Bigger Audiences, Broader Audiences

Heather Maitland



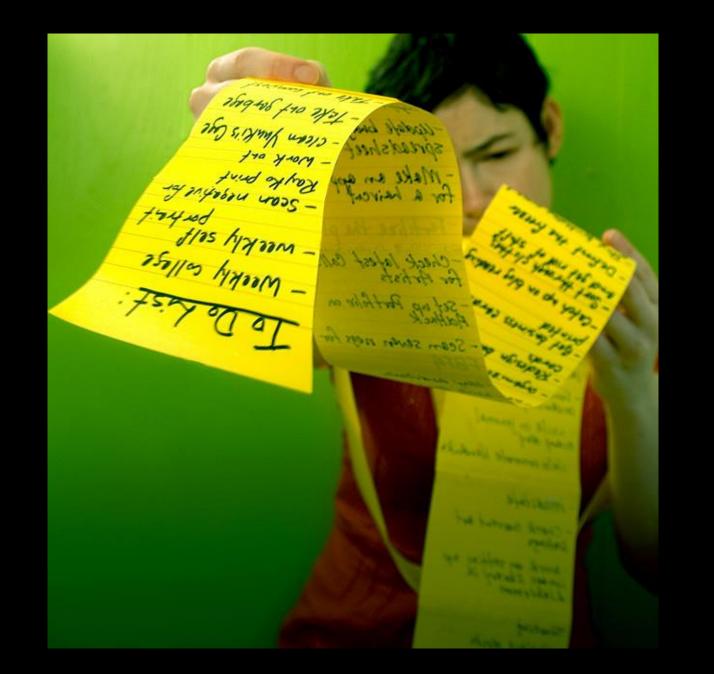
This session

- What do we know about audiences for cinema?
- So what! how can we use this knowledge to develop bigger, broader audiences?
- ... and all on a shoestring.





Creating an audience development plan

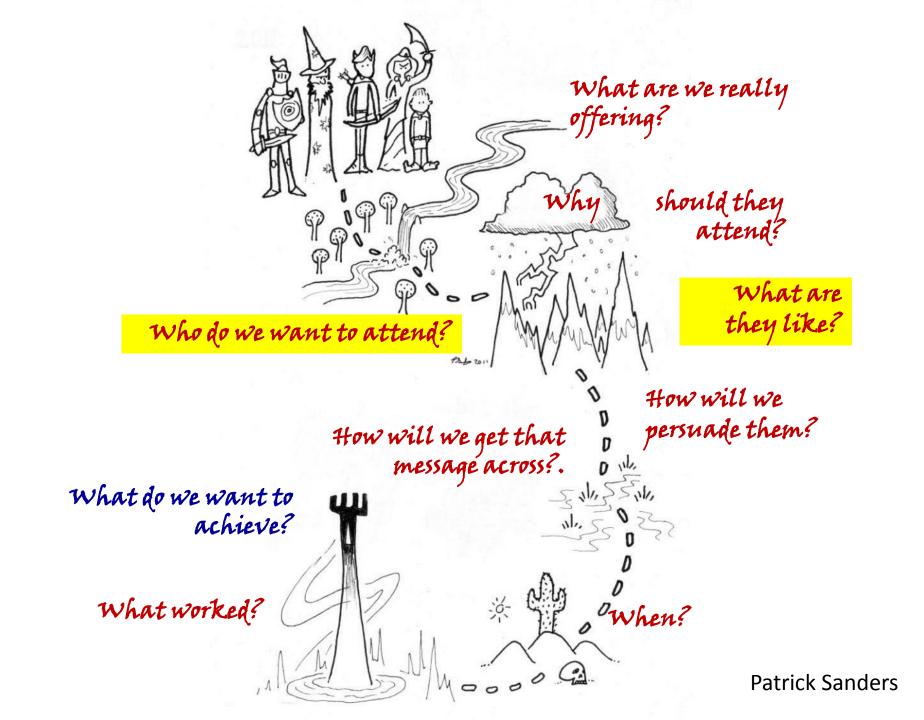




It's about thinking and planning — so you choose the tasks that will get you what you want



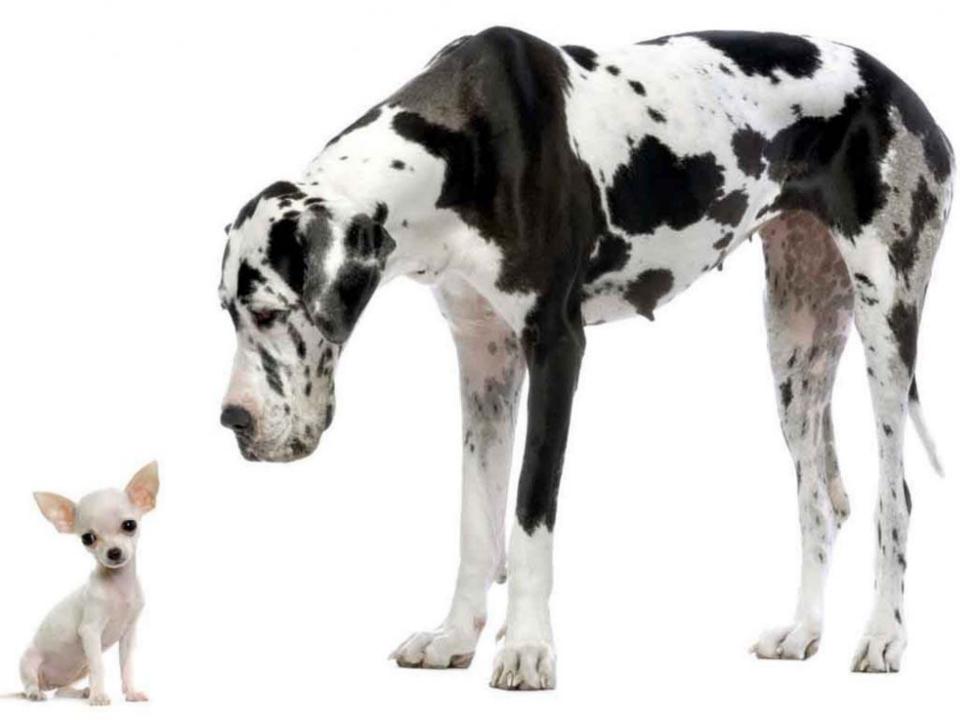




What do we know about audiences for cinema?

WHAT ARE THEY LIKE?





What are they like?

- Audiences for cultural cinema are not like audiences for mainstream cinema
- Much less likely to be aged 15-24
- More likely to be over 45
- More likely to be female
- Audiences for cultural cinema are more like audiences for the arts

That's because they are arts attenders

68%

% tickets purchased that are for film: 50%

24%



Incidental

Classical music buff — at least once a month

"It sounded an interesting film"

Travels 15 minutes each way

Doesn't see film anywhere else – but travels to concerts

"I'm here because **Stamford Arts Centre** it's Tuesday and tomorrow's my day off"

Favourite film: I don't really have one

Been coming to

for eight years

So what?

The potential for growth is among general arts attenders

HOW MUCH DO THEY LOVE CINEMA?



 What percentage of the Welsh population said they visited the cinema at least twice a year?

58%

 What percentage of the UK population said they went at least once a month?

29%

And what percentage visited weekly?

But...

• What percentage of the Film Hub Wales survey respondents said they went at least once a month?

42%

 And what percentage said they went at least weekly?

12%

So what?

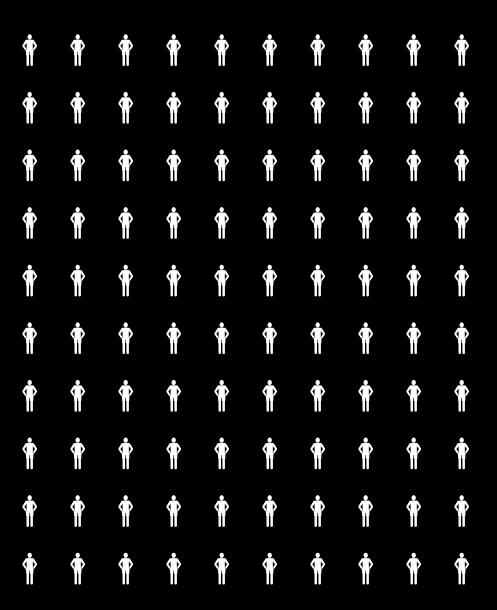
We're already getting the film buffs.

The potential for growth is among people who dip into film.

HOW MUCH DO THEY KNOW ABOUT FILM?

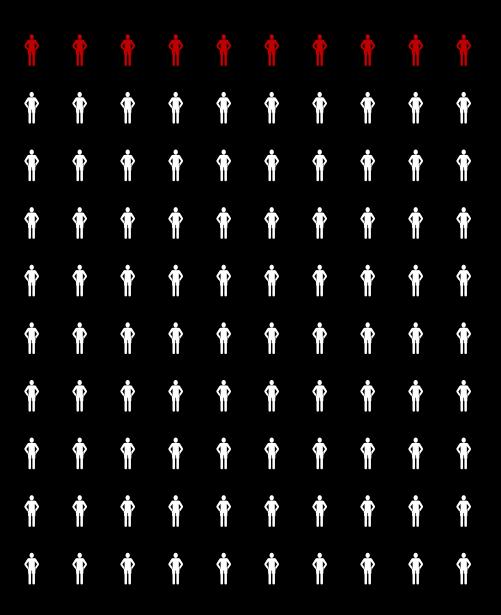


Professional/ specialist



Professional/ specialist

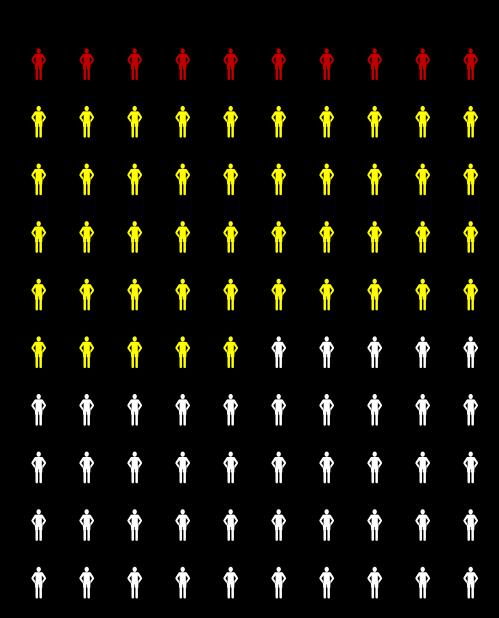
General



Professional/ specialist

General

Casual



† † † † † Professional/ specialist General Casual •

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So what?

Don't assume knowledge



Film buff

Sees films — and only films -more than once a week and usually alone

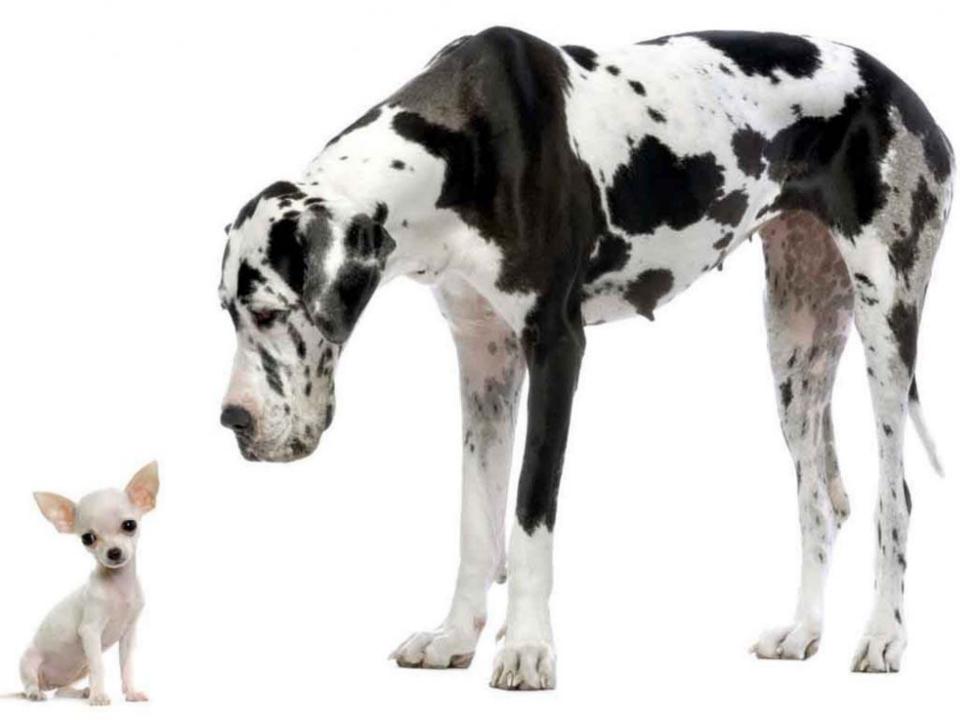
"I see all the art house Travels up to an hour films here"

A regular at three other venues

Been coming to Stamford Arts Centre for over six years

"I see most films
even if I think I'm
not going to like Favourite film:
them"

Mamma Mia





Types of film enthusiast

- Summit
 - Film as business
- Specialist
 - Strong preferences
 - Know a lot about the bits they like
 - Collectors
 - Dismissive of anything else
- Scattergun
 - Love to discover new films
 - See film as part of a varied and busy cultural life

So what?

Really ... don't assume knowledge!

WHERE DO THEY SEE FILM?



Where do they go?

- 30% only ever go to their regular venue
- 15% also go to another cultural film venue
- 33% also go to an Odeon multiplex
- 34% to a Vue multiplex
- 29% also go to a Cineworld multiplex

Film Hub Wales research

So what?

Develop more Mainstream Plus audiences

WHAT MOTIVATES THEM?



Motivations

- Social
- Entertainment
- Emotion
- Excitement
- Identification: "That's me..."





Bringing you the Cambridge Film Festival every September

Cambridge Film Trust

Promoting film culture in the East of England

So what?

Talk about the things that motivate them

WHY DO THEY CHOOSE YOUR VENUE?



Social motivations

- 30% only ever go to their regular venue
- 15% also go to another cultural film venue
- 33% also go to an Odeon multiplex
- 34% to a Vue multiplex
- 29% also go to a Cineworld multiplex

The perfect cinema

- A wide choice of films
- Friendly staff
- Food and drink
- Buzzy atmosphere
- Seeing film with like-minded people
- Being in a place where you feel you belong



Third Spacer

Sees films alone at least once a week — also sees a few plays and gigs with others

"I choose by reading reviews"

Travels 30 minutes each way

Very rarely visits any other cinema

"I like any foreign film especially French"

I feel comfortable coming here

Favourite film: Some Like It Hot

So what?

Tell them why they will enjoy seeing films in your venue



Every Thursday night is curry + movie night!

The menu is available from 5pm onwards. For more info, click here.



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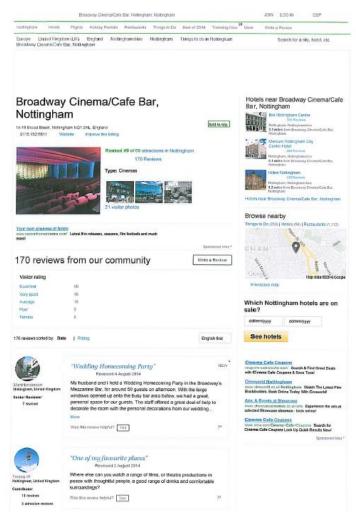
Coolest Cinemas In The UK



BROADWAY, NOTTINGHAM

14-18 Broad St, NG1 3AL

For some time now, Broadway has spoilt Nottingham locals with some of the most beautiful cinematic environments you'll find anywhere on the continent, inviting even Paul Smith to design one of its luxurious theatres, as you may have guessed with the look of that chair, above. So why not go all out? The private spaces are well worth hiring if you've got a few friends, with The Lounge offering specially designed leather sofas and even an egg chair, because it will definitely make the film better; that's just science.

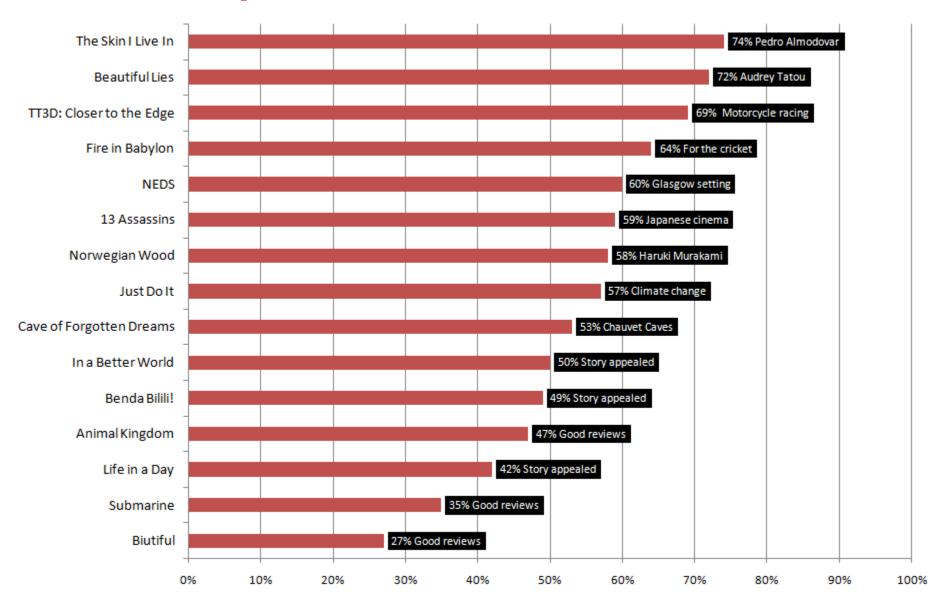


What's your alternative to the popcorn experience?

WHY DO THEY CHOOSE A PARTICULAR FILM?



Primary reason for attendance



So what?

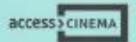
Talk to different audiences about different things

WHAT STOPS THEM?



Barriers

- Arts omnivores have not been persuaded to see film – yet!
 - make thematic and creative links to what they do see
- Programme is too specialised
 - in Ireland, venues that show a mix of cultural, crossover and mainstream family films do best
- Confusing programming





MONDAY NIGHT CINEMA

+ SPECIAL SCREENINGS AT PAVILION THEATRE SEASON TICKETS ONLY €49.50

Love film? Get a great deal with our Monday Night

Cinema Season Ticket at the fantastic price of €49.50. This will guarantee you entry into ALL of our Monday night screenings. Most of our screenings have been selling out so make sure to book early!

> For more information or to buy our Monday Night Cinema Season Ticket, call us on 01-231 2929.

MONDAY

NIGHT CINEMA

WITH SPECIAL THANKS TO DÚN LAOGHAIRE RATHDOWN COUNTY COUNCIL





So what?

Don't just tell them it's on. Persuade them! Consistent programming and clear messages



Universal barriers

- Lack of interest
- Lack of time
- Difficulty of getting there
- Cost

Universal motivations

- The need to socialise
- Childhood exposure (especially participation)
- Formal education (which seems to give people a sense of the value of culture)
- Arts education (which seems to enable people to unlock meanings)
- Status and identity

Universal barriers (apparently)

- ◆ Lack of interest Relevance derived from history, interests and cultural identity
- ◆ Lack of time Relevance: what is worth spending time on
- Difficulty of getting there

Not about distance but the familiarity and convenience of the route

Cost Relevance (perceived value) except for low income groups

We can't be inclusive just by removing practical barriers we have to build relevance first

How to develop audiences

- Not just about providing specialist services
- Understand particular groups' attitudes and beliefs about culture and cultural film
- Work to make cultural film relevant
- Then tell them how you have removed the practical barriers they encounter

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