



in conjunction with Friends of the NLA Inc.

2014 Season Two

Screening since 1990
National Library of Australia
On alternate Wednesdays, 6:00 pm

Join us for tea, coffee, biscuits and film discussion after each screening

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July 9 THE PHILADELPHIA STORY

(USA 1940) 112 min. DVD
Director George Cukor *Cast* Katherine Hepburn, Cary Grant, James Stewart

A rich socialite family gathers for their daughter's wedding and finds that all manner of people, invited and uninvited, welcome and unwelcome, turn up to complicate matters. It's the second marriage for the wilful, high-spirited daughter (Hepburn) and her ex-husband (Grant) is not prepared to let her go without a fight. Enter James Stewart as a reporter doing a story on how the rich live. One of the comedy classics and on everyone's list of favourite films.

DVD courtesy of the National Film and Sound Archive of Australia



July 22 NOTE: TUESDAY CASABLANCA

(USA 1942) 102 min. DVD
Director Michael Curtiz *Cast* Humphrey Bogart, Ingrid Bergman, Paul Henreid, Claude Rains, Conrad Veidt

In the Library's recent online survey, *Casablanca* was voted the most popular film, reflecting its status as a film classic.

Rick Blaine (Humphrey Bogart), a cynical nightclub owner in Casablanca discovers that his ex-lover, Ilsa (Ingrid Bergman), who abandoned him years before, has arrived in Casablanca with her husband, Resistance leader Victor Laszlo (Paul Henreid). Rick is forced to abandon his cynicism and decide which side he will be on. This film is a love story, it is a buddy movie, it is a war-time propaganda film and it is a triumph of the Hollywood studio system. So round up the usual suspects and join us for the classic film experience.

DVD courtesy of the National Film and Sound Archive of Australia

August 6 A TALE OF TWO CITIES

(USA 1935) 128 min. DVD
Director Jack Conway *Cast* Ronald Colman, Elizabeth Allan, Edna May Oliver

A JOINT SCREENING WITH THE DICKENS SOCIETY

An exciting, atmospheric adaptation of Dickens' classic tale of the French Revolution. Dissipated lawyer Sydney Carton defends émigré Charles Darnay from charges of spying against England. He becomes enamoured of Darnay's fiancée, Lucie Manette, and agrees to help her save Darnay from the guillotine when he is captured by revolutionaries in Paris.

DVD courtesy of the National Film and Sound Archive of Australia

August 20 MR HULOT'S HOLIDAY

(France 1953) 87 min. DVD
Director Jacques Tati *Cast* Jacques Tati, Nathalie Pascaud, Micheline Rolla, Raymond Carl, Lucien Fregis

It's a quaint French seaside hotel and a group of people turn up for their yearly holiday. Into their midst stumbles the gangly, awkward, endearing Monsieur Hulot who has the capacity to turn everything upside down. What follows is the most wonderful series of mishaps,

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Reel McCoy Membership available at screenings: 3 months \$15; 6 months \$30; 1 year \$45

Reel McCoy Patron: Bruce Hodsdon



shambles, gags and catastrophes. The visual ingenuity of this great film is up there with Chaplin and Keaton. *French with English* subtitles.

Reel McCoy AGM after screening come along and have your say!

DVD courtesy of the National Film and Sound Archive of Australia



September 3 SMITHY

(Australia 1946) 114 min. DVD
Director Ken G. Hall *Cast* Ron Randell, Muriel Steinbeck, John Tate, Joy Nichols
A JOINT SCREENING WITH THE FRIENDS OF THE NFSA

Introduced by Ray Edmondson, President *Smithy* is a landmark Australian film biography of the legendary aviator Charles Kingsford Smith. The Australian film studio Cinesound and director Ken G. Hall had a history of producing popular, successful feature films and this is no exception. Modelled on the style of the sumptuous Hollywood biopic, *Smithy* follows the young aviator in his quest for perfection, culminating in his famous trans-Pacific flight.

DVD courtesy of the National Film and Sound Archive of Australia

**September 16 NOTE: TUESDAY
CUL-DE-SAC**

(England 1966) 107 min. DVD

Director Roman Polanski **Cast** Donald Pleasence, Françoise Dorléac, Lionel Stander, Jack MacGowran

In a crumbling English island castle live a timid Englishman (Pleasence) and his French wife (Dorléac). A pair of criminals arrive—nearly drowning when they plough their car off the coast—and the couple must play unwilling hosts. *Cul-de-sac* is generally regarded as the most successful of Polanski's three English films—as much a psychological thriller as the first (*Repulsion*), and as much a black comedy as the third (*Dance of the Vampires*). The title is due to one of the film's producers, who thought the story was primarily about the two interlopers—a pair of gangsters who found themselves in a dead end.

*DVD courtesy of the National
Film and Sound Archive of Australia*

**October 1
SMILES OF A SUMMER NIGHT**

(Sweden 1955) 104 min. DVD

Director Ingmar Bergman **Cast** Gunnar Björnstrand, Ulla Jacobsson, Eva Dalhbeck, Harriet Andersson, Margit Carlquist

Ingmar Bergman's 16th film brought him an international reputation, but it's not what anyone today would expect from Bergman—it's essentially a sex farce. The players include an attorney in his fifties (Björnstrand), entering into his second marriage with a young virgin (Jacobsson); he has a mistress (Dalhbeck) who's also having an affair with a count, and a shamelessly flirting maid (Andersson). Even in Bergman's sunniest film, there's a touch of melancholy; these are smiles of a summer night. But this far north, summer nights are short—just long enough to cloak one's latest affair. *Swedish with English subtitles.*

*DVD courtesy of the National
Film and Sound Archive of Australia*

**October 14 NOTE: TUESDAY
THE LAST BRIDGE
(DIE LETZTE BRÜCKE)**

(Germany 1954) 98 min. DVD

Director Helmut Kautner **Cast** Maria Schell, Bernhard Wicki, Barbara Rütting, Carl Mohnert

Winner of numerous international film awards, this is a powerful German film about World War Two. Maria Schell is luminous as a young German doctor who finds herself in the position of providing medical assistance to both sides of the conflict. Stationed at a field hospital in the Balkans, she is kidnapped by partisans. When typhoid strikes the partisans' camp, she finds she is unable to simply turn away. Schell won a number of awards for her moving performance. *German with English subtitles.*

*DVD courtesy of the National
Film and Sound Archive of Australia*

**October 29
SHOCK CORRIDOR**

(USA 1963) 101 min. 16mm

Director Samuel Fuller **Cast** Peter Breck, Constance Towers, Paul Dubov

A special screening in memory of our dear colleague Brian Dunne. This was one of his favourite films.

Johnny Barrett (Breck) is a journalist determined to win the Pulitzer Prize at any price. He attempts to feign mental illness in order to become an inmate at a psychiatric hospital and investigate an unsolved murder case. However, as the investigation unfolds Barrett finds himself losing his grip on his own sanity. Can he solve the case before he loses his mind altogether?



Described when released as sensational and stylistically outrageous, *Shock Corridor* alienated many critics upon its release but today the film has become one of Fuller's most admired and frequently revived works.

*Film courtesy of the National
Film and Sound Archive of Australia*

**November 12
THE PHANTOM CARRIAGE**

(Sweden 1921) 91 min. DVD

Director Victor Sjöström **Cast** Victor Sjöström, Hilda Borgström, Tore Svennberg, Astrid Holm

Within a few years of its release in 1921, Victor Sjöström's *The Phantom Carriage* was considered a masterpiece of silent cinema. Victor Sjöström plays a drunk, who, while drinking with friends, tells the legend of The Phantom Coach. The legend states that the last person to die in a year, if he is a great sinner, will have to drive the phantom chariot for a year and pick up the souls of the dead. Then he dies in a brawl at the stroke of midnight and the coachman comes for him. Sjöström is considered the greatest Swedish film director before Bergman. This is his most famous film and is generally considered to be one of the central works of Swedish cinema. *Silent film with musical soundtrack.*

*DVD courtesy of the National
Film and Sound Archive of Australia*

**November 26
THE LOVE PARADE**

(USA 1929) 107 min. 16mm

Director Ernst Lubitsch **Cast** Maurice Chevalier, Jeanette MacDonald, Lupino Lane

It's Sylvania and Queen Louise's cabinet, worried that she will become an old maid, is delighted when she marries the rogue Count Renard. Unfortunately, Renard finds his position as Queen's Consort decidedly unsatisfying and without purpose. The marriage soon runs into difficulties. A master director and a stellar cast join forces in this early Hollywood musical.

**Join us for Wine, Cheese and Other
Nibbles to Celebrate the Last
Screening of the Year**

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