

## FILM TALK

We are delighted that you are keen to participate in the new monthly HFS film discussion group - Film Talk - which will initially be held on Zoom at 5pm on the day after each film's screening in the Victoria Hall:

**Pavarotti** (HLSI screening date 17 December at 8pm; Zoom Film Talk discussion group 18 December at 5pm)

**Woman at War** (HLSI screening date 21 January at 8pm; Zoom Film Talk discussion group 22 January at 5pm)

**Sink or Swim** (HLSI screening date 18 February at 8pm; Film Talk discussion group 19 February at 5pm)

**Yuli: The Carlos Acosta Story** (HLSI screening date 18 March at 8pm; Film Talk discussion group 19 March at 5pm)

You will be sent a Film Talk Zoom invite in plenty of time, and if you need any further information, please [email: president@hlsi.net](mailto:president@hlsi.net).

We will look forward to seeing you on Zoom in the first instance to discuss **Pavarotti**, and we do hope that you will be able to come to the HLSI and see the films shown there, as it's a much nicer experience to watch with other people and on a big screen. If that's what you plan to do, please do remember to book your ticket(s) by 1pm on the day of the screening: <https://hlsi.net/whats-on/pavarotti/>.

If you can't or don't want to come to the HLSI at the moment, however, there are a couple of ways to watch each of the films listed above in your own time before each Film Talk discussion group:

- a) you can buy or borrow a DVD from your preferred source and watch it via your DVD player;
- b) you can watch it on **Amazon**.

For those of you unfamiliar with this online streaming service, here's some information to hopefully remove some of the mystery:

Amazon is a platform for watching films online, as well as for buying books and other goods, and has by far the biggest range of films to either buy or rent to watch on screen. If you do not have an existing account with Amazon you will need to set one up, with credit card details, to enable you to purchase or rent films. You can find out how to do that through their website - <https://www.amazon.co.uk> - and you can cancel your account with them at any time. You will only be charged for what you buy - there are no joining or monthly payments unless you want to become an **Amazon Prime Member**. Membership of Amazon Prime gives you good reductions on film renting/purchasing (including some free films included with membership), as well as other non-film-related benefits, and might be worthwhile if you watch films or buy goods online regularly. Again, you can find out about Amazon Prime Membership on the Amazon website.

You will also need a reasonably up-to-date computer, laptop or smart tv to be able to access the films to watch. If you would like to watch on television and yours is an older model, consider buying one of the many low-cost (£30-£50) plug-in devices for a television, such as Amazon Fire, Google Chromecast or Roku Player.

Once you have set up your Amazon or Amazon Prime account, type into the search box at the top of the Amazon page the name of the film to be watched: **Pavarotti**. You will then be taken to the variety of options through which Amazon sells that film. You just need to be a little careful here to choose the right one - there may be an option to buy a DVD, or an unrelated product entirely, but you need to choose the option that says **Prime Video - Rent from £2.49** alongside the image of the film (which will be similar to that on the HLSI's HFS webpage, eg <https://hlsi.net/highgate-film-society/>). You will then be taken to a range of options, including one which says **Rent** (with the price - **£3.49** if you are not a Prime Member - alongside it). Click on that option and you will be taken step-by-step through the purchasing process. You will then have 30 days in which to watch the film, but once you start to watch your time will lapse after 48 hours. You can also buy (rather than rent) the film through this process (by clicking on the relevant option) and it will then be yours to watch on screen for as long as you like.

**All of the films - listed above - which the HFS have chosen to screen at the HLSI until March are available to watch on Amazon, and prices range from £1.99 to £4.99 for non-Prime Members.**

There are other other streaming services available (though none which show our planned range of films) and if you like to watch independent films and are frustrated at not being able to go to the cinema, we can suggest other options to explore. Do remember, also, that if you plan to watch films online on a phone or tablet, you should use your home wi-fi and not your limited data allowance. **And please do check (with your local computer services if necessary) that our suggestions, including our guidance above for watching through Amazon are compatible with your own requirements before you commit to spending any money.**

If you have any questions about the information here, please email [president@hlsi.net](mailto:president@hlsi.net) and we'll do our best to help. Otherwise we will look forward to seeing you on Zoom at 5pm on 18 December for the first Film Talk for a good chat about **Pavarotti**, however you choose to watch it!