



CITY VARIETIES
MUSIC HALL · LEEDS

The
GRAND
Theatre & Opera House Leeds

HYDE PARK
PICTURE HOUSE
Est. 1914

REPORT OF:	██████████, Operations & Programme Manager for Leeds Heritage Theatres (Hyde Park Picture House)
TO:	Leeds City Council Licensing Committee ██████████ Principal Licensing Officer Entertainment Licensing - Leeds City Council Tel: 0113 378 5029 ██████████
SUBJECT:	Film Certification
DATE OF REPORT:	30/07/24

1.0	FILM INFORMATION
Film	The Annihilation of Fish
Director	Charles Burnett
Country, runtime, year	1999, 108mins
Synopsis	The Annihilation of Fish finds Burnett playfully ruminating on ageing and romance, via the guise of a sweet and sincere comedy, as two new tenants (Earl Jones and Redgrave) in an apartment building, both with peculiar eccentricities (Earl Jones has been recently released from a mental institution for fighting with a figment of his imagination: Redgrave has recently broken up with her 'lover' the long-dead 19th century composer Puccini). As the two grow closer together, Burnett uncovers their unique humanity amidst the hijinks and whimsical humour - yet without sensationalising or poking fun at their life experiences.
2.0	DETAILS OF PROPOSED SCREENING
When	Sunday 6 th September 2024
Where	Hyde Park Picture House
Context	<p>"Charles Burnett is one of the finest filmmakers in this country. His pictures speak in a cinematic voice that is uniquely and completely his own." Martin Scorsese, Founder and Chair of The Film Foundation.</p> <p>Charles Burnett may be one of the great American directors of the past half-century, playing a part in formulating the famed LA Rebellion school and bringing a hardnosed reality to tales of Black American life. And yet, The Annihilation of Fish, starring James Earl Jones, Lynn Redgrave and Margot Kidder, is a rare light-hearted work from him. That it has gone without distribution since release is as absurd an indictment of the vagaries of film industry politics as you could possibly find. Only now is this being rectified. A 4K</p>

	restoration by UCLA Film & Television Archive and The Film Foundation with funding provided by the Hobson/Lucas Family Foundation. We'll be screening the film in our reRun strand as part of the Cinema Rediscovered tour, supported by BFI awarding funds from National Lottery.
3.0	SCREENER AVAILABLE?
Yes/No	Yes.
	If Yes, complete, 4.0. If No, complete 5.0
4.0	RECOMMENDED CLASSIFICATION – SCREENER AVAILABLE
4.1	We advise that a 15 certificate is required for the film The Annihilation of Fish.
	In making this recommendation we have taken into account the following nine areas which the BBFC use to determine certificates and we can speak to each to explain our recommended certificate.
4.2	Dangerous Behaviour / Suicide and self-harm
	References to suicide and a brief, non-graphic attempt (gun), but is not endorsed or graphic.
4.3	Discrimination
	Implied discrimination within narrative and in conversation between the characters. Multiple references to mental health throughout, although not negatively.
4.4	Drugs
	Some alcohol misuse, but the affects are seen negatively.
4.5	Language
	Some strong language, but not very strong language.
4.6	Nudity
	n/a
4.7	Sex
	One scene of sexual activity, and references to sex but no graphic detail.
4.8	Sexual Violence and Sexual Threat
	n/a
4.9	Threat and Horror
	n/a
4.10	Violence
	n/a
5.0	CLASSIFICATION – SCREENER UNAVAILABLE
5.1	We advise that the film *** is given a *** certificate.
	Any film without a screener for the committee to view, an 18 certificate is required by Leeds City Council, with reference to the below disclaimer.
Disclaimer	This film does not contain any content which would more likely than not, render the film liable to be classified as R18 if considered in accordance with the BBFC Classification Guidelines.
6.0	PREVIEW COPY (Sharing is prohibited by copyright)

Trailer link	
Screener link	██
Password	████████████
Alternative copy details & notes	Please ensure this screener is kept secure due to copyright.

Certification Controls at Hyde Park Picture House

As per our premises licence, the Hyde Park Picture House follows BBFC certification guidance, which is listed with each individual film on our [website](#).

We have several checks in place to manage access to films based on this guidance. These checks are as follows:

- Our [terms & conditions page](#) includes clear guidance on certification in a way audiences can understand and which includes a link to the BBFC if further information is required.
- Certificates are added to every listing on our box office system in addition to our website and this limits the tickets available to films where appropriate. E.g. An audience member can't buy a child's ticket for a 15 or 18 certificate film.
- We have also established a Content Guidance system which allows us to give additional content information to audiences to help them make informed choices about what they watch. Full guidance on this can be found on our [website](#).
- Adding the cert to the Box Office system also enables our Front of House staff to identify the age restrictions for films. All staff are fully trained to both understand and then manage certification and age restrictions for films, so we can both advise on entry and appropriateness of a film and refuse sales where required.
- All tickets bought in advance or on the day are checked by a staff member on the door to the cinema auditorium so if an underage person has bought a ticket over the phone or internet in advance they would have to engage with a staff member at ticket check point and entry would be refused and ticket refunded.