

Keith's ★★★★★ Favourites

A mini-season of films in recognition of the late Keith Hennessy-Brown's contribution to the Edinburgh Film Guild



American Splendor

Friday, 17 November 2017 at 8:00pm

Shari S. Berman, Robert Pulcini | USA 2003 | 91 min

The life of comic book hero and everyman Harvey Pekar.

Cast: Paul Giamatti, Shari Springer Berman, Harvey Pekar.

This "adaptation of Pekar's autobiographical comic books is quite simply an excellent film." It shows "that comics and the films derived from them can be serious, legitimate works of art and do not need to be about costumed superheroes...[and] that the lives of ordinary working people can, and should, be a subject for serious drama, without condescension or pity. *American Splendor* — comic and now film — is a life affirming experience, perhaps even a life changing one." (Keith Hennessy-Brown, *Eye For Film*)

Award: Grand Jury Prize, Sundance Film Festival



Antibodies

Friday, 24 November 2017 at 8:00pm

Christian Alvar | Germany 2007 | 127 min | German with English subtitles

When serial killer Gabriel Engel (André Hennicke) is captured in a spectacular police strike, small-town cop Michael Martens (Wotan Wilke Möhring) travels to interrogate him, believing him to be responsible for the brutal murder of a child from his village. Despite making more headway than the other more experienced detectives, Martens becomes increasingly troubled by his conversations with Engel. Finding his beliefs shaken, Michael soon becomes a dangerous threat to those around him.

"This is a technically assured, well acted and, above all, thought-provoking piece of crossover cinema." (Keith Hennessy-Brown, *Eye For Film*)



Black Dynamite

Friday, 1 December 2017 at 8:00pm

Scott Sanders | USA 2009 | 84 min

Blaxploitation spoof. Black Dynamite (Michael Jai White) is the greatest African-American action star of the 1970s. When his only brother is killed by The Man it's up to him to find justice.

"The key to *Black Dynamite's* success is that the filmmakers know the difference between a good-bad movie and a bad-bad movie. They beautifully bring out all the clichés and weaknesses of the classic blaxploitation film. With a truly excellent KPM library and retro style funk soundtrack that channels the spirits of Isaac Hayes, Curtis Mayfield and company. A joy from start to finish, *Black Dynamite* has the potential to do for Blaxploitation what Austin Powers did for the 1960s superspy film." (Keith Hennessy-Brown, *Eye For Film*)