The Iron Lady

105 minutes - Biography/Drama/History - 13 January 2012 (USA)

An elderly Margaret Thatcher talks to the imagined presence of her recently deceased husband as she struggles to come to terms with his death while scenes from her past life, from girlhood to British prime minister, intervene.

**Director:** Phyllida Lloyd

**Writers:** Abi Morgan (screenplay)

**Original Music:** Thomas Newman

**Actors**

Meryl Streep ... Margaret Thatcher
Jim Broadbent ... Denis Thatcher
Susan Brown ... June
Alice da Cunha ... Cleaner
Phoebe Waller-Bridge ... Susie
Iain Glen ... Alfred Roberts
Alexandra Roach ... Young Margaret Thatcher
Victoria Bewick ... Muriel Roberts
Emma Dewhurst ... Beatrice Roberts
Olivia Colman ... Carol Thatcher

**The story**

Biopic of Margaret Thatcher, the United Kingdom's first female Prime Minister. Now elderly and senile, Thatcher spends much of her time in conversation with her husband Denis, who is dead. Denis is seen as being her rock as she first enters parliament and then runs for the leadership of the Conservative Party, culminating in her eventual premiership. Now his ghost joins her to comment on her successes and failures, sometimes to her annoyance, generally to her comfort until
ultimately, as the clothes are sent to the charity shop, Denis departs from Margaret's life forever. Interspersed with her everyday life are snippets of her life and political career. The middle class daughter of a grocer, she obtained a good degree and developed an interest in politics. She was first elected in 1959 and quickly developed a reputation for dealing with difficult issues and showing herself more than capable of taking on her male counterparts in the House of Commons. As Prime Minister, she takes on the very powerful unions seeing her popularity plummet until her patriotic response to Argentina's invasion of the Falkland Islands leads to her re-election. In the longer term, her rigid approach with her colleagues leads to her downfall and the Conservative party ousts her from the leadership.

**Director:** Phyllida Lloyd
Lloyd grew up in Bristol. After graduating from Birmingham University in 1979, she spent five years working in BBC Television Drama. In 1985 she was awarded an Arts Council of Great Britain bursary to be Trainee Director at the Wolsey Theatre, Ipswich. In 1999 Lloyd was offered the chance to direct the ABBA musical *Mamma Mia!*, which became a hit, not only in the West End and on Broadway, but worldwide. She directed the 2008 cinematic adaptation, which marked her feature debut. By the end of 2008, the film had been certified as the biggest grossing film at the UK box office ever. It was also certified as the UK's biggest-selling DVD. She was nominated as Best Director of a Play in the 2009 Tony Awards for her production of *Mary Stuart*.

**Awards**
**Academy Awards 2012:** Won Best Performance by an Actress in a Leading Role Meryl Streep. Won Best Achievement in Makeup Mark Coulier & J. Roy Helland.
**AACTA International Award 2012:** Won Best Actress Meryl Streep.
**BAFTA Film Award 2012:** Won Best Leading Actress Meryl Streep. Won Best Make Up & Hair J. Roy Helland, Marese Langan & Mark Coulier

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**Next appointment!**  
Friday 28th June 2013

**The film…**  
Freedom Writers

ČAK Conference Hall, S. Sommier Street, Birkirkara @ 7.30pm

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