

SPIRITUAL CINEMA

Perhaps our capacity to create is evidence that we ourselves were created in the image and likeness of God?

Andrei Tarkovsky

Tarkovsky moves with such naturalness in the room of dreams. He doesn't explain.

What should he explain anyhow?

Ingmar Bergman

A film is like a battleground. It's love, hate, action, violence, death - in a word, emotion.

Samuel Fuller

Film is truth at twenty-four-frames-per-second

Jean Luc-Godard

Blessed are your eyes, for they see; and your ears, for they hear.

Jesus

Illustrations

Front cover main picture: *Stalker* (Tarkovsky)

Also: Emily Watson in *Breaking the Waves* & Danny Huston, Paul Weller and Linda Enos with a gun in *ivansxtc*.

This page: Colm Feore as Glenn Gould

Programme middle column: The incredible tracking shot from *Nostalgia*, and a sense of wonder in *The Long Day Closes*. Right: *Danny Huston*.

www.spiritualcinema.org.uk

Spiritual Cinema at St, James is a joint venture between the Church of St. James Piccadilly and Onion Projects, a non-profit company which develops cultural exchange programmes.

Onion Projects manages Spiritual Cinema programmes elsewhere and can offer advice and support to people wishing to develop similar events.

Further information

St James Piccadilly

197 Piccadilly
London
W1J 9LL
020 7734 4511
www.st-james-piccadilly.org

Onion Projects

23 Holland Grove
London
SW9 6ER
07968 440 684
www.onion.org.uk



We regret that screenings in the Church Hall will not be wheelchair accessible.

Thank You

Photographs: Ronald Grant Archive: 020 7840 2200

A/V equipment:

AV2Hire: 0845 123 5654



Spiritual Cinema

@ St James Piccadilly



Truth
at 24 frames a second

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SPIRITUAL CINEMA

Welcome to our first Spiritual Cinema season at St. James, Piccadilly.

Great cinema can give us a powerful sense of the other people's lives. It can confront us with things outside our own direct experience. It can shift our attention away from our own preoccupations towards greater awareness and compassion for other people. The emotions films induce in us can move us into deeper inner space, and, in the hands of a great artist, images can resonate with our deepest desires and dreams. Films are great companions on the journey.

Practicalities

Screenings are usually preceded by a short talk and followed by discussion (if appropriate). We usually offer specially-written programme notes which suggest ways in which the film can be read as a spiritual document. We often devise some simple liturgy related to the theme of the film - such as a period of guided reflection or meditation.

All screenings start at promptly at **7.00 pm**, either in the main church or in the church hall. A sign outside will indicate where. A donation of **£7.00** is suggested to cover the costs of the screening. Refreshments are usually available.

Andrei Tarkovsky at St. James

Andrei Tarkovsky's films - including *Stalker*, *Solaris*, *Mirror*, *The Sacrifice* - explore the inner life with a technical mastery and artistic vision that is unique in cinema.



He gave two lectures in St. James Piccadilly in 1984, and his memorial service was held there two years later. We have therefore chosen his unforgettable film *Nostalgia* to launch the first Season of Spiritual Cinema at St. James.

PROGRAMME

Tuesday 28 September

Nostalgia

Andrei Tarkovsky (1983) 126 minutes (Cert 15)

With extracts from Tarkovsky's 1984 lectures.

A unique film, full of haunting and extraordinary images. The story of a Russian academic researching an obscure musician in Tuscany, but equally one of cinema's greatest spiritual explorations.



Tuesday 12 October

Jesus, You Know

Ulrich Seidl (2003) 87 minutes

Austrian film-maker Seidl invited six believers to record their private conversations with Jesus. These prayers and confessions are deeply revealing, as their subjects explore jealousy, revenge, fantasies, hero worship, love and desire. A provocative examination of the nature of prayer.

Tuesday 19 October

Breaking the Waves (Cert 18)

Lars Von Trier (1996) 159 minutes

A devastating portrait of Bess, a naive woman in a small Scottish village, who believes God will cure her badly injured husband if she offers sex to other men. A highly original film that raises very uncomfortable issues. NB This disturbing film is not for the faint-hearted

Wednesday 3 November

The Long Day Closes

Terence Davies (1992) 84 minutes



An exquisite memoir of Davies' childhood in Liverpool, gently discovering the world after the departure of his violent father. An film of aching beauty, nostalgia and poetry.

Tuesday 9 November

Swamiji - An Interior Voyage + short

Patrice Chagnard (1984) 52 mins

A beautifully-made portrait of the French monk Henri Le Saux - "Abhishiktananda" - who fearlessly explored the territory between Christianity and the great mystical currents of India. Plus rare footage of Ramana Maharshi.

Spiritual Cinema Workshop

Saturday 27 November

11.00 - 5.00 pm

Led by Simon Keyes

A day exploring the many ways in which cinema can enrich our spiritual journeys, by giving us inspiration, metaphors, role models, and the occasional experience of the transcendent. The workshop will include extracts from a wide range of films and opportunities for discussion and personal reflection.

Cost: £45 (light lunch included)

Places limited, so please book ahead

Workshop@spiritualcinema.org.uk

NB Venue to be confirmed.

Tuesday 16 November:

32 Short Films about Glen Gould

François Girard (1993) 98 minutes

Yes, 32 scenes that comprise an unusual mosaic of the eccentric Canadian pianist whose recording of Bach's Goldberg variations (in 32 sections) is a musical legend. A film about God, Bach and collapsing chairs..

Tuesday 7 December

ivansxtc (Cert 18)

Bernard Rose (2002) 91 Minutes



An audacious, entertaining and profoundly moving story of last days of a Hollywood hedonist. Part satire, part Tolstoy, with Wagner's Tristan for good measure. NB: Lots of sex, drugs and immoderate language

Tuesday 14 December: 7.30 pm

Rumi - Poet of the Heart

Haydn Reiss (1999) 60 mins

With readings by Duncan Mackintosh and live music An elegant film about America's best-selling poet, the 13th Century dervish Jallaludin Rumi. With comments on translating Rumi from leading authority Coleman Barks. "Without the eyes... how would the dust reveal the secret of it's heart?"

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