Gregory Crewdson has created some of the most beautiful and enigmatic images in contemporary photography. "Brief Encounters," his latest project, offers an unprecedented glimpse into the artist's process and his exploration of the nature of photography itself. With unprecedented access, "Brief Encounters" brings together Crewdson's photographs and essays from his recent book, "The First Days," to create a unique and intimate exhibition.

"Brief Encounters" is being shown at the Auckland Art Gallery from 9 May to 16 October. It is a rare opportunity to see Crewdson's work in such depth and detail. Be sure to check it out while it's in town!
Eagerly anticipated as the cultural highlight of the winter, The New Zealand International Film Festival now adds lustre to the autumn with this offering of extra events, proudly occupying the space on the calendar previously dedicated to our World Cinema Showcase. We are delighted to work once again with The Paramount, and the long-standing home of independent cinema (not to mention NZIFF itself) in Wellington; and to present two spectacular classics on the city’s most celebrated screen, The Embassy.

**Lawrence of Arabia**

David Lean’s 1962 spectacle remains the benchmark in epic action cinema. Chariots, chariots and more chariots. Engineering feats and lavish production values feature throughout Lean’s epic tale of the life of T.E. Lawrence, the brilliant and mercurial Arabist and aesthete who as a serving officer in the British army in World War I and afterwards, using his Arab connections as a double agent, worked to counteract the threat of the Ottoman Empire in the region and to promote the emergence of a modern nation-state of the region. Lean’s Lawrence is an absorbing and intelligent achievement, its epic scale perfectly realised in the three-hour running time.