

Filmfest DC

*The 17th Annual
Washington, DC
International Film Festival*

2003

April 23

through

May 4

For more information:

202.628.FILM or www.filmfestdc.org

Introduction

It is with great pleasure that we present the 17th Annual Washington, DC International Film Festival, a celebration of the best in world cinema!

There is nothing like a great movie, and this year's festival lineup promises to deliver exceptional entertainment and inspiration. We have scoured the globe for the freshest and the best, the most provocative and the most creative. The filmmakers included represent an enormous breadth of interests, backgrounds, and passions.

Politics in Film is a new section in this year's festival. What city is better suited than the nation's capital to present a selection of films examining how politics affects our daily lives? Themes in this series range from the very personal (*My Terrorist* and *Off to the Revolution by a 2CV*) to the ideological (*Slogans* and *Iran, Veiled Appearances*). Filmmakers use films to challenge domestic concerns in their respective countries (*Jiyan* and *The Last Witness*). Several films draw upon historical contexts (*Amen.* and *The Weather Underground*), while others remind us of why this issue requires our immediate attention (*11'09"01* and *Unprecedented: The 2000 Presidential Election*).

Our Opening Night Gala features the directoral debut of Hollywood star John Malkovich. We will close with *The Secret Lives of Dentists*, a new film by festival favorite Alan Rudolph. We are thrilled to feature new work by such accomplished filmmakers in this year's festival. The intelligence and creative ingenuity of their films is in keeping with the spirit of our festival's programming. Throughout the festival, audiences will come together to enjoy cinema in all its diversity. *Global Rhythms*, our delightful music on film series, will provide first-class entertainment to all music fans. *World View* represents the core of the program and, as always, will include the new and exciting, the provocative and eclectic.

As the festival flourishes, we are more aware than ever of the important role this event plays in our city. Art should serve a higher purpose and we greatly value the opportunity to explore new sto-



Photo: Chad Evans Wyatt

Tony Gittens, *Festival Director*,
and Shirin Ghareeb, *Assistant Director*

ries, images, and ideas, and the talents of the filmmakers who tell our stories with such passion and artistry.

It is a pleasure to acknowledge with heartfelt thanks the faithful, invaluable support of our sponsors. The Government of the District of Columbia is our major sponsor. Filmfest DC also greatly appreciates the generous contributions of all our patrons, numerous volunteers, local businesses, and the diplomatic community. Their support has been the key to the festival's prestige and popularity, and is evidence that Filmfest DC makes an important contribution to the vitality of our city.

Through its visual impact and accessibility, film has become one of our major means of communication. It mirrors who we are and who we strive to become. We are very pleased with this year's installment of Filmfest DC. The festival is an adventure, and we invite you to join us.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tony Gittens'. The signature is fluid and cursive, written over a white background.

Tony Gittens
Festival Director
and
Executive Director,
DC Commission on the Arts
and Humanities

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA



Proclamation

WASHINGTON, D.C. INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL WEEKS

APRIL 23 – MAY 4, 2003



WHEREAS, the Washington, D.C. International Film Festival is celebrating its seventeenth year of presenting innovative, exciting and high quality films to the public of the District of Columbia through its annual event known as Filmfest D.C.; and

WHEREAS, Filmfest D.C. is always working to serve the varied interests of Washington's diverse community, thereby earning it the honor of winning the 1994 Mayor's Arts Award for Excellence in Service to the Arts; and

WHEREAS, Filmfest D.C. presents the quintessential 20th century art form – film – which embodies many other artistic disciplines, such as the written word, music, theater, and visual arts, which has the power to inform, educate, and entertain; and



WHEREAS, Filmfest D.C., presented by the Washington, D.C. International Film Festival, has made significant contributions to the film community in Washington, both by bringing world-wide films to theaters, but also by providing a forum for local filmmakers to showcase and market their work;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, THE MAYOR OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, do hereby proclaim April 23–May 4 as "WASHINGTON, D.C. INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL WEEKS" in Washington, D.C.

Anthony A. Williams
Anthony A. Williams
Mayor, District of Columbia



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Come Drink With Me, see p. 14



The Dark Side of the Heart 2, see p. 15



Opening Night

Wednesday, April 23



★ Special guest director John Malkovich will be present at the Opening Night festivities!

The Dancer Upstairs

John Malkovich

USA/Spain, 2002, 133 minutes, color

In an unnamed Latin American country, lawyer-turned-cop Agustin Rejas (Javier Bardem, *Mondays in the Sun*) is tasked with tracking down Ezequiel, a shadowy terrorist whose gradual, grassroots revolution is delivered to a seemingly indifferent public via grisly reminders hung from city lampposts and bombs delivered by children. As the investigation progresses, Rejas is drawn to Yolanda (Laura Morante), his daughter's beautiful and mysterious ballet instructor. Solid police work with his small task force is challenged by increased military pressure, until Rejas' public and private worlds collide with jarring force. In the tradition of *Gorky Park* and *Insomnia*, *The Dancer Upstairs* is an absorbing police procedural set in a foreign land where the rules of justice are the same but the details are exotic and inscrutable (author and first-time screenwriter Nicholas Shakespeare based his novel in part on the real-life capture of Abimael Guzman, the university professor who led Peru's insurgent Shining Path guerilla force until his 1992

capture). Actor-turned-filmmaker John Malkovich revealed that it was the "deliberately ambiguous" nature of the novel that prompted him to end 17 years of declining directorial offers: "Sometimes it's just too hard to explain to someone else what you want. It's always more fun to sit back afterwards and say 'Well, I would have done it this way,' but in the end, sometimes it's just easier to do it yourself."

Charged with the same moodiness, intensity, mystery, and intelligence as the actor's best performances, *The Dancer Upstairs* is a tonally audacious, emotionally bare-knuckled, and altogether triumphant directorial debut.

—Eddie Cockrell

IN ENGLISH AND QUECHUA WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

Production Company: Mr. Mudd, in association with Antena 3 Television/Via Digital.
Producers: Andres Vicente Gomez, John Malkovich. **Screenplay:** Nicholas Shakespeare, from his novel. **Cinematography:** Jose Luis Alcaine. **Editor:** Mario Battistel. **Music:** Alberto Iglesias.
Principal Cast: Javier Bardem, Juan Diego Botto, Laura Morante, Elvira Minguez, Alexandra Lencastre, Oliver Cotton, Luis Miguel Cintra, Javier Manrique, Abel Folk, Marie-Anne Berganza.

Wednesday, April 23, 7:00 p.m., GW's Lisner Auditorium, followed by gala reception, \$40



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THE
INDEPENDENT
FILM
CHANNEL **IFC**
ifctv.com



Closing Night

Sunday, May 4

The Secret Lives of Dentists

Alan Rudolph

USA, 2002, 101 minutes, color

In the leafy enclave of Westchester County, New York, married dentists David and Dana Hurst (co-producer Campbell Scott and *About Schmidt* co-star Hope Davis) balance successful careers while raising three young girls, Lizzie (Gianna Beleno), Stephanie (Lydia Jordan), and troubled youngest, Leah (Cassidy Hinkle). Gradually sus-

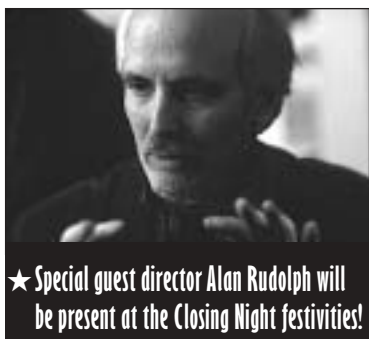


pecting his wife of an affair, the somewhat stuffy but gravely responsible David chooses to play it relatively cool—until the sudden appearance of disgruntled patient Slater (Denis Leary) as an aggressive alter-ego combines with a particularly nasty flu bug sweeping through the family to force his hand. Director Alan Rudolph is no stranger to Filmfest DC audiences: *The Moderns* was the opening night gala attraction in 1988 and *Equinox* was the closing night feature in 1993. Utilizing the genuinely provocative central metaphor of Jane Smiley's novella *The Age of Grief*—the intimacy of dentistry equals the intimacy of marriage—Craig Lucas' perceptive, consciously inconclusive script affords Rudolph the opportunity to explore the modern state of marital relations with piercing honesty leavened with sly humor. Once again, Scott (who previously worked with the director as Robert Benchley in the 1994 drama *Mrs. Parker and the Vicious Circle*) proves himself among the most magnetic actors currently at work in American film; his explanation to the children that "Daddy's feeling kind of complicated" represents the precarious balance of emotion in *The Secret Lives of Dentists*.

—Eddie Cockrell

Production Company: Ready Made Film. **Producers:** Campbell Scott, George VanBuskirk. **Screenplay:** Craig Lucas, from the novella "The Age of Grief" by Jane Smiley. **Cinematography:** Florian Ballhaus. **Editor:** Andy Keir. **Music:** Gary DeMichele. **Principal Cast:** Campbell Scott, Hope Davis, Denis Leary, Robin Tunney, Gianna Beleno, Cassidy Hinkle, Lydia Jordan.

Sunday, May 4, 4:00 p.m., Lincoln Theatre, followed by a party with a live band and dancing, 2:K:9 Club, \$15



★ Special guest director Alan Rudolph will be present at the Closing Night festivities!

CO-PRESENTED WITH:



Festival Guide

Welcome to the 17th Annual Washington, DC International Film Festival, Washington's own celebration of exciting, new, and innovative cinema from around the world. Film is the art form of the 21st century, mirroring who we are and who we strive to become. Filmfest DC 2003 presents over 100 films from more than 34 countries. We hope to provide you with fresh perspectives on our ever-changing world, and we think you will find our film selections both entertaining and challenging. Here are a few hints and highlights:

The Schedule

Beginning on page 10, film descriptions are arranged alphabetically by title, with show times and locations. The master schedule, on pages 22-25, lists each day's films and their show times. Films are shown in their original language with English subtitles.

Global Rhythms

The collaboration of music and film often serves to illuminate both art forms' distinct beauty. This combination of visual and audio production can create a highly stimulating experience for the filmgoer. Filmfest DC focuses on this dynamic combination by highlighting a number of international films that feature major international musical artists. They are listed below:

- *The Black Pirate*, with the Alloy Orchestra
- *Bollywood/Hollywood*
- *Chico Hamilton: Dancing to a Different Drummer*
- *Dracula: Pages From a Virgin's Diary*
- *Jimmy Scott: If You Only Knew*
- *Redes*
- *Sound of Brazil*
- *Swing*
- *Together*
- *Waves*

Free Programs

Our free screenings and panels are some of the best deals in the festival. Don't miss the special presentation at the National Gallery of Art and *Filmfest DC for Kids*. This year we will present *Reel Talk*, an informal, open exchange between the audience and our international visiting film directors and film critics (see details on pages 40 and 41).

Festival Guide

Politics in Film



It seems that more and more we are living in a world in which we don't have meaningful access to each other's views. Even with the advent of globalized markets and the Internet, communication seems to be lacking and hardened viewpoints often lead to resentment, disdain, exclusion, and hostility.

Film, along with other art forms, can play a key role in bridging the gulf between different cultures. It can make us aware of values and approaches to the human experience other than our own.

This year's Filmfest DC hopes to provide a space for straightforward, critical examination of how the world's community of international filmmakers handles political dynamics. What city is better suited than the nation's capital to explore how filmmakers grapple with the rela-

tionship between people and government, and the effect politics has on our daily lives? We hope to deepen our focus on *Politics in Film* through a series of panels with guest filmmakers from around the globe.

Films in the *Politics and Film* series provide a specific view from the inside. These works are diverse, yet each asks the same question: What happens to the human spirit as it strives to align societal political dynamics with a personal sense of self?

Modern cinema can serve as a potent avenue for coming to grips with the effects of political institutions and ideologies. We hope viewers attain a deeper mutual understanding of cultures and politics other than their own.

Our Politics in Film series includes these films:

- *11'09"01*
- *Amen.*
- *Bus 174*
- *Escape to Paradise*
- *Havana*
- *Iran, Veiled Appearances*
- *Jiyan*
- *Last Witness*
- *My Terrorist*
- *Off to the Revolution by a 2CV*
- *A Peck on the Cheek*
- *Rachida*
- *Slogans*
- *Today I Vote For My Joey (short)*
- *Unprecedented: The 2000 Presidential Election*
- *Warriors*
- *The Weather Underground*

Filmfest DC Audience Award

Filmfest DC will give an award to the film voted the most popular by our audience. Ballots will be available after each screening, and the winner will be announced on Closing Night. As always, you will be the judge. The Filmfest DC Audience Award is sponsored by the D.C. Lottery.



Festival Guide

Filmfest DC EVIAN® Nomad™ On-the-Go Shorts Award



New to Filmfest DC this year is an award sponsored by EVIAN® Natural Spring Water Nomad™ given to the best short film. Selection will be made by a jury and the winning short will be announced on Closing Night. Raise your bottles to this year's festival winners including the recipient of the EVIAN® best short film award.



Naked, see p. 28

Tickets



General admission is \$8.50. Special admissions are noted.

Tickets are available through Tickets.com by calling (703) 218-6500, at all Olsson's Books & Records stores, and select Coconuts and Record Town stores in the Washington, DC, area. Tickets are also available through the Tickets.com Web Site at www.tickets.com.

Call Tickets.com at **(703) 218-6500** from 10:00 am – 9:00 pm (Monday – Sunday) for tickets. No advance-sale tickets at theatres. No Tickets.com sales the day of the show.

Tickets may also be purchased at the theatre starting one hour before the first show of the day.

Free events are on a first-come, first-served basis, with no reservations accepted or tickets required.

Director's Pass. Ten-ticket package valued at \$85.00 will be discounted to \$75.00. Available through Tickets.com **BY PHONE ONLY** (not applicable for Opening and Closing Nights or special events).



Festival Guide

Locations

Festival screenings will take place at the following convenient venues:

★ Avalon Theatre

5612 Connecticut Ave., NW.

★ Loews Cineplex Georgetown

3111 K Street, NW. Paid parking is available in the building.

★ Loews Cineplex Outer Circle

4849 Wisconsin Ave., NW.
Take Metro Red Line to Tenleytown.

★ Loews Cineplex Wisconsin Avenue Cinemas

4000 Wisconsin Ave., NW. Take Metro Red Line to Tenleytown. Paid parking is available in the building.

★ Visions Cinema Bistro Lounge

1927 Florida Ave., NW. Take Metro Red Line to Dupont Circle (Q St. exit). Paid parking is available to left of the building.



*Bollywood/
Hollywood,
see p. 12*

Other Locations:

★ 2:K:9 Club

2009 8th St., NW. Take Metro Green Line to U St./Cardozo.

★ AFI Silver Theatre and Cultural Center

8633 Colesville Road, Silver Spring, MD. Take Metro Red Line to Silver Spring.

★ Embassy of France

4101 Reservoir Rd., NW.

★ Goethe-Institut Washington

814 7th St., NW. Take Metro Red, Green, or Yellow Line to Gallery Place/Chinatown. Exit 7th St. & H St.

★ The Greenberg Theatre

4200 Wisconsin Ave., NW. Take Metro Red Line to Tenleytown. Paid parking is available in the building along Van Ness St. and at 4000 Wisconsin Ave.

★ GW's Lisner Auditorium

730 21st St., NW. Take Metro Orange or Blue Line to Foggy Bottom/GWU.

★ Lincoln Theatre

1215 U St., NW. Take Metro Green Line to U St./Cardozo. Parking available at Reeves Center, 14th & U St., NW.

★ National Gallery of Art

East Building Auditorium, 4th St. & Constitution Ave., NW. Take Metro Green or Yellow Line to Archives/Navy Memorial.

1/2 the Rent

1/2 miete

Marc Ottiker

Germany, 2002, 92 minutes, color

Distraught over the death of his pill-popping girlfriend, larcenous computer hacker Peter is haunted by her specter whenever he's alone in a hotel or pension. So he slips in and out of other people's apartments when they're not around, eventually hooking up with Paula, a doctor's assistant. "Nobody knows what's legal in this business," Peter says of hacking into someone's computer, but he might as well be talking about the risks of trying to reinvent himself in a new



town. Debuting filmmaker Marc Ottiker brings a nervous energy to his Hitchcockian tale. *1/2 the Rent* won a production design prize at the 2002 Hof Film Days in Germany, and represents the cutting edge of technically adventurous storytelling in the digital medium.—*Eddie Cockrell*

IN GERMAN WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

Production Company: Road Movies Factory. **Producers:** Ute Schneider, Wim Wenders. **Screenplay:** Marc Ottiker.

Cinematography: Stefan Runge. **Editor:** Achim Seidel. **Music:**

Stefan Giuliani. **Principal Cast:** Stefan Kampwirth, Doris Schretzmayer, Alexander Beyer, Sven Pippig, Sandra Borgmann, Natascha Bub.

Tuesday, April 29, 8:45 p.m., Avalon Theatre
Wednesday, April 30, 8:45 p.m., Avalon Theatre

★ In Person: Director Marc Ottiker

▲ Co-Presented with the



11'09"01 — September 11



Various directors

France, 2002, 135 minutes, color and black & white

French producer Alain Brigand asked 11 renowned directors to create a film lasting eleven minutes, nine seconds, and one frame—11'09"01—around the events of September 11 and their consequences. The resulting omnibus movie features harrowing, controversial new work from Youssef Chahine, Ken Loach, Claude Lelouch, Mira Nair, and Sean Penn. *11'09"01—September 11* is a sober, thought-provoking response to a tragedy of

worldwide importance. The collective work imparts a deep sense of horror felt around the world from the terrorist destruction of the World Trade Towers and Pentagon and broader, global implications of such an act. Though it commands the viewer's attention for most of its two-hour-plus running time, this is hardly an easy film.—*Deborah Young, Variety*
IN FARSI, ARABIC, BOSNIAN, FRENCH, HEBREW, AND ENGLISH WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

Production Companies: Galatee Films/StudioCanal. **Producer:** Alain Brigand. **Screenplay:** Samira Makhlouf, Claude Lelouch/Pierre Uytterhoeven, Youssef Chahine, Danis Tanovic, Idrissa Ouedraogo, Paul Laverty/Ken Loach/Vladimir Vega, Alejandro Gonzalez Inarritu, Amos Gitai/Marie-Jose Sanselme, Sabrina Dhawan, Sean Penn, Daisuke Tengan. **Cinematography:** Various. **Editors:** Various. **Music:** Various.

Friday, May 2, 9:00 p.m., Avalon Theatre
Saturday, May 3, 6:30 p.m., Avalon Theatre



Amen.



Costa-Gavras

France, 2002, 132 minutes, color

Did the Allies and the Catholic Church have knowledge of the Holocaust in the early days of World War II? That's the central question behind this provocative new film. Amen. stars Ulrich Tukur as SS officer and chemist Kurt Gerstein, a Christian and family man horrified to learn he's been enlisted to apply Zyklon B poison gas to the nascent concentration camp extermination system. Gerstein decides to impede the program's progress while furtively drawing the attention of a



young Jesuit priest who is ultimately unsuccessful in alerting a disinterested world. Distanced from the horrors of the camps (no atrocities are re-enacted), viewers feel an increasing sense of helplessness that amps up the film's emotional impact.

—Eddie Cockrell

IN ENGLISH

Production Company: Katharina/Renn, in association with T1 Films, Canal Plus, KC Medien. **Producer:** Claude Berri. **Screenplay:** Costa-Gavras, Jean-Claude Grumberg, from the play "The Representative" by Rolf Hochhuth.

Cinematography: Patrick Blossier. **Editor:** Yannick Kergoat. **Music:** Armand Amar. **Principal Cast:** Ulrich Tukur, Mathieu Kassovitz, Ulrich Muhe, Michel Duchaussoy, Ion Caramitru.

Wednesday, April 30, 8:45 p.m., Loews Cineplex Georgetown
Friday, May 2, 6:30 p.m., Loews Cineplex Georgetown

A Beautiful Secret



El secreto de esperanza

Leopoldo Laborde

Mexico, 2002, 132 minutes, color

A recluse recounts her star-studded life to a rambunctious child in A Beautiful Secret. Chasing a ball on the grounds of an estate, young Jorge (Imanol Landeta) is confronted by the owner, Esperanza (Katy Jurado), a writer who once counted Marlon Brando, Luis Bunuel, Diego Rivera, John Wayne, and Salvador Dali among her friends. What begins as pure hostility slowly evolves into a firm friendship, but not without its share of

heartache and pain. Jurado was the first Mexican actress to be nominated for an Oscar (as Best Supporting Actress, opposite Spencer Tracy, in Edward Dmytryk's Broken Lance). In a clever fusion of fact and fiction, writer-director Leopoldo Laborde built the character of Esperanza around Jurado's storied career.

—Eddie Cockrell

IN SPANISH WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

Production Company: Creative Works. **Producer:** Benito Salerno. **Screenplay:** Leopoldo Laborde. **Cinematography:** Carlos Aguilera. **Editor:** Leopoldo Laborde. **Music:** Juan Manuel Langarcia. **Principal Cast:** Katy Jurado, Imanol Landeta, Ana de la Reguera, Maria Karunna, Michel Corral.

Wednesday, April 30, 8:30 p.m., Loews Cineplex Georgetown
Thursday, May 1, 8:45 p.m., Loews Cineplex Georgetown

★ **In Person:** Director Leopoldo Laborde,
Producer Benito Salerno

▲ *Co-Presented with The Mexican Cultural Institute*

The Best Day of My Life

Il piu bel giorno della mia vita

Cristina Comencini

Italy/United Kingdom, 2002, 102 minutes, color

The Best Day of My Life subtly unravels a latticework of loves. The heart of this emotional whirlpool is Irene, widow and mother of three grown children. Her son Claudio becomes increasingly alienated from her and finds he can't have serious relationships because she refuses to acknowledge his homosexuality. Both his sisters have their own problems. Melancholy Rita tries to save her marriage to Carlo against her better judgment. After her husband dies, Sara clings to her son but distances herself from everyone else. Whether she conveys Carlo's anguish or Sara's and Claudio's inability



to bond emotionally, director and novelist Comencini does it tenderly and sensitively.—32nd Rotterdam Film Festival, 2003

IN ITALIAN WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

Production Companies: Cattleya/RAI Cinema (Italy)/The Producers Co. (United Kingdom). **Producers:** Riccardo Tozzi, Giovanni Stablini, Marco Chimenz. **Screenplay:** Cristina Comencini, Lucilla Schiaffino, Giulia Calenda, from a story by Cristina Comencini. **Cinematography:** Fabio Cianchetti. **Editor:** Cecilia Zanuso. **Music:** Franco Peirsanti. **Principal Cast:** Virna Lisi, Margherita Buy, Sandra Ceccarelli, Luigi Lo Cascio, Marco Ballani, Marco Quaglia, Jean-Hugues Anglade.

Saturday, April 26, 6:30 p.m., Loews Cineplex Georgetown
Sunday, April 27, 8:30 p.m., Loews Cineplex Georgetown

The Black Pirate

Albert Parker

United States, 1926, 85 minutes



The Alloy Orchestra of Boston returns to Filmfest DC with its new score for *The Black Pirate*, Douglas Fairbanks, Sr.'s sophisticated, swashbuckling comedy about a nobleman who disguises his identity to avenge his father's death at the hands of a pirate gang.

One of his best films, *The Black Pirate* is fast-paced, silent, and filled with graceful stunts. Fairbanks

designed the period settings, wrote the screenplay (under the pseudonym Elton Thomas), and orchestrated his own action sequences. The location cinematography was off Santa Catalina Island, an untouched, natural environment in the '20s. Special effects are spectacular: The carved pirate ship was about the size of a tugboat, but looks full size and completely convincing on screen. Fairbanks broke new ground by producing *The Black Pirate* in the new Technicolor process. Avoiding brilliant hues, the film aimed for sepia and darkened tones as in thickly varnished paintings.

Principal Cast: Douglas Fairbanks, Sr., Mary Pickford, Billie Dove, Tempé Piggott, Donald Crisp, Sam de Grasse, Anders Randolph, Charles Stevens, John Wallace, Fred Becker, Charles Belcher, E.J. Radcliffe.

Saturday, May 3, 3:30 p.m., National Gallery of Art, FREE

★ **In Person:** The Alloy Orchestra

Blue Gate Crossing

Lanse da men

Yee Chih-yen

Taiwan/France, 2002, 82 minutes, color

Masquerading as a coming-of-age story, *Blue Gate Crossing* never lets you know where it is going. High school girls Meng Ke-rou (Guey Lun-mei) and Lin Yueh-chen (Liang Shu-hui), are best friends. Ke-rou puts up with her friend's obsessive crush on a cute swimmer, Chang Shih-hao (Chen Bo-lin) and ends up talking to him because Yueh-chen is too shy to meet him. Ke-rou tries to convince the boy that her mysterious best friend is really a great person; he, of course, thinks the best friend doesn't exist and develops a crush on Ke-

rou. She eventually develops a crush on him, too, but then throws a wrench into the works when she confesses that she likes girls, not boys.

—*Moviepie.com*

IN MANDARIN WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

Production Companies: Hsu Hsiao-ming Film Corp (Taiwan)/Pyramide Productions (France). **Producers:** Peggy Chiao, Hsu Hsiao-ming. **Screenplay:** Yee Chih-yen.

Cinematography: Chien Hsiang. **Editor:** Liao Ching-song. **Music:** Chris Hou. **Principal Cast:** Chen Bo-lin, Guey Lun-mei, Liang Shu-hui, Joanna Chou, Cheng Ming-jin.

Friday, April 25, 9:00 p.m., Avalon Theatre
Saturday, April 26, 8:30 p.m., Avalon Theatre



Bollywood/Hollywood

Deepa Mehta

Canada, 2002, 105 minutes, color

A cross-cultural comedy set in contemporary Toronto,

Bollywood/Hollywood is a zesty change of pace for Deepa Mehta, writer-director of *Fire* (FFDC 1997) and *Earth* (1998). Rahul is shocked when his Caucasian girlfriend is killed while trying to levitate over the Hollywood sign. Meanwhile, his Shakespeare-spouting granny keeps pressuring him to marry an Indian woman. Luckily, a sassy escort agrees to pose as his girlfriend. *Bollywood/Hollywood* is a musical parody and homage to the suddenly popular form, with characters breaking into song and intricate dance at the drop of a hat.



"Please to Bless the Happy Couple," reads the final of many sly captions. In the spirit of *East is East* and *Bend It Like Beckham*, *Bollywood/Hollywood* is one blessedly funny movie.

—*Eddie Cockrell*

Production Company: Different Tree Same Wood. **Producer:** David Hamilton. **Screenplay:** Deepa Mehta. **Cinematography:** Doug Koch. **Editor:** Barry Farrell. **Music:** Sandeep Chowita. **Principal Cast:** Rahul

Khanna, Lisa Ray, Moushumi Chatterjee, Dina Pathak, Ranjit Chowdhry.

Friday, April 25, 8:45 p.m., Loews Cineplex Wisconsin Ave. Cinemas
Saturday, April 26, 6:30 p.m., Loews Cineplex Wisconsin Ave. Cinemas



Bus 174

Onibus 174



Jose Padilha

Brazil, 2002, 118 minutes, color and black & white

Three years ago, a troubled young man named Sandro Rosa do Nascimento commandeered a public bus in a middle-class Rio de Janeiro neighborhood. For the next five hours, a battery of local television crews roll tape as Sandro threatens his mostly female hostages and taunts the ill-prepared, ineffective police. This riveting documentary signals a new societal urgency and filmmaking bravery in the Brazilian cinema. Utilizing a remarkable wealth of on-the-scene footage, director and co-producer Jose Padilha ups the ante by diving with meticulous detail into Sandro's troubled past.

Bus 174 features a number of shocking twists and puts the so-called hard-hitting investigative journalism of America's televised newsmagazines to shame.

—Eddie Cockrell

IN PORTUGUESE WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

Production Company: Zazen Productions. **Producers:** Jose Padilha, Marcos Prado. **Screenplay:** Jose Padilha. **Cinematography:** Cesar Moraes, Marcelo Guru. **Editor:** Felipe Lacerda. **Music:** Joao Nabuco, Sasha Ambak.

Thursday, May 1, 9:00 p.m., Loews Cineplex Georgetown
Saturday, May 3, 6:30 p.m., Loews Cineplex Georgetown



Casomai

Alessandro D'Alatri

Italy, 2002, 114 minutes, color

"Casomai" is an untranslatable Italian injunction, meaning variously "perhaps," "if," "in case of," or "in the eventuality." These uncertainties are at the heart of the blooming romantic relationship between Milanese advertising executive Tommaso and make-up artist Stefania. They meet, they fall in love, they're the subject of speculation and gossip, they marry, they have a



child—and they go into crisis. From the unconventional and refreshingly frank rural wedding ceremony that opens the film to the breathless pace of his ambitious narrative and the utterly logical payoff, adman-turned-filmmaker Alessandro D'Alatri is in complete control of a story that will ring true to any thirty-something couple trying valiantly to balance a career and a family.

—Eddie Cockrell

IN ITALIAN WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

Production Company: Magic Moments. **Producer:** Marco Valsania. **Screenplay:** Anna Pavignano, Alessandro D'Alatri. **Cinematography:** Agostino Castiglioni. **Editor:** Osvaldo Barger. **Music:** Pivio & Aldo De Scalzi. **Principal Cast:** Stefania Rocca, Fabio Volo, Gennaro Nunziata, Mino Manni, Maurizio Scattori.

Thursday, April 24, 9:00 p.m., Avalon Theatre
Friday, April 25, 6:30 p.m., Avalon Theatre
Saturday, May 3, 6:45 p.m., Avalon Theatre

Chico Hamilton: Dancing to a Different Drummer (Director's Cut)



Julian Benedikt

Germany, 2002, 85 minutes, color and black & white

Less a percussionist than a pure force of nature, Foreststorn "Chico" Hamilton says that the

real universal language of man is the beat, which springs from the heartbeat. His astonishing, 60-plus year career is rich with innovation and education. The first bandleader to feature a cello in his quintet, Hamilton has composed scores for diverse films like Alexander Mackendrick's *The Sweet Smell of Success* and Roman Polanski's *Repulsion*. He has also led

groups featuring musical talents like Eric Dolphy, Paul Horne, and Larry Coryell. In 1994, Julian Benedikt befriended Hamilton after a club date and produced an hour-long documentary for European television. Benedikt recently expanded the tribute to feature length, giving this 81-year-old musician his much-deserved props.

—Eddie Cockrell

Production Companies: Julian Benedikt Films, in co-production with VCC Perfect Pictures/Konken Studios. **Producer:** Julian Benedikt. **Cinematography:** Torsten Hauer. **Editor:** Michael Werluschning. **Music:** Chico Hamilton. **Principal Cast:** Chico Hamilton, Roman Polanski, Charlie Watts, Gerry Mulligan, Eric Person.

Monday, April 28, 6:30 p.m., Visions Cinema Bistro Lounge
Tuesday, April 29, 9:00 p.m., Visions Cinema Bistro Lounge
Wednesday, April 30, 6:30 p.m., Visions Cinema Bistro Lounge

★ *In Person:* David Levy, former member of Chico Hamilton's band, and President Corcoran Gallery of Art, at April 28 & 29 screenings

The City of No Limits

En la ciudad sin limites

Antonio Hernandez

Spain/Argentina, 2001, 118 minutes, color

A magnificent ensemble cast and a taut script render an unusual thriller of haunting power. Terminally ill Max (Fernando Fernan-Gómez) decides to spend his final days in Paris, the city where he met his wife (Geraldine Chaplin). His three sons—pragmatic Alberto, ineffectual Luisito, and idealistic Víctor—hover around his hospital room waiting for the end to come. Tensions mount as the family makes plans for the future and tries to understand what's happening. Max's anxieties and fears lead Víctor on a journey into his father's past that increasingly blurs the relationship between paranoia

and fear; nothing can be taken for granted.

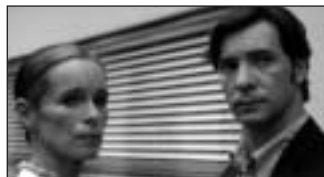
—*María Delgado, 46th Regus London Film Festival, 2002*

IN SPANISH WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

Production Companies: Zebra (Spain)/Iconica (Spain)/Patagonik Film Group (Argentina). **Producers:** Antonio Saura, Jose Nolla. **Screenplay:** Antonio Hernandez, Enrique Braso. **Cinematography:** Unax Mendia. **Editors:** Javier Laffaille, Patricia Ennis. **Music:** Luis Victor Reyes. **Principal Cast:** Leonardo Sbaraglia, Fernando Fernan-Gómez, Geraldine Chaplin, Ana Fernandez, Adriana Ozores.

Friday, April 25, 8:30 p.m., The Greenberg Theatre
Monday, April 28, 9:15 p.m., Loews Cineplex
Wisconsin Ave. Cinemas

▲ Hosted by the
Center for
Social Media,
American
University



AMERICAN PREMIERE

Clay Dolls

Arais al tein/Poupees d'argile

Nouri Bouzid

Tunisia/France/Morocco, 2003, 99 minutes, color

From the outspoken honesty of *Man of Ashes* to the harshly ironic *Bezness* (FFDC 93), the contradictions of women's roles in modern Tunisian society underscores director Nouri Bouzid's work. In *Clay Dolls* he returns to the first film's subtle characters in an environment threaded with light and shadows, desires and restrictions. Sullen, alcoholic Omrane (Ahmed Hafiane) supplies well-to-do city dwellers with young girls from poor



villages—a sinister profession to be sure, but one that turns out to be paradoxically ambiguous. Bouzid sides with his female characters, sensitively conveying their longing for freedom and dignity. Yet, he also tries to understand the slave dealer who imprisons them and saves their families from starvation.

—*Deborah Young, Variety*

IN ARABIC WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

Production Companies: C.T.V. Services/Touza Productions/2M. **Producers:** Abdelaziz Ben Mlouka, Hassen Daidoul. **Screenplay:** Nouri Bouzid. **Cinematography:** Tarek Ben Abdallah, Gilberto Azevedo. **Editors:** Caroline Emery, Anita Fernandez, Ingrid Ralet, Benoit Bruwler. **Music:** Rabii Zamouri. **Principal Cast:** HEND SABRI, AHMED HAFIANE, OUMEYA BEN HAFISA.

Friday, May 2, 6:30 p.m., Loews Cineplex Outer Circle
Saturday, May 3, 8:45 p.m., The Greenberg Theatre

▲ Hosted by the Center for Social Media, American
University

Come Drink With Me

Da zui xia/Daa chui hap

King Hu

Hong Kong, 1966,
94 minutes, color

Long before *Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon* wowed the western world, *Come Drink with Me* broke new ground and raised the bar for successive action films. The film's ingeniously staged action scenes and dynamic cast of characters look as cool today as when they burst upon the cinema scene in 1966. There is even a *Crouching Tiger* connection, for Golden Swallow is played by none other than Zhang Ziyi's evil old nanny,



Cheng Pei-pei. Straight from its gala re-premieres at the Vancouver and Berlin film festivals, here's the exciting restoration of a pivotal but rarely-seen title in the development of "wu xia," the "martial chivalry" strain of Hong Kong action cinema.—*33rd International Forum of New Cinema; 53rd Berlin International Film Festival, 2003*

IN MANDARIN WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

Production Company: Shaw Brothers. **Producer:** Run Run Shaw. **Screenplay:** King Hu, Erh Yang. **Cinematography:** He Lanshan. **Editor:** Chiang Hsing-loong. **Music:** Zhou Lan-Ping. **Principal Cast:** Cheng Pei-pei, Yueh Hua, Chen Hung-ieh, Li Yun-chung, Yang Chi-ching.

"Heroic Grace: The Chinese Martial Arts Film" touring program has been selected and organized by the UCLA Film and Television Archive, and has been made possible with Presenting Sponsorship from the Hong Kong Economic and Trade Office in San Francisco, and additional sponsorship from Cathay Pacific Airways. Licensed by Celestial Pictures Ltd. (a company incorporated in Hong Kong SAR). All rights reserved.

Saturday, April 26, 9:00 p.m., AFI Silver Theatre and
Cultural Center



Crazy Like a Fox

Richard Squires

USA, 2002,

99 minutes, color

When two land speculators con-
vive him out of the 700-acre
estate 50 miles south of
Washington, DC, where he's
spent his life, 8th-generation
farmer and voracious reader
Nathaniel "Nat" Banks leaves his
family to take up residence in a
cave. The speculators move to
California for the winter and the
Banks move back to the estate, but their moral victory
is short-lived when the inevitable showdown



arrives. Nat isn't going without a fight, and he's got the locals behind him. Roger Rees portrays Banks as an eccentric, benevolent, tragicomic figure who represents the uneasy relationship between the old guard and encroaching civilization. *Crazy Like a Fox* was shot in Loudon and Clarke counties and on various picturesque Virginia locations.—*Eddie Cockrell*

Production Company: The Delphi Film Foundation. **Producers:**

Patricia Foulkrod, Bill Warrell. **Screenplay:** Richard Squires.

Cinematography: Gary Grieg. **Editor:** Sheri Bylander. **Music:** David Kane, Richard Squires. **Principal Cast:** Roger Rees, Mary McDonnell, Paul Fitzgerald, Christina Rouner, Robert Wisdom.

Thursday, April 24, 8:45 p.m., Avalon Theatre

★ In Person: Director Richard Squires



The Dark Side of the Heart 2

Eliseo Subiela

Argentina/Spain, 2001, 109 minutes, color

Ten years after the events of Eliseo Subiela's magnificent *Dark Side of the Heart*, Oliverio (Dario Grandinetti) is still moping around Buenos Aires, still pondering life's big questions, still looking for a woman who can literally fly, and still dumping the rejects down a trap door installed in his bed. Sexy Miranda (Carolina Peleritti) seems to be the answer but isn't, so Oliverio travels to Barcelona in search of former soulmate Ana (Sandra Ballesteros), and then encounters a circus acrobat who proves to be a formidable challenge and a remedy for the sinister beings stalking him at every turn. These further adventures of a restless artist long thought to be

the director's doppelganger are cheeky, sexy, elegant, and, as always, thought-provoking.—*Eddie Cockrell*

IN SPANISH WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

Production Company: Argentine Sono. **Producer:** Luis A. Scaletta. **Screenplay:** Eliseo Subiela. **Cinematography:** Teo Delgado. **Editor:** Juan Carlos Macías. **Music:** Osvaldo Montes. **Principal Cast:** Dario Grandinetti, Ariadna Gil, Nacha Guevara, Sandra Ballesteros, Manuel Bandera.

**Friday, May 2, 9:30 p.m., Loews Cineplex
Wisconsin Ave. Cinemas**

Saturday, May 3, 6:30 p.m., Lincoln Theatre

★ In Person: Director Eliseo Subiela

Dracula: Pages from a Virgin's Diary



Guy Maddin

Canada, 2002, 75 minutes, color and black & white

Guy Maddin's first feature film in six years is a highly stylized adaptation of Mark Godden's Royal Winnipeg Ballet production of Bram Stoker's enduring tale, commissioned by the Canadian Broadcasting Company and shot on video. The performance is exquisite, but this is more than just dance on film. Maddin combines Godden's choreography, the Gustav Mahler score, and his own unique take on the language of silent cinema to create a beautiful, inventive, erotic, and thoroughly delirious film that stays surprisingly true to Stoker's text. Color tinting, subtle digital effects, and the director's

dry, surreal humor really spice things up. Think you know Dracula? Think again.—*David Cox, 46th Regus London Film Festival, 2002*

Production Companies: Vonnie Von Helmut Film/Mark Goddin/Guy Maddin, in association with the Royal Winnipeg Ballet.
Producer: Vonnie Von Helmut.
Screenplay: Guy Maddin, from a ballet by Mark Goddin. **Cinematography:** Paul Suderman. **Editor:** Deco Dawson. **Music:** Gustav Mahler. **Principal Cast:** Zhang Wei-Qiang, Tora Birtwhistle, David Moroni, Cindy Marie Small, Johnny Wright.

Friday, April 25, 9:15 p.m.,
Avalon Theatre
Saturday, April 26, 7:00 p.m.,
Avalon Theatre



El Bonaerense

Pablo Trapero

Argentina/Chile, 2002,
101 minutes, color

The second feature from Pablo Trapero (following the acclaimed *Crane World*), this gritty, well-crafted police drama traces an unworried man's journey into a violent and corrupt environment. Zapa, a thirty-something Argentinian locksmith, is pressured by his shifty boss to employ his safecracking skills on the wrong side of the law. Arrested during one such job, he's bailed out by his uncle, the town's former police chief, who pulls lots



of strings to have Zapa dispatched to Buenos Aires. There he joins the city's police force, the notorious bonaerense. Leavened with farcical and tender moments, the film is imbued with Trapero's empathetic feel for character.—*Sandra Hebron, 46th Regus London Film Festival, 2002*

IN SPANISH WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

Production Companies: Instituto Nacional de Cine y Artes Audiovisuales/Pablo Trapero Productions (Buenos Aires)/Andres Wood Productions (Santiago). **Producer:** Pablo Trapero. **Screenplay:** Pablo Trapero, Dodi Schoeuer, Ricardo Ragendorfer, Daniel Valenzuela, Nicolas Gueliburt. **Cinematography:** Guillermo "Bill" Nieto. **Editor:** Nicolas Goldbart. **Principal Cast:** Jorge Roman, Dario Levy, Mimi Arduh, Hugo Angaruzzi, Victor Hugo Carrizo.

Tuesday, April 29, 6:45 p.m., Loews Cineplex
Wisconsin Ave. Cinemas
Wednesday, April 30, 9:30 p.m., Loews Cineplex
Wisconsin Ave. Cinemas

AMERICAN PREMIERE

Escape to Paradise



Nino Jacusso

Switzerland, 2001, 91 minutes, color

In the provocative yet dignified *Escape to Paradise*, Italian-born filmmaker Nino Jacusso examines the complicated and frustrating emigration process in modern Switzerland. Turkish refugee Sehmuz, his wife Delal, and their three children have managed to get in line for political asylum in Switzerland. While they study for the necessary interviews, family friend Aziz points out that only one in 10 applicants makes it through. Jacusso's no-nonsense style fits snugly with the themes of his story, which he wrote with the cast. Despite its grim subject matter, the film has a strong



sense of humor and optimism. It won an international film critics' jury award at San Sebastian "for being an urgent portrayal of conflicting population changes in contemporary Europe."—*Eddie Cockrell*

IN KURDISH AND GERMAN WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

Production Company: Insert Film. **Producer:** Ivo Kummer. **Screenplay:** Nino Jacusso, with the collaboration of Mona de la Ray, Fidan Firat, Duzgun Ayhan, Hulya Sezer, Jerlija Xhelit, Barbara Cotting. **Cinematography:** Daniel Leippert. **Editor:** Nino Jacusso. **Music:** Pedro Haldemann. **Principal Cast:** Duzgun Ayhan, Fidan Firat, Nurettin Yildiz, Walo Luond, Domenico Peccoraio.

Monday, April 28, 8:45 p.m., Loews Cineplex Georgetown
Tuesday, April 29, 8:30 p.m., Loews Cineplex Georgetown

★ Scheduled to Appear: Actress Fidan Firat

▲ Co-Presented with the Embassy of Switzerland



NORTH AMERICAN PREMIERE

For the Children

Yang Yazhou

China, 2002, 103 minutes, color

In response to the death of her husband and young son, peasant Zhang Meili founds a school in the dry desert landscape of northwest China. When cultured and chipper Xia Yu arrives from Beijing to help her out, the two women bond and learn from each other's character how to best serve the children. Various subplots include the arrival of Xia's husband, who tries in vain to persuade her to return to the city, Xia's quick abortion,



and the comically clandestine relationship between Zhang and a local projectionist. For the Children won the Best Film and Best Director awards at last October's mainland Golden Rooster Awards. The film's alternate title is a poetic reference to Zhang's big-hearted spirit.—*Eddie Cockrell*

IN MANDARIN WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

Production Companies: Xi'an Film Studio/CTV-Media Studio Corporation. **Producers:** Yan Yijun, Wu Dashen. **Screenplay:** Li Wei. **Cinematography:** Wang Xiaoming. **Editors:** Ding Rufan, Wei Dong.

Music: Zhao Jiping. **Principal Cast:** Ni Ping, Yuan Quan, Sun Halying, Xu Yajun, Ge Zhijun.

Friday, May 2, 6:30 p.m., Loews Cineplex
Wisconsin Ave. Cinemas

Saturday, May 3, 6:30 p.m., Loews Cineplex
Wisconsin Ave. Cinemas

★ In Person: Director Yang Yazhou and
Actress Ni Ping

Francesca and Nunziata

Francesca e Nunziata

Lina Wertmuller

Italy, 2001, 125 minutes, color

A still-stunning Sophia Loren, never-more-subtle Giancarlo Giannini, and Lina Wertmuller are reunited for this plush 19th-century costume drama based on the popular novel by Maria Orsini Natale. Francesca (Loren) was a commoner whose beauty so entranced Prince Giordano Montorsi (Giannini) that he took her hand in marriage. The couple kept a vow to the Virgin to adopt an orphan if their youngest son, Federico, survived an illness. Visiting a convent, they select the angelic, nine-year-old Nunziata. Now grown,



Federico (Italian heartthrob Raoul Bova) and his stepsister (the luscious Claudia Gerini) have the hots for each other. Appalled, the hardheaded businesswoman Francesca makes more profitable marriage plans for her daughter, but the equally savvy schemer Nunziata has her own ideas.

—*San Francisco Film Society*

IN ITALIAN WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

Production Company: Mediatrade, in association with Solaris Cinematografica. **Producers:** Simone De Rita, Anna Stoppoloni. **Screenplay:** Lina Wertmuller, Elvio Porta, from the novel by Maria Orsini Natale. **Cinematography:** Alfio Continii. **Editor:** Pierluigi Leonardi. **Music:** Italo Greco, Lucio Gregoretti. **Principal Cast:** Sophia Loren, Giancarlo Giannini, Claudia Gerini, Raoul Bova, Carmen Ferniano, Domenico Orsini.

Monday, April 28, 6:30 p.m., Loews Cineplex
Wisconsin Ave. Cinemas

Thursday, May 1, 9:00 p.m., Loews Cineplex
Wisconsin Ave. Cinemas

The Hard Word

Scott Roberts

Australia, 2002, 102 minutes, color

Set in Australia, Director Scott Roberts has crafted a sexy, superbly crafted potboiler in this action thriller. This rock 'em, sock 'em tug of war is a solid bit of nasty fun from Down Under.

The best thing about this film is this: *The Hard Word* doesn't promise more than it can deliver...but, like the Twentyman brothers themselves, it delivers everything that it promises, and more.

The Twentyman brothers have learned how to manipulate the prison system. Led by their hard-bitten oldest brother Dale (Guy Pearce), younger brothers Shane (Joel Edgerton) and Malcolm (Damien Richardson), they

already have a line on an armored car hit once they're released from prison. Orchestrating the job—and their release from prison—is the brothers' sleazy GQ lawyer Frank (Robert Taylor), who, unbeknownst to Dale, is having an affair with his sultry wife, Carol (Rachel Griffiths). All seems good when the hit goes off as planned, until Frank double-crosses them and they wind up back in the slammer.—*Merle Bertrand, Film Threat*

Production Company: Lions Gate Films. **Producers:** Al Clark, Hilary Davis, Gareth Jones. **Screenwriter:** Scott Roberts. **Principal Cast:** Guy Pearce, Rachel Griffiths, Robert Taylor, Joel Edgerton, Damien Richardson, Vince Colosimo.

Saturday, April 26, 9:00 p.m.,
Avalon Theatre
Sunday, April 27, 8:45 p.m.,
Avalon Theatre



Havana



Sydney Pollack

USA, 1990,

145 minutes, color

For their seventh film together, Robert Redford and director-producer Sydney Pollack recreated the Cuban capital of the tumultuous late 1950s in the Dominican Republic to serve as the thrumming backdrop of a love story between a dashing, apolitical cardsharp and the sultry wife of a fiery



revolutionary. In the waning days of 1958, a shipboard flirtation between gambler Jack Weil (Redford) and Bobby Duran (Lena Olin) draws him into dangerous political territory involving her left-wing husband Arturo (Raul Julia). Join Oscar-winning director Sydney Pollack (*Out of Africa*) for a discussion of Havana after the screening.—*Eddie Cockrell*

Production Company: Mirage. **Producers:** Sydney Pollack, Richard Roth. **Screenplay:** Judith Rascoe, David Rayfiel, from a story by Judith Rascoe. **Cinematography:** Owen Roizman. **Editors:** Fredric Steinkamp, William Steinkamp. **Music:** Dave Grusin. **Principal Cast:** Robert Redford, Lena Olin, Alan Arkin, Tomas Milian, Raul Julia, Mark Rydell, Tony Plana, Richard Farnsworth.

Thursday, May 1, 8:15 p.m., Avalon Theatre, FREE

★ *In Person:* Director Sydney Pollack

▲ *Co-Presented with GW's Elliott School of International Affairs*

The Heart of Me

Thaddeus O'Sullivan

United Kingdom, 2002, 96 minutes, color

England, 1934: "Dina (Helena Bonham Carter) may not be the most elegant creature, but she has passion," Mrs. Burkett says of her rebellious, bohemian youngest daughter. And it's true, though, that passion serves more to scare off suitors than attract them. After her brother-in-law Ricky urges her to dump her doltish suitor, Dina becomes intimate with—and pregnant by—Ricky. The end of the affair eventually impacts the entire family. The latest film from Dublin-born cinematographer-turned-director Thaddeus O'Sullivan (December Bride, FFDC 1991), *The Heart of Me* is a visually crisp, British period romancer featuring precise performances

from a trio of leads that look completely at home in that repressed era, when smoldering passions lay dormant beneath impassive and proper exteriors.

—*Eddie Cockrell*

Production Companies: Martin Pope Productions/Take 3/Pandora/Isle of Man Film Commission. **Producer:** Martin Pope. **Screenplay:** Lucinda Coxon, from the novel "The Echoing Grove" by Rosamond Lehmann. **Cinematography:** Gyula Pados. **Editor:** Alex Mackie. **Music:** Nicholas Hooper. **Principal Cast:** Helena Bonham Carter, Olivia Williams, Paul Bettany, Eleanor Bron, Luke Newberry.

Thursday, April 24, 6:30 p.m.,
Avalon Theatre
Monday, April 28, 9:00 p.m.,
Avalon Theatre



I'm Taraneh, 15

Man Taraneh panzdah sal daram

Rasul Sadr-Ameli

Iran, 2002, 112 minutes, color

Taraneh lives with her grandmother. She is seduced by, and marries, a young man she plans to live with after she finishes her studies. The relationship quickly turns sour when her immature brat of a husband shows no sense of responsibility. Taraneh decides to divorce him, but soon after the separation finds that she is pregnant. She asks her



mother-in-law, a social worker, for help, but gets the cold shoulder and is denied support. This film became a hit in Iran for its honest, accurate portrayal of a courageous single mother who has to deal with the double burdens of family trauma and social taboos.


—*Rose Issa, 46th Regus London Film Festival, 2002*

IN FARSI WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

Production Company: Milad Film Production. **Producer:** Rasul Sadr-Ameli. **Screenplay:** Kambuzia Partovi, Rasul Sadr-Ameli. **Cinematography:** Bahram Badakhshani. **Editor:** Mohammad Reza Moirri. **Music:** Majid Entezami. **Principal Cast:** Taraneh Alidoosti, Hossein Mahjub, Mahtab Nasirpour, Milad Sadr-Ameli.

Sunday, April 27, 6:00 p.m., Avalon Theatre
Monday, April 28, 6:30 p.m., Avalon Theatre

▲ *Co-Presented with*

 Center for the Global South
AMERICAN UNIVERSITY



I'm the Father

Vaeter

Dani Levy

Germany, 2002,
102 minutes, color

A chaotic but brilliant architect loses his family to the demands of his profession in *I'm the Father*. Marco Krieger is a disorganized and often-absent husband to wife Melanie and six-year-old son Benny. Marco's perfectly aware he's unreliable, giving his sick son beer during an impromptu evening outing and just plain forgetting his seventh wedding anniversary. The marriage becomes strained and Melanie files for divorce. Devastated, Marco resorts to desperate measures to regain his family. Technically, *I'm the Father* represents

the wave of the future. The two-camera digital video shoot (with director Dani Levy operating one machine) has been blown up to 35mm widescreen, giving the film an enormous intimacy that enhances the drama.

—Eddie Cockrell

IN GERMAN WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

Production Company: X-Filme Creative Pool. **Producer:** Manuela Stehr. **Screenplay:** Rona Munro, Dani Levy, from an idea by Matthias Matussek, Guenter Rohrbach. **Cinematography:** Carsten Thiele. **Editor:** Elena Bromund. **Music:** Niki Reiser. **Principal Cast:** Sebastian Blomberg, Maria Schrader, Ezra Valentin Lenz, Christiane Paul.

Friday, May 2, 7:00 p.m., Avalon Theatre
Saturday, May 3, 9:15 p.m., Avalon Theatre



Iran, Veiled Appearances

Iran sous le voile des apparences

Thierry Michel

Belgium/France, 2002,
91 minutes, color

This insightful documentary on life in contemporary Iran explores the inner machinations of the country's paramilitary religious sects and the significant threats posed by radical Islam's commitment to martyrdom and its heavenly aspirations. Director Thierry Michel skillfully illustrates dramatically different forces at play within Iranian society: an increasingly modernized



youth culture that expresses its desire for change and a more open society and that challenges the wisdom of the older generation that fought for—and continues to embrace—the traditions and ideals of the Islamic revolution. Deeply troubling, *Iran, Veiled Appearances* should be seen by anyone still wondering why September 11 happened, and wherein lies the fate of the world.

—Diane Weyermann, 2003 Sundance Film Festival

IN FRENCH AND ENGLISH WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

Production Companies: Les Films de la Passerelle/RTBF Television Belge/Les Films D'Ici/Paitre/Arte France/VRT/CBA/Centre du Cinema et de L'Audiovisuel de la Communaute Francaise de Belgique/Les Teledistributeurs Wallons. **Producer:** Christine Pireaux. **Screenplay:** Thierry Michel. **Cinematography:** Farsin Khosrowshahi. **Editor:** Marine Deleu. **Music:** Shahyar.

Thursday, May 1, 8:30 p.m., Visions Cinema Bistro Lounge
Friday, May 2, 6:30 p.m., Visions Cinema Bistro Lounge

★ In Person: Director Thierry Michel

Jet Lag

Decalage horaire

Danielle Thompson

France/United Kingdom, 2002, 91 minutes, color

Rose (Juliette Binoche) is a scatterbrained make-up artist whose greatest canvas is herself. In search of a flight to escape her abusive boyfriend Serge, Rose spots Félix (Jean Reno) in a terminal in Paris-Charles de Gaulle airport. He reluctantly offers to lend her his cell phone so she can finish an important call. Rose and Félix encounter each other again and again, each time learning more about the other than perhaps each might want to know. Reno's hand-dog face and much-put-upon tone of voice are a perfect foil to Oscar winner

Binoche's dazzle. *Jet Lag* is uncomplicated and unabashed fun, a delightful, madcap soufflé of chance encounters that may even make you want to experience a layover at the airport.

—Carrie Gorringer, *Nitrate Online*

IN FRENCH WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

Production Companies: Les Films Alain Sarde/TF1 Films (France)/Pathe (Jet Lag) Productions (United Kingdom). **Producer:** Alain Sarde. **Screenplay:** Daniëlle Thompson, Christopher Thompson. **Cinematography:** Patrick Blossier. **Editor:** Sylvie Landra. **Music:** Eric Serra. **Principal Cast:** Juliette Binoche, Jean Reno, Sergi Lopez.

Friday, May 2, 9:30 p.m., Loews Cineplex Georgetown
Saturday, May 3, 9:00 p.m., Loews Cineplex Georgetown



Jimmy Scott: If You Only Knew



Matthew Buzzell

USA, 2002, 77 minutes, color and black & white

The story of legendary vocalist Jimmy Scott's eventual rise to fame is not unique in the annals of jazz. Matthew Buzzell's insightful documentary drives that point home more poignantly than could any form of cooked-up outrage. Performance footage of Scott on a recent tour of Japan—including uniquely phrased renditions of "Time After Time" and "Pennies From Heaven"—is intercut with interviews tracing his notoriously stop-and-start career. Kallmann's Syndrome, a rare disease that prevents puberty, assured his signa-



ture high voice would remain unchanged, but also apparently led to booze-swilling, gun-toting over-assertions of masculinity. Scott survived one childhood trauma after another, but the true drama lies in his troubled recording career.—*Ronnie Scheib, Variety*

Production Company: Celebrity Ashtray. **Producers:** Matthew Buzzell, Brian Gerber, Sylvio Sharif Tabet. **Cinematography:** Matthew Buzzell. **Editor:** Jacob Bricca.

Music: Jimmy Scott and the Jazz Expressions.

Friday, April 25, 6:30 p.m., Visions Cinema Bistro Lounge
Monday, April 28, 9:00 p.m., Visions Cinema Bistro Lounge
Tuesday, April 29, 6:30 p.m., Visions Cinema Bistro Lounge

Jiyan



Jano Rosebiani

Kurdistan, 2001, 102 minutes, color

On March 16, 1988, Saddam Hussein's air force used chemical and biological weapons to kill 5,000



Kurdish residents of Halabja, in what was then northern Iraq. Five years later, Kurdish-American Diyari returns to the region to build an orphanage. His stay reveals the degree of physical and psychological trauma the community suffered. However, his friendship with two chil-

dren, primarily 10-year-old Jiyan, indicates that a positive future might be possible. The film is at once intimate and expansive, detailing the cycle of hard lives against an unrelenting, challenging, but also bleakly beautiful landscape.—*Gareth Evans, 46th Regus London Film Festival, 2002*

IN KURDISH WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

Production Company: Evini Films. **Producer:** Jano Rosebiani. **Screenplay:** Jano Rosebiani. **Cinematography:** Koutaliba Al Janabi. **Editor:** Jano Rosebiani. **Music:** Kurdo Galali, Alain Pierre. **Principal Cast:** Kurdo Galali, Pisheng Berzinci, Coman Hawrami, Enwer Shexani, Ehmen Salari.

Sunday, April 27, 8:45 p.m., Loews Cineplex Georgetown
Tuesday, April 29, 6:30 p.m., Loews Cineplex Georgetown

★ *In Person:* Director Jano Rosebiani

▲ *Co-Presented with the Mustafa Barzani's Scholar Program, Center for Global Peace, American University*

Last Witness



Heuksuseon

Bae Chang-ho

South Korea, 2001, 101 minutes, color

A political thriller and love story, *Last Witness* spins on a little-known scar in recent Korean history—the infamous Geoje Camp for political dissidents and POWs built on an island southwest of Pusan just after the start of the Korean War. Unrepentant Communist Hwang-seok is released from solitary confinement after nearly 50 years when a dead man is fished out of a harbor with a dagger in his chest. A loose-cannon cop named Oh is assigned to the case and stumbles across an old diary written by a woman who joined the Communist party and infiltrated Geoje Camp to save

Hwang-seok. As Oh digests the diary and pursues his investigation, he uncovers a complex web of love and betrayal.—*Derek Elley, Variety*

IN KOREAN AND JAPANESE WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES



Production Company: Taewon Entertainment. **Producer:** Jeong Tae-weon. **Screenplay:** Bae Chang-ho, from the novel "Black Narcissus" ("Heuksuseon"), by Kim Seong-jong. **Cinematography:** Kim Yun-su. **Editor:** Hyun Kim. **Music:** Choi Kyeong-shik. **Principal Cast:** Lee Jeong-jae, Lee Mi-yeon, Ahn Seong-ki, Jeong Jun-ho, Jeong Sang-cheol.

Wednesday, April 30, 6:30 p.m., Avalon Theatre
Thursday, May 1, 8:30 p.m., Avalon Theatre



A Little Color

Les petites couleurs

Patricia Plattner

Switzerland/ France, 2002,
96 minutes, color

When timid hairdresser Christelle Pradervent confronts her abusive husband and absconds with the elaborate "Cute Curls" hair-styling machine he promised to another shop, an aimless all-night drive brings her to a rundown roadside café-flophouse. Christelle slowly learns to fit in among the picturesque locals. She finds love in the personage of a hunky 26-year-old singing trucker and a mysteri-



ous Polish lingerie and dress salesman. The joys of this unassuming film are in the small, intimate observations of daily life that speak of emancipation and optimism. "Sometimes luck is losing everything, even if we don't realize it straight off," the café's proprietor says serenely. *A Little Color* speaks to the redemptive and empowering force of change and camaraderie.

—Eddie Cockrell

IN FRENCH WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

Production Companies: Light Night Productions/Gemini Films. **Producers:** Patricia Plattner, Paulo Branco. **Screenplay:** Sarah Gabay, Jean Bobby, Patricia Plattner. **Cinematography:** Matthias Kaelin. **Editors:** Jeanetta Ionesco, Maya Schmid. **Music:** Jacques Robellaz. **Principal Cast:** Anouk Grinberg, Bernadette Lafont, Philippe Bas, Gilles Tschudi, Jean-Pierre Gos.

Friday, May 2, 9:00 p.m., Loews Cineplex Outer Circle
Saturday, May 3, 6:30 p.m., The Greenberg Theatre

▲ Hosted by the Center for Social Media, American University

Loco Fever

La fiebre del loco

Andres Wood

Chile/Spain/Mexico, 2001, 92 minutes, color

Chilean filmmaker Andres Wood has crafted a very engaging story about two Chilean con men who return to their hometown of Puerto Gala to buy the village's entire catch of loco, an endangered shellfish renowned for its legendary aphrodisiac qualities, for a bogus Japanese company. Soon the sleepy town is in a frenzy, with everyone desperate to catch as many loco as they can. News of quick money even reaches a traveling troupe of prostitutes who try to cash in on the locals—much to the chagrin of the village wives.



Boasting wonderful performances by a large cast, precise comic direction, and sumptuous cinematography, *Loco Fever* is a terrifically enjoyable romp.

—Ramiro Puerta, 26th Toronto International Film Festival, 2001

IN SPANISH WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

Production Companies: Wood Productions (Chile)/Tequila Gang (Mexico)/El Deseo (Spain). **Producers:** Rosa Bosch, Bertha Navarro, Andres Wood. **Screenplay:** Andres Wood, Rene Arcos, Gilberto Villarroel. **Cinematography:** Miguel Joan Littin. **Editor:** Andrea Chignoli. **Music:** Carlos Cabezas, Diego Las Heras, Jeanette Pualuan. **Principal Cast:** Emilio Bardil, Loreto Moja, Luis Dubo, Tamara Acosta, Maria Izquierdo.

Sunday, April 27, 6:30 p.m., Avalon Theatre
Monday, April 28, 9:15 p.m., Avalon Theatre

▲ Co-Presented with

 Center for the Global South
AMERICAN UNIVERSITY

Marie-Jo and Her 2 Loves

Marie-Jo et ses 2 amours

Robert Guediguian

France, 2002, 124 minutes, color

Shining in Guediguian's earlier films about the complexities of middle-aged love and infidelity, Ariane Ascaride is superb as ever as a woman visibly struggling with the impossibility of loving two men. Marie-Jo, her husband Daniel, and their almost-grown daughter seem happier than most families. But Marie-Jo also loves Marco and has a secret relationship with him. When her husband finds out, she leaves him to live with Marco for a while. Daniel is deeply hurt but waits patiently for Marie-Jo to return. Their daughter, however, is incensed by Marie-Jo's vacillations and refuses any attempt at reconcilia-

tion. A brilliant palette of sun, sea, and sky helps drive this intricate story set in the director's native Marseilles.

—Sandra Hebron,
46th Regus London
Film Festival, 2002

IN FRENCH WITH ENGLISH
SUBTITLES

Production Companies: Agat Films/Cie-France 3 Cinema. **Producer:** Robert Guediguian. **Screenplay:** Jean-Louis Milesi, Robert Guediguian. **Cinematography:** Renato Berta. **Editor:** Bernard Sasia. **Music:** Various. **Principal Cast:** Ariane Ascaride, Jean-Pierre Darroussin, Gerard Meylan, Julie-Marie Parmentier, Jacques Boudet.

Sunday, April 27, 6:00 p.m., Embassy of France
Monday, April 28, 9:00 p.m., Loews Cineplex
Wisconsin Ave. Cinemas



Festival Schedule

Wednesday, April 23

7:00 p.m. **Opening Night Gala
The Dancer Upstairs**
with *John Malkovich*
GW's Lisner Auditorium

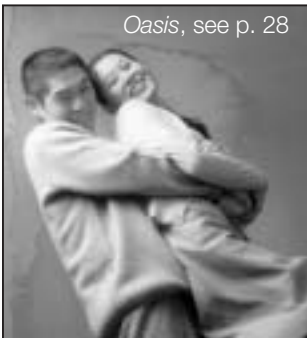
Thursday, April 24

6:30 p.m. **The Heart of Me**
Avalon Theatre

6:45 p.m. **Slogans**
Avalon Theatre

8:45 p.m. **Crazy Like A Fox**
Avalon Theatre

9:00 p.m. **Casomai**
Avalon Theatre



Friday, April 25

10:30 a.m. **Filmfest DC for Kids
Program 1***
Avalon Theatre

12:00 p.m. **Filmfest DC for Kids
Program 2***
Avalon Theatre

12:30 p.m. **Filmfest DC for Kids
Program 3***
Avalon Theatre

6:30 p.m. **Casomai**
Avalon Theatre

6:30 p.m. **Warriors**
The Greenberg Theatre

6:30 p.m. **Oasis**
Loews Cineplex Outer
Circle

6:30 p.m. **Off to the Revolution by
a 2CV**
Loews Cineplex
Wisconsin
Avenue Cinemas

6:30 p.m. **Jimmy Scott: If You
Only Knew**
Visions Cinema Bistro
Lounge

6:45 p.m. **Swing**
Avalon Theatre

8:30 p.m. **The City of No Limits**
The Greenberg Theatre

8:45 p.m. **Bollywood/Hollywood**
Loews Cineplex
Wisconsin Avenue
Cinemas

8:45 p.m. **The Weather
Underground**
Visions Cinema Bistro
Lounge

9:00 p.m. **Blue Gate Crossing**
Avalon Theatre

9:15 p.m. **Dracula: Pages from a
Virgin's Diary**
Avalon Theatre

9:15 p.m. **Sisters**
Loews Cineplex Outer
Circle

Saturday, April 26

11:00 a.m. **Filmfest DC for Kids
Program 1***
Avalon Theatre

12:30 p.m. **Filmfest DC for Kids
Program 2***
Avalon Theatre

12:30 p.m. **Filmfest DC for Kids
Program 3***
Avalon Theatre

3:00 p.m. **Reel Talk: Politics
in Film***
Avalon Theatre

6:30 p.m. **Winged Migration**
Avalon Theatre

6:30 p.m. **The Best Day of My Life**
Loews Cineplex
Georgetown

6:30 p.m. **Sisters**
Loews Cineplex Outer
Circle

6:30 p.m. **Bollywood/Hollywood**
Loews Cineplex
Wisconsin Avenue
Cinemas

6:30 p.m. **Short Cuts 1**
Visions Cinema Bistro
Lounge

7:00 p.m. **Swing**
AFI Silver Theatre and
Cultural Center

7:00 p.m. **Dracula: Pages from
a Virgin's Diary**
Avalon Theatre

8:30 p.m. **Blue Gate Crossing**
Avalon Theatre

8:30 p.m. **Oasis**
Loews Cineplex Outer
Circle

9:00 p.m. **Come Drink with Me**
AFI Silver Theatre and
Cultural Center

9:00 p.m. **The Hard Word**
Avalon Theatre

9:00 p.m. **Together**
Loews Cineplex
Georgetown

9:00 p.m. **The Weather
Underground**
Visions Cinema Bistro
Lounge

9:15 p.m. **Off to the Revolution
by a 2CV**
Loews Cineplex
Wisconsin Avenue
Cinemas

Sunday, April 27

3:00 p.m. **Reel Talk: Politics in
Film***
Avalon Theatre

3:00 p.m. **Tanguy**
Embassy of France

6:00 p.m. **I'm Taraneh, 15**
Avalon Theatre

6:00 p.m. **Marie-Jo and Her
Two Loves**
Embassy of France

- 6:00 p.m. **Together**
Loews Cineplex
Georgetown
- 6:00 p.m. **Red Satin**
Loews Cineplex
Wisconsin Avenue
Cinemas
- 6:30 p.m. **Loco Fever**
Avalon Theatre
- 6:30 p.m. **Sweet Sixteen**
Loews Cineplex
Georgetown
- 6:30 p.m. **Warriors**
Loews Cineplex
Wisconsin Avenue
Cinemas

- 8:00 p.m. **Mondays in the Sun**
Loews Cineplex
Wisconsin Avenue
Cinemas
- 8:30 p.m. **The Tracker**
Avalon Theatre
- 8:30 p.m. **Rachida**
Loews Cineplex
Wisconsin
Avenue Cinemas
- 8:30 p.m. **The Best Day of My Life**
Loews Cineplex
Georgetown
- 8:45 p.m. **The Hard Word**
Avalon Theatre
- 8:45 p.m. **Jiyan**
Loews Cineplex
Georgetown

Monday, April 28

- 6:30 p.m. **I'm Taraneh, 15**
Avalon Theatre
- 6:30 p.m. **Sound of Brazil**
Loews Cineplex
Georgetown
- 6:30 p.m. **Francesca and Nunziata**
Loews Cineplex
Wisconsin
Avenue Cinemas
- 6:30 p.m. **Chico Hamilton:
Dancing to A
Different Drummer**
Visions Cinema Bistro
Lounge
- 6:45 p.m. **The Tracker**
Avalon Theatre



Red Satin, see p. 30

- 6:45 p.m. **Rachida**
Loews Cineplex
Wisconsin
Avenue Cinemas
- 8:45 p.m. **Escape to Paradise**
Loews Cineplex
Georgetown
- 9:00 p.m. **The Heart of Me**
Avalon Theatre
- 9:00 p.m. **Marie-Jo and Her Two Loves**
Loews Cineplex
Wisconsin Avenue
Cinemas
- 9:00 p.m. **Jimmy Scott: If You Only Knew**
Visions Cinema Bistro
Lounge
- 9:15 p.m. **Loco Fever**
Avalon Theatre
- 9:15 p.m. **The City of No Limits**
Loews Cineplex
Wisconsin Avenue
Cinemas
- 6:30 p.m. **Jimmy Scott: If You Only Knew**
Visions Cinema Bistro
Lounge
- 6:45 p.m. **Sweet Sixteen**
Loews Cineplex
Georgetown
- 6:45 p.m. **El Bonaerense**
Loews Cineplex
Wisconsin Avenue
Cinemas
- 7:00 p.m. **Slogans**
Avalon Theatre
- 8:30 p.m. **Escape to Paradise**
Loews Cineplex
Georgetown
- 8:45 p.m. **1/2 the Rent**
Avalon Theatre
- 8:45 p.m. **Mondays in the Sun**
Loews Cineplex
Wisconsin Avenue
Cinemas
- 9:00 p.m. **Winged Migration**
Avalon Theatre

Tuesday, April 29

- 6:30 p.m. **A Trumpet in the Wadi**
Avalon Theatre
- 6:30 p.m. **Jiyan**
Loews Cineplex
Georgetown
- 6:30 p.m. **Music for Weddings and Funerals**
Loews Cineplex
Wisconsin Avenue
Cinemas
- 6:30 p.m. **Jimmy Scott: If You Only Knew**
Visions Cinema Bistro
Lounge
- 6:30 p.m. **Mon-Rak Transistor**
Loews Cineplex
Wisconsin Avenue
Cinemas
- 9:00 p.m. **Chico Hamilton:
Dancing to a Different
Drummer**
Visions Cinema Bistro
Lounge

Wednesday, April 30

- 12:30 p.m. **Arts Club Panel & Luncheon**
Arts Club of Washington
- 6:15 p.m. **Waves**
Loews Cineplex
Wisconsin Avenue
Cinemas
- 6:30 p.m. **The Last Witness**
Avalon Theatre
- 6:30 p.m. **Reel Talk: Film Criticism***
Goethe-Institut
Washington
- 6:30 p.m. **Okay**
Loews Cineplex
Georgetown
- 6:30 p.m. **Red Satin**
Loews Cineplex
Wisconsin Avenue
Cinemas
- 6:30 p.m. **Chico Hamilton:
Dancing to
a Different Drummer**
Visions Cinema Bistro
Lounge
- 6:45 p.m. **A Trumpet in the Wadi**
Avalon Theatre
- 6:45 p.m. **Yank Tanks**
Loews Cineplex
Georgetown
- 8:30 p.m. **A Beautiful Secret**
Loews Cineplex
Georgetown
- 8:30 p.m. **Music for Weddings
and Funerals**
Loews Cineplex
Wisconsin Avenue
Cinemas
- 8:45 p.m. **1/2 The Rent**
Avalon Theatre
- 8:45 p.m. **Amen.**
Loews Cineplex
Georgetown
- 8:45 p.m. **My Terrorist**
Visions Cinema Bistro
Lounge
- 9:00 p.m. **Naked**
Avalon Theatre
- 9:30 p.m. **El Bonaerense**
Loews Cineplex
Wisconsin Avenue
Cinemas

Thursday, May 1

- 10:00 a.m. **Cinema for Seniors:
A Raisin in the Sun***
Avalon Theatre
- 6:15 p.m. **Tanguy**
Loews Cineplex
Wisconsin
Avenue Cinemas
- 6:15 p.m. **Naked**
Avalon Theatre
- 6:30 p.m. **Waiting for Happiness**
Avalon Theatre
- 6:30 p.m. **Yank Tanks**
Loews Cineplex
Georgetown
- 6:30 p.m. **Mon-Rak Transistor**
Loews Cineplex
Wisconsin
Avenue Cinemas
- 6:30 p.m. **My Terrorist**
Visions Cinema Bistro
Lounge
- 6:45 p.m. **Okay**
Loews Cineplex
Georgetown
- 8:00 p.m. **Redes**
GW's Lisner Auditorium
- 8:15 p.m. **Havana*
with Sydney Pollack**
Avalon Theatre
- 8:30 p.m. **The Last Witness**
Avalon Theatre
- 8:30 p.m. **Waves**
Loews Cineplex
Wisconsin
Avenue Cinemas

- 8:30 p.m. **Iran, Veiled
Appearances**
Visions Cinema Bistro
Lounge
- 8:45 p.m. **A Beautiful Secret**
Loews Cineplex
Georgetown
- 9:00 p.m. **Bus 174**
Loews Cineplex
Georgetown
- 9:00 p.m. **Francesca and
Nunziata**
Loews Cineplex
Wisconsin
Avenue Cinemas

Friday, May 2

- 6:00 p.m. **Reel Talk: Conversation
with Sydney Pollack***
GW's Elliott School
- 6:30 p.m. **Unprecedented: the
2000 Presidential
Election** shown with
**Today I Vote For
My Joey**
Avalon Theatre
- 6:30 p.m. **Nothing More**
Lincoln Theatre
- 6:30 p.m. **Amen.**
Loews Cineplex
Georgetown
- 6:30 p.m. **Clay Dolls**
Loews Cineplex Outer
Circle
- 6:30 p.m. **For the Children**
Loews Cineplex
Wisconsin Avenue
Cinemas

Diana's Smile, Short Cuts 2, see p. 31



Sound of Brazil, see p.33



- 6:30 p.m. **Iran, Veiled Appearances**
Visions Cinema Bistro Lounge
- 7:00 p.m. **I'm the Father**
Avalon Theatre
- 9:00 p.m. **11'09"01**
Avalon Theatre
- 9:00 p.m. **A Little Color**
Loews Cineplex Outer Circle
- 9:00 p.m. **The Sea**
Visions Cinema Bistro Lounge
- 9:15 p.m. **Waiting for Happiness**
Avalon Theatre
- 9:30 p.m. **Dark Side of the Heart 2**
Loews Cineplex Wisconsin Avenue Cinemas
- 9:30 p.m. **A Peck on the Cheek**
Lincoln Theatre
- 9:30 p.m. **Jet Lag**
Loews Cineplex Georgetown

Saturday, May 3

- 11:00 a.m. **Filmfest DC for Kids Program 1***
Avalon Theatre
- 12:30 p.m. **Filmfest DC for Kids Program 2***
Avalon Theatre
- 12:30 p.m. **Filmfest DC for Kids Program 3***
Avalon Theatre
- 3:00 p.m. **Reel Talk: Directors' Roundtable***
Avalon Theatre

- 3:30 p.m. **The Black Pirate***
National Gallery of Art
- 6:30 p.m. **11'09"01**
Avalon Theatre
- 6:30 p.m. **A Little Color**
The Greenberg Theatre
- 6:30 p.m. **Dark Side of the Heart 2**
Lincoln Theatre
- 6:30 p.m. **Bus 174**
Loews Cineplex Georgetown
- 6:30 p.m. **For the Children**
Loews Cineplex Wisconsin Avenue Cinemas
- 6:30 p.m. **Short Cuts 2**
Visions Cinema Bistro Lounge
- 6:45 p.m. **Casomai**
Avalon Theatre
- 8:45 p.m. **Clay Dolls**
The Greenberg Theatre
- 9:00 p.m. **Jet Lag**
Loews Cineplex Georgetown
- 9:00 p.m. **The Sea**
Visions Cinema Bistro Lounge
- 9:15 p.m. **I'm the Father**
Avalon Theatre

- 9:30 p.m. **Unprecedented: the 2000 Presidential Election shown with Today I Vote For My Joey**
Avalon Theatre
- 9:30 p.m. **Nothing More**
followed by a concert by Sin Miedo
Lincoln Theatre
- 9:30 p.m. **A Peck on the Cheek**
Loews Cineplex Wisconsin Avenue Cinemas

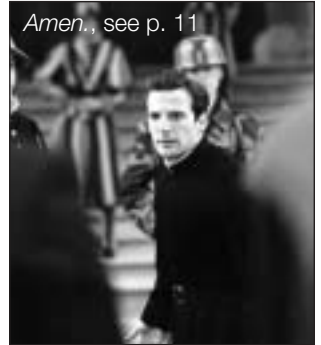
Sunday, May 4

- 4:00 p.m. **Closing Night Event The Secret Lives of Dentists**
Lincoln Theatre*

* Events marked with an asterisk are free.

All programs are subject to change. See Filmfest DC's daily schedule in *The Washington Post* Movie Guide.

Amen., see p. 11



For additional information about Filmfest DC,

(202) 628-FILM or log onto
www.filmfestdc.org

Mondays in the Sun

Los lunes al sol

Fernando León
de Aranoa

Spain/France/Italy, 2002, 113 minutes, color

Hard economic times have fallen on the northern Spanish port town of Vigo, resulting in Santa and his mates being laid off from the Aurora Shipyard. Along with insecure Jose, morose Lino, perpetually drunk Amador, and Russian immigrant Sergei, Santa hangs out in the bar owned by buddy Rico, contemplating his lot in life and flirting with Rico's 15-year-old daughter. Despite the strain of unemployment, the men support each other with a camaraderie at once unforced yet



strong as iron. Javier Bardem imbues Santa with a soulful, weary serenity that sets the film's emotional mood. *Mondays in the Sun* won the grand prize at last year's San Sebastian festival and was Spain's official Oscar submission for Best Foreign Language Film. —Eddie Cockrell

IN SPANISH WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

Production Companies: Elias Querejeta PC (Spain)/MediaPro (Spain)/Quo Vadis Cinema (France)/Eyescreen (Italy). **Producers:** Elias Querejeta, Jaume Roures, Jerome Vidal, Andrea Occhipinti. **Screenplay:** Fernando Leon de Aranoa, Ignacio del Moral. **Cinematography:** Alfredo F. Mayo. **Editor:** Nacho Ruiz Capillas. **Music:** Lucio Godoy. **Principal Cast:** Javier Bardem, Luis Tosar, Jose Angel Ejido, Nieve De Medina.

Sunday, April 27, 8:00 p.m., Loews Cineplex
Wisconsin Ave. Cinemas

Tuesday, April 29, 8:45 p.m., Loews Cineplex
Wisconsin Ave. Cinemas

▲ Co-Presented with



Mon-Rak Transistor

Pen-ek Ratanaruang

Thailand, 2002, 120 minutes, color

Mon-Rak Transistor probes the elusive space between conditioned reflexes and sincerity. Pan and his village bride Sadaw enjoy a bucolic romance until Pan is drafted into the army. He becomes a deserter to pursue a singing career, commits manslaughter while fending off his gay manager, and winds up begging on the streets of Bangkok. Meanwhile Sadaw gives up on him and allows herself to be seduced by a smooth-talking salesman. Not exactly a musical, the film integrates songs by Surapol Sombatcharoen, a Thai composer and western star of the



1960s. It also boasts a new song by songwriter/director Wisit Sasanatieng and pays sly homage to his film *Tears of the Black Tiger*. —Tony Rayns, 46th Regus London Film Festival

IN THAI WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

Production Company: Cinemasia. **Producers:** Nonzee Nimitbut, Duangkamol Limcharoen. **Screenplay:** Pen-ek Ratanaruang, from the novel by

Wat Wanlayangkoon. **Cinematography:** Chankit Charniwickapong. **Editor:** P.D. Yukol. **Music:** Amontbhong Methakounavudh, Charchai Pongprapapan. **Principal Cast:** Suppakorn Kitsuwan, Siriyakorn Pukkavasa, Black Pomtong, Somlek Sakdikul, Porntip Papanai.

Tuesday, April 29, 9:00 p.m., Loews Cineplex
Wisconsin Ave. Cinemas

Thursday, May 1, 6:30 p.m., Loews Cineplex
Wisconsin Ave. Cinemas

Music for Weddings and Funerals

Musik for bryllup og begravelser

Unni Straume

Norway, 2002, 97 minutes, color

Celebrated Norwegian director Unni Straume skillfully explores the phenomenon of southerners penetrating and loosening the severity and stoicism of Nordic culture through vivid characters and a rich story full of unexpected turns. After years of mourning the death of her young son, Sarah rents the basement of her immaculate home to Bogdan, a Serbian musician who invites his noisy Balkan band in to rehearse. A delicious chaos and vitality ensues when Sarah's ex-husband's



second wife and mistress also descend on the sterile residence. Comic and reflective, *Music for Weddings and Funerals* is an elegant allegory for a Norway on the brink of change as Sarah opens the door to passion, disorder, and an unconventional sense of family. —Caroline Lebrasco, 2003 Sundance Film Festival

IN SWEDISH, NORWEGIAN, AND ENGLISH WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

Production Companies: Christiana, in association with Svensk Filmindustri, Norsk Film, Unni Straume Film. **Producers:** Edward A. Dreyer, Tom Remlov. **Screenplay:** Unni Straume. **Cinematography:** Harald Paalgaard. **Editor:** Trygve Hagen. **Music:** Goran Bregovic. **Principal Cast:** Lena Endre, Bjorn Floberg, Rebecka Hemse, Petronella Barker, Goran Bregovic.

Tuesday, April 29, 6:30 p.m., Loews Cineplex
Wisconsin Ave. Cinemas

Wednesday, April 30, 8:30 p.m., Loews Cineplex
Wisconsin Ave. Cinemas



My Terrorist



Yulie Gerstel

Israel, 2002, 58 minutes, color and black & white

In 1978, members of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine hijacked and wounded Yulie Cohen Gerstel, a stewardess for the Israeli airline El Al, along with her crewmembers. Twenty-three years later, Gerstel began questioning the causes of violence in the Middle East after visiting the Gaza Strip's occupied territories as a photojournalist. She started to consider helping release Fahad Mihiy, the man who almost killed her. However, the shock of September 11th and the subsequent "War on Terror" began to cast doubts over her one-woman human rights campaign to facilitate reconciliation between the Palestinians and Israelis. An inspiring story of forgiveness, Gerstel's poignant docu-

mentary is a moving testimony of human compassion and a call for peace.

—*Women Make Movies*

IN ENGLISH AND HEBREW WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

Producer: Yulie Gerstel.
Cinematography: Oded Kirma, Moshe Gerstel, Yulie Gerstel.
Editor: Boaz Lion. **Music:** Tal Segev.



Wednesday, April 30, 8:45 p.m., Visions Cinema Bistro Lounge
Thursday, May 1, 6:30 p.m., Visions Cinema Bistro Lounge

★ In Person: Director Yulie Gerstel

Nothing More

Nada mas

Juan Carlos Cremata Malberti

Cuba/Spain/France/Italy, 2001, 93 minutes, color and black & white

Carla (Thais Valdes) is a bored young postal clerk who dreams of leaving Cuba to join her parents in Miami. She steals and rewrites letters to brighten the lives of their addressees, however briefly. When the office manager discovers Carla's illegal subversion of the postal system, a farce of bureaucratic lunacy unfolds—complete with outrageously cartoonish characters, Keystone Kops-style chase sequences, and even a comic nod to Jean-Luc Godard's *Breathless*, with Valdes striking poses a la Jean Seberg. Thoughtful, cheerful, and clever, *Nothing More* examines themes of migration and separa-

tion characteristic to Cuba and signals the arrival of an important new filmmaker.—*Piers Handling*, *27th Toronto International Film Festival*, 2002

IN SPANISH WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

Production Companies: ICAIC (Cuba)/PHF Films (Spain)/DMVB Films (France)/Intramovies (Italy). **Producers:** Camilo Vives, Sarah Halouia. **Screenplay:** Juan Carlos Cremata Malberti, Manolito Rodriguez. **Cinematography:** Paul Rodriguez Cabrera. **Editor:** Antonio Perez Reina. **Music:** Eclesio Alejandro. **Principal Cast:** Thais Valdes, Nacho Lugo, Daisy Granados, Paula Ali, Veronica Lopez.



Sin Miedo

Friday, May 2, 6:30 p.m.,
Lincoln Theatre
Saturday, May 3, 9:30 p.m.,
Lincoln Theatre

May 3 screening followed by
Salsa concert by Sin Miedo

★ In Person: Director
Juan Carlos Cremata
Malberti

Naked

Doris Doerrie

Germany, 2002,
100 minutes, color

German filmmaker Doris Doerrie is no stranger to Filmfest DC; one of her most recent works, *Am I Beautiful?*, was a hit here in 1999. Based on her stage play "Happy," *Nackt* is cut from the same cloth: a widescreen, multi-character exploration of life and love. Three modern German couples discuss marriage, sex, and happiness in a stylish, candy-colored apartment

owned by nouveau-riche couple Charlotte (Nina Hoss) and Dylan (Mehmet Kurtulus). Their guests include the recently broken-up Emilia (Heike Makatsch) and Felix (Benno Fuermann), as well as the seemingly contented Annette (Alexandra Maria Lara) and Boris (Juergen Vogel). After some eye-opening revelations, Felix challenges his friends to see if they can recognize their partners' bodies while blindfolded.—*Eddie Cockrell*



IN GERMAN WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

Production Company: Bernd Eichinger, in co-production with Megaherz. **Producer:** Norbert Preuss. **Screenplay:** Doris Doerrie, from her play "Happy." **Cinematography:** Frank Griebe. **Editors:** Inez Regnier, Frank Mueller. **Music:** Liquid Loop, Ivan Hajek. **Principal Cast:** Heike Makatsch, Benno Fuermann, Alexandra Maria Lara, Juergen Vogel, Nina Hoss, Mehmet Kurtulus.

Wednesday, April 30, 9:00 p.m., Avalon Theatre
Thursday, May 1, 6:15 p.m., Avalon Theatre

Oasis

Lee Chang-dong

South Korea, 2002, 132
minutes, color

Winner of five awards at the 2002 Venice International Film Festival, *Oasis* is a hard-hitting story about an ex-convict who falls in love with a physically challenged woman. Moon So-ri stars as a woman with cerebral palsy who is ignored and abused until a sim-pleton played by Sol Kyung-gu comes into her life.



Keeping clichés out of such a story is a mean feat, but turning it into a film as magnetic as some of the best Korean romances is the work of a true master. The two leads' performances will endure them to you forever. Fresh and original in every way, *Oasis* is a must-see.

—*Kin Ho, DVDBeaver.com*

IN KOREAN WITH ENGLISH
SUBTITLES

Production Company: East Film. **Producer:** Myung Kaynam. **Screenplay:** Lee Chang-dong. **Cinematography:** Choi Young-taek. **Editor:** Kim

Hyun. **Music:** Lee Jae-jin. **Principal Cast:** Sol Kyung-gu, Moon So-ri, Ahn Nae-sang, Ryoo Seung-wan, Chu Gui-jeong.

Friday, April 25, 6:30 p.m., Loews Cineplex Outer Circle
Saturday, April 26, 8:30 p.m., Loews Cineplex Outer Circle



Off to the Revolution by a 2CV

Alla rivoluzione sulla due cavalla

Maurizio Sciarra

Italy, 2001, 97 minutes, color



A trio of student friends and lovers decide to visit Portugal in the 1970s after the fall of the Fascist regime. Packing themselves into a Citroen 2CV, they embark on a circuitous journey and experience a variety of comic, occasionally frightening adventures along the way. The film celebrates the 2CV as a symbol of low-cost freedom much like the VW Beetle as this mini-odyssey of friendship and enlightenment unfolds against a backdrop of wonderful Spanish locations and an evocative soundtrack of period songs.

—Adrian Wootton, 45th Regus London Film Festival



IN ITALIAN WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

Production Companies: Sintra/Panther Film. **Producer:** Rosanna Seregni, Monica Venturini. **Screenplay:** Marco Ferrari, Enzo Monteleone, Maurizio Sciarra. **Cinematography:** Arnaldo Catinari. **Editor:** Claudio Cormio. **Music:** Lele Marchitelli. **Principal Cast:** Adriano Giannini, Gwenaëlle Simon, Andoni Gracia, Oscar Ladoire, Georges Moustaki.

Friday, April 25, 6:30 p.m., Loews Cineplex
Wisconsin Ave. Cinemas

Saturday, April 26, 9:15 p.m., Loews Cineplex
Wisconsin Ave. Cinemas

Okay

Jesper W.
Nielsen

Denmark, 2002,
97 minutes, color

Headstrong Agnethe lives in a cramped flat with her husband Kristian and their 14-year-old daughter Katrine. Agnethe's gay brother Martin, who owns a local sushi restaurant, has donated semen to a pair of lesbian pals so that they can have a child. Into the mix comes Agnethe's father Johannes, who's been diagnosed with leukemia and given three



weeks to live. Two months later, Johannes seems to be on the mend but the family is a mess. Ole Ernst anchors the film as the sporadically sickly Johannes, a performance worthy of Walter Matthau at his most deadpan. Director Jesper W. Nielsen peppers the film with charged comic silences, unerringly recreating the fragile allegiances at the heart of every family.

—Eddie Cockrell

IN DANISH WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

Production Company: Angel Films/Bech Films. **Producer:** Peter Bech. **Screenplay:** Kim Fupz Aakeson. **Cinematography:** Erik Zappon. **Editor:** Morten Giese. **Music:** Halldan E. Nikolaj Steen, Jesper Winge Leisner. **Principal Cast:** Paprika Steen, Troels Lyby, Ole Ernst, Nicolaj Kopernikus, Molly Blixt Egelind.

Wednesday, April 30, 6:30 p.m., Loews Cineplex Georgetown
Thursday, May 1, 6:45 p.m., Loews Cineplex Georgetown

A Peck on the Cheek



Kannathil
muthamittal

Mani
Ratnam

India, 2002,
123 minutes,
color



Inhabiting a stylistic space somewhere between the Hindi mainstream and artier New Indian Cinema, Tamil director Mani Ratnam (*From the Heart*, FFDC 1999, *Waves* FFDC 2003) comes up with another enjoyable mélange of socially aware entertainment. *A Peck on the Cheek*

centers on a nine-year-old Sri Lankan girl adopted by an Indian couple. As in previous films, Ratnam uses real-life political events as background for his film without explicitly taking sides. A writer-father blames the troubles on developed countries selling weaponry, and espouses a general "why can't we all live in peace?" philosophy. However, the family drama is the thing here, and the climax features Ratnam's favorite imagery of rain as an emotionally cleansing agent.

—Derek Elley, *Variety*

IN TAMIL AND SINHALA WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

Production Company: Madras Talkies. **Producers:** Mani Ratnam, G. Srinivasan. **Screenplay:** Mani Ratnam, Sujatha. **Cinematography:** Ravi K. Chandran. **Editor:** A. Sreekar Prasad. **Music:** A.R. Rahman, lyrics by Vairamuthu. **Principal Cast:** Madhavan, Simran, Prakashraj, Nandita Das, Chakravarthy, Keerthana.

Friday, May 2, 9:30 p.m., Lincoln Theatre
Saturday, May 3, 9:30 p.m., Loews Cineplex
Wisconsin Ave. Cinemas

Rachida



Yamina Bachir

Algeria/France, 2002, 97 minutes, color

The first full-length feature film by Yamina Bachir—and one of the first indigenous films from Algeria in years—*Rachida* is a moving story about a community and its female residents living under the threat of terror. Rachida (Ibtissem Djouadi) is teaching at a school in Algiers when she is stopped in the street by a group of youths who demand she take a bomb and place it in the school. She recognizes one of the terrorists and refuses. She is cold-bloodedly shot and left for dead, but miraculously survives. While recovering, she hides with her mother in a village far from the city. But



there are no safe havens in Algeria.—**32nd Rotterdam International Film Festival, 2003**

IN ARABIC AND FRENCH WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

Production Company: Ciel. **Producer:** Thierry Lenouvel. **Screenplay:** Yamina Bachir. **Cinematography:** Mustapha Belmihoub. **Editor:** Yamina Bachir. **Music:** Anne-Olga De Pass. **Principal Cast:** Ibtissem Djouadi, Bahia Rachedi, Hamid Remas.

Sunday, April 27, 8:30 p.m., Loews Cineplex Wisconsin Ave. Cinemas
Monday, April 28, 6:45 p.m., Loews Cineplex Wisconsin Ave. Cinemas

★ In Person: Director Yamina Bachir

Redes

with live orchestra accompaniment and Lila Downs, featured vocalist in the Oscar-winning film *Frida*



Fred Zinneman, Paul Strand, and Silvestre Revueltas

USA/Mexico, 1935, 60 minutes, black & white

Redes (Fishermen's Nets) has long been considered a masterpiece of international cinema and a stellar example of modernist collaboration among artists and musicians in the Americas. Depicting the struggles of Mexican fishermen, the film will be shown with a live performance by the Post-Classical Ensemble directed by Angel Gil-Ordóñez. Silvestre Revueltas'



score is built upon Mexican popular music and dance, as well as village music and indigenous "mestizo" strains of the city streets. *Redes* is presented as part of the debut of Post-Classical Ensemble, a Washington-based orchestra that breaks the classical music mold. The program also includes Mexican-American singer Lila

Downs, one of this year's Oscar nominees for Best Original Song in the film *Frida*, who will perform popular songs from the Mexican Revolution.—**Adriana Gomez**
IN SPANISH WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

Thursday, May 1, 8:00 p.m., GW's Lisner Auditorium, \$15

▲ Co-Presented with GW's Lisner Auditorium and the Mexican Cultural Institute

★ In Person: Lila Downs and the Post-Classical Ensemble

Red Satin

Satin Rouge

Raja Amari

Tunisia/France, 2002, 89 minutes, color

Lilia is a highly respectable, middle-aged mother who suspects her daughter of having an affair with a musician employed at the Red Satin cabaret. When Lilia goes there to confront him and to rescue her daughter, her initial hostility dissipates in the seductive atmosphere and the dancers' easy camaraderie. She is persuaded to dance and to recognize long-suppressed desires. Lilia's body becomes a means of expression,



and the liberating consequences alter her perceptions of herself and her life. A dazzling first feature, *Red Satin* successfully combines a story of self discovery with a shrewd sideways glance at hypocrisy and social convention.—**Sandra Hebron, 46th Regus London Film Festival, 2002**

IN FRENCH WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

Production Companies: Nomadis Images (Tunis)/ADR Productions (Paris). **Producers:** Alain Rozanes, Pascal Verroust, Dora Bouchoucha Fourati. **Screenplay:** Raja Amari. **Cinematography:**

Diane Baratter. **Editor:** Pauline Dairou. **Music:** Nawfel el Manaa. **Principal Cast:** Hiam Abbass, Hend El Fahem, Maher Kamoun, Monia Hichri, Nadra Lamloom.

Sunday, April 27, 6:00 p.m., Loews Cineplex Wisconsin Ave. Cinemas

Wednesday, April 30, 6:30 p.m., Loews Cineplex Wisconsin Ave. Cinemas



Short Cuts 1

Secret Love

Paul Bush (UK 2002) 3.5 min., color, 35mm, animation

A carefree dance ends in a war between the generations and the sexes.

Après L'Enfance

Thomas Lilti (France 2002) 22 min., color, 35mm, in French w/ English subtitles

Atmen returns to the seaside resort town of his youth.

Neo-Noir

Chase Palmer (USA 2003) 10 min., color, 35mm
50's film noir. A classic case of "Soviet



Roulette," that is, Russian Roulette in which one cheats.

Ladies

Will Stewart (USA 2002)

13 min., color, 16mm

In four New York bathrooms, four women face turning points in their lives. An avant-garde, lyrical film that evolved from an original piece of chamber music, *Ladies* marks the first collaboration of brother-sister team Will and Elizabeth Stewart.



Ladies

Jeff Farnsworth

Paul Cotter (USA 2003) 15 min., color, HDCam

Ross is a middle-class kid trying to be a bouncer at a nightclub. The film asks the age-old question "Can persistence succeed where aptitude fails?"

Gate

Peter Carstairs (Australia 2001)

15 min., color, 16mm

Someone left the gate open last night, and all the sheep got away.

For Our Man

Kazuo Ohno (USA 2002)

25 min., color, 16mm

An old man sits down at his desk, dips his pen into an inkwell, and begins to tell the story of "Our Man".



For Our Man

Total running time for Short Cuts 1 is 104 minutes

Saturday, April 26, 6:30 p.m., Visions Cinema Bistro Lounge

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Short Cuts 2

Youke A Chewing Gum Story

Roland Zumbühl (Austria 2002) 15 min., color, 35mm

Old friends reconnect in a strange land.

Fueling the Fire

Tanja Mairitsch (USA 2002) 22 min., color, 16mm

Lives intersect at a gas station after dark. A journey into the complex nature of human perception.

Diana's Smile

Luca Lucini (Italy 2002) 15 min., color, 35mm

In Italian w/ english subtitles.

Diana moves into a new apartment, which, unbeknownst to her, comes with the attentions of a secret admirer.

Chaperone

Victor Buhler (USA 2000) 17 min., color, 16mm

A straight-laced woman is asked to escort her niece on a first date.

Journey Man

Dictynna Hood (UK-Wales 2002) 14 min., color, 35mm

A stowaway from Sierra Leone and Christmas.



Journey Man

The Support Group

Daniel Milder, John Viener, Josh Weinstein

(USA 2003) 11 min., color, HDCam

A man looking for an AA meeting wanders into a support group of a very different nature.

Leunig: How Democracy Actually Works

Andrew Horne (Australia 2002) 1 min., color, Beta SP, animation

Cartoonist Michael Leunig exposes the mechanics of the democratic system.

Tom Hits His Head

Tom Putnam (USA 2003) 10.5 min., color, 35mm

A visceral look at one man's struggle to keep his sanity in a post-9-11 world.

Stone of Folly

Jesse Rosensweet (Canada 2002) 8 min., color, 35mm, animation

A Cannes award-winning journey into a vast medieval hospital.

Total running time for Short Cuts 2 is 113 minutes

Saturday, May 3, 6:30 p.m., Visions Cinema Bistro Lounge

The Sea

Hafid

Baltasar
Kormakur

Iceland/France, 2002,
109 minutes, color



In his brilliant, remarkably assured second feature (his debut, *101 Reykjavik*, was a hit at FFDC 2001), Icelandic wunderkind Baltasar Kormakur embarks on a treacherous voyage through roiling undercurrents of family dysfunction. In the process, he artfully reveals struggles with modernization in his country's remote fishing villages. Aging patriarch Thordur assembles his scattered heirs to discuss the future of the family fishery. But bringing everyone together unleashes a storm

of long-repressed agonies among the vividly drawn characters—sexual abuse, lingering suspicions, sibling rivalries, and incestuous passions. Kormakur uses exquisitely composed widescreen photography to convey the pristine, placid beauty of the Icelandic landscape, a terrain that belies emotional unrest and painful societal shifts.—*Caroline Libresco, 2003 Sundance Film Festival*

IN ICELANDIC AND ENGLISH WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

Production Companies: Blueeyes Productions (Iceland)/Emotion Pictures (France). **Producers:** Baltasar Kormakur, Jean-Francois Fontlupt. **Screenplay:** Baltasar Kormakur, Olafur Haukur Simonarson, from the play by Olafur Haukur Simonarson. **Cinematography:** Jean-Louis Vialard. **Editor:** Valdis Oskarsdottir. **Music:** Jon Asgeirsson. **Principal Cast:** Gunnar Eyjolfsson, Hilmir Snaer Gudnason, Helene de Fougerolles, Kristbjorg Kjeld, Herdis Thorvaldsdottir.

Friday, May 2, 9:00 p.m., Visions Cinema Bistro Lounge
Saturday, May 3, 9:00 p.m., Visions Cinema Bistro Lounge

★ In Person: Director Baltasar Kormakur

Sisters

Sestray

Sergei
Bodrov, Jr.

Russia, 2001,
83 minutes, color



Thirteen-year-old Sveta lives modestly with her grandmother, displays a deft touch at the rifle range, and dreams of being a sniper in Chechnya, while her eight-year-old half-sister Dina, the daughter of a gangster, enjoys the lifestyle of the rich and criminal. When her father refuses to share a heist with a rival gang, Dina is sent into hiding with

Sveta as a temporary guardian. Soon circumstances force the girls to hit the road, with the gangsters in hot pursuit. An ensuing battle of wits gives the sisters a new appreciation of their family ties. The film's terrific soundtrack boasts an inspired mix of Russian and American hits along with Bollywood bellydancing tunes.—*Alissa Simon, 45th San Francisco International Film Festival, 2002*

IN RUSSIAN WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

Production Company: CTB Film Company. **Producer:** Sergei Selyanov. **Screenplay:** Sergei Bodrov, Jr., Gulshad Omarova, Sergei Bodrov, Sr. **Cinematography:** Valery Martinov. **Editor:** Natalia Kucherenko. **Music:** Viktor Tsoi, Gleb and Vadim Samoilov. **Principal Cast:** Oksana Akhishina, Katia Gorina, Sergei Bodrov, Jr., Andrei Krasko, Alexander Bashirov.

Friday, April 25, 9:15 p.m., Loews Cineplex Outer Circle
Saturday, April 26, 6:30 p.m., Loews Cineplex Outer Circle

Slogans



Gjersj Xhuvani

France/Albania, 2001, 90 minutes, color

The absurdity of Albania's former regime rings true in hilarious and heartbreaking examples in *Slogans*. Arriving from the Albanian capital to take a post in the country's rock-strewn mountains, handsome young biology teacher Andre is given his choice of two slogans—"Hail the Revolutionary Spirit" and "American Imperialism is a Paper Tiger"—as a gesture of welcome. Andre doesn't understand why choosing the shorter one elicits immediate animosity from a fetching French teacher. It turns out each class is required to spell out its assigned slogan along a dirt slope using



whitewashed rocks and stones pounded into the earth. The actual meaning of the slogans is irrelevant; the number of letters, and hence the amount of labor required, is primordial.—*Lisa Nesselson, Variety*

IN ALBANIAN WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

Production Companies: Les Films des Tournelles/Roissy Films/Les Films en Hiver (France)/Albanian General Vision (Albania). **Producers:** Anne-Dominique Toussaint, Pascal Judelewicz. **Screenplay:** Yijet Alicka, Yves Hanchar, Gjersj Xhuvani, from a short story by Yijet Alicka. **Cinematography:** Gerald Thiaville. **Editor:** Didier Ranz. **Music:** Denis Barbier. **Principal Cast:** Artur Gorshki, Luiza Xhuvani, Agim Qirjazi, Birce Hasko, Niko Kanxheri.

Thursday, April 24, 6:45 p.m., Avalon Theatre
Tuesday, April 29, 7:00 p.m., Avalon Theatre



Sound of Brazil

Moro no Brasil

Mika Kaurismaki

*Germany/Brazil/Finland, 2002,
108 minutes, color*

Few films capture the passion of live music like *The Sound of Brazil*. Dancing a few steps beyond bossa nova or samba, this musical journey through Brazil highlights frevo, coco, forro, and embolada, to name just a few of the amazingly diverse styles of music it so spontaneously and gloriously displays. Anecdotes and tall tales are the spoken narratives of choice for Brazil's musicians, singers, and dancers, but the rhythms they create remain unclassifiable. Traveling 4,000 kilometers



through the beauty of the Brazilian countryside and the chaos of its urban streets, this road movie reveals all the richness of the multicultural rhythms and forms of expression that Brazilian music offers.

—45th San Francisco International Film Festival, 2002

Production Company: Magnatel and Marianna Films. **Producer:** Phoebe Clark. **Screenplay:** Mika Kaurismaki. **Cinematography:** Jacques Cheuiche. **Editor:** Karen Harley. **Music:** Various. **Principal Cast:** Grupo Gleeetwbya, Children Fulni-o, Grupo Fethxa, Setka, Band Fulni-o, Tavares de Gaita.

Monday, April 28, 6:30 p.m., Loews Cineplex Georgetown
Tuesday, April 29, 9:00 p.m., Loews Cineplex Georgetown

Sweet Sixteen

Ken Loach

*United Kingdom/Germany/Spain,
2002, 106 minutes, color*

In an economically depressed former ship-building town, Scottish teenager Liam dreams of providing for his mother Jean. He defies her boyfriend Stan and begins moving heroin to raise money for a seaside house trailer. Troubled relations with his sensible sister and his loose-cannon pal lead to a moment of truth for



Liam, Jean, and Stan on the youth's 16th birthday. For more than 35 years, British-born filmmaker Ken Loach has been making films about dignity and survival among the lower classes. Once again, he gives voice to the marginalized in a film of quiet power and sly humor. Winner of numerous festival awards, including Best Screenplay at Cannes, *Sweet Sixteen* is an enduring achievement of social realist cinema.

—Eddie Cockrell

IN ENGLISH WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

Production Companies: Sixteen Films (United Kingdom)/Road Movies (Germany)/Tomaso/Alta Films (Spain). **Producer:** Rebecca O'Brien. **Screenplay:** Paul Laverty. **Cinematography:** Barry Ackroyd. **Editor:** Jonathan Morris. **Music:** George Fenton. **Principal Cast:** Martin Compston, Annmarie Fulton, William Ruane, Michelle Abercromby, Michelle Coulter.

Sunday, April 27, 6:30 p.m., Loews Cineplex Georgetown
Tuesday, April 29, 6:45 p.m., Loews Cineplex Georgetown

Swing

Tony Gatlif

France, 2002, 90 minutes, color

Ten-year-old Max is whiling away a summer at his grandmother's house in Alsace when he hears the manouche guitar playing of a Gypsy named Miraldo and gets hooked. Ignoring his grandmother's entreaties, the child secures a guitar, heads to the wrong side of town, and begs Miraldo to teach him. Max soon becomes enmeshed in Gypsy culture as he begins to learn about music and life, the latter courtesy of a young Gypsy girl named Swing. The music is of the Django Reinhardt school and is provided by Tchavolo Schmitt and Mandino Reinhardt, two masters who set the screen ablaze with their playing



during the film's many impromptu party scenes.
—21st Vancouver International Film Festival, 2002

IN FRENCH
AND ROMANY WITH
ENGLISH SUBTITLES

Production Company: Princes Film. **Producers:** Nathalie Duran, Laurent Dusothoit. **Screenplay:** Tony Gatlif. **Cinematography:** Claude

Garnier. **Editor:** Monique Dartonne. **Music:** Tchavolo Schmitt, Mandino Reinhardt. **Principal Cast:** Oscar Copp, Lou Rech, Tchavolo Schmitt, Ben Zimet, Fabienne Mai.

Friday, April 25, 6:45 p.m., Avalon Theatre
Saturday, April 26, 7:00 p.m., AFI Silver Theatre and Cultural Center

Tanguy

*Etienne
Chatiliez*

France, 2001,
108 minutes,
color

Twenty-
eight-year-
old Tanguy

lives with his baby boomer parents Edith and Paul. He's extremely comfortable in their home, but the feeling is definitely not mutual. His parents meet the perfect stonewall when they try to mobilize a get-out-of-here campaign. A specialist of traditional Chinese thought,



Tanguy faces everything with an equanimity that a hundred-year-old sage would envy. The one-sided war escalates to the point where Tanguy sues his parents for bed and board. When he eventually flies to Beijing for a long stay, Edith and Paul discover what it means to be the sandwich generation. Extremely entertaining, *Tanguy* is candy for boomers whose grown kids won't leave the nest.—*Philippe Ranger, Internet Movie Database*

IN FRENCH, CHINESE, AND JAPANESE WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

Production Companies: Telem/Les Prods. Du Champ Poirier/TF1 Films. **Producer:** Charles Gassot. **Screenplay:** Etienne Chatiliez, Laurent Chouchan, from an idea by Yolande Zauberman. **Cinematography:** Philippe Welt. **Editor:** Catherine Renault. **Music:** Pascal Andreacchio. **Principal Cast:** Sabine Azema, Andre Dussollier, Eric Berger, Helene Duc.

Sunday, April 27, 3:00 p.m., Embassy of France
Thursday, May 1, 6:15 p.m., Loews Cineplex
Wisconsin Ave. Cinemas

Together

He ni zaijiqi

Chen Kaige

China/South Korea, 2002, 118 min-
utes, color

Based on a true story, *Together* weaves a beautiful coming-of-age tale that touches the heart with the same harmony and intensity as a complex musical orchestration. Liu Xiaochun (Tang Yun) is a shy and sensitive 13-year-old boy, an extremely talented violinist who lives with his father in a small, provincial city far from the glitter of Beijing. Xiaochun's life changes after he moves to the capital to audition for a prestigious music school. He



meets new teachers and discovers true friendship, falls in love for the first time, experiences his first heartbreak, and comes to understand the true meaning of music even as he stumbles on the tricks of power.—*Giovanna Fulvi, 27th Toronto International Film Festival, 2002*

IN MANDARIN WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

Production Companies: China Film Group/21st Century Hero Film Investment/China Movie Channel (China)/Big Bang Creative (South Korea). **Producers:** Chen Hong, Lee Joo-ik. **Screenplay:** Chen Kaige, Xue Xiaolu. **Cinematography:** Kim Hyung-koo. **Editor:** Zhou Ying. **Music:** Zhao Lin. **Principal Cast:** Tang Yun, Liu Peiqi, Chen Hong, Wang Zhiwen, Chen Kaige.

Saturday, April 26, 9:00 p.m., Loews Cineplex Georgetown
Sunday, April 27, 6:00 p.m., Loews Cineplex Georgetown

The Tracker

Rolf de Heer

Australia, 2002,
98 minutes, color

Winner of a flurry of high-profile awards both in its native Australia and abroad, *The Tracker* is the most recent work from Dutch-born director Rolf de Heer

(*Dance Me to My Song, FFDC 1999*). David Gulpilil stars as the title character, the sole Aboriginal among four men in the 1920s Australian outback on the trail of a fleeing fugitive. Forced to grapple with paranoia and



mistrust after an interrogation of bush dwellers goes horribly awry, each member of the quartet vies for power in a symbolic, stylized struggle. This film is a full-out revenge melodrama whose conclusion explains the tracker's earlier, cryptic words: "God respects Aboriginal law as much as he respects white man's law...maybe more."—*Adrian Martin, Film Comment*

Production Company: Vertigo Productions.
Producer: Rolf de Heer, Julie Ryan. **Screenplay:**

Rolf de Heer. **Cinematography:** Ian Jones. **Editor:** Tania Nehme. **Music:** Graham Tardif, Rolf de Heer. **Principal Cast:** David Gulpilil, Gary Sweet, Damon Gameau, Grant Page, Noel Wilton.

Sunday, April 27, 8:30 p.m., Avalon Theatre
Monday, April 28, 6:45 p.m., Avalon Theatre



A Trumpet in the Wadi

Hatzozra bavadi

Lina and Slava Chaplin

Israel, 2002, 102 minutes, color

A joyous interdenominational romp through the Arab Wadi section of Haifa, *A Trumpet in the Wadi* tells of Huda, a thirtyish Arab-Christian woman who lives with her parents. Her upstairs neighbor is Alex, a Jewish immigrant from Russia who persists in playing his trumpet on the roof at night despite the neighbors' comments. Alex has a lively sense of humor. He is short and not too handsome, but that doesn't stop him from pursuing Huda ardently. She is intrigued by him, perhaps because she is somewhat past her prime for marriage, and responds to his interest despite her family's



objections. *A Trumpet in the Wadi* won high-profile awards at the Haifa, Israeli, and Fort Lauderdale film festivals.—*Montreal Film Festival, 2002*

IN ARABIC AND HEBREW WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

Production Company: Riki Shelach Productions Limited. **Producer:** Riki Shelach. **Screenplay:** Amit Leor, from the novel by Sami Michael. **Cinematography:** Itzik Portal. **Editor:** Bracha Zisman-Cohen. **Music:** Eviatar Banai. **Principal Cast:** Khawlah Hag-Debsy, Aleander Senderovich, Raeda Adon, Salwa Nakkara Hadad, Imad Gabari.

Tuesday, April 29, 6:30 p.m., Avalon Theatre

Wednesday, April 30, 6:45 p.m., Avalon Theatre

Unprecedented: The 2000 Presidential Election

*Richard R. Perez,
Joan Sekler*



USA, 2002, 50 minutes, color

This rabble-rousing film spotlights the race between Al Gore and George W. Bush as it adroitly slices open old battle scars with a concise account of how misleading ballots, hired guns, and political racism fused together to change the course of history. The directors focus directly on facts as they examine exactly how Katherine Harris, Jeb Bush, and the rest of the Florida government tinkered with voter registration records to the Republicans' advantage. The film is more than a visual history of political spin; it's a call to arms for all Americans concerned about the legality and fairness of our voting system.—*Amy Nicholson, AFI Fest 2002*

Production Company: Public Interest Film. **Producers:** Joan Sekler, Richard R. Perez. **Screenplay:** William Haugse, Richard R. Perez, Joan Sekler. **Cinematography:** Richard R. Perez. **Editors:** William Haugse, Matt Martin. **Music:** Bobby Johnston.

★ In Person: Directors Richard Perez and Joan Sekler



Shown with Today I Vote for my Joey

Aviva Kempner

USA, 2002, 20 minutes, color

Selma bounds out of bed on Election Day 2000 in her Florida retirement community determined to live to see a Jewish candidate elected as Vice President of the United States.—*Eddie Cockrell*

Production Company: Ciesla Foundation. **Producer:** Aviva Kempner. **Screenplay:** Aviva Kempner. **Cinematography:** David Waldman. **Editor:** Steve Kemper. **Music:** Yale Strom. **Principal Cast:** Lilian Adams, Eve Brenner, Larry Gelman, Rowena King, Eve Sigall, Roberta Wallach.

Friday, May 2, 6:30 p.m., Avalon Theatre

Saturday, May 3, 9:30 p.m., Avalon Theatre

★ In Person: Director Aviva Kempner

▲ Co-Presented with Women in Film & Video of Washington, DC



Waiting for Happiness

Heremakono

*Abderrahmane
Sissako*

*Mauritania/France, 2002,
95 minutes, color*

This impressionistic reflection on the themes of exile, travel, home, and displacement observes the touching universe of Nouadhibou, a wind-swept seaside village of shanty houses on the Mauritanian coast. A stranger in his own country, 17-year-old Abdallah becomes a mute observer of village life. Traditional, colorful fabrics interest him less than the latest European fashions. He shies away from village



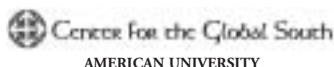
customs and festivities. Yet he sees—and hears—everything: a photographer taking portraits, a merchant selling veils, women singing and flirting, a Chinese immigrant serenading his sweetheart, and a woman teaching traditional music and song to a young girl. Long after the film's poignant end, Nouadhibou continues to pull us to its gentle embrace. —*21st Vancouver International Film Festival, 2002*

IN HASSIANYA WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

Production Companies: Duo Films/ARTE France. **Screenplay:** Abderrahmane Sissako. **Cinematography:** Jacques Besse. **Editor:** Nadia Ben Rachid. **Music:** Anouar Brahem, Oumou Sangare. **Principal Cast:** Khatra Ould Abdel Kader, Maata Ould Mohamed Abeid, Mohamed Mahmoud Ould Mohamed, Nana Diakite.

Thursday, May 1, 6:30 p.m., Avalon Theatre
Friday, May 2, 9:15 p.m., Avalon Theatre

▲ *Co-Presented with*



Warriors

Guerreros



*Daniel
Calparsoro*

Spain, 2002, 96 minutes, color

In 1999 Kosovo, a young and idealistic group of Spanish engineers working as peacekeepers comes face to face with the horrors of war when a mission to restore a small village's power supply becomes an odyssey of confusion. *Warriors* effectively demonstrates



that peacekeepers can become soldiers, a message that seems especially relevant in today's world. This choice of subject matter is not often addressed by Spanish filmmakers and the virtuosity with which Calparsoro handles it confirms his place amongst the most mature and consistent filmmakers of his generation.—*Diana Sanchez, 27th Toronto International Film Festival, 2002*

IN SPANISH WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

Production Company: Sogecine. **Executive Producers:** Fernando Bovaira, Enrique Lopez-Lavigne. **Screenplay:** Daniel Calparsoro, Juan Cavestany. **Cinematography:** Josep Maria Civit. **Editor:** Julia Juaniz. **Music:** Najwajeen. **Principal Cast:** Eloy Azorin, Eduardo Noriega, Ruben Ochandiano, Carla Perez, Jordi Vilches.

Friday, April 25, 6:30 p.m., The Greenberg Theatre
**Sunday, April 27, 6:30 p.m., Loews Cineplex
Wisconsin Ave. Cinemas**

★ *In Person:* Director Daniel Calparsoro

Waves

Alai payuthay



Mani Ratnam

India, 2000, 135 minutes, color

Fans of the dazzling Hindi-language political musical *From the Heart* (FFDC 1999) won't want to miss *Waves*, Mani Ratnam's triumphant return to his native Tamil. Ambitious computer whiz Karthik and crusading doctor Sakthi marry in secret but continue to live at their parents' respective homes. When the truth comes out, they happily set up house-keeping on their own. However, they soon learn that marriage means an equal measure of laughter and



tears as a series of medical traumas puts their love to the test. The hot-button issue of rejecting arranged marriages as a principle plot device could have come across as preachy, but the film's busy score and snappy cross-cultural dance numbers ensure that the audience will dance in the aisles with glee.—*Eddie Cockrell*

IN TAMIL WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

Production Company: Madras Talkies. **Producer:** G. Srinivasan. **Screenplay:** Mani Ratnam. **Cinematography:** P.C. Sreeram. **Editor:** Sreekar Prasad. **Music:** A.R. Rahman. **Principal Cast:** Madhavan, Shalini, Jayasudha, Swarnamalya, Vivek.

**Wednesday, April 30, 6:15 p.m., Loews Cineplex
Wisconsin Ave. Cinemas**
**Thursday, May 1, 8:30 p.m., Loews Cineplex
Wisconsin Ave. Cinemas**



The Weather Underground

Sam Green,
Bill Siegel



USA, 2003, 92 minutes, color and black & white

The Weather Underground came to prominence in the late 1960s and 1970s by opposing the Vietnam War and the policies of the Nixon administration, and by advocating the violent overthrow of the U.S. government. Composed almost entirely of middle-class white kids, the group engaged in high-profile demonstrations, bombings, jailbreaks, and other public demonstrations fuelled by its condemnation of U.S. military actions. Using a wealth of often shocking newsreel footage mixed with contemporary reminiscences by prominent members (Bernadine Dohrn, Mark Rudd, and others), filmmakers Sam Green and Bill Siegel revisit one of the

most turbulent periods of social unrest in American history by tracking the history and politics of this homegrown radical group.—*Eddie Cockrell*



Production Companies: Independent Television Service/KQED. **Producers:** Sam Green, Bill Siegel, Carrie Lozano, Marc Smolowitz. **Cinematography:** Andrew Black, Federico Salsano. **Editors:** Sam Green, Dawn Logsdon. **Music:** Dave Cerf, Amy Domingues. **Narrators:** Lilli Taylor, Pamela Z.

Friday, April 25, 8:45 p.m., Visions Cinema Bistro Lounge
Saturday, April 26, 9:00 p.m., Visions Cinema Bistro Lounge

★ In Person: Director Bill Siegel at April 26 screening

Winged Migration

Le peuple migrateur

Jacques Perrin

France/Germany/Spain/Italy/Switzerland, 2001, 91 minutes, color

This innovative, Oscar-nominated documentary follows several species of birds on their breathtaking seasonal journeys. We dart away from crashing mountains of ice in the Arctic, swoop past the Eiffel Tower, ride above the Manhattan skyline, and catch the air currents of Monument Valley. We witness the awesome massing of



airborne flocks, each creature attuned to the slightest movement of its companions, and observe details of the virtuoso solo flyer's age-old combat with gravity. In preparation for the film, dozens of species were hatched and raised in the presence of the film crew. This enabled the filmmakers to study the birds' habits, migratory paths, and social fabric, and to capture a wealth of stunning close-ups.—*Michele Maheux, 27th Toronto International Film Festival*

ENGLISH NARRATION

Production Companies: Galatee Films/France 2 Cinema/France 3 Cinema/Bac Films/Les Prods. de la Gueville (France)/Pandora Film/WDR/Filmstiftung NRW (Germany)/Wanda Vision (Spain)/Eyescreen (Italy)/Les Prods. JMH/Television Suisse Romande (Switzerland). **Producer:** Jacques Perrin. **Screenplay:** Jacques Perrin, Stephane Durand, Jean Dorst, Guy Jarry, Francis Roux, from an idea by Valerie Perrin. **Cinematography:** Various. **Editor:** Marie-Josephe Yoyotte. **Music:** Bruno Coulais.

Saturday, April 26, 6:30 p.m., Avalon Theatre
Tuesday, April 29, 9:00 p.m., Avalon Theatre

Yank Tanks

David Schendel

USA, 2002, 70 minutes, color and black & white

One hundred and fifty thousand vintage American cars were stranded in Havana after Castro took over in the late 1950s, and it looks like most of them might still be running. First-time filmmaker David Schendel interviewed the gray-market mechanics (mostly cheery older gents) who keep those old bulgemobiles roadworthy. "We have an understanding between flesh and steel," someone says, and that sums up the beguiling mix of poetry and mechanics at



the heart of this leisurely, genial documentary. From the 1955 Ford whose horn plays the *Godfather* theme to the guy who cannibalizes Soviet-made Volga motors, the story is of endless ingenuity and an unflagging faith in the power of Detroit iron to move the populace from place to place.—*Eddie Cockrell*

IN SPANISH WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

Production Company: Blue Collar Films. **Producers:** David and Stephen Schendel. **Cinematography:** David Schendel. **Editor:** Jean Kawahara. **Music:** Various.

Wednesday, April 30, 6:45 p.m., Loews Cineplex Georgetown
Thursday, May 1, 6:30 p.m., Loews Cineplex Georgetown

★ In Person: Director David Schendel, Associate Producer and Interviewer Javier Bajana

Filmfest DC for Kids

All programs take place at The Avalon Theatre



Program 1

Weston Woods

Recommended for ages 3-7

Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday, April 22, 23 & 25, 10:30 a.m.*

Saturdays, April 26 & May 3, 11:00 a.m.*

Total Running Time: 63 minutes



Click, Clack, Moo Cows That Type

This year we celebrate **Weston Woods' 50th Anniversary of Bringing Books to Life** with a selection of some of their new works for our younger audience plus "I, Crocodile" in Program Two for the adults who accompany them.

We are also thrilled to present two works by one of Britain's premiere animators, Tony Collingwood, with both his feature film "The King's Beard" in Program Two, and an episode from his hit TV series "Yoko! Jakamoto! Toto!" in Program One.

Besides Yoko, Jaka-moto, and Toto dealing with their scary monsters, we have cows that go on strike, dinosaurs that can't say goodnight, and hundreds of hungry baby chicks from Spain. There is a sun and a cloud who triumph through cooperation, a

Llama who finds all his answers, a boy who conquers his fright when he draws, and finally a love story for one and all.

Capelito Papá. Spain, 2000, 5 min., Clay, dir. Rodolfo Pastor.

North American Premiere. Yoko!

Jakamoto! Toto! "Scary Monster."

United Kingdom, 2003, 5 min., "CelAction" 2D computer, dir. Tony Collingwood, *North American*

Premiere. Sun And Cloud. Canada, 2001, 1 min., Cell, dir. Julian Grey.

Is Your Mama A Llama? USA,

2001, 6 min., Drawing on cells, dir. Deborah Guarino. **Click, Clack,**

Moo Cows That Type. USA, 2001, 10 min. Drawing on cells, dir.

Doreen Cronin. **Albie: Quick On**

The Draw. UK, 2002, 10 min., Painting on cells, dir. Francis Vose.

How Do Dinosaurs Say

Goodnight. USA, 2002, 8 min., Cell/2D computer, dir. Jane Yolen.

The Lucky Dip. United Kingdom, 2002, 3 min., 3D models/CGI, dir.

Emily Spinner. **Dog & Fish.**

Denmark, 2002, 15 min., 2D/3D computer, dir. Jannik Hastrup.

North American Premiere.

Program 2

An animated feature film for the whole family

The King's Beard

Directed by Tony Collingwood

Preceded by the short film,

I, Crocodile

Recommended for Ages 6 and Up

Total Running Time: 83 minutes

I, Crocodile



Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday,

April 22, 23 & 25, 12:00 noon*

Saturdays, April 26 & May 3,

12:30 p.m.*

This is the story of a beard, a barber, a wand, and a wizard, where the fate of a fairy and the entire Mirrored Kingdom are quite literally held in balance. Our hero, Rufus, has taken over a town's barber shop only to find that the villagers never cut their hair in honor of King Cuthbert, who is imprisoned in his own beard by a spell from his evil twin brother Jasper. Sophie, a fairy who has lost her wand, sweeps Rufus off his feet before she is captured by Jasper, who will use the wand's power to flip his underworld kingdom with that of his brother's. Accompanied by an array of tiny mice on flying sweaters, Rufus finds himself doing battle against Jasper and his henchmen in order

Continued on bottom of page 39

The King's Beard



Cinema for Seniors

A Raisin in the Sun (1961)



Join us for a matinee screening of Lorraine Hansberry's *A Raisin in the Sun*. All-star cast members including Sidney Poitier, Claudia McNeill, Lou Gossett, Jr., Ruby Dee, Diana Sands, and Ivan Dixon reprise their roles in the 1959 Broadway play for this award-winning film. The film tells the story of a black family trying to escape from a South Side Chicago tenement into the more wholesome environment of a suburb. It ably sets forth the dignity, humor, and strength of an American family trying to cope with life's uncertainties. Hansberry was the youngest and the first black writer to receive the New York Drama Critics Circle Award.

Thursday, May 1, 10:00 a.m., Avalon Theater, FREE



Filmfest DC for Kids continued...

to save Sophie and stop the turn of the Mirrored Kingdom.

I, Crocodile. A very aristocratic croc tells of his brush with Napoleon, and of his narrow escape from a meal of crocodile soup. Deliciously narrated by Tim Curry.

Program 3

A nature adventure story for the whole family

Wolf Summer

Directed by Peder Norlund

Recommended for Ages 10 and Up
Tuesday & Wednesday,

April 22 & 23, 11:00 a.m.*

Friday, April 25, 12:30 p.m.*

Saturdays, April 26 & May 3, 12:30 p.m.

Norway, 2003, 88 minutes, color, subtitled, North American Premiere

Much like *Free Willy*, *Wolf Summer* tells the fascinating tale of an unusual friendship between a twelve-year old girl and a wild animal. When Kim's summer climbing trip is cancelled and her preoccupied mother leaves on her own romantic excursion, Kim sets out on a secret

mission to climb the "East Wall" by herself, where she falls and hits her head. She awakens in some sort of makeshift shelter, along with a mother wolf and her tiny cub. Terrified and starving, Kim slowly realizes that the mother wolf is nursing her back to health. A very special trusting relationship grows between wolf, girl, and cub, along with a common language and scent. When Kim returns to civilization and learns that her rescuers are the same hunters who are after



the wolves, Kim heads to the hills to find her friends and takes sides in a heated conflict between animal and man. Shot entirely in Montana. —Zanne Lexow

* All screenings at The Avalon Theatre are open to the public. Please be aware that weekday shows may not begin until all confirmed schoolchildren on class trips are seated.

Reel Talk

Reel Talk events are free and open to the public unless otherwise noted. Admission is subject to seating capacity.

Arts Club Luncheon — Washington: How Films are Made and Who Makes Them

Join local filmmakers for lunch and conversation with *Variety* film reviewer Eddie Cockrell. DC filmmaker Aviva Kempner (*Partisans of Vilna*, *The Life and Times of Hank Greenberg*, and *Today I Vote for My Joey*, a short about the 2000 presidential elections in Palm Beach County) and producer Bill Warrell (*Crazy Like a Fox*, a farmer's fight against developers after he loses his family home) explore the unique features of the Washington area as a site for making movies and as a home base for those who make them. *Today I Vote for My Joey* and *Crazy Like a Fox* will be shown during this year's festival.

Wednesday, April 30, 12:30 p.m., Arts Club of Washington, 2017 I St., NW

\$15 for lunch and discussion. Reservations required by 3:00 p.m. on Tuesday, April 29. To reserve, call 202-331-7282 ext. 16 or email artsclub.membership@verizon.net

Conversation with Sydney Pollack



Sydney Pollack

Can the art of film be separated from the turmoil of the world around us? Can art have meaning independent of a world dominated by politics? In the 1960s, young demonstrators motivated by their opposition to a different war asserted that, "If you are not part of the solution, you are part of the problem!" This roundtable examines the relationship between aesthetics and conflict from both points of view.

We are delighted to have two artistic and worldly directors leading this timely discussion. Sydney Pollack has directed some of Hollywood's most treasured films. His work covers a range of subjects, but is more closely associated with romance than politics. However, he is no stranger to political subjects, as his film *Havana* illustrates. Thomas Schlamme is known not only as a feature film director with a flare for comedy, but is especially appreciated as the producer and director of the immensely popular television series *The West Wing*. Filmfest DC is grateful to both of these eminent artists for participating in this event.

**Friday, May 2, 6:00 p.m., GW's Elliott School, 1957 E Street, NW, Room 213
(E Street between 19th and 20th Streets), FREE**

▲ *Co-Presented with GW's Elliott School of International Affairs*

Reel Talk

Politics in Film



Politics in Film is a major theme of Filmfest DC 2003. The section features a diverse selection of international cinema exploring the impact of government on individuals. The festival has gathered work from as far as Kurdistan and Korea and as close as the United States to illustrate how filmmakers handle this subject from their unique cultural perspective.

Panelists will include: Bill Siegel, *The Weather Underground* (USA); Jano Rosebani, *Jiyan* (Kurdistan); Yamina Bachir, *Rachida* (Algeria); Fidan Firat, *Escape to Paradise* (Switzerland); Dr. Pat Aufderheide, American University; and others.

Sunday, April 27, 3:00 p.m., Avalon Theatre, FREE

Film Criticism/Critics Up Close



A lineup of film critics—stars in their own right—reveals the secrets of the trade. What is the difference between film review and film criticism? What factors determine whether a film receives commercial release or not? The panel discusses films shown during the festival and examines broader issues in film, such as its historical relevance and political and cultural importance. Hear what the critics have to say. Talk back.

Panelists will include: Peter Brunette, film critic for *Indiwire.com*, frequent contributor to *The Boston Globe* and member of the National Society of Film Critics; Jay Carr, critic for *New England Cable News* and retired *Boston Globe* film critic; Edward Cockrell, *Variety* film critic; and others.

Wednesday, April 30, 6:30 p.m., Goethe-Institut Washington, FREE

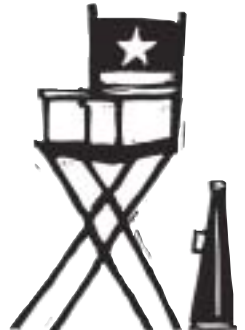


Director's Roundtable



Each year, a group of international filmmakers converges at Filmfest DC for screenings of their films and interaction with each other and our audiences. Join the festival's guest directors for an informal discussion of their working styles and the contrasting conditions under which their films are made.

Saturday, May 3, 3:00 p.m., Avalon Theatre, FREE



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