

Bond is Back at BFI Southbank

The BFI and EON Productions are excited to announce a very special season of films and events to mark the centenary of Albert R ‘Cubby’ Broccoli – the man who brought Bond to the big screen.



Albert R. Broccoli (1909-1996) also known as ‘Cubby’ was the driving force behind bringing James Bond to the big screen. Born into an Italian-American family, Broccoli’s early career in Hollywood started as an assistant director on a Howard Hughes picture, *The Outlaw*, directed by Howard Hawks. In 1952 Broccoli started his producing career when he came to England and launched Warwick Films with Irving Allen. Broccoli’s interest in **Ian Fleming**’s “Bond” stories, led him to Canadian producer, Harry Saltzman. Together they formed EON Productions and in 1962 produced the first James Bond film, *DR NO* (1962). When Harry Saltzman sold his share to United Artists in 1977, Broccoli continued as the “man behind Bond” producing a further seven films before passing the torch on to his stepson Michael G. Wilson and daughter, Barbara Broccoli.

To celebrate this legacy, and the impact of the franchise on film culture, **BFI Southbank** will present a dazzling retrospective of Broccoli’s work in April and May 2009. Bond films must be seen as they were originally intended, on the big screen, and all James Bonds will be represented.

Highlights of the season will include the re-release of *From Russia With Love* (1963) and masterclasses in Bond led by key film talent. Exclusive exhibitions from EON and BFI archives will present the look of Bond, and with ‘Bond school’ in the Easter holidays, we will revisit the style, music and history of the world’s favourite secret agent. In addition, there will be a BFI Weekender including events, Q&A’s and games to entice anyone along for a shaken not stirred weekend of merriment. There will also be exciting events for younger Bond fans and a special **Family Funday** (did you know that Broccoli also brought us that childhood classic *Chitty Chitty Bang Bang* (1968)?!).

And this is just the beginning of our mission...

APRIL PROGRAMME

From Russia With Love – EXTENDED RUN (Digital print)

Fri 24 April – Thur 7 May

Broccoli considered *From Russia With Love* (1963) as one of the best Fleming stories. Connery once again excelled and was well supported by a great cast including Robert Shaw, wonderfully menacing as a brutal killer; and Lotte Lenya as Russian SPECTRE agent Rosa Klebb, with the famous poison-tipped knife device in her shoe. The film also features many distinctive Bond motifs for the first time (a pre-credit sequence; iconic main titles; John Barry's first score and a sweeping theme song; Desmond Llewelyn as Q, etc) and its huge success firmly established the 007 films as a cultural phenomenon.

UK 1963. Dir Terence Young. With Sean Connery, Robert Shaw, Lotte Lenya 115min. PG.
Courtesy of Park Circus Films

The Red Beret

Broccoli's first producing credit features Alan Ladd as a Canadian who joins the British paratroopers in 1940.

UK 1953. Dir Terence Young. With Alan Ladd, Susan Stephen, Harry Andrews. 88min. U

Fri 10 April 15:50 NFT3, Mon 13 April 18:40 NFT2, Sat 18 April 18:20 NFT2

Hell Below Zero

Ladd plays an adventurer helping a girl (Tetzel) discover the truth about her father's death in the Antarctic.

UK 1953. Dir Mark Robson. With Alan Ladd, Joan Tetzel, Basil Sidney, Stanley Baker. 90min. U

Fri 10 April 18:10 NFT3, Fri 17 April 20:40 NFT2

The Cockleshell Heroes

A fine wartime actioner, shot in semi-documentary style, delivers a well-acted, thoroughly absorbing take on the true story of Colonel 'Blondie' Hasler, who led a team of marines in tiny boats on a mission to destroy German warships. It was shot in Portugal.

UK 1955. Dir José Ferrer. With Trevor Howard, Victor Maddern, Dora Bryan. 97min. U

+ *April in Portugal*

UK 1955. Dir Euan Lloyd. 20min Travelogue narrated by Trevor Howard.

Sat 11 April 15:50 NFT2, Fri 17 April 18:15 NFT2

Fire Down Below

Allen and Broccoli's Warwick Films were getting a reputation for exotic locations and this time they were in the Caribbean for a tale of two partners in a fishing business falling out over a woman. Broccoli's first encounter with Bernard Lee, later to become a fixture of the Bond films.

UK 1957. Dir Robert Parrish. With Rita Hayworth, Robert Mitchum, Jack Lemmon. 115min. PG

Sat 11 April 18:20 NFT2, Sun 26 April 18:15 NFT2

How to Murder a Rich Uncle

Black comedy about an impoverished baronet and his family who try to solve their financial problems by murdering their rich uncle from Canada. Michael Caine appears in a small role in the film, one for which he had been short-listed with another young actor: Sean Connery.

UK 1957. Dir Nigel Patrick. With Nigel Patrick, Charles Coburn, Katie Johnson 79min. U

Sat 11 April 20:50 NFT2, Mon 13 April 20:40 NFT2, Tue 21 April 20:40 NFT2

The Trials of Oscar Wilde

Suffering financially from the collapse of their own distribution company, Eros, Allen and Broccoli desperately needed this film to be a hit but, despite critical acclaim and British awards, it was banned from cinemas in the US due to its controversial content.

UK 1960. Dir Ken Hughes. With Peter Finch, Yvonne Mitchell, Nigel Patrick, Lionel Jeffries. 70min

Sun 12 April 15:50 NFT3, Tue 14 April 20:30 NFT3, Thu 16 April 20:40 NFT2

Dr No

Sean Connery was cast in the lead role and the film featured the usual Broccoli touch of exotic locations: this time Jamaica and surrounding waters, from which a bikini-clad Ursula Andress memorably emerged.

UK 1962. Dir Terence Young. With Sean Connery, Ursula Andress, Joseph Wiseman. 105min. PG. New digital restoration

Wed 8 April 19:45 NFT1*; Tue 14 April 11:00 NFT2**; Wed 15 April 18:20 NFT2; Thu 16 April 18:30 NFT1; Sun 19 April 20:50 NFT1. * Introduction by **Michael Wilson**, ** Parent & Baby screening

Goldfinger

To many, the quintessential Bond film and a brilliant third entry in the series. Here Bond gets his Aston Martin, spars with two statuesque British beauties (Honor Blackman and Shirley Eaton) and pits his wits against a memorable villain, Auric Goldfinger. Add the first Shirley Bassey theme song and some exciting action sequences and the result is an explosive cocktail.

UK 1964. Dir Guy Hamilton. With Sean Connery, Honor Blackman, Gert Fröbe. 109min. PG.
New digital restoration
Sat 18 April 20:45 NFT1, Sat 25 April 18:15 NFT2, Wed 29 April 14:30 NFT2

Thunderball

While recuperating at a health farm, Bond uncovers a SPECTRE plot to steal nuclear bombs. When the plan succeeds, Bond travels to the Bahamas to face the sinister Emilio Largo and – in an extended underwater sequence – sets out to recover the bombs.

UK 1965. Dir Terence Young. With Sean Connery, Claudine Auger, Adolfo Celi. 130min. PG.
New digital restoration
Sun 19 April 18:00 NFT1, Tue 21 April 18:15 NFT1, Wed 29 April 18:00 NFT1

You Only Live Twice

As the space race heated up in real life, so the Bond franchise looked to the stars with SPECTRE hijacking US spacecraft with a view to inciting a war between Russia and the US. Bond travels to Japan to find the SPECTRE secret base hidden beneath a volcano.

UK 1967. Dir Lewis Gilbert. With Sean Connery, Donald Pleasence, Mie Hama. 116min. PG.
New digital restoration
Wed 22 April 18:20 NFT1, Sat 25 April 20:40 NFT1, Tue 28 April 20:40 NFT2

On Her Majesty's Secret Service

Connery's decision to quit as Bond left Broccoli and Saltzman with a headache. The press went into overdrive speculating on Connery's successor; while the producers chose good-looking Australian actor George Lazenby after successful screen tests.

UK 1969. Dir Peter Hunt. With George Lazenby, Telly Savalas, Diana Rigg. 140min. PG.
New digital restoration
Sun 26 April 15:00, 20:20 NFT1, Wed 29 April 20:20 NFT2

The Cubby Broccoli season continues in May with *Chitty Chitty Bang Bang*, *Diamonds are Forever*, *The Man with the Golden Gun*, *The Spy Who Loved Me*, *Moonraker*, *For Your Eyes Only*, *A View to Kill*, *The Living Daylights*, *Tomorrow Never Dies*, *The World is Not Enough*, *Casino Royale*, *Quantum of Solace* and much more...

- END -

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NOTES TO EDITORS:

The benugo bar & kitchen

Eat, drink and be merry in panoramic daylight. benugo's décor is contemporary, brightly lit and playful with a lounge space, bar and dining area. The place to network, hang out, unpack a film, savour the best of Modern British or sip on a cocktail.

There's more to discover about film and television through the BFI. Our world-renowned archival collections, cinemas, festivals, films, publications and learning resources are here to inspire you.

Booking information

The BFI Southbank is open to all. BFI members are entitled to a discount on all tickets. BFI Southbank Box Office tel: 020 7928 3232. Unless otherwise stated tickets are £8.60, concs £6.25 Members pay £1 less on any ticket. Website www.bfi.org.uk/southbank

EON PRODUCTIONS

EON Productions/Danjaq, LLC, is owned by the Broccoli family and has produced twenty two James Bond films since 1962, including *QUANTUM OF SOLACE*. The James Bond films, produced by Michael G. Wilson and Barbara Broccoli, make up the longest running franchise in film history and include the recent blockbuster films *GoldenEye*, *Tomorrow Never Dies*, *The World is Not Enough*, *Die Another Day* and *Casino Royale*. EON Productions and Danjaq LLC, are affiliate companies and control all worldwide merchandising of the James Bond franchise.

***** PICTURE DESK *****

A selection of images for journalistic use in promoting BFI Southbank screenings can be found at www.image.net under BFI / BFI Southbank / April 2009/ Cubby Broccoli