

A Different Evening  
International Film Club at Ahmedabad University  
(In Memory of Prof. Niranjana Bhagat)

Date: November 22, 2018, Thursday.

Time: 8:30 p.m.

Venue: Ahmedabad University Auditorium,  
GICT Building, Near M G Science College.

Name of the Film: **Queen to Play**

(Based on the famous novel by Bertina Henrichs)

Year of Release: April 01, 2011

Director: Caroline Bottaro (1 award and 3 nominations)

Genre: Drama

Duration: 1 Hour 40 Minutes

Awards: 2 awards and 3 nominations.

Actors:

Sandrine Bonnaire (15 awards and 10 nominations.)

Kevin Kline (Oscar Winner, other 7 awards and 33 nominations)

Audio Language: **French** Subtitles: English

Film also known as: "Joueuse" (France)

Colour: Colour

Aspect Ratio: 16:9 HD (1080p)

Synopsis:

Queen to Play is a light drama. It is one of those French films that tenderly and charmingly warms the heart - it is beautifully made with fine acting, a measured script, never too much or too little - and it rewards the viewer.

The story of a house maid, Hélène, who discovers chess and also a mentor with strong fairytale tones: she is poor, he lives in a château but has withdrawn from the world. She has a husband who struggles to understand his wife's newly found interest and growth. The story is a struggle of human interactions among different characters. However, throughout, there is a nice balance around the relationships that makes sense.

Above all, this is a film about discovering that the things we do for pleasure bring their own reward. Without any boring discourses, the film makes it fun to watch. The film has a heart and humour. Without any melodrama, it is one of the “happy feeling” films to watch and simply enjoy.

“The Queen is the strongest piece on the chess board.” This single sentence seems to encapsulate the whole state of mind of Hélène, our protagonist. Here the game of chess is symbolic for her. In reality, it is a journey towards self-realization for a simple woman.

Sandrine Bonnaire is absolutely amazing as usual. She succeeds in showing the state of mind of her character in very few words. Kevin Kline is great as well, playing Dr. Kröger, the man who teaches chess to Hélène and develops an unusual and complex bond with her.

This was the first film by Kevin Kline in his native language after so many years of his career.

Tagline: Make sure your next move doesn't break hearts.