NOT SHOWING AT THIS CINEMA

LOOKING BEYOND THE BRITISH FILM INDUSTRY’S CYCLE OF BOOM AND BUST, IT IS POSSIBLE TO IMAGINE AN ALTERNATIVE HISTORY, AN UNREALISED CATALOGUE OF BRITISH CINEMA THAT IS ONLY VIEWABLE IN THE MIND’S EYE.

We invite you to pursue this speculative programme for Not Showing At This Cinema, a festival of “never-made” films, that were left in incomplete, rejected, not-yet-made or never-saw-the-light. They have fallen prey to the vagaries of time, money, age and fate or were left in development hell. They might have been a director’s dream project, a lost masterpiece, or a film that failed to make it in the can and set for cinema screens in 2016. Moved tax incentives for film production, is also now an intrinsic ability to understand the modern world readily transfers itself to an alternative history of “never-mades”, films that were left incomplete, a contemporary fascination with the 1950s. Unmade films are a cultural test applied for tax relief in which points are awarded for a range of factors including British cast and crew, location, subject and matter.

Of course no claims can be made for their quality, this is not a top 10 best never-made British films but rather a tantalising glimpse of an alternative history. Not Showing At This Cinema… films only can see.

WITH THANKS TO:

Catherine O’Sullivan, Alice Hattrick, Jason Wood, 6507 Design.

A PIN TO SEE THE PEEPSHOW

DR: ROBERT HAMER 1949

Adaptation of David Mamet’s play ‘American Buffalo’ in which a group of Lowlifeensa are on the lookout for an escaped sleeved gun. The premise sounds promising, but at 97 minutes it’s a should have been much shorter and tighter.

THE MAYOR OF CASTBERIDGE

DR: GEORGE ABOYD 1971

This highly ambitious project was conceived in the late ’60s with the vision of Whole Family Cinema, but had been shelved due to economic concerns. The project had a greenlit just before he died, and was to be directed by John MacAulay. The film was to have been shot in 1976, and was an adaptation of a novel by John Cowper Powys. The novel is a semi-autobiographical account of the author’s sojourn in rural Wales during the late 1930s and early 1940s.

THE ADVENTURES OF HARRY DICKSON

DR: ALAN RESNIS 1952-1966

At a latter-year in Resnais became fascinated by the American pulp fiction for his next film, ‘Harry Dicks’, the American Sherlock Holmes. Alain Resnais had a fascination with Sherlock Holmes and his adventures. In 1952, Resnais gave the role to Bob Bishoff. In 1966, he directed Robert Duvall as Harry Dicks. The film was shot in London, England and was released in 1966. The film was a critical and commercial success, and is considered one of Resnais’ best works.

THE LOWLIFE

DR: DONALD CAMMELL 1970

Based on the novel by Colin MacInnes, the film is a black comedy set in 1950s London, following a young man named Bruce who wanders the streets of Soho, haunted by the memory of his alcoholic father. The film was directed by Donald Cammell and was released in 1971.

THE TIME NIGHT GUARD

DR: VAL GAY 1957

An adaptation of Richard Hughes’ novel ‘The Longest Journey’, the film was to have been directed by Val Guest. The novel tells the story of a young man who travels to a distant planet to fight against the forces of evil. The film was never made, and is considered one of the great lost movies of the British cinema.

THE LONEWOLVES LEFT ALONE

Nicholas Ray 1967

The film was to be directed by Nicholas Ray and was based on the novel of the same name by F. Tennyson Jesse. The novel tells the story of a young man who is left to fend for himself after his parents are killed in a car accident. The film was never made, and is considered one of the great lost movies of the British cinema.

KALEIDOSCOPE

DR: ALFRED HITCHCOCK 1964-67

Based on the novel by the same name, the film was to be directed by Alfred Hitchcock. The novel tells the story of a man who is pursued by a group of black-clad men who believe he is the reincarnation of a dead man. The film was never made, and is considered one of the great lost movies of the British cinema.

THE NIGHT OF THE HUNTER

DR: CHARLES LAughtON 1956

An adaptation of John O’Hara’s novel ‘The Reivers’, the film was to be directed by Charles Laughton. The novel tells the story of a group of young men who make a pilgrimage to the Holy Land. The film was never made, and is considered one of the great lost movies of the British cinema.

NOT SHOWING AT THIS CINEMA

NOT SHOWING AT THIS CINEMA

NOT SHOWING AT THIS CINEMA

NOT SHOWING AT THIS CINEMA

NOT SHOWING AT THIS CINEMA

NOT SHOWING AT THIS CINEMA

NOT SHOWING AT THIS CINEMA

NOT SHOWING AT THIS CINEMA
**THE SPACE GOSPEL**

The Bible on science fiction. Dian and Jim are the case study here, featuring not only the cosmic aspect of the seminar but also the human and emotional. The story of the Angel Gabriel is a relevant case study, and the book The Spaceman of San Pedro is relevant in this context.

**IN THE BEGINNING**

SALLY POTTER 1992

The story of the making of Sally Potter's 1992 film, *The Hole*. Despite the fact that the film's production faced several difficulties, including a change in the lead actress and a scheduling conflict with another project, the film was ultimately completed and screened at the Cannes Film Festival. Potter's commitment to her vision and determination to make the film despite these challenges is highlighted in this excerpt.

**THE WHITE HOTEL**

Terry Gilliam 1978-1979

The story of the making of Terry Gilliam's 1978 film, *The White Hotel*. Gilliam's commitment to the project and his vision for it are evident in this excerpt, which highlights the challenges he faced during production and his determination to complete the film.

**THE WOMan WHO WASN'T THERE**

NEVER-MADE BIOICS

**KEITH MOON WAS HERE**

The story of the making of Keith Moon's 1982 film, *The Who Are You*. Despite the fact that the film was never completed, Moon's dedication to the project and his creative vision are highlighted in this excerpt, which provides a glimpse into the making of a film that was never realized.

**A STAR IS DEAD**

Peter Walker 1957

The story of the making of Peter Walker's 1957 film, *A Star is Dead*. Walker's commitment to the project and his vision for it are evident in this excerpt, which highlights the challenges he faced during production and his determination to complete the film.

**GIANT ON THE TOWN**

Joseph Losey 1970

The story of the making of Joseph Losey's 1970 film, *Giant on the Town*. Losey's commitment to the project and his vision for it are evident in this excerpt, which highlights the challenges he faced during production and his determination to complete the film.

**BYE BYE BABY**

Ozzy Osbourne 2019

The story of the making of Ozzy Osbourne's 2019 film, *Bye Bye Baby*. Despite the fact that the film was never completed, Osbourne's dedication to the project and his creative vision are highlighted in this excerpt, which provides a glimpse into the making of a film that was never realized.

**THE MAN WHO KILLED DON QUIXOTE**

Terry Gilliam 1992

The story of the making of Terry Gilliam's 1992 film, *The Man Who Killed Don Quixote*. Despite the fact that the film was never completed, Gilliam's commitment to the project and his vision for it are evident in this excerpt, which highlights the challenges he faced during production and his determination to complete the film.