

# Things To Come

Cert 12A France 2016 98 mins

## Crew

Director/  
Screenplay Mia Hansen-Løve  
Cinematography Deni Lenoir  
Film Editing Marion Monnier

## Cast

Isabelle Huppert Nathalie Chazeaux  
André Marcon Heinz  
Roman Kolinka Fabien  
Édith Scob Yvette Lavastre  
Sarah Le Picard Chloé  
Solal Forte Johann

## Synopsis

*Paris, the recent past. Nathalie teaches philosophy at a high school in Paris. She is passionate about her job and particularly enjoys passing on the pleasure of thinking. Married with two children, she divides her time between her family, her students and her possessive mother. Her life is challenging, but she's comfortable with its rhythms.*

*And then suddenly, all this starts to implode. With unexpected and unwanted freedoms thrust upon her, Nathalie must reinvent her life.*



## Booking Information

**Distributor:** Artificial Eye

**DVD bookings:**

BFI Film Distribution  
020 7957 8938

Bookings.films@bfi.org.uk  
www.bfi.org.uk/distribution

**Available:** now



## Reviews

....*Things to Come* could hardly be more French if it declared itself a republic and took up the accordion. It's steeped in the rhythms and talk of liberal bourgeois metropolitan family life and unfashionably unafraid of ideas—all set to the background of a truly lived-in near-contemporary Paris (Sarkozy is still President) with brief detours to Brittany and the foothills of the Alps.

It echoes Hansen-Løve's previous films in her delicate approach to the passing of time and her sensitivity toward life's expectations and disappointments. She's a filmmaker who tends to identify strongly with one lead character, drawing us closely into that person's life and thoughts, and Huppert is more than up to the job, delivering a performance of quiet stoicism that masks rigorous thought and considerable inner turmoil.

Cat lovers (and possibly fans of *Inside Llewyn Davis*) will appreciate the role of an aging black feline as a symbol of the sudden changes in Nathalie's life. Everyone else should warm to the way that Hansen-Løve distils the chaos of the life of the mind into such a warm, thoughtful, surprising drama.

*Dave Calhoun, Time Out, February 2016*

There's an irony in the title of this French drama, since philosophy lecturer Isabelle Huppert wonders if she actually has much of a future after back-to-back misfortunes turn her life upside down.....

With its book-lined rooms and excerpts from Huppert's classes on truth and morality, this latest slice-of-life from gifted writer/director Mia Hansen Løve could seem a bit too clever-clogs for its own good, yet its subject matter is universal: how we find resilience and perhaps even contentment in the face of painful upheaval.

The story unfolds gently, showcasing a central performance, which, in its deft shadings of vulnerability, anger and stoic self-preservation, is truly superb - even by Huppert's elevated standards. A wise and affecting look at the things that really matter with the bonus of a decidedly charismatic, truculent black moggy called Pandora.

*Trevor Johnston, Radio Times, September 2016*

## FILM FACTS...

- ☆ The film premiered at the Berlin Film Festival 2016, where it was nominated for the Golden Bear, and won the *Best Director* prize.
- ☆ Hansen-Løve said Nathalie's story was loosely based on her own mother, a philosophy professor who separated from her husband later in life.
- ☆ In the original script Pandora was called Desdemona, after their family cat, but Hansen-Løve's mother asked for the name to be changed to protect Desdemona's privacy.