



## Palais de Pixel DVD Library

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**The Guard (Ireland)**

**Walking on Water (Australia)**

**The Hundred-Foot Journey (US)**

**Withnail and I (Britain)**

### **12 Years a Slave (US)**

In the pre-Civil War United States, Solomon Northup, a free black man from upstate New York, is abducted and sold into slavery. Facing cruelty at the hands of a malevolent slave owner, as well as unexpected kindnesses, Solomon struggles not only to stay alive, but to retain his dignity. In the twelfth year of his unforgettable odyssey, Solomon's chance meeting with a Canadian abolitionist will forever alter his life. It is far from comfortable viewing but *12 Years a Slave's* unflinchingly brutal look at American slavery is also brilliant and a must see!

### **Argo (US)**

On Nov. 4, 1979, militants storm the U.S. embassy in Tehran, Iran, taking 66 American hostages. Amid the chaos, six Americans manage to slip away and find refuge with the Canadian ambassador. Knowing that it's just a matter of time before the refugees are found and likely executed, the U.S. government calls on extractor Tony Mendez (Ben Affleck) to rescue them. Mendez's plan is to pose as a Hollywood producer scouting locations in Iran and train the refugees to act as his "film" crew.

### **A Separation (Iran) -subtitled**

Set in contemporary Iran, *A Separation* is a compelling drama about the dissolution of a marriage. Simin wants to leave Iran with her husband Nader and daughter Termeh. Simin sues for divorce when Nader refuses to leave behind his Alzheimer-suffering father. Her request having failed, Simin returns to her parents' home, but Termeh decides to stay with Nader. When Nader hires a young woman to assist with his father in his wife's absence, he hopes that his life will return to a normal state. However, when he discovers that the new maid has been lying to him, he realizes that there is more on the line than just his marriage.

### **A United Kingdom (UK)**

*A UNITED KINGDOM* is based on extraordinary true events. In 1947, Seretse Khama, the King of Botswana, met Ruth Williams, a London office worker. They were a perfect match, yet their proposed marriage was challenged not only by their families but by the British and South African governments. The latter had recently introduced the policy of apartheid and found the notion of a biracial couple ruling a neighboring country intolerable. South Africa threatened the British: either thwart the couple or be denied access to South African uranium and gold and face the risk of South Africa invading Botswana.

### **Billboards Outside Ebbing, Missouri (US)**

Mildred Hayes, a hard-nosed mother is seeking justice for her murdered daughter. With no arrests after seven months, Mildred puts up three roadside signs to goad Ebbing police chief into action. But the law - and especially Sam Rockwell's hot-headed deputy - don't take kindly to the provocation. And the townsfolk are on their side. Mildred doesn't care about ruffling a few feathers. In fact, she's happy to pluck the whole bird...

### **Charlie's Country (Australia) -subtitled**

Charlie, an Aboriginal man who lives in in Arnhem Land paints tree barks and fishes barramundi fish, all the while feeling out of place in an Australia which is no longer his. After his spear is confiscated by the police who think it is a weapon, he decides to leave his Aboriginal community and go to the bush. He falls ill and is rushed to the hospital in Darwin. Shortly after, he befriends a woman who buys alcohol illegally for other Aboriginals, and he gets arrested. As a result, he is sent to prison. It was selected to compete in the Un Certain Regard section at the 2014 Cannes Film Festival where David Gulpilil won the award for Best Actor. It was also screened in the Contemporary World Cinema section at the 2014 Toronto International Film Festival.

### **Chocolat (US, Britain)**

When mysterious Vianne and her child arrive in a tranquil French town in the winter of 1959, no one could have imagined the impact that she and her spirited daughter would have on the community stubbornly rooted in tradition. Within days, she opens an unusual chocolate shop, across the square from the church. Her ability to perceive her customers' desires and satisfy them with just the right confection, coaxes the villagers to abandon themselves to temptation -- just as Lent begins.

### **City of God (Brazil) -subtitled**

In the poverty-stricken favelas of Rio de Janeiro in the 1970s, two young men choose different paths. Rocket is a budding photographer who documents the increasing drug-related violence of his neighborhood. José "Zé" Pequeno is an ambitious drug dealer who uses Rocket and his photos as a way to increase his fame as a turf war erupts with his rival, "Knockout Ned". The film was shot on location in Rio's poorest neighbourhoods.

### **Custody (France) -subtitled**

Supremely crafted and performed contemporary French thriller about a broken marriage and ensuing custody battle is a gripping, edge-of-seat drama that never lets up. This tense family drama will keep audiences guessing and leave them with their hearts in their throats.

### **Death in Brunswick (Australia)**

Drinking heavily, stuck as the cook for a trendy rock club, and nagged by his visiting mother, Sam Neill desperately hopes that a romance with Sophie (Carides), a Greek-Cypriot barmaid, will alter his luck. Instead, the death of his drug-dealing Turkish washer-up embroils him in a black comic nightmare involving an inconvenient body, a sadistic bouncer, and Sophie's club-owner fiancé. This being a comedy, though, Neill eventually 'sees the light' and resolves to change his life. A likeably offbeat and often surprisingly dark comedy thriller, set amid a seldom acknowledged working class ethnic community.

### **Face to Face (Australia)**

A moving and powerful film about lies, betrayal, sex and bullying in the workplace from Australia's most acclaimed playwright, David Williamson. A young construction worker rams into the back of his boss's Jaguar in a fit of anger at being sacked. Rather than fronting court, he is given the chance to

explain his actions in a community conference. This face-to-face confrontation between the young man, his boss, his boss's wife, co-workers, best mate and mother lifts the lid not only on his dysfunctional life but on their workplace dirty laundry, turning all of their lives upside down. *Face to Face* stars a stellar ensemble cast led by Vince Colosimo, Sigrid Thornton and Luke Ford.

### **Gurrumul (Australia)**

Celebrated by audiences at home and abroad, indigenous artist Geoffrey Gurrumul Yunupingu was one of the most important and acclaimed voices to ever come out of Australia. Blind from birth, he found purpose and meaning through songs and music inspired by his community and country on Elcho Island in far North East Arnhem Land. Living a traditional Yolngu life, his breakthrough album 'Gurrumul' brought him to a crossroads as audiences and artists around the world began to embrace his music.

### **Hotel Rwanda (US)**

Just over ten years ago some of the worst atrocities in the history of mankind took place in the country of Rwanda--and in an era of high-speed communication and round the clock news, the events went almost unnoticed by the rest of the world. In only three months, one million people were brutally murdered. In the face of these unspeakable actions, inspired by his love for his family, an ordinary man Paul Rusesabagina summons extraordinary courage to save the lives of over a thousand helpless refugees, by granting them shelter in the hotel he manages.

### **Hunt for the Wilderpeople (New Zealand)**

Raised on hip-hop and foster care, defiant city kid Ricky gets a fresh start in the New Zealand countryside. He quickly finds himself at home with his new foster family: the loving Aunt Bella, the cantankerous Uncle Hec, and dog Tupac. When a tragedy strikes that threatens to ship Ricky to another home, both he and Hec go on the run in the bush. As a national manhunt ensues, the newly branded outlaws must face their options: go out in a blaze of glory or overcome their differences and survive as a family.

### **I, Daniel Blake**

Winner of the Palme d'Or at the 2016 Cannes Film Festival, the latest from legendary director Ken Loach is a gripping, human tale about the impact one man can make. Gruff but goodhearted, Daniel Blake (Dave Johns) is a man out of time: a widowed woodworker who's never owned a computer, he lives according to his own common sense moral code. But after a heart attack leaves him unable to work and the state welfare system fails him, the stubbornly self-reliant Daniel must stand up and fight for his dignity, leading a one-man crusade for compassion that will transform the lives of a struggling single mother (Hayley Squires) and her two children. Graced with humour and heart, *I, Daniel Blake* is a moving, much-needed reminder of the power of empathy from one of the world's greatest living filmmakers.

### **Infernal Affairs (Hong Kong) -subtitled**

Idealistic police cadet Chan Wing-Yan (Tony Leung) is recruited by Police Superintendent Wong (Anthony Wong) to go deep undercover as a member of the criminal Triad society. Into the same cadet class, crime boss Hon Sam (Eric Tsang) installs new Triad member Lau Kin Ming (Andy Lau) to become a long-term mole for the gang. A decade later, both have risen through the ranks in their respective aliases -- but when both of their covers are in danger of being blown, a game of life and death ensues.

### **Irina Palm (Luxemburg) -subtitled**

Middle-aged Maggie (Maryanne Faithful) must find a way to get enough money for her grandson's lifesaving medical treatment. With all financial resources exhausted, Maggie unwittingly accepts a "Hostess Wanted" job at 'Sexy World'. She is soon transformed into the much-in-demand and lucrative "Irina Palm"...

### **Jean de Florette (France) -subtitled**

In this acclaimed French drama, the enterprising Ugolin Soubeyran (Daniel Auteuil) returns to his native countryside after the serving in the military. Intent on growing expensive flowers, he conspires with his uncle, Cesar (Yves Montand), to gain access to a hidden spring on a neighboring property. When their initial attempt to buy the land fails, they must contend with Jean de Florette (Gérard Depardieu), who arrives with his family to work the coveted plot and turn it into a profitable farm.

### **Lantana**

Plagued with grief over the murder of her daughter, Valerie Somers (Barbara Hershey) suspects that her husband John (Geoffrey Rush) is cheating on her. When Valerie disappears, Detective Leon Zat (Anthony LaPaglia) attempts to solve the mystery of her absence. A complex web of love, sex and deceit emerges -- drawing in four related couples whose various partners are distrustful and suspicious about each other's involvement.

### **Last Cab to Darwin (Australia)**

Rex (Michael Caton) is a loner, and when he's told he doesn't have long to live, he embarks on an epic drive through the Australian outback from Broken Hill to Darwin to die on his own terms; but his journey reveals to him that before you can end your life, you have to live it, and to live it, you've got to share it. A film filled with hope, humour and heart.

### **Life is Beautiful (Italy) -subtitled**

A gentle Jewish-Italian waiter, Guido Orefice (Roberto Benigni), meets Dora (Nicoletta Braschi), a pretty schoolteacher, and wins her over with his charm and humour. Eventually they marry and have a son, Giosue (Giorgio Cantarini). Their happiness is abruptly halted, however, when Guido and Giosue are separated from Dora and taken to a concentration camp. Determined to shelter his son from the horrors of his surroundings, Guido convinces Giosue that their time in the camp is merely a game.

### **Like Father, Like Son (Japan) -subtitled**

Ryota (Masaharu Fukuyama) is a successful Tokyo architect who works long hours to provide for his wife, Midori (Machiko Ono) and six-year-old son, Keita. But when a blood test reveals Keita and another baby were switched at birth, two very different families are thrown together and forced to make a difficult decision while Ryota confronts his own issues of responsibility and what it means to be a father. *Like Father, Like Son* extends the Japanese cinema tradition of familial exploration to deliver a gentle and moving story of personal redemption that playfully navigates its way through the drama.

### **Marley (US)**

Bob Marley's universal appeal, impact on music history and role as a social and political prophet is both unique and unparalleled. Marley is the definitive life story of the musician, revolutionary, and legend, from his early days to his rise to international superstardom. Made with the support of the

Marley family, the film features rare footage, incredible performances and revelatory interviews with the people that knew him best.

### **Mary Meets Mohammad (Australia)**

Tasmania's first detention centre becomes a hot topic for the citizens of Pontville, Tasmania, especially for Mary, an elderly local Christian woman. Mary initially questions why the town on the outskirts of Hobart must house the mostly male asylum seekers and isn't afraid to hide her hostility. But when her knitting club donates beanies to the detainees as a gesture of good faith, Mary meets Mohammad, a young Muslim, and together they strike up a new friendship.

### **Memoirs of a Geisha (US)**

In the 1920s, 9-year-old Chiyo gets sold to a geisha house. There, she is forced into servitude, receiving nothing in return until the house's ruling hierarchy determines if she is of high enough quality to service the clientele -- men who visit and pay for conversation, dance and song. After rigorous years of training, Chiyo becomes Sayuri, a geisha of incredible beauty and influence. Life is good for Sayuri, but World War II is about to disrupt the peace.

### **Mountain (Australia)**

Only three centuries ago, setting out to climb a mountain would have been considered close to lunacy. Mountains were places of peril, not beauty, an upper world to be shunned, not sought out. Why do mountains now hold us spellbound, drawing us into their dominion, often at the cost of our lives? MOUNTAIN is a cinematic and musical collaboration between acclaimed director Jennifer Peedom (SHERPA) and the Australian Chamber Orchestra. Shot by the world's best adventure cinematographers and written by best-selling author Robert Macfarlane, this feature documentary will explore the troubled and triumphant history of our timeless fascination with mountains.

### **Notes on a Scandal (Britain)**

*Notes on a Scandal* is a 2006 British psychological thriller-drama film, Barbara Covett (Judi Dench) is a veteran history teacher at a comprehensive school in London. When a younger art teacher, Sheba Hart (Cate Blanchett) joins the school, Barbara sees in her a potential new friend, even more. Until she learns that Sheba is having an affair with one of her 15-year-old students.

### **Precious Life (Israel) -subtitled**

Mohammad Abu Mustaffa is a four-month-old Palestinian boy from Gaza who was born without an immune system and requires a bone marrow transplant, which can only be done in an Israeli hospital. A desperate plea from his doctor leads Israeli journalist Shlomi Eldar to document this complex and touching story of Israeli and Palestinian doctors' attempt to save Mohammad's life. The film explores the challenges and prejudices that must be overcome when officials from conflicting nations attempt to put aside their differences for a noble cause.

### **Pride (UK)**

It is the summer of 1984 – Margaret Thatcher is in power and the National Union of Mineworkers is on strike. At the Gay Pride March in London, a group of gay and lesbian activists decides to raise money to support the families of the striking miners. But there is a problem. The Union seems embarrassed to receive their support. The activists are not deterred. They decide to ignore the Union and go direct to the miners. They identify a mining village in deepest Wales and set off in a mini bus to make their donation in person. And so begins the extraordinary story of two seemingly alien communities who form a surprising and ultimately triumphant partnership.

### **Rams (Iceland) -subtitled**

Winner of the Un Certain Regard prize at this year's Cannes Film Festival and Best Narrative Feature at the Hampton's Film Festival, this charming, stunningly shot drama focuses on two Icelandic sheep farmers whose decades-long feud comes to a head when disaster strikes their flocks. In a secluded valley, estranged brothers Gummi and Kiddi live side by side tending to their prized ancestral sheep stock, despite not having spoken in 40 years. When a lethal disease suddenly infects Kiddi's sheep, all the animals in the area are culled to contain the outbreak, with many farmers abandoning their land. But the brothers don't give up so easily-and each tries to stave off the disaster in his own fashion: Kiddi by using his rifle and Gummi by using his wits. As the authorities close in, they will need to come together to save the special breed passed down for generations-and themselves-from extinction.

### **Red Like the Sky (Italy) -subtitled**

Tuscany 1971, where lively 10-year-old Mirco suffers an accident and is sent far away to a grim boarding school for the blind. The big issues of friendship, bullying, disability and creativity are touched on in this unusual tale, which manages to keep its humour, nonetheless. The story tells how our hero struggles with his blindness in a cheerless atmosphere of religious oppression, culminating in the production of an epic sound fairy tale. Based on the true story of a professional sound editor, the film reveals how the pupils, many played by young blind actors, rediscover their dreams. Think *Cinema Paradiso*, crossed with *Dead Poets Society*.

### **Room (US)**

Both highly suspenseful and deeply emotional, Room is a unique and touching exploration of the boundless love between a mother and her child. After 5-year-old Jack and his Ma escape from the enclosed surroundings that Jack has known his entire life, the boy makes a thrilling discovery: the outside world. As he experiences all the joy, excitement, and fear that this new adventure brings, he holds tight to the one thing that matters most of all - his special bond with his loving and devoted Ma.

### **Sherpa (Australia) -subtitled**

A brawl on Everest? Director Jennifer Peedom set out to uncover tension in the 2014 Everest climbing season from the Sherpas' point of view and instead captured a tragedy when an avalanche struck, killing 16 Sherpas. Sherpa tells the story of how the Sherpas united after the tragedy in the face of fierce opposition, to reclaim the mountain they call Chomolungma. A visually magnificent and richly textured documentary centred on the Himalayan guides who've led foreigners to the highest place on Earth since 1953.

### **Song for Marion (Britain)**

This is the funny and uplifting story of Arthur (Terence Stamp), a grumpy old soul perfectly content with sticking to his dull daily routine until his beloved wife (Vanessa Redgrave) introduces him to a spirited local singing group led by the youthful and charming Elizabeth (Gemma Arterton). This unexpected friendship and his discovery of music revitalizes Arthur's passion for new adventures and shows us all life should be celebrated at any age.

### **Terror Nullius (Australia)**

Hitch a ride into the dark heart of Australia with Soda Jerk's Terror Nullius, a blistering, badly behaved sample-based film that confronts the horror of our contemporary moment. Equal parts political satire, eco-horror and road movie, Terror Nullius is a rogue remapping of national mythology.

### **The Belier Family (France) -subtitled**

2014 French comedy drama film. The film received six nominations at the 40th César Awards In the Béliier family, sixteen-year-old Paula is an indispensable interpreter for her deaf parents and brother on a daily basis, especially in the running of the family farm. One day, a music teacher discovers her gift for singing and encourages Paula to participate in a prestigious singing contest in Paris, which will secure her a good career and a college degree. However, this decision would mean leaving her family and taking her first steps towards adulthood.

### **The Cars that Ate Paris (Australia)**

This first effort from acclaimed writer/director Peter Weir is set in the secluded rural town of Paris, Australia, where the chief source of income is provided by the orchestration of automobile accidents -- which frequently claim the lives of passing tourists, though those who survive are usually subjected to bizarre brain experiments by a loony local surgeon. One such unfortunate survivor is young Arthur, who remains in Paris after his recovery to work in the hospital, unaware (at first) of the circumstances which brought him there.

### **The Commitments (Ireland)**

1991 comedy-drama. The film tells a story of working class Dubliners who form a soul band. Disgusted with bands in Ireland, Jimmy Rabbitte assembles a soul band in the tradition of Otis Redding, Aretha Franklin, and Wilson Pickett. Jimmy holds auditions at his parents' home and assembles a group of young musicians. Unlike his idols, Jimmy's band is white. With the help of Joey "The Lips" Fagan, the veteran musician of the band who has unlikely stories about meeting and working with famous musicians, Jimmy begins to whip the members into shape - coming together beautifully onstage, only to have the group fall apart in a clash of egos. The film won a bunch of BAFTA and Brit awards with songs from the film becoming worldwide hits.

### **The Divine Order (Switzerland) -subtitled**

The Divine Order is set in Switzerland in 1971 where, despite the worldwide social upheavals of the previous decade, women were still denied the right to vote. When unassuming and dutiful housewife Nora (Marie Leuenberger, winner of the Best Actress award at Tribeca) is forbidden by her husband to take a part-time job, her frustration leads to her becoming the poster child of her town's suffragette movement. Her newfound celebrity brings humiliation, threats, and the potential end to her marriage, but, refusing to back down, she convinces the women in her village to go on strike...and makes a few startling discoveries about her own liberation. Uplifting and crowd-pleasing, this charming, captivating film is a time-capsule that could not be more timely.

### **The Grand Budapest Hotel (US)**

In the 1930s, the Grand Budapest Hotel is a popular European ski resort, presided over by concierge Gustave H. (Ralph Fiennes). Zero, a junior lobby boy, becomes Gustave's friend and protege. Gustave prides himself on providing first-class service to the hotel's guests, including satisfying the sexual needs of the many elderly women who stay there. When one of Gustave's lovers dies mysteriously, Gustave finds himself the recipient of a priceless painting and the chief suspect in her murder.

### **The Guard (Ireland)**

The Guard is a comedic fish-out-of-water tale of murder, blackmail, drug trafficking and rural police corruption. Two policemen must join forces to take on an international drug- smuggling gang - one, an unorthodox Irish policeman and the other, a straitlaced FBI agent. Sergeant Gerry Boyle (Brendan Gleason) is an eccentric small-town cop with a confrontational and crass personality and a subversive sense of humour. A long-time policeman in County Galway, Boyle is a maverick with his



own moral code. He has seen enough of the world to know there isn't much to it and has had plenty of time to think about it. When a fellow police officer disappears and Boyle's small town becomes key to a large drug trafficking investigation, he is forced to at least feign interest when dealing with the humourless FBI agent Wendell Everett (Don Cheadle) assigned to the case.

### **The Hundred-Foot Journey (US)**

The family of talented cook, Hassan Kadam, has a life filled with both culinary delights and profound loss. Drifting through Europe after fleeing political violence in India that killed the family restaurant business and their mother, the Kadams arrive in France. Once there, a chance auto accident and the kindness of a young woman, Marguerite, inspires Papa Kadam to set up a Indian restaurant there. Unfortunately, this puts the Kadams in direct competition with the snobbish Madame Mallory's Michelin starred restaurant 100 feet away. The resulting rivalry eventually escalates into an all-out war, until Madame Mallory is enchanted by Hassan's cooking and realises he may be her missing ingredient to her second Michelin star.

### **The Kite Runner (Afghanistan) -subtitled**

Spanning from the final days of Afghanistan's monarchy to the atrocities of the Taliban reign, an epic tale of fathers and sons, of friendship and betrayal, an unlikely friendship develops between Amir, the son of a wealthy Afghan businessman, and Hassan, a servant to Amir and his father. During a kite-flying tournament, an unspeakable event changes the nature of their relationship forever. As an adult haunted by the childhood betrayal, Amir seeks redemption by returning to his war-torn native land to make peace with himself and reconcile his cowardice.

### **The Other Son (Israel) -subtitled**

Complex repercussions face two families -- one Israeli, one Palestinian -- after learning that their sons (Jules Sitruk, Mehdi Dehbi) were accidentally switched at birth. That's the plot line. When the mistake is discovered, how do the families react? What disturbs them more: that their son has been raised as an enemy or that he has been raised in another religion? That's where *The Other Son* gets complicated.

### **The Rocket (Laos) -subtitled**

A boy who is believed to bring bad luck to everyone around him leads his family and two new friends through Laos to find a new home. After a calamity-filled journey through a land scarred by the legacy of war, to prove he's not bad luck he builds a giant rocket to enter the most exciting and dangerous competition of the year.

### **Travelling North (Australia)**

*Travelling North* tells the story of a curmudgeon in his 60s who marries for a second time and moves to a cottage on a lake in northern Australia where he can fish and listen to music on the radio and be happy for the days that are remaining to him. What he does not figure on is that those days are numbered. But this is not a heartrending movie about how he puts up a brave fight against death. It is about how he carries on just as before, stubborn and crusty, irascible and temperamental, and about how his wife and his friends love him anyway, most of the time!

### **Walking on Water (Australia)**

Friends and family gather around the death bed of Gavin, where they assist in the dying man's suicide. *Walking on Water* compassionately follows the attempts of Gavin's closest friends to recover from their loss. This beautiful Australian movie carefully observes the subtle power struggles between friends and family as they try, with a kind of mournful jealousy, to claim the memory of the

deceased for their own. All the characters are superbly written and made vivid by the excellent ensemble. Despite the heavy subject matter and its terrible title, *Walking on Water* is delicate, down-to-earth, shot through with humour (sometimes macabre, sometimes gentle), and completely absorbing.

### **Withnail and I (Britain)**

London. The 60s. Two unemployed actors - acerbic, elegantly wasted Withnail (Richard E. Grant) and the anxiety-ridden "I" (Paul McGann) - drown their frustrations in booze, pills, and lighter fluid. When Withnail's Uncle Monty (Richard Griffiths) offers his cottage, they escape the squalor of their flat for a week in the country. They soon realize they've gone on holiday by mistake when their wits - and friendship - are sorely tested by violent downpours, less-than-hospitable locals, and empty cupboards.

