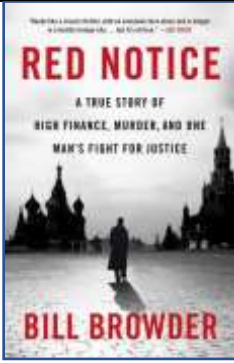




BSAC Members Recommend 2017 Read, Watch, Play and Do

Read:

	<p style="text-align: center;">Red Famine, Anne Applebaum</p> <p>An authoritative history of the ‘political famine’ that Stalin inflicted on agrarian Ukraine in the 1930s</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Financial Times</p> <p>Applebaum has drawn back the veil — with the same force, clarity and readability as in her earlier books on the Gulag and on the Soviet post-war conquest of Eastern Europe — on one of the 20th century’s most egregious crimes</p> <p style="text-align: right;">The Spectator</p>
	<p style="text-align: center;">The Membership Economy, Robbie Baxter</p> <p>In her new book, The Membership Economy, Robbie Kellman Baxter, discusses how the Membership Economy is replacing the Ownership Economy—and how it represents a shift in mindset among both the organizations and the customers—not only from ownership to access, but from transactional to relational</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Forbes</p> <p>A well-researched look at how membership organizations have succeeded, and how to replicate that success</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Good Reads</p>
	<p style="text-align: center;">Curation, Michael Bhasker</p> <p>Bhaskar’s book is both a fascinating account of how ‘a little-used word from the world of museums’ has become a 21st-century buzzword</p> <p style="text-align: right;">The Spectator</p> <p>A broad survey of the development and application of curation, focusing on the principal of increased curation/reduction of choice as a pathway to increasing value</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Good Reads</p>



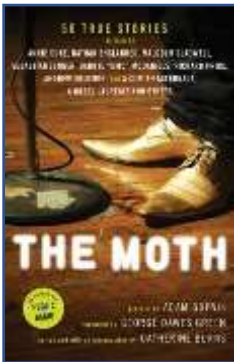
Red Notice, Bill Browder

A gripping account of murder, high finance and the Russian president's Achilles heel

The Guardian

Red Notice is a sizzling account of Mr Browder's rise, fall and metamorphosis from bombastic financier to renowned human-rights activist

The Economist



The Moth, Catherine Burns

Many of these stories are intensely moving. They're sentimental, which is to say they work on an emotional rather than an intellectual plane, engendering a non-specific desire to do better, to stand up straighter, to be kinder to strangers

The Guardian

This will be a beloved read for existing Moth enthusiasts, fans of the featured storytellers, and all who savour well-told, hilarious, and heart-breaking stories

Good Reads



Creativity Inc., Ed Catmull

Just might be the best business book ever written

Forbes

Creativity, Inc. is a book for managers who want to lead their employees to new heights, a manual for anyone who strives for originality, and the first-ever, all-access trip into the nerve center of Pixar Animation—into the meetings, postmortems, and “Braintrust” sessions where some of the most successful films in history are made

Good Reads







The Amazing Adventures of Kavalier and Clay, Michael Chabon

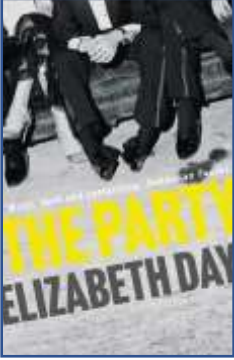


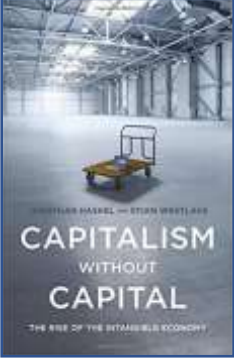
...an adventure story that keeps you up until 4am with the bedside lamp on, eager to learn if the Escapist, and Chabon himself, can free the enslaved and lead them home

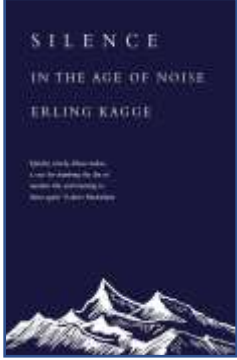
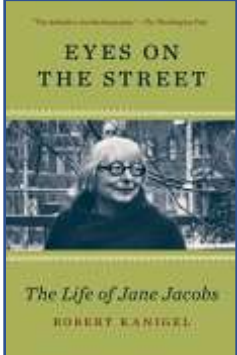
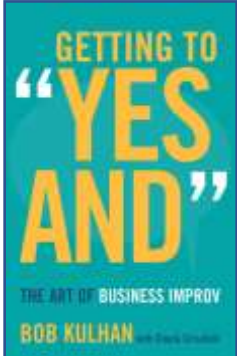

The Guardian

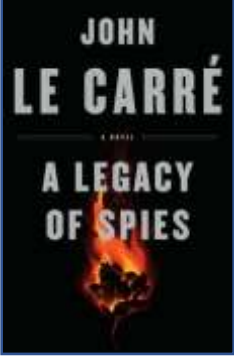
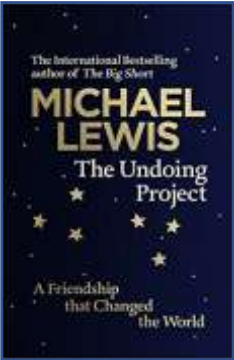
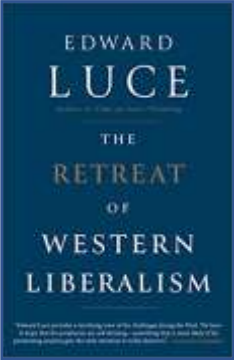
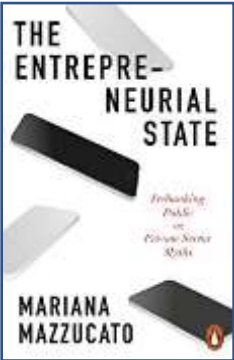
With exhilarating style and grace, Michael Chabon tells an unforgettable story about American romance and possibility

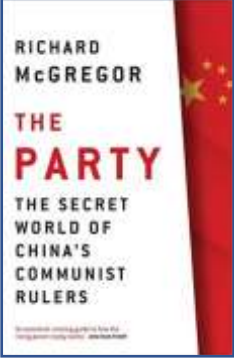


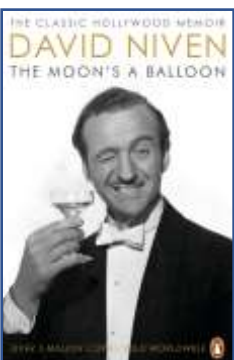
Good Reads

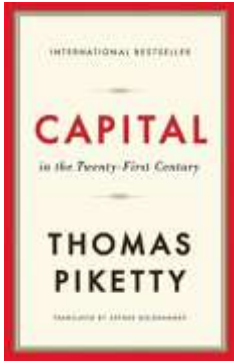
	<p style="text-align: center;">How to Stop Brexit, Nick Clegg</p> <p>A short, sinew-stiffening guide for anyone whose New Year's resolution is to do exactly that</p> <p style="text-align: right;">The Guardian</p> <p>Nick Clegg is out for blood in this attack on the people responsible for Brexit</p> <p style="text-align: right;">The Times</p>
	<p style="text-align: center;">Ready Player One, Ernest Cline</p> <p>A book filled with references to video games, virtual reality, '80s pop-culture trivia, geek heroes like E. Gary Gygax, and funny-sounding cult items like Frobozz and Raaka-Tu. Yet it works for people who like books without pictures too</p> <p style="text-align: right;">The New York Times</p> <p>It has it all – nostalgia, trivia, adventure, romance, heart and, dare I say it, some very fascinating social commentary</p> <p style="text-align: right;">The Huffington Post</p>
	<p style="text-align: center;">When They Go Low, We Go High, Philip Collins</p> <p>It deserves to find a home in many Christmas stockings, in the library of anyone interested in oratory or political theory, and on the odd A-level reading list... he brings to his analyses a deep understanding of the pragmatics of speech-making</p> <p style="text-align: right;">The Guardian</p> <p>Collins... understands intimately the mechanics of rhetoric. He believes that we, as human beings, possess the capacity to extract ourselves from the swamp in which we have sunk. Great speeches, the author suggests, are the solution to Trump</p> <p style="text-align: right;">The Times</p>
	<p style="text-align: center;">The Hidden man, Charles Cumming</p> <p>If you had to criticise The Hidden Man, you might say it was so slickly done, so mindful of its place in the spy genre and so precocious a feat that it reads like an invoice to a publisher for a large cheque as much as an actual thriller. But that would be perverse, because it is so entertaining</p> <p style="text-align: right;">The Daily Telegraph</p> <p>A thriller that delves into the complicated double lives of spies, and what happens when their half-told secrets die with them</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Good Reads</p>

	<p style="text-align: center;">The Party, Elizabeth Day</p> <p>A boarding school boy becomes obsessed with a rich classmate in Day's gripping novel about secrets, betrayal and the British establishment</p> <p style="text-align: right;">The Guardian</p> <p>A gripping story of obsession and betrayal, privilege and hypocrisy, set in the unassailable heart of the British establishment</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Good Reads</p>
	<p style="text-align: center;">The Four, Scott Galloway</p> <p>In his new book, <i>The Four</i>, Galloway, an entrepreneur and professor at NYU Stern, provides a perceptive analysis of the four-horse race to become the first trillion-dollar company</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Wired</p> <p><i>The Four</i> is a fantastic, provocative book about where we are now and where we are going</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Huffington Post</p>
	<p style="text-align: center;">The Humans, Matt Haig,</p> <p>For all its later outbreaks of Vonnadorian mawkishness, <i>The Humans</i> still deserves to live long and prosper</p> <p style="text-align: right;">The Guardian</p> <p><i>The Humans</i> is a funny, compulsively readable novel about alien abduction, mathematics, and that most interesting subject of all: ourselves</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Good Reads</p>
	<p style="text-align: center;">Capitalism without Capital, Jonathan Haskell & Stian Westlake</p> <p>Needs to be read by anyone seeking to understand the nature of modern capitalism and its politics</p> <p style="text-align: right;">The Times</p> <p>An intriguing book... Perhaps the most surprising facts in a book full of surprises is how large investments in intangible assets in research and development, software, databases, artistic creations, designs, branding and business processes now are... They have mapped the economics of a challenging new economy</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Financial Times</p>

	<p style="text-align: center;">Silence: In the Age of Noise, Erling Kagge</p> <p>A short, semi-philosophical quest about finding inner silence that is already a cult bestseller in Norway, France and Italy</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Evening Standard</p> <p><i>Silence: In the Age of Noise</i> (stillhet i støyens tid: gleden ved å stenge verden ute) is a meditative, essayistic account of silence in the modern world</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Good Reads</p>
	<p style="text-align: center;">Eyes on the Street: The Life of Jane Jacobs, Robert Kannigel</p> <p>Kannigel (The Man Who Knew Infinity) captures the life and character of Jane Jacobs (1916–2006), a stubborn, principled activist and the doyenne of urban planning</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Publishers Weekly</p> <p>A revelation</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Good Reads</p>
	<p style="text-align: center;">Getting to “Yes And”, Bob Kulhan</p> <p><i>Getting to "Yes And"</i> is an eye-opening and innovative business book written by a business person and professor for business people."</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Soundview Executive Summaries</p> <p>...improv performer, university professor, CEO, and consultant Bob Kulhan unpacks a form of mental agility with powers far beyond the entertainment value of comedy troupes</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Good Reads</p>
	<p style="text-align: center;">Dawn of New Everything, Jaron Lanier</p> <p>Jaron Lanier is both cheerleader and doomsayer in a highly personal story of virtual reality</p> <p style="text-align: right;">The Guardian</p> <p>A terrific book on the eccentric Silicon Valley genius who's making virtual reality... a reality</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Evening Standard</p>

	<p style="text-align: center;">Legacy of Spies, John Le Carré</p> <p>John le Carré revisits old ground in a polished thriller with a distinct valedictory tone to it</p> <p style="text-align: right;">The Guardian</p> <p>A truly wonderful, morally complex, politically astute novel written with elegance and panache</p> <p style="text-align: right;">The Scotsman</p>
	<p style="text-align: center;">The Undoing Project, Michael Lewis</p> <p>Michael Lewis tells the compelling story of Amos Tversky and Daniel Kahneman, whose behaviourist theories led to his own bestseller Moneyball</p> <p style="text-align: right;">The Guardian</p> <p>Michael Lewis could spin gold out of any topic he chose ... his best work ... vivid, original and hard to forget</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Financial Times</p>
	<p style="text-align: center;">The Retreat of Western Liberalism, Edward Luce</p> <p>A knowledgeable tour through the unmapped terrain in which Western politicians and governments must now operate</p> <p style="text-align: right;">The Economist</p> <p>Luce is at his best writing about America, on which his knowledge is voluminous... his writing has a vigour and sweep all too absent in the deadly prose of social scientists; and he has identified a fundamental question facing democracies</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Financial Times</p>
	<p style="text-align: center;">The Entrepreneurial State, Mariana Mazzucato</p> <p>This book has a controversial thesis. But it is basically right</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Financial Times</p> <p>Superb. At a time when government action of any kind is ideologically suspect, and entrepreneurship is unquestioningly lionized, the book's importance cannot be understated</p> <p style="text-align: right;">The Guardian</p>

 <p>The cover of 'The Party' by Richard McGregor features a white background with a red vertical stripe on the right side containing the Chinese flag's stars. The text on the cover includes 'RICHARD MCGREGOR', 'THE PARTY', and 'THE SECRET WORLD OF CHINA'S COMMUNIST RULERS'.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">The Party, Richard McGregor</p> <p>A book that is as informative as it is entertaining... China has been transformed. The system that takes the credit is brilliantly described by McGregor</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Financial Times</p> <p>An eye-opening investigation into china's communist party and its integral role in the country's rise as a global superpower and rival of the united states</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Good Reads</p>
 <p>The cover of 'Down Second Avenue' by Es'kia Mphahlele features a colorful, geometric pattern in red, black, and white. The title 'DOWN SECOND AVENUE' is written in a stylized, blocky font across the middle. The author's name 'ES'KIA MPHAHLELE' is at the bottom.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Down Second Avenue, Es'kia Mphahlele</p> <p><i>Down Second Avenue</i> vividly dramatized the injustices of apartheid and became a landmark work of South African literature</p> <p style="text-align: right;">The New York Times</p> <p>Down Second Avenue is a foundational work of literature that continues to inspire activists today</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Good Reads</p>
 <p>The cover of 'Under the Net' by Iris Murdoch features a dark, textured background with a central illustration of a group of people in a room, possibly a club or a party. The title 'Under the Net' is written in a cursive font. The publisher's name 'VINTAGE MURDOCH' is at the top.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Under the Net, Iris Murdoch</p> <p>Iris Murdoch has imposed her alternative world on us as surely as Christopher Columbus or Graham Greene</p> <p style="text-align: right;">The Sunday Times</p> <p>The first of her 26 novels, about a circle of bewildered and lovesick friends and acquaintances in London, with excursions into aesthetics and left-wing politics. Right out of the gate she displayed all her sinuous gifts — her questing mind, her comic skepticism, her wildly entangled plots.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Time Magazine</p>
 <p>The cover of 'The Moon's a Balloon' by David Niven features a black and white photograph of David Niven in a tuxedo, holding a glass of wine. The title 'DAVID NIVEN THE MOON'S A BALLOON' is written in a bold, sans-serif font. The publisher's name 'THE CLASSIC HOLLYWOOD MEMOIR' is at the top.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">The Moon's a Balloon, David Niven</p> <p>Charming, juicy, amusing, racy... a winner all the way</p> <p style="text-align: right;">The New York Times</p> <p>One of the bestselling memoirs of all time, David Niven's The Moon's a Balloon is an account of one of the most remarkable lives Hollywood has ever seen</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Good Reads</p>



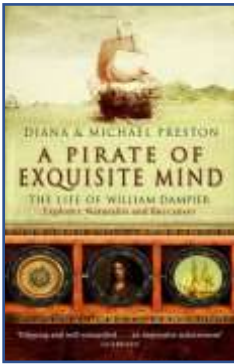
Capital: in the 21st Century, Thomas Piketty

A work of extraordinary ambition, originality, and rigor, Capital in the Twenty-First Century "reorients our understanding of economic history and confronts us with sobering lessons for today"

Good Reads

Piketty deserves huge credit for kickstarting a debate about inequality and illuminating the distribution of income and wealth

The Guardian



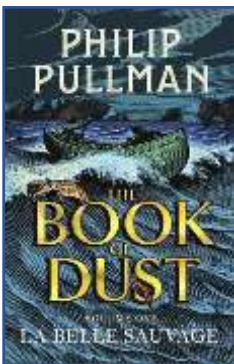
A Pirate Of Exquisite Mind, Diana and Michael Preston

Dampier was treated dismally by parts of the establishment and deserves to be recognised as the great explorer and innovator that he was. This gripping and well-researched narrative is an impressive achievement and an excellent start to that process

The Guardian

A Pirate of Exquisite Mind restores William Dampier to his rightful place in history—one of the pioneers on whose insights our understanding of the natural world was built

Good Reads



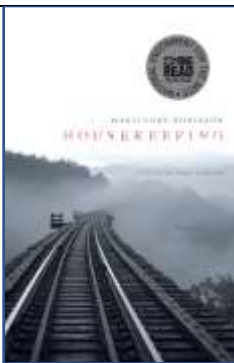
Book of Dust Volume 1: La Belle Sauvage, Philip Pullman

Philip Pullman revisits his great fictional universe with this captivating first story of a new trilogy, The Book of Dust

The Guardian

A rich, dreamlike prequel well worth the wait

The Daily Telegraph



Housekeeping, Marilynne Robinson

Marilynne Robinson's tale of orphaned sisters and their oddball aunt in a remote Idaho town is admired by everyone from Barack Obama to Bret Easton Ellis

The Guardian

The author weaves together biography and family memoir to illuminate a crucial chapter in the development of international law

Good Reads



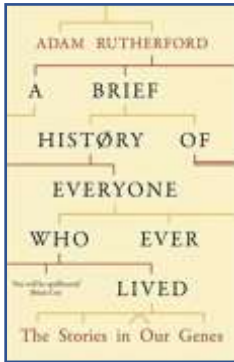
Good Strategy Bad Strategy, Richard Rumelt

Rumelt has always challenged dominant thinking, ever since, in 1972, he was the first person to uncover a statistical link between corporate strategy and profitability - and this is his long-awaited tour de force

Financial Times

Clears out the mumbo jumbo and muddled thinking underlying too many strategies and provides a clear way to create and implement a powerful action-oriented strategy for the real world

Good Reads



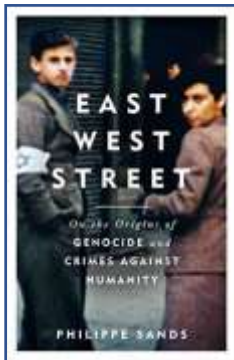
Brief History of Everyone Who Ever Lived, Adam Rutherford

Adam Rutherford's elegant account of the Human Genome Project brings a note of realism to our dreams of a medical revolution

The Guardian

'A Brief History of Everyone Who Ever Lived' is not particularly brief, not exactly a history and not concerned with everyone who ever lived. A more accurate title would be something like "An Omnium-gatherum about Genetics by a Real Smart Guy With an Amusing Prose Style."

The Wall Street Journal



East West Street, Philippe Sands

A compelling family memoir intersects with the story of the Jewish legal minds who sowed the seeds for human rights law at the Nuremberg trials

The Guardian

The author weaves together biography and family memoir to illuminate a crucial chapter in the development of international law

Financial Times




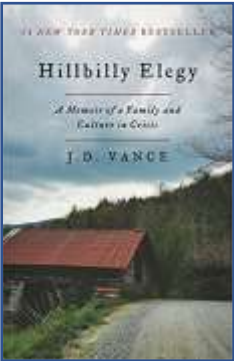
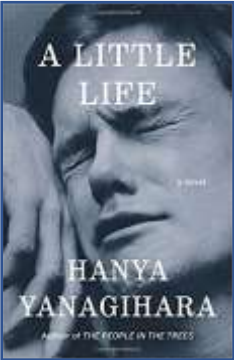
The Mandibles, Lionel Shriver

This biting near-future satire is played out amid a chillingly plausible US economic collapse





The Guardian


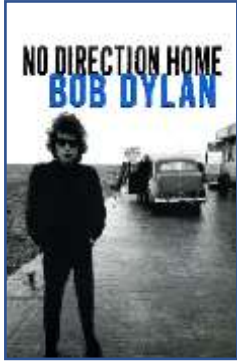
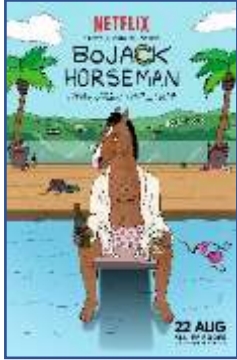

Shriver draws larger than life characters who illuminate this complicated, ever-changing world. One of our sharpest observers of human nature, Shriver challenges us to think long and hard about the society we live in and what, ultimately, we hold most dear




Good Reads

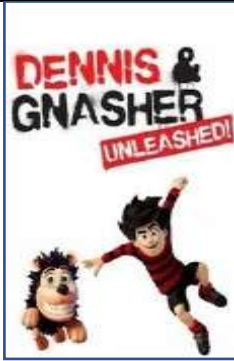



	<p style="text-align: center;">Autumn, Ali Smith</p> <p>Set just after the EU referendum, the first post-Brexit novel is a poignant and subtle exploration of the way we experience time</p> <p style="text-align: right;">The Guardian</p> <p>Ali Smith's Autumn Is a Post-Brexit Masterpiece. In a dazzling, abstract new novel, the Scottish author experiments with time, history, and art to respond to a tumultuous moment</p> <p style="text-align: right;">The Atlantic</p>
	<p style="text-align: center;">Hillbilly Elogy, J D Vance</p> <p>One of the standout successes of 2016, Vance's account of his white working-class origins should be treated with caution by commentators</p> <p style="text-align: right;">The Guardian</p> <p>Part memoir, part historical and social analysis, J. D. Vance's Hillbilly Elogy is a fascinating consideration of class, culture, and the American dream</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Good Reads</p>
	<p style="text-align: center;">A Little Life, Hanya Yanagihara</p> <p>A Little Life asks serious questions about humanism and euthanasia and psychiatry and any number of the partis pris of modern western life. It's Entourage directed by Bergman; it's the great 90s novel a quarter of a century too late; it's a devastating read that will leave your heart, like the Grinch's, a few sizes larger</p> <p style="text-align: right;">The Guardian</p> <p>Hanya Yanagihara's novel is an astonishing and ambitious chronicle of queer life in America</p> <p style="text-align: right;">The Atlantic</p>

Watch:

	<p style="text-align: center;">A Christmas Story</p> <p>This witty, insightful, hugely enjoyable movie is riven with glorious home truths and a merciful lack of saccharin</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Radio Times</p> <p>Delightfully entertaining, with a wryly amusing narration to keep the adults in the audience smirking</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Time Out</p>
	<p style="text-align: center;">A Monster Calls</p> <p>Lewis MacDougall is remarkable as a young boy dealing with grief in an excellent adaptation of the Patrick Ness novel</p> <p style="text-align: right;">The Guardian</p> <p>Part fairy tale/creature feature/domestic melodrama, this adds up to far more than a 'one boy and his monster' story – and is a tougher emotional journey as a result</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Empire</p>
	<p style="text-align: center;">Alias Grace (Netflix)</p> <p>This cerebral true-crime miniseries, brilliantly adapted by Sarah Polley, is just as well done – and just as suited to our times – as The Handmaid's Tale</p> <p style="text-align: right;">The Guardian</p> <p>The creators of this remarkable series are also, notably, all women</p> <p style="text-align: right;">AV Club</p>
	<p style="text-align: center;">An Inconvenient Sequel</p> <p>New challenges – and a science-dismissing US President – make Gore's sequel to his 2006 film feel both cinematic and compelling</p> <p style="text-align: right;">The Guardian</p> <p>You feel he's got enough wind to power another sequel. What's extraordinary is that this one, after a decade of global-warming fatigue, feels as vital as it does</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Variety</p>

	<p style="text-align: center;">Babylon Berlin (Sky)</p> <p>This big budget, Weimar-era German police drama has plenty of contemporary resonance. And even more debauchery</p> <p style="text-align: right;">The Guardian</p> <p>The acting is good, the visuals are striking, and the plot remains intriguing</p> <p style="text-align: right;">The Times</p>
	<p style="text-align: center;">No Direction Home: Bob Dylan</p> <p>As good as it gets in music documentaries</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Hollywood Reporter</p> <p>A document that will satiate Dylan fans over repeated viewings and should bring naysayers into the Dylan fold</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Variety</p>
	<p style="text-align: center;">Bojack Horseman (Netflix)</p> <p>Netflix's finest show once again balances heart and comedy to perfection</p> <p style="text-align: right;">The Independent</p> <p>The most structurally dazzling and heartbreaking comedy on TV is an animated show about a talking horse</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Vulture</p>
	<p style="text-align: center;">Britain On Film</p> <p>1000s of archive films available to watch on BFI Player, giving people across the UK free access to films and TV that represent the area where they live, grew up or went to school</p>

	<p style="text-align: center;">Call Me By Your Name</p> <p>A cinematic ravishment of the senses with a strong narrative tethering all the feelings and sensuous surfaces</p> <p style="text-align: right;">New York Times</p> <p>Set during an endless Italian summer, this ravishing drama starring Armie Hammer and Timothée Chalamet is imbued with a sophisticated sensuality</p> <p style="text-align: right;">The Guardian</p>
	<p style="text-align: center;">Captain Fantastic</p> <p>A fiercely original, pleasantly unpredictable character piece. This is a gang of outsiders with something valuable to say about the world we live in</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>Empire</i></p> <p>Viggo Mortensen leads an outstanding cast as a grizzled rural eccentric who hits the road with his brood of home-schooled, off-grid children</p> <p style="text-align: right;">The Guardian</p>
	<p style="text-align: center;">Darkest Hour</p> <p>Churchill's darkest hour is Gary Oldman's finest. Gripping, touching, amusing and enlightening, his performance is the prime reason this film must be seen — but not the only one</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Empire</p> <p>Balances the great orator's public triumphs with more vulnerable private moments of self-doubt, elevating the inner workings of British government into a compelling piece of populist entertainment</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Variety</p>

	<p style="text-align: center;">Dennis & Gnasher Unleashed</p> <p>Animated prankster stirs up trouble in fun U.K. kids' show</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Common Sense Media</p>
	<p style="text-align: center;">Film Stars Don't Die in Liverpool</p> <p>A tremendous central duo breathe life into Paul McGuigan's endearing retelling of the real-life romance between a struggling young actor and Oscar-winner Gloria Grahame</p> <p style="text-align: right;">The Guardian</p> <p>Had the film simply been The Annette Bening Show, we'd certainly have coped. But she's matched every step of the way by Bell, in a flat-out career-best performance achieved so naturally it's a marvel</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Daily Telegraph</p>
	<p style="text-align: center;">Grace & Frankie (Netflix)</p> <p>Decades since they starred in 9 to 5, the chemistry between Jane Fonda and Lily Tomlin is palpable, even if the show falls just short of television greatness</p> <p style="text-align: right;">The Guardian</p> <p>This septuagenarian comedy starring Jane Fonda and Martin Sheen is sharp, moving and celebrates the vigour of growing old</p> <p style="text-align: right;">The Daily Telegraph</p>
	<p style="text-align: center;">Happy Valley (BBC)</p> <p>Sally Wainwright is television's great north-country storyteller</p> <p style="text-align: right;">The Times</p> <p>Not to say the Brits are immune to rolling out clunkers. But the chance to take additional detours also paves the way to an off-the-beaten-track gem like Happy Valley</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Variety</p>



Have I Got News For You (BBC)

27 years on and finding its renaissance with current events

BSAC Member



Hidden Figures

Yes, the story may have been panel-beaten into a gleaming, Oscar-friendly shape. That Hidden Figures is still so entertaining and moving is due in large part to a hugely likeable central trio of performances

The Times

This is an immensely likeable film and one that draws overdue attention to a story that has been neglected for far too long

The Independent



I Tonya

Destroyed yet defiant, Robbie walks the emotional tightrope of the most fabulously, tragically American film of the year

Time Out

It's about time we had a world-class feminine lowlife to root for, and this, at long last, is that movie




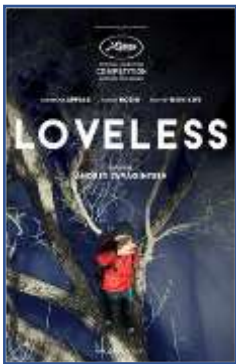
Variety

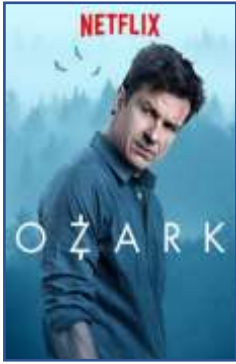







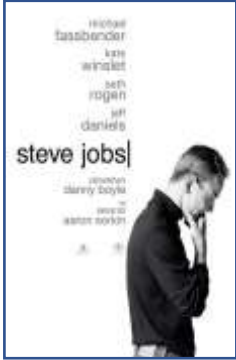

John Oliver (YouTube)





An amazing window on US Politics and thinking from a Brit in the big apple





BSAC Member



	<p style="text-align: center;">Ladybird</p> <p>The actor/writer tells a semi-autobiographical tale of growing up in California with authenticity, warmth and excellent performances from Saoirse Ronan and Laurie Metcalf</p> <p style="text-align: right;">The Guardian</p> <p>It's funny, lively, and then devastating when it needs to be, made with the kind of confidence even its heroine could only dream of</p> <p style="text-align: right;">The Atlantic</p>
	<p style="text-align: center;">Line of Duty (BBC)</p> <p>We're less than 10 minutes in, and I'm a wreck. He likes to start a series using jump leads and a defibrillator, does LoD creator (he is now directing as well as writing) Jed Mercurio</p> <p style="text-align: right;">The Guardian</p> <p>Jed Mercurio's crime procedural could be the best British show of the decade</p> <p style="text-align: right;">The Independent</p>
	<p style="text-align: center;">Love/Hate (5)</p> <p>This powerful show, a huge hit in Ireland, has a strong sense of place and some killer characters</p> <p style="text-align: right;">The Guardian</p> <p>The best drama RTÉ has produced</p> <p style="text-align: right;">The Irish Times</p>
	<p style="text-align: center;">Loveless</p> <p>Russian director Andrei Zvyagintsev has produced another masterpiece in this apocalyptic study of a failed marriage and the subsequent disappearance of a child</p> <p style="text-align: right;">The Guardian</p> <p>Takes an ominous, reverberating look not at the politics of Russia but at the crisis of empathy at the culture's core</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Variety</p>

	<p style="text-align: center;">Ozark (Netflix)</p> <p>A mob accountant relocates his family to rural Missouri in this darkly comic new drama, which simmers with menace but brims with natural beauty</p> <p style="text-align: right;">The Guardian</p> <p>If it does suffer a bit from a very gray color palette and a reliance on prestige tropes, which both presumably signify "seriousness," it comes together under Bateman's disarming and deceptively complex performance as Marty</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Variety</p>
	<p style="text-align: center;">Paddington 2</p> <p>Back from darkest Peru, our hero is at the mercy of unscrupulous actors, but generosity, emotional depth and top-class clowning win the day</p> <p style="text-align: right;">The Guardian</p> <p>It might just be the quirkiest, most quintessentially British film phenomenon of the decade</p> <p style="text-align: right;">The Times</p>
	<p style="text-align: center;">Secret Life of 4,5 & 6 Year Olds (Channel 4)</p> <p>Made in the same spirit that brought us <i>Seven Up!</i>... this is groundbreaking stuff</p> <p style="text-align: right;">The Daily Telegraph</p> <p>This endlessly fascinating fly-on-the-wall film follows Jack, Daisy, Tianno and all as they try on identities to see which one fits</p> <p style="text-align: right;">The Guardian</p>
	<p style="text-align: center;">Secret Seven (Theatre)</p> <p>Imaginative reworking of Enid Blyton's stories that's faithful to the flavour of the originals</p> <p style="text-align: right;">The Stage</p>


	<p style="text-align: center;">Skam</p> <p>A wildly popular web show about Oslo high-schoolers that resonated for its realism</p> <p style="text-align: right;">The Atlantic</p> <p>It might just be the most popular programme you've never heard of</p> <p style="text-align: right;">The New Statesman</p>
	<p style="text-align: center;">Spin (Channel 4)</p> <p>Perfect for TV politicoholics, this French drama has murder, sex and poetry – and the politicians play second fiddle to the beautiful spin doctors and speechwriters</p> <p style="text-align: right;">The Guardian</p> <p>Think 'Borgen' but with better suits, more pouty politicians and even more steamy interludes in the corridors of power</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Huffington Post</p>
	<p style="text-align: center;">Steve Jobs</p> <p>A drama that is genuinely concerned with thinking and ideas relevant to the way we live now</p> <p style="text-align: right;">The Guardian</p> <p>Danny Boyle's biopic of the late co-founder of Apple Inc is stunningly scripted by Aaron Sorkin and features a microscopically calibrated lead performance from Michael Fassbender</p> <p style="text-align: right;">The Daily Telegraph</p>
	<p style="text-align: center;">Stranger Things (Netflix)</p> <p>From the walkie-talkies to Winona Ryder herself, the new Netflix show is fun, creepy – and couldn't be more of a retro-fest if it had neon eyeshadow or a glowing fingertip</p> <p style="text-align: right;">The Guardian</p> <p>Stranger Things is a rare example of a cultural phenomenon that has delivered wistfulness and familiarity without simply giving audiences more of the same</p> <p style="text-align: right;">The New Statesman</p>



	<p style="text-align: center;">Stranger Things 2 (Netflix)</p> <p>Netflix have thrown more money at last year's surprise hit, and the knowing 1980s references and charming cast deliver another slice of nostalgia</p> <p style="text-align: right;">The Guardian</p> <p>The usual teenage camaraderie and humour is there, but Duffer brothers have ramped up the horror</p> <p style="text-align: right;">The Daily Telegraph</p>
	<p style="text-align: center;">The End of the F***ing World (Channel 4)</p> <p>It's so dark that you can barely make out the humour at all – and yet this adaptation of Charles Forsman's comic is totally convincing</p> <p style="text-align: right;">The Guardian</p> <p>Channel 4's new comedy is an effing triumph</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Radio Times</p>
	<p style="text-align: center;">The Final Year</p> <p>For most viewers inclined to check out a film about the subject, it will be hard not to cry</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Hollywood Reporter</p> <p>Under the current circumstances, Barker has given us a film with much broader appeal, one that's not only absorbing but also essential in its depiction of humane, responsible leadership</p> <p style="text-align: right;">The Wrap</p>
	<p style="text-align: center;">The Killing of A Sacred Deer</p> <p>Working as a profound meditation on karma, predestination and guilt and a proper scary movie, this is near career-best work from all involved. Be warned: this is tough stuff</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Empire</p> <p>Deadpan humour meets full-blooded horror in Yorgos Lanthimos's unsettling drama about a surgeon's friendship with a teenage boy</p> <p style="text-align: right;">The Guardian</p>




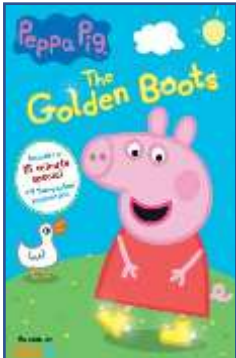
	<p style="text-align: center;">The Leftovers (HBO/Sky)</p> <p>Yes, <i>The Leftovers</i> is baffling... There is a beauty about it too, though. Plus promise - that if you put the effort in you will be rewarded, with a drama that is more about people after a catastrophic event, than the event</p> <p style="text-align: right;">The Guardian</p> <p>Damon Lindelof (<i>Lost</i>) and Peter Berg (<i>Friday Night Lights</i>) actually form the perfect partnership for this complex parable</p> <p style="text-align: right;">indieWire</p>
	<p style="text-align: center;">The Social Network</p> <p>David Fincher captures the spiteful personalities and hyperactive spirit of the age with the story of Facebook's creation</p> <p style="text-align: right;">The Guardian</p> <p>A rich, understated character drama that gleefully exposes the petty playground politics at the centre of one of the internet-era's most bitter court cases</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Empire</p>
	<p style="text-align: center;">The State (Channel 4)</p> <p>This Isis drama is clever, gripping and genuinely enlightening</p> <p style="text-align: right;">The Guardian</p> <p><i>The State</i>, while a meticulously researched and reportorial series about life inside ISIS, ends up being a parable about isolation and disaffection</p> <p style="text-align: right;">The Atlantic</p>
	<p style="text-align: center;">The Vietnam War (BBC)</p> <p>The famed documentary-maker and his collaborator Lynn Novick bring their brand of meticulous, epic documentary to the murky story of the US's embroilment in south-east Asia</p> <p style="text-align: right;">The Guardian</p> <p>Ken Burns's 'Vietnam War' Will Break Your Heart and Win Your Mind</p> <p style="text-align: right;">New York Times</p>




	<p style="text-align: center;">W1A (BBC)</p> <p>The sharp and witty dialogue is, as always, matched by hilarious performances from the cast</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Evening Standard</p> <p>The gloriously self-mocking comedy is a sign of the corporation's maturity</p> <p style="text-align: right;">The Guardian</p>
	<p style="text-align: center;">Westworld (HBO/Sky)</p> <p>The JJ Abrams-produced HBO reboot of Michael Crichton's 1973 movie is an absolute thrill. Unless you're one of those robots trapped in a grisly Groundhog Day</p> <p style="text-align: right;">The Guardian</p> <p>Like the on-screen robots, its pieces are meticulously put together, its capacity to unleash hell brimming beneath the surface. And it's beautiful to watch</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Daily Telegraph</p>

Play:



	<p style="text-align: center;">Broken Age</p> <p>Tim Schafer's warm, humanist adventure is a game of two halves, but its triumphs outweigh the flaws</p> <p style="text-align: right;">The Daily Telegraph</p> <p>Act 1 of Broken Age is a gorgeous, impeccably written adventure that simultaneously tugs at my nostalgic core, while ushering in a new era for the point-and-click genre</p> <p style="text-align: right;">IGN</p>
	<p style="text-align: center;">Cards Against Humanity</p> <p>Pretty amazing</p> <p style="text-align: right;">The Onion AV Club</p> <p>The game your party deserves</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Thrillist</p>
	<p style="text-align: center;">Codenames</p> <p>Codenames is a deep game with simple rules, it's tense and silly at the same time, and it's fun when you're winning and even better when you're losing</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Shut Up & Sit Down</p> <p>Codenames is a fascinating game</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Opinionated Gamers</p>
	<p style="text-align: center;">Crash Bandicoot N Sane Trilogy</p> <p>Another pleasant form of fan service from Sony, which does seem keen on this kind of thing when you remember it's doing the same with Final Fantasy 7 and Shenmue 3. The intended audience will love it</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Trusted Reviews</p> <p>N. Credible fun.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">IGN</p>

	<p style="text-align: center;">Everything</p> <p>2017's most accessible game</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Polygon</p> <p>The weirdness is intoxicating and, at times, moving</p> <p style="text-align: right;">The Guardian</p>
	<p style="text-align: center;">FIFA 2018</p> <p>Plenty of footballing bang for your bucks</p> <p style="text-align: right;">The Guardian</p> <p>A significant improvement on the pitch.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">The Daily Telegraph</p>
	<p style="text-align: center;">Gang Beasts</p> <p>Probably the funniest fighting game ever made</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Xbox One UK</p> <p>A brilliant, drunken multiplayer brawler</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Eurogamer</p>
	<p style="text-align: center;">Lovers in a Dangerous Spacetime</p> <p>Simply Brilliant</p> <p style="text-align: right;">The Guardian</p> <p>One of the most imaginative, enjoyable and beautifully designed shooters of modern times</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Brash Games</p>
	<p style="text-align: center;">Monument Valley 2 (iOS)</p> <p>An accomplished, charming game, though it stops just short of greatness</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Polygon</p> <p>The puzzle design is two-steps above from the previous title</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Destructoid</p>

	<p style="text-align: center;">Octodad</p> <p>Smartly built, endlessly entertaining, and unexpectedly heartwarming, Dadliest Catch manages to turn an utterly ridiculous concept into one of the most surprising games in recent memory</p> <p style="text-align: right;">EGM</p> <p>In conjunction with its story, characters, and setting, the controls offer an empathetic look into the life of an extreme outsider trying to fit in and trying to do right by his family</p> <p style="text-align: right;">VentureBeat</p>
	<p style="text-align: center;">Old Man's Journey</p> <p>Old Man's Journey is a masterpiece of environmental storytelling, and an utterly flawless game experience</p> <p style="text-align: right;">PC Authority</p> <p>That it manages to be a satisfying experience all without saying a single word is remarkable and definitely worth a look</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Destructoid</p>
	<p style="text-align: center;">Overcooked</p> <p>The best chaotic, co-operative culinary game you've ever played</p> <p style="text-align: right;">The Daily Telegraph</p> <p>One of the freshest couch co-op games I've ever played</p> <p style="text-align: right;">IGN</p>
	<p style="text-align: center;">Peppa Pig: Golden Boots</p> <p>A much better (and cheaper) buy than all the expensive Peppa Pig!</p> <p style="text-align: right;">The iMum</p> <p>This is a great interactive, fun as well as educational game</p>

	<p style="text-align: center;">Rocket League</p> <p>Splitscreen gaming is kept alive and well in this amazing new multiplayer mix of football and destruction derby</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Metro</p> <p>Rocket League is so easy to pick up it's hard to put down</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Polygon</p>
	<p style="text-align: center;">Tearaway</p> <p>Tearaway is a joy. Whether it was a riding a pig towards the sunset or playing basketball with a super-powered accordion, it never failed to make me smile</p> <p style="text-align: right;">IGN</p> <p>A canvas for your imagination</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Gamespot</p>
	<p style="text-align: center;">Towerfall</p> <p>The new gold standard in the local multiplayer renaissance</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Polygon</p> <p>Aggressively focused, humbly spectacular, and nearly unimpeachable in its design</p> <p style="text-align: right;">EGM</p>

Do:

	<p style="text-align: center;">ClueQuest</p> <p>For a successful escape you'll need to exercise the power of teamwork and the deadliest weapon of all - your common sense</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Evening Standard</p>
	<p style="text-align: center;">Lumiere London, 18-20 January</p> <p>The Lumiere light festival returns to brighten up the middle of January. More than 40 UK and international artists will re-imagine London's iconic buildings on both sides of the river</p> <p>Free to visit, it attracted hundreds of thousands over four nights in 2016</p>