



The Workshop Film Group presents:
The 40th Residential Film Weekend

October 3 – October 5, 2015
Metropole Guest House, Katoomba.

Saturday 3 October

2.00	Run Lola Run (Lola Rennt)	Crime Thriller	DVD (77 Mins)
3.40	The Searchers	Western	DVD (120 Mins)
	Dinner	6pm – 8pm	
8.00	Seven Brides for Seven Brothers	Musical	DVD (102 Mins)
10.15	Stranger on the Third Floor	Film Noir	DVD (64 Mins)

Sunday 4 October

Breakfast	8 am – 9 am		
9.00	East of Eden	Drama	DVD (112 Mins)
11.05	The War Game	Documentary	DVD (49 Mins)
Lunch	12.00 pm – 1.45 pm		
1.45	Molokai, The Story of Father Damien	Drama	DVD (120 Mins)
4.15	Art & Power 1937	Documentary	DVD (28 Mins)
5.00	Cane Toads: An Unnatural History	Documentary	DVD (47 Mins)
Dinner	6pm – 8pm		
8.00	Above Suspicion	Spy Drama	DVD (90 Mins)
10.00	Green Tea & Cherry Ripe	Documentary	VHS (47 Mins)

Monday 5 October

Breakfast	8 am – 9 am		
9.00	A Portrait of the Schulpör Robert Keppel	Documentary	DVD (54 Mins)
10.10	Suspicion	Drama	DVD (99 Mins)
Lunch	12.05 pm – 1.45 pm		
1.45	Lotte Reiniger (Dance Of Shadows)	Animation	DVD (60 Mins)

NB. Provisional program – all the above films have been booked but the order of showing may change.

They're A Weird Mob (105 Mins) is a possible replacement for East of Eden but is available only in VHS, we are endeavouring to obtain quality details before considering a swap.

Documentaries and shorts:

GREEN TEA AND CHERRY RIPE

Dir: Solrun Hoaas, Australia vhs 1988 54 mins, b&w and col, Japanese with English subtitles.

Tells the story of six Japanese women who married Australian servicemen after the Second World War, their efforts to build new lives in Australia and the challenges they faced in an alien land. They came to a new homeland which made some of them feel uneasy and strangely out of place. Their new families wanted them to become Australians. Their own language and lifestyle often prevented them from adapting and communicating. Their ways and means of coping were as varied as their reasons for marrying with resilience a common trait.

CANE TOADS: AN UNNATURAL HISTORY

Dir: Mark Lewis, Australia dvd 1987 47 mins, col.

This unique blend of personal anecdote and absurd fact exposes one of the most bizarre biological blunders of all time. In 1935, in a strategic operation designed to save the nation's sugar cane crop from destruction by the Greyback beetle, the Queensland Government imported a sack-load of Bufo Marinus, the Cane Toad, from Hawaii. The Cane Toad adapted beautifully to its new surroundings and proceeded to breed so rapidly that it fast became a pest of plague proportions. They spread everywhere and ate everything - except the Greyback beetle. 'Cane Toads' presents the whole story - warts and all. An entertaining and informative documentary with a distinct visual style and sense of humour.

THE WAR GAME

Dir: Peter Watkins, UK dvd 1966 49 mins, b&w.

This simulation of atomic holocaust using methods of reportage in a fictional framework pioneered docu-drama on British television but was banned by the BBC, officially because, like certain horror films, it was deemed to be 'too horrifying'. Watkins' interpretation is that the ban was politically motivated since he probed the facts of nuclear stockpiling and raised important questions about social institutions in both peace and war.

ART AND POWER - 1937

Dir: Erwin Leiser, Germany, dvd 1992 28 mins, Col. Narration in English.

Documents the official Nazi stand on modern art and artists in 1937. Modern art was thought to encourage people to think individually, to raise questions and be critical, become nonconformist, which could threaten the unity of the totalitarian state. Shows silent footage by American filmmaker Julian Bryan of the Degenerate Art Exhibition held in Munich in 1937 in which international artists' works were condemned by the Nazis as being 'a deliberate attack on the ideals of the Germanic race'. Art historian Barbara Rose discusses art and politics, and the reconstruction of the exhibition in 1991 at the County Museum of Art in Los Angeles is explained by curator Stephanie Barron. Includes an interview with American architect Philip Johnson.

A PORTRAIT OF THE SCHULPOR: ROBERT KLIPPEL – MAKE IT NEW

Dir: Featherstone Productions, Australia, dvd 2010 54 mins, Col, Cast: Robert Klippel.

A profile of Australia's greatest sculptor Robert Klippel. Filmed at his waterfront home and studio in Sydney this documentary provides a rare insight into the life and work of a man who was one of the most significant sculptors of his generation and who until the making of this film had retreated from the public gaze. Via dramatisation, the film traces Klippel's career from a small boy interested in model ships to a major sculptor who was exhibited in London, Paris and New York where he achieved some recognition. But critics had difficulty coming to terms with his confronting non-figurative junk-metal sculptures. In retrospect he was considered ahead of his time. Klippel returned to Sydney where he retreated to his home and studio and remained wonderfully productive creating some of his best works right up to his death in 2001.

LOTTE REINIGER – DANCE OF SHADOWS

Dir: Susanne Marschall, Rada Bieberstein & Kurt Schneider, Germany, dvd 2013 60 mins, Col. English subtitles.

In 1926, the virtuoso of silhouette-making conjured up THE ADVENTURES OF PRINCE ACHMED on the silent movie screen, inventing a new form of art-house film, drawing on Art Nouveau aesthetics, Expressionism and fairy tales. While her husband Carl Koch perfected the multiplane camera and the animation stand, Lotte Reiniger developed each figure individually, staging their movements with the utmost patience.

Films:

ABOVE SUSPICION

Dir: Richard Thorpe, USA, dvd, 1943 90 mins, b&w, Cast: Joan Crawford, Fred MacMurray, Conrad Veidt, Basil Rathbone, Reginald Owen, Felix Bressart

An American Oxford Professor Richard Myles and new bride Frances are off on a European honeymoon. It isn't your typical honeymoon though, for they are on a spying mission for British intelligence on the eve of World War. Crawford's last movie for M-G-M.

RUN LOLA RUN

Dir: Tom Tykwer, Germany, dvd, 1999, 77 mins, col, Cast: Franka Potente, Moritz Bleibtreu, Herbert Knaup, Armin Rhode.

A young woman has just twenty minutes to come up with the large sum of money that is needed to save her boyfriend from being killed by the mob. Tykwer's chase thriller employs the formal narrative structure of presenting three variations on the outcome of Lola's mission with each slight spatio-temporal alteration in the chain of events shifting the subsequent possibilities that are open to her. The film draws on a plethora of innovative cinematic techniques such as jump cuts, rapid editing, whip-pans, split-screen, segment titles and animation. *BAFTA Nomination best foreign language film*

THE SEARCHERS

Dir: John Ford, USA, dvd, 1956, 119 mins, col, Cast: John Wayne, Jeffrey Hunter, Vera Miles, Ward Bond, Natalie Wood.

A civil war veteran's five-year search for his niece, who has been taken by Indians, ranges across the American landscape, physical, emotional and mythical in this epic Western. Gaps open between Wayne's heroic image and the pathology underlying his obsessive quest, gaps which ultimately close around the tragic mythology of the Westerner, an outsider impelled to walk away from the comforts and security of community.

MOLOKAI, THE STORY OF FATHER DAMIEN

Dir: Paul Cox, Australia, dvd, 1998, 120 mins, col, Cast: David Wenham, Kate Ceberano, Jan Deleir, Sam Neil, Peter O'Toole, Derek Jacobi.

True story of Father Damien who, in the 19th century cares for the banished lepers on the Hawaiian island of Molokai. Father Damien struggles to come to terms with the conditions on the island but shows kindness to the leper colony and devotes his life to campaigning for international aid. *2 AFI nominations best actor and screenplay.*

SEVEN BRIDES FOR SEVEN BROTHERS

Dir: Stanley Donen, USA, dvd, 1954, 102 mins, col, Cast: Jane Powell, Howard Keel, Jeff Richards, Russ Tamblyn, Tommy Rall, Howard Petrie, Virginia Gibson, Ian Wolfe.

A country musical adapted from Stephen Vincent Benet's story 'The Sobbin' Women' in turn based on Plutarch's 'The Rape of the Sabine Women' with six brothers carrying off and then 'imprisoning' six young women of the town whom they hope to make their brides. The Mercer-de Paul songs are above average but the film's reputation is based on Michael Kidd's acrobatic choreography most notably in the barn-raising hoedown and the Lonesome Polecat ballet. The roles of the brothers were cast largely with professional dancers. *Won Academy Award best music score, 4 other nominations best picture, screenplay, editing, cinematography.*

SUSPICION

Dir: Alfred Hitchcock, USA, dvd, 1941, 99 mins, b&w, Cast: Cary Grant, Joan Fontaine, Sir Cedric Hardwicke, Nigel Bruce, Dame May Whitty.

A dowdy repressed young woman, a colonel's daughter who has led a sheltered life is irresistibly attracted to a man who is romantic and reckless, a rejection of everything her family background and upbringing have stood for. After their marriage she finds that he is a liar and, she suspects, a murderer. She comes to believe that he plans to murder her. Although the ending is apparently not what Hitchcock originally intended the film as it now stands does not run counter to his interest in the themes of paranoia and the fragility of relationships. *Won Academy Award Best Actress, nominated best music score.*

STRANGER ON THE THIRD FLOOR

Dir: Boris Ingster, USA, dvd, 1940, 64 mins, b&w, Cast: Peter Lorre, John MCGuire, Margaret Tallichet, Charles Waldron, Elisha Cook.

A reporter is a witness in a murder case and is suspected of being responsible for a second. This unheralded B-picture, a blend of murder mystery and psychological thriller, employing

stream of consciousness narration, is now claimed as the first true film noir. It shows the overt influence of German expressionism in the merging of a dream and reality and the stressing of paranoia and claustrophobia through set design and baroque photography, reaching its apogee in the seminal nightmare sequence.

EAST OF EDEN

Dir: Eliza Kazan, USA, dvd, 1955, 112 mins, col. Cast: Julie Harris, James Dean, Raymond Massey, Burl Ives, Richard Davalos, Jo Van Fleet, Lois Smith

In the Salinas Valley, in and around World War I, Cal Trask feels he must compete against overwhelming odds with his brother Aron for the love of their father Adam. Cal is frustrated at every turn, from his reaction to the war, to how to get ahead in business and in life, to how to relate to estranged mother. (source: IMDB) In the film the unwieldy novel is pared down and organised around a series of dramatic confrontations. The figure of Cal (James Dean in his film debut) and his conflict with his brother, Aaron, becomes the dramatic centre of the film. The importance of Abra (Julie Harris) is increased to complete a romantic triangle. Although appearing only briefly in the film, Cate (Jo Van Fleet), a 'moral monster' in the book, becomes a powerful and more believable presence in the film. The melodramatic excess and murky allegory of the original is balanced by the realism of surface detail in the adaptation. *Academy Award Best Supporting actress, 3 other nominations best actor, director, screenplay.*

THEY'RE A WEIRD MOB

Dir: Michael Powell, Australia, vhs, 1966, 105 mins, col. Cast: Walter Chiari, Clare Dunne, Chips Rafferty, Ed Devereaux, John Meillon, Tony Bonner, Jeanie Drynan.

Following the success of the hugely popular book of the same name the film broke records at the box office in Australia despite a lukewarm reception by critics. Nino Culotta, an Italian journalist, emigrates to Australia and finds work as a builder's labourer. After initiation into some of the social rituals of his new country, he becomes a firm friend of his Australian workmates. He meets a rich Anglo girl and after a stormy romance they decide to marry. Made at a time when assimilation into Anglo- Australian culture, for immigrants and indigenous Australians alike, was promoted as the primary means of achieving social status. The film was carefully marketed as an 'Australian' production, despite Powell's presence as producer-director, his British director of photography, and a screenplay by his regular collaborator in England, Emeric Pressburger (using the pseudonym Richard Imrie). Also available on VHS in 'Australian Cinema Study Package: Mainstream Multiculturalism.

All films are screened courtesy of the Non-Theatrical Lending Collection, National Film and Sound Archive, Canberra.



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