

# LUU Medieval Society

The Leeds University Union Medieval Society was formed in 2013 in order to promote a thriving community of medievalists in the University and City of Leeds, as such, we warmly encourage anyone with an interest in the Middle Ages to join. We are dedicated to building a strong interdisciplinary community; so whether you study, teach or are just really interested in the Middle Ages: this is the Society for you.

## Medieval Board Games

The Medieval Society has scattered the Congress site with Medieval Games. Why not challenge your friends to a game of Fox and Geese between papers? Or while away the night in Old Bar over an intense round of Gluckhaus?

## The International Medieval Film Festival

The Leeds University Union Medieval Society would like to invite delegates to a series of film screenings split between the Leeds University Campus and The Hyde Park Picture House.

The Hyde Park Picture House is a short 13-minute walk from the University Union. A walking party will be leaving from in front of the Union building 20 minutes before the start of each film shown at the Hyde Park Picture House. Alternatively, the No. 56 bus stops directly outside the Hyde Park Picture House.

Please see the following pages for more information on the International Medieval Film Festival.

## International Medieval Film Festival: *The Secret of Kells* (2009)

**SATURDAY 04 JULY: 12.00-14.45**

**HYDE PARK PICTURE HOUSE**

**Price: £1.00 for Children, £4.60 for Adults**

Presented by LUU Medieval Society as part of the first International Medieval Film Festival and the Kids' Club at the Hyde Park Picture House, *The Secret of Kells* is a fictional account of the creation of the Book of Kells in 7<sup>th</sup>-century Ireland. The *Secret of Kells* depicts a world steeped in the beautiful non-representational art seen in manuscripts of the period. The characters at once live apart from and in tandem with nature, custom, and the Old Religion, and struggle to create works of beauty while under constant threat of Viking invasion. The film has earned a host of accolades, including a 2010 Academy Award nomination for Best Animated Feature Film.

A workshop for children on the making of medieval manuscripts and illuminations will be from 11-12 before the film.

# International Medieval Film Festival: *Ran* (1985)

**SUNDAY 05 JULY: 12.00-15.00**

**HYDE PARK PICTURE HOUSE**

**This event is free of charge for all IMC delegates**

Participants include: Natasha Bennett (Royal Armouries, Leeds), Martin Butler (University of Leeds), and Stephen Turnbull (University of London / University of Leeds).

Presented by LUU Medieval Society as part of the first International Medieval Film Festival, *Ran* (1985), the last of Akira Kurosawa's great historical epics, transposes the story of Shakespeare's *King Lear* to feudal Japan. A magisterial final testament from one of Japan's greatest directors (though he would go on to make three smaller scale films); Kurosawa's *Ran* was the most expensive Japanese film at the time of its release. Returning to Shakespeare for inspiration – three decades after his version of *Macbeth*; *Throne of Blood* (1957) – Kurosawa found his Lear in Hidetora (Tatsuya Nakadai), an ageing warlord who divides his kingdom between his three sons. Following the screening the panel will discuss the film and take questions from the audience.

# International Medieval Film Festival: *Pathfinder* (1987)

**SUNDAY 05 JULY: 20.45-23.30**

**LEEDS UNIVERSITY UNION: ROOM 6 - ROUNDHAY**

**This event is free of charge**

Participants include Eleanor Rosamund Barraclough (Durham University), Sigrun Høgetveit Berg (Universitetet i Tromsø), Rune Blix Hagen (Universitetet i Tromsø), Richard Holt (Universitetet i Tromsø), and Miriam Tveit (Universitetet i Nordland).

Presented by LUU Medieval Society as part of the first International Medieval Film Festival, *Pathfinder* (1987) is the first full-length film in Sámi, a dialect closely related to the Uralic Languages. Set around the year 1000, it follows the journey of Aigin after his family is massacred. Aigin faces cosmic evil, the question of duty, and the prospects of love and belonging in the ancient Sami North. The screenplay, authored by the film's director Nils Gaup, adapts a common Sami legend about evil marauders – the Chudes (in Northern Sami orthography čuđit) – and a clever boy who defeats them. It was nominated for the Academy Award for Best Foreign Language Film in 1988. Following the screening the panel will discuss the film and take questions from the audience.

## Medieval Society Pub Quiz

MONDAY 06 JULY: 19.30-20.30

LEEDS UNIVERSITY UNION: OLD BAR

**This event is free of charge**

Come wind down after your first day of sessions with the second annual Medieval Society Pub Quiz! The LUU Medieval Society will re-imagine the traditional British Pub Quiz with a medieval twist. Pool your knowledge with your colleagues for quiz topics such as: Name the Century, Latin Translation, and Match the Illuminations. Teams will be competing for everlasting glory and a small prize.

## International Medieval Film Festival: *Alexander Nevsky (1938)*

MONDAY 06 JULY: 20.45-23.00

HYDE PARK PICTURE HOUSE

**This event is free of charge for all IMC delegates**

Introduced by Robert C. Woosnam-Savage (Royal Armouries, Leeds).

Presented by LUU Medieval Society as part of the first International Medieval Film Festival, *Alexander Nevsky (1938)* is the story of how a Russian prince led a ragtag army to battle an invading force of Teutonic Knights. Known for its stunning depiction of a battle on the ice of Lake Peipus, this film will be shown in a 35mm print and is a real treat for medievalists and film buffs alike. Following the screening the panel will discuss the film and take questions from the audience.

## International Medieval Film Festival: *La Passion de Jeanne d'Arc (1927)*

TUESDAY 07 JULY: 18.00-20.30

HYDE PARK PICTURE HOUSE

**This event is free of charge for all IMC delegates**

Participants include Helen Castor (University of Cambridge), Kelly DeVries (Loyola University, Maryland), and Trevor Russell Smith (University of Leeds).

Presented by LUU Medieval Society as part of the first International Medieval Film Festival, *La Passion de Jeanne d'Arc (1927)* is silent cinema at its most sublimely expressive; Carl Theodor Dreyer's masterpiece is an austere but hugely affecting dramatization of the trial of St Joan. Famous for its spare visual style, Dreyer's film creates compelling drama from its looming facial close-ups, interspersing the plaintive Joan with the penetrating gazes of her zealous inquisitors. Watching the flickers of anguish and resolve across Falconetti's features - registered in stark detail by Rudolph Maté's cinematography - is one of cinema's most purely moving experiences. Following the screening the panel will discuss the film and take questions from the audience.

# Medieval Poetry Corner

TUESDAY 07 JULY: 21.00-23.00

LEEDS UNIVERSITY UNION: HIDDEN CAFÉ / COMMON ROOM

This event is free of charge

Curl up in a comfy chair with your beverage of choice and listen to some medieval poetry. Beer and *Beowulf*? Coffee and the *Canterbury Tales*? Ribena and the *Roman de la Rose*? There will be readings in the original language as well as extracts from verse translations. Come along just to listen or bring your own favourite poem and join in. All are welcome.

## International Medieval Film Festival: *Sorceress* (1987)

THURSDAY 09 JULY: 20.30-23.30

LEEDS UNIVERSITY UNION: ROOM 6 - ROUNDHAY

This event is free of charge

Participants include Pamela Berger (Boston College, Massachusetts), Melanie Brunner (University of Leeds), Jenni Kuuliala (Universität Bremen), Iona McCleery (University of Leeds), and Rose Sawyer (University of Leeds).

Presented by LUU Medieval Society as part of the first International Medieval Film Festival, *Sorceress* (1987) is based upon the *exempla* of Etienne de Bourbon, specifically the story of the Holy Greyhound. The film is a historical allegory of intense emotional power and significant social content. Shot in the lush, but impoverished setting of a small French village during the Crusades, the film presents political conflicts - between Church, individual, peasant, and nobleman - in the context of personal complexities. Following the screening the panel will discuss the film and take questions from the audience.

## Want to know more?

If you are interested in learning more about LUU Medieval Society, there are many ways to get in touch with us:

Visit our webpage: [www.leedsuniversityunion.org.uk/groups/18129/](http://www.leedsuniversityunion.org.uk/groups/18129/)

Like us on Facebook: [www.facebook.com/LUUMedievalSociety](http://www.facebook.com/LUUMedievalSociety),

Follow us on Twitter: @luumedievalsoc

Email: [luumedievalsoc@gmail.com](mailto:luumedievalsoc@gmail.com)

