



## CARY COMES HOME FOR THE WEEKEND FESTIVAL

18-20 November 2022

### WHAT'S ON DAY-BY-DAY

#### Friday 18 November

##### 7pm: THE BISHOP'S WIFE [U]

*(Director: Henry Koster, 1947, 1hr 49 mins)*

St Mary Redcliffe, Redcliffe Way, Bristol, BS1 6RA

Cary Grant plays an angel using devilish wiles to bring harmony back into the lives of a bishop (David Niven), his wife (Loretta Young) and those around them. Winner of the 1947 Oscars for best film and best director and much enjoyed, it is said, by the then future Queen Elizabeth II after she attended a royal gala screening in London. This event will also include an introduction from Cary Grant Comes Home festival director Charlotte Crofts and a video message from the last surviving member of the cast Karolyn Grimes, now 82, but who appeared in this film and the similarly feel-good IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE aged six.

#### Saturday 19 November

##### 10am SYLVIA SCARLETT [U]

*(Director: George Cukor, 1936, 1 hr 35)*

Watershed, Cannons Road, Bristol, BS1 5TX

A rom-com with shades of drama and enough hints of queerness and criminality to upset the Catholic League of Decency on its release. Katharine Hepburn adopts the guise of a boy to help her crooked father (Edward Gwenn) escape embezzlement charges. She keeps the disguise when they team up with a Cockney rogue (Cary Grant) for a series of cons and when she attracts the attention of a woman. But she is forced to choose which identity to keep when handsome artist (Brian Aherne) confesses to experiencing "queer feelings".

##### 2pm LOOKING FOR ARCHIE/ FINDING CARY

Meet outside Bristol Marriott Royal Hotel, College Green, BS1 5TA

A walking tour of Bristol city centre sites exploring the early life of Bristol boy Archie Leach and the reasons he stayed in touch with his roots long after his transformation into the Hollywood star and style icon Cary Grant. Easy pace, mostly flat, lasts 90 mins approx.

##### 6.30pm for 8pm: CHARADE [PG]

*(Director: Stanley Donen, 1963, 1hr 55)*

Curzon Cinema, Old Church Road, Clevedon, BS21 6NN

A gala screening in one of the UK's oldest cinemas of a film many describe as the best Alfred Hitchcock thriller Hitchcock didn't make. Featuring glamorous settings in the French Alps and Paris, it stars Audrey Hepburn as a widow thought to know the whereabouts of a fortune stolen by her dead husband. But are any of those on the track of the money - Cary Grant, James Coburn and Walter Matthau among them - really who they claim to be? As a prelude to the 8pm screening, there will be live music, a chance to enter a Best Dressed contest, a photo booth and bar. Plus, the option to travel from Bristol to the cinema aboard a vintage bus.

## Sunday 20 November

### 10am NONE BUT THE LONELY HEART [U]

(Director: Clifford Odets, 1944, 1 hr 53)

Watershed, Cannons Road, Bristol, BS1 5TX

Cary Grant was so keen to play the lead in this film he bought the film rights to the book on which it was based even though the original story was about a very much younger man. In it he's the feckless Cockney son of an ailing woman shopkeeper (Ethel Barrymore in an Oscar winning role)), straying into crime and falling in a love with the wife of a gangster. Grant later said the story was especially meaningful because he saw in it who he could have become if he had never left Bristol.

### 2pm BORN TO BE BAD [U]

(Dir. Lowell Sherman, 1934, 62 mins)

Former IMAX screen, Bristol Aquarium, Anchor Road, BS1 5TT

In a stark contrast to her later appearance with Cary Grant as the well-behaved wife of a bishop, Loretta Young is such a bad 'un here that original versions of this film ran into all manner of trouble with the censors even before the Hays morality code came into full effect due to her scanty clothing, her status as an unmarried mother, seducer of Grant and blackmailer.

### 4pm BLONDE VENUS [PG]

(dir. Josef von Sternberg, 1932, 1hr 33 mins)

Former IMAX screen, Bristol Aquarium, Anchor Road, BS1 5TT

Another example of a Pre-Code film - i.e. one made before the Hays Office cracked down on behaviours of which USA morality crusaders disapproved. Here the taboo topics include serious illness, marital breakdown, adultery and sex for favours. Marlene Dietrich plays the woman at the centre of it all, with Cary Grant as the wealthy playboy she meets while she's performing in a nightclub to earn enough money to fund life-saving treatment for her husband.

### 7pm ARSENIC & OLD LACE [PG]

(Dir: Frank Capra, 1944, 1hr 58 mins)

Former IMAX screen, Bristol Aquarium, Anchor Road, BS1 5TT

A dark and hilarious comedy in which Cary Grant plays a writer famed for his rants against marriage who risks his career by taking a bride (Priscilla Lane) and then faces further turmoil when he returns to his childhood home to tell his maiden aunts (Jean Adair and Josephine Hull) about his nuptials. There he discovers his aunts have adopted an unexpected method of curing loneliness in old men and that his younger brother thinks he is President Teddy Roosevelt (John Alexander). Could the plot possibly get any crazier? Oh yes it could.

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