



IN THE LOOP!

This newsletter brings you the latest Playhouse news, developments and offerings. A bi-weekly update to help keep you In The Loop until we can welcome you back into the building.

INDUSTRY UPDATE

A few months ago the Government announced £1.57 billion investment to protect Britain's world-class cultural, arts and heritage institutions. The investment into the sector offers hope to many individuals and organisations who have been working since lockdown to lobby the Government for crucial financial support.

The first round for applications to the Arts Council England (ACE) **Cultural Recovery Fund** was open last week and the Playhouse has submitted an application and we hope to hear if we have been successful in October. Obviously the fund will be in huge demand across the U.K and is open to the world class organisations such as Shakespeare's Globe Theatre, RSC, Royal Opera House and big commercial venues from London's West End to the Theatre Royal, Newcastle. The Playhouse is a small rural arts-centre who operate with minimal staff numbers and fantastic volunteer support, there is no guarantee of success but we believe the Playhouse application builds a very strong case for support.

ACE has previously supported the Playhouse capital campaign through Grants for the Arts, as well as making a grant though the Coronavirus Emergency Response fund. We applied for the maximum amount of £35K to the National Lottery through Arts Council England and were successful for the full amount. All we can do now is wait and continue to tentatively plan for November re-opening.



Closure and Opportunities

The closure period continues to provide the perfect opportunity for NCC to co-ordinate with the main building contractors Northern Bear to access the Playhouse for snagging and variations to the original building works which require completion. The Playhouse areas are free of staff and audiences which were making completion of works extremely difficult in January, February and March. The auditorium and studio both have works to be completed and it is essential these are done before mid-October when the Playhouse plus McKenna's café are making tentative plans towards re-opening in November 2020.

FILM INDUSTRY UPDATE

As cinema gradually comes back, more and more projectors are firing up around the country. The biggest news in cinema is about Christopher Nolan's latest film *Tenet*, which opened in cinemas in the UK on Wednesday. This is the first blockbuster studio film to open in cinemas since they started to reopen, and it has launched with positive reviews and seemingly brisk box office, despite cinemas selling less seats for screenings due to the social distancing measures in place. Warner Bros., the studio behind *Tenet* are also releasing the DC film *Wonder Woman 1984* in coming weeks. This is a sharp change from the recent news about the Walt Disney film *Mulan* being moved to an online-only release in the UK. We have much to look forward to as we start to consider our film programme for when we reopen and are particularly excited about the new Agatha Christie adaptation from Kenneth Branagh *Death On The Nile*. The film assembles an all-star cast alongside Branagh himself (playing Hercule Poirot once again) and arrives in late October.



Following that we are still eagerly anticipating the UK release of the new Bond film *No Time To Die*, which is dated for November 12th. There are lots of great new films on the way to look forward to, and lots of stringent safety measures are encouraging audiences back to cinemas once again. What a year!

THIS WEEKS WATCHLIST

After the popularity of our earlier watchlists from our film programmer Jonny (pictured left), here is another selection of great films currently streaming online on Netflix, Amazon Prime, All4 and BBC iPlayer for you to explore over the next two weeks.



This weeks watchlist features the Peanut Butter Falcon. This wonderful modern-day adventure story tells the story of Zak, a young man with Down's Syndrome who runs away from the nursing home where he lives. Zak's broken free to follow his dream of attending the professional wrestling school of his idol. With his kindly nurse hot on his tail Zak teams up with bitter outlaw-on-the-run Tyler and as the pair evade capture and cross the North Carolina countryside their friendship develops. Warm-hearted and soulful comedy, The Peanut Butter Falcon is feelgood cinema at its best!

[Click here to view this weeks Watchlist.](#)

DRESSING UP THE WINDOWS

Whilst we are closed we have designed a series of posters for the front windows to offer a glimpse at what the new building looks like inside.

[Click here to view the new designs.](#)



THANK YOU

Ours thanks to everyone for their continued messages of support and actions such as re-joining of Playhouse membership schemes, Front Row, Friends, donating online, or buying a seat or step. Your continued support for the Playhouse during this crisis is greatly appreciated.

Thank you for reading In The Loop.



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