



Sensory snacks

Stuff's nourishing platter of gangsters, Preachers and century-old horror will keep you going this month

WATCH

The Cabinet Of Dr Caligari_cinema

It's summer! And that means it's time for the usual blockbusters, where everybody and their robots are blowing things up. All well and good, but isn't it a bit predictable? Time to try something new?

By 'new', I mean 94 years old. Released in 1920, *Das Cabinet Des Dr Caligari* was one of the original horror films, and it's nothing like the ones you see today. There are no cheap scare tactics for starters. No jumpy supernatural nonsense, and no gratuitous gore.

The horror lies in the telling of a surreal yarn, in which a creepy doctor arrives in a nice town with his pet sleepwalker. The place soon becomes less nice.

It's a weird tale, made all the more unsettling by the German

Expressionist style, which is defined by radically stylised set design with jagged outlines and odd proportions. The experience is disorientating, and still effective after nearly a century.

Best of all, it's been knocked into shape for 2014. The original negative had been lost for years, going from Germany to Soviet Russia and back – and it's been cleaned up, patched up and digitally restored in 4K. Now it looks good enough to feel like a home video gone horribly, wonderfully wrong.

It's only in selected cinemas, and for a short time, but you would do well to seek this out.

Ced Yuen

STUFF SAYS ★★★★★



The Raid 2_Blu-ray

While it's missing the claustrophobia and skin-crawl tension that the gangster-ridden building in *The Raid* provided, this one-man-army-goes-undercover sequel makes up for it in arty violence and hold-your-breath action scenes. If you liked *Mad Dog* in the first film, you won't be disappointed by Yayan Ruhian as fighter Prakoso. Sophie Charara

STUFF SAYS ★★★★★☆



Blood Ties_cinema

The moustache confirms its triumphal return to the mainstream in this intense and brutal '70s-set drama about cops, robbers and family punch-ups over the Thanksgiving turkey. It's hard to be sure how many of the clichés are knowing nods to the genre and how many are just careless, but Clive Owen gives great New York hoodlum. Richard Purvis

STUFF SAYS ★★★★★☆