

Virtual Cinema to screen seven new releases in July

Saturday, July 4, 2020

Your team in Activities is excited to let you know about seven new Virtual Cinema titles that will be coming available throughout the month of July. Links to the films that will be available beginning July 10 will be in the Monday-morning PebbleNews July 13, but if you are eager to watch them before then, you can always visit the [Virtual Cinema page](#) on the HOA website where we will update the rental links as soon as we receive them. A similar pattern will be the case for the films coming available on July 17 and July 31. This is due to the general rules of practice that the film companies have been releasing the virtual titles on Wednesdays.

There is a great deal of excitement about the forthcoming documentary film directed by Ron Howard, **Rebuilding Paradise**, it will be released July 31. In addition we are delighted to bring an incredible film back to PebbleCreek, **Tanna**, a film members of Cinema Society watched a few years ago as part of the season's offerings. It is an extraordinary film, made all the more amazing by the fact that only natural light was used during filming. It is a spectacular film, beautifully shot. It was one of the five films nominated for best Foreign Language Film at the 2017 Academy Awards.

Here is a listing and summary of each of the films coming in July. Some of the films have the rental fees listed, and some we are waiting for along with the links to the streaming rentals. The information below is the only information we have at this time. As the titles come closer to being released, we will share more details as they are shared with us.

To be released July 10



The Tobacconist

A tender, heart-breaking story about one young man and his friendship with Sigmund Freud during the Nazi occupation of Vienna. Seventeen-year-old Franz journeys to Vienna to apprentice at a tobacco shop. There he meets Sigmund Freud (Bruno Ganz), a regular customer, and over time the two very different men form a singular friendship. When Franz falls desperately in love with the music-hall dancer Anezka, he seeks advice from the renowned psychoanalyst, who admits that the female sex is as big a mystery to him as it is to Franz. As political and social conditions in Austria dramatically worsen with the Nazis' arrival in Vienna, Franz, Freud, and Anezka are swept into the maelstrom of events. Each has a big decision to make: to stay or to flee? Based on the international bestseller by Robert Seethaler. Directed by Nikolaus Leytner. German (with English subtitles). Starring Bruno Ganz (Downfall, Wings of Desire) as Sigmund Freud. [View the trailer for The Tobacconist](#)

Tanna

On the tiny Pacific island of Tanna in the Vanuatu archipelago, the younger members of two native tribes are growing restless at the restrictions of their cultural traditions. Especially upset are Wawa and Dain, whose secret plan to wed is thwarted by rival chiefs, and rather than submit, the young couple disappears into the jungle. [View the trailer for Tanna.](#)



Tanna is an extraordinary Australia/Vanuatu co-production. It is a 'Romeo and Juliet' story set in one of the world's last true tribal societies. It is the first feature film shot entirely in the South Pacific nation of Vanuatu. The film was shot entirely on location in and around the village of Yakel on Tanna Island. Co-director Bentley Dean lived with his family for seven months in Tanna. Most of the cast played their own roles in the film, and Dain was cast because he was considered the village's most handsome man. The film's dialogue is shot in the Nauvhal and Nafe languages, which are used in Yakel. The cast members did not regard the filming as being difficult because their roles were "performing what we were used to in our daily life." The people of this remote community,

high in the mountain rainforests near a spitting volcano, truly wear grass skirts and penis sheaths and have rejected colonial and Christian influences in favor of their traditional and pure "Kastom" system of laws and beliefs. Their customs and lifestyle have changed little for centuries. Before Tanna, they had never before seen a movie or a camera, yet welcomed the filmmakers to live with the tribe for seven months where they absorbed stories and observed ceremonies, with the input and collaboration of the local people. None of the 'cast' had ever acted before, but astonishingly, they passionately and naturally re-created this real-life story from recent tribal history as if they had had years of training. Tanna is a spectacularly lush and exotic film, nominated for the Academy Awards Best Foreign Film of 2017.

To be released July 17



Ella: Just One of Those Things

Ella Fitzgerald was a 15 year-old street kid when she won a talent contest in 1934 at the Apollo Theatre in Harlem. Within months she was a star. "Ella: Just One of Those Things" follows her extraordinary journey over six decades as her sublime voice transforms the tragedies of her own life and the troubles of her times into joy. The film uses never-before-seen images and unheard interviews to bring Ella Fitzgerald to life and to tell the story of her music – a black woman who makes her career in the face of horrifying racism. [View the trailer for Ella: Just One of Those Things](#)

Here is an Ella the world never knew – tough, thoughtful, funny, a dazzling musical innovator. The film also uncovers Ella's commitment to the battle for Civil Rights; and it explores the conflicts that always haunted this intensely private woman: the struggle to reconcile her hunger for adoring audiences with her longing for a domestic life with her husband and son. At a time when she was the biggest singing star in the world, her pianist and friend Oscar Peterson said Ella was "the loneliest woman in the world". But as Jamie Cullum says "her music is one of the reasons it's worth being on this planet". Featuring interviews with: Tony Bennett, Jamie Cullum, Laura Mvula, Johnny Mathis,

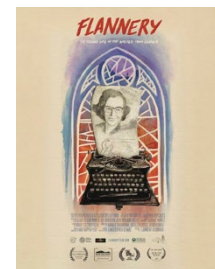
Smokey Robinson, Cleo Laine, Andre Previn, Norma Miller, Patti Austin, Itzhak Perlman, Margo Jefferson, Will Friedwald and a rare interview with Ella's son, Ray Brown Jr.

Rental fee is \$12. [*Click here to rent "Ella: Just One of Those Things"](#) Upon completing your purchase, you have 7 days to begin watching. After you have started watching, you will have 3 days to finish viewing the film. *This title is available for pre-order.

[View the discussion](#) -- with author & music critic Will Friedwald, "Just One of Those Things" producer Reggie Nadelson, Pulitzer Prize-winning author/journalist Margo Jefferson and composer, multi-instrumentalist & vocalist Camille Thurman, recorded June 28.

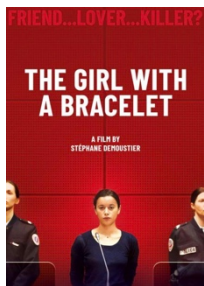
Flannery: The storied life of the writer from Georgia

The life and work of American author Flannery O'Connor, whose distinctive Southern Gothic spin on Bible-thumping prophets and murderous Misfits influenced a generation of artists and activists, is explored through her own writings and cartoons, archival footage and interviews with those who knew her best. Winner of the first-ever Library of Congress Lavine/Ken Burns Prize for Film, Flannery is the lyrical, intimate exploration of the life and work of author Flannery O'Connor, whose distinctive Southern Gothic style influenced a generation of artists and activists. With her family home at Andalusia (the Georgia farm where she grew up and later wrote her best known work) as a backdrop, a picture of the woman behind her sharply aware, starkly redemptive style comes into focus. A devout Catholic who collected peacocks and walked with crutches (due to a diagnosis of lupus that would take her life before the age of 40), O'Connor's provocative, award-winning fiction about southern prophets, girls with wooden legs and intersex "freaks" was unlike anything published before (or since). Over the course of her short-lived but prolific writing career (two novels, 32 short stories and numerous columns and commentaries), O'Connor never shied away from examining timely themes of racism, religion, socio-economic disparity and more with her characteristic wit and irony. Including conversations with those who knew her and those inspired by her (Mary Karr,



Tommy Lee Jones, Lucinda Williams, Hilton Als and more), Flannery employs never-before-seen archival footage, newly discovered personal letters and her own published words (read by Mary Steenburgen) alongside original animations and music to elevate the life and legacy of an American literary icon. [View the trailer for Flannery](#). “Flannery is an extraordinary documentary that allows us to follow the creative process of one of our country’s greatest writers.” —Ken Burns, Documentarian (The Civil War, Country Music)

To be released July 31



The Girl with a Bracelet

Sixteen year-old Lise is accused of murdering her best friend. Her parents stand by her as naturally expected. But once in court, her secret life begins to unfold and the plot thickens. Who is Lise really? Do we really know the ones we love? This third feature by writer-director Stéphane Demoustier is a razor-sharp judicial drama with a superb cast. [View the trailer for The Girl with a Bracelet](#)

The Invisible Witness

Adriano Doria, a successful young entrepreneur, wakes up in a hotel room that has been locked from the inside, and next to him is the dead body of his lover, the beguiling photographer Laura. He is accused of murder but pleads not guilty. In order to defend himself, he hires criminal defense lawyer Virginia Ferrara, who is famous for never having lost a case. The emergence of a key witness and his imminent questioning, which could bring him down for good, force Adriano and his lawyer Ferrara to prepare his defense strategy and to find proof of his innocence in just three hours. Forced into a corner, Adriano will have to tell the whole truth. [View the trailer for The Invisible Witness](#)





Rebuilding Paradise; from Director Ron Howard

On the morning of Nov. 8, 2018, a devastating firestorm engulfed the picturesque city of Paradise, California. By the time the Camp Fire was extinguished, it had killed 85 people, displaced 50,000 residents and destroyed 95% of local structures. It was the deadliest U.S. fire in 100 years —and the worst ever in California’s history.

Rebuilding Paradise, from Academy Award-winning director Ron Howard, is a moving story of resilience in the face of tragedy, as a community ravaged by disaster comes together to recover what was lost and begin the important task of rebuilding. [View the trailer for Rebuilding Paradise](#) "A sincere and skillfully assembled tribute to a community's fortitude." –Lesley Felperin, The Hollywood Reporter

Source: Traci Baker, Director of Community Activities & Communications