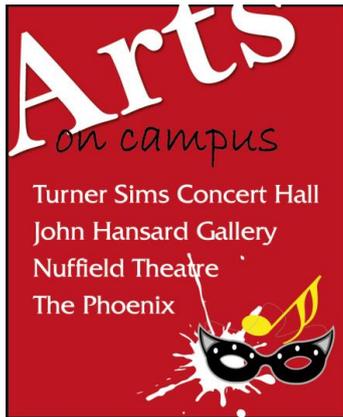




NEWSLETTER 4

What's in a logo?



As I look back on the last few Newsletters, they seem to have been awash with logos of one kind or another. So: To Speak, MEXSU, SFW have all had their time on these pages, and, as events, have all now passed, to be returning one hopes, at about the same time next year. But there is one logo we have paraded which I believe was actually created in the mists of time, by the Phoenix. That logo is for an idea, **Arts on Campus**, which we at the Phoenix have been banging on about for years, but which has scarcely broken out of the pen in which the University seems to have corralled it. The posters clearly indicate the other main venues alongside the Phoenix on the Highfield campus. They have shown support for the idea of there being a focal point for promoting all cultural events taking place here, but somewhere in the upper echelons of University administration things seem

to have come unstuck. Meetings have been held (Adrian and I attended several a few years ago involving the University Director of Strategy and Planning and other high-ranking folks), research papers have been written on it, and speeches have been made, but in concrete terms, there has been nothing, zero, zilch, nada, not a dicky bird (even an early early one!). But we won't let go! We believe it is in the interests of all to promote all things cultural, and not just on campus, but across the city (hence our enthusiastic involvement in the new literary festival and Southampton Film Week). With the new Arts building opposite the Guildhall soon to be opening its cultural doors, with a new ten-screen cinema in the expanding West Quay complex under construction, all complementing the existing city venues, not to mention all the events that take place across the university, Southampton will soon boast a wonderful array of venues for film fans, theatregoers, art and music lovers etc. But wouldn't it be wonderful if all those activities were promoted in a co-ordinated way, so that people knew what is available to them on any day of the week. Southampton Jazz Club anyone? Decorative & Fine Arts? Ancient Egypt? Photography? There are regular meetings of groups and societies covering all of these (and many many more), either on campus or close by. The University has a captive audience of both staff and students, and in addition a huge local community, all of whom could benefit from the wide range of activities hosted on its beautiful campus. If only people knew ...



And by way of showing our commitment to Arts on Campus, and that of the Nuffield as well, our wonderful neighbouring theatre is offering Phoenix members a pair of complimentary tickets to their evening performances of our Christmas production of **Merlin** (26 Nov - 3 Jan). To redeem this offer please quote code XMASPHOENIX when booking. Please note the following T&Cs: Members of The Phoenix are entitled to one pair of complimentary tickets for **Merlin** per member. This offer is valid for all seats during our preview period (26/11/2015 – 29/11/2015) and on Band B and C seats for the rest of the run (2/12/2015-3/1/2016). The offer excludes performances on 24/12/2015, 26/12/2015 and 31/12/2015. It is subject to availability and not available retrospectively.

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Wednesday night is Music from the movies night.

We promised to let you know about the music being played over Adrian's excellent and informative slide sequence before our screenings. In the first instance, we hope that you enjoy hearing the accompaniment, and think how good it would be if we could find a live performance every Wednesday akin to that by the wonderful Madding Crowd who sang and played before

Far From the Madding Crowd. To date this term these are the musics you will have heard before the lights go down.

Charlie's Country: **Yunupingu** by **Geoffrey Gurrumul**

La French: **Empêche-nous!** by **Moussu T e lei Jovents**

Leviathan: a compiled selection of current popular music from the Russian charts from Spotify

The Salt of the Earth: World Circuit Presents ... by **Various Artists (Buena Vista Social Club, Ali Farka Touré, Toumani Diabaté, etc.)**

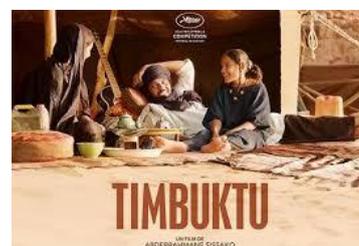


Google them, and as we have said in the past, do let us know if you have music suggestions that might link with any forthcoming movies from our programme ...

Christmas is a-comin', your brains should be a-hummin'

We have two special evenings coming up for the last two weeks of our Autumn term programme. Every year we have programmed a film to coincide with International Human Rights Day which is celebrated around the world on December 10th.

The many issues around the topic are as relevant as ever today, and on December 2nd we shall screen the Franco-Mauritanian film **Timbuktu**, set in the sand dunes near to the eponymous Malian city. The film, in which a family of herders struggle to retain their human rights, has been a major award-winner including the Cinema for Peace Award last year. We will have representatives from the local Amnesty International group present, and it is hoped they will invite members who wish to do so to participate in their Write for Rights campaign.



That screening, over a week before the key date of the 10th, had to be brought forward because of the early closure of the Union Building for the Christmas vacation. We naturally wanted to be sure of a date for our Christmas film, so had to settle for December 9th, which falls in the final week of term, thus pushing **Timbuktu** forward by a week. On our last Autumnal night we shall screen the outstanding Anglo-Welsh story



Büszkeség és bányászélet (the Hungarian title) or **Pride** as it is far better known here. If you have seen it before, you will know just what a wonderfully funny film it is, and will undoubtedly want to see it again. If you haven't seen it yet, you have a real treat in store. Starring Imelda Staunton, Bill Nighy, and less-well known new rising star Ben Schnetzer, **Pride** is based on an entirely true story; its

screening at the Phoenix also has the advantage for all our members of preceding our traditional Christmas celebration, when we invite you to enjoy a glass of wine (or soft drink alternative) and a mince pie. All the while, as you sip and munch, we shall be teasing your cinematic brains with a little light-hearted film quiz. With the Librarians team having won more than once in past years, perhaps you and your friends think you can come up trumps this year. Do join us for both **Timbuktu** and **Pride**, and make sure you have your thinking caps on for our festively celebratory last night of this term.