

newsletter

Oct - Nov

BENDIGO FILM SOCIETY

Bendigo Film Society Inc.

Member of the Federation of Victorian
Film Societies A14539Z

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Newsletter October – November
volume 2 issue 5

Editor: Meeuwis Boelen
copy for next issue: 14 February

Dear Members and Friends...

This is the final newsletter for 2002, and we are gearing up for a great film season next year. The best news perhaps is that **Telstra Country Wide** has agreed to continue sponsorship. With their generous financial support we will start 2003 with a party: the **TCW Mini-Film Festival**, with live music, speeches, wine and refreshments, and movies of course.

With the festival we showcase our program to the Bendigo public. Hence the festival is our main membership drive. And members are what we need. Why don't you bring a friend to the **Grand Finale** and perhaps your friend will join as well when you renew your membership.

Meanwhile the committee is coordinating next year's program. **This is the time for feed-back.** Please tell us what you liked and

where you'd suggest improvements. A **survey** is included at the inside of the mail-wrapper. Suggestions on scope and detail of the movie program are also appreciated.


In November we have our **AGM**. We do need new people on the committee to keep the

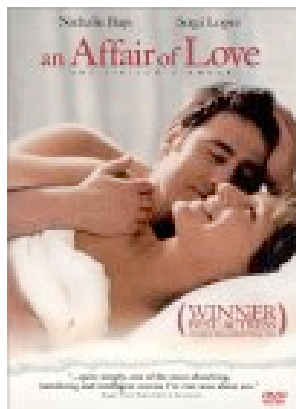
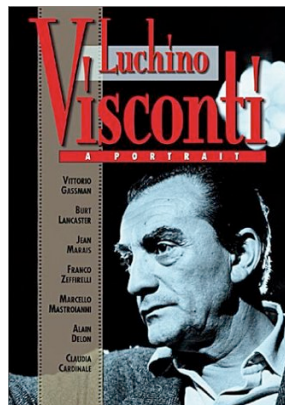
ideas flowing and to maintain the current level of enthusiasm. In particular, I have decided not to run for President for a third year, so please consider helping out. A **nomination form** can be found in this newsletter.

we need a new president

I hope you'll enjoy the last film in the theme "Political Thriller" (*Il Gattopardo*), the President's selection (*Une Liaison Pornographique*), the Grand Finale (*Festen*), and more gems of the 60-70ies USA underground movement.

Happy viewing,

Meeuwis, President BFS. 



Sponsors



nomination form for 2003

(return to Hilma Hallam by 14th November)

I,, nominate

for **President / Committee Member**, signature


Seconded by, signature

I,, accept the nomination.

Membership number, signature

BENDIGO FILM SOCIETY

Members' Benefits

\$8 entry at the **Star Cinema**.
Concession at the **Bendigo Cinemas**.
Free trial membership with the **Bendigo Library's Music** section.
Free entry at the **Heathcote Film Group** and gold-coin entry at the **Castlemaine Film Group**. 5% discount on wine at **Michael's Wine Shop**. 

These Months' Events

Thursday 17 October

7:30 **Lost Highway**, Lynch 1997
 10:00 **Pretty as a Picture**, Keeler & Lynch 1997
 (11:25)

Thursday 31 October

7:30 tea, coffee and biscuits
 8:00 **Il Gattopardo** (The Leopard) Visconti 1963
 (10:45)

Thursday 14 November

have your say and a glass of wine

7:30 **The Bed**, USA 1968
 8:00 **Annual General Meeting**
 8:30 **Une Liaison Pornographique** (A Pornographic Affair) Fonteyne 1999
 (9:50)

22 - 25 November

STAR Film Festival, Eaglehawk

Dog's Best Friend – Gulpilil: One Red Blood – The Tracker – One Night the Moon – Lagaan – The Gleaners and I – Last Orders
 pass \$33/30, single \$11/8.80 ph 5446 2025

Thursday 28 November

... Fresh Fruit and Vegetables ... bring a plate, bring a guest

7:30 **Oh Dem Watermelons**, Nelson 1965; **Orange**, Johnson 1970; **Banana**, Hanlon 1978; **Asparagus**, Kranning 1979
 8:30 **Festen** (Celebration) Vinterberg 1998
 (10:10)

Saturday & Sunday 1, 2 March

Telstra Country Wide 2003 Mini-Film Festival

1:30 Live Music
 3:30 Opening Reception
 8:00 Films



IL GATTOPARDO (THE LEOPARD) Luchino Visconti, Italy 1963. Set in the 1860s during the years of the Risorgimento –the making of modern Italy– that saw the emergence of the bourgeoisie at the expense of the landed aristocracy. Visconti clearly identified with Don Fabrizio (the Leopard), the ageing patriarch of an aristocratic Sicilian family. He is the first to understand the inevitability of the changes. 'If everything is to remain the same, everything must change' is the cynical observation of Don Fabrizio's young nephew, Tancredi, who adjusts to the new order in a manner impossible for Fabrizio. Lampedusa's novel, steeped in lethargy and inertia, was filmed by Visconti in the enervating Sicilian summer. The film culminates in the ball scene which stands as a kind of metaphor for trasformismo – the emergence of a new order as reactionary as the old. In Italian with English subtitles.

most movies from, and reviews adapted from Australian Centre for the Moving Image (CineMedia)



THE BED James Broughton, USA 1968. A merry allegory in which nude figures on a monumental old bed enact symbolic scenes of the human comedy from birth to death.

UNE LIAISON PORNOGRAPHIQUE (A PORNOGRAPHIC AFFAIR) Frederic Fonteyne, France 1999. Two strangers (Nathalie Baye and Sergi Lopez) meet through a personal ad in a pornographic magazine. They are both interested in exploring a sexual fantasy that for a variety of reasons they feel shy of disclosing with regular partners. Filmed in flashback while the two characters are interviewed straight to the camera, this erotic and intelligent film explores how men and women are navigating the fraught arena of sexual desire in a post-feminist and post-macho culture. Both Baye and Lopez deliver charming and realistic performances in which they present the ambiguities and contradictions of modern urban life: on one hand proud and happy with their independence; on the other aching for the comfort and solidity of dependency. In the end, the sexual fantasy that begins this pornographic affair, does not matter: it is up to the viewer to interpret the relationship through the nature of their own desires and fantasies. An adult examination of love and sex *A Pornographic Affair* argues that what matters is our ability to communicate and to be open to being touched by another human being. In French with English subtitles.



OH DEM WATERMELONS (Robert Nelson 1965) – **ORANGE** (Karen Johnson 1970) – **BANANA** (Ann O'Hanlon 1978) – **ASPARGUS** (Suzan Kranning 1979). Four experimental films that use fruit for different purposes. *Oh dem Watermelons* is an irreverent satirical film that traces the history of the American Negro, symbolised by the watermelon, from abuse to retaliation. *Orange* is a sensual exploration in close up of an orange. *Banana* portrays an animated morning in the life of a banana that decides to split, set to the Beatles' song "Good Day Sunshine". *Asparagus* is a visual poem combining full cell animation with a three-dimensional set (a ten-foot theatre with changing animated stage illusion and two hundred puppets, matted with superimposed drawings). An erotic allegory of the creative process in which a woman views and performs the passages of sensual and artistic discovery.

FESTEN (CELEBRATION) Thomas Vinterberg, Denmark 1998. The first film made by the Dogme 95 Collective, an international group of filmmakers that wishes to see cinema become again an innovative, experimental and politically subversive art. *Festen's* simple narrative describes the arrival at a manor house of an extended bourgeois family coming to celebrate the patriarch's 60th birthday. But his three surviving children arrive with widely ambivalent emotions: one son has arrived to mourn the suicide of his twin, the daughter has to deal with the family's silent rejection of her black boyfriend, and the eldest brother is locked in a vicious cycle of self-hate, violence and alcoholism. Sitting down together –children, cousins, grandchildren– the patriarch's youngest son rises and asks his father to choose from two speeches he has prepared. What follows is a weekend of chaos and betrayal where the family is torn apart by secrets long denied. *Festen* is not only a film about the lies within one family. With brutal precision it juxtaposes the hypocrisy and exploitive relations of the nuclear family with the subjugation and inequalities of contemporary European class society. Exhausting and exhilarating, *Festen* is an examination of a society on the brink of collapse, paradoxically both detached and passionate in its study of the logical excesses of capitalist materialism. There are no special effects in *Festen*, no occult creatures from outer space, but before its resolution the audience has become implicated in a horror that is truly monstrous, has come face to face with an evil that we would like to believe is alien but we recognise as all too familiar. Winner of the Special Jury Prize at the 1998 Cannes Festival. In Danish with English subtitles.

Bendigo Film Society Inc.

Venue: Campbell Theatre in the Bendigo Library, Hargreaves Street.

Some of the movies have not been classified; content may challenge, offend or not be suitable for children.

Membership \$49 2003, \$39 concession, \$69 partnered; 3 months available.

To join, send a cheque or turn up.
 PO Box 567 Vic 3552

The Bendigo Film Society reserves the right to substitute film titles, should the need arise.

membership new / renewal 2003 at 2002 fees

name: _____

(partner: _____)

address: _____

eMail: _____

recruited by: _____

2002 themes:	2002 full season member 007
Latin American cinema	47
Q2 women	197
David Lynch	118
political thriller	138
	298
	114
	129
	285
	274
	314
	181
	181
2003	281

full season \$49
 concession \$39
 partnered \$69
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