

WIMBLEDON FILM CLUB AGM 8PM THURSDAY 10 MAY 2018  
MERTON ARTS SPACE, WIMBLEDON LIBRARY, LONDON SW19

Handouts provided details of

- 2018 and 2017 membership figures
- guest speakers
- audience statistics, feedback scores and profit/loss figures per film:

WFC MEMBERSHIP (excluding Cttee and honorary members)

|  | At May 2018 | At May 2017 | % change since 2016/17  |
|--|-------------|-------------|---|
| TOTAL                                  | 147         | 116         | +27%  |
| Renewals of previous year's membership | 73          | 83          | -12%  |
| Lapsed members returning to club       | 14          | 13          | +8%   |
| New members                            | 60          | 20          | +200%   |
| Non-concession                         | 40          | 43          | -7%   |
| Concession (mainly 60+)                | 78          | 71          | +10%  |
| Student/under 25 (free)                | 29          | 2           | Not directly comparable as<br>2017= students only<br>2018 = both students and under 25s |

GUEST SPEAKERS May 2017 - April 2018

- Film critic Ginette Vincendeau (ELLE)
- Neruda biographer Adam Feinstein (NERUDA)
- Film producer Kevin Loader (MY COUSIN RACHEL)
- Film historian Nick Smedley (THE GLASS KEY)
- Cinematographer Haider Zafar and Editor Ollie Stothert (MY PURE LAND)
- Merton LGBT+ Forum historian Chris Park (TOM OF FINLAND)
- Film historian Melvyn Stokes (THE SERVANT)
- Science author Michael Brooks (BLADE RUNNER FINAL CUT)
- Film critic Derek Malcolm (LETTERS FROM BAGHDAD)

## AUDIENCE STATISTICS, FEEDBACK SCORES, PROFIT/LOSS FIGURES

| Films listed by score (high to low)                 | AVERAGE SCORE | Films listed by attendance (high to low)            | AUDIENCE SIZE | Films listed by profitability                       | PROFIT / LOSS <sup>1</sup> |
|---|---------------|---|---------------|---|----------------------------|
| 1 A MAN CALLED OVE (MEMBERS CHOICE)                 | 4.5           | 1 MY PURE LAND + Q&A                                | 103           | 1 THE FLORIDA PROJECT                               | +£287                      |
| 2 LETTERS FROM BAGHDAD + Q&A                        | 4.4           | 1 THE FLORIDA PROJECT                               | 103           | 2 A MAN CALLED OVE (MEMBERS' CHOICE)                | +£233                      |
| 2 THE OLIVE TREE                                    | 4.4           | 1 LETTERS FROM BAGHDAD + Q&A                        | 103           | 3 NERUDA + Q&A                                      | +£227                      |
| 4 MY PURE LAND + Q&A                                | 4.3           | 1 THINGS TO COME (MEMBERS CHOICE)                   | 103           | 4 MY PURE LAND + Q&A                                | +£112                      |
| 4 THE ROCKET  | 4.3           | 5 A MAN CALLED OVE (MEMBERS CHOICE)                 | 101           | 5 THINGS TO COME (MEMBERS' CHOICE)                  | +£95                       |
| 4 LOVING  | 4.3           | 6 NERUDA + Q&A                                      | 99            | 6 THE MAFIA KILLS ONLY IN SUMMER                    | +£90                       |
| 7 THE SALESMAN (MEMBERS' CHOICE)                    | 4.2           | 7 THE MAFIA KILLS ONLY IN SUMMER                    | 95            | 7 MY COUSIN RACHEL + Q&A                            | +5                         |
| 8 TOM OF FINLAND+ Q&A                               | 4.1           | 8 THE SERVANT + Q&A                                 | 93            | 8 THE SERVANT + Q&A                                 | +£4                        |
| 8 MY COUSIN RACHEL + Q&A                            | 4.1           | 9 THE OLIVE TREE                                    | 78            | 9 THE OLIVE TREE                                    | -£15                       |
| 10 THE SERVANT + Q&A                                | 4.0           | 10 BLADE RUNNER FINAL CUT + Q&A                     | 76            | 10 20 <sup>TH</sup> CENTURY WOMEN (MEMBERS' CHOICE) | -£52                       |
| 11 OUR LITTLE SISTER (MEMBERS' CHOICE)              | 3.9           | 11 MY COUSIN RACHEL + Q&A                           | 74            | 11 LOVING   | -£73                       |
| 11 THE MAFIA KILLS ONLY IN SUMMER                   | 3.9           | 12 THE GLASS KEY + Q&A                              | 70            | 12 THE GLASS KEY + Q&A                              | -£101                      |
| 13 THINGS TO COME (MEMBERS' CHOICE)                 | 3.8           | 13 LOVING   | 64            | 13 OUR LITTLE SISTER (MEMBERS' CHOICE)              | -£102                      |
| 13 BLADE RUNNER FINAL CUT + Q&A                     | 3.8           | 13 20 <sup>TH</sup> CENTURY WOMEN (MEMBERS' CHOICE) | 64            | 14 THE SALESMAN (MEMBERS' CHOICE)                   | -£104                      |
| 15 NERUDA + Q&A                                     | 3.7           | 15 OUR LITTLE SISTER (MEMBERS' CHOICE)              | 61            | 15 TOM OF FINLAND + Q&A                             | -£111                      |
| 15 20 <sup>TH</sup> CENTURY WOMEN (MEMBERS' CHOICE) | 3.7           | 16 GUEROS   | 60            | 16 GUEROS   | -£135                      |
| 17 THE FLORIDA PROJECT                              | 3.6           | 17 THE SALESMAN (MEMBERS' CHOICE)                   | 58            | 17 THE ROCKET                                       | -£137                      |
| 17 THE GLASS KEY + Q&A                              | 3.6           | 18 TOM OF FINLAND + Q&A                             | 53            | 18 ELLE + Q&A                                       | -£166                      |
| 19 ELLE + Q&A                                       | 3.4           | 19 ELLE + Q&A                                       | 52            |   |                            |
| 20 GUEROS   | 2.9           | 20 THE ROCKET                                       | 51            |   |                            |

<sup>1</sup> Calculated as ticket income - (cost of venue hire + cost of film hire). Venue hire is fixed at £312/film.

Ticket income varies according to audience size and the proportion of £12/£9/£5 tickets sold. Film hire cost varies widely across distributors and is often calculated as a % of ticket income; it has ranged from £85 to £304 over the past year. Hire invoices for Letters from Baghdad and Blade Runner Final Cut outstanding at time of AGM.

The meeting was chaired by WFC Chairman Johnjoe McFadden.

1. Apologies: Clare Collins, Secretary
2. Chair's Report 2017-18

The full Chair's Report is published separately on the WFC website.

Points highlighted in presenting the figures and tables included:

- Membership increased from 116 to 147 (almost back to the 2014 level of 152).  
There has been notable growth in the categories of:
  - people not previously WFC members
  - under 25/students (free)
- Almost half (9) of the screenings were guest speaker events.
- Half the films shown scored 4 or above, and only one (*Gueros*) scored below 3.
  - More members are suggesting/voting on films than in earlier years.  
Members' choice films have been particularly successful.
  - For the first time at the WFC, a documentary was sold out.
- 10 films made a loss totalling £996, while 8 made a profit totalling £1053.  
(Invoices outstanding for 2 films.) Profitable films subsidise loss-making films, meaning the WFC can continue to include lesser known, more 'niche' films in the programme mix. Some of the loss-making/least well-attended films were among those most highly rated by the audience.
- The Wimbledon International Short Film Festival 2017 was held on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> October 2017, again in partnership with Wimbledon Bookfest, drawing a wide audience, with the WFC funding the prize.  
Discussions are underway on finding sponsorship for the SFF.

### 3. Financial update (presented by WFC Treasurer Peter Cargin)

The Treasurer said that the accounts were available for viewing via the WFC website.

The balance to the end of June 2018 was £ 8332 compared with £ 7990 in the previous year. The cost for hire of the Curzon remained unchanged at £312 per night, with each film costing between £120-150, yielding a cost of slightly over £500 per screening.

As a rule of thumb, ticket income should cover the costs of film and venue hire.

Membership income roughly covers the many other costs of running a film club, e.g.

website, advertising, printing, speaker expenses, AGM venue hire, insurance, ICO Screening Days tickets, BFFS membership.

Publicity costs have increased considerably due mainly to social media costs.

The WFC is fortunate that some professional services for which organisations would normally have to pay, e.g. leaflet design, social media management, accounts, are provided gratis by Committee members, e.g. website management (Penny Amerena), leaflet design (Liz Woodward), social media (Clare Collins).

The accounts are audited by life member Linda Clemett free of charge, thus saving approx. £800. As Linda now lives on the Isle of Wight, the Treasurer suggests offering her membership to a local film club of her choice. **Agreed** by the floor.

Thanks were given for the work done by Peter as Treasurer.

#### 4. F2018/2019 prices and ticketing arrangements

##### Prices

The Committee recommended a membership fee freeze. **Agreed**.

The Committee recommended equalising the cost of tickets at the door and online: £6 (member and students/under 25s), £10 (members' guests) and £13 (non-members), inclusive of online booking fee. This would constitute a price freeze for the majority who book online, while eradicating the disparity between door and online ticket prices. (Ticket prices were last raised in September 2015.) **Agreed**.

##### Ticketing arrangements

The meeting discussed whether to revert to members 1 guest/member instead of 2.

- The Members **agreed** to retain the two-guest tickets/member policy.
- The Committee **agreed** to monitor the breakdown of attendance figures members/guests non-members and circulate after each screening

The meeting discussed whether to release all tickets to be potentially booked online; or continue holding back a limited number of tickets to sell on door for 'walk-ins.'

- The Members **agreed** that a limited number of tickets should remain available at the door.

#### 5. Programme

Members expressed appreciation for the variety and range of the programme, with special mention for the foreign films.

Subject to constraints such as speaker availability, an attempt should be made to alternate between lighter and weightier fare, if possible scheduling a comedy for the bleak month of January.

Some overlap with the Curzon is inevitable, since the WFC programme is printed before the Curzon schedule is set. That said, the WFC screenings are often enhanced by Invited Speaker Q&As.

Showing trailers has been positively received. To be continued where possible.

### Autumn 2018 programme

Autumn films are still being booked. The following speaker events have been arranged:

- *God's Own Country* (Members' Choice): Q&A with Laura Hart, the film's dialect coach
- *Frantz*: Q&A with distinguished film critic Ginette Vincendeau
- *Son of the Bride* (Members' Choice): Q&A with Latin-American film expert Adam Feinstein

The next Wimbledon International Short Film Festival will take place on The Wimbledon Green on 12 October 2018.

## 6. Elections

The current Committee was re-elected. The members are:

Johnjoe McFadden (Chair), Clare Collins (Secretary), Peter Cargin (Treasurer), Penny Amerena, Grace Alvez, Elena Frank, Vivien Reuter, Liz Woodward

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 p.m.