

# *Shipham Community Cinema*

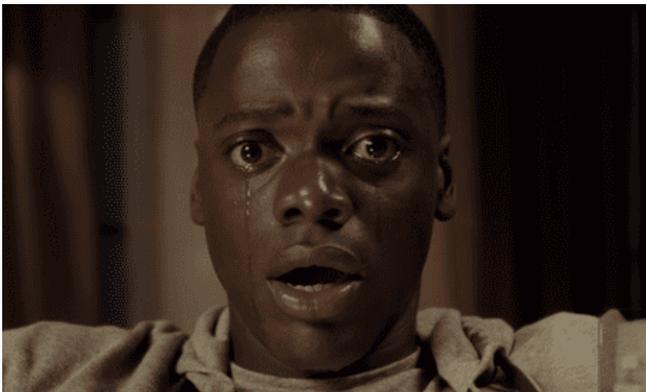
*presents*

**Get Out (15)**

**Director:** Jordan Peele. **Starring:** Daniel Kaluuya, Alison Williams

Another Oscar-winner for SCC. Writer-Director Jordan Peele is the first African American to win the Academy Award for Best Original Screenplay. *Get Out* takes the initial premise of "Guess Who's Coming to Dinner" and then twists it with "The Stepford Wives" to create a compelling, thoughtful critique of white power, offering us a stinging criticism of the white liberalism whose empathy towards blacks only extends as far as white control. He portrays those who profess their lack of racism, but only do so if they can maintain their dominance over black people in the most insidious manner possible. As Chris pointedly notes to Rose at a party full of white people, "Has anyone here ever met a black person that didn't work for them?"

The film is genuinely creepy. Instead of cheesy music and buckets of blood, Peele relies on the unknown to draw you in. What is happening here? The plot builds like a slow boil to a terror explosion. Clues to the outcome are evident from the first second, but it takes the entire run-time to pull everything together. It's such a joy to be surprised by a horror outcome. And the scares are matched by the black humour, laced with social comment to unsettle viewers further.



A strong feature of 'Get Out' is the intelligence of the characters. In a star-making role, British actor Daniel Kaluuya learns that just because you're invited doesn't necessarily mean you're welcome - and the film is all about his struggle to find out what his white girlfriend, Rose (Allison Williams), her creepy parents and the weird black retainers are up to. Chris (Kaluya) is invited home to meet her parents for the first time.

It's a frightening rite of passage for anyone, but Chris has the extra concern that he's black and she's white, so is understandably nervous. Rose brushes off his worry, assuring him that he has nothing to fear and initially, it seems like she's right. Her father (Bradley Whitford) is perhaps a bit too self-consciously liberal ("I would have voted for Obama for a third term" he insists) and her psychiatrist mother a bit too keen to hypnotize him out of his smoking habit, but they're friendly and seemingly unperturbed by his race. But bit by bit Chris calmly and glumly accepts the insidious racism around him before letting rage take over.

Writer-director Peele has dodged the easier route of exposing the racism of redneck hillbillies: instead he has targeted the underlying bigotry of rich liberals and, in doing so, has made something fiercely original. He isn't just interested in making a point. He has made a genuinely scary horror film with a refreshing lack of tired jump scares which, as Benjamin Lee in *The Guardian* points out, "*utilises a queasy atmosphere of dread and a terrifically choreographed escalation of suspense and crowd-pleasing thrills. It's an artfully framed and remarkably accomplished debut film, and Peele has carefully cast an ensemble of skilled actors who effortlessly conjure up a believably fraught dynamic. Get Out is a provocative, button-pushing shocker that buries itself under your skin and lingers, its genre trappings serving as devious delivery for a scathing takedown of liberal white suburbia. It's rare for a studio horror film to feel this fresh and daring and it's arrived at a frighteningly topical moment for a country where racism is scarier than ever.*"

## TONIGHT'S PROGRAMME:

Announcements

Trailers for:

The Shape of Water (showing on 12<sup>th</sup> October)

Journeyman (showing on 9<sup>th</sup> November)

Main feature (105 mins) with a break after about one hour

We welcome your feedback. Tell us what you thought of the show on our Facebook page, by email to [cinema@shiphamhall.co.uk](mailto:cinema@shiphamhall.co.uk) or by filling out a feedback form, (hand it to any committee member).

### THE COMMUNITY CINEMA MEMBERS' FILM LIBRARY

Last season's films are all here along with those near misses that we would love to have shown but didn't have enough slots. More discs have been added to the library.

Just follow Norma's six steps

Our usual many thanks to our sponsors:

