

Tree Long. Born 1941

I went to the ABC on East St and is now Days Restaurant. I used to see quite a lot of films there. A boyfriend of mine designed the lights in the foyer in the 60s. I think the lighting is still there. I remember the Embassy Theatre on Western Rd.

For me, the most memorable film I ever saw was Last Tango In Paris. It was amazing. Marlon Brando. It was very sexual; it was very exciting. Normally it would have been too revealing for me but the story was so fascinating. It was brutal as well. It was a very brutal film but within the relationship of the couple, I remember it to this day. A really marvellous film.

A film I do remember seeing in here (at the Duke of Yorks) was The Devils. It was the most dreadful film. I think I walked out with my friend. It was horrible, horrible, horrible. It was about hell. It was about sexuality and power and evil all the way through, and there was no remittance in it. I think people were fainting in the aisles. I didn't realise at the time it was based on a Middle Ages story. it was a true story.

Chapel Road, I think it was the Odeon, in Worthing, because I lived there longer in the late 50s and 60s. I remember it was 1s6d or 2s6d and we still didn't have that sort of money, because I was doing nursing training. We used to sell stuff. There used to be things called Hock Shops near Worthing station where somebody bought old clothes from you. You'd go in the shop and it was just full of old clothes, a bit like a jumble sale. She'd give you a bob or something, which was a shilling, and then you went to the pictures. So that's how little money we had, but life was still quite good.

They put on films at Fabrica about once a month. Anyone can go to it. It costs about £3.50 or something. They always put on good films. They're well chosen.

I went to the cinema in about '52, '53. I went with my sister. In those days you could sit in the cinema all day and it went round and round and round. I didn't want to go home and she went and this man - to this day I don't know what he did to me. He came and sat next to me and I think he put his hand on my knee but I don't know whether he did anything more because I just turned to stone. Absolutely turned to stone. And even now I could relive that feeling of feeling like ice. It's never left me, that feeling. I don't think he did anything more but he could've done anything. My mind just went. I think I was about 12, 13. I eventually left. That was a thing in the old days. You had to be very careful where you sat because men were always looking for women to sit next to and then be abusive with. That's changed tremendously. It doesn't happen in public so much.

The Leader - what used to be The Leader (free newspaper) - the first time I ever did a crossword and sent it in I won tickets to the cinema. I got a letter telling me I had 3 double sets of tickets - three! Then I kept using the letter! So I got the 3 tickets and then I kept using the letter until somebody clicked and said "Hang on!" That was probably in the late 70s. I don't think they're going to arrest me for that now.

I love the idea that they have films where mothers can go with babies. And I've got an autistic grandchild and they have special screenings here at the Duke of Yorks for her where they turn the sound down.

When you were a kid you used to go to the cinema - one person - and then you'd go and let people in the fire door. You'd open the fire door and let people in.