

The Laboratory Film List 2017

All screenings 7pm in the Classroom at The Laboratory, \$5. Tickets at the bar

Wednesday 5 April - As it is in Heaven (Sweden 2004)

Daniel (Michael Nyquist) is an internationally acclaimed, though temperamental and lonely, conductor when a physical break-down prompts him to return home to the small Swedish village he was born in. Inevitably he is invited to hear the church choir perform and he soon accepts the role of choir master. His new charges come complete with baggage and prejudices of their own and writer/director Kay Pollak achieves a deft balance of humour, drama and even romance. This charming film from Sweden was nominated for a Best Foreign Film Oscar in 2004

Wednesday 3 May – Topp Twins, Untouchable Girls (2009)

A revealing and engaging look into the lives of the world's only yodelling, lesbian, country and western singing twins, Leanne Pooley's documentary is much more than just a biopic; it's a nostalgic, humorous and musical account of three decades of social change and kiwi culture. From their early days as politically radical buskers through to their status as kiwi entertainment icons and Jools's battle with breast cancer, the Topps prove to be as irrepressible and unpretentious as they ever were.

Wednesday 7 June - Philomena (2013)

Falling pregnant as a teenager in Ireland in 1952, Philomena was sent to the convent of Roscrea to be looked after as a "fallen woman". When her baby was only a toddler, he was taken away by the nuns for adoption in America. Philomena spent the next fifty years searching for him in vain. Then she met Martin Sixsmith, a world-weary political journalist who happened to be intrigued by her story. Together they set off for America on a journey that would not only reveal the extraordinary story of Philomena's son, but also create an unexpectedly close bond between them. A true story.

Wednesday 5 July – Locke (2013)

Ivan Locke has worked diligently to craft the life he has envisioned, dedicating himself to the job that he loves and the family he adores. On the eve of the biggest challenge of his career, Ivan receives a phone call that sets in motion a series of events that will unravel his family, job, and soul. All taking place over the course of one absolutely riveting car ride, LOCKE is an exploration of how one decision can lead to the complete collapse of a life.

Wednesday 2 August - We need to talk about Kevin (2011)

In a bracing, tour-de-force performance, Tilda Swinton plays Eva, a mother contending with the increasing malevolence of her baby boy-turned-teenager Kevin (Ezra Miller). John C. Reilly is the eternally optimistic husband and father, blind to the devastating dynamic around them. Skillfully constructed entirely from Eva's perspective, exploring nature vs. nurture on a disturbing new level as Eva's culpability is measured against Kevin's depravity. With a haunting score by Jonny Greenwood (Radiohead) and director/co-writer Lynne Ramsay's signature visual style, the film's moral ambiguity and unforgettable climax will have people talking about Kevin for years to come.

Wednesday 6 September - Sunshine on Leith (2013)

Dexter Fletcher directs "Sunshine on Leith"; a jubilant, heartfelt musical about the power of home, the hearth, family and love. It is the tale of one tight-knit family, and the three couples bound to it, as they experience the joys and heartache that punctuate all relationships. And they do it all while singing to the euphoric music of The Proclaimers!