

Ree/Buzz

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V.I.C.E.

WALLIS

President's Report

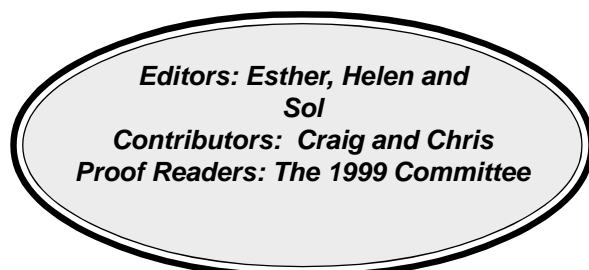
Welcome (back) to uni and another year of films. This year our O-Week screenings of *A Clockwork Orange* will be held in the lecture theater LG 29 in the Napier Building. We have decided to do this as our traditional O-Week screenings of *A Clockwork Orange* in the cinema are traditionally drowned out by the revelry in the bar or on the Barr Smith Lawns. Not to say that the Film Society isn't into a good bit of revelry ourselves. Make sure you come along to one of our weekends away and see for yourself.

The Film Society AGM will be held on Monday, 13 March at 1pm in the Margaret Murray Room (level 5, Union Building, just through the games room). Make sure you come along and vote in the AUFS Committee 2000. If you are interested in being part of the committee, take it from me, it's a lot of work, but a lot of fun (I'm still involved and it's been 4 years!).

Every year a bunch of Film Society stalwarts leave (I think it's called finding a life). This year we have lost Bronwyn Davis and David Bednarczuk (our minister for propaganda for a whole three years). Don't know how we'll manage without you guys. Cheers and all the best for the year ahead!

Esther

1999 AUFS President



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AGM News

A quick description of the positions to be filled at the AGM on Monday 13th March 1pm Margaret Murray Room.

President. Job: organise the club, chair meetings, delegate jobs. Time: every waking hour of your day. Rewards: a lasting respect for all that came before you.

Vice President. Job: supports the President. Time: a couple of waking hours a week.

Secretary. Job: Bookings of films, rooms, correspondence between clubs, keeping and posting of minutes, organisational skills. Time: every waking hour and some sleeping hours of the day. ("I don't dream about FilmSoc stuff. Really, I don't." – Sue, Secretary 1999)

Treasurer. Job: keep track of all the money coming into (but mostly out of) the club, paying bills, ability to count a bonus. Time: a couple of hours per week.

Clubs' Delegate. Job: goes to Clubs' Association Meetings and votes and grovels in the name of the AUFS. Time: must go to scheduled Clubs' Association meetings.

General Committee Members: the backbone of the Committee, take on jobs like front of house on film nights, signing up new members etc.

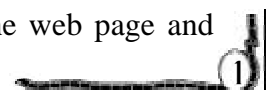
From the committee there are also some unofficial titled positions:

Newsletter editors: one or two people from the committee to put together a monthly newsletter.

Minister of propaganda: person who makes up the posters and distributes them around the uni each week.

Cinema person: keeps in contact with our sponsor cinemas, organises film reviews and advertising of cinemas by the film soc.

Web Meister: controller of the web page and email lists.



Film Reviews

The Dinner Game (Le Diner De Cons)

Directed by Francis Veber

Starring: Thierry Lhermitte, Jacques Villeret

During the course of this film all my fears about the state of my French were confirmed. Without the subtitles I would have been lost. Even so, there is one word no-one can help but take note of and that is the elusive “cons” of the original title. Alternately translated as “idiot”, “fool” and “asshole”, it has a certain desperate tone; how can anyone really be *that* stupid?!

A group of rich, obnoxious and self-centred men meet every Wednesday for dinner, each bringing their own guest fool. Without letting their guests know, the men



have them competing in a most bizarre and unpleasant way. The one who brings the biggest fool wins. This particular week, Brochant (Thierry Lhermitte) is sure of winning thanks to a pathetic tax inspector with a passion for reproducing famous buildings from match sticks. Unfortunately, Brochant injures his back during a game of golf and from then on his life starts falling apart. His guest idiot, Pignon (brilliantly played by Jacques Villeret) tries with vigour to help him out but only manages, as the clumsy fool he is, to make life even worse.

One of the things that makes this film funny, despite its vicious deception from Pignon of his actual purpose for being invited (he thinks Brochant wants to publish a book of his models), is the fact that the guest constantly finds things to laugh about. He has a catchy snigger, so we are laughing as much *with* him as at him.

Even though it is obvious that the screen play is an adaptation of director Francis Veber's own

stage play, it never feels cramped as the sets are so good. At times we even see the Eiffel Tower through the windows of Brochant's flat. A tight script and impressive performances makes *The Dinner Game* an experience more pleasant than most American comedies. There is a cringe factor, but the smiles the film produces certainly make up for the few awkward moments.



Summer Film Round-up

Festen

Danish Dogma at its best! Forget Lars von Trier's *The Idiots* and join this family celebration instead.

American Beauty

Well scripted, acted and filmed. A very poignant, funny and observant tragedy. Life in the upper middle class suburbs will never be the same.

Being John Malkovich

Leave all your preconceptions at the door and take a wild trip into a messed up mind - and I mean the director's.

Fight Club

The best film made since *Apocalypse Now*. That's a 20 year wait! Perfect in every aspect. Gives us hope for the future of cinema. Not that we're biased, mind you.

The Sixth Sense

Toni Colette's Oscar nominated performance matched by a Bruce Willis without his usual macho image. Scarier than *The Blair Witch Project*, anyway.

Dogma

From the director of *Clerks* and *Chasing Amy*, this film shares some of the characters and some of the humour, but somehow misses the target.

PROGRAMME TERM ONE 2000

O-Week

Wednesday, Thursday,
Friday, 6pm, LG 29
Napier Building

A *Clockwork Orange* (1971)

Directed by Stanley Kubrick.

Starring: Malcolm McDowell.

Kubrick's disturbing apocalyptic vision.

Rated R



Week 2, Thursday 9 March

Deliverance (1972)

Directed by John Boorman.

Starring: Jon Voight, Burt Reynolds.

Canoeing down a river, four city men

run into some unfriendly locals. One of the most disturbing films of all time.

Rated R



All films screened on Thursdays at 7pm in the Union Cinema, Level 5, Union Building. All films free for members, \$5 non-members (includes membership). The short films shown in term one will be the

original 1930s *Flash Gordon* series in black and white with more dodgy sets than you can poke a stick at (oh, and it's really fun to watch too).

Week 1, Thursday 2 March

I Was a Communist for the FBI (1951)

Directed by Gordon Douglas.

Documentary-style counterspy caper, low key and effective. An FBI undercover agent infiltrates the US Communist Party, so undercover that his family and friends do not even know that he is FBI. Nominated for the 1952 Oscar for Best Documentary.

Week 3, Monday 13 March

FILM SOCIETY AGM

1pm Margaret Murray Room, Level 5, Union Bld.

Thursday 16 March

Ugetsu Monogatari aka *Tales of Ugetsu* (1953)

Eerie ghost story set in 16th-century Japan tells of two peasants who leave

their families; one seeks wealth in the city and the other wishes to become a

samurai warrior. This superbly photographed film was a Venice Film Festival prize winner. 1956 Oscar nomination for best Costume Design.



1956 Oscar nomination for best Costume Design.

Week 4, Thursday 23 March

The Birds (1963)

Directed by Alfred Hitchcock.

Starring: Rod Taylor,

Jessica Tandy, Tippi Hedren.
Hitchcock's classic about a woman (Hedren) and mass bird attacks that follow her around isolated coastal California community. Not for the squeamish; a delight for those who are game. Hold on to something and watch.

Week 5, Thursday 30 March
Der Blaue Engel aka Blue Angel
(1930)

Directed by Josef von Sternberg.

Starring: Emil Jannings, Marlene Dietrich.

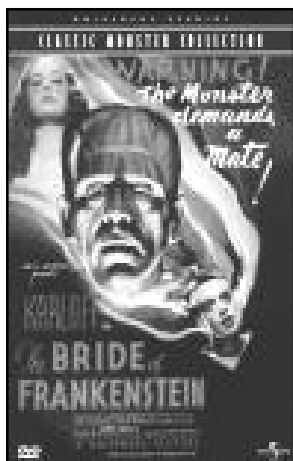
Ever-fascinating film classic with Jannings as a stuffy professor who falls blindly in love with cabaret entertainer Lola-Lola (Dietrich). Dietrich introduces "Falling in Love Again"; this role made her an international star.



Week 6, Thursday 6 April
Bride of Frankenstein (1935)

Directed by James Whale.

Starring Boris Karloff as The Monster. Eye-filling sequel to *Frankenstein* is even better, with rich vein of dry wit running through the chills. Inimitable Thesiger plays weird doctor who compels Frankenstein into making a mate for his creation. Lanchester plays both the "bride" and, in amusing prologue, Mary Shelley. Pastoral interlude with blind hermit and final, riotous creation scene are highlights of this truly classic movie by director James Whale,



subject of last years film *Gods and Monsters*.

Week 7, Thursday 13 April
Cat People
(1942)

Directed by Jacques Tourneur.

Starring: Simone Simon, Kent Smith Irena Dubrovna, a beautiful and mysterious Serbian-born fashion artist living in New York City, falls in love with and marries a v e r a g e - J o e



American Oliver Reed. Their marriage suffers though, as Irena believes that she suffers from an ancient curse. Storyline and plot elements may seem silly, but moments of shock and terror are undiminished in the first of producer Val Lewton's famous horror films.

First Film Society
Weekend Away for 2000

Friday 31st March - Sunday 2nd April
in a fabulous Beach House
at Aldinga

Films, food, friends, fun, f.....
Well, whatever you want really.
Films for Term 2 will be chosen
over the weekend so if you want a
say, be there.

More details on the website soon
and emailed to the announce list.
Keep that weekend free!

Email: aufs@smug.adelaide.edu.au