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19 Thurs 17.00 & 21.00 ICA

21 Sat 18.30 Barbican 1

ZOMBIE AND THE GHOST TRAIN

Zombie ja Kummitusjuna

Finland 1991

Dir/Scr: Mika Kaurismäki

Leading Players: Silu Seppälä, Marjo Leinonen,
Matti Pellonpää

Rt: 88 mins

Mika Kaurismäki's droll and generously ironic story of a boy and a girl, love and friendship, with lashings of rock 'n' roll, is a marvellously executed film. Zombie, an itinerant musician who is drawn towards dark bars and alcohol, occasionally seeks a break as a bass guitarist. Marjo, his girlfriend, loves him, leaves him and returns again attempting to offer him some stability and a home. Harri, Zombie's friend offers him a role in his own Finnish-style Country-and-Western band. As Zombie wrecks his chances with Harri's band and drifts in, out and through life in an alcoholic daze of indecision, so the mystery band 'The Ghost Train' slides in and out of the film in a threateningly enigmatic fashion. Zombie escapes from the complexities of life in snow-clad Helsinki to dank and rainy Istanbul, on a journey of no purpose. Kaurismäki has created a film of great warmth and humanity which nudges humour and irony gently out of the distinctly 'Oblomovian' world of Zombie. *Tim Cole*
Two Chimney Sweeps and an Opera Singer: Dir: Michel Caulea Belgium/France (1991) 17 mins

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