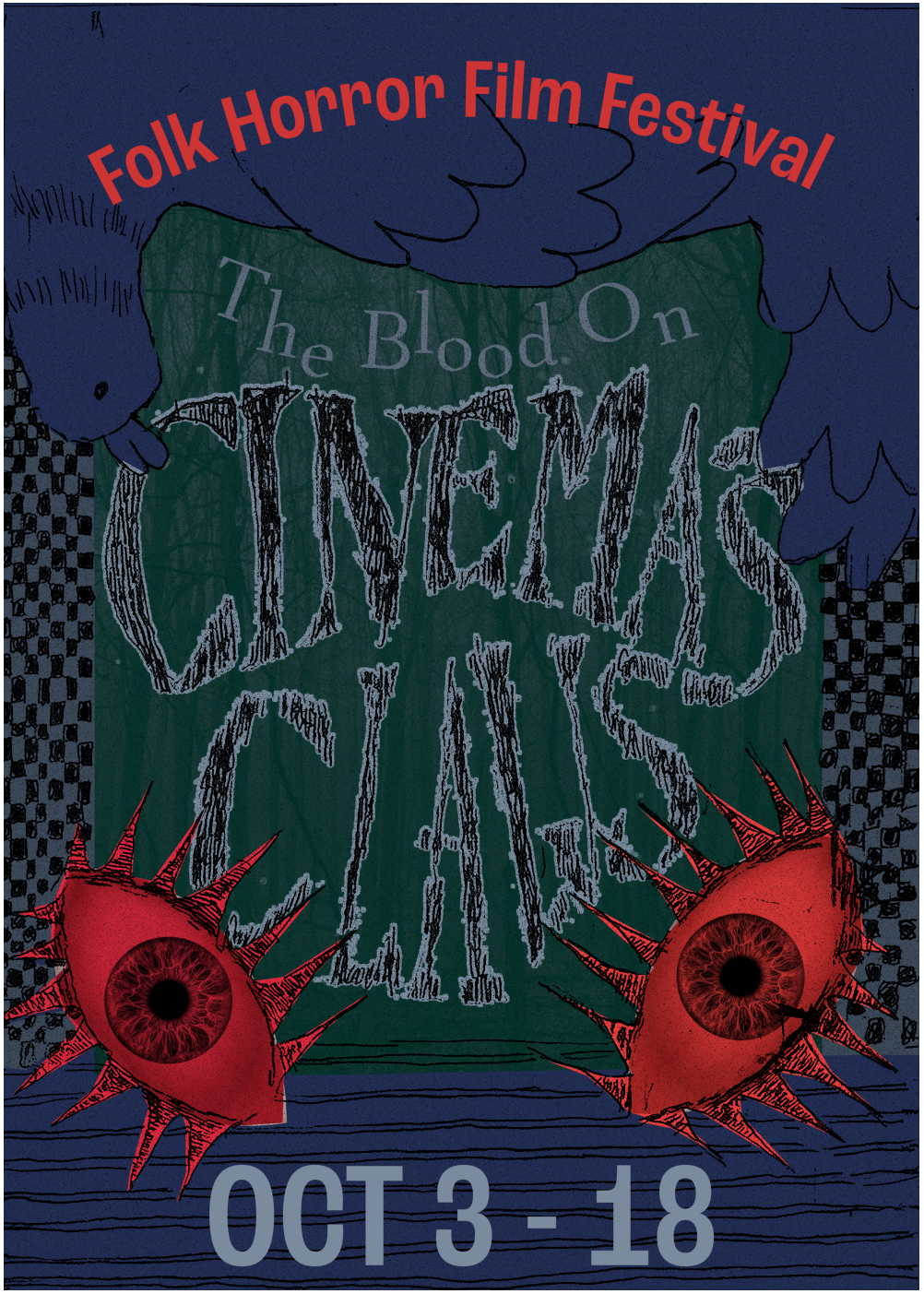
003.
The Blood On Cinema's Claws

The Blood of CInema's Claws is a fictional annual folk horror film festival based in the Wellington region. This project was one where I allowed myself to get a bit craftier with my visual aesthetic, using a lot of multimedia and scanning in the creation of this work. The final output only includes the program brochure itself.



front cover


Folk Horror Film Festival
The Blood On
CINEMAS
OCT 3 - 18

pages 2-3, 4--5, 6-7, 8-9







Top to Bottom: Clearcut (dir. Ryszard Bugajski, 1991), Penda's Fen (dir. Alan Clarke, 1974), The Eve of Ivan Kupalo (dir. Yuri Illienko, 1968)

Welcome to the first Annual Poneke Folk Horror film festival- The Blood on Cine-ma's Claws!

For our offical first (and potentially only) festival celebrating folk horror here in Poneke, we wanted to explore the asymmetrical and oftentimes problematic relationship between folk horror as a cinematic genre and a the real-life practices of folklore which the films borrow much of thier iconography from. Through exploring this theme in our twelve film programme, we hope that the audiences can better understand the push-pull tension between modernism and pastoral antiquity central to the creation of this legendary genre. in order to make the fesitval more digestable we've split our programme into 3 distinct weeks (plus encore screenings on Halloween day)

Week One (Oct 9-11): **British Tradition**- a reflection of the works essential to defining the genre

Week Two (Oct 16-18): **Alternate Histories**- a assessment of films pre-70s that have contributed to the folk horror tradition.

Week Three (Oct 23-25): **New Horizons:** an exploration of films that express a more reflexive and critical engagement with their folkloric material.

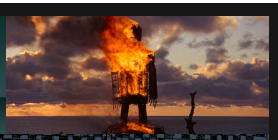
All screenings will be at either the Penthouse cinema (Pe) in Brooklyn or the Lighthouse cinema (Lc) in Te Aro. Happy watching!

The British Tradition

1973 United Kingdom

Starring
Edward Woodward
Christopher Lee
Britt Ekland

93 Minutes



The Wicker Man

Robin Hardy

The one that started it all (or, at least one of the three), Robin Hardy's '73 cult classic needs no introduction. Following reports of a missing girl, Catholic Sergeant Howard (Edward Woodward) ventures to the remote Hebridean islands to investigate. What he eventually comes to discover amongst the idyllic and promiscuous township proved to shock both Howie and viewers in '73. **The Wicker Man** is an absolutely essential watch for anyone with a vague interest in folk horror, and an unmissable night on our

Fri, Oct 9
7:00pm (Pe)

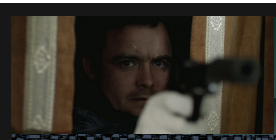
Sun, Oct 11
9:00pm (Pe)

Sat, Oct 31
9:30am (Lc)

2011 United Kingdom

Starring
Neil Maskell
MyAnna Buring
Harry Simpson

95 Minutes



Kill List

Ben Wheatly

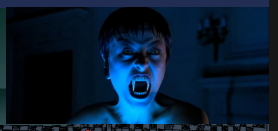
Sat, Oct 10
7:15pm (Pe)

In the world of modern folk horror, no auteur has toiled at the hands of the canon quite like Ben Wheatley. Since the early 2010s, he has made an entire tetralogy of folk horror films. However, among them the most consistently popular has proved to be his 2011 effort, **Kill List**. The film follows hitman Jay (Neil Maskill) as he re-enters the crime world for one last job just to discover far more grisly truths. Kill List finds itself somewhere between a Guy Ritchie picture, a dark psychological thriller and folk horror.

1988 United Kingdom

Starring
Amanda Donohue
Hugh Grant
Peter Capaldi

93 Minutes



The Lair of the White Worm

Ken Russell

The occult and sacrilegious have always been one of the key interests of British cinema's premiere trouble-maker, Ken Russell. However this theme had always stayed in the background of his work until 1988's campy, vampy and a little bit trampy, **The Lair of the White Worm**. Russell's film follows an archaeologist who, after discovering the skeleton of a strange skull, finds himself in close contact with an incredibly sexual Amanda Donohue, who may also secretly be a White Worm. Ladden with ridiculous setpieces and phallic imagery, Russell's film is one that dares to ask what would happen if a folk horror film replaced its cult with a singular cursive seductress.

Fri, Oct 9
9:00pm (Pe)

Sat, Oct 31
9:30pm (Lc)

1974 United Kingdom

Starring
Spencer Banks
John Atkinson
Georgine Anderson

88 Minutes



Penda's Fen

Alan Clarke

Sat, Oct 10
9:00pm (Pe)

Sun, Oct 11
1:00pm (Pe)

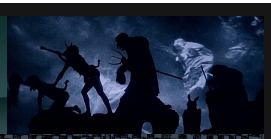
Before Alan Clarke was known for such brutal realist works as Scum (1979) and Elephant (1989), there was the starry-eyed film-maker creating play adaptations for the BBC. Out of this period, the most iconic and lasting work is undeniably the folk horror tale, **Penda's Fen**. Originally written by David Rudkin, the film is an interpretive portrait of a pastor's son (Stephen Banks) who is visited by angels, demons and spirits of England's pagan past as he confronts his own sexuality. Penda's Fen certainly stands out amongst the other films of the original British tradition in its sheer formal audaciousness and undeniable magic..

Alternate Histories

1922 Sweden

Starring
Benjamin Christensen
Ella La Cour
Kate Fabian

105 Minutes



Häxan

Benjamin Christensen

Fri, Oct 16
6:00pm (Pe)

Sun, Oct 18
12:45pm (Pe)

Far and away the earliest film of the festival, Christensen's **Haxan** is undeniably one of the titans of early silent horror and is arguably the earliest example of cinematic folk horror. Don't let the films age fool you however, Haxan is a wild and comprehensive ride through the history of witchcraft with painterly visuals and an instantly memorable ending. Not to say we have Christesen's to thank for the existence of folk horror, but there's no denying this film as a major stepping stone between the morbid fairytale and the modern folk horror.

1968 Ukraine

Starring
Larysa Kadochnykova
Boris Khmelnitsky
Davyd Yanover

71 Minutes



The Eve of Ivan Kupale

Yuri Illienko

Fri, Oct 16
6:00pm (Pe)

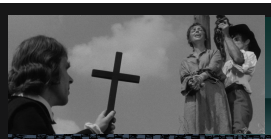
Sun, Oct 18
8:30pm (Pe)

A number of scholars would argue that the very first examples of folk horror can be drawn back to the literature of Ukraine in the mid 19th century. Whilst this is a contentious point, certainly Illenko's The Eve of Ivan Kupalo is a film that reads like the product of a culture that has had a century to develop their generic viewpoint. Based on a short Gogol story, the film follows a farmhand (Boris Khmelnitsky) who becomes a pawn of the devil in exchange for riches he can use to impress the beautiful Pidorka (Larysa Kadochnykova). Ivan Kupalo is likely to prove the wildest film you see all festival, with practically every cinematic technique available being used to dizzying effect in the span of a brisk 75 minutes. Not one to be missed.

1970 Czechoslovakia

Starring
Vladimír Šmeral
Elo Romančík
Soňa Valentová

107 Minutes



Witchhammer

Otakar Vávra

Fri, Oct 16
8:15pm (Pe)

Sat, Oct 31
11:30am (Lc)

Coming out of the endlessly influential Czech New Wave, Varva's **Witchhammer** is the darker, meaner and more cynical cousin of Reeves' Witchfinder General (1968)- which is a film already abundant in those traits. Set in the 1600s, the film charts the conflicts between cruel inquisitor Boblig (Vladimír Šmeral) and relatively pious priest Lautner (Elo Romančík) during the witch trials. Compared to the free-wheeling style of most Czech films during this era, Witchhammer is a cold, brutal film and a powerful indictment of the 1952 Slánský trial.

1964 Japan

Starring
Nobuko Ottowa
Jitsuko Yoshimura
Kei Satō

105 Minutes



Onibaba

Kaneto Shindo

Sat, Oct 17
8:15pm (Pe)

Sun, Oct 31
7:30pm (Pe)

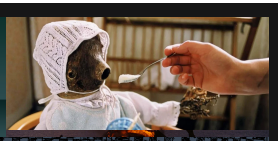
Widely considered the opus of Japan's one (and potentially only) folk horror master, Kaneto Shindo- **Onibaba** is a dizzying dive into the darkest recesses of human selfishness. Following a mother and her daughter-in-law linked by a loved one who's died in war, jealousies and dark secrets arise as the daughter begins an affair with her neighbour much to the mother's discontent. Set in an endless expanse of disorientating tall grass, Onibaba stands as one of the darkest and most audacious films out of Japan's New Wave (which is certainly saying something!)

New Horizons

2000 Czechia

Starring
Kristina Adamcova
Veronika Žilková
Jan Hartl

131 Minutes



Little Otik

Jan Svankmajer

Fri, Oct 23
6:30pm (Pe)

Sun, Oct 25
2:00pm (Pe)

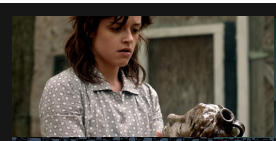
Sat, Oct 31
3:00pm (Lc)

In the realm of the weird, creepy and wonderful animation underground, there is nobody who has reigned supreme as consistently or as long as Czech Jan Svankmajer. His late career film **Little Otik** follows an infertile couple who discover a wood nymph at their holiday cabin which they swiftly adopt as their own. Although it goes smoothly at first, the couple begins to struggle with the creature's insatiable appetite. Always the provocator, Svanmajer's film questions the boundaries between parenthood and occult worship.

2013 United States

Starring
Sean Bridgers
Lauren Ashley Carter
Sean Young

81 Minutes



Jug Face

Chad Crawford Kinkle

Sat, Oct 24
8:00pm (Pe)

Continuing the great tradition of horror films set in the backwards world of the American south, Chad Crawford Kinkle's 2013 film **Jug Face** is a uniquely empathetic take on this genre. Set in an Appalachian community that requires regular sacrifice to keep the township safe, the film follows the young Ada (Lauren Ashley Carter) as she struggles to not become the next martyr. Drawing from his experience growing up in these sorts of communities, Kinkle's film interrogates the societal processes that lead to the creation of insular pagan cultures.

1991 Canada

Starring
Ron Lea
Graham Greene
Michael Hogan

98 Minutes



Clearcut

Ryszard Bugajski

Sat, Oct 24
7:45pm (Pe)

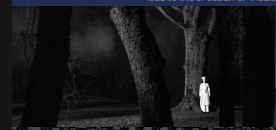
Sun, Oct 25
6:00pm (Pe)

A widely discussed concept in the world of folk horror studies is the inherent anti-rural bias that comes with the premise of the genre. Bugajski's 1991 film **Clearcut** is a direct interrogation of this element. The film follows a white lawyer (Ron Lea) who gets paired with a shamanistic indigenous activist (Graham Greene) as he goes on a violent revenge spree against the logging company which is destroying his home. Although the white lawyer considers himself an ally of the indigenous people's culture, the film tests just how far people in positions of privilege are willing to go for their beliefs (hint: not very). An excellent film anchored by an unforgettable Graham Greene performance.

2017 Estonia

Starring
Rea Lest-Liik
Jörgen Liik
Arvo Kukumägi

115 Minutes



November

Rainer Sarnet

Fri, Oct 23
10:00pm (Pe)

Sun, Oct 31
11:00pm (Lc)

Coming out of Estonia in 2017, Rainer Sarnet's **November** has quickly risen to one of the last decade's most notable cult horror films, and it's easy to see why. Combining the gothic antiquity of Eggers with the free-wheeling surrealism of a Jodorowsky, November is a largely plotless film about various Estonian villagers partaking in the dark arts to survive a particularly brutal winter. Complete with a bible-crushing pig, strange wooden automatons and a vague werewolf mythos, November is a reminder that dank folk tales were oftentimes as silly and irreverent as they were twisted and hoary.


New Horizons
Onibaba
Kaneto Shindo
1964 Japan
Starring
Nobuko Otowa
Jitsuko Yoshimura
Kei Satô
105 Minutes
Oct 17
8:15pm (Fr)
Sat, Oct 18
8:00pm (Sa)
Fri, Oct 31
8:00pm (Fe)
New Horizons


Witchhammer
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Alternate Histories