

## Course details

### Course title

Film & Media: 5 Forgotten Classics from Ealing & Gainsborough

### Course code

Q00017778

### Course date

Start: 20/09/24

End: 18/10/24

### Number of classes

5 sessions

### Timetable

Fri 20th Sep, 14:00 to 16:00

Fri 27th Sep, 14:00 to 16:00

Fri 4th Oct, 14:00 to 16:00

Fri 11th Oct, 14:00 to 16:00

Fri 18th Oct, 14:00 to 16:00

### Tutor

George Cromack

### Fee range

Free to £37.00

## **How you'll learn**

You'll join a small group of fellow learners for classes online in video meetings and materials will be provided in our virtual learning environment.

Got it!

Online

## **Venue**

Online

## **Level of study**

Beginners

## **Course overview**

Exploring five arguably lesser known classics produced by British film studios Ealing and would be 'rivals' Gainsborough, both stalwarts of 1940s and early 1950s cinema. Ealing Studios are still renown for their many now classic comedies produced throughout the 1940s and into the 50s but perhaps the repeated focus on the same films has lead to other equally remarkable classics from their own studio becoming overshadowed. Likewise, a repeated focus on Ealing Studios has perhaps stolen praise from other British studio of the era Gainsborough. This course aims to reinvestigate some of these 'forgotten' classics.

## **Course description**

Exploring five often overlooked cinematic works produced by British film studios - Ealing, best remembered for their comedies of the post-war era into the 1950s, and Gainsborough equally noted for their sometimes edgy period melodramas. Gainsborough Studios were founded in 1924 and produced films up to 1951, it was during the 1940s that they became most noteworthy for their costume melodramas featuring a regular stars - James Mason, Margaret Lockwood and Stewart Granger to name a few. Far from stuffy period pieces some of these were rather risqué, attracting the attention of the censors, Gainsborough also providing the firm footing

for a young Alfred Hitchcock before his move to Hollywood. Ealing, remembered now for their post-war comedies also produced equally popular more socially aware and historically set films, yet these films now appear overshadowed by their comedies. We explore the aspects of these British films from a particular era considering their appeal now and also looking deeper into their undercurrent of social and political issues. Picking from a varied selection arguably less frequently discussed examples, we examine their appeal then and now. *Fanny by Gaslight* (1944), *The Wicked Lady* (1949), *Mandy* (1955), *Champagne Charlie* (1953), *The Lady Vanishes* (1938).

## **What financial support is available?**

We don't want anything to stand in your way when it comes to bringing Adult learning within reach so if you need anything to support you to achieve your goals then speak to one of our education experts during your enrolment journey. Most of our courses are government funded but if you don't qualify or need alternative financial help to access them then let us know.

## **What other support is available?**

All of our digital content, teaching and learning activities and assessments are designed to be accessible so if you need any additional support you can discuss this with the education experts during your enrolment journey and we will do all we can to make sure you have optimal access.

**Source URL:** <https://www.wea.org.uk/courses/languages-culture/film/20-september-film-media-5-forgotten-classics-ealing-gainsborough>