



WOKING'S NEW CINEMA CLUB

Affiliated to the British Federation of  
Film Societies and the British Film Institute

# Quartet

GB [1948] 120 minutes.

A compendium of four short stories by Somerset Maugham, introduced by the author himself, in best Noel Coward fashion. Adapted for the screen by R.C. Sherriff, some contemporary critics disliked his softening of Maugham's cynical view of life in order to make the fables acceptable to 1940's audiences, but the author's presence on the screen presumably indicated his agreement to the changes.

## ACT 1

### 'THE FACTS OF LIFE'

Directed by....Ralph Smart.  
Photography by Ray Elton.  
Starring.....Basil Radford.  
                    Naughton Wayne.  
                    Mai Zetterling.  
                    Jack Watling.  
                    James Robertson  
                    Justice.

" A son finds success by ignoring  
his father's advice....."



## ACT 2

### 'THE ALIEN CORN'

Directed by....Harold French.  
Photography by Ray Elton.  
Starring.....Dirk Bogarde.  
                    Francoise Rosay.  
                    Raymond Lovell.  
                    Honor Blackman.  
                    Irene Browne.

" An ambitious pianist fails....."



## ACT 3

### 'THE KITE'

Directed by....Arthur Crabtree.  
Photography by Ray Elton.  
Starring.....George Cole.  
                    Hermione Baddeley.  
                    Susan Shaw.  
                    Mervyn Johns.  
                    Bernard Lee.

" A couple fall out over his passion  
for kites....."

## ACT 4

### 'THE COLONEL'S LADY'

Directed by....Ken Annakin.  
Photography by Reg Wyer.  
Starring.....Linden Parker.  
                    Nora Swinburne.  
                    Ernest Thesiger.  
                    Felix Aylmer.  
                    Henry Edwards.  
                    Wilfred Hyde White.

" A husband worries over the meaning  
behind his wife's love poems....."

Quartet was an influential film, employing the combined talents of four solid 2nd Division British directors, Gainsborough's best cinematographers and hand-picked casts, (mixing seasoned veterans, stock character actors and products of the Rank Charm School), in order to create a pot pourri of differing moods and subjects. It would be unfair to single out any one of the four stories for special mention; indeed, perhaps the most enjoyable aspects of the film forty-five years on is playing 'spot-the-star' and submerging yourself in the period social and historical detail.

A less successful sequel - 'Trio' - followed in two years later, but the episodic format has continued to be exploited on an irregular basis up to the present day. Classic examples of the genre include 'Dead of Night', (with its terrifying ventriloquism section, featuring Michael Redgrave) and many horror films, such as 'Tales from the Crypt'. More recently, Scorsese, Coppola and Allen collaborated on the variable 'New York Stories', whilst this May, WNCC will be showcasing two outstanding 1990's examples - 'Orlando', Sally Potter's sumptuous adaptation of Virginia Woolf's celebrated historical fable [May 10th] and 'Night on Earth', Jim Jarmusch's global tale of five taxi drivers and their passengers [May 24th]. The comparison between the three dissimilar films sharing a common format should be interesting.

IAN SOWERBY.

**COMING  
NEXT  
MONTH**

**Goldwater**  
ON  
**Lodge** **BIGSCREEN**

TUESDAY 1 MARCH FOR 1 DAY ONLY AT 8:00 pm

Spectacular musical, directed by Bob Fosse of CABARET fame, which centres around an overworked Broadway director/choreographer who works on a stage show by day, and a film of a stand-up comedian by night.



'It's show time!' Roy Scheider gives the performance of his life as Joe Gideon, Bob Fosse's alter ego in this Fellini-esque autobiography-on-film. This is what *A Chorus Line* should've been, a hymn to the body and human spirit, a devastatingly honest look at dance. A word of warning: the operation sequences are particularly grisly. A tragic, magnificent, prescient work of art. USA 1979/Dir, Choreo Bob Fosse. With Jessica Lange, Ann Reinking, Leland Palmer.

PERFORMANCE ENDS 10.35 p.m.

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