



PRESS RELEASE

David Lean centenary celebrated with digitally restored films

The centenary of the great British film director **Sir David Lean** will be marked at the Curzon Cinema in September, with freshly restored digital prints of two of his greatest films. The comedy **Blithe Spirit** (U) and Dickens adaptation **Great Expectations** (PG) can be seen on Saturday 13 and Sunday 14th September respectively, at 3pm.

Filmed in 1945 in Technicolor, and based on Noel Coward's classic play, **Blithe Spirit** stars Rex Harrison, Kay Hammond, Constance Cummings and Margaret Rutherford, the film tells of the haunting of Charles Condomine by his first wife, Elvira who was summoned by Madame Arcati during a séance. Margaret Rutherford gives a splendid performance as the eccentric medium, and practically steals the film; the sophisticated script and witty repartee, adapted from Noel Coward's play, match anything that Hollywood could produce at this time. **Great Expectations** (1946) remains one of the finest screen versions of Charles Dickens' work, featuring a cast of renowned British actors including John Mills, Bernard Miles, Finlay Currie, Jean Simmons, Valerie Hobson, and making his film debut, Alec Guinness. Their slightly larger than life portrayals of the splendid Dickens characters, together with Lean's direction and Oscar-winning black and white photography by Guy Green, make the film a magnificent pictorial rendering of a much-loved novel.

Tickets are on sale in advance at £6 each, or £18 for a family ticket (4 people, at least 2 under 15s). The Curzon is also offering a special joint price of £8 per person for both.

For more information, please contact Gareth Negus, Director, on 01275 879115 or gareth@curzon.org.uk.