

This week's new film events

Portuguese Film Festival | Nordic Film Festival | Feminist Film Festival | Enchanted Pictures

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Saturday 24 November 2012 00.05 GMT

Portuguese Film Festival London

If Miguel Gomes's recent works like *Tabu* gave you a taste for Portuguese cinema, you'll find more promise here amid a celebration of Portuguese culture. There's a new documentary on artist Paula Rego, while Pilar del Río talks to Maya Jaggi after the acclaimed doc *José And Pilar*, about the author José Saramago. There are also docs on architecture and the fascist era, but if there's a new young film-maker to watch, it's João Salaviza, who presents short films including his ghetto drama *Arena*, which won best short at Cannes in 2009.

Various venues, Sun to 8 Dec

Nordic Film Festival London

It's not as if we needed reminding what Nordic culture has done for our viewing habits lately, but if you can prise yourself from *The Killing et al* for long enough, there's a broader view here. There are some hits like *Festen*, *Jar City* and the underrated *Oslo, August 31st*, plus docs on Olafur Eliasson, Helsinki history and a Finnish Down's syndrome punk band. Newer to our shores are Susanne Bier's gala-opening *Love Is All You Need*, in which Trine Dyrholm succumbs to the decidedly un-Scandinavian charms of Pierce Brosnan, and intense Swedish family drama *Pure*, featuring a head-turning performance from Alicia Vikander.

Riverside Studios, W6, Ciné Lumière, SW7 & Prince Charles Cinema, WC2, Fri to 5 Dec

Feminist Film Festival London

The first year of what could become a regular festival highlighting the under-representation of both women in film-making and women's issues elsewhere, from sexual violence to discrimination. The films are mostly documentaries, all directed by women, and dealing with subjects as diverse as Senegalese women's football in *Ladies' Turn*, condemned "witches" in Ghana, Tamil nuns and Kenyan grandmothers learning self defence against rape. Opening gala *Lesbiana* revisits the women's movements and communes of the 1970s, but equally important will be the post-screening discussions, where you'll find Bidisha, Linda Bellos, Carol Morley and many of the film-makers, and plenty to talk about.

Hackney Picturehouse, E8, Thu to 2 Dec

Enchanted Pictures London

You can't stay in denial any longer: Christmas is coming soon. However, if you are finding yourself struggling with your inner Grinch and exhausted at the prospect of getting into the festive spirit all over again, we have just the thing. Try out a secret, subterranean "winter wonderland", complete with "northern lights", falling snow, log cabins, and a cinema set in the middle of an Alpine forest (albeit an underground Alpine forest). By day (it's only open weekends), it's a family venue, with kids' games, hot chocolate and family-friendly matinees (The Wizard Of Oz, Home Alone). In the evenings it's for grown-ups, particularly those with a leaning towards 1980s cinema. As well as the compulsory It's A Wonderful Life, the bill includes Edward Scissorhands, Ghostbusters and Labyrinth. All this, and a bar, food and live music too. Beats Christmas shopping doesn't it?

Old Vic Tunnels, SE1, Sat to 3 Dec

Topics

Paula Rego

José Saramago

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