŁKA

WED 22 MARCH, 20:20

ICA CINEMA 1



DIRECTOR INTRO

↑ Such A Nice Boy I Gave Birth To, 2000

**A special screening of four important documentaries from the boundary-pushing filmmaker**

With twenty-eight credits to his name since starting out in 2000, Marcin Koszałka is easily one of the most successful Polish cinematographers working today. Known within the industry for his all-rounded interest and involvement in the production of his films, he is often also credited as writer and director, and at times editor. His hands-on approach along with his meticulous attention to detail have made him a highly sought after collaborator. Koszałka has worked with Borys Lankosz on *The Reverse* (2009), Jacek Bromski on *Entanglement* (2011) and most recently with Michał Rosa on *Happiness Of*

*The World* (2016). So far in his career most of his auteur work has been short and full length documentaries, all of which, to at least a certain extent, deal with the sad truths of life, and learning to live with them. His three shorts including *Such A Nice Boy I Gave Birth To* (2000) about his relationship with his parents as well as *Till It Hurts* (2008) concern themselves with one of his recurring themes: the often irreparable damage that an upbringing can have on a person. His main subject however is death and its ever-looming presence over life; highlighted here in *Declaration Of Immortality* (2010) and *User-Friendly Death* (2007).

*Featuring an introduction from Marcin Koszałka*

## ✂ SUCH A NICE BOY I GAVE BIRTH TO

Director: Marcin Koszałka  
Writer: Marcin Koszałka  
Poland, 2000, 25 min

Koszałka's first credited piece is a short-documentary about his own home life. At the time of filming he was living with his parents who would verbally abuse him everyday. The director is a self-proclaimed neurotic, giving the full credit for this to his upbringing and home life. He went on to make two follow-up documentaries on the subject *It Will Be All Right* (2004) and *Let's Run Away From Her* (2010) creating his own type of therapy and even a career. The film won awards at the Kraków Film Festival and Prix Europa.



## ✂ DECLARATION OF IMMORTALITY

Director: Marcin Koszałka  
Writer: Marcin Koszałka  
Poland, 2010, 29 min

In this documentary Koszałka looks into the life of one of Poland's most renowned mountain climbers 'Mad' Piotr Korczak. The interviews take place around the time the great mountaineer is coming towards the end of his career, painting a portrait of a man of ever-strong spirit, and yet a naturally ageing body. It's about the quest for immortality, and coming to terms with the fact that it can never really be achieved. The short documentary won several awards including the Silver Hugo at the Chicago International Film Festival.



## ✂ USER-FRIENDLY DEATH

Director: Marcin Koszałka  
Writer: Marcin Koszałka  
Poland, 2007, 69 min

In this full-length documentary, Koszałka takes a look at the people who work at a funeral parlour at Kędzierzyn-Koźle and a body incineration centre in Czech Ostrava. The film shows what actually happens to human bodies after death, while highlighting the normalised, disaffected way in which the employees go about their morbid jobs. At the end of the day business is business, and clients need to be kept happy. It was nominated for the Best Central and Eastern European Documentary award at the Jihlava International Documentary Film Festival.

## ✂ TILL IT HURTS

Director: Marcin Koszałka  
Writer: Marcin Koszałka  
Poland, 2008, 24 min

An in depth look at the relationship between a 53 year-old man and his mother whom he lives with. After years of life together without any outsiders, he meets a woman and falls in love. Needless to say this causes a rift between him and his mother, as she is unwilling to let go of the way life has been. It's a touching look at familial love, how unshakeable it can be and how emotionally abusive too. The tragicomedy won several awards including the Golden Dove at the Leipzig DOK Festival.

# UNDISCOVERED MASTERS

## WANDA JAKUBOWSKA (1907–1998)



↑ Wanda Jakubowska

Wanda Jakubowska made 14 feature films in a career spanning 50 years, yet apart from the international acclaim greeting *The Last Stage* (1948), a Holocaust drama shot on the site of the actual Auschwitz-Birkenau concentration camp where Jakubowska had been an inmate, she is barely known outside her native Poland, or even nowadays in it. The reasons are complex, but generally to do with her unwavering allegiance to Soviet communism in the political sphere, and to socialist-realist aesthetics in cinema. Lauded in the 50s, her films fell out of fashion in the 60s and were vilified as propaganda in the

80s and 90s as Poland emerged from the communist era. Nevertheless, looking at her films now, especially the two showing in this year's Kinoteka Polish Film Festival, it's clear that Jakubowska was an extremely talented director, sometimes in spite of her ideological convictions, and sometimes because of them. Particularly evident is a dedication to depicting women's lives, occasionally in extremis as in *The Last Stage*, although whether or not she could be called a feminist is debatable.

*The Last Stage* is in fact the first of what became a trio of films that Jakubowska directed set in concentration camps, but more than that, it's a massively important film in cinema history by virtue of being directed by a witness to the horrors perpetrated in those extermination zones, and so soon after the events depicted; the first of its kind. The authenticity and ethical rigour of its imagery exerted a huge influence on Holocaust films that followed by better known directors, Spielberg included. *Encounters in the Dark* (1960), another wartime tale, is arguably a subtler film, graced with a luminous performance by Zofia Słaboszowska in the lead. Taken together, they suggest that Wanda Jakubowska's cinema of idealism, her commitment to values of solidarity and altruism and her rejection of materialism, might just be ripe for rediscovery and reassessment today.

By Kieron Corless

# OF POLISH CINEMA

SAT 1 APRIL, 16:00  
ICA



### ✂ THE LAST STAGE

Director: Wanda Jakubowska  
Writers: Wanda Jakubowska, Gerda Schneider  
Cast: Tatjana Gorecka, Antonina Gordon-Górecka, Barbara Drapińska  
Poland, 1948, 110 min

Jakubowska's horrific semi-autobiographical story of being taken prisoner at Auschwitz. As she and the other prisoners await for the Red Army to free them, we get a glimpse of the reduced circumstances the women of Auschwitz had to live with, and the maltreatment they received even from personnel who were prisoners themselves. After Jakubowska's release she returned to the concentration camps to shoot the film. It's said that the thought of documenting her time at Auschwitz was one of the main things that helped her get through the experience. Such a personal recollection of the atrocities has never before nor since been captured on film.

Featuring an introduction from Kieron Corless

SUN 2 APRIL, 18:15  
ICA



### ✂ ENCOUNTERS IN THE DARK

Director: Wanda Jakubowska  
Writers: Stanisława Fleszarowa-Muskat, Wanda Jakubowska, Hans Julius Wille  
Cast: Zofia Słaboszowska, Horst Drinda  
Polish, 1960, 107 min

Here Jakubowska looks at the Holocaust once more, but from the perspective of Polish slave labourers made to work in a German man's factory. There is a great sense of community that arises from the group over their shared experience and genuine affection for each other. At the centre of the story is Magdalena (Zofia Słaboszowska), a classical pianist who is also captured and forced to work. Her formal and reserved demeanour means that it takes time for her to connect with the others, however she does eventually and finds a new kind of inspiration in her struggles and a new lease of life.

# ANDRZEJ WAJDA: MAN OF GOLD

Andrzej Wajda is one of the few filmmakers presented at Kinoteka, or in fact at any film festival, who needs no introduction. His main focus has been to bring the stories and histories of Poland to the big screen, and he is one of the rare auteurs who has managed to get the rest of the world to watch. With four Oscar nominations for Best Foreign Language Film and an Honorary Oscar for his achievements, the director's six-decade-long career is one of Poland's most inspiring.

Many of his films were labours of love because of the difficulties set before him, by the Communist censors office especially. In the 60s after his trilogy of war films *A Generation* (1955), *Kanal* (1957) and *Ashes & Diamonds* (1958) he began focusing on adaptations of Polish novels, ensuring that his films would get made and, more importantly, reach their audience. He used the restrictions from the government and the fictional content of the novels to comment on the situation in his country in subtler ways. In 1977 he made *Man Of Marble*, which was about standing up for workers' rights and was Wajda's answer to the slight easing off of censorship at the time. The film was regarded as having gone too far, and subsequently wasn't released for four years.

Wajda left behind a legacy of films that portray his own country and its past in a truthful way for the rest of the world to see. Oftentimes it isn't pretty or adoring, and he was censored just as so many other Polish filmmakers have been. Yet there is a catharsis that comes in acknowledging the darker parts of one's own

history, and through his films Wajda has allowed audiences around the world to feel that.

For those who are already familiar with the auteur's work, welcome back. And for the newcomers, here's one of the best foreign language filmmakers, don't miss this opportunity to fill in the gap in your movie knowledge.



† Andrzej Wajda

Sadly, Andrzej Wajda passed away on the 9th of October 2016. We commemorate his life and legacy in the screenings of some of his most enduring films.

FRI 17 MARCH, 19:00  
REGENT STREET CINEMA



Q&A

## ✂ AFTERIMAGE

Director: Andrzej Wajda  
Writers: Andrzej Wajda, Andrzej Mularczyk  
Cast: Bogusław Linda, Zofia Wichłacz, Bronisława Zamachowska  
Poland, 2016, 98 min

Andrzej Wajda's last feature is a biopic about Władysław Strzemiński, the famous Polish avant-garde painter. As much as it's a celebration of the brilliant work one man made, it also sheds light on the difficulties of Strzemiński's life. He was cast out for his views, lost his job, even had his artistic license revoked, and that's only part of it. The film is Wajda's commentary that any true artist will always be suffering in some way, whatever their situation may be. It won the Out of Competition Special Jury Prize at the Polish Film Festival last year.

Screening followed by a Q&A with  
*Paweł Edelman and Michał Kwieciński*

FRI 24 MARCH, 19:30  
CLOSE-UP CINEMA



## ✂ INNOCENT SORCERERS

Director: Andrzej Wajda  
Writers: Jerzy Andrzejewski, Jerzy Skolimowski  
Cast: Tadeusz Łomnicki, Krystyna Stypułkowska, Wanda Koczeska  
Poland, 1960, 87 min

One of Wajda's lighter works, this is the tale of Bazyli (Tadeusz Łomnicki) a handsome, young doctor who is constantly being pursued by beautiful women, and is tired of it. He meets Pelagia (Krystyna Stypułkowska) yet another attractive woman who pushes herself onto him, or so it would appear. When they get to his place though, instead of the usual activity between the sheets, a connection ignites between the two as they talk, trying to discern one another while at the same time keeping themselves at bay. They part ways and for the first time Bazyli feels that he wants to see her again. The only problem is she's nowhere to be found...

SAT 25 MARCH, 16:00  
CLOSE-UP CINEMA



### ✂ MAN OF MARBLE

Director: Andrzej Wajda  
Writer: Aleksander Ścibor-Rylski  
Cast: Jerzy Radziwiłowicz, Krystyna Janda, Tadeusz Łomnicki  
Poland, 1977, 160 min

A young film student in 1970s Kraków is working on her diploma film. She focuses on the life of a bricklayer from the 1950s, Mateusz Birkut, who became a proletariat hero by advocating for workers' rights and housing for everyone. Her supervisor doesn't approve of the subject, makes his excuses and halts the film's production. Now she needs to find a way to finish it somehow. Looking at the story of one man's heroism from the perspective of one woman's passion project, Wajda outlines the bravery of humanity, and how with each generation there will always be something worth standing up for. The film won the FIPRESCI prize at Cannes as well as the Critics award at the Polish Film Festival.

SAT 25 MARCH, 19:00  
CLOSE-UP CINEMA



### ✂ MAN OF IRON

Director: Andrzej Wajda  
Writer: Aleksander Ścibor-Rylski  
Cast: Jerzy Radziwiłowicz, Krystyna Janda, Marian Opania  
Poland, 1981, 156 min

Following on from *Man of Marble* (1977) and the story of Mateusz Birkut's heroism, is the story of his son, Maciej Birkut. A journalist is tasked with finding out what's really going on with Maciej, the leader of the striking shipyard workers. Being young and radical himself, the journalist fits in easily with the organisation he is trying to infiltrate. In fact he fits in so well, believing himself in the idea of workers' rights, that he's forced to pick between his career and following his heart. The film won the Palme d'Or at Cannes and was nominated for Best Foreign Language Film at the Oscars.

SUN 26 MARCH, 19:00  
CLOSE-UP CINEMA



### ✂ THE PROMISED LAND

Director: Andrzej Wajda  
Writers: Stanisław Reymont, Andrzej Wajda  
Cast: Daniel Olbrychski, Wojciech Pszoniak, Andrzej Seweryn  
Poland, 1975, 179 min

A startling commentary about the ugly side of capitalism. Three unlikely friends band together to start a factory business in Łódź during the manufacturing revolution. Though the trio is successful after many obstacles, struggles and swindles, it comes at the price of their morals and happiness. Wajda's message that money and power are not always worth other sacrifices, still carries today. The Promised Land was nominated for an Oscar for Best Foreign Language Film, and won awards at the Moscow International, Valladolid International and Polish film festivals.

SUN 2 APRIL, 15:45  
BARBICAN



### ✂ A GENERATION

Director: Andrzej Wajda  
Writer: Bohdan Czeszco  
Cast: Tadeusz Łomnicki, Urszula Modrzyńska, Tadeusz Janczar  
Poland, 1955, 83 min

Wajda's first full length film is a heartfelt look at the effect of war on the adolescents who are moulded in it and how it sets their entire lives on a needless path of suffering. Stach (Tadeusz Łomnicki) is a young man working as an apprentice on the outskirts of Warsaw when a Communist leader in hiding recruits him to fight for the cause. The story follows as he gets more and more involved, kills a Nazi, falls in love, and watches helplessly as his love gets taken away from him.

FRI 31 MARCH, 18:00  
GALVERT 22 FOUNDATION



Kinoteka and KinoVino partner up to bring you a screening of Andrzej Wajda's *The Maids of Wilko*, followed by a dinner for ticket holders created by renowned Polish food writer and cook, Zuza Zak.

### JK THE MAIDS OF WILKO

Director: Andrzej Wajda  
Writer: Zbigniew Kamiński  
Cast: Daniel Olbrychski, Anna Seniuk, Maja Komorowska  
Poland/France, 1979, 118 min

Set in the stylish 20s, the story follows Viktor (Daniel Olbrychski), a successful young man, who none-the-less decides to take some time off work to process the death of a friend. He goes back to his home town, where he encounters a family of five women he left behind, all of whom were in love with him at some point. Life has moved on since he left though, feelings have changed and not all of the women are available anymore. If you're a Jane Austen fan then this is one for you.

The film was nominated for Best Foreign Language Film at the 1980 Oscars.

KinoVino is a cinema-supper club, that brings together some of the best chefs and films from around the world. Each edition offers film screenings and sit-down dinners with unique menus inspired by the films, creating an immersive experience that is shared between an intimate group of guests. Upon arrival guests are treated to welcome drinks and light bites that are thematically tied to the film. The welcome session is followed by a screening itself, while the chefs prepare the meal 'behind the movie screen', enhancing the viewing experience with luscious scents of food. After the screening guests proceed to the dining room, where beautiful long tables await.

MON 3 APRIL, 18:30  
BARBICAN



### JK KANAL

Director: Andrzej Wajda  
Writer: Jerzy Stefan Stawiński  
Cast: Teresa Izewska, Tadeusz Janczar, Wieńczysław Gliński  
Poland, 1957, 91 min

Kanal is the frustrating story of a group of forty-three men and women fighting during the last days of the Warsaw Uprising against the Nazis in World War II. After struggling for so long as a united force, the resistance and their Lieutenant Zadra (Wieńczysław Gliński) are finally reduced to fleeing via the sewer system. Will they find the peace they yearn for at the other end of the tunnel? One of Wajda's first films, it was nominated for a BAFTA for Most Promising Newcomer to Film, as well as the Palme d'Or at Cannes.

TUES 4 APRIL, 18:30  
BARBICAN



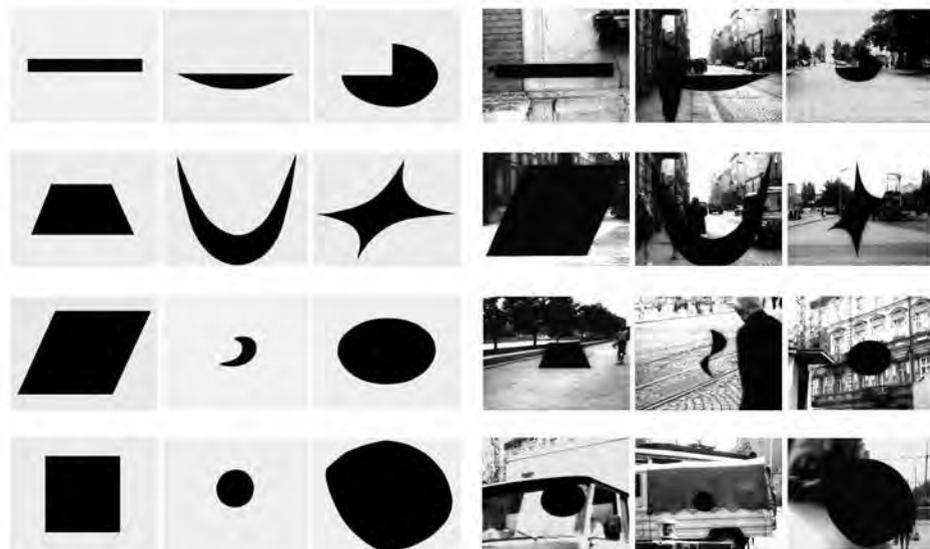
### JK ASHES AND DIAMONDS

Director: Andrzej Wajda  
Writers: Jerzy Andrzejewski, Andrzej Wajda  
Cast: Zbigniew Cybulski, Wacław Zastrzeżyński, Adam Pawlikowski  
Poland, 1958, 103 min

One of the few war stories to begin on the last day of a war. Maciek (Zbigniew Cybulski) is ordered to assassinate Szczuka (Wacław Zastrzeżyński), and though he has killed many during the war, Szczuka is not an easy one for Maciek, who has come to respect him. During the war Polish men stood together despite coming from the working, bourgeois and noble classes. Now that it's over people will begin to resume their former identities, but perhaps not all of their former prejudices. The film was nominated for a BAFTA and won the FIPRESCI prize at the Venice Film Festival.

# ARTS

## ARTON REVIEW



Ryszard Waśko, *Straight-Curve*, 1973  
Copyright Ryszard Waśko

SAT 18 MARCH, 13:30  
WHITECHAPEL GALLERY

### ✂ ARTON REVIEW

Arton Review is a project by the Arton Foundation in Warsaw in which Polish artists of the younger generation create film works inspired by the classics of Polish experimental filmmaking and video art.

The programme within KINOTEKA features works commissioned by Arton to date, such as *Telepathy* by Łukasz Jastrubczak, *The Line* by Agnieszka Lasota and *ID* by Karol Radziszewski, amongst others.

Adding context to these latest productions is a presentation of the seminal film and video works created by outstanding Polish avant-garde artists in the 1970s: Wojciech Bruszewski, Paweł Kwiek, Ryszard Waśko, and more.

*Accompanied by a discussion on inter-generational artistic collaborations, the event features artists in attendance Paweł Kwiek, Agnieszka Lasota, Karol Radziszewski, and Ryszard Waśko, as well as curators Łukasz Mojsak and Marika Kuźmicz*

# KIDS

## ADVENTURER'S CLUB



SUN 2 APRIL, 14:00  
POSK JAZZ CAFE

### ✂ ADVENTURER'S CLUB

Director: Tomasz Szafrąński

Writer: Tomasz Szafrąński

Cast: Kamila Bujalska, Franciszek Dzikuch, Ewa Gorzelak

Poland, 2015, 98 min

A film about Kornel, a boy whose whole world is turned upside down when one night a mysterious figure climbs through the window into his room. It turns out to be his crazy uncle Dionizy who claims to be on the trail of a family treasure hidden by their grandfather during the war. The search for the ancient family chest, supposed to contain important clues on the whereabouts of the hidden treasure, sets them off on a wild quest full of dangers, romance, mystery and unexpected reversals... What was supposed to be just a holiday trip becomes a life-changing journey.

# POLISH HISTORY IN FILM

MON 20 MARCH, 18:30  
UCL CAMPUS GUSTAVE TUCK  
LECTURE THEATRE

SUN 26 MARCH, 15:30  
REGENT STREET CINEMA



TALK

## ✂ GENERATIONS

Director: Janusz Zaorski  
Writer: Janusz Zaorski  
Cast: Łukasz Jaczewski  
Poland, 2016, 105 min

Generations is a full-length docudrama made for the anniversary of Feature Film Studios (WFF). The Studio produced some four-hundred and fifty titles, and of those Zaorski selected the fragments of just under fifty to tell the story of contemporary Poland. The fragments of films, starting with Andrzej Wajda's *A Generation* (1955) and on to the works of Chęciński, Has, Kutz, Polański and further still to Holland, Kieślowski, Marczewski, Zanussi, form a story about Poles from the times of the Nazi occupation, through to the period of Stalinist terror, the unfulfilled expectations of the Gierek Era, Martial Law and the elections of June 4th 1989.

*Screening introduced and followed by a discussion on historical memory.*



## ✂ KOŚCIUSZKO AT THE BATTLE OF RACŁAWICE

Director: Joseph Lejtes  
Writer: Waclaw Gąsiorowski  
Cast: Tadeusz Białoszczyński, Jerzy Pichelski  
Poland, 1938, 92 min

To celebrate the year of Tadeusz Kościuszko we present a historical film about the Battle of Racławice, which was one of the first battles of the Kościuszko Uprising against Russia. The Poles were attacked on two sides by the Russians, yet they managed to sustain a victory with the help of some two-thousand peasants from the Lesser Poland area who were armed with war scythes and pikes. Though the battle was a small victory, it was lauded as a great step forward, which helped to get other areas of Poland involved in the Uprising. The director, Joseph Lejtes, was nominated three times throughout his career for the Golden Lion award at the Venice Film Festival.

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# TALKS & WORKSHOPS



THUR 30 MARCH, 18:30  
BFI SOUTHBANK <sup>NFT 3</sup>

## ✦ TOMASZ BAGIŃSKI MASTERCLASS

Oscar-nominated animator, director and master of digital SFX Tomasz Bagiński received the BAFTA for Best Short Animation in 2006 for *Fallen Art*. His skills in blending live action with animation have made him sought after in advertising, TV and gaming. Currently he's working on directing the feature film adaptation of *The Witcher 3* video-game set for release later this year. Starting off by making his first

animated film on a computer in the maths department at the university where his father worked, then enrolling at the Film School in Łódź only to find that he was ahead of their curve, and enrolling again in an architecture course while teaching himself computer animation in his spare time, it's easy to see that Bagiński is truly a person who had to form his own path to knowledge and success. We're delighted to invite him to discuss his acclaimed cross-platform work.



29 – 31 MARCH  
LONDON FILM ACADEMY & BFI SOUTHBANK

## ✦ KINOTEKA & LONDON FILM ACADEMY STUDIO 2017

An intensive 3-day programme aimed at directors, writers and creative producers with proven experience (credits on shorts or first low-budget features) who are adapting source material for the screen/working on an adaptation project. The ten selected filmmakers will participate in Q&As, practical lectures, workshops and masterclasses with industry professionals. Previous speakers include: Agnieszka Holland (*In Darkness*), Ivana MacKinnon (*Slumdog Millionaire*), Paweł Pawlikowski (*Ida*), Ben Blaine (*Nina Forever*), Will Tennant (*Imaginarium Studios, Star Wars: The Force Awakens*). Participants will have the opportunity to polish their skills in story development, pitching and film financing,

with a focus on the art of adaptation. During the course of the programme there will be multiple opportunities for participants to network with film/TV industry professionals.

The programme is free for the selected participants, but you will need to cover any accommodation and travel expenses (participants from Poland will have their travel and accommodation covered by the Polish Cultural Institute in London).

For details on how to apply please visit [londonfilmacademy.com/news-and-events/events](http://londonfilmacademy.com/news-and-events/events)

Application deadline 4pm on 1 March 2017

# CLOSING NIGHT GALA

BRITISH SEA POWER:  
MUSIC FOR POLISH ANIMATION CLASSICS



LIVE MUSIC

WED 5 APRIL, 20:00  
BARBICAN HALL

## ✂ KINOTEKA 15 CLOSING NIGHT GALA

Celebrating the 15th anniversary of KINOTEKA Polish Film Festival, the Polish Cultural Institute in London and the Barbican Centre present a unique, specially commissioned show by much loved art rock sextet British Sea Power playing live to the screenings of some of the best animation shorts from Poland. The favourites of Benedict Cumberbatch, Daniel Radcliffe and Peter Capaldi, British Sea Power will take you on a personal journey through their own selection of Polish animations they themselves admire, including Rybczyński's *Tango*, Szczechura's *Journey*, Schabenbeck's

*Stairs*, Dumala's *Little Black Riding Hood*, Oraczewska's *Banquet* and Borowczyk's *School*. The event coincides with the premiere of British Sea Power's long-awaited new album, *Let The Dancers Inherit The Party* followed by a UK tour, including a London gig on 12 April 2017 at O2 Shepherd's Bush Empire.

British Sea Power are:  
Yan Scott Wilkinson – vocals/guitar  
Neil Hamilton Wilkinson – vocals/bass/guitar  
Martin Noble – guitar/keyboards  
Matthew Wood – drums  
Abi Fry – viola/keyboards  
Phil Sumner – keyboards/cornet/guitar



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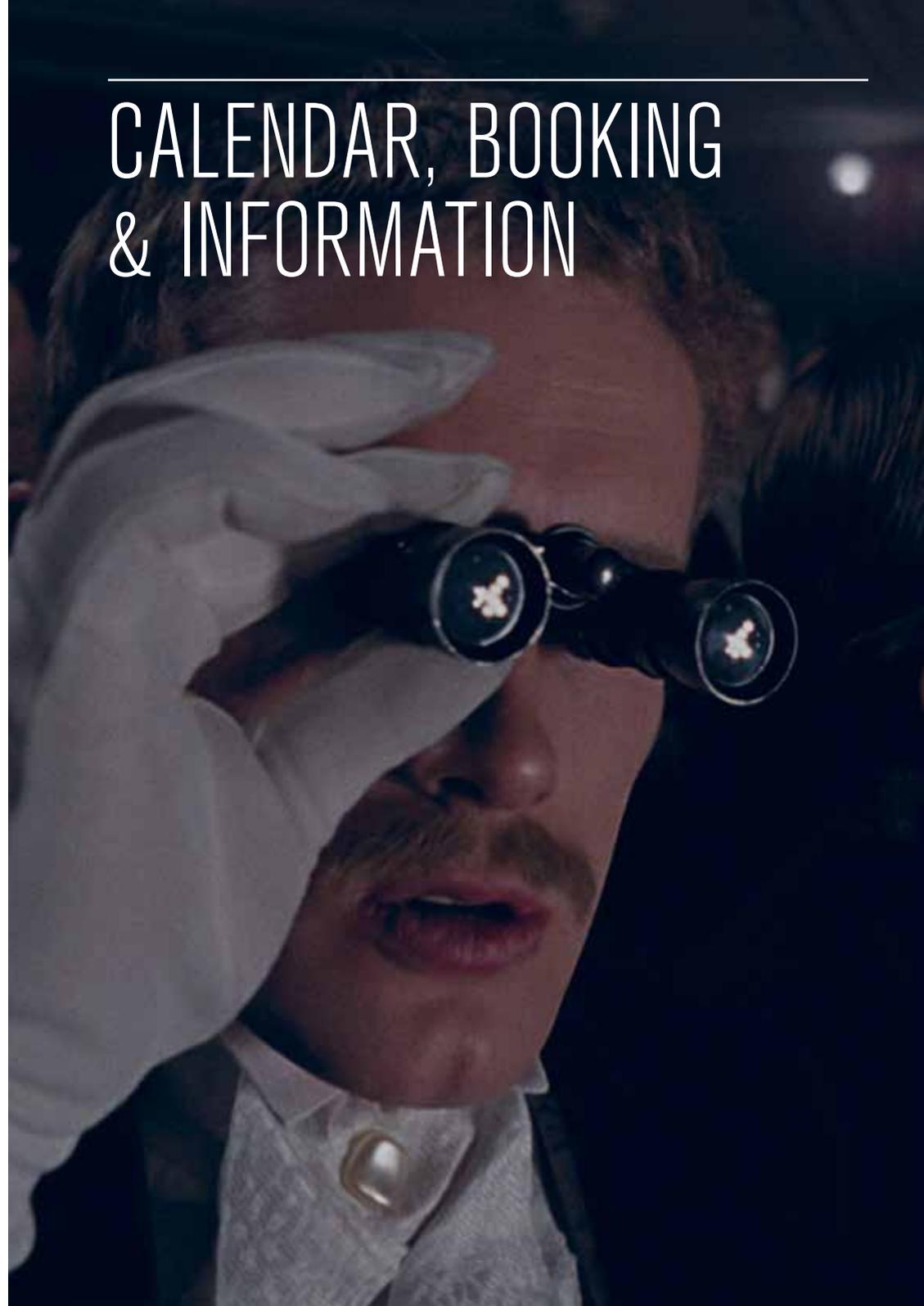
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Not valid in conjunction with any other offer or promotion. Discount applied to the final bill. Please drink responsibly.

# CALENDAR, BOOKING & INFORMATION



## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Friday 17 March 19:00  
**OPENING NIGHT GALA**  
**Afterimage** dir. Andrzej Wajda  
*Q&A with Paweł Edelman and Michał Kwieciński*  
 Regent Street Cinema regentstreetcinema.com



Saturday 18 March 13:30  
**ARTS**  
**Arton Review**  
 Whitechapel Gallery whitechapelgallery.org



Saturday 18 March 15:00  
**NEW POLISH CINEMA**  
**The Last Family** dir. Jan Matuszyński  
 Regent Street Cinema regentstreetcinema.com

Saturday 18 March 15:20  
**DOCUMENTARY**  
**Something Better To Come**  
 dir. Hanna Polak  
*Q&A with Hanna Polak*  
 Barbican barbican.org.uk

Saturday 18 March 17:30  
**DOCUMENTARY**  
**Casablanca: The Man Who Loved Women** dir. Hubert Woroniecki  
 Regent Street Cinema regentstreetcinema.com

Saturday 18 March 20:00  
**NEW POLISH CINEMA**  
**Planet Single** dir. Mitja Okorn  
*Q&A with director and Maciej Stuhr*  
 Regent Street Cinema regentstreetcinema.com

Sunday 19 March 15:00  
**NEW POLISH CINEMA**  
**Playground** dir. Bartok M. Kowalski  
 Regent Street Cinema regentstreetcinema.com

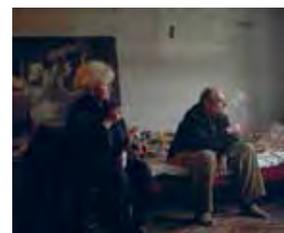
Sunday 19 March 17:00  
**NEW POLISH CINEMA**  
**Blindness** dir. Ryszard Bugajski  
*Q&A with the director*  
 Regent Street Cinema regentstreetcinema.com

Sunday 19 March 19:30  
**NEW POLISH CINEMA**  
**Happiness Of The World**  
 dir. Michał Rosa. *Q&A with director and Karolina Gruszka*  
 Regent Street Cinema regentstreetcinema.com

Monday 20 March 18:30  
**POLISH HISTORY IN FILM**  
**Generations** dir. Janusz Zaorski  
 UCL Campus kinoteka.org.uk

Tuesday 21 March 18:30  
**NEW POLISH CINEMA**  
**The Red Spider** dir. Marcin Koszałka  
*Q&A with the director*  
 ICA ica.org.uk

Wednesday 22 March 20:20  
**DOCUMENTARY**  
**Film Focus: Marcin Koszałka**  
 ICA ica.org.uk



Friday 24 March 19:30  
**ANDRZEJ WAJDA RETRO**  
**Innocent Sorcerers**  
 dir. Andrzej Wajda  
 Close-Up Cinema closeupfilmcentre.com

Saturday 25 March 16:00  
**ANDRZEJ WAJDA RETRO**  
**Man Of Marble** dir. Andrzej Wajda  
 Close-Up Cinema closeupfilmcentre.com

Saturday 25 March 19:00  
**ANDRZEJ WAJDA RETRO**  
**Man Of Iron** dir. Andrzej Wajda  
 Close-Up Cinema closeupfilmcentre.com

Sunday 26 March 15:30  
**POLISH HISTORY IN FILM**  
**KościuszkO At The Battle Of Racławice** dir. Janusz Zaorski  
 Regent Street Cinema regentstreetcinema.com

Sunday 26 March 17:30  
**NEW POLISH CINEMA**  
**The Lure** dir. Agnieszka Smoczyńska  
 Regent Street Cinema regentstreetcinema.com

Sunday 26 March 19:00  
**ANDRZEJ WAJDA RETRO**  
**The Promised Land**  
 dir. Andrzej Wajda  
 Close-Up Cinema closeupfilmcentre.com

Sunday 26 March 19:30  
**NEW POLISH CINEMA**  
**Eccentrics, The Sunny Side Of The Street** dir. Janusz Majewski  
 Regent Street Cinema regentstreetcinema.com

29-31 March  
**TALKS & EVENTS**  
**Kinoteka Studio**  
 London Film Academy londonfilmacademy.com

Thursday 30 March 18:30	TALKS & EVENTS <b>Tomasz Bagiński Masterclass</b>	BFI Southbank	bfi.org.uk
Friday 31 March 18:00	ANDRZEJ WAJDA RETRO <b>The Maids Of Wilko</b> dir. Andrzej Wajda <i>Followed by KinoVino</i>	Calvert 22 Foundation	calvert22.org
Saturday 1 April 16:00	UNDISCOVERED MASTERS <b>The Last Stage</b> dir. Wanda Jakubowska	ICA	ica.org.uk
			
Sunday 2 April 14:00	KIDS <b>Adventurer's Club</b> dir. Tomasz Szafrński	Jazz Café POSK	jazzcafeposk.org
Sunday 2 April 15:45	ANDRZEJ WAJDA RETRO <b>A Generation</b> dir. Andrzej Wajda	Barbican	barbican.org.uk
Sunday 2 April 18:15	UNDISCOVERED MASTERS <b>Encounters In The Dark</b> dir. Wanda Jakubowska	ICA	ica.org.uk
Monday 3 April 18:30	ANDRZEJ WAJDA RETRO <b>Kanal</b> dir. Andrzej Wajda	Barbican	barbican.org.uk
Tuesday 4 April 18:30	ANDRZEJ WAJDA RETRO <b>Ashes And Diamonds</b> dir. Andrzej Wajda	Barbican	barbican.org.uk
Wednesday 5 April 20:00	CLOSING NIGHT GALA <b>British Sea Power: Music for Polish Animation Classics</b> Screening accompanied by live music from British Sea Power	Barbican	barbican.org.uk
			

## VENUE INFORMATION

**barbican**

**Barbican**  
Silk Street  
London EC2Y 8DS  
020 7638 4141  
barbican.org.uk



**BFI Southbank**  
Belvedere Road  
London SE1 8XT  
020 7928 3232  
bfi.org.uk

**CLOSE-UP**

**Close-Up Cinema**  
97 Sclater Street  
London E1 6HR  
020 3784 7970  
closeupfilmcentre.com

**ICA**

**ICA**  
The Mall  
London SW1Y 5AH  
020 7930 3647  
ica.org.uk



**Regent Street Cinema**  
309 Regent Street  
London W1B 2UW  
020 7911 5050  
regentstreetcinema.com



**Whitechapel Gallery**  
77 - 82 Whitechapel High St  
London E1 7QX  
020 7522 7888  
whitechapelgallery.org



**Calvert 22 Foundation**  
22 Calvert Avenue  
London E2 7JP  
020 7613 2141  
calvert22.org



**London Film Academy**  
The Old Church  
52a Walham Grove  
London SW6 1QR  
020 7386 7711  
londonfilmacademy.com



**UCL**  
Gower Street  
London WC1E 6BT  
020 7679 2000  
ucl.ac.uk



**POSK**  
The Polish Social & Cultural Association  
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Quay Brothers  
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Copy-writer and Editor

Margaret\_London  
PR

serieseight.com  
Festival website

dot-studio.org  
Merchandise

## WITH SPECIAL THANKS

H.E. Arkady Rzegocki, Polish Ambassador

Agnieszka Gabriel, The Polish Bakery

Alissa Timoshkina, KinoVino

Anna MacDonald, London Film Academy

Anna Sienkiewicz -Rogowska, Filмотeka Narodowa

Bartek Nowak, POSK

Bryn Ormrod, Barbican

Cezary Molski, Polish Tourist Organisation

Damien Sanville, Close-Up

Eva Hussein, Polaron

Gali Gold, Barbican

Gareth Evans, Whitechapel Gallery

Gioele Camarlinghi, Melia White House

Helen de Witt, BFI Southbank

Jan Kubik, UCL SSEES

Jan Woroniecki, Baltic Restaurant

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