

Cinema Unbound: The Creative Worlds of Powell and Pressburger

Sprint Agenda

Thursday 1 June, 11am - 3pm

Watershed

11.15am Introductions to the Season / Processes / Key Dates (C3) - Maddy Probst & Ti Singh, Film Hub SW

11.20am A UK Wide Overview with Robin Baker & Rhidian Davis, BFI

Robin and Rhidian will present an overview from the BFI to provide members with an insight into the planned South Bank activity, available titles, UK wide aspirations and opportunities. Following this presentation there will be a short Q&A.

Claire Smith, Senior Curator, BFI Special Collections, and co-editor of The Cinema of Powell and Pressburger will also join Robin and Rhidian to discuss the upcoming Red Shoes exhibition.

12.10pm Pamela Hutchinson, author of The Red Shoes (2023) / Zoom (C3)

Hutchinson's study of the film examines its breathtaking use of Technicolor, music, choreography, editing and art direction at the zenith of Powell and Pressburger's capacity for 'composed cinema'. Through a close reading of key scenes, particularly the film's famous extended ballet sequence, she considers the unconventional use of ballet as uncanny spectacle and the feminist implications of the central story of female sacrifice.

Hutchinson goes on to consider the film's lasting and wide-reaching influence, tracing its impact on the film musical genre and horror cinema, with filmmakers such as Joanna Hogg, Sally Potter, Martin Scorsese and Brian De Palma having cited the film as an inspiration.

The Red Shoes by Pamela Hutchinson published by BFI Classics is to be released on October 5th.

12.30pm: End of online sessions