

AUCKLAND FILM SOCIETY 2025 taking you further into film

Welcome to Auckland Film Society's 2025 season of classic and contemporary cinema from around the world and on our own doorstep.

Celebrate cinema with us!

- Exciting cinema that pushes the boundaries
- See films you may never have heard of – you'll be surprised how much you enjoy them
- Weekly screenings give you time to reflect
- Guest speakers and Q&A with filmmakers
- Exceptional value – a full 12-month membership subscription this year works out at about \$5.60 per film – even less with discounted membership
- Public ticket sales @ \$15 available this year for selected titles, marked *
- Great discounts at local cinemas, Show Me Shorts Film Festival and Whānau Mārama New Zealand International Film Festival

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We gratefully acknowledge the generous assistance of the Goethe-Institut, Institut Français and the Embassy of France. Contact Michael McDonnell, New Zealand Federation of Film Societies, nzfilmsociety.org.nz Brochure published by Auckland Film Society Inc, PO Box 5618, Victoria St W, Auckland 1142. Note: some censorship ratings tbc



SWEDISH FILMMAKERS

Classics from two giants of Swedish cinema

THE PHANTOM CARRIAGE Körkarlen

Victor Sjöström | Sweden | 1921 | HD | tbc
An alcoholic's life is changed through love and an encounter with the Grim Reaper in this film of uncanny beauty and inventiveness, which Bergman called "the keystone of my cinematographic world".
– Pacific Film Archive

HERE IS YOUR LIFE Här har du ditt liv

Jan Troell | Sweden | 1966 | HD | tbc
Based on a series of autobiographical novels by Nobel-winner Eyvind Johnson, this enchanting debut is an epic coming-of-age tale set in the Swedish hinterland at the turn of the 20th century. "Rarely seen... rightfully heralded as a classic for its emotional candor" – Chicago Film Festival

GERMAN CINEMA

THE UNIVERSAL THEORY Die Theorie von Allem

**Timm Kröger | Germany/Austria/Switzerland | 2023
HD | M violence & content that may disturb**
This heady sci-fi thriller takes us on a gripping cinematic voyage packed with astute film references, Hitchcockian suspense and brain-melting metaphysics. "There's a slipperiness here that is quite Lynchian." – *Screen International*

OH BOY

Jan Ole Gerster | Germany | 2012 | HD | M offensive language
A funny, jazz-inflected account of a bad day in the life of uber-cool young Berliner. With a knowing cinephile vibe, this was an unexpected box office and festival hit on first release. "Light-hearted, clever, silly, satirical, timely" – *Kino Zeit*

*German Cinema screens
in co-operation with the
Goethe-Institut*

*German Cinema screenings are open to the public, courtesy of the
Goethe-Institut – entry by donation (notes only, please)*



LA CHINOISE

FRENCH CONNECTIONS

LA CHINOISE

Jean-Luc Godard | France | 1967 | HD | M adult themes
Godard's pop-art masterpiece embraces and parodies the revolutionary spirit of a group of middle-class students determined to overthrow the establishment by any means necessary. "A speed freak's anticipatory vision of the political horrors to come; it's amazing"
– Pauline Kael, *New Yorker*

CLÉO FROM 5 TO 7 Cléo de 5 à 7

Agnès Varda | France/Italy | 1962 | HD | PG sexual references
Shooting entirely on location in the streets of Paris, Agnès Varda chronicles two anxious hours in a pop singer's life. Score by Michel Legrand, who cameos alongside Jean-Luc Godard and Anna Karina. "This joyous exercise in elegance and style never gets old."
– *Guardian*

PACIFICATION Tourment sur les îles

Albert Serra | France/Spain/Germany/Portugal 2022 | HD | M nudity & sexual content
Arthouse maverick Albert Serra takes us on an unsettling tour of the French Polynesian tropics with this anti-epic tale of political paranoia set against a backdrop of picture postcard sunsets. "Beauty and menace in a kind of uneasy equilibrium" – *LA Times*

FALCON LAKE

Charlotte Le Bon | France/Canada | 2022 | HD | tbc
This remarkably assured feature debut melds a dreamy summertime coming-of-age teen romance with an eerie and enigmatic ghost story. "Striking, stylish, sweetly scary" – *Variety*

THE CROSSING La traversée

Florence Miailhe | France/Germany/Czech Republic 2021 | HD | PG violence & coarse language
Oil painted on glass creates a fully dreamlike effect in this poignant animation – a refugee story blending fairytale fantasy with realist drama. "This artisanal animated feature film is a marvel of humanity – don't miss it." – *Paris Match*

French Connections screens in co-operation with the Institut Français and the Embassy of France



PAT GARRETT AND BILLY THE KID

PECKINPAH'S WEST

THE WILD BUNCH

Sam Peckinpah | USA | 1969 | HD | R16 violence
Aging outlaws go out in a blaze of glory in Peckinpah's lament for the last days of the Wild West. Still the brutal benchmark for action cinema, influencing countless imitators. "Overwhelms and incites... foreshadows America right now." – Michael Wilmington, National Society of Film Critics

PAT GARRETT AND BILLY THE KID

Sam Peckinpah | USA | 1973 | HD | M violence & sex scenes
Trading ultraviolence for introspection, Peckinpah's final western follows lawman Pat Garrett across the American West as he stalks his old friend, Billy the Kid. "An elegiac, haunting meditation on integrity, survival and freedom" – BFI

KUROSAWA AKIRA

RASHŌMON

Kurosawa Akira | Japan | 1950 | HD | M violence
Innovative photography and skilled direction create a brilliant illustration of the elusiveness of objective truth in this samurai murder mystery. Kurosawa's international breakthrough. "Pure cinema" – PFA

IKIRU

Kurosawa Akira | Japan | 1952 | HD
PG low level offensive language
A favourite of Steven Spielberg, this deeply affecting, humanist masterpiece stars Kurosawa regular Shimura Takashi as an ordinary civil servant who discovers what it means to live. "Piercing emotion and poetry... seems to take x-rays of the human spirit" – *New Yorker*

HIGH AND LOW Tengoku to jigoku

Kurosawa Akira | Japan | 1963 | HD | M
A kidnapping sparks a moral dilemma for a wealthy executive in this superb, suspenseful noir adapted from a novel by Ed McBain. "One of the best detective thrillers ever filmed" – *NY Times*

Auckland Film Society
2025

Academy Cinemas 44 Lorne St, Auckland Central

Mondays at 6:15 pm (Tuesdays after public holidays)

March – November Screenings marked * public tickets \$15

10 Mar 6:00pm **ALL THAT JAZZ*** Opening night – early start

17 Mar 6:15pm **THE BLUE CAFTAN**

24 Mar 6:15pm **GHOST DOG: WAY OF THE SAMURAI**

31 Mar 6:15pm **BLACKBERRY**

07 Apr 6:15pm **OPEN YOUR EYES**

14 Apr 6:00pm **HERE IS YOUR LIFE** Early start

22 Apr 6:15pm **BREWSTER McCLOUD** Tuesday

28 Apr 6:15pm **THE HAUNTING** AFS AGM follows

05 May 6:15pm **LA CHINOISE**

12 May 6:15pm **HOW FAR IS HEAVEN***

19 May 6:15pm **FALCON LAKE**

26 May 6:15pm **BEGINNING**

03 June 6:15pm **PETITE MAMAN** Tuesday

09 June 6:15pm **THE UNIVERSAL THEORY**

16 June 6:15pm **THE CROSSING**

23 June 6:00pm **THE WILD BUNCH** Early start

30 June 6:15pm **KES**

07 July 6:15pm **CLEO FROM 5 TO 7**

14 July 6:15pm **PAT GARRETT AND BILLY THE KID***

21 July 6:15pm **PULSE**

28 July 6:00pm **IKIRU** Early start

WHĀNAU MĀRAMA NZ INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL

01 Sep 6:00pm **PACIFICTION** Early start

08 Sep 6:15pm **VICTIMS OF SIN**

15 Sep 6:15pm **OH BOY**

22 Sep 6:15pm **THE PHANTOM CARRIAGE**

29 Sep 6:00pm **PEPPERMINT CANDY** Early start

06 Oct 6:15pm **RASHŌMON**

13 Oct 6:15pm **EILEEN**

20 Oct 6:00pm **ALL THE BEAUTY AND THE BLOODSHED** Early start

28 Oct 6:15pm **A GHOST STORY** Tuesday

03 Nov 6:00pm **HIGH AND LOW** Early start

10 Nov 6:15pm **THE ROYAL HOTEL**

17 Nov 6:15pm **NINOTCHKA***
Wayne Weston Memorial Screening

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AUCKLAND FILM SOCIETY

Open to the public – 4 titles, all tickets \$15 – AFS members free

All That Jazz • How Far is Heaven • Pat Garrett and Billy the Kid • Ninotchka

Auckland Film Society

2025 MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM

There are three ways to join. An AFS Supporter membership or Premier Card membership gives you FREE entry to AFS screenings and lasts 12 months from date of joining. Or check us out with a Sampler Card, for FREE entry to any 3 AFS films, or to purchase full membership by instalments.

Please note that most screenings are open to members only, and censor's ratings apply. Full details of all membership benefits and discounts at nzfilmsociety.org.nz/auckland/join

Fill in this membership form and join at the AFS desk in the cinema foyer before any AFS screening. Or fill in and submit the form on our website and join by e-banking. Or buy your AFS membership at academycinemas.co.nz

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** Discount price for Premier Card Members rejoining, film industry guild members, Friends of the Film Archive, students and beneficiaries.

Please show ID or write membership number here: _____

Bring this form to any AFS screening and join at the AFS desk in the cinema foyer. Or post completed form with credit card details to Auckland Film Society, PO Box 5618, Victoria St W, Auckland 1142. Mark envelope "Freepost 1944" or help us by attaching correct postage.



PULSE

GHOST STORIES

THE HAUNTING

Robert Wise | USA | 1963 | HD | R16

Celebrated as one of the scariest films of all time, this eerie tale about a gothic manor house which just may be haunted is a masterclass in the power of suggestion. "A brilliantly unsettling journey" – Stuart Heritage, *Guardian*

PULSE Kairo

Kurosawa Kiyoshi | Japan | 2001 | HD | R13 violence, horror scenes & content may disturb

The ghosts are literally in the machine in this innovative and prophetic Y2K-era horror flick portraying an interconnected world haunted by the dread of loneliness. "Fiercely original, thrillingly creepy... evokes a dreamlike dread of the unknown" – *New York Times*

A GHOST STORY

David Lowery | USA | 2017 | HD | M offensive language

This profoundly cinematic ghost story tracks the progress of a spirit who can't let go of the woman he loved and the house they shared, evoking a moving sense of existential disquiet. "A lyrical exploration of emotional fade and loss" – Roger Clarke, BFI

NEW ZEALAND FILM

HOW FAR IS HEAVEN

Christopher Pryor & Miriam Smith | New Zealand 2012 | HD | Exempt

This lively, visually beautiful documentary takes us up the Whanganui River into the lives of the remote community of Jerusalem/Hiruharama and the three nuns stationed there. "Generous, profound, loving... utterly magic" – John Campbell, TV3

*New Zealand Film screens courtesy of Te Tumu Whakaata Taonga
New Zealand Film Commission*



EILEEN

CONTEMPORARY WORLD CINEMA

ALL THE BEAUTY AND THE BLOODSHED

Laura Poitras | USA | 2022 | HD | M nudity, strong sexual
imagery & content may disturb

The life of famed photographer Nan Goldin and her activism against the disgraced pharmaceutical billionaire Sackler family, especially their patronage of the art world. "Profound and incendiary" – *Variety*

BEGINNING Dasatskisi

Dea Kulumbegashvili | Georgia/France | 2020
HD | R16 rape, sexual references, offensive language & content that
may disturb

A devout young woman wrestles with persecution and patriarchal confinement in this arresting feature debut that recalls the works of Michael Haneke, Carlos Reygadas and Chantal Akerman. "A revelation" – Luca Guadagnino

BLACKBERRY

Matt Johnson | Canada | 2023 | HD | M offensive language

This whip-smart Canadian comedy channels the snark of *The Social Network* to tell the extraordinarily dramatic rise and equally spectacular fall of the world's first smartphone. "Triumphant – wonderfully funny" – *Deadline*

THE BLUE CAFTAN Le bleu du caftan

Maryam Touzani | France/Morocco/Belgium/
Denmark | 2022 | HD | M nudity & sex scenes

A master tailor's wife watches as her closeted husband falls in love with his apprentice. Maryam Touzani's sensuous feature is as elegant and finely crafted as the beautiful garments in her film. "A vibrant ode to love in all its many forms" – *Playlist*

EILEEN

William Oldroyd | USA/UK | 2023 | HD | R16 child abuse
themes, violence, cruelty, sexual material, suicide & offensive language

Thomasin McKenzie and Anne Hathaway star in William Oldroyd's neo-noir follow-up to *Lady Macbeth* – a tale of a young secretary dazzled by a glamorous colleague in '60s New England. "Sultry, sinister and wholly surprising" – *Daily Beast*



PETITE MAMAN

PETITE MAMAN

Céline Sciamma | France | 2021 | HD | PG

A young girl makes a mysterious new friend while staying over at her late grandmother's country home in Céline Sciamma's exquisitely crafted and spellbinding modern fairytale. "An astonishingly insightful and heartbreakingly hopeful cinematic poem" – Mark Kermode

THE ROYAL HOTEL

Kitty Green | Australia/UK/USA | 2023 | HD | R16

violence, offensive language & sexual material

Based on real-life events, Kitty Green's savvy outback thriller finds two American backpackers signing up for a holiday job tending bar at an Australian pub in the middle of nowhere. "Explosive. Subverts whatever expectations you might have about a thriller" – *Indiewire*

RETRO CLASSICS

ALL THAT JAZZ

Opening Night

Bob Fosse | USA | 1979 | HD | M

Brazenly turning the camera onto a fictionalised version of his own life, gifted director and choreographer Bob Fosse delivers a wildly imaginative backstage musical masterpiece. "Seamy, gritty, furious poetry" – *Slant*

GHOST DOG: WAY OF THE SAMURAI

Jim Jarmusch | USA | 1999 HD

R16 violence & offensive language

Forest Whitaker is a Zen hitman following a strict samurai code who turns against his mafioso bosses in this surreal, stylish blend of gangster thriller and martial arts action. "Amusing and melancholic, sweet-centred and dark-edged" – *Sight & Sound*

KES

Ken Loach | UK | 1969 | HD | PG coarse language

One of Ken Loach's most beloved films, this sensitive portrait of a young boy from a northern mining town who trains a kestrel has lost none of its transcendental power. "Effortless naturalism... deeply affecting" – *Film Comment*



ALL THAT JAZZ

OPEN YOUR EYES

Abre los ojos

Alejandro Amenábar | Spain/France/Italy | 1997 |

HD | M low level violence & low level sex scenes

Amenábar's dizzying Spanish sci-fi psycho-thriller blurs the lines between reality and illusion and keeps its audience guessing with a series of mind-bending twists. "Smart, mischievous and stylish" – *Time Out*

PEPPERMINT CANDY

Bakhasatang

Lee Chang-dong | Korea | 1999 | HD | R16 violence, sexual

material, suicide & offensive language

This powerful and compassionate early feature by novelist-turned-director Lee Chang-dong examines Korea's turbulent recent past through the life of one desperate man. "A visually stunning exploration of fate, time and memory, and how they shape our lives" – *Asian Movie Pulse*

VICTIMS OF SIN

Victimas del pecado

Emilio Fernández | Mexico | 1951 | HD | tbc

Cabaret performer Ninón Sevilla stars in this blend of noir, melodrama and mambo musical from one of Mexican cinema's most celebrated auteurs.

"A quintessential *cabaretera* film from the golden era of Mexican cinema" – *Slant*

COMEDY CORNER

BREWSTER McCLOUD

Robert Altman | USA | 1970 | HD | R16

Fresh from the success of *M*A*S*H*, Altman threw his unmistakable directorial flair behind this sharply scripted, avian-themed black comedy about a recluse who dreams of being able to fly. "Entirely singular... a strange yet vivid time capsule" – *L Magazine*

NINOTCHKA

Closing Night

Ernst Lubitsch | USA | 1939 | HD | tbc

"Garbo laughs!" Greta Garbo stars as a stern Soviet official sent to Paris to supervise the sale of jewels seized from Russian nobles, only to find herself attracted to a man who represents everything she is supposed to detest. "Delicate flirtation and political satire made into a perfect whole" – *Time Out*

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