

Keswick Film Festival – Film Programme (subject to change) – Thursday 24th to Sunday 27th March 2022

Session	Thursday 24 th March		Friday 25 th March		Saturday 26 th March		Sunday 27 th March	
Morning					Theatre 11.00am	There is a Field Nc F	Rheged 11.00am	The Souvenir part II (15) F
					Alhambra 11.00am	Where is Anne Frank (PG)	Alhambra 11.00am	Paris 13 th District (18)
					Rheged 11.00am	Belle (PG)		
Afternoon			Theatre 12.30pm	Drive My Car (15)	Alhambra 2.00pm	The Story of Looking (15)	Rheged 2.00pm	Master Cheng (PG)
			Alhambra 12.30pm	Great Freedom (15)	Theatre 2.00pm	Osprey short films	Alhambra 2.00pm	Compartment No 6 (15)
			Theatre 4.30pm	Petite Maman (U) F				
			Alhambra 4.30pm	Playground (12A) F				
Evening			Theatre 6.30pm	Hive (12A) F	Alhambra 6.00pm	Everything Went Fine (15)	Rheged 5.00pm	Flee (15)
	Welcome! A drink and a nibble From 6.30pm		Alhambra 6.30pm	Between Two Worlds (12A)	Theatre 6.00pm	Azor (12A)	Alhambra 5.00pm	Wheel of Fortune and Fantasy (15)
	Alhambra 7.00pm	Ali & Ava (15) F	Theatre 9.00pm	The Bold, the Corrupt and the Beautiful (15)	Theatre 9.00pm	Titane (18) F		
			Alhambra 9.00pm	Olga (15)	Alhambra 9.00pm	Parallel Mothers (15)	Alhambra 8.30pm	The Worst Person in the World (15)

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Film Descriptions by Date/Time

Day Venue Time	Title etc	Director	Film Description
Thursday 24 th Alhambra 7.00pm	Ali & Ava (15) F 95m UK Thanks to Altitude Films	Clio Barnard	Boisterous landlord Ali (Adeel Akhtar) and pragmatic teaching assistant Ava (Claire Rushbrook) meet through a chance encounter. Over the course of one month, sparks fly and a connection begins to grow. But their newfound passion is threatened by the legacy of Ava's past relationship and by Ali's emotional turmoil following the breakdown of his marriage. Beautifully written, funny and warm, Ali & Ava is a keenly observed portrait of 21 st century British society. <i>Clio Barnard's keen ability to convey the deep realities of life through her direction has never been better. Adeel Akhtar and Claire Rushbrook are sensational</i> - HeyUGuys
Friday 25 th Theatre 12.30pm	Drive My Car (15) 179m Japan Thanks to Modern Films	Ryūsuke Hamaguchi	Adapted from a short story by Haruki Murakami, and winner of the Best Picture in a non-English Language film at the 2022 Golden Globe Awards, this haunting road movie was co-written and directed by Ryusuke Hamaguchi. We meet Yūsuke Kafuku, a recently widowed actor and director who is assigned a young woman to chauffeur him as he directs a production of Uncle Vanya at a theatre festival. As tensions mount within the cast, he is forced to face some painful truths from his past, and with the help of his chauffeur travels a road from love and loss to acceptance and peace. <i>"An engrossing and exalting experience"</i> - Peter Bradshaw, Guardian
Friday 25 th Alhambra 12.30pm	Great Freedom (15) 116m Austria Thanks to MUBI	Sebastian Meise	There's real power in director Meise's determination to show history in all its stained reality. This tense, moving portrait tells of masculinity struggling against the bounds of violence and punishment in which it is placed. These men are bonded by brutality, like brothers at war, but the central relationship is the film's tender core. Earthy and understated, this Austrian prison drama tells a story of resilience amid harsh treatment of gay men in post-war Germany. <i>Meise's film is an exquisite marriage of personal, political and sensual storytelling</i> - Variety
Friday 25 th March	Petite Maman (U) F	Céline Sciamma	The acclaimed French Director Céline Sciamma (Portrait of a Lady on Fire) gives us another wonderfully enchanting tale. When 8 year old Nelly's grandmother dies, she goes with her

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Theatre 4.30pm	72m France Thanks to MUBI		parents to help sort out her grandmother's house, which is her mother's childhood home. There she meets another young girl whose life soon shows startling parallels to Nelly's own. <i>"A mix of fairy tale, ghost story and rites-of-passage journey, this is at heart a cinematic parable about healing inter-generational wounds. Whether you are 6 or 60, this astonishingly insightful and heartbreakingly hopeful cinematic poem will pierce your heart"</i> - Mark Kermode
Friday 25 th March Alhambra 4.30pm	Playground (12A) F 72m Belgium Thanks to New Wave	Laura Wandel	Belgium's outstanding Oscar nomination is brilliantly filmed from a child's eye view. Seven-year-old Nora and her big brother Abel are back to school. When Nora witnesses Abel being bullied by other kids, she rushes to protect him by warning their father. But Abel forces her to remain silent. <i>Although a brief exercise, Playground packs an emotional wallop</i> - ION Cinema
Friday 25 th March Theatre 6.30pm	Hive (12A) F 84m Kosovo Thanks to Altitude Films	Blerta Basholli	The Kosovan entry for the International Film Oscar scooped the main awards at Sundance Festival. Like many women in Kosovo, Fahrije is hoping for news about her husband, who is still missing seven years after the war. Widows are not expected to work, but she has to provide for her family and joins forces with other widows to start a business producing ajvar. This is even though the community already condemns her for daring to drive. <i>As storytelling, this is as good as it gets</i>
Friday 25 th March Alhambra 6.30pm	Between Two Worlds (12A) 106m France Thanks to Curzon Films	Emmanuel Carrère	Marianne Winckler, (played by the incomparable Juliette Binoche) a well-known author, goes to live in northern France to research for her new book on the subject of job insecurity. Without revealing her true identity, she gets hired as a cleaner, working with a group of other women <i>The impish, mischievous air of Juliette Binoche is one of the qualities which mark her as one of the most vivid and interesting actresses working today</i> - The Playlist
Friday 25 th March Theatre 9.00pm	The Bold, the Corrupt and the Beautiful (15) 112m	Ya-che Yang	As the descriptive title indicates, Yang Ya-che's crime thriller is a tale of ambition, power and betrayal. In 1980s Taiwan, Madame Tang is a hard-hearted matriarch who mediates between the rich and powerful in government and business to increase the influence and wealth of her family. When one case goes wrong, with disastrous results, Madame Tang's relationship with

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	Taiwan Thanks to The Media Pioneers		her daughters is changed forever. <i>“This sumptuously produced, meticulously plotted and deliciously acted cautionary tale provides a riotous fun time.”</i> - Zhou-Ning Su The Film Stage
Friday 25 th March Alhambra 9.00pm	Olga (15) 85m France Switzerland Ukraine Thanks to 606 Distribution	Elie Grappe	2013. Exiled in Switzerland, Olga, a talented and passionate 15-year-old Ukrainian gymnast, is trying to make her place at the National Sports Centre. But the revolt of Euromaïdan breaks out in Kiev, suddenly involving her relatives. While the young girl has to adapt to her new country and prepares the European Championships, the Ukrainian revolution enters her life and will shake everything up... <i>Using real-life gymnasts to land his debut on solid ground, director Elie Grappe presents a compelling psychological portrait of a dedicated young athlete on the cusp of great success -</i> Screen International Screened under the banner of UK Cinemas in support of Ukraine this is a charity screening in support of Red Cross and Unicef.
Saturday 26 th March Theatre 11.00am	There is a Field Nc USA Thanks to Donkeysaddle Projects	Jen Marlowe	The Keswick Peace and Human Rights Group selection. In October 2000, a police officer shot and killed unarmed 17-year old Asel Asleh. His story is tragically familiar for Americans, but Asel was not killed in Ferguson, New York City, Atlanta, or Minneapolis. Asel was a Palestinian teenager who was murdered by Israeli police as he participated in a demonstration, calling for an end to the Israeli occupation and settler-colonization. <i>There Is A Field</i> began as a play about Asel’s life and his death and the film intercuts performance and archive footage
Saturday 26 th March Alhambra 11.00am	Where is Anne Frank (PG) 99m Belgium	Ari Folman	A pre-release of a film not seen before in Cumbria, from the acclaimed Director of <i>Walz with Bashir</i> . Kitty, the imaginary girl to whom Anne Frank wrote her famous diary, comes to life in the Anne Frank House in Amsterdam. Her memories reawakened by reading the diary, believing that if she's alive, Anne must be alive as well, she sets out on a quest to find Anne. We follow Kitty as she travels across Europe and back to Anne Frank's time, armed with the precious book, in search of her beloved friend.

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	Thanks to Altitude Films		<i>The superb animation Where Is Anne Frank by Ari Folman is a standout gem - Cineuropa</i>
Saturday 26 th March Rheged 11.00am	Belle (PG) 121m Japan Thanks to National Amusements	Mamoru Hosoda	A brilliant, animated film from Japan that will be seen to best effect on Rheged's big screen. This is not to be missed! Suzu is a shy, everyday high school student living in a rural village. For years, she has only been a shadow of herself. But when she enters "U", a massive virtual world, she escapes into her online persona as Belle, a gorgeous and globally-beloved singer. One day, her concert is interrupted by a monstrous creature chased by vigilantes. As their hunt escalates, Suzu embarks on an emotional and epic quest to uncover the identity of this mysterious "beast" and to discover her true self in a world where you can be anyone.
Saturday 26 th March Alhambra 2.00pm	The Story of Looking (15) 90m UK Thanks to Modern Films	Mark Cousins	Writer/Director Mark Cousins was awarded the 'Outstanding Achievement Award' from the 'British Association of Film, Television and Screen Studies' 2020. The Story of Looking sees Mark prepare for surgery to restore his vision. He explores the role that visual experience plays in our individual and collective lives. At a time when we are more assailed by images than ever, he reveals how looking makes us who we are, lying at the heart of human experience, empathy, discovery and thought. This deeply personal film will be followed by an online Q&A with Mark himself.
Saturday 26 th March Theatre 2.00pm	Osprey short films Free Entry		Always a highlight of the Keswick Film Festival, the annual Osprey Short Film awards return with an eclectic shortlist of 10 films. This is your chance to see the work of the best new film makers with a Cumbrian connection. Carl Hunter, director of <i>Sometimes Always Never</i> , not to mention being the bass player in <i>The Farm</i> , will present two of his own short films prepared during lockdown.
Saturday 26 th March Alhambra 6.00pm	Everything Went Fine (15) 113m France Thanks to Curzon Films	François Ozon	Francois Ozon's French comedy drama handles the serious subject of euthanasia and assisted dying with a delicate lack of sentimentality. Based on Emmanuelle Bernheim's autobiographical novel of the same name, the film stars Sophie Marceau as Emmanuelle, whose successful, well-connected father suffers a sudden debilitating stroke. His request to her to help him end his life is the pivot for the film to explore the irony of such a request, as we learn more about Emmanuelle's childhood and family life. <i>"The performances from Dussollier and Marceau are quietly outstanding"</i> - Peter Bradshaw

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Saturday 26 th March Theatre 6.00pm	Azor (12A) 100m Argentina Thanks to MUBI	Andreas Fontana	In the late 70s in Buenos Aires, under military rule, a banker has mysteriously disappeared. A colleague arrives from Geneva to replace him but finds himself in a society under intense surveillance. As he tries to make sense of the disappearance, he becomes tangled in a sinister web of colonialism, high finance and a nation's dirty war. <i>"Azor is a film of impeccably polished facades capable of concealing horrors"</i> - Joe Blessing/The Playlist
Saturday 26 th March Theatre 9.00pm	Titane (18) 108m France Thanks to Altitude Films	Julia Ducournau	Injured in a car accident as a child, Alexia, played by Agathe Rousselle, has a titanium plate fitted into her head, and develops an extreme fetish for cars. Her subsequent encounters with men, women and vehicles reveal her loneliness and search for belonging. This body horror film is, according to the director, an attempt to talk about love without words. <i>The miracle of Julia Ducournau's luridly beautiful Palme d'Or-winner is that the memory of the violence puncturing the film's first half recedes as loving tenderness takes hold</i> - The Arts Desk
Saturday 26 th March Alhambra 9.00pm	Parallel Mothers (15) 123m Spain Thanks to Warner Brothers	Pedro Almodovar	Almodovar and Cruz together again – it would not be a festival without them! Two women, Janis and Ana, coincide in a hospital room where they are going to give birth. Both are single and became pregnant by accident. Janis, middle-aged, doesn't regret it and she is exultant. The other, Ana, an adolescent, is scared, repentant and traumatized. <i>This is probably the most I've loved a Penélope Cruz performance ever, which is saying a lot because she's just marvellous</i> - Film Week
Sunday 27 th March Rheged 11.00am	The Souvenir part II (15) F 107m UK Thanks to Picturehouse Entertainment	Joanna Hogg	The Souvenir was Sight & Sounds' film of the year and Joanna Hogg's sequel may receive the same high praise. In the aftermath of her tumultuous relationship with a charismatic but manipulative older man, Julie begins to untangle her fraught love for him by making her graduation film and sorting fact from his elaborately constructed fiction. <i>Hogg captures something I've felt acutely as a female filmmaker: a desperate need for everyone to like you, which eliminates any possibility of their respect</i> - Globe and Mail

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Sunday 27 th March Alhambra 11.00am	Paris 13 th District (18) 105m France Thanks to Curzon Films	Jacques Audiard	The latest film from Director Jacques Audiard stars Noémie Merlant, last seen in <i>Portrait of a Lady on Fire</i> is described as a Romance, a Comedy and a Drama Émilie meets Camille who is attracted to Nora, who crosses paths with Amber. Three girls and a boy - They're friends, sometimes lovers and often both. <i>Even with its artsy cinematography, this feels like Audiard's least self-conscious work to date, a playful reminder that the kids aren't alright, but they're feeling their way through</i> - Little White Lies
Sunday 27 th March Rheged 2.00pm	Master Cheng (PG) 114m Finland/China Thanks to Parkland Entertainment	Mika Kaurismäki	This gentle comedy of a clash of cultures and catering in Finland charmed a group of seasoned film professionals at a recent screening weekend and is set to entertain us here in Cumbria. Cheng, a skilled chef, arrives in Finland looking for a mysterious man from his past. Largely ignored by the locals, only Sirkka, the café owner is prepared to help. <i>Easy to watch and easy to like, Master Cheng isn't just about comfort food, it is comfort food, a scenically sumptuous, heart-warming food-based film with its heart and its menu in the right place</i> - Jim Schembri
Sunday 27 th March Alhambra 2.00pm	Compartment No 6 (15) 107m Finland Thanks to Curzon Films	Juho Kuosmanen	Finland's entry for the Best International Film Oscar has received high praise from critics across the globe. A young Finnish woman escapes an enigmatic love affair in Moscow by boarding a train to the arctic port of Murmansk. Forced to share the long ride and a tiny sleeping car with a Russian miner, the unexpected encounter leads the occupants of Compartment no. 6 to face the truth about their own yearning for human connection. <i>This is a trip well worth taking</i> - Globe and Mail
Sunday 27 th March Rheged 5.00pm	Flee (15) 89m Denmark Thanks to Curzon Films	Jonas Poher Rasmussen	A painful secret, kept hidden for 20 years, threatens to derail the life that Amin Nawabi has built for himself and his soon to be husband. Recounted mostly through animation, Flee tells for the first time the story of his extraordinary journey as a child refugee from Afghanistan. <i>"Expressive animated documentary Flee beautifully illustrates the personal and universal struggles of a gay Afghan refugee"</i> - André Hereford, Metro Weekly Oscar nominated for Best Documentary, Best Animation and Best International Film

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<p>Sunday 27th March Alhambra 5.00pm</p>	<p>Wheel of Fortune and Fantasy (15) 121m Japan</p> <p>Thanks to Modern Films</p>	<p>Ryūsuke Hamaguchi</p>	<p>In Ryusuke Hamaguchi's elegant and entertaining film, we meet 3 different women, whose lives do not connect but whose stories share a common theme: the role of fate in resolving, or otherwise, their relationship difficulties. Shown in 3 episodes, these stories about the complexities of relationships add up to much more than the sum of their parts.</p> <p><i>A poignant, sometimes piercing triptych of tales, each one predicated on chance encounters and romantic possibilities, it finds Hamaguchi in playful, beguiling and quietly affecting form - L A Times</i></p>
<p>Sunday 27th March Alhambra 8.30pm</p>	<p>The Worst Person in the World (15) 127m Norway</p> <p>Thanks to MUBI</p>	<p>Joachim Trier</p>	<p>A wistful and subversive romantic drama about the quest for love and meaning in contemporary Oslo. It revolves around Julie, a vibrant and impulsive young woman who, on the verge of turning thirty, is faced with a series of choices that force her to continually reinvent and pursue new perspectives on her life. Over the course of several years, Julie navigates multiple love affairs, existential uncertainty and career dissatisfaction as she slowly starts to decide what she wants to do, who she wants to be with, and ultimately who she wants to become.</p> <p>This life-affirming coming of age story deservedly won Reinsve the Best Actress award at the 2021 Cannes Film Festival, and is nominated for two Academy Awards including Original Screenplay and International Feature Film, as well as two BAFTA awards including Leading Actress and Film Not in the English Language.</p> <p><i>A powerhouse of a movie, one that depicts the nebulous transition from Julie's 20s to 30s without either inflating her importance or chastising her doubts and choices - Boulder Weekly</i></p>

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