

Peterborough Arts Cinema

Films that make you think

Thursday 31st May at 7:30pm

On Body and Soul (2017)

Testről és lélekről (original title)
18 | 1h 56min Hungary

Director; Ildiko Enyedi.

Stars; Geza Morcsanyi, Alexandra Borbely, Zoltan Schneider

On the outskirts of Budapest, the ageing recluse, Endre, is the reserved and saturnine manager of a small abattoir, who is used to hiding his disabled left arm along with his emotions behind a busy schedule. And then, unexpectedly, the loner's eye is caught by a shy and graceful newcomer in the office; the young Mária, the plant's cryptic and glacially beautiful quality-control inspector. Strange as it may seem, the slaughterhouse will provide the unorthodox background for a timid affair between the tender outcasts.



Although Hungarians have played a prominent role throughout the history of film -- one only has to think of historical figures such as George Cukor, Michael Curtiz (formerly Mihály Kertész), Emeric (Imre) Pressburger and Béla Lugosi -- Hungarian films produced in the country itself have not yet received the level of critical and popular attention they deserve from audiences and academics abroad.

This season we feature two films from Hungary, "Kills on Wheels" being the other. In fact we could have chosen more over the past few years; some of the following are available on Netflix

The Turin Horse, A torinói ló.(2011)

1889. German philosopher Friedrich Nietzsche witnessed the whipping of a horse while traveling in Turin, Italy. He tossed his arms around the horse's neck to protect it then collapsed to the ground. In less than one month, Nietzsche would be diagnosed with a serious mental illness that would make him bed-ridden and speechless for the next eleven years until his death. But whatever did happen to the horse? This film, which is Tarr's last, follows up this question in a fictionalized story of what occurred. IMDB rating 7.8

Kojot, (2017)

Muggy heat, small-town bleakness, unspoken social problems, hierarchy fights. This is Tuzko town, somewhere in Hungary, nowadays. Here comes Misi who inherits his grandfather's house and his property. Misi is a disillusioned, frustrated, constantly refugee young man. He can't find his role in his life, his job and relationship. He starts to build and renovate the house with some men from the town, but it violates the local oligarch's interests. Hard struggle begins for the property, for the love and for the life. IMDB rating 8.0

Jupiter's Moon (2017) Jupiter holdja (being considered for autumn season)

A young immigrant is shot down while illegally crossing the border. Terrified and in shock, wounded Aryan can now mysteriously levitate at will. Thrown into a refugee camp, he is smuggled out by Dr Stern, intent on exploiting his extraordinary secret. Pursued by enraged camp director Laszlo, the fugitives remain on the move in search of safety and money. Inspired by Aryan's amazing powers, Stern takes a leap of faith in a world where miracles are trafficked for small change.

White God (2014), Feher Isten

Thirteen-year-old Lili fights to protect her dog Hagen. She is devastated when her father eventually sets Hagen free on the streets. Still innocently believing love can conquer any difficulty, Lili sets out to find her dog and save him. Cannes winner.

The Notebook (2013), A Nagy Fuzet

The Nazis have invaded Hungary and war is raging in the main cities. To avoid it, a woman leaves her thirteen-year-old twin boys at their grandmother's place in the countryside. The children don't know their grandmother, a dirty, miserly, and mean old woman who barely allows them inside the house. Left to their own devices, the two children learn to cope with hunger, the cold, and the everyday cruelty in a devastated country. IMDB rating 7

And one we have shown, the Oscar winner, **Son of Saul (2015),** Saul Fia

