



We Love Judy Garland

Total running time c75min

Forty years ago Judy Garland visited the NFT just months before she died. To mark this anniversary programmers Emma Smart and Brian Robinson ask – just what is the enduring appeal of Judy Garland to lesbians and gay men? What's the lesbian reading of *The Wizard of Oz*? Is there more to it than just being a "friend of Dorothy"? Featuring a wealth of clips from some of her best known films we explore the phenomenon of Judy Garland and her extraordinary appeal. Bring along your own memories of Judy to share, and prepare to wallow in some musical delights. BR

Sat 28 Mar 12:00 NFT1

This screening is preceded by some favourite songs courtesy of the London Gay Men's Chorus.

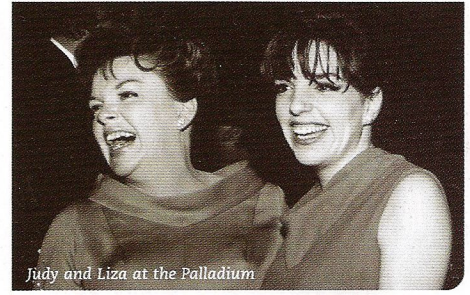


I Could Go on Singing

UK 1963. Dir Ronald Neame. With Judy Garland, Dirk Bogarde. 100min

A rare chance to see Judy's last film in which she plays singer Jenny Bowman, a character not a million miles away from the real Judy. It's a tour de force performance, even more compelling when one tries to discern where Judy ends and the neurotic lonely Jenny begins. In London for a week long engagement at the Palladium Jenny looks up her old flame David Donne (a perfectly cast Dirk Bogarde) whose adopted son Matt is actually the boy Jenny gave up years ago. She's back to see her son and whisks him away from boarding school for a few magical days in London. In true melodramatic style things unravel quickly and Jenny is forced once more to make a heartbreaking choice. As a swansong for the gay icon you couldn't ask for more, this is Judy's finest hour. ES

Sat 28 Mar 14:10 NFT2



Judy and Liza at the Palladium

Judy on TV

Total running time 128min

'Impressions of Garland' an episode of Omnibus

UK 1972. Dir Michael Houldey. 50min

BBC Omnibus on the legendary Judy Garland in this rarely seen television documentary. Mickey Rooney, Dirk Bogarde and producer Arthur Freed give their impressions of the ineffable star, yet it's a young Liza Minnelli who provides the most poignant insights into the icon's life. ES

Judy and Liza at the Palladium

UK 1964. Dir Colin Clews. 54min

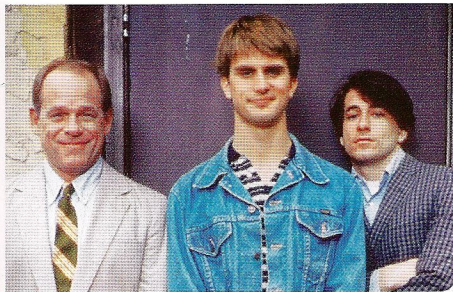
Judy takes to the stage at the London Palladium with her then 18-year-old daughter Liza, providing fans double the entertainment in this legendary recording.

Get Happy

USA 2008. Dir Mark Payne. 25min

Fantastic documentary featuring 12-year-old Mark who would dress up as Judy to entertain the neighbourhood kids.

Sun 29 Mar 15:40 NFT2



Stonewall

UK 1995. Dir Nigel Finch. With Guillermo Diaz, Fred Weller, Brendan Corbalis. 99min

A spirited recreation of the lives of some of the people who hung out at the Stonewall Inn seen through the recollections of La Miranda/Hector, a fierce and fabulous drag queen who falls in love with Matty Dean, a bright young man she meets in the bar. The action leads up to the fateful night of 27th June 1969. A mood of defiance is in the air as the police make what seems like a routine raid on an illegal gay bar. Personal tensions of the bar patrons combine with police brutality to create an eruption of popular protest which becomes one of the defining moments of the modern gay liberation movement. Not every historical detail is correct but it feels emotionally true and quite powerful. Director Nigel Finch died from Aids shortly after completing the film. BR

Tue 31 Mar 13:50 NFT2; Thu 2 Apr 18:15 NFT2*

*We hope to welcome one of the writers Rikki Beadle-Blair to this screening.



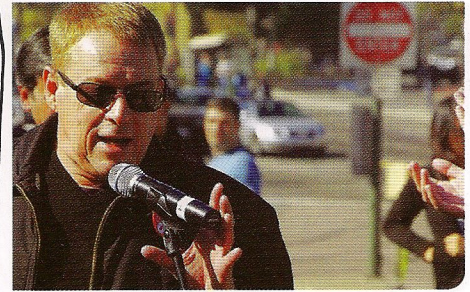
Before Stonewall

UK 1995. Dir John G. Sweeney. 100min

25 years ago this film felt like a revelation of a hidden gay history. Conventional wisdom had defined the modern movement for gay liberation from the riots at the Stonewall Inn in New York, however, this film shows just how much activism and creativity had been going on before 1969. A dazzling line-up of interviewees includes poets, writers, political organizers, dancers, actors who bear witness to a life before Stonewall, including Allen Ginsberg, Audre Lorde, Barbara Gittings, Harry Hay, Ann Bannon and many more. The courage and bravery of those who dared to challenge the world has helped create the modern gay community. This is also a work of extraordinary archival research, finding footage which showed the undeniable existence of gay men and lesbians throughout the 20th century. Essential viewing for anyone who wants to get a sense of our history. BR

Wed 1 Apr 14:00 NFT1; Fri 3 Apr 20:30 NFT2

2009



Cleve Jones on gay activism

We are very pleased to be able to welcome a legendary figure to the LLGFF. Cleve Jones was a student intern in Harvey Milk's office, a student of political science who became a political activist. He helped lead the protest march which became the White Night riots when gay San Francisco erupted at the news that Dan White, Harvey Milk's killer, was acquitted of first degree murder. He continued in politics in California at a city and state level and helped set up the San Francisco Aids Foundation in 1983. In 1987 he created the first memorial quilt and established the Names Project and the Aids quilt as enduring memorials to those lost to Aids. He continues to be an international human rights activist working on Aids education and workers' rights in hotels. He will take the stage to discuss his work with Harvey Milk, his work on Gus van Sant's *Milk* as historical adviser and his career as an activist.

Cleve Jones will be in discussion with Brian Robinson, Senior Programmer, LLGFF.
Thu 2 Apr 18:30 NFT1

See p.17 for screenings of *Gus van Sant's Milk*.