



MAY 2020 NEWSLETTER

Hello to all our members.

Here is a quick message from Vivienne Bond, our President:

At the time of writing this, there have been a few noises coming from the government about gradually lifting restrictions.

It is still my guess that council venues such as theatres will remain closed until at least August 31, and we don't know what conditions they will operate under when they are open.

As mentioned in the last newsletter, as soon as we hear more, I'll let you know.

In the meantime, please know that the Film Society committee is still meeting regularly over Zoom and looking to the future.

We are aware that membership will need to be extended on a pro rata basis into next year to make up for the screenings we were unable to provide in 2020. More on this when we know more.

Our DVD libraries are sitting quite idle at the moment, so if you would like to borrow a DVD or two, please send an email to **Jim Cluberton** (j.cluberton@bigpond.com) for Warburton or **Lorraine Sorrell** (lorrainesorrell@yahoo.com.au) for Healesville to reserve your picks. The DVD(s) can then be left out for you to come and collect from their homes. Please make the subject heading in the email "DVD request".

A catalogue of DVDs can be found on our website, www.yarrarangesfilmsociety.org.au. Simply click on the Film Library tab, then click on the link "attached tabulation" under either Feature Films or Short Films. The catalogue will show if the DVD is available at Warburton, Healesville or both.

Have you seen any films lately on streaming services or free-to-air (or from your personal collections) that you would like to tell our members out? The film could even be an old classic that has been forgotten about.

A review for the newsletter would be great.

It does not have to be long; just a paragraph or two is fine.

Please send any review to Seth (sethhyneswriter@australiaonline.net.au). Please make the subject heading in the email "member's film review".

I hope to see you soon.

Vivienne Bond
YRFS President.

The pandemic and lockdown has been a rocky emotional journey for many of us.

It took me quite a while to adapt and become active and productive again, and I have faith that Australia is well-equipped to track, isolate and care for new cases, respond to outbreaks and prevent the disease from taking hold in our country.

I certainly hope so.

While I am very much looking forward to the time when I can cautiously see friends in person again – and especially looking forward to when cinemas reopen; I'm itching to see *Dune*, *Wonder Woman 1984* and *Tenet* – I must stress that the imminent relaxing of restrictions does not mean we are **safe**.

We are safer than before, as there are relatively few active cases of Covid-19 in Australia and our intensive care units are at very high capacity, but we must continue social distancing to prevent the virus's spread, and the lifting of restrictions does not mean you can crowd the aisles of shopping centres or hold parties with reckless abandon.

Even now, you could still catch or spread the disease, so we must be responsible and continue to do our part in suppressing the coronavirus.

Our President mentioned streaming services as a prominent medium for film-watching. I've been keeping up my film column for the Mountain Views Star Mail by reviewing Netflix movies, and to my surprise – I only joined Netflix in 2018 – my top ten list of this year's best films is thus far predominantly populated by Netflix movies.

Lost Girls (#9) is a slightly unfocused but ominous and superbly-acted true-story drama.

Code 8 (#7) is a compelling urban character drama with effective world-building and a novel spin on the superhero genre.

Horse Girl (#6) is a surreal, hardhitting but sensitive portrayal of mental illness featuring a riveting lead performance from Alison Brie.

Extraction (#5) is a brutal, extremely-polished action film with solid performances and phenomenal tension.

The Platform (#2) is an enthralling, gut-wrenching Spanish social satire about class and being trapped in the systems of those in power.

The Decline (#1) is an intelligent French-Canadian thriller with an outstanding subtle escalation of dread.

Do you keep a running list of the year's best and worst films? If so, I'm curious to hear your picks.

I decided to have some fun with this newsletter to keep our spirits up in the absence of Film Society programming, so I made an assortment of humorous cinema-related artwork.

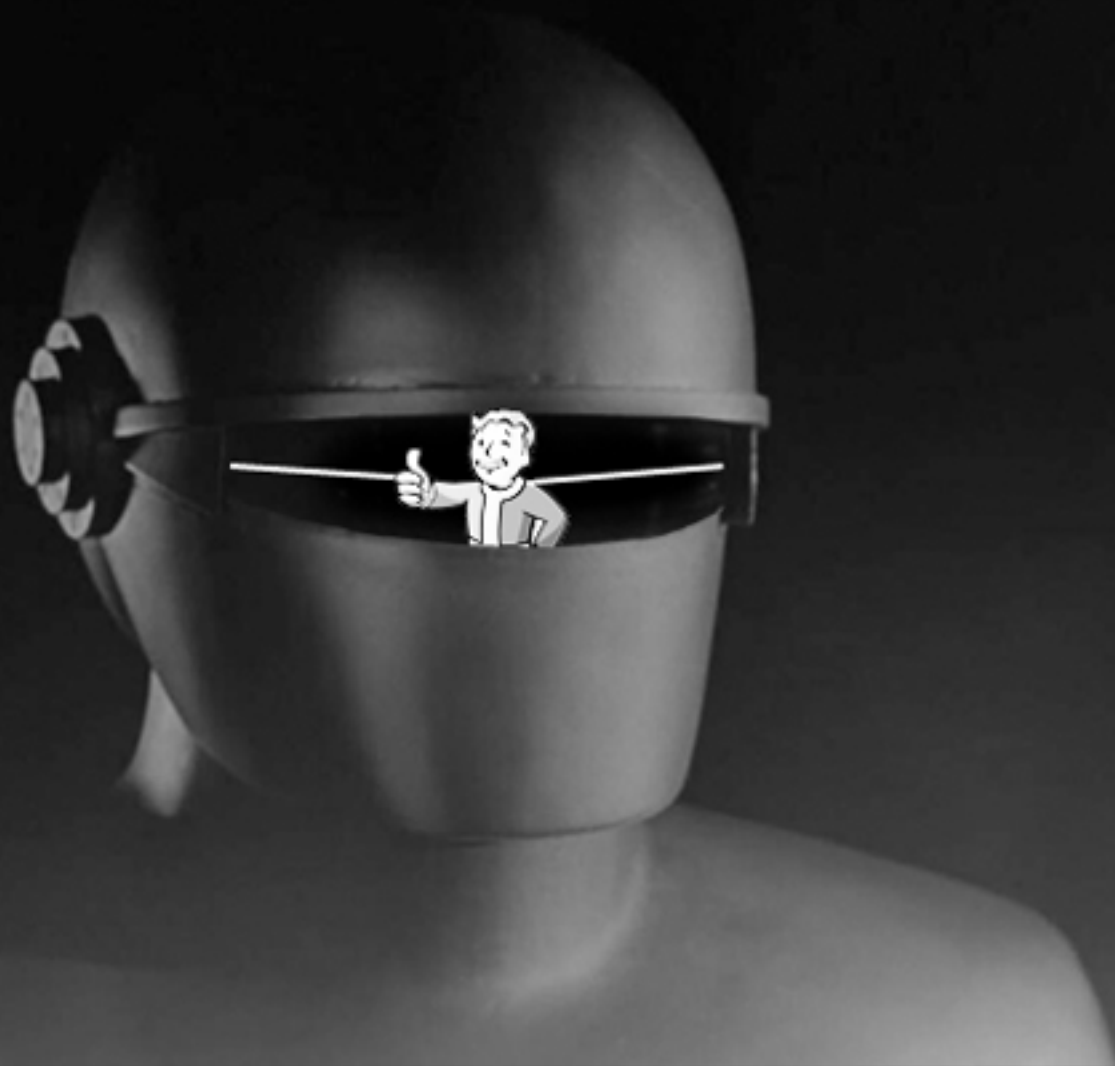
You'll find a PSA about a benevolent robot, an ad for the *Dune* coming up soon and the *Dune* that might have been, an appeal for a different, more monstrous kind of crisis, and my personal venting about a cinema triple-feature I've been trying to get off the ground for years.

I had fun making these, and I hope you enjoy them.

Cheers.
Seth

ABSOLUTE AND IRREVOCABLE

TRUST GORT



**HE'LL KEEP YOU IN
TO KEEP THE CORONAVIRUS OUT**

**WE HAVE A SYSTEM
AND IT WORKS**

VILLENEUVE'S



18 DECEMBER
2020

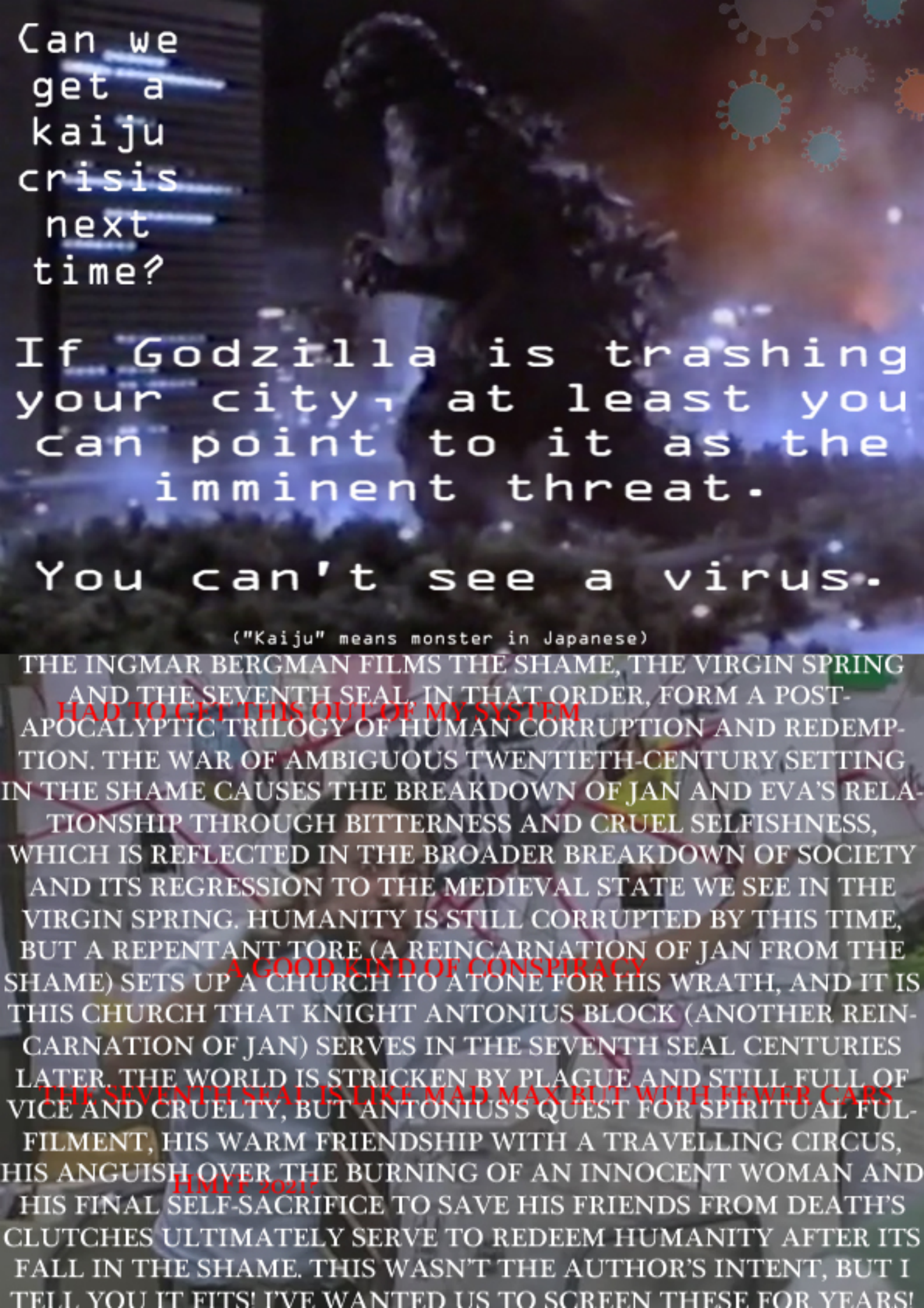


JODOROWSKY'S
DUNE

1978ish



SOMEWHERE IN THE MULTIVERSE



Can we
get a
kaiju
crisis
next
time?

If Godzilla is trashing
your city, at least you
can point to it as the
imminent threat.

You can't see a virus.

("Kaiju" means monster in Japanese)

THE INGMAR BERGMAN FILMS THE SHAME, THE VIRGIN SPRING
AND THE SEVENTH SEAL, IN THAT ORDER, FORM A POST-
APOCALYPTIC TRILOGY OF HUMAN CORRUPTION AND REDEMP-
TION. THE WAR OF AMBIGUOUS TWENTIETH-CENTURY SETTING
IN THE SHAME CAUSES THE BREAKDOWN OF JAN AND EVA'S RELA-
TIONSHIP THROUGH BITTERNESS AND CRUEL SELFISHNESS,
WHICH IS REFLECTED IN THE BROADER BREAKDOWN OF SOCIETY
AND ITS REGRESSION TO THE MEDIEVAL STATE WE SEE IN THE
VIRGIN SPRING. HUMANITY IS STILL CORRUPTED BY THIS TIME,
BUT A REPENTANT TORE (A REINCARNATION OF JAN FROM THE
SHAME) SETS UP A CHURCH TO ATONE FOR HIS WRATH, AND IT IS
THIS CHURCH THAT KNIGHT ANTONIUS BLOCK (ANOTHER REIN-
CARNATION OF JAN) SERVES IN THE SEVENTH SEAL CENTURIES
LATER. THE WORLD IS STRICKEN BY PLAGUE AND STILL FULL OF
VICE AND CRUELTY, BUT ANTONIUS'S QUEST FOR SPIRITUAL FUL-
FILMENT, HIS WARM FRIENDSHIP WITH A TRAVELLING CIRCUS,
HIS ANGUISH OVER THE BURNING OF AN INNOCENT WOMAN AND
HIS FINAL SELF-SACRIFICE TO SAVE HIS FRIENDS FROM DEATH'S
CLUTCHES ULTIMATELY SERVE TO REDEEM HUMANITY AFTER ITS
FALL IN THE SHAME. THIS WASN'T THE AUTHOR'S INTENT, BUT I
TELL YOU IT FITS! I'VE WANTED US TO SCREEN THESE FOR YEARS!

HAD TO GET THIS OUT OF MY SYSTEM

A GOOD KIND OF CONSPIRACY

THE SEVENTH SEAL IS LIKE MAD MAX BUT WITH FEWER CARS

HMYT 2021!