

## CinemaGuide



Tôtem



American Fiction



The Taste of Things

**Theatre:**

Salmar Classic  
(360 Alexander St., Salmon Arm)

**Tickets:**

Single - \$8.00  
5 film pass - \$35.00  
Available at the door  
Advance tickets at  
Wearabouts (350 Alexander St.)  
Convenience charge applies.  
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**Tôtem**

Sat. Mar. 16 5:00 pm

RATING PG

Mexico

subtitles

95 min

In a bustling Mexican household, seven-year-old Sol is swept up in a whirlwind of preparations for the birthday party for her father, Tona, led by her mother, aunts and other relatives. As the day goes on, building to an event both anticipated and dreaded, Sol begins to understand the gravity of the celebration this year and watches as her family does the same. *Tôtem* has a stunning homemade quality. Seeming to be almost exclusively shot handheld, the audience is made to feel as if it is a fly on the wall – sharing intimately in the family's moments of joy, angst and sorrow.

**The Taste of Things**

Sat. Mar. 30, 5:00 pm

France

subtitles

RATING G

135 min

A leisurely, luminous portrait of love, culture and cuisine, set in 1880s France, *The Taste of Things* is a feast for the eyes. Set almost entirely in the kitchen, grounds and dining room of the country chateau of famed gourmet Dodin (Benôit Magimel), the film explores the relationship between Dodin and his celebrated cook, Eugénie (Juliette Binoche). At the core of their long-lasting partnership is their shared passion for cuisine which they convey to one another through food rather than words. Their deliciously subversive tale of later life love will no doubt leave the audience hungry for more.

**American Fiction**

Sat. Mar. 23, 5:00 pm

RATING 14A

USA

117 min

With *American Fiction*, director Cord Jefferson crafts a hilarious satire about an African American novelist chafing against an industry that limits Black storytelling to outrageous stereotypes. Brimming with snappy, incisive banter and gags that a masterful ensemble cast takes full advantage of, the film follows Monk, a frustrated novelist fed up with the establishment profiting from "Black" entertainment. To prove his point, he uses a pen name to write an outlandish "Black" book of his own. The book propels him to the heart of hypocrisy and the madness he claims to disdain. Winner of the People's Choice Award at the Toronto International Film Festival (2023).

## CinemaGuide

## Shayda

Sat. Apr. 6, 5:00 pm

RATING PG

Australia *some subtitles* 117 min

Nowruz, or Persian New Year, is an opportunity for celebration and renewal. For Shayda, an Iranian living in Australia, the coming holiday only underlines the degree to which her world has been turned upside down. She and her daughter, Mona, have just fled the life that they shared with Hossein, Shayda's husband, Mona's father. Staying in a secret women's shelter, Shayda undertakes legal proceedings to protect herself and her daughter from Hossein's abuse. The film is inspired by director Noora Niasari's own childhood experiences.

## The Braid

Sat. Apr. 13, 5:00 pm

RATING PG

France/Canada *some subtitles* 121 min

Laetitia Colombani's adaptation of her best-selling novel weaves together three stories of female struggle. It begins in India, with Smita, an "untouchable" whose family is of the lowest caste. The film then moves to Puglia, Italy, where Giulia is a confident, bookish young woman trying to keep her father's wig business afloat. Finally, ascending several more social strata, in Montreal, Sarah is a successful lawyer on the verge of a senior partnership, trying to cover up a cancer diagnosis. Colombani tracks parallels as well as the obvious contrasts between the three women, who are bound by something intimate and unique.

## One Life

3 DAYS

Fri. Apr. 19 - Sat. Apr. 20 7:30 p.m.

RATING PG

Sun. Apr. 21, 4:00 &amp; 7:30 p.m. UK 110 min

The true story of Sir Nicholas 'Nicky' Winton (Anthony Hopkins), a London broker who, in the months leading up to World War II, rescued 669 Jewish children from the Nazis. Nicky visited Prague in 1938 and found families who had fled Germany and Austria, living in desperate conditions with no shelter and food. In a race against time, he wondered how many children he and his team could rescue before the borders closed. Fifty years later, Nicky lives haunted by the fate of the children he couldn't bring to safety in England, until a live BBC television show helps him come to terms with the guilt and grief he carried for five decades.

A joint presentation by the Shuswap Film Society and Salmar Cinemas.

## Perfect Days

Sat. Apr. 27, 5:00 pm

RATING 14A

Japan *subtitles* 124 min

Hirayama seems utterly content with his simple life as a cleaner of toilets in Tokyo. Outside of his very structured routine he enjoys his passion for music, books and trees. His days go by in endless monotony, until his niece, who has run away, comes to stay with him. Her presence brings joy to his life and opens his eyes to others around him.



Shayda



The Braid



One Life



Perfect Days



The Old Oak



Uproar



The Nature of Love



The Queen of My Dreams

## The Old Oak

Sat. May 4, 5:00 pm

RATING 14A

UK *some subtitles* 113 min

The Old Oak is a special place. Not only is it the last pub standing, but it's also the only remaining public space where people can meet in a once-thriving mining community that has now fallen on hard times. TJ Ballantyne, the landlord, hangs on to The Old Oak by his fingertips, and his predicament is endangered even more when the pub becomes contested territory after the arrival of Syrian refugees who are placed in the village without any notice. In an unlikely friendship, TJ meets a curious young Syrian, Yara. Can they find a way for the two communities to understand each other? So unfolds a deeply moving drama about their fragilities and hopes.

## Uproar

Sat. May 11, 5:00 pm

RATING PG

New Zealand *some subtitles* 110 min

It's 1981, New Zealand. At a rugby-obsessed Dunedin Catholic school, sole Maori teenager Josh Waaka is a frequent target for abuse. His daily drudge changes after joining a drama club run by a chipper arts teacher and becoming active in a group of anti-Springbok Tour protestors. Josh faces a choice: conform or stand up for family, future, and identity. Uproar is his heart-warming journey against a nation's struggle.

## The Nature of Love

Sat. May 25, 5:00 pm

RATING 14A

Canada *subtitles* 110 min

Forty-year-old philosophy lecturer Sophia is an expert on love. She can effortlessly wield quotes from Plato and Schopenhauer, among others, on the subject. But her theoretical and analytical grounding in matters of the heart hasn't prepared her for the instant, electrical connection she experiences when she meets Sylvain, the rugged building contractor she and her husband have retained to renovate their new lake cabin. This Quebecois romantic comedy is as sharp and perceptive as it is funny.

## The Queen of My Dreams

Sat. Jun. 1, 5:00 pm

RATING PG

Canada/Pakistan *some subtitles* 97 min

*The Queen of My Dreams* follows a distant mother and daughter as they come of age in two different eras. Azra, a Pakistani woman living in Toronto, is worlds apart from her conservative Muslim mother. When her father suddenly dies on a trip home to Pakistan, Azra finds herself back home being asked to play the role of perfect daughter. As we move back and forth from her mother's youth in Karachi to her own coming-of-age in rural Nova Scotia, similarities between the two lives that feel so different are revealed.