

# THE WATCHERS

Things to Watch | Places to Watch | How to Watch

## Mr Warrington's Choices

### KS3 Choice (Y7-9)

*Seven Worlds, One Planet* on iPlayer

What do I need to say? Breathtaking photography, wonderful narration. The best of British documentary. Look out for: your eyes popping out.

### KS4 Choice (Y10-11)

*Blackfish* on Netflix

So good I've watched it three times. Can a Killer Whale be a serial killer? Why would that happen? Should they be in captivity (hint: no). This documentary is astonishing because all the footage is real. And terrifying.

### KS5 Choice (Y12-13)

*Fyre* on Netflix

Instagram influencers, rappers, rock stars and all manner of wealthy well-to-do folks went to the Fyre festival. This is the story of how colossally wrong this festival went and how plenty of well meaning people got pulled along for the ride and what a ride. Look out for: what a man will do for a crate of water.



## Real Life Stories

Documentaries have become one of the most popular genres of film over the last 30 years. Some of them are enormous cinema successes about politics or penguins and some of them are extremely popular streaming series about strange men who keep far too many tigers in captivity.

This week is a documentary special for The Watchers and there's plenty out there. For a week, and a week only, we'll have limited series on here as well as films. Documentary has always taken loads of forms, the feature length cinema documentary is a relatively recent phenomena. So, enjoy Killer Whales, cheerleaders and spaceships.

Mr W & Mr M-M.



## Mr Moreno-Melgar's Choices

### KS3 Choice (Y7-9)

*Super Size Me* on Amazon Prime

This film was so successful it essentially led to McDonalds scrapping the "super-size" portions they used to offer, the next step up after a "large" meal. You'll probably never think about a McDonalds the same way again but you'll always remember this insightful and entertaining examination of it.

### KS4 Choice (Y10-11)

*Apollo 11* on Netflix

My favourite film is last year. It helps that I'm a space nerd and I'll watch anything that explores the space-race and the moon landings. But what makes this film so extraordinary is that the film is constructed using footage from the period only. It's an in-depth, personal and genuine appreciation of what happened as man landed on the moon for the first time. No other film conveys how incredible the achievement was, especially given the lack of technology at the time. An essential watch.

### KS5 Choice (Y12-13)

*Wild, Wild Country* on Netflix

At one point in this, there's an image of something that has just been built, essentially in the middle of a desert, which is so ambitious and apparently successful that will force you to ask yourself: how did I NOT know about all of this? Netflix has become the go-to place for documentaries about extraordinary events that seem too absurd to be true. But this documentary series is a class above everything else they've ever produced. Exploring how an Indiana 'Guru' created an enormous movement known as the Rajneesh before relocating to Oregon in the US in the early 1980s, *Wild Wild Country* is a beautiful and memorable series. The beguiling soundtrack and the astonishing candor of the interviewees makes for a compelling and vital documentary.

## Short Shorts

The internet is filled with places to watch short films that aren't just YouTube. That isn't to say that there aren't great things to watch on YouTube (we've hammered through all of *Every Frame a Painting* and you should too), but there's plenty more out there so lets see if you can broaden your horizons.

We're huge fans of Ray Harryhausen here at Watchers HQ and we especially love a stop motion skeleton. So this week's short film is an absolute beauty. Rebooted is the story of one such skeleton. He's out of work because of CGI use in the movies and all the parts seem to have drifted away. He decides to team up with some of his other out-of-work friends.

