

ACOFS Bulletin

Australian Council of Film Societies

NUMBER 33

JUNE 2013

This Bulletin has been compiled and edited by Ian Davidson, (ACOFS President) president@acofs.org.au

This Issue contains information important to your president, secretary, treasurer and programmer, and please pass it on to all your committee people. And please ensure it does not get caught up in spam filters!

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1. From the President

The good news that emerged from the ACOFS AGM in May is that ACMI is not actually closing its lending library as first thought – at least not to genuine film societies. While ACMI will not be renewing any individual borrowers' memberships, they do plan to keep available their 16mm film library (although somewhat reduced) including their French, Chinese and German DVD collections.

But ACMI are seeking our input to help decide which of the 169,000 titles are valuable and worth keeping. To this end we invite every user of 16mm to register with ACOFS (John Turner johnturner10@bigpond.com) if they wish to be part of the decision-making process.

ACOFS and the Federations need to maintain links with and between the 35mm and 16mm societies. We should continue to do so with our newsletters and websites, and not forget that these celluloid-based societies represent our history. We still represent them and should continue to speak on their behalf. These societies equally, must be sure they don't lose contact with us but keep us informed of their news and more importantly, their needs. It has been easy to set up working groups to investigate new technology and

new opportunities, but we should not forget the celluloid-based societies. They have needs also, although most tend not to be represented at federation committee levels, their interests and needs still need to be met.

One development coming from the ACOFS AGM is the offer of film society access to Paul Bywater's private collection of 16mm features and shorts – More information later in this bulletin.

Another way to keep in touch is for member film societies to set up sister society arrangements with film societies in other cities, other states or even overseas. Many of our cities across Australia have sister cities in other countries and arrange mutual visits and other benefits. I am not sure what might flow from the concept of sister film societies, but would anyone like to give it some thought or even give it a try?

Ever thought about why film societies join a Federation or a Federation joins ACOFS?

The most obvious reason is for the services provided.

It is also to maintain links with other similar organisations.

But the hidden benefits are just to be a part of the ever-growing film society movement.

And the benefit to others is that you can contribute your expertise to others in need of assistance.

So keep in mind that membership with a federation or ACOFS is more than "What's in it for me" but as much "What can I do for others". We are all volunteers and can do with all the assistance we can get.

And a final thought to leave you with: We know how much the film societies have changed over the past 50 years. What will a film society will look like in another 50 years when technology has taken us in directions that we cannot imagine today!

2. DVD Competition - Winner

Congratulations to Maureen McKinnon of Moira Film Group in Victoria, who won a copy of *The Iron Lady*. There is another DVD competition later in this Bulletin.

3. Changes at the ACMI Collection

A recent letter received by most ACMI "members" explains that the individual period memberships will not be renewed, but the future of access to the collection by film societies is under review. Part of this exercise is to evaluate the rarity and value of the items in the catalogue. The future of the individual parts of the catalogue is likely to be as follows:

- a. DVDs are unlikely to be available to film societies for their screenings. The majority of them do not have non-theatrical screening rights, and are generally readily available from other sources.
- b. Only some of the VHS have screening rights, and some may be rare or even have historical significance, so are unlikely to be available to film societies in future.
- c. ACMI have an obligation to make the 400 or so titles in the French Embassy 16mm collection available to film societies. There may be some rarities in the collection which would be archived, but ACMI hope to make the remainder available at reasonable rates.
- d. The 126 titles from the Chinese collection have now been fully catalogued and hopefully will be available to film societies soon, also at reasonable rates.

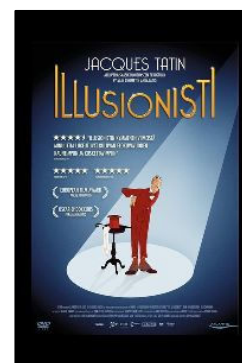
- e. On site access though will continue to be available through their Mediatech service.

ACMI has requested assistance from interested people in the film society movement who would help them evaluate the many categories by specifying which of the 43 sub-classes may be of interest to film societies. Anyone interested should register their interest with John Turner, who is co-ordinating this in ACOFS. Email johnturner10@bigpond.com.

4. ACOFS AGM

The 2013 ACOFS AGM was held in Melbourne on Friday 10th & Saturday 11th May at ACMI, Federation Square, Melbourne. Some of the important items coming from the meeting are as follows:

1. There are many enquiries coming to ACOFS and the Federations from community groups, especially in country areas, where a community facility has been renovated and/or upgraded with new technology and the opportunity presents itself to start a new film society. We all need to be aware of the opportunities such upgrades present to support the formation of new film societies.
2. The ACOFS film loss and damage insurance policy document has been circulated to all film societies, but many may have missed it. It is available on the ACOFS website at www.acofs.org.au under "Documents".
3. Communication between film societies and between the State federations and their member film societies is essential, but in many cases could be improved. All state federations are urged to ensure their communication is first rate.
4. Paul Bywater from the Tasmanian Federation has a collection of over 2000 16mm films, some features but mainly shorts, which he is willing to make available to all member film societies across Australia, charging for transport only. Contact Paul for details, at paulb@intas.net.au
5. Nick Richardson from ACMI updated their thoughts on the future of the ACMI collection and would like to get film societies involved in the evaluation of which titles are important. See separate item in this bulletin for details.
6. John Brady of NFSA provided an update of the NFSA, particularly the NTLC.
 - a. Their aim is now to build the Australian film collection in the NTLC, focussing on titles not available elsewhere..
 - b. There are many Film Australia titles now on sale on DVD from the NFSA for \$65, including the licence.
 - c. "Australian films on line" have many 3 minute clips of Australian movies.
 - d. Many titles have had their rights renewed recently, but unfortunately there are always some which cannot be renewed. These have not been withdrawn completely, but are now listed "for educational use only", and are not available to film societies.
 - e. When returning borrowed items to the NFSA they prefer you use Australia Posts eParcel, for security and speed.
 - f. There are many new acquisitions of Australian movies on DVD that are now available although yet to be catalogued. They are listed separately in this Bulletin.
7. The ACOFS DVD rights agreement is working well, with an estimated 600 DVD screening rights being granted under the ACOFS film rights agreement annually. Rights for Madman films are being handled by ACOFS dvdrights@acofs.org.au and this process is working well. In the past 12 months we have approved 75 screenings at 35 societies. The most popular titles have been "*L'illusioniste*" and "*Kid with a Bike*".
8. ACOFS and the State Federations should remember to promote the thought that film societies join the Federations for a number of reasons, and not just for the financial benefits available to members. Other reasons include being able to contribute to the film society



movement and being a part of this strongly growing movement.

9. ACOFS AGM election outcomes:

The following people were elected to the ACOFS executive committee for the next 12 months:

President: Ian Davidson (Victoria)

V President: Leth Maitland (NSW)

Secretary: Prodos Marinakis (Victoria)

Treasurer: John Turner (Victoria)

Plus: David Smith (WA)

Kerry McKinnon (Qld)

Paul Bywater (Tasmania)

5. Updated ACOFS Fact Sheets

The DVD rights agreement Fact Sheet #3B is constantly being updated as new distributors come to our notice or existing ones change their contact details. Download one today to keep up to date. www.acofs.org.au/resources/

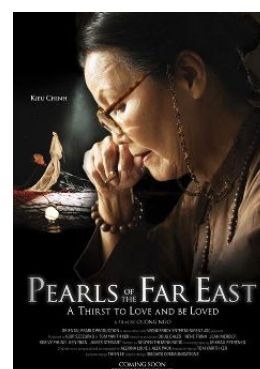
6. Pearls of the Far East

An award winning Vietnamese / Canadian film.

The inner lives and forbidden loves of seven Vietnamese women form the beautiful string that runs through director Cuong Ngo's feature film debut, *Pearls of the Far East*.



Adapted from 7 award-winning stories by Minh Ngoc Nguyen, produced by award-winning filmmakers Igor Szczurko & Tom Yarith Ker, Cuong Ngo (pronounced 'Kun Nyo') weaves a vivid, timeless and unforgettable tapestry with characters brought to life by a gorgeous cast of acclaimed talent from Vietnam, US and Canada, including actresses Truong Ngoc Anh (*The White Silk Dress*, 2006), Nhu Quynh (*Vertical Ray of the Sun*, 2000), Hong Anh (*Moon at the Bottom of the Well*, 2009), Ngo Thanh Van (*The Clash*, 2010, *The Rebel*, 2007), Minh Ngoc Nguyen (who also wrote the screenplay based on her own stories), and the legendary Kieu Chinh (*Joy Luck Club*, 1993).



The breathtaking images and spectacular landscapes from the north to the south of Vietnam, beautifully lensed by Mikhail Petrenko, show sides of the country distinct from most Western depictions and frame the mysteries and deep secrets of these lives. With a haunting and sensual musical score by composers Alexina Louie and Alex Pauk that enhances the film's quiet beauty, *Pearls of the Far East* invites audiences to enjoy a meditative journey that illuminates the universal thirst to love and be loved.

A review panel of FVFS members scored this film 4.7 stars (out of 5). They described it as "visually stunning".

The FVFS is hoping to be able to distribute this to ACOFS members. Register your interest in screening this at your film society by contacting the ACOFS secretary by writing or emailing the secretary at the address at the end of this Bulletin.

7. Prove Your Membership with ACOFS

When you apply for membership with your State Federation and have paid your membership fee you should get a receipt and/or a membership certificate. Keep this to

show your venue operator or film/DVD supplier to prove membership with ACOFS and to allow them to quote you competitive prices for your DVDS and/or films.

8. Are You Paying Too Much for Screening Rights?

As you know, it is a requirement that any non-theatrical screening of a DVD in a public place (such as by a film society) can be conducted only after gaining permission from the DVD rights holder – usually through the distributor. This permission usually comes at a small charge, which for the majority of distributors is usually around \$150, but only \$50 to ACOFS affiliated film societies. Roadshow however, charge a sliding scale from \$40 to \$100 depending on the size of the film society. But to benefit from the price reduction your details must be registered with ACOFS. (All prices are plus GST)

9. News from the DVD Distributors

These DVD distributors are party to the ACOFS DVD rights agreement, under which member film societies pay special low prices for their DVD screening rights. As ACOF's part of the agreement, we promote the distributor's catalogues and especially any new acquisitions.

For contact details and websites see ACOFS Fact Sheet 3B on www.acofs.org.au (Updated regularly).

Ensure your film society is registered with a State Federation to get the best price for DVD screening rights. Any film society not registered with a State Federation may get charged \$150 or more for the rights.

Note that this agreement applies to screenings where the film society provides the DVD. It does not apply to DVDs rented from "Video shops" as they have home screening licences only.

Roadshow

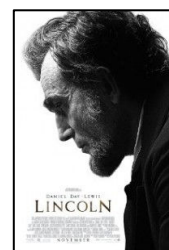
(Chrystal Remington)

Roadshow charge for their DVD rights on the basis of average audience, so if you have not registered your membership size with your State Federation you may be charged DVD rights at the highest rate!

2 Days In New York
6 Plots
Amour
Angels' Share, The
Anna Karenina
Broken City (July)
Bully
Butter
Cirque du Soleil: Worlds Away
Cloud Atlas
Collaborator
Compliance
Dead Europe
Elles
Flight
Goddess
Great Expectations (July)
Hitchcock
I, Anna



I Give it a Year (July)
Liberal Arts
Lincoln
Master, The
Miserables, Les
Paperboy, The
Paris-Manhattan
Perks Of Being A Wallflower
Quartet
Rust and Bone
Samsara
Sessions, The
Seven Psychopaths
Side Effects
Sightseers
Silver Linings Playbook
Sweeney, The
Zero Dark Thirty



Sharmill Films

(Katherine Thornton)

Castle in Italy, A (Cannes 2013)

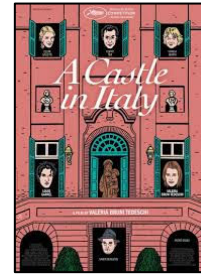
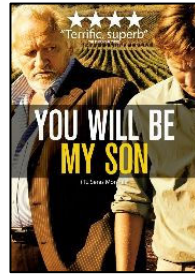
Love Story

Missing Picture, The (Cannes 2013)

My Sweet Pepper Land (Cannes 2013)

Reaching for the Stars (Cannes 2013)

You Will be my Son



Aztec International Entertainment

(Paulette Arvizu)

Babycall: Norwegian Thriller starring Noomi Rapace

Stella Days: Charming Irish drama starring Martin Sheen

Girl Model: Haunting documentary film on teenage models

Happy happy: Joyous Norwegian comedy

Medianeras: Sweet & stylish Argentinean drama

Solitude of Prime Numbers, The

New on DVD:

The Recipe: Delightful Korean Film

The Runway: Amusing Irish comedy based on a true story



Hollywood Gold

(Charles Baylis)

Keys of the Kingdom, The

My Cousin Rachel

Topkapi

Pittsburgh

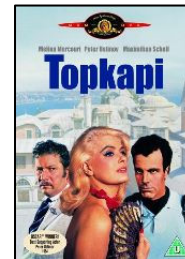
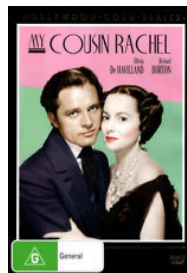
Devil is a Woman, The

Desire

Invisible Woman, The

Angel

Note: I have seen some of these titles from the Hollywood Gold Series and they are most impressive re-releases. Excellent picture quality – as good as new. Ed Highly recommended.



Amalgamated Movies

(Steven Snell)

Damsels In Distress

Skyfall



Regency Film Distribution

(Charles Baylis)

100 Centre Street

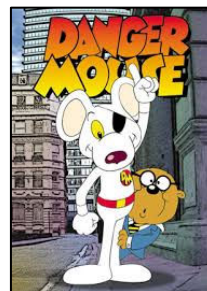
Danger Mouse: The Complete Collection.

Bruce Lee Collection, The (Several titles)

Gilbert & Sullivan's The Mikado

Shakespeare Collection (4 titles)

White of the Eye, The



Rialto

(Hayley Weston)

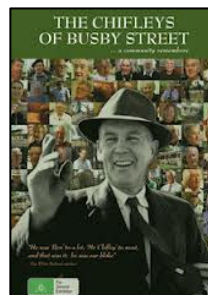
Reluctant Fundamentalist, The
Lady in Paris (From July 13)

Ronin Films

(Andrew Pike)

Bedeevil (PG, 90 Mins, 1993, Dir. Tracey Moffatt)
Billal (M, 86 Mins, 1996)
Castanet Club, The (PG, 85 Mins, 1990)
Chifleys Of Busby Street, The (G, 72 Mins, 2008)
Cracks In The Mask (G, 56 Mins, 1997)
Drive (M, 55 Mins, 2010)
Emily In Japan (PG, 82 Mins, 2009)
First Fagin, The (G, 87 Mins, 2012)
Hired Assassins (PG, 58 Mins, 2003)
Into The Shadows (M, 90 Mins, 2009)
Land Has Eyes, The (M, 87 Mins, 2005)
Land Mines - A Love Story (PG, 73 Mins, 2005)
Man Without Pigs (G, 59 Mins, 1990)
Molly And Mobarak (M, 85 Mins, 2003)
Night Cries (G, 17 Mins, 1990, Dir. Tracey Moffatt)
P.G.H. (G, 57 Mins, 1992)
President Vs David Hicks (M, 81 Mins, 2004)
Road To Nhill (PG, 95 Mins, 1996)
Shine (PG, 107 Mins, 1996, Dir. Scott Hicks)
Tea With Madame Clos (G, 90 Mins, 2010)
Temple Of Dreams (G, 90 Mins, 2007)
Women Of The Sun (G, Series Of 4 X 60 Min Dramas, 1981)
Women Of The Sun ... 25 Years Later (PG, 80 Mins, 2006)
Wrong Side Of The Road (M, 80 Mins, 1983)

Many other films in the Ronin catalogue are classified and may be shown publicly. Other films, however, are exempt from classification as Educational DVDs, and are not automatically available for public screening: these titles may require permission from Australian Classification for screening. Please consult with Ronin for further details.



Madman

(Book through ACOFS at dvdrights@acofs.org.au)

About Face: Supermodels Then and Now
Ace Attorney
Alois Nebel
Angels of Evil
Berberian Sound Studio
Blank City
Cas De Ni Padre (House of my Father)
Chasing Ice
Chico & Rita
Children Who Chase Lost Voices
Company You Keep, The
Dead Leaves
Diana Vreland: The Eye Has to Travel
Dreams of a Life
Fightville
Hail
How to Meet Girls from a Distance

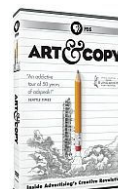
Hunt, The
Imposter, The
Just Like a Woman
King of Pigs, The
Love is all you Need
Love, Marilyn
Magic of Belle Isle, The
Queen of Versailles, The
Rurouni Kenshin
Suskind
Taste of Money, The
Thieves, The
Turn me on, Dammit
Twilight Samurai, The
Violeta Went to Heaven
Vehicle 19



Antidote Films

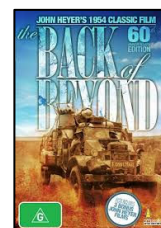
(Gil Scrine)
Art and Copy
Coniston

Last Days Here
Unmade in China



Titan View

(Liz Kleinberg)
Men's Group (Aust, 2008)
Codgers (Aust)
Mother Fish (Aust)
Jammed, The (Aust)
This is Roller Derby(USA)



Umbrella Films

(Nick Brewster)
Back of Beyond (60th anniversary edition releasing in June).

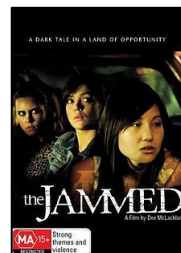
10. New DVDs from the NTLC (NFSA)

The NTLC (Non-Theatrical Lending Collection) is part of the NFSA (National Film and Sound Archive) in Canberra. There are over 1600 DVD and BluRay feature films available for loan to film societies at \$16.50 (including rights and delivery to you). See their catalogue at loans.nfsa.gov.au

The following mostly Australian titles have been added to the NTLC collection recently, but may not have been catalogued. They are however available to film societies:

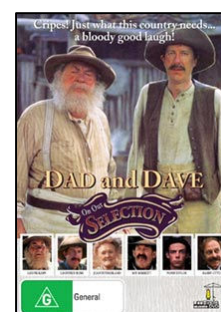
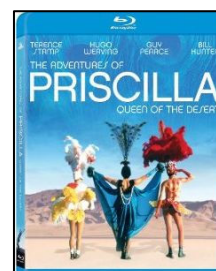
TITLE	YEAR		
Adam's Woman	1970	Eliza Fraser	1976
Alvin Rides Again	1974	End Play	1975
Any Questions For Ben	2011	FernGully: The Last	
Babe	1995	Rainforest	1992
Babe: Pig in the City	1998	Goddess	2013
Bad Boy Bubby	1994	Happy Feet	2006
Bad Eggs	2003	Happy Feet 2	2011
Bait	2012	Hard Word, The	2002
Beautiful Kate	2009	Heartbreak Kid, The	1993
Beneath Hill 60	2010	High Rolling	1977
Blood Oath	1990	Hotel de Love	1996
Boy Town	2006	I Love You Too	2010
Bran Nue Dae	2009	Jammed, The	2007
Burning Man	2011	Kangaroo	1952
Chain Reaction, The	1980	Kath and Kimderella	2012
Charlie and Boots	2009	Last of the Knucklemen, The	1979
Charlotte Gray	2002	Last Wave, The	1977
Crackerjack	2002	Legend of the Guardians	2010
Craic, The	1999	Looking for Alibrandi	2000
Crocodile Dundee	1986	Mad Max - Beyond	
Crocodile Hunter, The:		Thunderdome	1985
Collision Course	2002	Mad Max 2	1981
Crystal Voyager	1975	Mao's Last Dancer	2009
Cup, The	2011	Master and Commander	2003
Danny Deckchair	2003	Matching Jack	2010
Dark City	1998	Mental	2012
Dead Calm	1989	Metal Skin	1995
December Boys	2007	Ned Kelly	2003
Delinquents, The	1989	Newsfront	1978
		Nugget, The	2002

On the Beach	1959	Walkabout	1971
Paws	1997	Wasted on the Young	2011
Phar Lap	1983	Way Back, The	2011
Red Dog	2011	Wild Duck, The	1984
Ride a Wild Pony	1976	Wolf Creek	2005
Rogue	2007		
Sanctum	2011		
Square, The	2008		
Stork	1971		
Summer of the 17th Doll	1959		
Tomorrow, When the War Began	2010		
Two Fists One Heart	2009		



And here are new acquisitions from the NTLC catalogue

Adventures of Priscilla, Queen of the Desert, The
 Around the Boree Log (Musical soundtrack)
 Children of No Importance
 Dancing Dreams
 Democracy Under Attack – an Intervention
 Dispossessed, The
 Girl of the Bush, A (Musical soundtrack)
 Harmony Row
 In Honour of Beuys
 On Our Selection
 Pina Bausch
 Red Cabbage, Blue Cabbage
 Sentimental Bloke, The (1932 version – FW Thring)
 Silks and Saddles (Musical soundtrack)
 Slums of Berlin
 Sound of Home
 Theatre With Grips
 This Ain't California
 Ulrike Ottinger – Nomad From the Lake



11. Competition – Win a DVD

We are again offering a free DVD to one lucky reader of the ACOFS Bulletin. This time it will be the **IDES OF MARCH** (2011) starring Ryan Gosling, George Clooney and Philip Seymour Hoffman.

Just send me an email at president@acofs.org.au with the subject "Ides of March" stating your name and the name of your film society. One entry per person, but no restriction on how many entries from each film society. Entries close July 31st.



12. Obituary – Dennis O'Rourke

As reported in "The Age" on 18 June...

"Dennis O'Rourke, the documentarian whose films *The Good Woman of Bangkok* and *Cunnamulla* won praise and enemies in equal measure, died on Saturday, aged 67, from a rare form of cancer.

Some of his peers remembered him on Monday as a man whose personality was as passionate and divisive as the films he made".

The above two films, plus many others he made are available in the NTLC in Canberra. Most are only available on 16mm or VHS, but *First Contact* is the only one available on DVD.

Anyone who is a long-time member of a film society will remember his films such as *First Contact*, *Cannibal Tours*, *Land Mines: A love Story*, *Sharkcallers of Kontu* and *Yumi Yet*. All are in the NTLC and available for loan.

There is also one 83 minute documentary about Dennis O'Rourke in the NTLC, *Dennis O'Rourke (Australian Filmmakers)*, although only on VHS.

Dennis will certainly be remembered through his films.

Access his films in the NTLC catalogue at

<http://loans.nfsa.gov.au/display/076/wwk770?kw=dennis+O+Rourke&submit=1>

13. IFFS - International Federation of Film Societies

The film society movement has at least a 100-year-old history, with the earliest known society originating in Paris in 1913. The movement has taken different forms in different countries, regions and time-periods, but in all cases has had a long and interesting history as a social, aesthetic and sometimes political of non-commercial alternative film distribution and discussion.

The International Federation of Film Societies (IFFS) was set up in 1947 in Cannes (France) by groups of film societies from countries throughout the world and is also known as Federation Internationale des Cine-Clubs (FICC). As of 2013, 39 countries are represented in this international organisation.

As well as organising annual film festivals and film federation meetings, the IFFS/FICC has set up an alternative distribution of quality film across borders with CINESUD. A catalogue of films subtitled in multiple languages and available for film society screenings worldwide can be seen at <http://plataformacinesud.wordpress.com>

IFFS/FICC collects and disseminates film society news. They publish a newsletter with histories, anecdotes and information about film societies around the world. Newsletters and more are available on their website www.ficc.info

With an immediate network of film contacts worldwide, IFFS members help each other programme and source films, keep abreast of great films from around the world, and tackle other practical and philosophical film society issues.

NOTE: If clicking on a highlighted link in this newsletter does not take you to your Internet browser, try copying it and pasting it into your browser search bar.

ACOFS - Australian Council of Film Societies

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If you want to have the ACOFS Bulletin emailed to you directly, please email me at president@acofs.org.au

Our website is www.acofs.org.au
