



Townsville Cinema Group

One of Australia's oldest film societies Established in 1962

Newsletter May/June 2010 - Vol 49 No 2

Screening at WARRINA CINEPLEX every second Thursday at 7.15 PM sharp

Sixteen double-feature programmes per year (plus bonus screenings)

Non-members \$12 per screening

From the Committee

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Thursday 29 April 2010 from 7:30 PM.

Hodel Room (former Thuringowa City Council), Library, Thuringowa Drive

The business of the meeting is to receive reports for the 2009a Financial Year (10 months to 31 December 2009) and to elect members to the Management Committee for the period until the 2011 Annual General Meeting.

All management committee positions are due for election. Nominations are invited from current members for four positions: President, Vice-president, Secretary, and Treasurer, and five Committee members.

If you are unable to attend our Annual General Meeting, you may use the proxy form to secure your voting rights, see our webpage: www.cinemagroup.org.au

AGENDA

1. Attendance
2. Welcome, apologies, declaration of proxies
3. Confirmation of Minutes of 2009 AGM
4. Business arising from the Minutes
5. President's report
6. Treasurer's report
7. Election of office bearers
8. Appointment of auditor
9. General business
10. Closing

After the formal part of the meeting, we would like to discuss how we are going to celebrate our 50th birthday next year, while enjoying a glass and a few nibbles. Ideas are welcome from the floor or in advance via email or via the film rating cards. Below a list of current ideas:

Celebrities

Get Margaret and David to Townsville (to record ABC's At the Movies)

'Original' members introducing nostalgic movies

Creative portraits of Cinema Club identities and restoration of historic photos

Short (10-15 min) TCG documentary

Events

Outdoor cinema screening (3x)

An outdoor dress-up Rocky Horror Picture Show, ... at the Strand

Audience in pool and surrounds at Riverway or at the Rock Pool

A full dress opening night for the 2011 season

A night when members dress as their favourite movie character or another fancy dress movie theme

Bus trip (subsidised for members) to Globe Theatre at Charters Towers

Programming

Movies from the early years; sourcing some 1961 movies (50 years old)

A "best of previous years" festival

A PG matinee for members with kids

A short movies evening

Extending Canberra's European Film Festival (or part of it) to Townsville

A short series of Sunday afternoon film discussions e.g. 'recent history in cinema' at the Surf Life Saving Club

Expand to two separate screenings, effectively doubling the capability while allowing members to choose which movie they watch first

More mandarin language films, more Anime, show "Yojimbo"!

Don't forget that TCG is featuring in a small radio spot on 4TTT (103.9FM) on Wednesday evenings (from 7:30 PM): Mark discusses the up-coming films, providing additional background information and trivia.

Monthly Movie Trivia

One of the most memorable scenes from the film *Cool Hand Luke* occurs when Luke (Paul Newman) makes a bet that he can eat fifty eggs in one hour. The bet is taken by Babalugats who was played by a 30-year old Dennis Hopper. Dennis was born on **May 17th, 1936** in Dodge City, Kansas.

In **June**, South Africa is hosting the World Cup of Football. Between 1916 and 1978 South Africa only produced 21 feature films. Since the release of *The Gods Must Be Crazy* in 1979, 117 feature films have been made. The biggest year was 1988, when 25 films were released.

The weeks ahead

Part harrowing immigration tale, part gangster story, **Sin Nombre**, writer/director Cary Fukunaga' debut, is sensitive, insightful and authentic. And due to a mistake by distributor Madman, this epic is now followed by **Madeo**, which screening date we had to swap with *Aruitemo aruitemo*: Mother

is a marvel of horror, comedy, and impeccable filmmaking by Bong Joon-ho (*The Host*). It features a dementedly devoted mom, who will stop at nothing to clear murder charges against her mentally challenged adult son. Kim Hye-ja's tour de force turn as a monster of maternal love is in stark contrast to her TV portrayals of warm & kind mamas.

On May 20, we start with a dramedy that's got a taste for the tragic as well as the poignantly comic: **Amreeka** adds a new sweetness to the hope and distress of the immigrant experience in rural USA. It will be followed by an understated and thoughtful Italian insight into grief and despair in **Caos Calmo**.

A fortnight later, on June 3, we open with another director's debut: Sergei Dvortsevov gives Kazakh sheep herders their cinematic due in **Tulpan**, a lovely, unsentimental deadpan comedy.

And again, an Italian movie completes the double; **Tutta la vita davanti** is a modern screwball comedy, strewn with contemplation and a critical eye at the working lives of young Roman adults.

Sin Nombre

Mexico 2009 96 min [Madman]
MA15+ Strong violence

Director: Cary Fukunaga

Cast: Paulina Gaitan (*Sayra*); Edgar Flores (*Willy / El Casper*); Kristyan Ferrer (*El Smiley*); Tenoch Huerta Mejía (*Lil' Mago*)

This epic dramatic thriller tells the story of Sayra, a teenager living in Honduras, and hungering for a brighter future.

Management Committee

Bill White (President), Heidi Michaels (Secretary), Bruce Gibson-Wilde (Treasurer & Web Manager), Mark Enders (Vice-President), Floris van der Leest (Newsletter Editor), Han Pikaar, Simon McConnell and Vicki Strelan.

Thank you to:

Andrew Urban & Louise Keller from Urban Cinefile for giving permission to freely use their reviews;

Townsville Bulletin, for independent previews of our programmes; and The Townsville City Council for providing a meeting room.



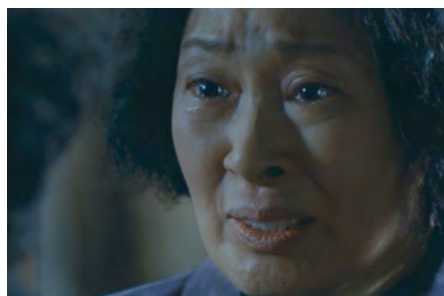
A reunion with her estranged father gives Sayra her only real option: emigrating with her father and her uncle into Mexico and then the United States, where her father now has a new family.

Meanwhile, Casper is a teenager living in Tapachula, Mexico. A member of the Mara Salvatrucha brotherhood, he has just brought the gang a new recruit, 12-year-old Smiley, to undergo initiation.

Mother

(Maejo) Korea 2009 129 min [Madman] MA Strong violence and sex scene
Director: Joon-ho Bong

Cast: Hye-ja Kim (Mother); Bin Won (Yoon Do-joon); Ku Jin (Jin-tae); Yoon Jae-Moon (Je-mun); Mi-sun Jun (Mi-sun); Young-Suck Lee (Ragman)



A single mom's son is her reason for living: 27-year-old Do-joon is naïve and dependent on his mother, and a constant source of anxiety, often behaving in ways that are foolish or simply dangerous. Walking home alone one night, he encounters a young girl who he follows for a while before she disappears into a dark alley. The next morning, she is found dead in an abandoned building and Do-joon is accused of her murder.

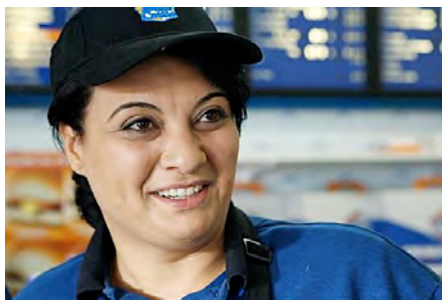
Convinced of her son's innocence, the mother will stop at nothing to find the real killer.

Amreeka

USA/Canada 2009 96 min [Sharmill] M - Drug use and coarse language
Director: Cherien Dabis

Cast: Nisreen Faour (Muna Farah); Melkar Muallem (Fadi Farah); Hiam Abbass (Raghda Halaby); Alia Shawkat (Salma)

Told with heartfelt humor, Amreeka is a universal journey into the lives of a family of immigrants and first-generation teenagers caught between their heritage and the new world in which they search for a place to call home.



Mother Muna and 16-yr old son Fadi flee a life of hardship in Ramallah for the dream of the promised land, a small town in Illinois, only to encounter obstacles that are more challenging.

Quiet Chaos

(Caos calmo) Italy 2009 107 min [Sharmill] MA15+ Strong drug use; Strong sex scene

Director: Antonello Grimaldi

Cast: Nanni Moretti (Pietro Paladini); Blu Di Martino (Claudia); Valeria Golino (Marta); Alessandro Gassman (Carlo); Isabella Ferrari (Eleonora); Silvio Orlando (Samuele)

A close look at the strange bereavement behaviour of an Italian executive.



Pietro has just lost his wife, and he is left with their young daughter. He promises the girl that he will wait for her in the car when she returns to school for the first time, but then this offer turns into a habit. He eats at the nearby café, gets to know the people who pass by and follows from afar the developments at work.

Tulpan

Kazakhstan/Poland/Switzerland 2009 99 min [Palace Films] M - Infrequent coarse language and nudity

Director: Sergei Dvortsevov

Cast: Tolepbergen Baisakalov (Boni); Ondas Besikbasov (Ondas); Samal Eslyamova (Samal); Askhat Kuchencherekov (Askhat); Bereke Turganbayev (Beke)

A work of extraordinary filmmaking bravado, an exhilaratingly alive and sweet-natured fairytale set in the barren landscape of a vast Kazakh steppe, where only shepherds live.

Asa returns from military service to live with his sister Samal, her husband Ondas, and their three children. Asa's dream is to have his own flock of sheep,



but his boss tells him that until he gets married, his wish won't be granted. The only eligible young lady for miles is Tulpan, who rejects him because of his big ears.

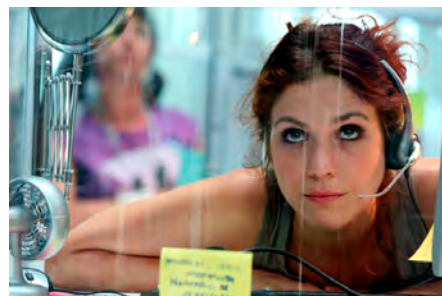
Her Whole Life Ahead

(Tutta la vita davanti) Italy 2009 116 min [Palace Films] M - Coarse language and sex scenes; Infrequent nudity, violence and drug use

Director: Paolo Virzì

Cast: Isabella Ragonese (Marta); Micaela Ramazzotti (Sonia); Giulia Salerno (Lara); Sabrina Ferilli (Daniela); Valerio Mastandrea (Giorgio Conforti); Massimo Ghini (Claudio)

A briskly moving comedy filled with passion and wit. Throw in plenty of song



and dance, gratuitous nudity, and changing relationships, and then try to draw attention to the dehumanizing effect that corporate life can have on young Italian workers.

A brilliant recent graduate struggles to find work. After falling into a babysitting job, she is introduced by the child's mother to the world of international call centres, its employees, and the fast pace driven by micro-managing bosses.

It's all about so-called "permatemps", temporary workers who effectively do the job of a permanent worker, but can be fired anytime and have no benefits at all. Roughly 10 years ago in Italy, temporary job laws were introduced that had a devastating effect on society, especially on younger generations.

Contact Floris van der Leest for contributions to the newsletter via editor@cinemagroup.org.au

Email the committee using info@cinemagroup.org.au

or visit us at www.cinemagroup.org.au