

Phoenix

A close-up photograph of a woman with blonde hair, looking upwards with her mouth open. She has a small pink flower tucked into her hair. She is wearing a light blue strapless dress and a thin necklace. The background is blurred, showing other people and falling confetti, suggesting a festive or celebratory event.

Leicester's
independent cinema
& arts centre

What's On
Nov/Dec 2025

WELCOME



Dreamers



Palestine 36



Sentimental Value



The Thing with Feathers



The Choral

OUR OPENING HOURS

Mondays	12pm – 11pm
Tuesdays	Closed
Wednesdays	Closed
Thursdays	12pm – 11pm
Fridays	12pm – 11pm
Saturdays	11am – 11pm
Sundays	11am – 8.30pm

“Storytelling is the most powerful way to put ideas into the world.” – Robert McKee, screenwriter, author, and lecturer.

Stories. Such a simple word, on the face of it – but stories are intrinsic to the human experience. From early cave paintings, medieval strolling minstrels and the great oral traditions that told of myths and legends around blazing fires, to the marvels of the printing press, radio, TV, cinema and today’s digital platforms offering 24 hour content, people have created new and wonderful ways to share stories.

Stories are powerful. They shed light on the unseen, and give voice to the unheard. Storytelling brings people together, connecting cultures and generations... and storytelling is at the heart of Phoenix.

Every month our programme presents human stories from across the globe and closer to home, providing opportunities for communities to explore and share ideas, improving our understanding of the world around us, and enabling us to re-imagine the future and inspire and nurture creativity.

We tell stories that resonate personally and collectively, revealing shared histories and celebrating heritage – in our city and beyond.

As we consider some of the upheavals of the past year – our restructure and move to 5-day opening due to financial challenges probably the biggest amongst them – and take stock of what we’ve achieved, we’ve seen close up how Phoenix is part of your own individual stories. We’re the place you come to spend time with your friends and family, to celebrate, to be entertained, inspired, educated. We know we’re a haven for people facing difficult life experiences, too – and we know it’s our team that make the difference, with a warm, friendly and personal welcome. We’re part of your stories... and you are at the centre of ours.

Though the end of the year seems some way off, this is our last brochure of 2025 so on behalf of the whole team, I’d like to say a heartfelt thank you for your ongoing support, and wish you all the best for 2026.

We look forward to seeing you at Phoenix soon.

Sarah Vallance
Co-CEO

Phoenix is a registered charity. Please support us by buying [tickets](#), using our [Café Bar](#), becoming a [MyPhoenix member](#), buying Phoenix [gift vouchers](#), [hiring our spaces](#) and holding your [events](#) at the venue, and by [donating](#) at Box Office or online at phoenix.org.uk/support Thank you.

SUE GOLLIFER RETROSPECTIVE

Until Sun 11 Jan
Phoenix gallery, FREE



Sue Gollifer, Untitled U14 1986

Sue Gollifer (b. 1944) began her career as a printmaker, having graduated with a master's degree from the University of Brighton in 1969. She worked as an artist and academic, gaining a reputation for her innovative silkscreen technique.

Drawn to a "computational aesthetic", she was initially discouraged from using computers in her work by an establishment that regarded computer programming as an unsuitable activity for a female artist. She reacted to this by "becoming a

computer" in the production of her artwork, before later using digital devices to help create her art. She went on to curate the highly influential ArCade exhibitions of electronic prints, and was an executive director of ISEA International.

As a pioneer of early computer art and a printmaker who has explored the relationship between technology and the arts throughout her career, Sue has had a huge impact in driving the field forward and creating opportunities for other artists around the world.

This retrospective exhibition features a collection of rarely-seen prints, alongside video material and related ephemera. It also reflects on the challenges she faced early in her career as a printmaker looking to make use of computers in her work.

A free exhibition catalogue can be downloaded from Interact Digital Arts, interactdigitalarts.uk – a limited-edition printed copy will also be available to purchase from Phoenix.



QUANTUM COMPUTING ART: ERNEST EDMONDS & JONATHAN KNOBLAUCH

Until Mon 29 Dec

Café Bar, Free

Internationally recognised computer art pioneer Ernest Edmonds began working in Leicester in the late 1960s and created some of his most significant early artworks while he was based in the city.

His latest collection of work involves the use of quantum computers to generate elements of the ever-evolving artworks, and is presented in collaboration with Jonathan Knoblauch, a quantum computer specialist based in Sydney, Australia.

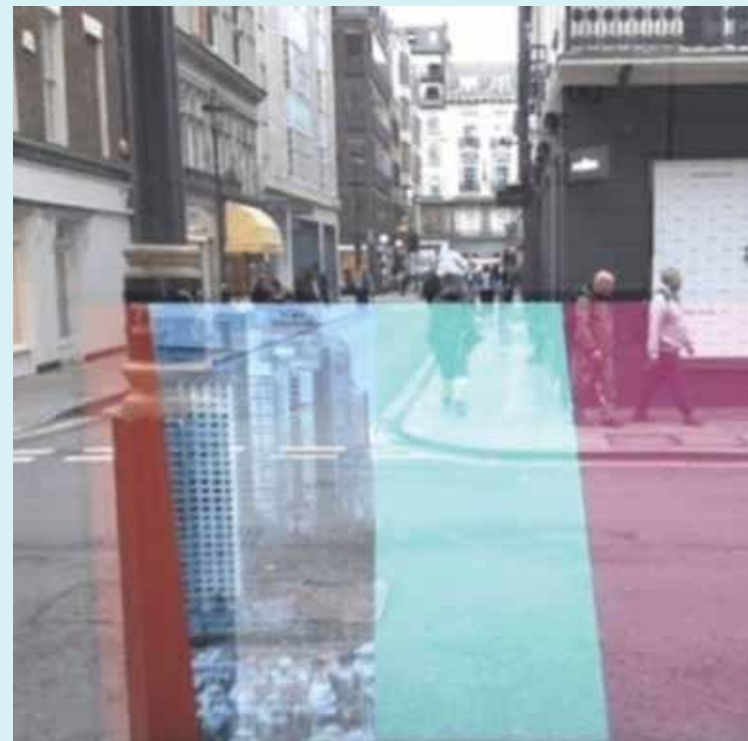
Presented in partnership with the Computer Arts Society, computer-arts-society.com

DEMYSTIFYING QUANTUM COMPUTING ART: ARTIST TALK

Mon 17 Nov, 6.30pm

Free

With their exhibition **Quantum Computing Art** currently on show in our Café Bar, we invite you to join us for a talk from artists Ernest Edmonds and Jonathan Knoblauch that will demystify quantum computing and its role in art. We are delighted that Ernest will be here at Phoenix for the talk, while Jonathan will be joining us live via Zoom from Australia. Afterwards there'll be time for questions and an opportunity to view their exhibition. Tickets are free – advance booking is recommended as capacity is limited.



FILM WALLAHS

Filmwallahs is a new year-round programme of South Asian cinema, in partnership with UK Asian Film Festival, bringing new films and timeless classics to our screens.

SHOLAY: 50TH ANNIVERSARY PG

Sat 15 Nov

Dir: Ramesh Sippy

Cast: Amitabh Bachchan, Dharmendra, Amjad Khan
India 1975, 3hrs 16mins, subtitles

Experience Sholay as it was meant to be seen... on the big screen! Fully restored for its 50th anniversary, the Ramesh Sippy's legendary tale of Jai, Veeru, and Gabbar Singh returns to Phoenix, bringing back the action, the drama, and the unforgettable dialogue that defined a generation. Don't miss this rare screening of a true cinematic landmark.

PROVOKED 15

Thu 27 Nov

Dir: Jag Mundhra

Cast: Aishwarya Rai Bachchan, Nandita Das
UK/India 2006, 1hr 49mins, subtitles (parts)

This powerful drama is based on the true story of Kiranjit Ahluwalia. Trapped in an abusive marriage in London, Kiranjit's (Bachchan) desperate act leads to a landmark legal battle that redefined British law on domestic violence. With strong supporting performances from Nandita Das, Miranda Richardson, and Robbie Coltrane, the film is both harrowing and inspiring – a testament to resilience, justice, and the fight for dignity.

DEVDAŚ 12A

Sat 22 Nov

Dir: Sanjay Leela Bhansali

Cast: Shah Rukh Khan, Aishwarya Rai Bachchan

India 2002, 3hrs 5mins, subtitles

This breathtaking adaptation of Sarat Chandra Chattopadhyay's classic Bengali novel stars Shah Rukh Khan in the title role. Returning from his studies in London, Devdas is prevented from marrying his childhood sweetheart Paro and seeks solace in the arms of a courtesan. Opulent sets, unforgettable performances, and Ismail Darbar's haunting score create a visual and emotional tour de force that redefined Bollywood cinema for a global audience.

DEEWAAR 15

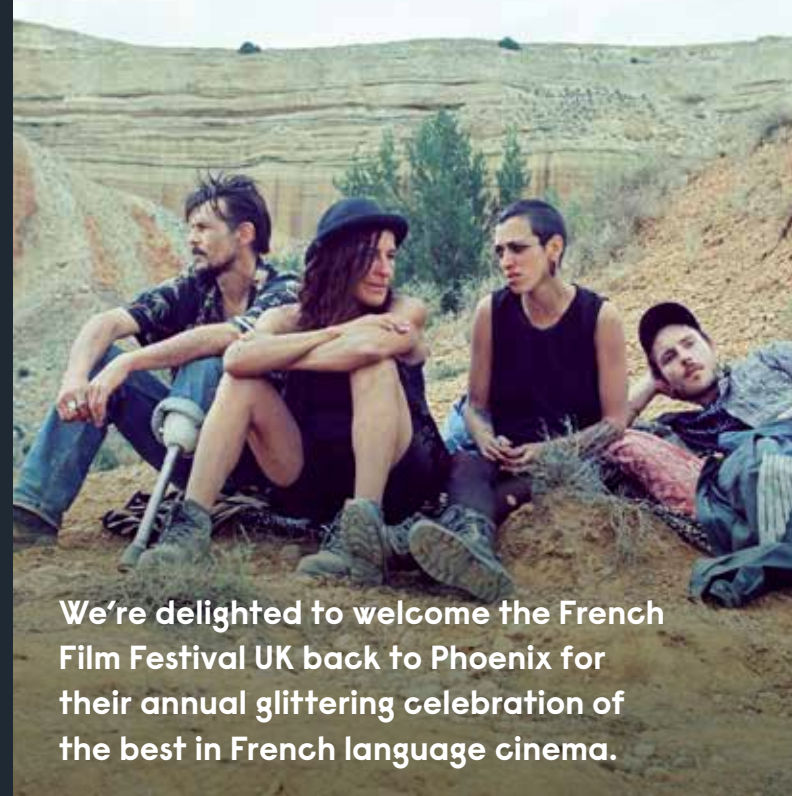
Fri 12 Dec

Dir: Yash Chopra

Cast: Amitabh Bachchan, Shashi Kapoor
India 1975, 2hrs 56mins, subtitles

With taut direction, unforgettable dialogues, and a pulsating score by RD Burman, Yash Chopra's film remains one of the defining classics of Indian cinema. The drama follows Vijay (Amitabh Bachchan), a dockworker whose rise through the underworld leads to a moral battle with his upright policeman brother Ravi (Kapoor). A landmark tale of loyalty, ambition, and betrayal that shaped an entire era of Bollywood storytelling.

FRENCH FILM FESTIVAL UK



We're delighted to welcome the French Film Festival UK back to Phoenix for their annual glittering celebration of the best in French language cinema.

THE SHEPHERD AND THE BEAR CERT TBC

Sun 7 Dec

Dir: Max Keegan

Fra/USA/UK 2025, 1hr 40mins, subs

Set high in the majestic French Pyrenees, this documentary explores a conflict provoked by the reintroduction of brown bears in the midst of a traditional shepherding community. The film follows an ageing shepherd who struggles to find a successor as bears prey on his flock, and a teenage boy who becomes obsessed with tracking the bears. Through its breathtaking cinematography and immersive storytelling, this modern folktale tells of tradition, community and humanity's relationship with a vanishing natural world.

SIRÂT CERT TBC

Sat 8 Nov

Dir: Óliver Laxe

Cast: Sergi Lopez, Bruno Núñez Arjona.
Fra/Spa 2025, 1hr 55mins, subtitles

Told with strange indelible imagery and ground-breaking sound design, a father and his son journey across the Moroccan desert in search of his lost daughter amidst the heavy psychedelic raves that sprawl the plains. Part existential road movie, part apocalyptic sci-fi, Óliver Laxe deploys a weaponised barrage of techno that thumps like an earthquake, creating an unforgettable cinematic experience that rightly claimed the Cannes Jury Prize 2025.

ENZO CERT TBC

Mon 10 Nov

Dir: Laurent Cantet, Robin Campillo

Cast: Eloy Póhu, Maksym Slivinskyi
Fra/Bel 2025, 1hr 42mins, subtitles

Selected for the Queer Palm at this year's Cannes festival, Laurent Canter's (**The Class**) final film follows a 16-year-old boy who defies his bourgeois family's expectations by dropping out of school and starting a masonry apprenticeship where he meets a charismatic Ukrainian colleague, Vlad. Feeling out of place in his family's elegant villa and disconnected from his peers, Enzo finds himself increasingly drawn to Vlad in this French coming-of-age drama.

A PRIVATE LIFE 15

Thu 11 Dec

Dir: Rebecca Zlotowski

Cast: Jodie Foster, Daniel Auteuil
France 2025, 1hr 43mins, subtitles

Rebecca Zlotowski's anticipated follow-up to **Other People's Children** stars Jodie Foster (**The Silence of the Lambs**) in a French-language role as Lilian Steiner, a renowned psychiatrist investigating the death of one of her patients. Deeply troubled by her patient's alleged suicide, Steiner becomes convinced that it was in fact murder. She takes it upon herself to investigate, with the assistance of her ex-husband (Auteuil). Foster is accompanied by an A-list cast including Mathieu Amalric and Virginie Efira.



TOO MUCH

MELODRAMA ON FILM

Too Much: Melodrama on Film has been made possible with support from Film Hub Midlands through funds from the National Lottery. Film Hub Midlands support people to watch, show, and make films in the Midlands.



Across November and December we join the UK-wide programme "TOO MUCH" embracing the vivid visual language and heightened dramatics of melodrama, inviting you to leave your cynicism at the door and feel something. Don't forget your tissues.



VOLVER 15
Sun 9 Nov & Thu 4 Dec
Dir: Pedro Almodóvar
Cast: Penélope Cruz, Carmen Maura
Spain/UK 2006, 2hrs 1 min, subtitles

Raimunda (Cruz), a working-class woman living in Madrid, is dealing with the aftermath of a fire that killed her parents in her native village in La Mancha. Raimunda's life is further complicated when her deceased mother, Irene, returns as a ghost to resolve unfinished family business, including a murder and other buried truths, in Almodovar's comedic melodrama.



ALL THAT HEAVEN ALLOWS U
Mon 1 Dec & Mon 22 Dec
Dir: Douglas Sirk
Cast: Jayne Wyman, Rock Hudson
USA 1955, 1hr 29mins

Cary Scott (Wyman), an upper-class widow, falls in love with a much younger, down-to-earth gardener (Hudson). Facing disapproval from her adult children and her country club friends, Cary must decide whether to prioritise love or conformity. Director Douglas Sirk skewers the social mores of 1950s small-town America in this pinnacle of expressionistic Hollywood melodrama.



THE BITTER TEARS OF PETRA VON KANT 12A
Sun 14 Dec & Tue 30 Dec
Dir: Rainer Werner Fassbinder
Cast: Margit Carstensen, Hanna Schygulla
West Germany 1972, 2hrs 4mins, subtitles

Revered designer Petra von Kant lives with her tormented assistant in a poisonous co-dependency. But when Petra meets the young and beautiful Karin, a toxic infatuation draws the three women into a dangerous dance of cruelty, obsession, and power. A singular, transfixing descent into the psyche.



BRIEF ENCOUNTER PG
Sun 23 Nov & Sat 27 Dec
Dir: David Lean
Cast: Celia Johnson, Trevor Howard
UK 1945, 1hr 26mins

A chance meeting on a train platform leads housewife Laura to fall passionately for doctor Alec, despite them both being married, and the pair embark upon a passionate – but ultimately doomed – love affair. With its evocative setting, swooning Rachmaninoff score, and a pair of remarkable performances (Johnson was nominated for an Oscar), David Lean's classic deftly explores the thrill, pain, and tenderness of an illicit romance.

KAIJU CONTINUES...



GODZILLA VS. MEGALON 12A
Mon 10 Nov
Dir: Jun Fukuda
Japan 1973, 1hr 21mins

Nuclear testing unleashes mayhem on the underwater kingdom of Seatopia, almost wiping out schoolboy Rokuro. To exact revenge, Seatopia unleashes Megalon, a gigantic beetle with the ability to fire ray beams and napalm bombs. Meanwhile, Rokuro's brother creates Jet Jaguar, a flying robot with a built-in moral compass. The inevitable matchup of Godzilla and Jet Jaguar versus Megalon and Gigan decides the world's fate.

Our season of Kaiju movies (literally translated from the Japanese as "strange beast" or "monster") comes to a close in November, with three more classic titles.

GODZILLA VS. MECHAGODZILLA 12A
Mon 17 Nov
Dir: Jun Fukuda
Japan 1974, 1hr 24mins

Godzilla's evil twin Mechagodzilla first reared its head in this Jun Fukuda-directed film. A robot designed by aliens to conquer Earth, the enduringly popular villain has since been resurrected by Toho Studios several times. With the help of earnest direction, spectacular pyrotechnics, and guest appearances by veteran genre actors, this film recaptures the feel of the sixties Godzilla movies.

TERROR OF MECHAGODZILLA 12A
Fri 28 Nov
Dir: Ishiro Honda
Japan 1975, 1hr 23mins

In Godzilla's last gasp of the Showa era, aliens retrieve Mechagodzilla's remains and rebuild it in the hope of defeating Godzilla for possession of Earth. Having retired years earlier, disheartened by the increasingly kid-friendly approach of the series, director Ishiro Honda returned to steer the King of the Monsters back into grim territory, interweaving an alien-invasion plot with a tale of tragic romance.

BIG SCREEN SPECIALS

DIGITAL BLACKCENTRIC WEEK

JUST ANOTHER GIRL ON THE I.R.T (4K RESTORATION) 15

Fri 7 Nov
Dir: Leslie Harris
Cast: Ariyan A Johnson, Kevin Thigpen
USA 1992, 1hr 37mins

After years of only a single 35mm print being available for screenings, Leslie Harris' ground-breaking drama has finally been digitally restored in 4K. Growing up in a housing project, Brooklyn teenager Chantel (Johnson) dreams of becoming a doctor

which she sees as a way to escape the life led by her working-class parents. Intelligent and sharp-tongued, Chantel thinks she has it all worked out – until she falls for Tyrone (Kevin Thigpen) and ends up pregnant. Leslie Harris' only feature film to date is as ambitious as its central character. Like **Boyz n the Hood** the year before, Harris realistically considers the tough choices faced by teenage African-Americans of the period, this time with a female focus.

Dare to Diva Productions SERENDIPITY



Just another girl on the I.R.T

IT DOESN'T GET ANY BETTER THAN THIS 15

Mon 24 Nov
Dir: Rachel Kempf, Nick Toti
Cast: Rachel Kempf, Nick Toti
USA 2025, 1hr 22mins

"Horror's hottest ticket" – Variety. A found-footage horror filmed over 20 years, **It Doesn't Get Any Better Than This** follows indie filmmakers and horror fans Nick and Rachel who buy a dilapidated house which they soon realise has a mysterious history and supernatural goings on. Original and gripping, the film blurs the line between real life and nightmare, fact and fiction.



It Doesn't get any better than this.



SOLVE-ALONG-A-MURDER-SHE-WROTE 15

Sun 30 Nov
Tickets £21

After playing to sell-out crowds across the world, cult hit **Solve-Along-A-Murder-She-Wrote** comes to Leicester! Jessica Fletcher visits Paris to support her friend's fashion show, but soon there's a murder that only she (or you!) can solve. Hosted by super-fan Tim Benzie, this unique and hilarious event features an interactive screening of classic **Murder, She Wrote** episode "A Fashionable Way to Die", alongside games, prizes and plenty of audience participation.



Silent Sherlock

SILENT SHERLOCK

SILENT SHERLOCK: THREE CLASSIC CASES

Sun 21 & Sun 28 Dec
Cast: Eille Norwood, Percy Standing
UK 1921, 1922, 1923, 1hr 15mins

The result of a mammoth British Film Institute project, this is a rare opportunity to rediscover Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's favourite screen Sherlock,

Eille Norwood, in three newly restored silent "two-reelers". **A Scandal in Bohemia** sees Holmes uncharacteristically fall for a woman; **The Golden Pince-Nez** is a classic example of Holmesian detection; and in **The Final Problem** Holmes meets his nemesis, Dr Moriarty, with Cheddar Gorge famously standing in for the Reichenbach Falls.

LATE NIGHT FRIDAYS

Enjoy late night screenings of the weird and wonderful, including cult favourites, horror and more. Tickets £5.50

RE-ANIMATOR 18

Fri 28 Nov, 9.30pm
Dir: Stuart Gordon
Cast: Jeffrey Combs, Barbara Crampton
USA 1985, 1hr 28mins

Dr Herbert West is a truly deranged modern-day Frankenstein, obsessed with bringing the dead back to life with his new reanimating serum. Sure, there are 'some' horrifyingly grisly side effects... but it seemed to work alright on the cat!

DIE HARD 15

Fri 19 Dec, 9.30pm
Dir: John McTiernan
Cast: Bruce Willis, Alan Rickman
USA 1988, 2hrs 12mins

As Christmas parties go, few have gone more disastrously than the Nakatomi Corporation's 1988 shindig. European terrorists have the worst sense of timing, as NYPD cop John McClane finds his reunion with his estranged wife, Holly, interrupted by a hostage crisis courtesy of gentleman villain Hans Gruber.

STAFF PICKS

SWINGERS 15

Fri 12 Dec & Mon 15 Dec
Dir: Doug Liman
Cast: Jon Favreau, Vince Vaughn
USA 1996, 1hr 36mins

The tale of a struggling comedian who moves to LA to further his career, Doug Liman's supremely enjoyable comedy catapulted Jon Favreau and Vince Vaughn to stardom. Chosen by our Café Bar team member, Neil: "I was asked to write a line about why I picked this film but I'd rather hear why you liked it after you see it. Call some friends, have some drinks in the bar and come watch it. You won't regret it because 'you're so money and you don't even know it!'"



CAT VIDEO FEST 2025 U

Mon 17 Nov
Thu 20 Nov

Cat Video Fest returns with a brand new compilation reel of the latest and best cat videos culled from countless hours of unique submissions and sourced animations, music videos, and classic internet powerhouses. A joyous communal experience that's only available in cinemas, **Cat Video Fest** raises money for cats in need through partnerships with local cat charities, animal welfare organisations and shelters to best serve cats in the area. **10% from every ticket will be donated to a local cat charity.**

£1.25 admin fee is payable on all non-member tickets

STAGE ON SCREEN

Enjoy world class theatre shows and exhibitions without the hassle (or expense) of heading to the West End! Visit our website to see the full programme.

Tickets from £10.

ON SALE NOW

**BAT OUT OF HELL:
THE MUSICAL**
Sun 2 Nov, 3pm

**ANDRÉ RIEU'S 2025
CHRISTMAS CONCERT:
MERRY CHRISTMAS**
Sat 6 Dec, 6.30pm
Sun 7 Dec, 2.30pm

**R.E.M. X BUSTER
KEATON'S SHERLOCK
JR**
Thu 5 Feb, 8pm

NT LIVE

INTER ALIA
Sat 6 Dec, 6pm EXTRA DATE

**MRS. WARREN'S
PROFESSION**
Sun 23 Nov, 6pm EXTRA DATE

THE FIFTH STEP
Thu 27 Nov, 7pm
Sat 29 Nov, 5.15pm (captions)
Sat 29 Nov, 7.30pm
Thu 4 Dec, 7pm

HAMLET
Thu 22 Jan, 7pm
Sat 24 Jan, 7pm
Sun 25 Jan, 3pm
Sat 31 Jan, 5pm (captions)

MET OPERA
LA BOHÈME
Sat 8 Nov, 6pm

ARABELLA
Sat 22 Nov, 6pm

ANDREA CHÉNIER
Sat 13 Dec, 6pm

I PURITANI
Sat 10 Jan, 6pm

**EXHIBITION ON
SCREEN**
CARAVAGGIO
Thu 20 Nov, 6.30pm
Sun 23 Nov, 3.30pm

**TURNER AND
CONSTABLE**
Thu 12 Mar, 6.30pm
Sun 15 Mar, 3.30pm

FRIDA KAHLO
Thu 21 May, 6.30pm
Sun 24 May, 3.30pm

**ROYAL BALLET
& OPERA**
**LA FILLE MAL
GARDEE**
Sun 9 Nov, 2pm

CINDERELLA
Sun 30 Nov, 2pm

THE NUTCRACKER
Sun 14 Dec, 2pm

LA TRAVIATA
Sun 18 Jan, 2pm

PHOENIX: THE IDEAL VENUE FOR YOUR EVENT

Hire affordable, flexible, accessible spaces at Phoenix for your events – from business meetings, team away-days and networking, to parties, big screen gaming, and tailor-made private screenings.

We also offer a full in-house catering service to suit all tastes and budgets, from simple teas and coffees to delicious buffets.

Room hire from £15 per hour plus VAT, with half day and full day rates available

Private screenings from £235 including VAT

Find out more at phoenix.org.uk/hires or email hires@phoenix.org.uk to book your event



"The creativity of the food is awesome"

"Great food, great staff, great drinks"

"Specials are fantastic and as a vegetarian I always find something nice to eat"

CAFÉ BAR

5-star reviews keep rolling in, but don't take our word for it... come and see for yourself!

Our kitchen is open daily, serving brunch, lunch and dinner – all cooked freshly to order by our wonderful team of talented chefs.

Plus, look out for our Lazy Sunday breakfast & film offer.

And don't forget that MyPhoenix Members, Friends and Supporters benefit from discounts on food and drink purchases, so join today and start saving.

ESRC FESTIVAL OF SOCIAL SCIENCE

As part of this annual, UK-wide celebration of the social sciences we're partnering with the University of Leicester for a short season of free screenings that invite discussion, reflection and learning on the latest research.

CHILDREN OF MEN + Q&A 15

Thu 6 Nov, FREE

Dir: Alfonso Cuarón

Cast: Clive Owen, Julianne Moore
UK 2007, 1hr 49mins

★★★★ – Guardian. In a dystopian world, British society is breaking down: mankind has become infertile, authoritarianism is on the rise and despair fills the air. When a young woman becomes pregnant with the first child in years, a jaded activist must transport her safely out of the country to a safe sanctuary at sea. The screening will be followed by a Q&A with experts from the University of Leicester.

BABADOOK + Q&A 15

Thu 30 Oct, FREE

Dir: Jennifer Kent

Cast: Essie Davis, Noah Wiseman
Australia 2014, 1hr 33mins

★★★★★ – Empire. Screening as part of special event, The Horror of Childhood. A young boy is convinced his family home is haunted by a terrifying monster from a mysterious children's book, sending his anxious mother into a fearful paranoia. Dr Jessica Urwin and Laurie Parsons introduce the film to discuss the uncanniness of childhood, why we fear children, and why horror is the perfect genre to explore our own pasts.

JOYLAND + Q&A 15

Mon 3 Nov, FREE

Dir: Saim Sadiq

Cast: Ali Junejo, Rasti Farooq
Pakistan 2022, 2hrs 6 mins, subtitles

★★★★ – Guardian. The youngest son in a patriarchal family, Haider cares for his wheelchair-bound father in their Lahore home. After his father insists Haider's wife must quit her job to stay home, Haider finds work at a Bollywood-style burlesque theatre, where he meets and falls in love with a beautiful trans performer, Biba. The screening will be followed by a Q&A with experts from the University of Leicester and Trade Sexual Health.

BABEL + Q&A 15

Fri 7 Nov, FREE

Dir: Alejandro G Iñárritu

Cast: Brad Pitt, Cate Blanchett
USA/Mexico 2006, 2hr 24mins

★★★★ – Empire. Alejandro G Iñárritu's (**The Revenant**) ambitious multi-narrative drama interweaves four stories, united by one tragic incident. A goatherd in Morocco, a Mexican childminder, a Japanese teenager who is deaf, and two American tourists become unconsciously and inexplicably linked across cultures and continents, impacting each other's lives in profound and unforeseeable ways. The screening will be followed by a Q&A with experts from the University of Leicester and Leicester City of Sanctuary.

I feel lucky to have this independent hub on my doorstep

Laura Parker
Google Review, 2025

We need your support

Phoenix is a registered charity, and we've been at the heart of Leicester's cultural scene for 60 years, first on Upper Brown Street, before moving to the city's Cultural Quarter in 2009.

These are challenging times – with big cuts to funding for arts and culture, and escalating operating costs.

As an independent charity we rely on donations to keep our doors open so we can keep serving Leicester's communities.

Please show your support for Phoenix by making a donation – you can do it online now, or at Box Office when you visit.

You can also support Phoenix by making us your first choice for cinema.

Buy tickets, use our Café Bar, become a MyPhoenix member, buy Phoenix gift vouchers, hold your events here... and spread the word far and wide.

Community access to art and culture makes a real difference to people's lives – your support is vital to sustain our future and keep Phoenix here for Leicester.

Thank you.



Please
donate
today

LIVE

THE

AT



PHOENIX COMEDY CLUB

Thu 11 Dec
Doors open 7.30pm
Tickets £11/£10 Members

Join us for our regular comedy night in partnership with Jokes On Us. Expect top quality acts, plus a compère, guaranteeing you an evening of midweek mirth.

At the time of going to print, the December line-up is still to be confirmed. Check our website for up-to-date line-up information.

Advance booking highly recommended to avoid disappointment.



SOME-ANTICS SPOKEN WORD

Fri 21 Nov, from 7pm
Fri 19 Dec, from 7pm
Tickets £5

Join us upstairs in The Nest for fabulous evenings of poetry and music with Some-Antics Spoken Word, featuring performances from some of the best poets in the UK. In November we bring you Davina Simon, winner of Shambala Festival Poetry Slam 2025, while in December we welcome nationally acclaimed Dave Viney. Each event includes an open mic, a poetry slam with cash prize, DJ Ninja Bob, magic by John Constantine, and a raffle. Hosted by Sammy Nour. Visit our website or Some-Antics socials for details of how to get involved.



FESTIVE WORKSHOP: CHRISTMAS WREATHS

Fri 28 Nov, 7pm – 9pm
Sat 29 Nov, 11am – 1pm
Tickets £60

We're partnering with local independent florists The Bloom Project for this super Christmas wreath-making workshop. The session will take approximately 2 hours, and all materials are included in the price. A lovely way to start your festive build-up, and you'll leave with a glorious seasonal wreath that will wow your friends and family. Attendees will also get 10% off food and drink in our Café Bar on the day of the workshop. Book your tickets at thebloomproject.co.uk/workshops



WICKED: FOR GOOD PYJAMA PARTY CERT TBC

Fri 21 Nov, 7.30pm
Tickets £17 / £15 Members

"Because I knew you, I have been changed for good!" Based on the hit Broadway musical, Wicked: For Good finds Elphaba (Cynthia Erivo) living in exile while Glinda (Ariana Grande) basks in the popularity that comes with being associated with the Wizard. When a cyclone brings Dorothy to Munchkinland, a series of events are set in motion that will change the Land of Oz forever. Presented in partnership with LUSH Leicester, with themed drinks, games, our now-famous pyjama party tombola, plus a few extra surprises! PJs, loungewear and slippers encouraged.

LUSH FRESH HANDMADE COSMETICS



WINE TASTING

Fri 7 Nov, 7pm
Fri 5 Dec, 7pm
Tickets from £25 (£35 for Nov)

Join us for our next wine tasting evenings, in partnership with our independent supplier Woodthorpe Wines. Founder and Certified Sommelier Matthew Whitaker will be your guide through the wonderful world of wine. In November the focus is premium wines from some of the world's best makers, while December's event brings you a super selection that's perfect for Christmas

LEICESTER JAZZ HOUSE PRESENTS



Leicester Jazz House return to Phoenix with a new autumn/winter season of performances.

Tickets from £8

THE BRANDON ALLEN QUARTET

Thu 13 Nov, 8pm

The dynamic Brandon Allen Quartet performs contemporary arrangements of standard repertoire and jazz classics as well as original material. The longstanding musical partnership of saxophonist Brandon Allen and pianist Tim Lapthorn is at the core of this project. The addition of Jeremy Brown (bass) and Chris Higginbottom (drums) has proved to be a potent mix, the group creating an explosive blend of melodic improvisation, heavy swing and emotional freedom and spontaneity, with a repertoire inspired by swing, bop, latin music, contemporary jazz and, above all else, the experience of life right now.

EMPIRICAL

Thu 26 Feb, 8pm

Formed in 2007, the multi award-winning quartet Empirical is "a reliable touchstone of contemporary British jazz at its most sophisticated" (Jazzwise). Featuring Nathaniel Facey (alto sax), Tom Farmer (double bass), Lewis Wright (vibraphone) and Shaney Forbes (drums), Empirical's instrumentation has proved the perfect vehicle for the band's invariably complex compositions and distinctive signature sound.

MORE UPCOMING SHOWS:

29 Jan, 8pm
Line-up to be announced

PLATFORM

PLATFORM is a regular programme of events for filmmakers and digital artists in Leicester. From practical panels to relaxed socials, PLATFORM is here to support your creative journey and build stronger networks. The programme is funded by the UK Shared Prosperity Fund and Leicester City Council.

PLATFORM events are free for MyPhoenix Creative Members or £4 for non-members. MyPhoenix Creative Membership is free and gives you access to PLATFORM events, plus discounts at Phoenix. You can sign up via the PLATFORM pages on the Phoenix website.



IN CONVERSATION WITH OWEN TOOTH: MAKING A LIVING AS A DIRECTOR IN THE MIDLANDS

Thu Nov 20, 6.30pm

A night for filmmakers to connect and learn from one of the region's leading directorial voices in film and television. Named a Broadcast Hot Shot '25, Derbyshire-based director Owen Tooth joins us to share his journey from making award-winning short films to becoming the first disabled director of *EastEnders* in its 40-year history. As a wheelchair user and an ally, he's passionate about collaboration and creating a more inclusive industry.

PLATFORM: PITCHING NIGHT

Thu 18 Dec, 6.30pm

Join us for the final PLATFORM event of the year, an evening dedicated to pitching, feedback, and building your network. Whether you're developing a short film, feature, documentary or artist moving image project, this is your chance to share your idea in a supportive space and get constructive feedback from peers and fellow creatives. Submit your request to pitch to platform@phoenix.org.uk by Monday 1 December.

PLATFORM IDEAS SALON

Deadline for applications: Mon 17 Nov

Do you have a narrative fiction short film, feature, or series idea you want to develop?

If you're a Leicester-based creative sole-trader or company, the PLATFORM Ideas Salon is your chance to develop your project and gain industry insight. Successful applicants will be invited to the Idea Salon Weekender in February, where you'll hear from industry professionals, get practical advice, and connect with local creatives. For more information visit phoenix.org.uk/platform.

PLATFORM is a Phoenix programme, led in partnership with Liminal Screens and Badshoes Film, funded by the UK Shared Prosperity Fund via Leicester City Council.

SHORT COURSES

Develop new skills
and get more out of
film with our short
courses, led by film
industry professionals.

Visit our website to
find out more and to
book online.

EXTREME CINEMA

Sat 15 Nov

11.30am – 5pm

£20 / £18 Members

Join tutor Dr Connor Winterton as we examine the cultural, aesthetic, and ethical boundaries of cinema that shocks, unsettles, and challenges audiences. Designed for those with a strong stomach and an open mind, the course considers not only the films themselves, but what they reveal about society, power, and the limits of taste.

BRONTËS ON SCREEN

Thursdays, 12 Feb – 5 Mar

7pm – 8.30pm

£55 / £50 conc / £45 Members

With Emerald Fennell's (*Saltburn*) new adaptation of *Wuthering Heights* due out in February, it's the perfect time to explore the extraordinary influence of these three incredible Yorkshire sisters from the 19th century who changed the face of Gothic literature – and, by extension, gothic cinema – forever.

THE ART OF SCREENWRITING

Mondays, 2 Feb – 23 Mar

7pm – 9pm

£100 / £90 conc / £82 Members

Tutor Kenton Hall leads our annual 8-week practical, skills-based guide to screenwriting. Suitable for writers of all levels, you'll develop, pitch and refine a short film script, which will then be edited by the tutor to professional standards.

TALKING PICTURES WINTER

Mondays, 12 Jan – 16 Mar

Thursdays, 15 Jan – 19 Mar

10.30am – 12pm

£95 / £85 conc / £80 Members

Join like-minded film enthusiasts for this 10-week course of tutor-led group discussions that help you get more from your cinema experience, with film clips, updates about forthcoming movies, and film industry news. The price includes a cup of tea/coffee and a ticket to a midweek daytime film during the week of your session.

ELECTRIC SHADOWS 2025

MON 24
– SUN 30 NOV

Brought to you by De Montfort University, Leicester's home grown annual Chinese film festival returns to Phoenix for its 4th edition. This year's theme focuses on "Motion and Emotion", featuring new and classic titles.

Dr Hiu Man Chan, Artistic Director of Electric Shadows and Senior Lecturer in Creative Industries at De Montfort University will introduce all screenings.

PING PONG PG

Thu 27 Nov, 5.45pm

Dir: Anson Hartford, Hugh Hartford
Canada/UK 2012, 1hr 20mins

In Inner Mongolia players gather for the world over 80s table tennis championships. Meet Terry (81), who's been given a week to live but he's within reach of winning gold. Inge (89) has played her way out of the dementia ward. Australian Dorothy deLow (100) has become an unlikely celebrity in this extraordinary community, while Texan newcomer Lisa Modlich (85) is determined to claim her first championship title. A poignant reflection on ageing, resilience, and the unbreakable will to live.

THE GRANDMASTER 12A

Fri 28 Nov, 6pm

Dir: Wong Kar-Wai

Cast: Tony Leung, Zhang Ziyi
China/Hong Kong 2013, 2hrs
10mins, subtitles

In 1930s Foshan, martial arts master Ip Man lives a quiet life until the arrival of Gong Yutian, who seeks a successor to his family's legacy in Southern China. Ip Man's encounter with Yutian's daughter, Gong Er, leads to a duel that intertwines honour, rivalry, and destiny. A visually stunning epic by Wong Kar Wai, The Grandmaster captures the poetry, discipline, and heartbreak at the heart of martial arts tradition.

NE ZHA 2 12A

Sat 29 Nov, 12pm

Dir: Yang Yu

China 2025, 2hrs 24mins, subtitles

Ne Zha, a demon child raised by humans, forms an uneasy alliance with the Loong prince Ao Bing in an epic battle to protect their clans. In the aftermath, their bodies teeter on the edge of destruction. Ne Zha must now embark on a perilous quest to obtain an elixir to restore Ao Bing's body. Crafted over five years by a team of 4,000 animators, this groundbreaking, visually spectacular animation is now the world's highest grossing animated film.

ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL FILM INDUSTRY BRIEFING: OPPORTUNITIES IN EAST ASIA FOR LEICESTER FILMMAKERS

Sat 29 Nov, 3pm

Dr Hiu Man Chan, artistic director of Electric Shadows and senior lecturer in creative industries at De Montfort University, will deliver this briefing session focusing on opportunities in East Asia for Leicester-based filmmakers. Learn about East Asian film festivals to which emerging filmmakers can submit their work, the latest box office performance analysis, successful UK projects in the region, and new collaboration case studies.

CLOSING FILM: FOUR TRAILS + INTRO 12A

Sun 30 Nov, 3.30pm

Dir: Robin Lee
Hong Kong 2023, 1hr 41mins,
subtitles (part)

Hong Kong's urban landscape hides numerous hiking trails. The HK4TUC, established in 2012, challenges runners to complete 298 km across four trails in three days. This award-winning documentary follows the 2021 edition of this extreme ultramarathon and showcases Hong Kong's breathtaking landscape. A screening of 2022 BFI London Film Festival Best Short Film winner I Have No Legs, and I Must Run (14mins) will precede the film.

**"Break from what you know, and you will know more" –
The Grandmaster**

A PROGRAMMER'S VIEW

Jake Harvey
Cinema Programme Manager

In September the film industry was rocked by the announcement of Tilly Norwood – the first AI actor, created by London based company Particle6. When Norwood was announced at the Zurich Film Festival it was greeted with derision and horror in equal measure, but apparently that has not stopped studios lining up to work with Tilly. Hollywood is struggling to keep up with Big Tech, and it already feels a very long way from the writer and actor strikes a couple of years ago which were in part sparked by a demand for protections from AI.

For some people in the industry there seems to be a shrug of "you can't put the genie back in the bottle", but for a lot of artists and creatives maybe something like "you can't put the lid back on the Ark of the Covenant" would be more fitting.

When the AI-assisted **The Wizard of Oz at the Las Vegas Sphere** was announced a few eyebrows were raised, especially at the eye-rolling assertion that if the original filmmakers had access to this tech then they "definitely would have used it". But I don't think it is just a fear of being replaced that is

behind the gut reaction that a lot of people have to AI. I'm not an actor so I have no skin in the game in that department. But I know I don't want the films I watch to be the summation of content stolen from creatives; I know I want real human stories.

At Phoenix we amplify these stories, and as a curator I need to make space for perspectives and voices that have been marginalised. To that end we are working with partners on a new project titled **We Are Here**, a long-term initiative to transform how Black films and stories reach audiences beyond London. It begins in December with **Dreamers**, a compassionate film set in a British immigration removal centre. If audiences open their hearts to it, it could be truly transformative.

I hope there is a clash between the mercenary attitude of studios and what audiences want to see. People naturally seek out moments of emotion and connection. As Ethan Hawke elegantly put it in a 2020 interview, when the world is fractured "art is not a luxury, it's actually sustenance, we need it."



SPRINGSTEEN: DELIVER ME FROM NOWHERE I2A

Screening from Fri 24 Oct

Dir: Scott Cooper

Cast: Jeremy Allen White,
Stephen Graham
USA 2025, 2hrs

Jeremy Allen White (**The Bear**) stars as The Boss in this terrific new biopic chronicling the making of Bruce Springsteen's 1982 album Nebraska. Recorded in his bedroom, the album marked a pivotal time in Springsteen's life – as a young musician on the cusp of global stardom, struggling to reconcile newfound success with the ghosts of his past.



FRANKENSTEIN I5

Screening from Fri 31 Oct

Dir: Guillermo del Toro Cast: Oscar Isaac, Jacob Elordi
Mexico/USA 2025, runtime TBC

Helming his first live-action film since 2021's **Nightmare Alley**, multi Oscar-winning director Guillermo del Toro returns with an adaptation of Mary Shelley's classic tale. A brilliant

but egotistical scientist, Victor Frankenstein (Isaac) brings a creature to life in a monstrous experiment, but his promethean creation threatens to destroy everything in its path.



BUGONIA I5

Screening from Fri 31 Oct

Dir: Yorgos Lanthimos Cast: Jesse Plemons, Emma Stone
USA 2025, 1hr 58min

Convinced that a powerful CEO is actually an evil alien plotting to enslave humanity and destroy the planet, a paranoid beekeeper and his cousin hatch a harebrained scheme to kidnap her and expose

the truth. Yorgos Lanthimos (**Poor Things**) returns with this deranged satire of paranoia, conspiracy culture, and corporate mind control where nothing is quite as it seems.



THE MASTERMIND I2A

Screening from Fri 24 Oct

Dir: Kelly Reichardt

Cast: Josh O'Connor, Alana Haim
USA 2025, 1hr 50mins

In 1970s Massachusetts, hapless art school dropout James plots a half-baked heist on his local municipal museum. In her singular humanist style, Kelly Reichardt (**First Cow**) skewers the conventions of the heist film to deliver an enthralling, blackly comic portrait of banality, failure and cowardice, powered by another pitch-perfect turn from Josh O'Connor.

NOV FILMS



THE CHORAL I2A

Screening from Fri 7 Nov

Dir: Nicholas Hytner

Cast: Ralph Fiennes, Mark Addy, Alun Armstrong
UK 2025, 1hr 53mins

The latest collaboration between writer Alan Bennett and director Nicholas Hytner (**The History Boys**, **The Lady in the Van**) is set in Yorkshire in 1916. With many of the local choral society's male members killed or away fighting in the war, it is up to the new chorus master Dr Guthrie (Fiennes) to

recruit a new group of singers to keep the choir going and try to heal the community. Funny and heart-warming, **The Choral** also packs an emotional punch thanks to superb performances from the home-grown ensemble cast including Roger Allam and Lyndsey Marshal.



PALESTINE 36 I2A

Screening from Fri 7 Nov

Dir: Annemarie Jacir

Cast: Hiam Abbass, Kamel El Basha
Palestine 2025, 2hrs, subtitles (part)

Annemarie Jacir's (**Wajib**) remarkable historical drama deftly depicts the febrile tensions that led to the Great Palestinian Revolt of 1936-39. Experiencing displacement, poverty and escalating violence, the villagers of Mandatory Palestine rise up against British Colonial rule – sparking the flame of the Arab resistance movement. An epic and essential film, the supporting cast includes Jeremy Irons, Robert Aramayo (**I Swear**) and Liam Cunningham (**Game of Thrones**).

DMU PRESENTS BEING HUMAN FESTIVAL 2025

Being Human is the UK's national festival of the humanities, led by the School of Advanced Study at the University of London – this year's theme is "Between the Lines". As part of the festival, De Montfort University presents two free events which explore boundaries, crossings and intersections – the spaces in between, where meaning is made and remade.

SUPER-DIVERSE CULTURES, SOCIETIES AND PUBLIC SPACES

Thu 6 Nov, Free

How do we, as individuals, meaningfully engage with super-diverse societies where no dominant culture exists? How do we, collectively as a society, represent and include marginalised or minoritised voices in public cultural spaces? This interactive panel discussion will invite the audience to engage with these themes through an interactive conversation led by the panel members and a creative production of postcards which will be used to 'curate' the discussion.

A LESSON ON DIFFERENCES CERT TBC

Sun 9 Nov, Free

Where do ideas of inclusion and discrimination come from? **A Lesson on Differences** is an experiment in collective storytelling, like a choir where you do not need to sing or a play where there is no acting. By simultaneously becoming a narrator and spectator as a member of the audience, you are invited to explore the evolution of state narratives on social inclusion and discrimination – from the Macpherson report of 1999 to the Sewell report of 2021.



DRAGONFLY CERT TBC

Screening from Fri 7 Nov

Dir: Paul Andrew Williams
Cast: Andrea Riseborough, Brenda Blethyn, Jason Watkins
UK 2025, 1hr 38mins

In the new film from London to Brighton director Paul Andrew Williams, neglected pensioner Elsie (Blethyn) finds an unexpected ally in her younger neighbour Colleen (Riseborough). Over time, Elsie gains a friend and the troubled Colleen finds a fresh purpose in life as she shops, cleans and cares for her. But Elsie's son Jason is jealous of their relationship and tragedy awaits.



DIE MY LOVE 15

Screening from Fri 14 Nov

Dir: Lynne Ramsey
Cast: Jennifer Lawrence, Robert Pattinson
USA 2025, 1hr 58mins

Eight years since the release of **You Were Never Really Here**, Lynne Ramsey returns with another astonishing psychological drama surging with darkness, humour and visionary brilliance. Based on the 2012 novel, the story sees young couple Grace (Lawrence)

and Jackson (Pattinson) retreat to Montana for a quiet life away from the city. But when Grace gives birth to a child, isolation and depression start to unravel her sanity and the marriage spins out into unsettling dynamics.



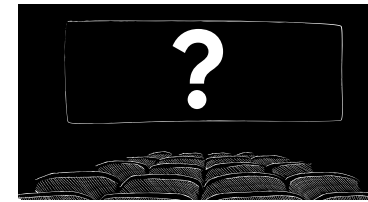
THE THING WITH FEATHERS CERT TBC

Screening from Fri 21 Nov

Dir: Dylan Southern
Cast: Benedict Cumberbatch
UK 2025, 1hr 38mins

Adapted from Max Porter's best-selling novel, *Grief is the Thing with Feathers*, Benedict Cumberbatch stars as a young father whose hold on reality crumbles after the death of his wife. Left to raise his two young sons, a strange presence begins

to stalk him from the shadowy recesses of the apartment. A man-like crow (voiced by the superb David Thewlis) is seemingly brought to life from his work as an illustrator and is about to become a very real part of all of their lives.



MYSTERY FILM 18

Fri 21 Nov
Fri 19 Dec

Come with us on a journey through the weird, the wonderful, the cult and the long forgotten... into the world of mystery film. Nobody knows what the film will be until the lights drop and the opening titles roll, but you can trust that it'll be great cinema. The mystery film may be any classification up to an 18 certificate. As such, these screenings are for over 18s only.

£1.25 admin fee is payable on all non-member tickets



NUREMBERG CERT TBC

Screening from Fri 14 Nov

Dir: James Vanderbilt
Cast: Russell Crowe, Rami Malek, Michael Shannon
US 2025, 2hrs 28mins

James Vanderbilt's historical drama chronicles the true story of the war crimes trials held by the Allies against the defeated Nazi regime. The film centres on American psychiatrist Douglas Kelley (Malek), who is tasked

with determining whether Nazi prisoners are fit to stand trial for their war crimes but finds himself in a complex battle of wits with Hermann Göring (Crowe), Hitler's accomplice.



FREE PARTY: A FOLK HISTORY + DIRECTOR Q&A 18

Fri 14 Nov

Dir: Aaron Trinder
UK 2025, 1hr 45mins

They wanted the freedom to party; the state saw them as the enemy within. A new independently-made feature documentary, **Free Party: A Folk History** is the untold story of the free party movement, Castlemorton (Woodstock for the rave generation), and the Criminal Justice Act. It's the story of how its impact sparked a revolution around the world – from raves and festivals, to politics and protest.



WICKED: FOR GOOD CERT TBC

Screening from Fri 21 Nov

Dir: Jon M Chu
Cast: Cynthia Erivo, Ariana Grande
USA 2025, 2hrs 18mins

The second instalment of the two-part feature film adaptation of the classic Broadway musical, **Wicked: For Good** finds Elphaba (Erivo), the Wicked Witch of the West, living in exile while Glinda the Good (Grande) enjoys fame and

popularity in Oz's Emerald City. As an angry mob is mobilised against the Wicked Witch, Glinda and Elphaba's relationship is put to the test in a series of events that will change the Land of Oz forever.



FILM QUIZ

Thu 20 Nov, 7.30pm
Thu 11 Dec, 7.30pm

£2 per player, max 6 players per team

Test your film knowledge at our popular quiz night, with everyone's favourite host Stu! Enjoy fun and unique themed rounds to cater for film buffs and casual fans alike, and you'll be in with a chance to win some splendid prizes. No need to book – tables are first come, first served. Come down and have a great night's quizzing.



BLUE MOON CERT TBC

Screening from Fri 28 Nov

Dir: Richard Linklater

Cast: Ethan Hawke, Margaret Qualley, Andrew Scott
USA/Ireland 2025, 1hr 40mins



Richard Linklater's (**Boyhood**, **Before Sunset**) biographical comedy drama centres around the events on the evening of 31 March 1943, when legendary lyricist Lorenz Hart (Hawke) confronts his shattered self-confidence in Sardi's bar, New York, as his

former collaborator Richard Rodgers (Scott) celebrates the opening night of his ground-breaking musical hit, **Oklahoma!** Unfolding in real time, the film is a poignant and atmospheric mediation on friendship, art and love.



KITCHEN BRIGADE 12A

Screening from Fri 5 Dec

Dir: Louis-Julien Petit

Cast: Audrey Lamy
France 2022, 1hr 37mins, subtitles

Louis-Julien Petit's big-hearted feel-good comedy stars Audrey Lamy as sous-chef Cathy Marie who leaves her prestigious job at a gourmet establishment to pursue her dream of running her own restaurant. Facing financial troubles after things don't work out, she takes a new job in the cafeteria at the local migrant shelter run by Lorenzo (François Cluzet). Initially unhappy in her new position, Cathy's skills and passion for cuisine start to change the kids' lives.



PILLION 18

Screening from Fri 5 Dec

Dir: Harry Lighton

Cast: Alexander Skarsgård, Harry Melling, Lesley Sharp
UK/Ireland 2025, 1hr 47mins

"★★★★ – like a cross between Alan Bennett and Tom of Finland" – Guardian. Timid, directionless Colin (Melling) is swept off his feet when enigmatic, impossibly handsome biker Ray (Skarsgård) takes him on as his submissive

and their unconventional dynamic challenges Colin's mundane existence. Harry Lighton's sweet, funny and revealing debut feature premiered at Cannes, and has been winning praise from audiences and critics alike on the festival circuit.

COMING IN DEC



WAKE UP DEAD MAN: A KNIVES OUT MYSTERY CERT TBC

Screening from Fri 5 Dec

Dir: Rian Johnson **Cast:** Daniel Craig, Josh O'Connor
USA 2025, 2hrs 20mins



Benoit Blanc (Craig) returns in the third instalment of the always entertaining **Knives Out** series, with a new mystery at hand and a new all-star cast including Glenn Close, Andrew Scott and Cailee

Spaeny (**Priscilla**). This time Blanc travels to a small church in upstate New York, where a logic-defying murder turns out to be the detective's most personal case to date.



DREAMERS 15

Screening from Fri 5 Dec

Dir: Joy Gharoro-Akpojotor

Cast: Ronkè Adékoluèjo, Ann Akinjirin
UK 2025, 1hr 18mins

After fleeing persecution, Nigerian migrant Isio is sent to an asylum centre, where she hopes her case will receive a fair hearing. Isio believes the only way out is to play by the rules – even when her charismatic new roommate, Farah, warns her otherwise. As their friendship blossoms into romance, Isio must decide whether to trust in a broken system that threatens to tear them apart or dare to follow Farah into a risky plan that could cost them everything.



ETERNITY CERT TBC

Screening from Fri 12 Dec

Dir: David Freyne **Cast:** Elizabeth Olsen, Miles Teller
USA 2025, 1hr 52mins



In an afterlife where souls have one week to decide where to spend eternity, Joan (Olsen) is faced with the impossible choice between Larry (Teller), the man she spent her life with, and her first love Luke (Callum Turner),

who died young and has waited decades for her to arrive. The lead trio are clearly having a good time in this charming screwball comedy, alongside Oscar-winner Da'Vine Joy Randolph (**The Holdovers**) as Larry's "after-life coordinator".

Access Cinema

Regular screenings for people with differing access needs, to give everyone the chance to enjoy a great cinema experience. Check weekly listings for dates/times.



Audio Described

For our customers who are blind or have sight loss, many films now come with audio description, where a recorded narrator describes the on-screen action during gaps in the dialogue. This is broadcast through wireless headsets so only the wearer can hear.



Captions

For anyone who is deaf or has hearing loss, we show descriptive subtitled versions of the latest English language films.



Relaxed Environment

Our relaxed screenings have reduced sound levels, partially raised lighting and freedom to move around and use sensory aids. These screenings are suitable for everyone, but particularly suited to people with autism, ADHD and other sensory processing disorders.



DID YOU KNOW?

You can use our headsets in any film screening to hear amplified sound levels. Just ask at Box Office. For your safety and convenience, headsets are fully sanitised before and after use.



THE LIBRARIANS 15

Screening in December

Dir: Kim A Snyder
USA 2025, 1hr 32mins

Amid a sweeping wave of book bans across the United States, Oscar-nominated filmmaker Kim A Snyder shows how librarians have become frontline defenders of democracy, battling censorship and political extremism to defend the right to read. The documentary is a timely and urgent watch with recent ongoing developments in the USA, including the relaunch of the committee for the First Amendment for the first time since the McCarthy era.



IRON LADIES 12A

Screening in December

Dir: Daniel Draper
UK 2025, 1hr 39mins

Daniel Draper's (**Liverpool Story**) new documentary tells the story of the working class women who found themselves at the forefront of a battle against the government during the 1984 miners' strike, as they fought for the future of their communities. The women shed light on their experiences of the year long struggle, and how they became the backbone of the strike. Their actions reshaped the landscape of working class activism, and many of the women are still politically active today.



IT WAS JUST AN ACCIDENT 12A

Screening from Fri 12 Dec

Dir: Jafar Panahi
Cast: Vahid Mobasseri, Maryam Afshari
Iran/Fra/Lux 2025, 1hr 42mins

Winner of the prestigious Palme d'Or at this year's Cannes festival, the latest film from Iranian auteur Jafar Panahi (**Taxi, No Bears**) – his first work following his most recent prison sentence – is both a muscular thriller and an engaging morality tale, following a group of citizens considering revenge against a man they believe was their torturer.



FOLKTALES CERT TBC

Screening from Fri 19 Dec

Dir: Heidi Ewing, Rachel Grady
USA/Nor 2025, 1hr 45mins, subtitles (part)

"magical and warm, it's also a bracing interlude of good cheer" – Wall Street Journal. This moving new documentary is set at Pasvik Folk High School in northern Norway, and follows a group of teenagers learning to dog sled and survive the Arctic wilderness. Guided by patient teachers and a yard full of Alaskan huskies, the teens discover their own potential and develop deep relationships with the land, animals and humans around them.



SENTIMENTAL VALUE 15

Screening from Fri 26 Dec

Dir: Joachim Trier **Cast:** Renate Reinsve, Elle Fanning
Norway 2025, 2hrs 13mins, subtitles (part)

Following the critically acclaimed **The Worst Person in the World**, Joachim Trier and Renate Reinsve reunite for this Cannes Grand Prix-winning drama. Following the death of their mother, adult sisters Nora and Agnes reunite with their eccentric film-director father

Gustav (Stellan Skarsgård) who left them years ago. Their relationship becomes ever more complex when Gustav offers Nora a role – in his new film exploring the family story. A masterful exploration of family, memories, and the reconciliatory power of art.



THE SHINING – 45th ANNIVERSARY 15

Screening from Fri 12 Dec

Dir: Stanley Kubrick
Cast: Jack Nicholson, Shelley Duvall, Danny Lloyd
UK/USA 1980, 2hrs 26mins

Jack Torrence (Nicholson) accepts a job at the Overlook Hotel as an off-season caretaker. Here he must live for the coming winter, along with his wife Wendy (Duvall) and their son, isolated from the rest of the world. None of them are prepared for the madness that follows. Adapted from Stephen King's classic 1977 novel, Stanley Kubrick's film is chilling, subversive, and remains an influential staple of the horror genre.



ELLA MCCAY CERT TBC

Screening from Fri 19 Dec

Dir: James L. Brooks **Cast:** Emma Mackey, Jamie Lee Curtis
USA 2025, 2hrs

Set in 2008, James L Brooks' (**Broadcast News**) new political comedy-drama follows a young US politician (Mackey) as she navigates her career, family life, and relationship with her mentor (Curtis) after becoming governor of her home state. One of the most

influential and innovative writers and producers in television, Brooks returns to the big screen with this charming film that deftly balances its dramatic and comedic tones. The stacked cast includes Ayo Edebiri, Albert Brooks, and Woody Harrelson.



MARTY SUPREME CERT TBC

Screening from Fri 26 Dec

Dir: Josh Safdie **Cast:** Timothee Chalamet, Gwyneth Paltrow
USA 2025, 2hrs 35mins

In the 1950s' golden age of ping-pong culture, a young man (Chalamet) with a dream no one respects is willing to go to hell and back in pursuit of greatness! Loosely inspired by the story of real-life table tennis player Marty Reisman,

Josh Safdie's (**Uncut Gems, Good Time**) hugely enjoyable sports comedy-drama features a great supporting cast including Odessa A'zion and musician Tyler, the Creator.

PLUS MORE FILMS TO BE CONFIRMED



SEE WEBSITE FOR UP-TO- DATE INFO

We've whetted your appetite for what's coming in November and December, but there'll be even more films and events that aren't yet confirmed. So make sure you pick up a copy of our weekly listings, or sign up to our e-newsletter to keep up to date with what's on. And remember that up-to-date programme information is always available on our website.

PHOENIX CHRISTMAS CRACKERS

Enjoy a feast of festive entertainment at Phoenix this Christmas.

IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE: DONATION SCREENING U

Fri 5 Dec

Our annual charity donation screening returns in support of Alice Hawkins Community Projects. Simply bring along an item from the 'shopping list' to our Box Office, and get a free ticket to this special event in return.

IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE U

Fri 19 – Tue 23 Dec

Dir: Frank Capra

Cast: James Stewart, Donna Reed
USA 1946, 2hrs 10mins

It wouldn't be Christmas without this Frank Capra's masterpiece back on the silver screen! As businessman George Bailey contemplates suicide on Christmas Eve, the prayers of his friends and family reach heaven where an angel named Clarence is assigned to save George in order to earn his wings. Utterly joyful and life-affirming.



THE NUTCRACKER

Sun 14 Dec, 2pm

Peter Wright's much-loved production for the Royal Ballet, with gorgeous period designs by Julia Trevelyan Oman. A true festive ballet classic, perfect for all ages. Tickets from £10.



CHRISTMAS KARMA I2A

Fri 19 – Tue 23 Dec

Dir: Gurinder Chadha

Cast: Kunal Nayyar, Hugh Bonneville, Eva Longoria
USA 2025, 1hr 40mins

Gurinder Chadha's (**Bend It Like Beckham**) musical adaptation of Charles Dickens' *A Christmas Carol* features an all-star cast including Billy Porter, Pixie Lott and Danny Dyer, with music from Gary Barlow, Nitin Sawhney, and Shaznay Lewis. A festive family film that resonates with Dickens' masterful statement on the human condition.



ANDRÉ RIEU'S 2025 CHRISTMAS CONCERT: MERRY CHRISTMAS

Sat 6 Dec, 6.30pm

Sun 7 Dec, 2.30pm

Join André Rieu for his 2025 Christmas concert and experience joyful carols, beautiful waltzes, and plenty of surprises. It's the ultimate Christmas cinema event!

LATE NIGHT FRIDAY: DIE HARD I5

Fri 19 Dec, 9.30pm

Dir: John McTiernan

Cast: Bruce Willis, Alan Rickman
USA 1988, 2hrs 12mins

"Come out to the coast, we'll get together, have a few laughs." As Christmas parties go, few have gone more disastrously than the Nakatomi Corporation's 1988 shindig. European terrorists have the worst sense of timing, as NYPD cop John McClane finds his reunion with his estranged wife, Holly, interrupted by a hostage crisis courtesy of gentleman villain Hans Gruber.



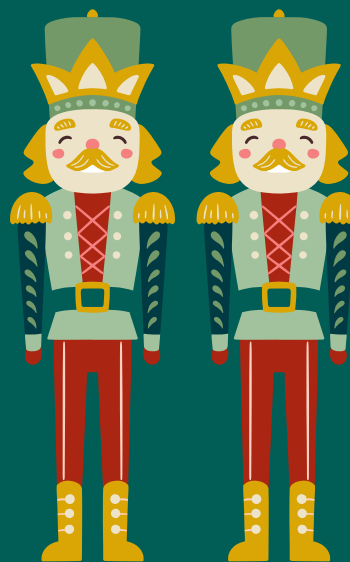
THE HOLDOVERS I5

Fri 19 – Tue 23 Dec

Dir: Alexander Payne

Cast: Paul Giamatti, Da'Vine Joy Randolph
USA 2023, 2hrs 13mins

★★★★– Empire. A modern Christmas classic, Alexander Payne's film saw him reunite with his **Sideways** star Paul Giamatti for this delightful bittersweet comedy. Denied the chance to escape his stuffy New England prep school for the festive break, young Angus (Dominic Sessa) finds himself stuck with fussy classics teacher Mr Hunham, and school cook Mary. As Angus pushes against Mr Hunham's rules, a grudging respect begins to grow.



THE BOXING DAY CLASSIC: IT HAPPENED ONE NIGHT U

Fri 26 Dec

Dir: Frank Capra

Cast: Clark Gable, Claudette Colbert
USA 1934, 1hr 45mins

It's tradition for us to screen a classic film on Boxing Day, and this year sees Clark Gable and Claudette Colbert as mismatched lovers in this sparkling 1934 screwball comedy – the first film to be honoured with all five major Oscars. Spoiled Ellie Andrews (Colbert) escapes from her millionaire father (Walter Connolly) who wants to stop her from marrying a playboy. En route to New York, Ellie gets involved with an out-of-work newsman, Peter Warne (Gable). When their bus breaks down, the bickering pair set off on a madcap hitchhiking expedition and, as hijinks ensue, the runaway heiress and brash reporter fall in love.



PROSECCO AND POPCORN SCREENINGS

Relax and unwind away from the festive frenzy with a glass of prosecco, a tub of popcorn and a Christmas favourite on the big screen.

THE HOLIDAY I2A

Thu 18 Dec

Dir: Nancy Meyers

Cast: Cameron Diaz, Kate Winslet
USA 2006, 2hrs 16mins

In Nancy Meyers' charming comedy, London-based Iris is in love with a man who is about to marry another woman, while over in Los Angeles Amanda has just found out her partner has been cheating on her. Impulsively swapping houses with each other for the Christmas vacation through a home exchange website, both women find chaos, solace and romance is waiting for them.

LOVE ACTUALLY I5

Sat 20 Dec

Dir: Richard Curtis

Cast: Hugh Grant, Emma Thompson, Colin Firth
UK 2003, 2hrs 15mins

Richard Curtis' all-star anthology film is a festive treat. Populated by an all-star cast including Bill Nighy, Hugh Grant, Colin Firth, Emma Thompson and Alan Rickman we meet a host of characters in the run-up to Christmas including an ageing rocker, a frustrated writer, and a lovelorn Prime Minister!



FAMILY FUN @ PHOENIX



New releases and festive favourites are the order of the day – a veritable feast of family entertainment, with family tickets from £6.50 per person.

Coming in a larger group? Speak to Box Office about our ticket deal for groups or 10 or more.

CHRISTMAS KARMA 12A

Fri 19 – Tue 23 Dec

Dir: Gurinder Chadha

Cast: Kunal Nayyar, Hugh Bonneville, Eva Longoria
USA 2025, 1hr 40min

Gurinder Chadha's (**Bend It Like Beckham**) musical adaptation of Charles Dickens' *A Christmas Carol* features an all-star cast including Billy Porter, Pixie Lott and Danny Dyer, with music from Gary Barlow, Nitin Sawhney, and Shaznay Lewis. A festive family film that resonates with Dickens' masterful statement on the human condition.



DOUBLE BILL: THE SNOWMAN + THE SNOWMAN AND THE SNOWDOG U

Tue 23 Dec

Dir: Dianne Jackson & Hilary Audus
UK 1982 + 2012, 1hr

Adapted from Raymond Briggs' beloved children's book about a young boy's magical overnight adventure, the original Oscar-nominated animation **The Snowman** with its iconic score originally aired in 1982. 30 years later, producer John Coates felt that the time was right to create a follow up and the charming **The Snowman and the Snowdog** was born.

HOME ALONE PG

Sat 13 – Sun 14 Dec

Dir: John Hughes

Cast: Macaulay Culkin,
Joe Pesci, Daniel Stern
USA 1990, 1hr 43mins

John Hughes' classic family comedy is back on the big screen for the festive season. When the McAllister family left on their Christmas vacation they forgot one small thing – Kevin! Merry Christmas, ya filthy animal!



THE MUPPET CHRISTMAS CAROL U

Sat 20 – Tue 23 Dec

Dir: Brian Henson

Cast: Michael Caine
USA/UK 1992, 1hr 25mins

With unforgettable songs and pitch perfect casting – Michael Caine as Scrooge, Kermit the Frog as Bob Cratchit and the Great Gonzo as Dickens – **The Muppet Christmas Carol** has become a festive family tradition.

£1.25 admin fee is payable on all non-member tickets



THE POLAR EXPRESS U

Sat 20 – Tue 23 Dec

Dir: Robert Zemeckis
USA 2004, 1hr 40mins

Starring Tom Hanks– who voices seven different characters – this gorgeously ethereal animation tells the story of a young boy's Christmas Eve journey aboard the Polar Express, a magical train that's bound for the North Pole. Blissful festive escapism, based on the much loved children's book by Chris Van Allsburg.

ARTHUR CHRISTMAS U

Sat 6 – Sun 7 Dec

Dir: Sarah Smith, Barry Cook
USA/UK 2011, 1hr 37mins

When Santa Claus makes the fatal error of delivering presents to every child but one on Christmas Eve, it's up to his youngest (and clumsiest) son Arthur to set things right before Christmas morning. With the voice talents of Jim Broadbent, James McAvoy and Bill Nighy, this delightful animation will warm your heart no matter how cold it is outside!



FREE FAMILY WORKSHOPS

FREE FAMILY WORKSHOPS

Sat 8 Nov, 1pm – 3pm

Sat 13 Dec, 1pm – 3pm

FREE, drop-in

Get creative at our free family workshops every month, in partnership with Kala Arts CIC. Suitable for ages 6+, these are drop-in sessions in our Café Bar so there's no need to book. Children must be supervised by an adult at all times. Please wear suitable clothes for getting a bit messy whilst creating. Part of CQ Earlies, free activities for families every second Saturday of the month.



AFTERNOON PICNIC WITH SANTA

Sat 6 Dec, 3pm

£19.50 adults / £15 children

Enjoy a relaxed afternoon (indoor) picnic with Santa, followed by a 4.30 screening of festive family classic Arthur Christmas. Children under 18 months are free. Advance booking essential – visit our website for more details and to book.



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membership.
Join today at
Box Office or online



MAKE IT A PHOENIX CHRISTMAS

RELAX AND UNWIND IN OUR CAFÉ BAR

Take some away from the festive frenzy and let our kitchen take the strain while you enjoy some well-earned R&R. Treat yourself to a delicious meal in our super Café Bar, with warming winter dishes, tempting daily specials, and a traditional Christmas dinner available throughout December. Truly scrumptious.

NAME ON A CINEMA SEAT

For a donation of £120 we'll put your loved one's name on one of our cinema seats with a personalised message from you. An unusual gift for Phoenix fans that has the added benefit of helping to support us into the future.



PRIVATE SCREENINGS: PARTIES WITH A DIFFERENCE!

Enjoy a private screening of the film of your choice with your friends and family, in our Screen Room micro-cinema (seats up to 30 people). Perfect for Christmas get togethers, birthdays, anniversary celebrations, and more. Go large and add on refreshments for your guests— from popcorn, ice cream and drinks, to a full buffet. Prices from £235 inc VAT

GIFT VOUCHERS

£10, £25 and £50 gift vouchers are available to purchase online and at Box Office, and can be used for any ticket, food or drink purchase at Phoenix. Vouchers can be redeemed online and in-venue.

GIFT MEMBERSHIP

Our members benefit from cheaper tickets and zero admin fees, plus 10% off in our Café Bar, free tickets and special offers, invitations to member-only events, exclusive discounts at other independent venues across Leicester, and more. Gift membership costs £45 and is available to purchase online or at Box Office.



THANK YOU

to all our wonderful
customers for your
tremendous support
in 2025

Phoenix wouldn't be
here without you, and
we'd like to wish you all a
merry Christmas and
happy New Year



CHRISTMAS OPENING TIMES

There are some changes to our opening times over the Christmas period.

Phoenix will be closed on Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, New Year's Eve and New Year's Day. Because of this, we **will be open on Tuesday 23 and Tuesday 30 December.**

On Friday 26 December (Boxing Day) we will be open from 12pm – 9pm, and the kitchen will close 30 minutes after the last film of the day has started.

Normal opening hours apply at other times.



Return Address
Phoenix
4 Midland Street
Leicester LE1 1TG

Delivered by



BOX OFFICE
0116 242 2800

BOOK ONLINE
PHOENIX.ORG.UK

Room hires
0116 242 2821

f /PhoenixLeic
@PhoenixLeic

OPENING TIMES

Check inside for Christmas opening times

Visit our website for information about our opening hours, ticket prices, travel options and more, to help you plan your visit.



ACCESS

WC Toilet & washing facilities

Wheelchair spaces available

Hearing loops in building

Baby changing facilities

Changing Places

Front of building & Halford St NCP

Guide dogs are welcome

PARKING INFO

There is a council pay-and-display car park next to Phoenix. Blue badge and on-street parking is available around the venue and there are plenty of other car parks within easy walking distance. Further details are available on our website.

Phoenix customers also get a special deal at Rutland Centre NCP on Halford Street (next to Curve) – **pay £7.95 to park all day**, but remember to get your ticket validated at Phoenix Box Office.



Made possible with the support of

