

**FURNITURE AND BEDDING** 

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CINEMA to Thu 26th

Odeon Magdalen St (0871 2244 007) VALKYRIE [12A] 🚿 Mon: 8.30pm; Tue: 5.30pm tler at the height of WWI

THE CURIOUS CASE OF BENJAMIN BUTTON [12A] daily: 12.30, 4.15, 8.00pr HOTEL FOR DOGS [U] Tue: 12.15, 3.00pm ate their hound BURN AFTER READING [15] 🔊 Tue: 8.30pm GRAN TORINO [15] 🔊 Wed & Thu: 12.15, 3.00, 6.00, 8.45pm

Vue Cinema (08712 240 240)

astronomers / Évery Tuesday in February, 7pm / Free! / Museum of the History of Science, Old Ashmolean Building, Broad St / www.mhs.ox.ac.uk precepts of the book have been successfully turned into stories with real, sympathetic characters. It DEUTSCHSPRACHIGER STAMMTISCH / Speak German, play games and organise activities. / 8:30pm, Free, All welcome / deutscherstam mtisch@yahoo.co.uk / Anchor Inn Pub (corner Kingston Rd/Polstead Rd) GLOBE CAFE / Conversation for international students and visitors in Oxford / 8-10pm, Free refreshments / www.globecafeoxford.org.uk / 07925 394122 / St Andrew's Church, Linton Road, Oxford; Tel: 01865 311212 **DIVERSITY OF MOSSES, AND THE CONTRIBUTION OF** WARBURG TO BRITISH BRYOLOGY / Warburg Lecture. Speaker: Dr Mark Hill / Ashmolean Natural History Society of Oxfordshire / 8pm, nonmembers £2 / University Museum of Natural History, Parks Rd, Oxford **IRISH LANGUAGE GROUP** / Informal group for those who would like to meet up to speak Irish. / 8pm to 10pm free / Half Moon Public House,

horse any more (almost **PEGASUS PUBLIC OPEN DAY** / Presentations, plans and nformation about the refurbishment and future of Pegasus Theatre. immediately). Plus screenings, what will happen while the theatre's closed, and pancakes. / 6.30pm, free / Pegasus Theatre, Magdalen Road; Tel: 722851 boxoffice@pegasustheatre.org.uk

You can see that this is not your average cheery rom-com fare. It's actually crucial surprises, so all I will say is that it is well quite terrifying and you need to be feeling fairly worth a look. All the principle actors are excellent; confident and robust before you commit a couple of hours to watching it. I never thought I would be watching a movie in 2009 that proposed as serious contemporary advice, as my mother did in 1974, that a girl should never EVER phone a guy, or indeed engage in any behaviour that might hint that she is attracted to him or likes him. No, a girl must only ever be pursued, never the pursuer; she must never appear to have the least hint of crazy

Connelly and Goodwin, Scarlett Johansson and people let one another down (deliberately and Drew Barrymore, and the guys they date, or are in ----- relationships with, and sometimes unwittingly share. It does manage I to successfully turn the message I of the rather nasty book entirely what point you should **YOUR aVERAGE** on its head and reject the theory • of competitive consumerism as a model for personal relationships.

I've just found that it's impossible to say anything about the

**GUITAR** 

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examines the nature of romantic expectations and how those impact on real relationships - how often), how to interpret modern mating behaviour **"This is not** (men apparently aren't all that into women), and at decide not to exhaust yourself flogging a dead

cheery rom-

// com fare..."

Nevertheless, the film does deliver powerful rewards. It follows the fortunes of five young women, exquisitely portrayed by Jennifers Aniston,

storylines without giving away

TUITION. ALL levels @musicfromscratch.co.uk, 07812 211042

Single room

garden. £295 pcm + bills.

'USH [12A] Tue & Thu: 12.15, 3.00, 5.40, 8.15pi uperpowered humans are stalked by the govern HOTEL FOR DOGS [U] Tue - Thu: 1.25, 4.10pi rphaned siblings have to ac odate their hound REVOLUTIONARY ROAD [15] 🖉 Tue: 9.15pm; Wed: 12.00ar BOLT [PG] 🖉 daily: 1.05, 2.05, 3.40, 4.40, 6.30, 7.10pr anine actor believes his super powers are real. 2D ver VICKY CRISTINA BARCELONA [12A] Wed: 9.35pm, 12.00am Mon - Tue, Thu: 9.35pm THE PINK PANTHER 2 [PG] Tue - Thu: 2.00, 4.20pm THE CURIOUS CASE OF BENJAMIN BUTTON [12A] Wed: 1.00, 4.30, 8.00, 11.25pm, Mon, Tue, Thu: 1.00, 4.30, 8.00pm Brad Pitt is born old and gets younger. Subtitled Sun 1.00 & Tue 8.00 HE'S JUST NOT THAT INTO YOU [12A] 🖄

Mon. Tue. Thu: 2.30, 5.30, 8.30pm: Wed: 2.30, 5.30, 8.30, 11.30p mantic comedy with Jennifer Aniston, Scarlett Johans NOTORIOUS [15] daily: 6.45, 9.45pm he story of the rapp SLUMDOG MILLIONAIRE [15] 🚿 Mon: 6.20, 9.00pi Tue, Thu: 12.50, 3.30, 6.20, 9.00pm; Wed: 12.50, 3.30, 6.20, 9.00, 11.50pm FRIDAY THE 13TH [18] 🚿 Wed: 7.00, 9.25, 11.55pm Mon, Tue, Thu: 7.00, 9.25pn CONFESSIONS OF A SHOPAHOLIC [12A] Wed: 12.25, 3.10, 6.00, 8.45, 11.40pm A girl wants to work for a fashion magazine... Mon, Tue, Thu: 12.25, 3.10, 6.00, 8.45pm SENIORS CLUB: QUANTUM OF SOLACE [12A] GRAN TORINO [15] 🚿 Wed & Thu: 9.15pm

Odeon George St (0871 2244 007) PUSH [12A] daily: 1.15, 4.00, 6.45, 9.15pm DOUBT [15] daily: 12.00pr priest after suspecting him of abusing a black student CONFESSIONS OF A SHOPAHOLIC [12A] daily: 12.30, 3.15, 6.00, 8.45pm A girl wants to work for a fashion magazine...Subtitled Mon 6.00, Tue 3.15, Thu 12.30. HE'S JUST NOT THAT INTO YOU [12A] 🚿 daily: 2.00, 5.00, 8.00p FRIDAY THE 13TH [18] 🖄 daily: 9.00pm BOLT [U] 🔊 Mon, Wed & Thu: 1.00, 3.30, 6.30pm e real. Tue: 1.00, 3.30pn s his super powers are real daily: 2.30, 5.30, 8.30pm SLUMDOG MILLIONAIRE [15] 🚿 ife and love on the streets of Mu THE PINK PANTHER 2 [PG] daily: 12.45, 3.00, 5.45pm REVOLUTIONARY ROAD [15] 🖄 daily: 8.15pm SENIOR SCREEN: QUANTUM OF SOLACE [12A] C Venial Crain code reliance Wed: 10.45ar Ultimate Picture Palace (245288) THE READER [15] 🚿 daily: 8.45pr range, dark, tender romance set in post-WW2 German WALTZ WITH BASHIR [18] 🔏 Wed: 6.15pm he futility of wai **BLINDNESS** [18] Tue, Thu: 6.00pr

ACCIDENT [PG] Mon: 6.15pm irk Bogarde is a middle-aged don in crisis **East Oxford Community Centre** MEPHISTO - CREDIT CRUNCH CINEMA 🖉 Wed: 6.30pm & 9.00pi Phoenix Picture House (0870 758 3218) THE READER [15] 🚿 Tue: 3.45, 6.15pm mplicated love affair in post WW2 German THE WRESTLER [15] 🔏 Mon: 8.45pm ne Ram" Robinson, making a comeback. VICKY CRISTINA BARCELONA [12A] Mon: 1.15, 4.00, 9.00pm Tue - Thu: 1.15, 4.00, 6.30, 9.00pm partial return to form for Woody Allen. SLUMDOG MILLIONAIRE [15] 🚿 Tue: 1.00, 8.45pm Mon: 1.00, 6.15pm; Wed & Thu: 3.20p Vibrant tale of life on the streets of Mumbai. THE MAN FROM LONDON [12A] Mon: 6.20pr BIG SCREAM: GRAN TORINO [15] 🚿 Wed: 11.30am Walt. Just for parents with babies GRAN TORINO [15] 🚿 Wed: 6.00, 8.40pm; Thu: 12.45, 6.00, 8.40pm int Eastwood plays n SPECIAL EVENT: RUSKIN SHORTS Thu: 4.00pr Mansfield College AKING LIBERTIES Thu: 8pm

- & now watch film trailers online !

SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORT / Six sessions on sustainable transport, covering local & international questions / Oxford Transport Network / 5pm, £6 / lara.scott@ouce.ox.ac.uk / http://oxtran.tsu.ox.ac.uk / 01865 285533 / School of Geography, Mansfield Rd

1pm-2.30pm / events@socres.ox.ac.uk / Nuffield College, New Road

St Clements

TALK BY HILARY MANTEL / Hilary Mantel talks about her memoir The Clean Slate: Childhood and Fiction' / Oxfordshire Mind / 5.30-6.30pm, £5 on the door / Taylorian Institute

HOMELESSNESS / Professor Susan Fitzpatrick. / Housing Seminars /

CLIMATE CHANGE & NUCLEAR POWER / Speakers & drinks reception for latest issue of St Antony's International Review / Launch of STAIR Journal / 6.30pm, free / www.sant.ox.ac.uk/ext/stair / info@stair iournal.org / Blackwells Bookshop, 48-51.Broad St. Oxford / Tel: 792792 ASTRONOMY / Observing Evening - first clear evening only - phone in advance for details / Abingdon Astronomical Society / 8pm. 1st visit free / www.abingdonastro.org.uk / 07817 687627 / Frilford Heath PEACE STUDIES LECTURE: WHAT FUTURE FOR NUCLEAR WEAPONS? / Dr Farhang Jahanpour (Kellogg College) / Oxford Peace Research Trust / 7.45pm Free / antonyives@onetel.com / www. oxfordpeaceresearchtrust.org.uk / 01865 557373 / 43 St. Giles

#### Wed 25th

CHRISTIAN MEDITATION / Meditating in the Christian tradition as taught by John Main. Beginners welcome! / 7.25pm / £2 donation / www wccm.org / 01856 515458 / 2, Canterbury Road, 0X2 6LU ASTRONOMY / Observing Evening - as Tuesday (first clear evening).

CREDIT CRUNCH - PUBLIC MEETING / Credit Crunch and Resistance (Speaker- Pete Dwyer and local TU rep) / Socialist Workers Party .30pm All welcome / http://oxswp.blogspot.com / Original Swan, Cowley SAHAJA YOGA MEDITATION / Ancient Meditation Techniques to Relax, Destress and Know your Inner Self / 7pm, free westbrook108@googlemail.com / www.sahajayoga.org.uk / 01235 550654 / Asian Cultural Centre, Manzil Way, Off Cowley Road, OX4 1GH

FORENSIC SCIENCE LECTURE / Dr Angela Gallop gives an insight into her profession. / 1.55pm, free / boxoffice@headington.org / 01865 759138 / The Theatre At Headington, Headington School, Headington Road DAVID PATTERSON SEMINAR / Dr D Ariel: Objectivity and Engagement - the changing agenda of Jewish Studies / enquiries@ochj: ac.uk / 8pm Free / www.ochjs.ac.uk / Yarnton Manor, Yarnton, OX5 1PY; Tel

SEMINAR: MESSING WITH THE MARKET / Safavid Trade Policy with Prof Edmund Herzig / Oxford Centre for Islamic Studies / 5pm, free / islamic.studies@oxcis.ac.uk / www.oxcis.ac.uk/seminars.html / 01865 278730 / Oxford Centre for Islamic Studies, George Street, OX1 2AR

#### to Sat ┪╏┛╱┓┇┨╛ 28th Pegasus Theatre (722851) PEGASUS PUBLIC OPEN DAY Tue 24th: 6.30pn nent & future of Pegasus Theat ions, plans & information about the refurbish Plus screenings, what will happen while the theatre's closed, and pancakes. Free **Burton Taylor Studio (305305)** Tue 24th, Thu 26th, Sat 28th: 7.30p NEVER HAVE I EVER Helen McCabe. Revelations are made at an engagement party. £5/£4

THE WAITING ROOM Tue 24th, Thu 26th, Sat 28th: 9.30p ee characters in an office explore love, alienation, philosophy, & bureaucracy, £5/2 Wed 25th, Fri 27th: 7.30pm, Sat 28th: 4p DREAM BABY other has a shameful secret. Will her daughter learn the truth? £5/£4

New Theatre (0844 8471585) RIVERDANCE – THE FAREWELL TOUR 🔏 Mon 23rd & Tue 24th, Thu 26th & Fri 27th: 8pm; Sat 28th: 2.30, 8p chance to catch the Irish phenomenon. £23.50 - £39.50.

Oxford Playhouse (305305) 
 OTHELLO
 Tue 24th, Wed 25th: 7.30pm, Thu 26th, Sat 28th: 2.30pm, 7.30p

 Shakespeare's tale of jealousy and revenge. £16.50-£26
 Fri 27th: 8.00pt

The Theatre At Headington

(759138) Wed 25th: 1.55p FORENSIC SCIENCE LECTURE PRIVATE PEACEFUL Sat 28th: 7.30pi ion of Michael Morpurgo's bestselle

**OFS Studio (0844 847 2360)** THE OXFORD REVUE - RENEGADE Back with new sketch show shenanigans. £9/£7. Sat 28th: 2.30, 7.30pn

College Bar, St Hugh's CONFUSIONS - ALAN AYCKBOURN Wed 25th - Sat 28th: 7.30pm inked one-act plays, addressing loneliness and human eccentricitie

G&D's, Cowley Road ETIQUETTE Fri 20th - Sat 28th: throughout the day Sook a table for a 30 minute theatrical experience just for the two of you. £3 per tabl 2 people). Book online, or at G&D's during run.

**O'Reilly Theatre, Keble College** LATFORM Tue 24th - Sat 28th: 7.30p rsity Dance Society and FreeFall Dance. £5.50 - £7.50 DANCE PLATFORM

Jennifer Aniston in particular has a kind of tightness about the mouth suggestive of anticipated disappointment... I can't even say more about this! Ginnifer Goodwin was absolutely splendid as the potential crazy stalker - no, can't say more about that either. I will have to see it again. Stronaly recommended.

**Andrea Hopkins** 

#### **PANCAKE DAY: TUESDAY 25TH FEBRUARY**

# How to make Pancakes

### **Ingredients** (makes 10) :

- 4oz (125g) plain white flour
- pinch of salt
- 2 eggs
- 1/2 pint (300ml) milk (you can use half milk, half water if you're that way inclined)
- 2oz (60g) melted butter OR a couple of tablespoons of oil (optional but nice)
- 1 tablespoon of rum, brandy, beer or gin (ditto)

Everything should be as close to room temperature as possible.

1. Put the flour and salt in a bowl and crack in the eggs. Mix together till smooth. If you're not using butter or oil go straight to step 3.

2. Mix in the butter (if you like, you can heat it in your pancake pan first until it foams and goes light brown – this will make the pancakes taste pleasantly nutty). Or add the oil, if you're using that, but in that case don't do the foaming thing.

3. Mix in the milk (gradually at first) and finally the alcohol.

You can leave it to stand for an hour at this point, but if it's not convenient, don't bother.

4. Lightly grease a frying pan (preferably non-stick) and heat it. It needs to be at about 4 or 5 on a 6-setting hob dial. When hot, add about 2 tablespoons of batter per pancake, or as much as it takes to cover the pan. Cook for just under a minute on one side and very briefly on the other.

Keep your cooked pancakes warm while you make the rest (they can be kept overnight wrapped in foil if you like and reheated the next day).

Fill them with cheese, ham, spring onions, pasta sauce, feta and tomatoes, baked beans, houmous, bacon and eggs, cream cheese and chives and pepper, blueberries, bananas, yoghurt, honey and lemon juice, cinnamon and brown sugar, maple syrup, chocolate sauce, whipped cream with liqueur in it, ice cream or whatever else is around. But not all at once.

## Vegan, gluten-free, dairy-free pancakes

Mix together equal quantities by volume of buckwheat flour and oat milk to get a really thick glutinous grey batter.

Fry them in a non-stick pan with plenty of oil to make surprisingly tasty blini-style cakes.

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#### **FOOD & DRINK**



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#### **CINEMA REVIEW**

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styles.

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# Vicky Cristina Barcelona [12A]

Showing at the Phoenix and the Vue until at least Thursday 26th. See Cinema Listings, left.

Vicky (Rebecca Hall) and Cristina (Scarlett Johansson) are that well worn joke, American tourists (although way more glam than those usually pilloried) in a beautifully captured Barcelona. They are propositioned

simultaneously - by Javier Bardem's charismatic artist Juan Antonio

# i " a remarkable and long awaited return to form for Allen."

Vicky, engaged to a preppy, square and wellto-do New Yorker, is essentially the offspring of Annie Hall and Alvy Singer; totally neurotic and mouthpiece for some of Allen's best lines. Cristina is dreamier and more impulsive, searching for a means of self-expression and constantly flirting with various artistic **— — — /** mediums. Obviously, she jumps at the chance

to tag along with the hunky Spaniard. Enter his emotionally unbalanced ex-wife Maria Elena (Penelope Cruz), who also happens to be an artist. The unconventional, apparently contented threesome prompts Vicky to wonder what she is missing out on by marrying fiance Doug (a very funny Chris Messina, whose character surely defines the word 'chump'). Is it true, as Maria Elena argues, that 'only unfulfilled love can be romantic'

No one is left unmoved by the tempestuous Spanish pair, least of all the audience. Maybe I am more susceptible than I'd like to think, but I was charmed by Bardem's sexy artist. However, perhaps like Cristina, I was even more taken with Penelope Cruz: she managed to combine Sofia Loren and a psychopath - no mean feat. Johansson plays the same character she pretty much always plays, but she looks absolutely beautiful and it's indisputable that the camera adores her. Hall is more typical Allen material and seems to have more range. All three women do justice to the script and craft strong female characters which are up there with some of Allen's finest.

Yes, there are areas which seem clumsy. Juan Antonio's works of art, for starters. The notion of Spanish artists hanging around Park Guell sketching is about as credible as thinking that all Londoners walk past Big Ben on their way to work (see Match Point). The dichotomy between the passionate Catalans and uptight New Yorkers could also be seen as reductive, but then EM Forster's Room with a View sets up a similar contrast between impetuous Italians and repressed English people on holiday in Florence. Allen seems aware of such literary lineage and the narratorial construct he employs works very well, often adding an extra layer of humour. He also manages to captivate us with Barcelona's seductive beauty and do so in a way true to the lived experience of the tourist. Barcelona exists as another character and is a pleasure to feast your eves upon. I'm not sure that this movie has made my mind up about whether unfulfilled love can be romantic or not, but I can say with confidence that the critics are right - VCB represents a remarkable and long awaited return to form for Allen. Highly recommended. Lindsey Davis

. . . . . . . . . . . . . . . .

I didn't like it. This is a film made out of stereotypes. Anglo-Saxons = cold and boring, Latins = passionatemadhorses. Barcelona is an overrated city. Yes it's hot, nice, interesting buildings and good food, fantastic for a weekend, and...? The other thing was the use

of voice off., why? It's a film, images are its form of language. Boring, boring! I want my money back.



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