

Work continues on Lottery bid as new staff join Curzon

Cinema appoints Education and Learning Coordinator, plus Interpretation Consultants, as part of bid to Heritage Lottery Fund



Sophie Clarke

As work progresses on the Curzon's bid to the Heritage Lottery Fund, new staff members and consultants have been recruited.

The Curzon's success at the first stage of the application process means the Board have been able to employ a professional Project Manager to steer the cinema through the demanding second stage. This crucial role has been filled by ArtReach, a consultancy with a twelve year track record of providing a specialist support for arts projects and activity. The agency delivers capital arts projects, education and research programmes, development and business plans, funding strategies and bids.

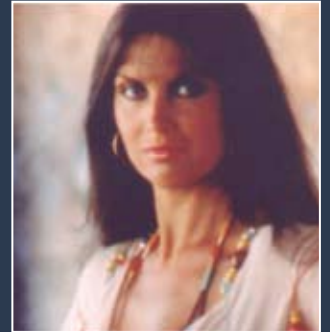
The stage 1 funding means that the Curzon has been able to fulfill a long-held ambition, and employ an Education and Learning Coordinator. The role has been filled by Sophie Clarke, who has most recently been working for the National Trust at Tyntesfield House.

Sophie said, "I feel really privileged to be joining the team at the Curzon. I look forward to helping enable the public to engage with this unique building and its collection."

Sophie starts her new job at the end of October, when among her initial projects will be establishing a sustainable education and learning programme as part of the HLF bid. She said, "I also really like the hands-on stuff, so I'm looking forward to getting out into the community, to get a better idea of what the cinema means to people and encouraging them to use the cinema in new ways."

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Devil Music Ensemble return to Curzon



The Devil Music Ensemble, who last visited the Curzon in 2007, will be returning in October as part of a UK tour. This time, the American trio will be performing their original score to *Red Heroine*, the only surviving martial arts feature film from China's silent period. More details on page 2.

Curzon Collection set for major redesign



A previous Imagemakers project: a talking picture from Bath Museum.

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Also newly engaged are Imagemakers, a consultancy who work with people, groups and organisations across the country to help them communicate what is 'special' about their place to a range of different audiences. 'Storytellers' in the truest sense of the word, the company develop planning reports for funding applications and use a range of media (both traditional and high tech) to reveal 'meanings' in innovative and exciting ways.

The team is currently in the process of drawing up an 'intepretation plan' for the Curzon and the Curzon Collection that will outline the ways the cinema can engage and communicate with visitors more effectively. This will mean more people will be able to un-

derstand and empathise with the history and heritage of the Cinema, and of film itself.

In recent weeks, the Imagemakers team has been talking about the cinema to members of the Board, staff and some of the cinema's many volunteers, including Curzon Collection curator, Maurice Thornton. Also involved in the consultation process was the Curzon's new Young People's Panel (see right), which was formed to involve the next generation of cinemagoers in the historic venue's future.

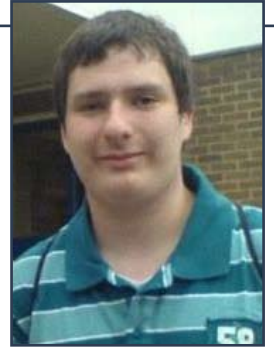
The results will be seen in a display of initial ideas, which will be featured in the Curzon foyer in early October (provisional dates are 3 - 11 October). Members of the public will be encouraged to offer their feedback, and help inform the final application.

Jane Sillifant, Managing Director of Imagemakers, outlined her delight at being involved in the project: "The Curzon Cinema really is a building that tugs at the nostalgic heartstrings – it draws you in and it is almost impossible not to want to find out more about it. We hope our work will enable people to do this in a creative and original manner that works with, not against, the building and encourages them to support the long term restoration of this beautiful piece of British film history".

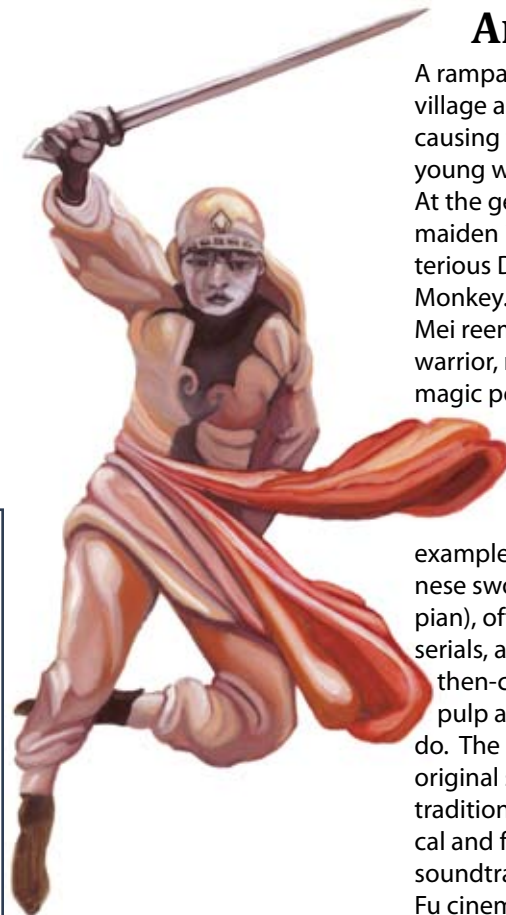
Hi, I'm Edd and I'm part of the Curzon's all new Young Persons Panel. I wasn't too sure what to expect from the panel, I found out about it through my media teacher at school and decided to go along to the meeting to see what it was like. Let's just say I wasn't disappointed.

As a relative newcomer to the Curzon I was completely unaware of the huge cinematic collection they boast! The panel had a tour of the Collection and saw some of the challenges the cinema faces such as the leaky roof and the balcony. Admittedly I'm a film and technology lover, but it was great to see the rest of the panel getting really into the Collection and coming up with some great ideas about how we could present and preserve it. The panel also came up with some exciting thoughts for some new film clubs that could happen at the Curzon, advertising strategies and online interaction that we could do.

I'm really looking forward to seeing some of these ideas through, working with new people and just spreading the love of cinema to a new generation. The Panel has some great ideas so far, so watch this space and see what else we come up with over the next few months.



The Red Devils! Silent classic revived by top American trio



A rampaging army raids a village and kidnaps a maiden, causing the death of the young woman's grandmother. At the general's lair, the captive maiden is rescued by the mysterious Daoist hermit, White Monkey. Three years later, Yun Mei reemerges as a full-fledged warrior, ready to deploy the magic powers learnt from White Monkey to avenge her grandmother's death...

Red Heroine is a prime example of the popular Chinese swordplay genre (wuxia pian), often based on novels or serials, and features the genre's then-characteristic blend of pulp and mystical derring-do. The Devil Music Ensemble's original score draws on the traditions of Chinese classical and folk music, as well as soundtracks from classic Kung Fu cinema, and is the only

Late news:

As this issue was finalised, we heard that - subject to work commitments - Clevedon actress **Tuppence Middleton** (left) has agreed to introduce a screening of the recent British film *Tormented* (15), in which she stars. Keep an eye on www.curzon.org.uk for updates!



Bond girl Caroline Munro to introduce classic 007 adventure



Caroline Munro as Naomi in *The Spy Who Loved Me* (above), and as she is today (above right)



The classic 1977 James Bond adventure *The Spy Who Loved Me* (PG) is being revived at the Curzon on Sunday 27 September at 2pm.

Showing in a restored digital print, the film will be introduced by one of its stars: Caroline Munro, who plays the beautiful but deadly Naomi.

The film sees Bond (Roger Moore) team up with a beautiful Soviet agent (Barbara Bach) to battle Stromberg (Curt Jurgens) and save the world from total annihilation. The film also sees the debut of the memorable villain, Jaws (Richard Kiel).

Caroline Munro will be visiting the cinema to introduce the film, and take questions from the audience. Following the film, there will

also be an opportunity for visitors to purchase signed photographs from Caroline herself.

Caroline Munro started her career as a model, after winning the Evening News' Face of the Year competition at 16. Her subsequent work, most notably a ten-year reign as the calendar girl for Lamb's Navy Rum, led to numerous film offers, including a contract with Hammer Films. Among her many film and TV credits are major roles in the fantasy adventures *The Golden Voyage of Sinbad* and *At the Earth's Core*. She was also familiar to millions of TV viewers thanks to four years on the quiz *3-2-1*.

Tickets cost £7.50 (£6.50 concessions) and are available in advance by calling 07868 422 089.

modern score made expressly for this film.

This rare performance showcases the combination of the ancient tradition of martial arts, early 20th century Asian film, and 21st century music.

The DME is three multi-instrumental musicians from Boston who have been making their name with live performances to classic silent film. Over seven US and two European tours, the DME have established themselves as one of the primary American groups in this field and are capable of genre-bending hypnotic musical performances that can make an audience

forget that there is a live band directing the mood, emotion, and pace of the visual imagery they are immersed in.

Formed in Boston in 1999, the DME features Brendon Wood on electric guitar and synthesizer; Jonah Rapino on electric violin, vibraphone, erhu (two string Chinese violin) and synthesizer; and Tim Nylander on drums, and a variety of Chinese percussion instruments.

Red Heroine can be seen at the Curzon on Tuesday 6 October at 8pm. Tickets cost £7.50 (£6.00 concessions) and are available in advance by calling 07868 422 089.



The Red Heroine herself

Find Your Talent projects screened

The Curzon's first project with Find Your Talent (*see last issue*) finished successfully with children from schools across Clevedon able to enjoy seeing their short films on the cinema screen. Already, the cinema is working on a second filmmaking project with young people, this time working with youth centres across the area.

In the meantime, the Curzon will be showcasing another Find Your Talent project - *Bones* - on Saturday 26 September. *Bones* is a site-specific dance-for-camera film, inspired by and shot at the famous fossil site at Banwell Bone Cave in North Somerset.

More than 85 young dancers from Churchill Community School, Banwell and Hutton Primary Schools were joined by a professional dancer for the project, which incorporated the 70,000-year-old fossils of Banwell Bone Cave, The Folly Tower, Banwell Church and surrounding woods and landscape.

The young performers mixed fact and fiction about the cave to devise a story which begins in the North Somerset Museum Service archives in Weston-super-Mare and travels to a mysterious gravestone on Banwell Hill. The overarching theme of mystery and the power of nature is translated into dance, drama, film and music.

Find Your Talent gives children and young people, aged between 0 and 19 years, the chance to try out different cultural and creative activities. North Somerset is one of ten national Find Your Talent pathfinders, and the only one in the South West of England. Find Your Talent North Somerset has so far agreed to support over 100 exciting projects enabling over 12,000 children and young people from more than 85 North Somerset schools and youth settings to have a more active, empowering and inspiring engagement with the creative arts and culture.



Some of the young people involved in the production of *Bones*

In brief... In brief...



Harry Potter fans began queuing over two hours ahead of the doors opening for the first screening of *Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince* in July.

Craft Fair

For the third year, the Curzon will be playing host to a range of artists and craftspeople, offering the perfect opportunity for Christmas shopping. The Craft Fair will be in the Oak Room on Saturday 28 and Sunday 29 November.

25 October, and 22 November. Though exact plans are subject to change, the October days should offer the chance to see some of our vintage projectors in action running classic Laurel and Hardy material.

Curzon Tweets!

The Curzon has joined Twitter - follow us at <http://twitter.com/curzoncinema>. If you're a Facebook user, don't forget to join the I Love the Curzon Community Cinema group as well!

Collection Open Days

The Curzon Collection continues a successful year with further open days on the 24 &

Blast from the Past:



A membership card for the Saturday morning cinema club, from the Curzon's time as the Maxime Cinema. The Pledge on the back read: "I promise to obey my parents and teachers and to be helpful to old folk. I promise to be kind to animals, fair in all my games, and thoughtful of others. I promise to be honest, to speak the truth, and to be a good citizen of my town and our great country." Bet they still spilled their pocorn though.

Curzon

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Clevedon BS21 6NN

Programme information: **01275 871000**

www.curzon.org.uk/whats-on.html

The Curzon Clevedon Community Centre for the Arts is a Registered Charity, no. 1058389.