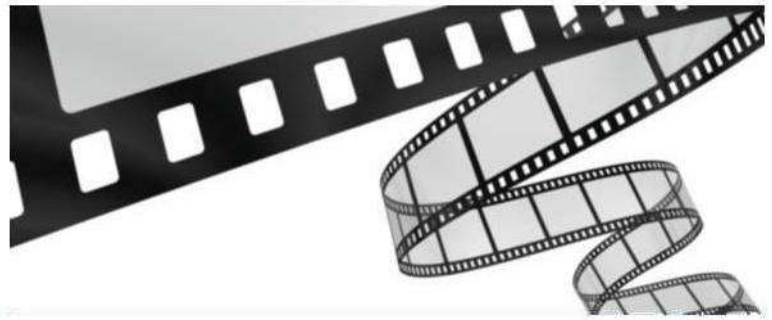


CHELMSFORD FILM CLUB

An Independent film society based in Chelmsford

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Woman at War 2018

Iceland 101 Minutes

Director: Benedikt Erlingsson

Writers: Benedikt Erlingsson, Ólafur Egilsson

Cast:

Halldóra Geirharðsdóttir: *Halla / Ása*; Jóhann Sigurðarson: *Sveinbjörn*; Juan Camillo Roman Estrada: *Juan Camillo*; Jörundur Ragnarsson: *Baldvin*

Icelandic actor, turned director, Benedikt Erlingsson's second feature combines the droll absurdity of Icelandic cinema with a topical eco-terrorism plot and a truly memorable soundtrack.

Halldóra Geirharðsdóttir, plays **Halla**, by day an unassuming choir teacher, but a committed eco-warrior, bent on ridding Iceland of an unwanted aluminium processing plant, by night. As police and army increase efforts to trace the perpetrator, her campaign suddenly becomes more complicated when she receives an approval for a long-forgotten application to adopt a Ukrainian orphan and, at the same time her twin sister Ása (also played by Geirharðsdóttir), a Yoga Instructor who was to be her sister's adoption back-up in case of emergencies, announces plans to move to an Ashram in India for two years. Potential motherhood introduces new-found responsibility and a need for an unblemished criminal record.

There is a lightness of touch both in direction and performance that prevents the film descending into a blunt-edge diatribe on irresponsible commerce destroying our planet, but instead becomes an intriguing character study. Much of the humour in the film comes from the musicians that provide the film's soundtrack, an Icelandic Folk Trio and three colourful Ukrainian a cappella singers. These players pop in and out of the action as accompaniment and silent commentary, occasionally providing musical cues to Halla (seemingly the only one who can see them). In addition, there is a second cameo appearance from the hapless Spanish Tourist, **Juan Camillo** (last seen being rescued from the carcass of his dead horse in [Of Horses And Men](#)) enduring a second Icelandic Holiday in Hell.

Our next presentation:

[The Sisters Brothers](#) will be shown on Tuesday, 17 December, starting at 8:00pm.

PLEASE NOTE: in response to a request from members at the recent AGM, the club will be holding a discussion event after the screening of [Custody](#) on Thursday 9th January. It will be held in the foyer of the Cramphorn Studio and will be a chance for members to reflect on the season so far; all are welcome.