



Dreams, Ghosts and Angels

A season of films which play with time, thought and memory, re-imagine fairy-tales and apply dream logic to the everyday.

Alice

- Jan Švankmajer -

After Life

- Hirokazu Kore-eda -

Blancanieves

- Pablo Berger -

*Institute Benjamenta,
or This Dream That One Calls
Human Life*

- Quay Brothers -

Wings of Desire

- Wim Wenders -

4 October to 1 November 2015

Sundays at 7.00pm (5 week mini-season)

Edinburgh Film Guild Cinema, The Filmhouse, 88 Lothian Road, Edinburgh EH3 9BZ

<http://edinburghfilmguild.org.uk>

BASIC MEMBERSHIP
£20
1 MINI-SEASON

FULL MEMBERSHIP
£60
ALL SCREENINGS

Dreams, Ghosts and Angels

A mini-season
of stylistically
inventive films
which play with
time, thought and
memory, re-imagine
fairy-tales and
apply dream logic to
the everyday.



Wings of Desire

(Der Himmel über Berlin)

Sunday, 4 October at 7.00pm

Wim Wenders / Germany 1987 / 127 minutes / English subtitles

Invisible, immortal angels populate Berlin. Bundled in dark overcoats, they watch over the city with ears open to the heartbeat of the human soul, listening to the internal musings and yearnings of earthbound humans like existential detectives. When one angel, Damiel, falls in love with a trapeze artist, he dreams of becoming human. Cast includes: Bruno Ganz, Solveig Dommartin, Otto Sander, Peter Falk.

Winner: Best Director, Cannes Film Festival 1987.

"You're seduced into the spell of this movie... astonishing things happen...the film is like music or a landscape: It clears a space in my mind." (Roger Ebert)



Alice

(Neco z Alenky)

Sunday, 11 October at 7.00pm

Jan Švankmajer / Czechoslovakia 1988 / 91 minutes / English subtitles

A surreal adaptation of *Alice in Wonderland*. Švankmajer uses familiar objects in unfamiliar ways, giving a fantasy quality to the banal while tipping the dream logic to the edge of nightmare. Combining a live-action Alice with a stop-motion Wonderland filled with threatening, bizarre characters.

"In Švankmajer's hands, 'Alice in Wonderland'...becomes uncanny once again...one has the unsettling sense of watching an old and well-remembered dream in a new and disturbing state of hallucination." (Philip Strick, Monthly Film Bulletin)



Institute Benjamenta, or This Dream That One Calls Human Life

Sunday, 18 October at 7.00pm

Quay Brothers / Germany, Japan, UK 1995 / 104 minutes

Jakob enrolls at the titular Institute — a dilapidated, moribund boarding school for the training of servants — and becomes embroiled in the strangely hypnotic world of the enigmatic siblings at its helm. Cast includes: Mark Rylance, Alice Krige, Gottfried John.

"A Kafkaesque fairy tale with a surreal sense of humor...mixing quasi-religious symbolism with a mood of gothic horror." (New York Times)

The film can be seen as *"a subversive variation on traditional fairytale motifs...or as a loving tribute to cinema's fantastic capacity for poetry."* (Time Out)



After Life

(Wandāfuru raifu)

Sunday, 25 October at 7.00pm

Hirokazu Kore-eda / Japan 1998 / 118 minutes / English subtitles

At a way station somewhere between heaven and earth, the newly deceased are greeted by spiritual guides who help them sift through their memories to find the one really precious moment of their lives to take with them when they pass on to Heaven. What would you choose? Cast includes: Arata Iura, Erika Oda, Susumu Terajima.

"A brilliant, humorous, transcendently compassionate film." (New York Times)

"Kore-eda's...films embrace the mystery of life, and encourage us to think about why we are here, and what makes us truly happy." (Roger Ebert)



Blancanieves

(Snow White)

Sunday, 1 November at 7.00pm

Pablo Berger / Spain 2012 / 104 minutes / silent / English subtitles

Rescued from her evil stepmother by dwarves, a young woman becomes a bullfighter like her late father. This silent film, with a brilliantly realised soundtrack, is a twist on the *Snow White* fairy tale that is set in 1920s Seville. Cast includes: Macarena García, Maribel Verdú, Emilio Gavira, Daniel Giménez Cacho.

Winner: 10 Goya Awards, including Best Film.

"Berger doesn't shy away from the often fervent emotional violence in fairy tales, whilst also extracting overdrawn, blackly comic humour." (Roderick Heath)

"There's a flash of pure inspiration, unfakeable and unmistakable, in this extraordinarily enjoyable film... melancholy, eerie and erotic. A film to treasure." (Peter Bradshaw, The Guardian)