

SCHOOL OF LIFE-expanded at Filmmuseum Potsdam (21 – 25 November, 2011)

Feature Films:



TOAST (Age Group 10+)

UK, 2010, 86 min., biopic/drama – OV / germ. subtitles

Director: S.J. Clarkson

Cast: Helena Bonham Carter, Ken Stott, Victoria Hamilton, Freddie Highmore

Growing up in a home when everything tinned is best Nigel craves real food. He loves cookbooks and gazes longingly at the delights on display in the village shop. When his mother dies he and his father are heartbroken but time heals and the ample charms and lemon meringue pies of the new cleaner, Mrs Potter, quickly bewitch Nigel's father. To Nigel's even greater horror, Mrs Potter moves in and the three move to the country. The only silver lining is the Domestic Science Class in his new school - Nigel can finally shine and when Nigel lands a job in the kitchen of his local pub his eyes are opened to a world of opportunity. But Mrs Potter won't give up her supremacy in the kitchen without a fight...

Based on the award-winning book by Nigel Slater, a famous cook, food columnist and TV host for food shows.

Workshop TOAST:

TOAST portrays the life of famous cook, food columnist and TV host Nigel Slater who discovers his passion for food and cooking at a very young age. Growing up in a world of tinned food in the 50s it is tough for young Nigel to stick to his passion and get through to his father's heart.

The film thereby touches on various provocative and significant topics for young teenagers such as: self-assertion and -realisation, family structures and gendered roles in society, prejudice, social exclusion and conflict resolution. It thus proves an excellent resource for the classroom and the workshop will offer room for debate and discussion with the help of several worksheets concerning the topics. (Duration: 45 min.)



CHERRYBOMB (Age group: 14+)

UK, 2009, 96 min., coming of age/ drama – OV / germ. subtitles

Director: Lisa Barros D'Sa, Glenn Leyburn

Cast: Rupert Grint, Robert Sheehan, Kimberley Nixon

Best friends Luke and Malachy are finally ready to enjoy their summer – until the stunning and mysterious Michelle moves into town with plans of her own. As she seductively encourages a ruthless competition for her heart, Michelle tests the limits of Luke and Malachy friendship, and how far each of them is willing to go to win her over. What started off as a relaxing and uneventful vacation soon transforms into a wild ride with potentially fatal consequences.

Workshop CHERRYBOMB:

The workshop accompanying the film introduces a range of themes to discuss: responsibility, consequences, family relationships, friendships and loyalty and the fact that teenagers are so much more mature these days and seem much more comfortable with that. (Duration: 45 min.)

Short film programmes (Duration workshop: 45 min.):



Shorts 1: Finding Friends (Age group 10 – 14)

UK 2008 - 2010, 47 min. - OV

"Finding Friends" is a big issue in young people's life especially when being some kind of a misfit. In very touching and funny ways the characters in these films show how to deal with being different and how to find a real companion. The students are encouraged to consider the different characters portrayed in the short-films and will have the opportunity to compare the characters' situations to their own experiences throughout the discussion.

Example: THE BALL

UK, 2010, 11 min., drama

Director: Katja Roberts

Lonely misfit Amy Jones has noticed a new boy in her street. While playing football alone in the back lane she catches his attention and he begins to reach out to her in his own quirky way. However, Jack's world is complicated and after a promising start he seems to withdraw from her. It's only when Amy desperately needs help that Jack is forced to face his greatest fear and reveal the truth behind his mysterious behavior. 'The Ball' portrays the tender beginnings of a burgeoning childhood friendship in which communication takes on touching, funny and inventive forms.



Shorts 2: Decisions (Age group: 14+)

UK, 2009-2010, 47 min. - OV

"Decisions" revolves around the topic of decision making and consequences. When coming of age young people often face situations where they have to show responsibility for their own actions - sometimes without the help of friends and parents. The students will discuss about the presentation of the different situations and decisions that were or weren't made in the short films

and what the alternatives could be.

Example: Jade

UK 2009, 15:30 min., drama

Director: Daniel Elliott

Jade is young and pretty, and she is caught in a dilemma of her own making. Realizing that she is pregnant, she struggles to choose the right path to get her out of this situation. It becomes apparent to her, though, that she may have no choice at all.

For more information please visit: www.school-of-life-expanded.de
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