U3AC Film Group

Established in October 1999 with the much -valued contribution of the Arts Picturehouse Cambridge management, the aim of the U3AC Film Group is to show a wide range of the best in both historic and contemporary world cinema from all countries, generations and genres, and our programmes take a robust and adventurous approach to the history of cinema. The Group's shows take place at the Arts Picturehouse every Tuesday during term time, and our films are shown in Screen 2 or mainly in Screen 3. **There are no ads or trailers which means that all of our films commence promptly at 1.00 pm other than when an epic or exceptionally lengthy film is shown, and members are kindly requested to adhere to the start time of 1.00 pm as a dark cinema can be hazardous and late seating causes disturbance for those already seated**. Members are most welcome to attend our post screen discussions and to make suggestions for future showings.
The cost of our season of Tuesday shows still remains at **only £45 per term**.

Members are kindly requested to ensure that all electronic devices are switched off or in the case of mobile phones switched to silent mode, and under no circumstances should photography/filming take place in the cinema.

Autumn Term 2026

29 September Amistad Dir: Steven Spielberg: USA 1997 (155 mins)
American historical drama film based on the events in 1839 aboard the Spanish slave ship *La Amistad*, during which Mende tribesmen abducted for the slave trade managed to gain control of their captors' ship off the coast of Cuba, and the international legal battle that followed this capture by the *Washington*, a US revenue cutter. The case was ultimately resolved by the US Supreme Court in 1841.

6 October In the Heat of the Night Dir: Norman Jewison: USA 1967 (110 mins)
This American mystery drama film is based on John Ball's 1965 novel of the same name. The film centres on a black police detective from Philadelphia (the brilliant Sidney Poitier), who becomes part of a murder investigation in a small town in Mississippi. This has quite outstanding performances both from Poitier, and from the great Rod Steiger, who won an Oscar for *Best Actor*.

13 October The Stranger [L'Étranger] Dir: François Ozon: France/Belgium 2025 (122 mins)
In French Algeria the central character, Meursault, lives a life of indifference and detachment. Following the death of his mother, he stands accused of the murder of an Arab man. The ensuing trial explores both the crime, and Meursault's character. The original Camus novel is considered a landmark of existentialism and is widely regarded as the writer's masterpiece.

20 October The Last Metro [Le Dernier Métro] Dir: François Truffaut: France 1980 (131 mins)
Set in Nazi-occupied Paris in 1942, the film follows the fortunes of a small theatre in the Montmartre quarter which keeps up passive resistance by maintaining its cultural integrity despite censorship, antisemitism, and material shortages. The title evokes two salient facts of city life under Nazi-occupation: fuel shortages led people to spend their evenings in theatres, and other places of entertainment, but the curfew meant that they had to catch the last Metro train home.

27 October CAMBRIDGE FILM FESTIVAL – NO U3AC FILM GROUP FILM

3 November The Ipcress File Dir: Sidney J Furie: UK 1965 (107mins)
This quite brilliant British spy film based on Len Deighton's 1962 novel, *The Ipcress File*, stars Michael Caine as Harry Palmer, an intelligence officer from the War Office investigating the disappearances of high-level scientists. Highly entertaining with memorable music by John Barry.

10 November Oh! What a Lovely War Dir: Richard Attenborough: UK 1969 (144 mins)
This British satire directed by Richard Attenborough in his debut as a director was based on the original stage musical, *Oh! What a Lovely War!* The film's title is derived from the musical hall song of the same name, which is one of the film's major numbers. The film uses contemporary songs and allegorical settings to criticise the conduct of the First World War. A quite brilliant, and ultimately very moving film, appropriate as we approach Remembrance Sunday.

17 November Nosferatu the Vampyre Dir: Werner Herzog: West Germany/France 1979 (107 mins)
A classic gothic horror film written and directed by Werner Herzog, and adapted from Bram Stoker's 1897 novel *Dracula*. Herzog's film is set in 19th century Wismar, Germany, and Transylvania.

24 November M Dir: Fritz Lang: Germany 1931 (111 mins)
This is a 1931 German mystery thriller film directed by Fritz Lang and starring Peter Lorre in his third screen role as Hans Beckert, a serial killer who targets children. Both Lang's first sound film and an early example of a procedural drama, M centres on the efforts of both a city's police force and its criminal syndicates to apprehend a serial child-murderer.
The film's screenplay was written by Lang and his wife, Thea von Harbou. It features many cinematic innovations, including the use of long tracking shots and a musical leitmotif in the form of "In the Hall of the Mountain King" which is repeatedly whistled by Lang's character. Lang regarded the film as his magnum opus, and it is widely considered as on one of the greatest films of all time and an indispensable influence on modern crime and thriller fiction, quite definitely essential viewing for Film Group members.

1 December Kind Hearts and Coronets Dir: Robert Hamer: UK 1949 (106 mins)
A classic British crime black comedy from 1949 following Louis D'Ascoyne Mazzini, the son of a woman disowned by her aristocratic family for marrying out of her social class. After her death, a vengeful Louis decides to take the family's dukedom by murdering the eight people ahead of him in the line of succession to the title.

8 December You Were Never Lovelier Dir: William A Seiter: USA 1942 (97 mins)
1942 American musical romantic comedy film starring Fred Astaire and Rita Hayworth. The film's music was composed by Jerome Kern and the lyrics were by Johnny Mercer.

Our First Show after the Christmas break will be at 1.00 p.m. on Tuesday 12 January 2027

Tickets for U3AC Film Group screenings

Tickets for single shows are available on the door for the standard cinema ticket price. U3AC members can get a reduced-price ticket by first purchasing a U3AC 10-week Term Card (or adding this to your existing Picturehouse Membership), and then obtaining a paper ticket (at no additional cost) on the day.

1. Buy a 10-week film term card for the discounted price of £45. This allows you entry to each of the 10 films screened at 1 pm each Tuesday of the term, at no extra cost.
    - To get set up, register at any till at the Cambridge Arts Picturehouse near the beginning of a term. Bring your U3AC membership card as proof of eligibility to this scheme.
    - The Picturehouse staff will issue you with a plastic Picturehouse Membership card, which stores your 10 free U3AC screening ticket credits on it, lasting the whole of the 10-week term.
    - Please keep this card and renew it at any Arts Picturehouse till before each term (you cannot do this over the phone or on the U3AC or Picturehouse websites).
    - **Note**: If you already have a plastic Picturehouse Membership card, either one for which you've paid an annual fee or a prior U3AC Term Card, Picturehouse staff will add the current U3AC term to your existing card.
2. You will need a paper ticket to gain entry to each week's U3AC film.
    - Present your plastic Picturehouse Membership card at any till in the cinema to get your 'free' ticket to the current week's U3AC film.

Show this to the usher at the door to gain entry to the film.