

MVAH ZOOM Movie Club

December 6, 2022, 3pm

Next movie club: January 3, 2023 at 3PM

Attendees:

Caryl Curry
Carol Mattaino
Joe Mattaino
Louise McLean
Robert McLean
Betsy Stevens
Kathi Hanrahan (host)

DECEMBER MOVIES

Movie 1: The Theory of Everything (Netflix)

Rating: 4.7

The Theory of Everything is a 2014 biographical romantic drama film directed by James Marsh. Set at the University of Cambridge, it details the life of the theoretical physicist Stephen Hawking and stars Eddie Redmayne (Oscar for Best Actor) and Felicity Jones. This film tells the story of the most brilliant and celebrated physicist of our time, Stephen Hawking, and Jane Wilde, the arts student he fell in love with while studying at Cambridge in the 1960s. Little was expected from Hawking, a bright but shiftless student of cosmology, after he was given just two years to live following the diagnosis of a fatal illness (ALS) at 21 years of age. He became galvanized, however, by the love of Jane Wilde, and went on to be called the "successor to Einstein," as well as a husband and father to their three children. Over the course of their marriage, however, as Stephen's body collapsed and his academic renown soared, fault lines were exposed that tested the resolve of their relationship and dramatically altered the course of both of their lives. —The Times (Info from Wikipedia, IMDb)

Movie 2: A Fish Called Wanda (Amazon Prime)

Rating: 3.3

A Fish Called Wanda is a 1988 heist comedy film directed by Charles Crichton and written by Crichton and John Cleese. It stars Cleese, Jamie Lee Curtis, Kevin Kline, and Michael Palin. The

film follows a gang of diamond thieves who double-cross one another to find stolen diamonds hidden by the gang leader. A barrister becomes a central figure as femme fatale Wanda uses him to locate the loot. (Info from Wikipedia)

JANUARY MOVIES

Movie 1: The Wonder (Netflix, 2022)

The Wonder is a 2022 psychological period drama film directed by Sebastián Lelio, Emma Donoghue, Lelio, and Alice Birch wrote the screenplay based on the 2016 novel of the same name by Donoghue. Florence Pugh leads an ensemble cast.

In 1862, Elizabeth "Lib" Wright, an English nurse who served in the Crimean War, is sent to a rural village in Ireland where she is tasked with closely watching Anna O'Donnell, a fasting girl who according to her family has not eaten for four months. She is to be assisted by a nun, Sister Michael, and the two are to report their findings independently to a council of local dignitaries. The trauma of the Great Famine still looms over the community, and many locals are wary of the English nurse. (Wikipedia)

Movie 2: The Swimmers (Netflix, 2022)

The plot follows the true-life story of teenage Olympian refugee, Yusra Mardini, who, with her sister Sara, swam alongside a sinking dinghy of refugees to lighten it, eventually helping it reach safety across the Aegean Sea. Subsequent struggles as a refugee are vividly depicted, but Mardini's swimming career sees her reaching the Rio Olympics as a member of the Refugee Olympic Team.

In a footnote it is revealed that Yusra's sister Sarah, who had returned to Lesbos as part of voluntary efforts to assist incoming refugees, had been arrested and faced charges carrying potentially long-term prison sentences if convicted. Called "undeniably powerful" by the Hollywood Reporter, this drama won a four-minute ovation at the Toronto Film Festival. (Wikipedia, Netflix)



BONUS (optional): Watch your favorite Holiday movie (or a new one!) and do a quick recap of what you enjoyed!