

KINOTEKA

A stylized illustration of a cinema audience. The audience is shown from behind, sitting in rows of seats. The seats and the audience members' heads are rendered in a limited color palette of red, black, and white. The background is a bright blue sky with a large, white, cloud-like shape on the left side. The overall style is graphic and modern.

THE 16TH POLISH FILM FESTIVAL

19 MARCH —
5 APRIL 2020

A CELEBRATION OF POLISH CINEMA IN LONDON,
AT BFI SOUTHBANK, ICA, REGENT STREET CINEMA,
RICH MIX AND MORE

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Organised by:



WELCOME TO KINOTEKA 18!

As we enter a new decade, Polish film continues to go from strength to strength. While Agnieszka Holland, that tireless voice from the old guard of Polish film-making, continues to channel her vision with *Mr. Jones*, a number of newer talents have broken through – most notably, screenwriter Mateusz Pacewicz and actor Bartosz Bielenia in *Corpus Christi*, Poland's short-listed entry for this year's Academy Awards. At the 18th Kinoteka Polish Film Festival, we once again promise a stimulating programme of acclaimed films, unique events and talented guests, celebrating Polish cinema and its legacy across the globe.

The festival commences at Regent Street Cinema with our Opening Night Gala screening of *Radioactive*, a stunning English-language adaptation of Lauren Redniss's graphic novel detailing the life of pioneering Polish scientist Marie Skłodowska Curie.

The programme continues at Regent Street Cinema, the ICA, and JW3 with our New Polish Cinema strand. Our eclectic mix of 10 films showcases the diverse genres and talents that contemporary Polish cinema represents – from provoking biopics such as *Pilsudski* and *Proceder* to the international co-productions *The Coldest Game* and *Mr. Jones* via the prestige arthouse of *Corpus Christi* and *All for My Mother*. Our family-friendly screening of *Rock 'n' Roll Eddie* is preceded by a workshop with the Museum of Cassettes, providing an afternoon of activities for children of all ages.

This year's Undiscovered Masters of Polish Cinema – in partnership with the ICA – details the early short films of Polish documentarians Jerzy Hoffman and Edward Skórzewski, whose work kick-started the 'black series' of Polish documentary films. The ICA, POSK Cinema and JW3 examine the development of Polish

documentaries with a trio of recent films, spanning topics such as loneliness, Japanese students' struggles with learning the Polish language, and romantic intimacy among the tragedy of the Warsaw Ghetto.

We continue to bring you the best in exclusive cinematic experiences with a series of interactive events and showcases encompassing the breadth of cinema history. The Cinema Museum focuses on the early contribution of the biopleograph camera, alongside a screening of Poland's first fictional film using the device. Regent Street Cinema highlights two remarkable English-language films by Ryszard Boleslawski, the Polish director who introduced Stanislavski's 'system' of acting to America, and worked alongside the stars of the classical era of Hollywood. Meanwhile, in collaboration with Rich Mix, we are pleased to present an evening of film, conversation and performance dedicated to the considerable cultural legacy of 'total artist' Tadeusz Kantor. Guests can also enjoy a free four-day pop-up with a series of captivating virtual reality experiences in the Regent Street Cinema foyer.

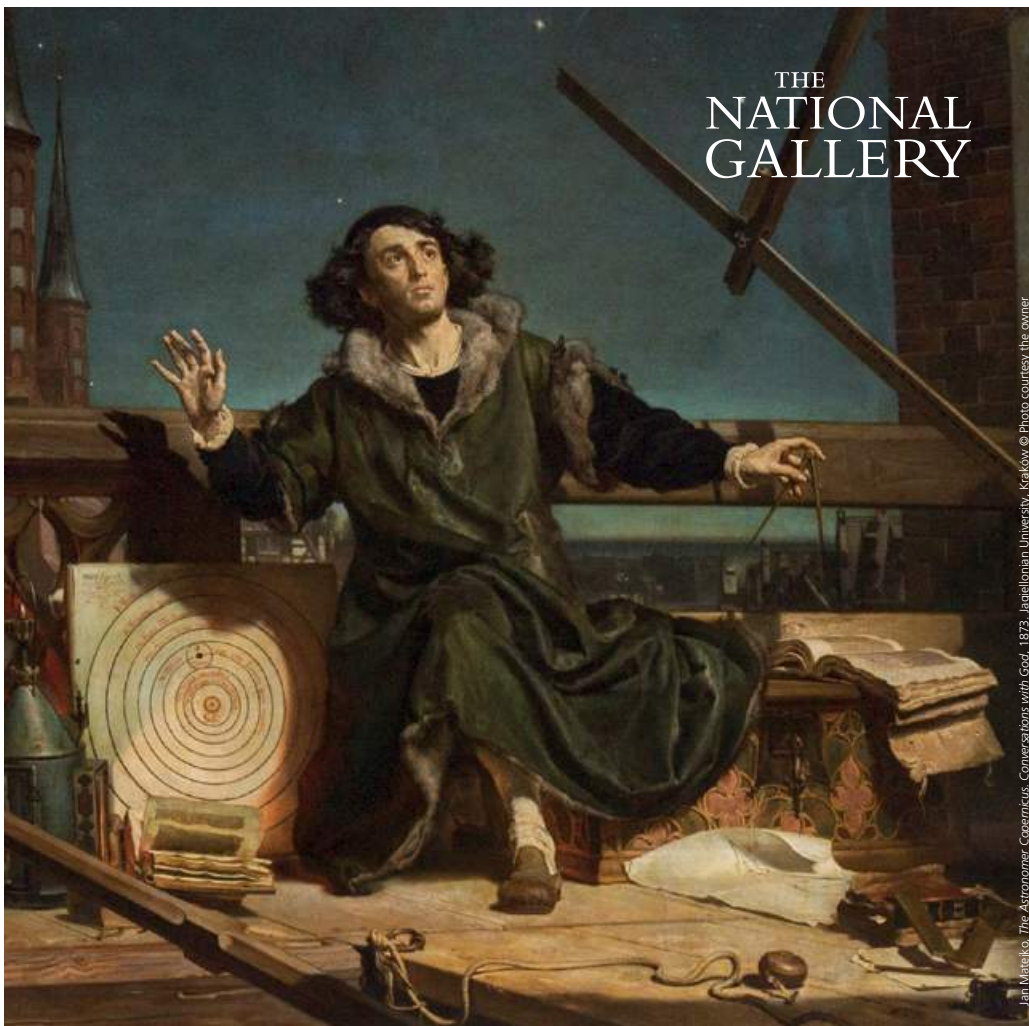
Our Closing Night Gala draws the curtain on this year's festival with a screening at BFI Southbank of the 1924 silent film *Forbidden Paradise*, accompanied by an atmospheric live score performed by composer Marcin Pukaluk.

We are delighted to welcome you to the festival and invite you all to immerse yourself in the best of Polish cinema and culture.

Marta de Zuniga
Polish Cultural Institute Director

Marlena Lukasiak
Kinoteka Artistic Director and Producer

THE
NATIONAL
GALLERY



Jan Matejko. The Astronomer Copernicus. Conversations with God, 1873. Jagiellonian University, Kraków © Photo courtesy the owner

CONVERSATIONS WITH GOD
COPERNICUS
BY JAN MATEJKO

29 July – 15 November 2020 • Admission free

Supported by



SCREENINGS & EVENTS



OPENING NIGHT GALA

RADIOACTIVE



GALA SCREENING

THU 19 MARCH, 19:00
REGENT STREET CINEMA

JK RADIOACTIVE

Director: Marijan Satrapi

Writers: Lauren Redniss, Jack Thorne

Cast: Rosamund Pike, Sam Riley, Anya Taylor-Joy
UK/Hungary, 2019, 109 min

The young and ambitious Maria Skłodowska (Rosamund Pike) emigrates from Poland to Paris, where she studies physics, chemistry and maths at the Sorbonne. As a young woman working in a scientific world full of men, nobody takes her very seriously until she is awarded the Nobel Prize alongside her husband Pierre Curie (Sam Riley). Adapted from Lauren Redniss's graphic novel of the same name, *Radioactive* charts the life and legacy of the first person to win two Nobel Prize awards; the woman who developed the theory of radioactivity and was later known as Marie Skłodowska Curie. After its premiere at the Toronto International Film Festival, we are pleased to present the film's European debut.

Courtesy of Studiocanal

NEW POLISH CINEMA

THE BEST RELEASES FROM THE PAST YEAR



DRAMA

FRI 20 MARCH, 18:15
REGENT STREET CINEMA

✂ CORPUS CHRISTI

Director: Jan Komasa
Writer: Mateusz Pacewicz
Cast: Bartosz Bielenia, Aleksandra Konieczna, Eliza Rycembel
Poland, 2019, 115 min

While serving his sentence in a youth detention centre, Daniel (Bartosz Bielenia) has a spiritual awakening. After his release, Daniel is sent to work as a carpenter in a small town, but is mistaken for a priest and takes over the parish under the suspicious eyes of sexton Lidia (Aleksandra Konieczna). Inspired by real events, *Corpus Christi* is a beautifully-crafted dissection of how the collective psyche deals with tragedy and redemption. The film won 11 awards at the Gdynia Polish Film Festival, with further prizes at Venice Film Festival and Chicago International Film Festival. It was nominated for Best International Feature Film at this year's Academy Awards.

FRI 20 MARCH, 20:30
REGENT STREET CINEMA



THRILLER

✂ THE COLDEST GAME

Director: Łukasz Kośmicki
Writers: Łukasz Kośmicki, Marcel Sawicki
Cast: Bill Pullman, Lotte Verbeek, Robert Więckiewicz
Poland, 2019, 96 min

At the height of the Cuban Missile Crisis, former US chess champion Joshua Mansky (Bill Pullman) is kidnapped by the CIA and taken to Warsaw, where he is to compete in a tournament against Soviet chess champion Alexander Gavrylov. As American global hegemony comes under threat, the chess match takes on immense importance for both sides. A tense espionage thriller, *The Coldest Game* took home two awards at the Gdynia Polish Film Festival.

Plus additional screening:

SUN 29 MARCH, 18:00
POSK CINEMA

SAT 21 MARCH, 16:00
REGENT STREET CINEMA



HISTORY, DRAMA

✂ PILSUDSKI

Director: Michał Rosa
Writer: Michał Rosa
Cast: Borys Szyc, Magdalena Boczarska, Jan Marczewski
Poland, 2019, 120 min

In 1901, the Polish political prisoner Józef Piłsudski (Borys Szyc) escapes a psychiatric hospital in Tsarist Russia. The following decade will prove pivotal for Józef and his wife Maria (Magdalena Boczarska), as they navigate political chicanery and personal troubles on the route to Polish independence in 1918. A biopic of modern Poland's most celebrated statesman, *Pilsudski* is the story of one man's commitment to an independent Polish state above all else. Magdalena Boczarska's performance netted her the Best Actress award at the Gdynia Polish Film Festival.

SAT 21 MARCH, 18:15
REGENT STREET CINEMA



THRILLER

✂ DARK ALMOST NIGHT

Director: Borys Lankosz
Writers: Joanna Bator, Magdalena Lankosz, Borys Lankosz
Cast: Magdalena Cielecka, Marcin Dorociński
Poland, 2019, 114 min

After a spate of child kidnappings in her hometown Wałbrzych, tenacious journalist Alicja Tabor (Magdalena Cielecka) returns to the city to assist the puzzled local police. As she uncovers more and more about the kidnappings, Alicja is forced to confront her family's own uncomfortable secrets, stretching back decades. Adapted from a novel by Joanna Bator, *Dark, Almost Night* is a smart genre blend of film noir and thriller, taking the viewer on a shocking journey through generational evil.

SAT 21 MARCH, 20:35
REGENT STREET CINEMA



LIVE MUSIC

COMEDY, DRAMA

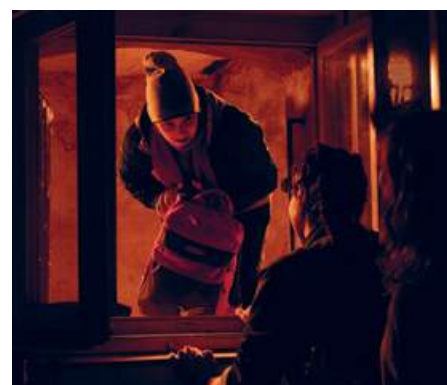
✂ MISTER T.

Director: Marcin Krzyształowicz
Writers: Marcin Krzyształowicz, Andrzej Gołda
Cast: Paweł Wilczak, Sebastian Stankiewicz, Maria Sobocińska
Poland, 2019, 104 min

Warsaw, 1953. Among the post-war rubble, the new politics is being tempered with good company, a healthy dose of vodka, and basement jazz. As writer Mister T. (Paweł Wilczak) knows, anything is possible, including his affair with the high-school student (Maria Sobocińska) he is tutoring. When an aspiring journalist (Sebastian Stankiewicz) moves into his block, the surrealist world of Mister T.'s imagination begins to collide with the absurdity of the communist state. A film that relishes the comedy of the bizarre, *Mister T.* is a black-and-white throwback to a time when paranoia ruled the streets of Poland.

Screening will be followed by a Q&A with actor Paweł Wilczak

SUN 22 MARCH, 17:00
REGENT STREET CINEMA



DRAMA

✂ ALL FOR MY MOTHER

Director: Małgorzata Imielska
Writer: Małgorzata Imielska
Cast: Zofia Domalik, Maria Sobocińska, Malwina Laska
Poland, 2019, 103 min

After repeatedly escaping from her orphanage, 17-year-old Olka (Zofia Domalik) is placed in a youth detention centre. With bitten fingernails and scarred arms, Olka has her troubles, yet she is not interested in flashy clothes or bribing guards for cigarette breaks, like the other girls. Instead, she is focused on one thing: to find her mother again. The debut feature of Małgorzata Imielska, *All For My Mother* is a difficult but brutally honest examination of family bonds. The film – our special Mother's Day screening – took home awards at the Gdynia Polish Film Festival and Warsaw Film Festival.

Mothers Day Screening. Special offer details available on page 35

SUN 22 MARCH, 19:30
REGENT STREET CINEMA



+ INTRO

HISTORY, DRAMA

✂ MR JONES

Director: Agnieszka Holland
Writer: Andrea Chalupa
Cast: James Norton, Vanessa Kirby, Peter Sarsgaard
Poland/Ukraine/UK, 2019, 119 min

In 1933, the Welsh journalist Gareth Jones (James Norton) is sent to the USSR, where he is to interview Joseph Stalin. After initially being restricted to Moscow, Jones defies the authorities and travels towards Soviet Ukraine, where he witnesses the unpleasant truth about the Holodomor. Based on real events, *Mr. Jones* tells the ever-more-relevant story of struggling for truths in a world often dominated by fictions. Agnieszka Holland's latest film won Best Film at the Gdynia Polish Film Festival, and was nominated for awards at Berlin International Film Festival and Camerimage.

The screening will be introduced by film critic Peter Bradshaw

THU 26 MARCH, 20:45
ICA



CRIME, THRILLER

✂ PROCEDER

Director: Michał Wegrzyn
Writers: Maciej Chwedo, Aleksandra Górecka, Michał Kalicki, Krzysztof Tyszowiecki
Cast: Piotr Witkowski, Małgorzata Kożuchowska, Agnieszka Włodocha
Poland, 2019, 137 min

Tomasz Chada (Piotr Witkowski) is Warsaw born and bred; a boy from the blocks with the soul of a poet and a gift for getting into trouble. On his way to musical stardom, Chada fluently articulates his troubled reality, but it's not easy as he goes in and out of jail (and romances). Based on the life of the rapper Chada, *Proceder* is a journey through the difficulties of a boy who came of age in Poland's wild 1990s and was much loved in the hip-hop world.

FRI 3 APRIL, 20:45
ICA



DRAMA

✂ THE OTHER LAMB

Director: Małgorzata Szumowska
Writer: C.S. McMullen
Cast: Raffey Cassidy, Michiel Huisman
Belgium/Ireland/USA, 2019, 97 min

Brought up in the self-sufficient, all-female, forest community of The Flock, Selah (Raffey Cassidy) has only ever known the teachings and guardianship of Shepherd (Michiel Huisman), the group's leader. After local authorities threaten their existence, The Flock move inland, and Selah begins to have disturbing visions that challenge her faith in Shepherd. A slow-burning examination of life in a cult, *The Other Lamb* also dissects broader questions about what it means to believe in something. Małgorzata Szumowska's English-language debut competed for awards at Toronto International Film Festival, San Sebastián International Film Festival, and the London Film Festival.

Screening will be followed by a Q&A

MON 30 MARCH, 20:00
JW3



DRAMA

✂ DOLCE FINE GIORNATA

Director: Jacek Borcuch
Writers: Jacek Borcuch, Szczepan Twardoch
Cast: Krystyna Janda, Kasia Smutniak
Poland, 2019, 92 min



60-something Polish Jewish poet Maria Linde (Krystyna Janda) lives a calm family life in Tuscany, as at ease with the local intelligentsia as she is with the migrants working in nearby tavernas. Shortly after she is awarded a Nobel Prize, a terror attack happens in Rome. Maria makes a controversial speech that quickly goes viral, shattering her liberal utopia. The latest film from Jacek Borcuch, *Dolce Fine Giornata* is a complex moral drama that is bold, honest and exquisitely executed. Krystyna Janda's performance earned her the World Cinema Dramatic Special Jury Award at Sundance Film Festival.

DOCUMENTARIES



+ Q&A

DOCUMENTARY

TUE 24 MARCH, 20:30
ICA

✂ IN TOUCH

Director: Paweł Ziemilski
Writers: Paweł Ziemilski, Haukur M. Hrafnsson,
Łukasz Długołęcki
Iceland/Poland, 2018, 62 min

In the heart of the Polish lake district, the village of Stare Juchy has been pulled apart. Around one-third of its residents have migrated to Iceland for work. All that remains are their elderly parents, holding on to the hopeful sound of an incoming Skype call. *In Touch* is a decidedly human look at what it means to stay in contact in a globalised world, and how despite widespread connectivity, we can still feel isolated and alone. The film won the Human Values Award for Best Film at the Thessaloniki Documentary Film Festival.

Screening will be followed by a Q&A with Paweł Ziemilski

SAT 28 MARCH, 15:00
POSK CINEMA



DOCUMENTARY

✂ OUR LITTLE POLAND

Director: Matěj Bobřík
Writer: Matěj Bobřík
Poland, 2019, 70 min

Every year, a small group of Japanese students sign up for classes in the Polish Language and Culture Studies programme at the University of Tokyo. Alongside struggling to pronounce words like *kiełbasa*, second-year students are required to stage a play in Polish. *Our Little Poland* examines their trials and tribulations – not only with the Polish language, but also with the bittersweet clash of expectation and reality – in this coming-of-age tale. Matěj Bobřík's first feature-length documentary premiered at the Warsaw Film Festival, where it took part in the Documentary Competition.

SUN 29 MARCH, 15:30
JW3



DOCUMENTARY

✂ MAREK EDELMAN... AND THERE WAS LOVE IN THE GHETTO

Directors: Jolanta Dylewska, Andrzej Wajda
Writers: Marek Edelman, Jolanta Dylewska, Agnieszka Holland
Cast: Aleksandra Popławska, Adriana Kalska
Germany/Poland, 2019, 79 min

Shortly before his death in 2009, Jolanta Dylewska interviewed Marek Edelman – a member of the Bund, and veteran of both the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising and Warsaw Uprising – about a somewhat surprising subject from his memoir of life during the Holocaust: love. By interspersing parts of the interview with stunningly-recreated scenes, the film looks back at how Jewish women and men relied on tenderness, passion and lust in a time of unparalleled horror and depravity. The film took home awards at the Camerimage and Millennium Docs Against Gravity film festivals.

Screening will be introduced by historian Francois Guesnet

UNDISCOVERED MASTERS OF POLISH CINEMA: JERZY HOFFMAN & EDWARD SKÓRZEWSKI



As post-war Poland became a communist state that embraced the tenets of Stalinism, the socialist realist approach to the arts was keenly felt at the cinema. Naturally, this ideology was not for everyone. The documentarians Jerzy Hoffman and Edward Skórzewski may have trained in the USSR at the All-Russian State University of Cinematography, but their legacy would be the birth of a distinctly Polish school of documentary film-making; one that broke the conventions of the hegemonic socialist realism. Hoffman and Skórzewski made their debut film *Are You Among Them?* in 1954, during the cultural 'thaw' that occurred after the death of Stalin. This meant that, in their depiction of a low-level vandal, the two were able to show a non-compliant member of society; one who did not subscribe to communist ideals of positive behaviour. This concept was further developed in their subsequent two films, *Look Out, Hooligans!* (1955) and *The Children Accuse* (1956), the former of which kick-started the

so-called 'black series' (*czarna seria*) of Polish documentary films, in which dark societal issues such as hooliganism and alcoholism were directly confronted on the screen. These films – set among ruined post-war cities and disappearing towns – often used staged scenes to force the viewer into a critical mindset. In doing so, they brought forth a Poland that cut through the hitherto propaganda machine, presenting a shocking reality. Outside of the 'black series', Hoffman and Skórzewski also worked on stylised reportage films, showing holiday destinations (*Sopot*, 1957) or the small-town practices of some of Poland's Catholics (*A Souvenir From Calvary*, 1958; *The Two Faces of God*, 1960). Later, they would go on to work on feature films, both together and individually, contributing to the rich fabric of Polish cinema.

In partnership with the ICA, we are pleased to present an overview of Hoffman and Skórzewski's early documentary films.

SAT 4 APRIL, 18:30 ICA



✂ LOOK OUT, HOOLIGANS!

Directors: Edward Skórzewski, Jerzy Hoffman
Writers: Jerzy Hoffman, Edward Skórzewski
Cast: Roman Wilhelm
Poland, 1955, 12 min

In the streets of 1950s' Warsaw, hooligans are having a pernicious effect on the influx of young people looking for work in the city.

✂ THE CHILDREN ACCUSE

Directors: Edward Skórzewski, Jerzy Hoffman
Writers: Edward Skórzewski, Jerzy Hoffman
Poland, 1956, 10 min

Born to alcoholic parents, a generation of children speak about their tragic, unchosen fate.



✂ ARE YOU AMONG THEM?

Directors: Jerzy Hoffman, Edward Skórzewski
Poland, 1954, 7 min

An unruly "cherry taster" litters the pavement with stones from the fruit, causing injuries to passers-by in the first collaboration from Hoffman and Skórzewski.

✂ SOPOT

Directors: Edward Skórzewski, Jerzy Hoffman
Writers: Edward Skórzewski, Jerzy Hoffman
Poland, 1957, 16 min

A lively and humorous reportage from the Baltic coast holiday destination of Sopot.



✂ A SOUVENIR FROM CALVARY

Directors: Edward Skórzewski, Jerzy Hoffman
Writers: Jerzy Hoffman, Edward Skórzewski
Poland, 1958, 14 min

Each year, the small town of Kalwaria Zebrzydowska holds one of Poland's most prominent "mystery of the Passion" plays, depicting the trial, suffering and death of Jesus Christ.

✂ THE TWO FACES OF GOD

Directors: Edward Skórzewski, Jerzy Hoffman
Writer: Stanisław Manturzewski
Poland, 1960, 16 min

A glimpse into the practices of a small Christian denomination that is a mixture of original Christianity, utopian communism, and pacifism.

FOCUS RICHARD BOLESLAWSKI

If asked to name the Polish director who has left the most lasting impression on Hollywood, most of us would probably suggest Roman Polański. Yet while Polański was still a toddler, there was an altogether different Pole already working with the likes of Greta Garbo and Marlene Dietrich; a man whose influence can be felt in the performances of subsequent American greats, like Marlon Brando, Marilyn Monroe or Jack Nicholson.

Ryszard Boleslawski was born in 1889 in Mohylów Podolski, then part of Tsarist Russia-ruled Poland. He trained as an actor at the Moscow Art Theatre under Konstantin Stanislavski, where he was introduced to Stanislavski's 'system' – an approach to acting grounded in the 'art of experience', whereby actors consciously aim to activate instinctive emotional responses and unconscious behaviours as they rehearse and perform.



After graduating, Boleslawski returned to his newly-independent Polish homeland, shortly thereafter moving to New York, where he took on the anglicised name Richard Boleslawski and in 1923 set up the American Laboratory Theatre with fellow Moscow Art Theatre alumna Maria Ouspenskaya. Together, they began to teach Stanislavski's system to the likes of Lee Strasberg, Stella Adler and Sanford Meisner, who used this knowledge to develop Method acting – the system famously implemented by Marlon Brando in *A Streetcar Named Desire* (1951), and still used today by actors such as Daniel Day-Lewis and Joaquin Phoenix.

Boleslawski's teaching success in New York earned him the attention of Hollywood. Soon enough, he was directing the silent stars Laurel and Hardy, as well as working on contracts with the major studios. Boleslawski's career was sadly cut short with his untimely death at the age of 47, but his name is immortalised on the Hollywood Walk of Fame.

We are delighted to present two classical Hollywood films celebrating the work of Ryszard Boleslawski: *Theodora Goes Wild* (1936) and *The Garden of Allah* (1936).

SAT 21 MARCH, 14:00
REGENT STREET CINEMA



ROMANCE, COMEDY

✂ THEODORA GOES WILD

Director: Richard Boleslawski
Writers: Mary McCarthy, Sidney Buchman
Cast: Irene Dunne, Melvyn Douglas, Thomas Mitchell
USA, 1936, 94 min

Theodora Lynn (Irene Dunne) is a small-town Sunday school teacher, who also happens to be the secret author of a bestselling risqué novel. The serialisation of her book in the local newspaper leads the outraged Lynnfield Literary Circle to force the editor (Thomas Mitchell) to stop printing it. Theodora visits her publisher in New York, where she meets the book's illustrator Michael Grant (Melvyn Douglas). Michael vows to set her free from prudish Lynnfield, yet harbours his own secret... A classic screwball comedy featuring some of the stars of the era, *Theodora Goes Wild* was nominated for two Oscars.

SUN 22 MARCH, 15:00
REGENT STREET CINEMA



ROMANCE, DRAMA

✂ THE GARDEN OF ALLAH

Director: Richard Boleslawski
Writers: Robert Hichens, W.P. Lipscomb, Lynn Riggs
Cast: Marlene Dietrich, Charles Boyer, Tilly Losch
USA, 1936, 79 min

Domini Enfilen (Marlene Dietrich), an heiress who had long been confined to caring for her recently-deceased father, travels to the liberating expanses of the North African desert to renew her soul. There she meets Boris Androvski (Charles Boyer), a Trappist monk who has fled his monastery after struggling with the pressure of keeping his vows. The two free birds fall in love and marry, but will Domini discover the monastic secret that Boris is hiding from her? Nominated for two Oscars, *The Garden of Allah* eventually received an honorary Academy Award for its pioneering use of Three-strip Technicolor.



† Movie posters for *Theodora Goes Wild* (above) and *The Garden of Allah* (above right)

FAMILY EVENT

KIDS WORKSHOP AND SCREENING



SUN 22 MARCH, 12:00
REGENT STREET CINEMA

✂ ROCK 'N' ROLL EDDIE

Director: Tomasz Szafrński

Writer: Tomasz Szafrński

Cast: Maciej Makowski, Szymon Radzimierski,
Weronika Kaczmarczyk

Poland, 2019, 101 min

After their failed scientific experiment pierces a hole into another dimension, friends Franek (Szymon Radzimierski) and Izka (Weronika Kaczmarczyk) accidentally bring the rock-n-roll fugitive Eddie (Maciej Makowski) into our world. It soon turns out that Eddie is being

chased by a pair of ruthless bounty hunters, meaning that the two kids have to figure out how to save him. A family adventure film with a thrilling soundtrack, Rock 'n' Roll Eddie won a number of awards for children's cinema.

Before the screening of Rock 'n' Roll Eddie the Polish Cultural Institute and the Museum of Cassettes will be running a family workshop that will take you on a journey to another dimension of music! Through a series of competitions and fun, hands-on activities featuring exciting exhibits such as vinyl records, compact cassettes and rare walkmen, find out exactly how mum and dad used to listen to their favourite songs, long before Spotify and AirPods came along. There will be prizes too, so get ready and set on a fascinating musical adventure through time!

TADEUSZ KANTOR LEGACY

FILM, CONVERSATION AND PERFORMANCE



WED 25 MARCH, 19:00
RICH MIX THE STAGE

Tadeusz Kantor (1915–1990) was a “total artist”; an avant-garde visionary who – alongside his theatre directing work – channelled his creative energy as a painter, stage designer, poet, actor and ‘happener’.

During the German occupation of Kraków in WW2, he founded the experimental Underground Independent Theatre, which carried out clandestine bedroom performances. Later, in 1948, he co-organised the first Exhibition of Modern Art in Kraków, and used the opportunity to display his nascent visual art. Disillusioned by socialist realist

doctrine, Kantor later retired from visual art, instead focusing on theatre. Here he pioneered his characteristic set design, including the use of mannequins and ‘emballages’.

Often challenging, Kantor’s creative output toys with reality in unexpected and unique ways. In the words of one curator, “Kantor is to Polish art what Joseph Beuys was to German art and what Andy Warhol was to American art.”

In collaboration with Rich Mix and Regent Street Cinema, we invite you to enjoy *Europeans: Tadeusz Kantor*, an evening of film, conversation and performance inspired by the legacy of Tadeusz Kantor. Watch interviews with Kantor and footage of his shows, hear recollections from his collaborators and see his impact on theatre and galleries across Europe with performances from contemporary artists.

VIRTUAL REALITY POP-UP

IMMERSIVE VR EXPERIENCES

FREE ADMISSION

19–22 MARCH
REGENT STREET CINEMA

As film technology continues to improve, we have seen a number of advancements on the silver screen. In recent years, CGI has moved leaps and bounds, becoming increasingly realistic and indiscernible from live footage. Meanwhile, the likes of Martin Scorsese have employed de-aging visual effects in prestige cinema. Yet there remains one as-of-yet underused technology. Virtual reality – or VR – refers to a simulated experience of reality, transmitted through a headset. Thus far used primarily in video games, it opens a whole new world of cinematic possibilities.

In partnership with Regent Street Cinema, we are excited to present three distinct VR experiences at this year's festival.



JK GYMNASIA

An abandoned school awaits you; a place that echoes with childhood memories. Yet like a darkly surreal dream, it constantly blurs the boundaries between unsettling anxiety and the comfort of waking life. The brainchild of Maciek Szczerbowski and Chris Lavis, *Gymnasia* is a VR experience inspired by visionary theatre director Tadeusz Kantor's seminal play *The Dead Class*.



JK CHERNOBYL VR

Just over 30 years ago, one of the greatest tragedies of the latter 20th century occurred. The Chernobyl nuclear disaster affected the lives of thousands across the USSR, and left the nearby city Pripyat a ghost town. Walk through a virtual Chernobyl Exclusion Zone to learn the history of the place and discover the future that was lost.



JK WARSAW RISING

At 17:00 on 1 August 1944, the inhabitants of Warsaw decided to turn against their German occupiers. Led by the underground Polish resistance, the Warsaw Uprising was the single largest wartime operation of its kind in Europe. Join the heroes of the Uprising in this immersive VR experience.



HISTORY RECONSTRUCTED

AN EVENT CELEBRATING THE FATHER OF POLISH CINEMA

A project by the
National Centre for
Film Culture, Łódź

"Gentlemen, this man is the leader in cinematography, I am the second," said Louis Lumière about one of the early pioneers of the film camera. No, he wasn't talking about his brother, but about the Polish inventor Kazimierz Prószyński. Back in 1894 – a year before the Lumière Brothers presented their famous cinematograph on the world stage – Prószyński constructed his own film camera for taking photos and projecting moving images: the 'pleograph'. Just four years later, the Pole refined his design and invented a new device with reduced flicker. This 'biopleograph' would prove to be a milestone in Polish cinema history, eventually being used in 1902 to shoot the first Polish fictional film, the one-minute long *The Return of the Reveller*.



↑ Polish inventor Kazimierz Prószyński with the original biopleograph in 1902

Prószyński continued to innovate, with devices such as the handheld aeroscope camera enjoying significant commercial success. Yet with the outbreak of World War 2, the inventor and his family were persecuted by the occupying German forces; his creations and films lost among the destruction of Warsaw. In 2017, the National Centre for Film Culture in Łódź embarked on a project aiming to reconstruct the biopleograph. With the help of scarce notes and only two photos of the original apparatus, industry expert Janusz Król was able to recreate a full-functional device. The project team then used the reconstructed biopleograph, alongside a 35mm film camera from 1908 and a contemporary digital camera, to reshoot Prószyński's *The Return of the Reveller*.

In partnership with the National Centre for Film Culture in Łódź, we are delighted to present the results of this remarkable project.



↑ Janusz Król with the recreated biopleograph



TUE 24 MARCH, 19:30
THE CINEMA MUSEUM

✂ BIOPLEOGRAPH: AN EXPERIMENTAL RECONSTRUCTION

Draw back the curtain on Poland's film history with an evening dedicated to Kazimierz Prószyński's early contribution to cinema. The project team will show a making-of film, present the biopleograph itself, and screen the reshot version of *The Return of the Reveller*.



↑↑ Still and film reel detail from the reshooting of *The Return of the Reveller*

In partnership with the
National Centre for Film
Culture, Łódź



CLOSING GALA

SILENT MOVIE WITH A LIVE MUSICAL SCORE

SUN 5 APRIL 14:30
BFI SOUTHBANK ^{NFT1}

The Polish Cultural Institute in London and the BFI present the Closing Gala of the 2020 Kinoteka Polish Film Festival, featuring a screening of the silent film *Forbidden Paradise* accompanied by a live score.

GALA SCREENING



+ LIVE SCORE

✂ FORBIDDEN PARADISE

Director: Ernst Lubitsch

Writers: Agnes Christine Johnston, Hans Kräly,
Lajos Biró, Menyhért Lengyel

Cast: Pola Negri, Rod La Rocque
USA, 1924, 76 min

Young military officer Alexei (Rod La Rocque) rescues Catherine (Pola Negri), the Czarina of a small kingdom in Eastern Europe, from a group of revolutionaries who are plotting against her. The Czarina 'rewards' him in the bedroom, causing Alexei to fall head over heels in love with her, only to find out that he is far from the only royal consort. Stung, Alexei joins a rebellion against the monarchy, vowing that no harm will come to Catherine. But the rakish Chancellor (Adolphe Menjou) has plans to quash this new threat.

Made during the golden era of Hollywood silent cinema, *Forbidden Paradise* is a wonderful comic drama adapted from a 1922 Broadway play, starring the much-loved Polish performer Pola Negri, alongside an early cameo from Clark Gable.

We are pleased to present the most complete version of *Forbidden Paradise* in almost 100 years, thanks to a new digital restoration by the Museum of Modern Art and The Film Foundation, with funding provided by the George Lucas Family Foundation.

The screening of *Forbidden Paradise* will be accompanied by a live score performed by Marcin Pukaluk, a composer, performer and producer who has previously scored the likes of *The Cabinet of Dr. Caligari* (1920), *The General* (1926), and *Metropolis* (1927) for an array of international film festivals.

BELFAST FILM FESTIVAL

FOCUS ON POLAND

Kinoteka is pleased to partner with Northern Ireland's leading film festival, the Belfast Film festival, for another year. This time we support screening of two classic Polish comedies – *Kiler* and *Day of the Wacko*, as well as one international production which is also showcased during Kinoteka at ICA – *The Other Lamb*. We hope that Belfast-based cinephiles will truly enjoy this selection. Times and locations of the screenings are coming soon, for more details visit: belfastfilmfestival.org



✂ KILER

Dir. Juliusz Machulski, 1997

In Warsaw, Poland, a cab driver is mistaken for an assassin and hired to kill a gangster. A truly Polish take on the gangster comedy genre.

✂ DAY OF THE WACKO

Dir. Marek Koterski, 2002

A middle-aged schoolteacher hates himself and takes out his anger and frustration on the people around him. A fantastic example of Polish absurdist comedy with another reincarnation of comedic 'everyman' Adaś Miauczyński.



✂ THE OTHER LAMB

Dir. Marek Koterski, 2019

A young woman born into an all-female cult begins to question the teachings of her leader. A captivating thriller with Michiel Huisman (*Game of Thrones*).



CALENDAR, BOOKING & INFORMATION



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Thursday 19 March 19:00 OPENING NIGHT GALA
Radioactive
Director: Marijan Satrapi Regent Street Cinema regentstreetcinema.com

Thursday 19 – Sunday 22 March SPECIAL SCREENINGS & EVENTS
Gymnasia
Director: Maciek Szczerbowski
Warsaw Rising
Director: Tomasz Dobosz
Chernobyl VR Project
Director: (The Farm 51) Regent Street Cinema Foyer - VR Lounge regentstreetcinema.com

Friday 20 March 18:15 NEW POLISH CINEMA
Corpus Christi
Director: Jan Komasa Regent Street Cinema regentstreetcinema.com



Friday 20 March 20:30 NEW POLISH CINEMA
The Coldest Game
Director: Lukasz Kosmicki Regent Street Cinema regentstreetcinema.com

Saturday 21 March 14:00 FOCUS: RICHARD BOLESŁAWSKI
Theodora Goes Wild
Director: Ryszard Boleslawski Regent Street Cinema regentstreetcinema.com

Saturday 21 March 16:00 NEW POLISH CINEMA
Pilsudski
Director: Michal Rosa Regent Street Cinema regentstreetcinema.com

Saturday 21 March 18:15 NEW POLISH CINEMA
Dark Almost Night
Director: Borys Lankosz Regent Street Cinema regentstreetcinema.com

Saturday 21 March 20:35 NEW POLISH CINEMA
Mister T.
Director: Marcin Krzyształowicz
Screening will be followed by a Q&A with actor Paweł Wilczak Regent Street Cinema regentstreetcinema.com

Sunday 22 March 12:00 FAMILY EVENT
Rock'n'Roll Eddie
Director: Tomasz Szafranski
Screening will be preceded by a children's workshop from Museum of Cassettes Regent Street Cinema regentstreetcinema.com



Sunday 22 March 15:00 FOCUS: RICHARD BOLESŁAWSKI
The Garden of Allah
Director: Ryszard Boleslawski Regent Street Cinema regentstreetcinema.com

Sunday 22 March 17:00 NEW POLISH CINEMA
All For My Mother
Director: Malgorzata Imielska Regent Street Cinema regentstreetcinema.com

Sunday 22 March 19:30 NEW POLISH CINEMA
Mr. Jones
Director: Agnieszka Holland
Screening will be introduced by film critic Peter Bradshaw Regent Street Cinema regentstreetcinema.com



Tuesday 24 March 19:30 SPECIAL SCREENINGS & EVENTS
**A Historic Reconstruction:
 The Biopleograph and *The Return of the Reveller***

The Cinema Museum

cinemamuseum.org.uk



Tuesday 24 March 20:30 NEW POLISH CINEMA
In Touch
 Director: Pawel Ziemilski
 Screening will be followed by Q&A with Pawel Ziemilski

ICA

ica.art



Wednesday 25 March 19:00 TADEUSZ KANTOR LEGACY
Europeans: Tadeusz Kantor
 An evening of film, conversation and live performance with Dash Arts

Rich Mix

richmix.org.uk

Thursday 26 March 20:45 DOCUMENTARIES
Proceder
 Director: Michal Wegrzyn

ICA

ica.art

Saturday 28 March 15:00 DOCUMENTARIES
My Little Poland
 Director: Bobik Matiej

POSK Cinema

poskcinema.org

Sunday 29 March 15:30 DOCUMENTARIES
Marek Edelman.....And There Was Love in the Ghetto
 Director: Jolanta Dylewska
 Screening will be introduced by historian Francois Guesnet

JW3

JW3.org.uk

Sunday 29 March 18:00 NEW POLISH CINEMA
The Coldest Game
 Director: Lukasz Kosmicki

POSK

poskcinema.org

Monday 30 March 20:00 NEW POLISH CINEMA
Dolce Fine Giornata
 Director: Jacek Borcuch

JW3

JW3.org.uk

Friday 3 April 20:45 NEW POLISH CINEMA
The Other Lamb
 Director: Malgorzata Szumowska
 Screening will be followed by Q&A

ICA

ica.art

Saturday 4 April 18:30 DOCUMENTARIES
Undiscovered Masters of Polish Cinema: *Look Out Hooligans, The Children Accuse, Are You Among Them, Sopot, Calvary, Two Faces of God*
 Directors: Jerzy Hoffman and Edward Skorzewski

ICA

ica.art

Sunday 5 April 14:30 CLOSING GALA
Forbidden Paradise
 Director: Ernst Lubitsch
 With a live score by Marcin Pukaluk

BFI Southbank

bfi.org.uk

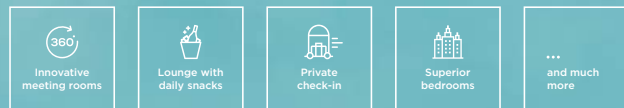


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LEVEL

THE LEVEL



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VENUE INFORMATION



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

THE CINEMA MUSEUM

The Cinema Museum
2 Dugard Way
London SE11 4TH
0207 840 2200
cinemamuseum.org.uk

ICA

Institute of Contemporary Arts
The Mall
London, SW1Y 5AH
020 7930 3647
ica.art



JW3
341-351 Finchley Road
London NW3 6ET
0207 433 8988
jw3.org.uk



**POSK Cinema at Polish
Social & Cultural Association**
238-246 King St
London W6 0RF
0208 741 1940
poskcinema.org

REGENT
STREET
CINEMA

Regent Street Cinema
307 Regent Street
London W1B 2HW
0207 911 5050
regentstreetcinema.com

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002

MOTHER'S DAY SPECIAL:
BUY 1 GET 1 1/2 PRICE!

Come with your mum to see
All For My Mother (p.9) on
Sunday 22 March and buy one
ticket with the second half price!



Sunday 22 March, 17:00
Regent Street Cinema

Special offers are available online, over the phone and in person at the box office. Booking fees may apply. Regent Street Cinema multi-screening offer does not apply to Opening Gala (p.4-5), *Mister T.* (p.8) or Family Event (p.18)

CREDITS & THANKS

FESTIVAL PRODUCTION TEAM

Marta de Zuniga
Polish Cultural Institute Director

Konrad Zielinski
Polish Cultural Institute Deputy Director

Marlena Lukasiak
Kinoteka Artistic Director and Producer

Jakub Ochmanski
PR and Marketing

Joanna Snieg
Guest Experience

Darek Tomaszewski
Logistics and Guest Support

Paulina Latham
Music Events Coordinator

Dobrosława Swiatalska
Family Event Coordinator

DESIGN AND PUBLICITY

Luke Gould
Design and Art Direction

Adam Wojcicki
Poster/Cover art

Richard Greenhill
Copy-writer and Editor

Kamil Dobrosielski
Festival Trailer

Serieeight.com
Festival Website

Dot-studio
Merchandise

Organic PR
Public Relations

WITH SPECIAL THANKS

Charlotte Tillieux, MUBI

Chiara Maranon, MUBI

Jakub Krupa, POSK Cinema

Martin Humphries, The Cinema Museum

Nick Cook, Melia White House

Liam Cutler, Regent Street Cinema

Agnieszka Gabriel-Damaz, The Polish Bakery

Małgorzata Gieblewicz, The Polish Bakery

Magdalena Hejda, Melia White House

Victoria Humphrys, BFI Southbank

Izabela Kiszka, IKH Film Promotions

Maciej Kornacki, Filmoteka Narodowa

Shira MacLeod, Regent Street Cinema

Nico Marzano, ICA

Liz Parkinson, BFI Southbank

Nicolas Raffin, ICA

Oliver Reutter, The Polish Bakery

Grzegorz Skorupski, Adam Mickiewicz Institute

Matthew Dinsdale, Studiocanal

Jack Beditler Paterson, JW3

Radosław Śmigulski, PISF

Maria Gradolewska, PISF

Anna Winkler, Adam Mickiewicz Institute

Marianne Wells, Regent Street Cinema

James Burbidge, Regent Street Cinema

Piotr Kulesza, Narodowe Centrum Kultury Filmowej

Monika Marlicka-Robert, Narodowe Centrum Kultury Filmowej

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THE 18TH
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KINOTEKA




KINOTEKA returns this March for your annual dose of Poland's diverse film culture. This year's programme offers a stimulating blend of award-winning films and documentaries, interactive events, Q&As, and special guests. For the best of Polish cinema, look no further.


In London at the BFI, ICA, JW3, Regent Street Cinema, Rich Mix, POSK Cinema and more.

www.kinoteka.org.uk
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