

BULLETIN 15/11

LIMELIGHT

NEWS AND VIEWS ABOUT THE ARTS

A sad day on the Brussels film scene was the recent afternoon they announced that the **Vendôme cinema** was to be permanently closed on January 15. The theatre, one of the city's pleasantest, is apparently to be turned into offices and a shopping gallery. Not only is the Vendôme agreeably small, with comfortable seats and a good-natured staff, it has consistently programmed quality films, such as *Sweetie*, *Venus Peter* and *Enemies: A Love Story*, along many others.

Films at a small cinema can afford to build up an audience gradually over several weeks, and rely on word of mouth for publicity. At the mega-complex of Kinopolis, on the other hand, a film has to hit hard and fast. With fewer and fewer cinemas able to themselves the time to attract audiences, the Brussels cinephile's future looks bleak.

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Many film-goers' favourite cinema is about to close forever