

Global Rhythms

12 LOTUS

Royston Tan, Singapore, 121 min.



Royston Tan follows up his hugely successful film 881 with another look at "getai," the uniquely Singaporean form of elaborate stage performance. The songs and stage shows are vividly shot, the choreography energetic, and the customs are, above all, witty and dazzling. A young girl gets her dream of joining the getai show and singing "12 Lotus," a melodramatic song chronicling the life of "Pitiful Lotus." The film mirrors the song, with Hua singing about how "life is great" onstage, while offstage she must put up with all kinds of setbacks in life.

April 21, 8:30 PM, Avalon Theatre
 April 22, 8:45 PM, Avalon Theatre

ASHES OF AMERICAN FLAGS: WILCO LIVE

Brendan Canty & Christoph Green,
 USA, 88 min.



In Person: Directors Brendan Canty and Christoph Green

Wilco fans rejoice: Jeff Tweedy is happy. The movie documents Wilco's winter 2008 tour, with stops in Tulsa, New Orleans, Mobile, Nashville, and, of course, Washington's own 9:30 club. Directed by Trixie imprint founders Christoph Green and Washington's own Brendan Canty, drummer for Fugazi, *Ashes of American Flags* rocks on the big screen.

April 18, 7:00 PM, Avalon Theatre
 April 25, 4:30 PM, Avalon Theatre

CAFÉ DE LOS MAESTROS

Miguel Kohan, Argentina, 92 min.

Tango is Argentina's great gift to the world, and here we see why. Twenty-two "maestros," singers, musicians, and composers from tango's glory days are brought back for a grand performance and recording session.

Join us for tango dancing ½ hour before screenings.

Tuesday April 21, 6:30 PM, Avalon Theatre
 Saturday April 25, 7:00 PM, Avalon Theatre

CELIA THE QUEEN

Joe Cardona, USA, 87 min.



In Person: Director Joe Cardona

Everyone from Gloria Estefan to Wyclef Jean appears in this loving tribute to the great Celia Cruz, but there's never any question that the deep-voiced Cuban-bred singer is the star.

April 17, 8:45 PM, Regal Gallery Place
 April 18, 4:30 PM, Regal Gallery Place

THE DRUMMER

Kenneth Bi, Hong Kong / Taiwan, 118 min.

Mountain landscapes, Zen practice, and gangsters may seem like an unlikely combination, but *The Drummer* explores each of these worlds in this rite-of-passage film about a gangster's son who transitions from his life as a brash teenager into an enlightened Zen drummer.

April 22, 6:30 PM, Avalon Theatre
 April 23, 8:45 PM, Avalon Theatre



OLD MAN BEBO

Carlos Carcas, Spain, 111 min.



Director Carlos Carcas won the Tribeca Film Festival's best new documentary filmmaker award for this movie. Fifteen years after Bebo Valdes returned to prominence, this lively documentary recounts the several lives of the Cuban-bred pianist, who at 90 has earned the affectionate nickname "Old Man." Recounting the several lives of multiple Grammy winner Cuban-bred pianist Bebo Valdes, this documentary spans the 1950s when Valdes led the band at Havana's Tropicana Club. Filled with rhythmic music.

April 20, 8:30 PM, E Street Cinema
 April 22, 8:30 PM, E Street Cinema

YOUSOU N'DOUR: I BRING WHAT I LOVE

Chari Vasarhelyi, USA, 102 min.

In Person: Director Chai Vasarhelyi

Yousou N'Dour, the "golden-voiced" Senegalese singer-songwriter conceived an album that would express his vision of Islam. This revealing documentary details the making of Yousou N'Dour's gorgeous 2004 CD "Egypt" and the reaction to it. A The film follows him from Cairo to Dakar to Carnegie Hall as he collaborates with British art-rockers Peter Dinklage and Egyptian orchestra maestro Fathy Salama.

April 18, 9:30 PM, Regal Gallery Place
 April 19, 2:15 PM, Regal Gallery Place

