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Issue No. **8002** Next issue: Sat 9th May. Deadline: 10am, Fri 8th May

Thu 7th & Fri 8th May 2009 (2nd week)

WHAT'S ON / COMING SOON

Oxford University Press Choir
Charpentier *Mass for Double Chorus*
Haydn *Little Organ Mass*
Mozart *Exsultate, jubilate*
Conductor Edward Lewis
Saturday 9 May, 8pm
St Michael & All Angels' Church, Lonsdale Road, Summertown
Tickets £10 (£8 concessions) on the door

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Starts Tuesday 12 May 7.30pm
Summertown Church Hall, Portland Rd, OX2 7EZ
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To book your place, email **rosa@onsalsa.com**
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MEETINGS & LECTURES

Thu 7th

LEARN TO DIE: LATE MEDIEVAL ENGLISH IMAGES BEFORE THE LAW / Professor James Simpson, University of Harvard / 5pm / Lecture Theatre 2, St. Cross Building

WHAT DO YOU THINK? / Is our behaviour determined by our genes? Dr Liz Tunbridge explains. / 7.30pm. £3 (SO friends free) / www.scienceoxford.com / Science Oxford, 1 - 5 London Place, St Clements, OX4 1BD. 728953

STILL DOING THE DISHES: UNDERSTANDING THE BARRIERS TO WOMEN'S CAREER PROGRESSION IN UNIVERSITIES / Professor Liz Doherty / 4-5.30pm. Free / Oxford Learning Institute, Level 2, Littlegate House, St Ebbe's St, OX1 1PT

GURDJIEFF STUDY GROUP / Share, discuss & reflect upon Gurdjieff`s teaching. All welcome. / 7.15pm, £3 / 07837 114580 / Friends' Meeting House, 43 St Giles, OX1 3LW

LIMITS OF FORCE IN THE MIDDLE EAST: ISRAEL & THE PALESTINIANS / Sir Max Hastings FRSL, journalist & author. / 5pm / The Saskatchewan Room, Exeter College

SEPARATION & DIVORCE / One of 8 talks on Life-Changing Events. Speaker: Felicity Blair / 12.30pm, free / www.st-giles-church.org / 311198 / St Giles' Church, St. Giles

UNCERTAINTY, LAGS, & NONLINEARITY: CHALLENGES TO GOVERNANCE IN A TURBULENT WORLD / 3-4.30pm / Lecture Theatre, Manor Rd Building, OX1 3UQ

ATTITUDINAL HEALING / Let peace, joy & inspiration arise within. / 7.15 for 7.30 - 9.15pm. Dons accepted / www.attitudinalhealing.org / Ann 01869 246839 / 43 St. Giles

WEEKLY HEALTH WALK / Get outside at lunchtime & see some green spaces in Oxford. 40 mins. / GO Active / 12pm, free / www.getoxfordshireactive.org / start Carfax Tower

NICHOLAS STERN: 'A BLUEPRINT FOR A SAFER PLANET' / Prof Lord Nicholas Stern, discusses his forthcoming book on world poverty vs. climate change. / 5-6:30pm. Register at: www.21school.ox.ac.uk/registration / Sheldonian Theatre, Broad St /305305

ATOLA LONGKUMER / Religious Conversion; re-thinking religious encounter in modern India / 8pm / www.cms-uk.org / 787400 / CMS, Watlington Road, Oxford

ON THE CUSP OF COEXISTENCE / Anna Dimitrijevics on Ethnic Relations in Northern Serbia / Oxford Hungarian Society / 8pm / http://hungsoc.com / 736973 / McGregor Room, Oriel College

GO CLUB / Ancient Eastern board game / Oxford City Go Club / 7pm, free / Freud's, Walton St /311171

JENNY NIMMO BOOK READING / The author of *Charlie Bone* discusses her special powers! / Dorchester Festival / 6pm, £6 / 0300 030 3003 / Dorchester Abbey, Dorchester

DORCHESTER GHOST TRAIL / See a new side to this picturesque village! / Dorchester Festival / 8pm / http://dorchesterfestival.com / 0300 030 3003 / Dorchester Abbey, Dorchester-on-Thames

ST CROSS ETHICS SEMINAR / The Ethics of Forcible Democritisation. Prof. Allen Buchanan / Uehiro Centre / 5.30 - 7.00 free / www.practicalethics.ox.ac.uk / 286888 / St Cross College, St Giles

LIVES & WORKS / Prof Christopher Ricks on William Empson / 6 pm / 274100 / Wolfson College Hall, Linton Road

Fri 8th

PICTURING INNOCENCE? PORTRAYING CHILDREN / 3rd in a series of six - Costume and painting 1620-1800. / 10.30am-12pm / www.conted.ox.ac.uk / Rewley House, 1 Wellington Square / 270380

EFFECTIVE WRITING III: WRITING FOR CHILDREN / Second of three sessions. / 9.30am-5pm. £165 / www.conted.ox.ac.uk / Rewley House, 1 Wellington Square; Tel: 01865 270380

WORLDWIDE TRAVEL EXPERIENCES / Talk by Angela Baker (Blue Badge Guide) / Society For Graduates / 8pm. £2 (£6/term) / Okinaga Room, Wadham College, Parks Road

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CINEMA to Fri 8th

Vue Cinema (08712 240 240)

THE UNINVITED [15] Thu: 11.00pm
Remake of Korean thriller. Sisters must stop their mother's nurse marrying their father.

17 AGAIN [12A] ✍ Thu: 6.30pm, Fri: 11.00am, 1.40pm
Middle-aged Matthew Perry gets to live it all over again.

FAST AND FURIOUS 4 [12A] ✍ Thu: 9.00, 11.30pm Fri: 8.40, 11.10pm
The same car-racing drug-smuggling explosive underworld.

STATE OF PLAY [15] ✍ Thu: 12.00, 2.40, 5.40, 8.20, 11.10pm Fri: 11.10am, 2.00, 5.00, 7.40, 10.30pm
The suspicious death of a Congressman's mistress.

MONSTERS V ALIENS (3D) [PG] Thu: 10.10am, 12.25, 2.50, 5.10pm
Animation. Mutated monster-people are used to combat aliens.

HANNAH MONTANA [U] Thu: 10.20, 11.00am, 1.20, 1.50, 4.00, 4.25, 7.00, 9.40pm Fri: 10.00am, 12.50, 3.25, 6.00pm
Hannah goes home to Tennessee to get some perspective.

STAR TREK [12A] Thu: 10.40, 11.20am, 1.40, 2.20, 4.40, 5.20, 7.40, 8.30, 10.40, 11.40pm Fri: 10.30, 11.20am, 1.20, 2.20, 4.20, 5.20, 7.30, 8.30, 10.20, 11.30pm
The youthful origins of Kirk, Spock and Co.

X-MEN ORIGINS - WOLVERINE [12A] ✍ Thu: 10.00, 10.30am, 12.30, 1.00, 3.00, 3.30, 5.30, 6.00, 8.00, 8.50, 10.00, 10.30pm Fri: 10.10, 10.50am, 12.40, 1.30, 3.10, 4.00, 5.40, 6.30, 8.10, 9.00, 9.40, 10.40, 11.30pm, 12.10am
His violent and romantic past.

GHOSTS OF GIRLFRIENDS PAST [12A] Thu: 11.10am, 1.30, 3.50, 6.20, 8.40pm, Fri: 4.10, 6.40, 11.30pm
Insensitive man is visited by his exes on the eve of his brother's wedding.

CORALINE 3D [PG] ✍ Fri: 12.00, 2.30, 4.50, 7.10pm
Animation. Beware the buttons!

CORALINE 2D [PG] ✍ Fri: 12.30, 2.50, 5.10pm
Animation. Beware the buttons! Subtitled Sun 2.50, Tue 5.10pm.

Odeon George St (0871 2244 007)

GHOSTS OF GIRLFRIENDS PAST [12A] Thu: 1.15, 3.45, 6.45, 9.15pm
Insensitive man is visited by his exes on the eve of his brother's wedding.

STAR TREK [12A] Thu: 1.30, 4.30, 7.30pm, Fri: 2.00, 5.00, 8.00pm
The youthful origins of Kirk, Spock and Co.

X-MEN ORIGINS - WOLVERINE [12A] ✍ Thu: 12.00, 2.00, 3.00, 5.00, 6.00, 8.00, 9.00pm Fri: 1.30, 2.30, 4.30, 5.30, 7.30, 8.30pm
His violent and romantic past. Subtitled Fri 1.30

STATE OF PLAY [15] ✍ Thu: 2.30, 5.30, 8.30pm Fri: 2.15, 5.15, 8.15pm
The suspicious death of a Congressman's mistress.

IN THE LOOP [15] ✍ Thu & Fri: 8.45pm
Political satire from Armando Iannucci.

HANNAH MONTANA [U] Thu: 1.45, 4.15, 6.30pm Fri: 1.15, 3.45, 6.15pm
Hannah goes home to Tennessee to get some perspective.

CORALINE [PG] ✍ Fri: 1.00, 3.30, 6.30, 9.00pm
Animation. Beware the buttons!

Odeon Magdalen St (0871 2244 007)

17 AGAIN [12A] ✍ Thu: 1.30, 5.00pm
Matthew Perry gets to be ... 17 again.

X-MEN ORIGINS - WOLVERINE [12A] ✍ Thu: 7.30pm
His violent and romantic past.

STAR TREK [12A] Thu: 11.30am, 2.30, 5.30, 8.30pm Fri: 12.00, 3.00, 6.00, 9.00pm
The youthful origins of Kirk, Spock and Co.

GHOSTS OF GIRLFRIENDS PAST [12A] Fri: 2.00, 4.30, 7.00, 9.30pm
Insensitive man is visited by his exes on the eve of his brother's wedding.

Phoenix Picture House (0870 758 3218)

IS ANYBODY THERE? [12A] Thu: 2.00, 4.15, 6.30, 8.30pm Fri: 2.00, 4.15, 6.30pm
A retired magician and death-obsessed 10 yr old. Michael Caine stars.

STATE OF PLAY [15] ✍ Thu: 12.00, 3.15, 6.00, 8.45pm
The suspicious death of a Congressman's mistress.

10TH DISTRICT COURT: MOMENTS OF TRIALS Fri: 8.30pm
Documentary: inside a Parisian courtroom.

CHERI [15] Fri: 1.45, 4.15, 6.45, 9.00pm
Love bought, found and lost in pre-war France.

Ultimate Picture Palace (245288)

THE AGE OF STUPID [12A] Thu: 6.30pm
In 2055 a man with archive footage of 2008 asks why we did not stop climate change when we had the chance.

FRANKLYN [15] Thu: 8.45pm
Complex futuristic thriller.

VICKY CRISTINA BARCELONA [12A] ✍ Fri: 7.00pm 9.30pm
A return to form for Woody Allen?

Magdalen College Cloisters (276000)

OUTDOOR FILM - CINEMA PARADISO Fri: 8pm
Screening of 1988 Italian classic. Beautiful venue, hot drinks served. Free, all welcome.

✍ = see review on www.dailyinfo.co.uk
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GIGS

Thu 7th

COCO MBASSI / Soul, gospel, jazz, latin. / 6pm £3 (conc £2) / www.ocmevents.org / 305305 / Modern Art Oxford

SPARKY'S FLYING CIRCUS / Weekly open music, poetry and song session / 9pm / Free / The Half Moon, 17 St Clements, Oxford

CATWEAZLE CLUB / Performance space for music, poetry & story. / 8-11pm / £5/£4 / East Ox. Community Centre, 44b Princes St, OX4 1DD

LEE & LOY / Acoustic duo / 262291 / The Cape of Good Hope, Iffley Road

MAJESTICAL THURSDAYS / Roots rock reggae, ragga, soca, soul / 8pm til late. £1 entry / Crown House Club, Crown Street, off Cowley Road

ELEPHANTS, RIDING GIANTS / Rock / 8.30pm. £5 / Cellar Bar, Frewin Court, off Cornmarket / 244761

CARLOS LOPEZ-REAL'S MANDORLA / Featuring Carlos Lopez-Real (Saxes), Justin Quinn (Guitars), Simon Colam (Pno/Rhodes), Oli Hayhurst (Bass), Jon Scott (Drums/Perc) / 8.15pm. £9, £8 (concs) / www.spinjazz.com / The Wheatsheaf, Wheatsheaf Alley, 129 High Street, OX1 4DF / 721156

Fri 8th

THE SPOLKESTRA, FRANCIE JONES, MARTHA ROSE / "an art-pop collective with symphonic social ambition" / 8pm. £5 / Jericho Tavern, 56 Walton St. / 311775

REDOX, THE PETE FRYER BAND, FILM NOIR, DES BARKUS / 8.30pm, free / Magdalen Arms, 243 Iffley Rd / 243159

BARBARE11A + THE SCARAMANGA SIX + FIXERS + MINOR COLES / 8.15pm, £5 / The Wheatsheaf, Wheatsheaf Alley, 129 High Street, OX1 4DF / 721156

AMAZING BABY, TRISTAN & THE TROUBADOURS, SECRET RIVALS / 7pm. £6 / O2 Academy, 190 Cowley Rd, OX4 1UE / 0844 477 2000

HOLY FK, IT HUGS BACK** / Canadian Electro-Rock Duo / 7pm. £10 / O2 Academy Oxford, 190 Cowley Road, OX4 1UE / 0844 477 2000

MANKALA / Afro-Caribbean fusion groove, Jazz dance, Afrobeat, Dancefloor Latin, Balkan Beats... / 9pm-3am. £6 / Cellar Bar, Frewin Ct / 244761

DAN REED + BETHANY WEIMERS + DANNY CHIVERS / Oregon native / 8pm, £10adv / 244516 / Backroom @ The Bully, 162 Cowley Rd

JAZZ PICNIC / Eat your supper to trad jazz. Under cover with tables & chairs / 6pm, £7.50 (£20 family ticket) / http://dorchesterfestival.com / 0300 0303003 / Dorchester Abbey, Dorchester-on-Thames

MAGGIE BOYLE WITH GARY BOYLE / 8.30pm. £5 / www.oxfordfolkclub.com / Folly Bridge Inn, Abingdon Road / 790106

ECHO LOCATION / Sound installations & beautiful walks. / 8-10.30pm / £5 / £15 (family of 4) / www.ocmevents.org / 305305 / Chimney Meadows Nature Reserve.

THEATRE to Sat 9th May

New Theatre (0844 8471585)

MCFLY Wed 6th: 7.30pm
'Up Close... but this time it's personal' 2009 Tour. £22.90

AL STEWART Thu 7th: 8pm
Musical storytelling from new album of vignettes. £27.50

Oxford Playhouse (305305)

THE PLAYBOY OF THE WESTERN WORLD Wed 6th: 7.30pm Thu 7th, Sat 9th: 2.30pm, 7.30pm; Fri 8th: 8pm
JM Synge's comic play. Christy Mahon stumbles into a public house in County Mayo claiming he has killed his father... £11-£24

New Road Baptist Church

OTHELLO ✍ Tue 5th, Thu 7th: 7.30pm ; Wed 6th: 12.00, 7.30pm Fri 8th: 7.30pm; Sat 9th: 2.30, 7.30pm
Creation Theatre: Shakespeare's tale of jealousy and ambition. £8.50-£22.50.

OFS Studio (0844 847 2360)

FATBOY - A GROTESQUE IN THREE ACTS Tue 5th - Fri 8th: 7.30pm, Sat 9th: 2.30pm, 7.30pm
The hideous caricature Fatboy, and his equally repulsive wife Fudgie, devour, murder and exploit everyone and everything. Recommended age 16+ £9/£7

St Michael at the North Gate (255776 / 240940)

H.M.S. PINAFORE Wed 6th - Fri 8th: 7.30pm, Sat 9th: 2.30pm, 7.30pm
Gilbert and Sullivan; shipboard songs, silliness and satire. £5/£3

North Wall Arts Centre (319450)

FLHIP FLHOP Thu 7th & Fri 8th: 8pm
Hip hop dance & comedy show. £10 - Limited student tickets: £5

St Catherine's College Theatre

EST-IL BON? EST-IL MÉCHANT? Thu 7th - Sat 9th: 8.30pm
Comedy by Denis Diderot, performed in French by Wadham and St Catz students. Free

Dorchester Abbey

STEPHEN MOTTRAM PUPPETEER Wed 6th: 8.30pm
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CINEMA REVIEWS

Coraline [PG]

Showing at the Vue Cinema in 3D and 2D formats, and at the Odeon George St in 2D. See Cinema listings, below left.

The latest in an ever-popular stream of modern animation, the wonderfully strange *Coraline* tells the tale of a young girl who, growing bored of life in her own world, accidentally enters into a very different one. Giving off a definite Tim Burton-esque vibe, the film takes the idea of childlike curiosity to a whole other level as the young Coraline (voiced by Dakota Fanning) stumbles across a door to another dimension in her new house. The audience dons their 3D glasses and steps into a land where even some simple gardening is made exciting by flowers that come alive and leap from the screen, where eyes are replaced by buttons and where a mouse circus is nothing unusual. But even here, things are not quite as innocent as they at first seem.

The general premise for the film is nothing new; a lonely girl, new in town and bored with her parents' absorption with their work sets out to find a more exhilarating way to fill her days. But after the initial magic of the discovery of the land the other side of the door, the message that *Coraline* sends to its viewers is much more along the lines of the age-old adage "be careful what you wish for."

Directed by Henry Sellick and with appearances (in voice form) by the recently BAFTA award winning French and Saunders, and based on the novel by Neil Gaiman (the brain that also brought us *Stardust*), *Coraline* is bound to be another animated hit. The 3D aspect of the film manages to veer away from simply astounding the audience by shooting things out at them, instead creating a sense of hyper-reality in a world that is anything but real. The darker tones to the film will undoubtedly not be lost on all children, who may find moments of *Coraline* a tad scary, but as a family film it certainly has something to offer those of all ages.

Rowena Purrett

Now to 3D cinema. Ok, I'll admit it, I was very sceptical when passed a pair of glasses that looked much like a pair I lost on Bournemouth Beach in the summer of 1993, but when the trailer started and I put them on I ooohhed, ahhhed and gasped with the rest of the audience. This technology is nothing short of extraordinary. I was absolutely blown away and if anyone gets the chance to see a 3D film you must. The future of all films it may not be, but for certain genres this is definitely the future. I even ducked out of the way of a threading needle and was most embarrassed at myself.

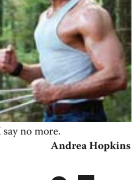
So if you wouldn't see this film as it is 'not your sort of thing', perhaps think again. Well executed, wonderfully voiced and intoxicating.

Ed Blagrove

X-Men Origins - Wolverine [12A]

Showing at both Odeons and the Vue for some time yet. See cinema listings, left.

An unbelievably silly and disappointing film. Not quite as bad as *Van Helsing*, but way below the other X-Men movies (yes, even the ghastly mess that was *X-Men 3*) in every way - an utterly predictable plot, massive internal inconsistency, feeble and unconvincing character development, infantile ethos, unoriginal FX and, I'm afraid, piss-poor acting. Apart from the nice girlfriend and the bad boy (a splendidly menacing but sadly under-used Liev Schreiber) you have already seen every bit of this story if you have watched *X-Men 2*.



It seems to have been designed to showcase Hugh Jackman's increasingly over-developed arms and torso - certainly not his acting talents, as he isn't required to do much more than roar, grunt, and look cross (he has no-one but himself to blame, as he produced). Body-building is actually an excellent metaphor for the movie. Viewers will no doubt appreciate that if you pump up certain muscle groups so that they are bulgy and shiny and covered with popping veins, it has the effect of making certain other body parts look smaller by comparison and thus undermining the very effect it wants to create. Jackman is not yet a grotesque caricature of a human being, but he should watch out, as the pumped arms in fact draw attention to his rather delicate, feminine hands. I say no more.

Andrea Hopkins

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