



New community asset status granted to Phoenix Cinema

By Ruth Anders

In early September, Kate Brown, Chair of East Finchley Community Trust, got the welcome news that a successful application to Barnet Council had achieved the Phoenix Cinema's listing as an Asset of Community Value.

Said Kate: "This new ranking demonstrates how much the cinema is valued in the community and could be useful when applying for philanthropic grants or lottery bids in the future. Additionally, if in the future the Phoenix Trust wants to sell the asset, there is a community right to bid, and time is allowed for interested parties in the local community to seek funds. That is how a range of cultural institutions have been maintained in local communities up and down the country."

East Finchley residents certainly don't want to lose their cherished local cinema. But the Phoenix Trustees are very aware of the need to launch a determined fundraising campaign in order to secure the venue's future.

Financial support

Quite apart from new financial support needed to improve toilets and facilities in the foyer, considerable investment is required to ensure that the Phoenix can remain open for business. Chair of the Phoenix



New status: The Phoenix Cinema

Cinema Trust Ltd Paul Rossi told The Archer: "We have a terrific new executive director in Kathryn Smith, and her appointment has helped sharpen our approach."

The Trust keeps the cinema as a locally run, community focussed, treasure for us all to enjoy. "The support of our members and regular audience is critically important to us. But we are also seeking significant new investment to maintain and develop our beloved Phoenix for the future. If you think you can help by making a donation, please get in touch with Kathryn

on phoenixfundraising@phoenixcinema.co.uk."

The Phoenix should be the cultural heart of our community. Do we want to slump on the sofa at home watching Netflix, or do we want the pleasure of a shared experience on the big screen? Do we want to patronise a cinema chain, or would we rather support an irreplaceable local treasure?

If you value our wonderful community asset and would like to make a contribution, small or large, please visit www.phoenixcinema.co.uk/make-a-donation/

Attenborough at the Phoenix

By Ruth Anders

The Phoenix Cinema will host a special screening of the 1993 film *Shadowlands* on Sunday 30 November, followed by a Q&A with distinguished theatre director Michael Attenborough CBE.

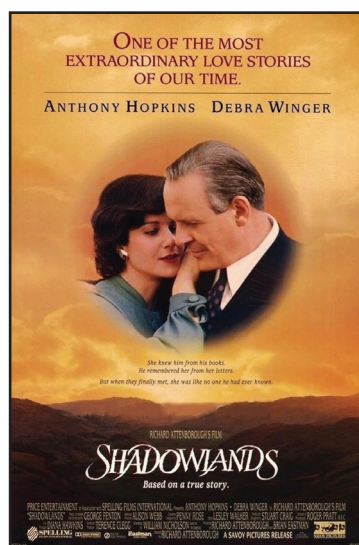
Michael looks forward to talking about his father, the late Sir Richard Attenborough, who directed the acclaimed film.

"It's always a privilege to see *Shadowlands* resonating with new audiences and delighting those who've seen it before," Michael told The Archer. "Given the complexity and length of the original stage play, the screenplay was a brilliant version. Writer William Nicholson chopped his text back with astonishing bravery. He clearly understands how movies work. There's far more reliance on the visual."

Ahead of the screening, Michael reflected: "Dad was known as an actors' director.

He really connected with actors, being one himself. He looked after everyone, no matter how modest their role, something he'd learned from my godfather Noel Coward. He worked with Anthony Hopkins on five different films, so knew him very well, and the combination of Anthony and Debra Winger in *Shadowlands* was genius."

Michael is a hugely entertaining individual with over 50 years of theatre directing behind him. He has stories galore about his father and his own career, and will divulge far more during the Q&A. An unmissable event! Find out more at www.phoenixcinema.co.uk or pop into the cinema foyer.



Movie classic: *Shadowlands*, directed by Richard Attenborough

A solo Christmas Carol

Happy Valley and *The Thick* Of It's Vincent Franklin is bringing *A Christmas Carol* to Artsdepot in North Finchley on Friday 12 December.

Following a sell-out tour in 2024, the actor returns to play more than 30 characters in an adaptation that is based on Dickens' own performance script. "Most productions of *A Christmas Carol* use Dickens' dialogue but have to lose his fantastic descriptions, of

Scrooge, the ghosts, the fog... Some of this is really spooky stuff and loads of it is really funny," says Vincent. "By making it a solo performance, just as Dickens himself did, we can put all that richness back and leave audiences with both their blood chilled and their



On stage: Vincent Franklin

hearts warmed." Find out more and book at artsdepot.co.uk

What's on at the Phoenix in November

By Zalan Pall, general manager

A black comedy, a Second World War drama, a French classic, a live exhibition, theatre, opera and ballet, plus much more awaits you at the Phoenix in November.

In *Bugonia* early in the month two conspiracy-obsessed men kidnap the CEO of a major company when they become convinced that she's an alien who wants to destroy Earth. This absurdist black comedy stars Emma Stone.

The Choral, from Friday 7 November, is set in 1916 as war rages on the Western Front and the Choral Society in Ramsden, Yorkshire, has lost most of its men to the army. The ambitious committee decides to recruit local young males to swell their ranks. They must also engage a new chorus master, and despite their suspicions that he has something to hide, their best bet seems to be Dr. Henry Guthrie, played by Ralph Fiennes.

The UK Jewish Film Festival returns from Saturday 8 November to Monday 17 November with a fascinating programme and plenty of screenings.

Meanwhile, John Cleese Packs It In, from Friday 14 November, is a wry, behind-the-scenes portrait of a comedy legend on the road, battling various ailments, chaotic travel, and his own stubborn refusal to stop.

In Nurnberg, also from



Friday 14 November, a US Army psychiatrist gets locked in a dramatic psychological showdown with accused Nazi war criminal Hermann Göring (Russell Crowe).

For lovers of screen arts, we will have MetLive: *Arabella* on Saturday 22 November, RBO Live: *Cinderella* on Tuesday 25 November, NT Live: *The Fifth Steps* on Thursday 27 November, a Q&A with Exhibition on Screen director Phil Gatsky discussing Caravaggio on Tuesday 11 November, plus Picasso: *A Rebel in Paris* on Wednesday 26 November.

On top of all this, we carry on with our French Classic Season on Sunday 23 November with a screening of *Jules et Jim*. Find full details and book at www.phoenixcinema.co.uk or pop into our foyer.

COMING SOON
AT ARTSDEPOT

STEPHEN K AMOS
NOW WE'RE
TALKING!
Thu 13 Nov

STOPGAP DANCE
COMPANY
LIVED FICTION
Thu 20 Nov

STICK MAN
Fri 28 – Sun 30 Nov

THE YOUNG'UNS
Sat 6 Dec

...and lots more!
See the full line up
at artsdepot.co.uk

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