Shakespeare told and retold

FILM FESTIVAL OF SHAKESPEARE'S PLAYS At The National Gallery of Modern Art

24 July Saturday 3pm | 146 min Macbeth BBC Production Directed by Jack Gold

25 July Sunday 11.30am | 93 min Serbian Lady Macbeth

Directed by Andrzej Wajda

Adapting Nikolai Leskov's classic novel 'Lady Macbeth of Mtensk" to film, Polish maestro Andzrej Wajda transposes one of Shakespeare's most enduring and fascinating characters to the icy plains of Serbia where a hot blooded drama of unrequited love, passion, deceit and murder is played out.



31 July Saturday 3pm | 110 min Throne of Blood Directed by Kurosawa

A magnificent full-blooded adaptation of Macbeth in feudal Japan. After defeating the lord's enemies in battle, Mikio and Washizu visit the fortress. On their way through the forest surrounding the castle, they meet a spirit, who foretells their future. Washizu, driven by his wife, conspires and murders the lord, becoming lord of the castle. But his evil deeds come back to haunt him. Nominated for Gold Lion, Venice Film Festival in 1957.

1 August Sunday 11.30am | 150 min
As You Like It
BBC Production
Directed by Basil Coleman

7 August Saturday 3pm | 168 min Romeo and Juliet BBC Production Directed by Alvin Rakoff

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8 August Sunday 11.30am | 92 min Romeo Juliet and Darkness Directed by Jiri Weiss

Jiri Weiss takes the tragedy of the Bard's lovelorn couple and plays it out during the Nazi occupation of Czechoslovakia where a young student living in Prague hides a Jewish girl in his apartment building. He is her only link to the outside world. When the two are discovered by Pavel's mother the residents of the apartment building have to decide whether Hana can remain.

21 August Saturday 3pm | 205 min Othello BBC Production Directed by Jonathan Miller



22 August Sunday 11.30am | 91min Othello Directed by Orson Welles

The great Orson Welles, who began his prodigious and erratic career, in show business by cracking the boards with Shakespeare's plays, commits to the cinema a mesmerizing vision of one of the four great tragedies – Othello. Shot in a haunting scheme of black and white with Welles himself, with his distinct baritone and grandiose theatrical zeal, essaying the role of the Moor and with a stellar cast that includes thespians of both stage and screen, 'Othello' is both definitive Shakespeare and a cinema classic. Winner of the Palm D'or, Cannes Film Festival in 1952.

29 August Sunday 11.30am | 116 min A Midsummer Night's Dream BBC Production Directed by Elijah Moshinsky

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4 September Saturday 3pm | 212 min Hamlet BBC Production Directed by Rodney Bennet

5 September Sunday 11.30am | 86 mins Hamlet Does Business

Directed by Aki Kaurismaki

The Finnish master of drollery and minimalism, Aki Kaurismaki plays Hamlet like ballad full of the blues and sets it in the deceitful corporate corridors of a rubber duck factory in Finland. Finnish comic Pirkka-Pekka Petelius plays an irresponsible playboy who finds himself involved in a vicious boardroom power struggle with his uncle, who plans to sell off his company's assets in order to corner the market on Swedish rubber ducks. Tragedy turns into farce as Kaurismaki ridicules and satirizes corporate greed and proves without a doubt that as long as the human drama perpetuates itself, Shakespeare is here to stay.





12 September Sunday 11.30am | 117 mins Rosencratz & Guildenstern are Dead Directed by Tom Stoppard

The only film till date directed by one of the greatest playwrights of our time. Stoppard weaves in and out of the original text with exuberance and wit, creating a theatre of the absurd. Winner of the Golden Lion, Venice Film Festival '91.

18 September Saturday 3pm | 173 min The Winter's Tale

BBC Production Directed by Jane Howell

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