



**THE ALAN WHICKER CENTENARY**

# Welcome to Whicker's World

Born in Cairo a century ago on 2 August 1921, household name Alan Whicker was famed for his daring and insightful interviews as an investigative television reporter. Innovative and adventurous, crossing continents and TV channels in a career that spanned six decades, Whicker had one of the most enduring and influential careers in British television history, helping to remap the frontiers of long-form TV documentary.

With a journalist's nose for a story, his mission was to inform and to entertain, never preach. Whicker's name became a by-word for brilliantly crafted and revealing studies of people and places, traversing a rapidly changing world, from South America to South East Asia, California to the Caribbean, and meeting people from all walks of life along the way.

Whether exploring behind the scenes of the Miss World competition, interviewing François 'Papa Doc' Duvalier, the notorious Haitian dictator, exposing the lifestyles of the hippies of San Francisco, or meeting Hollywood royalty, Whicker's deceptively conversational style encouraged intimate revelations from the great, the good and the not so good, his penetrating questions masked in old-school good manners.

Often ahead of his time, Whicker covered a huge range of subjects reflecting all aspects of 20th-century culture, politics and history. His reports on divorce, women's rights, gay marriage and racial inequality and much else changed attitudes, and, in some cases, changed the law. At the height of his popularity, Whicker's programmes commanded audiences of 15 million people.

**[bfi.org.uk](http://bfi.org.uk), 4 August 2021**

## **Around Whicker's World: Money and Power**

Alan Whicker remembers some of the most memorable characters and places he has encountered on his globe-trotting adventures: Percy Shaw, inventor of Cat's Eyes for roads; author Harold Robbins; Peter Sellers; President Alfredo Stroessner of Paraguay; the Hutt River Province Principality in Western Australia; Papa Doc, Haiti. *Money and Power* is the second of three programmes in which Alan Whicker looked back over his 25 years in television, recalling some of the most memorable incidents, personalities and locations.

## **The Lord Is My Shepherd and He Knows I Am Gay**

Alan Whicker attends the wedding of two homosexuals at a church in San Diego and investigates the development of the 'Gay Liberation' movement in the U.S.A.

## **Whicker's World in the Mediatheque**

Explore an extensive new collection of programmes from the BFI National Archive spanning Alan Whicker's career. Book a free viewing session online or via the BFI Southbank box office.

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**AROUND WHICKER'S WORLD IN 25 YEARS:  
MONEY AND POWER**

*Director:* David Green  
*Production Company:* Yorkshire Television  
*Script:* Alan Whicker  
*Editors:* Barry Reynolds, Robin McDonell  
ITV tx 14.3.1982  
UK 1982  
60 mins

**THE LORD IS MY SHEPHERD AND HE KNOWS I'M GAY**

*Director:* Michael Deakin  
*Production Company:* Yorkshire Television  
*Script:* Alan Whicker  
*Researcher:* Nigel Turner  
*Photography:* Frank Pocklington  
*Editor:* Barry Reynolds  
ITV tx 2.10.1973  
UK 1973  
52 mins

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**IN PERSON & PREVIEWS**

**The Alan Whicker Centenary:**

**Welcome to Whicker's World + intro**

Sat 7 Aug 14:30

**The Alan Whicker Centenary:**

**The Life and Legacy of Alan Whicker**

Sat 7 Aug 17:40

**Preview: I'm Your Man (Ich bin dein Mensch)**

**+ pre-recorded Q&A with director Maria Schrader**

Mon 9 Aug 17:50

**BFI & Radio Times Television Festival presents:**

**TV Preview: Vigil + Q&A with cast and creatives**

Mon 23 Aug 18:10

**NEW RELEASES & RE-RELEASES**

**Limbo** Continues from Jul

**The Most Beautiful Boy in the World** Continues from Jul

**Now, Voyager** From Fri 6 Aug

**The Sparks Brothers** From Fri 6 Aug

**The Story of a Three Day Pass** From Sat 7 Aug

**CODA** From Fri 13 Aug

**Censor** From Fri 20 Aug

**Souad** From Fri 27 Aug

**REGULAR PROGRAMME**

**Seniors' Free Matinee: Personal Services**

**+ intro and Q&A with author, Graham Rinaldi**

Mon 9 Aug 14:00

**Projecting the Archive: The Blue Lagoon**

**+ intro by actor Susan Stranks (young Emmeline)**

Tue 10 Aug 18:00

**Member Picks: Almost Famous**

Thu 12 Aug 17:45

**Silent Cinema: The Wit and Wisdom of A.A. Milne**

**+ intro by Bryony Dixon, BFI Curator**

Sun 15 Aug 12:40

**DVD Launch: Great Noises That Fill the Air: Music, Poetry and Performance on Film**

Mon 16 Aug 17:50

**S.O.U.L. Fest 2021**

Fri 20-Sun 22 Aug

**Experimenta: Thundercrack!**

**+ intro by Jane Giles, author of 'Scala Cinema 1987-1993'**

Sat 21 Aug 17:00

**Relaxed Screening: Stand Clear of the Closing Doors**

Tue 24 Aug 18:00

**Woman with a Movie Camera Preview:**

**Souad + pre-recorded Q&A with director Ayten Amin**

Tue 24 Aug 18:00

**Terror Vision: Dr Terror's House of Horrors**

Thu 26 Aug 20:40

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