

Welcome to Presteigne Screen

Presteigne Screen is a volunteer-run independent cinema which began, and for many years operated as, Presteigne Film Society. We open fortnightly from September to April, showing mainly contemporary movies from all round the world. Sign up via our website for email updates. We are always keen to hear from anyone interested in film, especially those who would like to get

more involved with the operation of the screenings and/or film selection.

* Borderlines 2026 *

As a participant in this year's festival we have again added an extra Friday date to our usual programme. Details shown below.



For the latest information

www.presteignescreen.org.uk

info@presteignescreen.org.uk

March 13 SOULEYMANE'S STORY

France 2024 93 mins 15

Delivery cyclist, Souleymane, an immigrant from Guinea, pedals the streets of Paris at full pelt delivering meals for a pittance, crashing in hostels and clinging to hope that he will somehow pass an imminent asylum interview and bring some certainty to his punishing life. Abou Sangaré turns in a brilliant performance as the driven cyclist who must pay for tutoring so that he can pitch his asylum spiel in exactly the right way. But is he ready? Boris Lojkine's film gained traction at last year's Cannes Film festival in the *Un Certain Regard* section where it won the Jury and Best Actor prizes. (S) (Borderlines) £5.50



Tickets at the door: Single Film £5.00

We keep a number of tickets on the door. Priority is given to advance bookings especially at popular films when seating may be limited but audience members are encouraged to arrive early. Seats are unnumbered. We can also accept contactless card payments at the door.

Advance Booking: www.wegotickets.com/presteignescreen

All films are shown on Fridays (unless otherwise stated) at 8pm in the Assembly Rooms, Broad Street, Presteigne LD8 2AD, which are located in the centre of Presteigne (entrance at the foot of the clocktower next to the library). Refreshments are available beforehand.

(S) indicates subtitles, where known. Films running over 130 minutes may be shown with a short interval. Seats are limited within the auditorium and cannot be guaranteed so please come early to avoid disappointment. Doors usually open at 7.30pm.

The Assembly Rooms has disabled access via the entrance ramp and a new lift.

Further information: Pete MacKenzie: 01544 370202 or Tony Lawson: 01544 260326

Presteigne Screen would like to thank Mid-Border Arts for their continued support.

Cover image: The Phoenician Scheme

PRESTEIGNE SCREEN

WINTER
SPRING
2026



Films for our 50th winter season include:
*The Phoenician Scheme, Young Mothers, Dreams,
Bugonia, The Kingdom and It was Just an Accident*

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THE PHOENICIAN SCHEME



January 9 USA 2025 101 mins 15

The inimitable Wes Anderson's latest fantasy movie stars Benicio del Toro as Zsa-Zsa Korda, European industrialist, citizen of nowhere and shady dealer in everything. 'Mister 5%' has enemies aplenty, and attempts on his life are so numerous that after surviving his sixth plane crash he calls his much-neglected nun of a daughter, Liesl, and makes her his sole heir. Together they embark on Korda's wildest scheme ever, a land and sea infrastructure venture stretching across the fictional North African country of Phoenicia. How can this possibly end well...? A welter of quirky characters are played with gusto by stars such as Michael Cera and Willem Dafoe.

BUGONIA



March 6 USA/UK/S Kor 2025 118 mins 15

Yorgos Lanthimos mixes satire, sci-fi and twisted comedy as Emma Stone, playing Michelle Fuller, CEO of pharmaceutical giant Auxolith, is kidnapped by conspiracy theorist and beekeeper Teddy Gatz (Jesse Plemons) and his autistic cousin Don. Teddy, whose mum has been rendered comatose in an Auxolith clinical trial, believes that Michelle is the leader of a malign alien species. Head shaved, Michelle is detained in Teddy's basement for interrogation. Outstanding acting by Stone and Plemons creates a tense, unpredictable kidnap scenario in which control and identity, villain and hero are constantly interchangeable. (Borderlines Film Festival) £5.50

YOUNG MOTHERS



January 23 Bel/Fra 2025 105 mins 15

Can Ariane trust her alcoholic mother and abusive partner with her new baby? Just one of the questions tackled by the Belgian Dardenne brothers as they extend their line of naturalistic dramas with simultaneous stories about five teenage pregnancies. Winning Best Screenplay at Cannes 2025, their script, based on conversations with real young girls and set in a maternal support home in Liège (the city is the setting of many of the Dardenne brothers' films), elicits brilliant performances from amateur actors who opt for resilience and hope as they struggle with adoption, poverty, violence and addiction, in their bid for the light at the end of the tunnel. (S)

I SWEAR



March 20 UK/Aus 2025 75 mins PG

I Swear dramatises the true story of John Davidson, a troubled Scottish teenager in the 1980s, whose ambitions to be a goalkeeper are disrupted by odd ticks and strange behaviour until he's finally diagnosed at 15 with Tourette's Syndrome. We see how he navigates life with this much misunderstood condition, which often involves involuntary shouting of obscenities, lashings out and consequent trouble. Meanwhile, it is through the kindness of others that Davidson discovers his great purpose in life. Inspiring, funny and devastating in equal measure with a stunning performance by Robert Aramayo. (Borderlines Film Festival) £5.50

DREAMS



February 6 Norway 2024 110 mins 15

Johanne, a Norwegian teenager, develops a crush on her charismatic teacher, Johanna, but is afraid to talk about it to anybody, least of all her single mum Kristin. To come to terms with her passion she keeps an intimate journal, which she decides to show to her writer grandmother Karin, who in turn encourages Kristin to read it. Directed by Dag Johan Haugerud and winner of Berlin's Golden Bear award 2025, *Dreams* is a mischievous film in which Johanne's revelations (possibly real or are bits made up?) prompt consternation in the two older women, causing one to question her tepid online-dating life and the other to look at her creative timidity. (S)

IT WAS JUST AN ACCIDENT



April 10 Iran/Fra/USA 2025 103 mins 12A

This at times blackly comic and much acclaimed Iranian thriller starts with a man taking his car into a garage after a minor accident. He meets mechanic Vahid who, hearing the distinctive squeak from the man's prosthetic leg, decides that this is Eghbal, a sadist who tortured him in prison, and so kidnaps him – but then doubts set in. Winner of the *Palme d'Or* 2025 with this film, director Jafar Panahi (*The White Balloon*, *Offside* and *Taxi*), using his own experience of persecution and incarceration (this is his first film since being released from jail in 2023), has executed a visceral, claustrophobic vision of the autocratic theocracy that's hounded him and others. (S)

THE KINGDOM



February 20 France 2024 112 mins 15

Ghjuvanna Benedetti is transfixing as teenage Lesia, who is taken from her sheltered Corsican existence in the summer of 1995 and dropped at a villa where her estranged mob-boss father, Pierre-Paul, is hiding. An assassination attempt sets off a deadly chain of vendettas forcing the two of them on the run. While her father dreams of another life where wife and daughter were central, Lesia, in understanding her father's adherence to brutal underworld codes, is drawn into an equal devotion for revenge. Taking director Julien Colonna 3½ years to make, and featuring amateur actors, this gripping thriller gives a unique perspective on the coming-of-age theme. (S)

THE OTHER WAY AROUND



April 24 Spa/Fra 2024 114 mins 12

A summer storm threatens as filmmaker Ale (played by Itsaso Arana), lying in bed with actor Alex (Vito Sanz), her partner of 14 years, asks the question: 'What if we held a party to celebrate our break-up?' This is the surprising premise of Jonás Trueba's eighth feature, whose Spanish title *Volveréis* translates as 'You'll get back together', which is what their families and close friends say every time 'the perfect couple' share their news, as they do... frequently. Will they, or won't they? Inspired by films such as *8½ Weeks* and *Groundhog Day*, Trueba draws out humour from the absurd belief that if you repeat something often enough it will become true. (S)