

October Meeting:

Waverley Film Society will meet at Wadham House, 52 Wadham Parade, Mount Waverley (MEL 61 E2), on **Wednesday, 14th of October**. Apologies can be left with Brett on 9807 3426.

The film to be screened is *Ladyhawke* (1985).

An escaped thief is rescued by the Knight Navarre, who is cursed.



Last Meeting

- Twenty members attended and there were three apologies.
- The President welcomed all to the first film screening in Spring.
- *The Commitments* scored 2.8 stars.
- Planning is underway for film selection for 2027.

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, November 11th.

The film to be screened is *Muriel's Wedding* (1994).

A young social outcast steals money from her parents for a holiday, where she hopes to find love.



Posters are available for posting in community spaces to advertise the society and the next screening.

The society's website is www.waverleyfilm.org

Our email address is contact@waverleyfilm.org

LADYHAWKE (1985) (Reference: www.imdb.com)

Director: Richard Donner

Writers: Edward Khmara (novel),
Michael Thomas, Tom Mankiewicz

Cinematography: Vittorio Storaro

Music: Andrew Powell

Editing: Stuart Baird

Cast includes:

Gaston

Navarre

Isabeau

Imperius

Bishop

Matthew Broderick

Rutger Hauer

Michelle Pfeiffer

Leo McKern

John Wood

Trivia

- Spike II, the hawk featured in this movie, worked in the Universal Bird Show until 2000. Another hawk was used for flying scenes, and another to sit on Rutger Hauer's arm. One enjoyed Hauer's company so much it would ruffle its feathers when seated on his arm, making it look more like a chicken.
- In one scene, Captain Etienne Navarre (Rutger Hauer) tells Philippe Gaston to ride his horse to Imperius' castle and slaps the horse's rear to make it ride. However, the first time the scene was filmed, Hauer slapped the horse too hard and it took off over the hill and off into the horizon. The horse was too powerful for Broderick to stop, so all everyone could do was sit and wait for him to come back.
- Captain Etienne Navarre rides a Friesian stallion that originated in The Netherlands, Rutger Hauer's native country. The breed was popular among medieval knights. The most prominently used horse was a 19-year-old stallion called "Othello".
- Michelle Pfeiffer would later play another character who falls in love with a man who transforms into a wolf in *Wolf* (1994).
- Three of the castles used for this movie were owned by Italian movie director Luchino Visconti and his family.

Review : The Hawk, The Wolf, and The Thief (Chrysanthepop 2008)

Richard Donner's *Ladyhawke* tells a fascinating tale of cursed love that separates two lovers like day and night (quite literally). What I loved about this film is that even though it's a wonderful mixture of action, adventure, romance and comedy, it is a simple film. The execution is solid and it shows that Donner and his cast and crew have put a lot of heart in the making of the film.

The score is kind of funny. At times there's a beautiful symphony that expresses the beauty of the settings and then, during the action scenes, there's the typical 80's hip track which brings a smile as it nostalgically reminds me of that wild decade. *Ladyhawke* is indeed very beautiful to look at. The cinematography is superb as it gives a very spacious view and the composition of the shots are very well arranged. No CGI has been used and that marvelously stands out as it gives the film a purer look.

.....

The performances are topnotch. A radiant Michelle Pfeiffer completely owns the title role. Her understated performance and quiet yet strong presence (like a hawk) brilliantly contrasts Rutger Hauer's wolfish character. Hauer too does a fine job. An evil Alfred Molino is barely recognizable and Leo McKern wears the menacing look very well. John Wood provides some great comic relief. However, it is Matthew Broderick who stands out. He performs naturally as the vivacious, energetic, deceitful thief who loses his heart to Ladyhawke and at the same time he is determined to reunite the lovers and rescue them from the wrath of the curse.

Overall, 'Ladyhawke' is a beautiful movie that satisfied my film viewing experience. It gives that nostalgic feel, it amuses, it fascinates and it feels enchanting. No wonder it still feels fresh after several decades.