

SIX OF THE BEST

Three Colours Cézanne

6pm, Sky Arts ★★★★★

While still elusive compared to many of his contemporaries, the post-Impressionist painter Paul Cézanne emerges as a more explicable figure from this patient, detailed and finely paced documentary. An interview with his granddaughter, Aline, throws light on his isolated, oppressive home life in Provence – Cézanne would later follow dear friend Emile Zola to Paris, where he visited the Louvre daily and blossomed as an artist.

Manufactured Landscapes

9pm, Sky Arts ★★★★★

Edward Burtynsky's film follows his photographic record of industry's effect on the landscape, but is not the ecological polemic one might expect. It opens at a Chinese factory, the workers gathered like flowers in a field; and the dispassionate, unobtrusive style of film-making gives you time to really think about what's happening on screen. Worth persevering with beyond the long, long opening shot.

Son Of Rambow (2007)

12 ♦ FilmFlex, Sky Box Office, BT Vision ★★★★★

For anyone who grew up in the 1980s, this film will deserve an extra star. Based on the childhood of director Garth Jennings, the coming-of-age comedy throws a Plymouth Brethren boy (played by Bill Milner, pictured) together with school pariah Lee as they make an action movie inspired by Rambo. Both have detached family lives, and the bond they forge is the heart of the movie – the arrival of a 'stylish' French exchange student drives a wedge between them, and diverts the film into a frenzy of 1980s nostalgia that runs a little longer than it should.

Pandamonium

9pm, Animal Planet ★★★★★

Mating season begins at China's Wolong panda reserve in this penultimate edition of the series – and for those used to fluffy footage of lazy furballs, it may be quite jarring. The press information promises extraordinary scenes of 'sometimes violent' procreation, so prepare yourselves. Also, there's a look at pandas in the wild.

True Stories: Chosen

10pm, More4 ★★★★★

A simply made, desperately sad film about the sexual abuse of boys by teachers in Britain's private school system. Apart from a sharp shock to make its point at the start, the film takes its time, as three men recall the differing backgrounds that led them to boarding school – before talking on film for the first time about the terrible abuses of trust that followed, 30 years ago. Their articulacy is incredible.



Coming Of Age

10.30pm, BBC3 ★

Whoever commissioned this new British sitcom should hang their heads in shame. It's as if someone took a bad children's comedy and dropped in a load of filthy jokes (bad ones, at that) in the hopes of selling it to... well, to whom? Most of the characters are nasty, which you could forgive if the show was funny (Seinfeld, for instance), but it isn't. This opener features the schoolfriends stealing and offering sexual favours to get good grades for their coursework, with a bad laughter track and jokes about Nazis and borderline paedophilia for good measure. Avoid.



ALSO RECOMMENDED...

Deadliest Catch, 9pm, Discovery ★★★ New edition of the extreme fishing reality series, as the Wizard springs a leak.

Ghost Whisperer, 9pm, Living ★★★ Melinda meets a ghost looking for his now deceased ex-girlfriend in this new episode.

Clive Owen, 9pm, Biography ★★★ New profile of the actor.

Born Survivor: Bear Grylls, 9pm, More4 ★★★ Bear lands in the Sahara in this Freeview repeat, while Discovery has a new episode with him in Zambia showing one hour later.

Blue Thunder, 9pm, Five US ★★★ Roy Scheider stars in the still fun pilot for the action series.

Profiling – P.D. James, 10.15pm, ITV3 ★★★ Profile of the creator of Adam Dalgliesh.

The Sixth Sense, 10.30pm, ITV2 ★★★ Gripping supernatural chiller, starring Bruce Willis.

Fanny Hill, 10.30pm, BBC4 ★★★ Bawdy two-part drama adapted by Andrew Davies.

Chris Rock: Never Scared, 12.45am, ITV4 ★★★ Stand-up that's strong on relationships, but weak on politics.

