30th Annual Festival of Films from IRAN

ALSO:
Romance, Patricio Guzmán

FEB 2020
(COVERS JAN. 31-MAR. 5)
GAZETTE Vol. 48, No. 2

WOMEN ACCORDING TO MEN, Feb. 29, Mar. 1

164 N. State Street
www.siskelfilmcenter.org
PARASITE

(GISAENGCHUNG)
2019, Bong Joon-ho, South Korea, 131 min.
With Song Kang-ho, Chang Hyae-jin

Cannes Palme d’Or winner and front-running Oscar contender, PARASITE merges a ripping black comedy/thriller with satire and social commentary. By luck and guile, all four members of the unemployed Kim family score jobs in the wealthy Park family’s postmodern mansion. Director Bong (MOTHER—see, p. 17) craftily builds sympathy for the decent but gullible Parks, until the tables are turned for a brutal look at the underclass who are at the mercy of the entitled. In Korean with English subtitles. DCP digital. (BS)

“The movie of the year.”

January 31—February 6
Fri., 1/31 at 3:45 pm and 8 pm; Sat., 2/1 at 5:15 pm; Sun., 2/2 at 2:30 pm; Mon., 2/3 at 7:45 pm; Tue., 2/4 at 6 pm; Wed., 2/5 at 7:45 pm; Thu., 2/6 at 6 pm

FANTASTIC FUNGI

2018, Louie Schwartzberg, USA, 81 min.
Narrated by Brie Larson

“One of the year’s most mind-blowing, soul-cleansing and yes, immensely entertaining triumphs.”—Matt Fagerholm, RogerEbert.com

This marvelously mind-boggling documentary explores the hidden kingdom of mushrooms, the unique fruit of mycelium, an all-pervasive fungal network that not only lives beneath our feet but subversively dominates the earth. Awe-inspiring time-lapse macro cinematography and experts including groundbreaking scientist/mycologist Paul Stamets reveal the ways in which mushrooms harbor a vast and barely explored potential for healing, renewing the environment, providing sustenance, and altering consciousness. DCP digital. (BS)

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BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND!

164 North State Street. Tickets available at www.siskelfilmcenter.org. For more information, visit our website or call 312-846-2800.
### Gene Siskel Film Center
### MOVIE CLUB

Everyone’s in the club! Just by attending the monthly Movie Club film and participating in the conversation, you’re in!

Join us for the Gene Siskel Film Center Movie Club, which will include a post-screening conversation and a complimentary beverage.

**Wednesday, February 19, 6:00 pm**

**CANE RIVER**

*(See description on p. 7.)

Facilitator TBD.

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### SUNDAY 2

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Film</th>
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<tr>
<td>2:00</td>
<td>FANTASTIC FUNGI</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:30</td>
<td>PARASITE (Run), p. 2</td>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>3:00</td>
<td>THE LAST KLEEMER (Special)</td>
<td>p. 15</td>
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<tr>
<td>5:00</td>
<td>PAIN &amp; GLORY (Run), p. 4</td>
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### MONDAY 3

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<tr>
<td>6:00</td>
<td>FANTASTIC FUNGI (Run), p. 2</td>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>6:30</td>
<td>PAIN &amp; GLORY (Run), p. 2</td>
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<td>7:45</td>
<td>PARASITE (Run), p. 2</td>
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<tr>
<td>8:15</td>
<td>LOVE &amp; BASKETBALL (Romance), p. 15</td>
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### TUESDAY 4

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<tr>
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<td>LOVE &amp; BASKETBALL (Romance), p. 15</td>
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<tr>
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<td>7:45</td>
<td>PARASITE (Run), p. 2</td>
<td>2</td>
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<td>LOVE &amp; BASKETBALL (Romance), p. 15</td>
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### THURSDAY 6

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<tr>
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<td>4</td>
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<td>6:30</td>
<td>PAIN &amp; GLORY (Run), p. 2</td>
<td>2</td>
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<td>7:45</td>
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<td>2</td>
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<td>8:15</td>
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<tr>
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<td>HONEY BOY (Run), p. 4</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>6:30</td>
<td>WINCHESTER ’73 (Special), p. 5</td>
<td>5</td>
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<tr>
<td>7:45</td>
<td>HONEY BOY (Run), p. 5</td>
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### SATURDAY 8

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<td>FLEABAG (NT Live), p. 4</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>3:00</td>
<td>WINCHER 73 (Special), p. 14</td>
<td>5</td>
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<tr>
<td>6:00</td>
<td>FINDING FARDEN (Iran), p. 5</td>
<td>5</td>
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<tr>
<td>6:15</td>
<td>I WISH I KNEW (Special), p. 13</td>
<td>5</td>
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<tr>
<td>7:45</td>
<td>CANE RIVER (Run), p. 7</td>
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**DISCOUNT MATINEES FRIDAYS UNTIL 5:00 PM! $5 GENERAL, $3 MEMBERS/STUDENTS**

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**For more information, visit www.siskelfilmcenter.org or call 312-846-2800.**

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**164 North State Street**

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**REVIEWS**

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<th>Week</th>
<th>Review 1</th>
<th>Review 2</th>
<th>Review 3</th>
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<tr>
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**FEB 2020**

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**Gene Siskel Film Center**

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**To check for updates or to sign up for our email list, visit www.siskelfilmcenter.org or call 312-846-2800.**
**FLEABAG**

*NT LIVE BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND!*

2019, Vicky Jones, UK, 80 min.

With Phoebe Waller-Bridge

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<td>Wed., 2/5 at 6 pm;</td>
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<td>Thu., 2/6 at 8:15 pm</td>
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This hilarious, award-winning one-woman show inspired BBC’s hit TV series. Fleabag (Waller-Bridge) may seem oversexed, emotionally unfiltered, and self-obsessed, but that’s just the tip of the iceberg. With family and friendships under strain, and a guinea pig café struggling to keep afloat, she suddenly finds herself with nothing to lose. DCP digital. (Description courtesy of NT Live)

**HONEY BOY**

2019, Alma Har’el, USA, 94 min.

With Shia LeBeouf, Lucas Hedges, Noah Jupe

“Something haunting…[a] hall of mirrors strewn with mischief and nonsense, and even, yes, love.” — Ray Pride, Newcity

Disney Channel child star turned scandal-plagued adult star LeBeouf tells all in a barely-fictional biopic (names changed) that deconstructs the relationship between father James (LeBeouf)—washed-up rodeo clown, convicted sex offender, and broken bottom-feeder—and son Otis (Jupe at 12; Hedges at 22). Director Har’el effectively juggles three connecting narratives: the abused boy Otis; the rebellious, rising-star adult; and the troubled man in rehab, who resists therapy with the rage of a caged animal. DCP digital. (BS)

**PAIN & GLORY**

*(DOLOR Y GLORIA)*

2019, Pedro Almodóvar, Spain, 113 min.

With Antonio Banderas, Penélope Cruz

With introspection and humor, Oscar-winner Almodóvar (TALK TO HER) invites comparisons with Fellini’s 8½ in this poignantly potent memory-laced tale of an artistically depleted film director (Banderas) looking back on a life marked by early promise and thwarted desires. The latter are reawakened when a long-lost love comes back into the director’s life just as he apprehensively faces a retrospective of his films. In Spanish with English subtitles. DCP digital. (BS)

**FLEABAG**

*NT LIVE BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND!*

2019, Vicky Jones, UK, 80 min.

With Phoebe Waller-Bridge

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<td>Sun., 2/9 at 3:00 pm;</td>
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<td>Mon., 2/10 at 6 pm (Open-captioned);</td>
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<td>Tue., 2/11 at 7:45 pm;</td>
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<td>Wed., 2/12 at 6 pm;</td>
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<td>Thu., 2/13 at 8:15 pm</td>
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José

José is a beautifully observant love story about being young, gay, and poor in a world dominated by machismo, evangelism, and possessive mothers. Living with his devout single mom (Mota) in Guatemala City, closeted 19-year-old José (Salanic) enjoys furtive hook-ups in hot-sheets hotel rooms. When one of these liaisons, with an itinerant construction worker, becomes serious, José is faced with the difficult decision to abandon his mother and leave town with his lover. In Spanish with English subtitles. DCP digital. (MR)

February 7—13
Fri., 2/7 at 4:15 pm and 6:15 pm; Sat., 2/8 at 7:45 pm; Sun., 2/9 at 5 pm; Mon., 2/10 at 8 pm; Tue., 2/11 at 6 pm; Wed., 2/12 at 8 pm; Thu., 2/13 at 8:15 pm

Come as You Are

Come as You Are

Come as You Are is a raunchy and heartwarming comedy/road movie (produced by the local investment group Chicago Media Angels and filmed mostly in Chicago) that is the exception. No self-pity seen here, when three men with significant disabilities set out in a rented van to lose their virginity at a fabled Montreal brothel that caters to men with special needs, with a skeptical no-nonsense nurse (Sidibe of PRECIOUS) as their driver. DCP digital. (BS)

February 14—20
Fri., 2/14 at 2 pm and 8:15 pm; Sat., 2/15 at 4 pm; Sun., 2/16 at 3 pm; Mon., 2/17 at 8 pm; Tue., 2/18 at 6 pm; Wed., 2/19 at 8 pm; Thu., 2/20 at 6 pm
NEW RESTORATION!
YALE STROM IN PERSON!
THE LAST KLEZMER
1994, Yale Strom, USA, 85 min.

Friday, January 31, 2:00 pm
Sunday, February 2, 3:45 pm

“Klezmer” refers to both a practitioner and a style of festive Jewish band music, rooted in prewar Eastern Europe. Recently restored to mark its 25th anniversary, THE LAST KLEZMER is a heartfelt portrait, filled with laughter and tears, of Leopold Kozlowski of Krakow, the last active klezmer trained in the original prewar tradition. In English, Yiddish, Polish, and Russian with English subtitles. New 2K DCP digital restoration. (MR)

Director Yale Strom is scheduled to appear for audience discussion on Sunday.

FILMMAKERS IN PERSON!
Panorama Latinx Short Film Showcase
2019, Various directors, Various nations, 89 min.

Saturday, February 1, 8:00 pm

The Gene Siskel Film Center’s Panorama Latinx programming and outreach initiative presents the second edition of our short film showcase. Selected from over 40 submissions, this compilation of works celebrates Chicago-based Latinx and Afro-Latinx filmmakers from countries including Mexico, Peru, Haiti, Colombia, Nicaragua, and Brazil. For more information, visit siskelfilmcenter.org/panoramalatinx-showcase

CHICAGO PREMIERE!
FILMMAKERS IN PERSON!
Stand By Me
2019, Lai Meng-jie, Taiwan, 103 min.
With Mason Lee, Shao Yu-wei

Monday, February 17, 7:45 pm

A zany approach to romance is the cover for a more insightful coming of age for endearingly flawed hero Jiu-bing (Lee), a disaster-prone would-be lover who has had a crush on perky classmate Bo-he (Shao) since they were twelve years old. Co-presented with Asian Pop-up Cinema. In Mandarin with English subtitles. DCP digital. (BS)

Director Lai Meng-jie and (tentatively) actor Mason Lee are scheduled to appear for audience discussion.
CHICAGO PREMIERE! NEW 4K RESTORATION!

Cane River

1982, Horace Jenkins, USA, 105 min.
With Richard Romain, Tommye Myrick

Unseen for over 35 years, this mature and soulful romance was considered lost until the discovery of a 35mm negative led to its recent recognition as a classic of African American cinema. Returning to his Louisiana hometown, former college football star and aspiring poet Peter (Romain) quickly strikes sparks with local girl Maria (Myrick). Their budding relationship faces obstacles, starting with Peter’s background as a light-skinned Creole whose ancestors owned slaves. New 4K DCP digital restoration.

(MR)

The Wednesday screening is a Movie Club event (see p. 3).

February 14—20
Fri., 2/14 at 4 pm and 8 pm;
Sat., 2/15 at 2 pm and 8:15 pm;
Sun., 2/16 at 5:15 pm;
Mon., 2/17 at 6 pm;
Tue., 2/18 at 8:15 pm;
Wed., 2/19 at 6 pm;
Thu., 2/20 at 8:15 pm

“A major rediscovery… [Jenkins] lends the intimate tale a vast and vital resonance.”
—Richard Brody, The New Yorker

CHICAGO PREMIERE!

GOLDIE

2019, Sam de Jong, USA, 88 min.
With Slick Woods, George Sample III

“Full of attitude and bursting with scrappy New York style.”
—David Ehrlich, Indiewire

An ambitious 18-year-old Bronx woman living in a homeless shelter with her mom and little sisters, Goldie (model and Rihanna muse Woods) prepares for an entry-level gig as a backup dancer in a hip-hop video, the break that she imagines will make her a star. GOLDIE pulsates with energy, bumped to the max at every turn by Wood's abundant charisma and eye-popping street style, and enhanced by Dutch director de Jong's use of colorful graffiti-like animation overwriting the images. DCP digital. (BS)

February 21—27
Fri., 2/21 at 4:30 pm and 6:15 pm;
Sat., 2/22 at 7:45 pm;
Sun., 2/23 at 4:45 pm;
Mon., 2/24 at 7:45 pm;
Tue., 2/25 at 6 pm;
Wed., 2/26 at 8:15 pm;
Thu., 2/27 at 6:15 pm
The Cordillera of Dreams

(LA CORDILLERA DE LOS SUEÑOS)
2019, Patricio Guzmán, Chile/France, 85 min.

Following NOSTALGIA FOR THE LIGHT and THE PEARL BUTTON in Guzmán’s monumental documentary trilogy, CORDILLERA centers on the massive bulwark of the Andes Mountains that surrounds Chile, both protecting it and isolating it. The cordillera (Spanish for “little rope”) becomes a springboard to explore the Pinochet regime’s still-potent legacy, the current regime’s efforts to deny the past, and Chilean artists’ continuing struggle to confront that past. In Spanish with English subtitles. DCP digital. (MR)

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First Chicago Run!

Nostalgia for the Light

(NOSTALGIA DE LA LUZ)
2010, Patricio Guzmán, France/Germany/Chile, 90 min.

Friday, February 21, 6:00 pm
Saturday, February 22, 2:30 pm
Monday, February 24, 7:45 pm

In Chile’s high Atacama Desert, where astronomers gaze at the universe, Guzmán finds parallels between the sky’s macro palette of stars and the earth’s micro array of human remains, from pre-Columbian mummies to the bone fragments of “disappeared” political prisoners. In Spanish with English subtitles. 35mm. (BS)

The Pearl Button

(EL BOTÓN DE NACÁR)
2015, Patricio Guzmán, Chile, 82 min.

Saturday, February 22, 4:15 pm
Wednesday, February 26, 7:45 pm

Exploring the history of Chile through its 2600-mile coastline, this dazzling and haunting film centers on the sea—home of the nearly extinct “water tribes” of Patagonia, passageway for European colonialists, and dumping ground for victims of the Pinochet regime. In Spanish with English subtitles. DCP digital. (MR)

Guzmán Trilogy Discount!

Buy a ticket at our regular prices for NOSTALGIA FOR THE LIGHT, THE PEARL BUTTON, or THE CORDILLERA OF DREAMS, and get a ticket for either or both of the other two films at this discount rate for each with proof of your original purchase: General Admission $7; Students $5; and Members $4. (This discount rate applies to the second and third features only. Discount available in person at the box office only.)

“Haunting and allusive… a stunning achievement.”
—Jessica Kiang, Variety
CHICAGO PREMIERE!

The Times of Bill Cunningham

2018, Mark Bozek, USA, 74 min.
Narrated by Sarah Jessica Parker

This chronicle of the creative journey of New York Times “On the Street” photographer and fashion historian Bill Cunningham (1929-2016) might well bear the alternate title “Tales of Lost New York.” The evolution of the city as the cradle of great personalities, fascinating eccentrics, and true originals is compellingly woven through Cunningham’s story, based on an extended 1994 interview conducted by director Bozek and accompanied by hundreds of stunning photos, many never before made public. DCP digital. (BS)

TWO-WEEK RUN!

February 28—March 5
Fri., 2/28 at 3:30 pm and 7:45 pm;
Sat., 2/29 at 7:45 pm;
Sun., 3/1 at 2:00 pm;
Mon., 3/2 at 6 pm;
Tue., 3/3 at 8:30 pm;
Wed., 3/4 at 6 pm;
Thu., 3/5 at 8:15 pm

March 6—12
Check our website or March Gazette for showtimes.

FIRST CHICAGO RUN!

BEANPOLE

(DYLDA)
2019, Kantemir Balagov, Russia, 138 min.
With Viktoria Miroshnichenko, Vasilisa Perelgina

With almost mystical power, love and death cement the codependency of two women amid the devastation of war in 1945 Leningrad. Former comrades at the front, tall ghostly-pale Iya (Miroshnichenko)—nicknamed Beanpole—and her brusque, pragmatic friend Masha (Perelgina) negotiate a delicate dance of a relationship that centers around the legacy of psychic trauma, the death of Masha’s child, and the strange bargain that Masha imposes on Iya. In Russian with English subtitles. DCP digital. (BS)

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164 North State Street. Tickets available at www.siskelfilmcenter.org. For more information, visit our website or call 312-846-2800.
From February 8 through March 1, we celebrate the 30th anniversary of our Festival of Films from Iran with Chicago premieres of eight new films. The festival opens with the acclaimed documentary COUP 53 by Taghi Amirani, who will be present for audience discussion, followed by a reception celebrating the festival anniversary and presented by MALA (Muslim American Leadership Alliance). We also present an award to longtime festival advisor, filmmaker, and author Mehrnaz Saeed-Vafa, honoring her key role in the founding of the festival.

The Gene Siskel Film Center thanks: Taghi Amirani, Amirani Media; Mohammad Atebbai, Iranian Independents; Ehsan Khoshbakht; Armin Miladi, Daricheh Cinema; Nasrine Mélard de Chardon, DreamLab Films; Eleaheh Nobakht, Eli Image; Mehrnaz Saeed-Vafa; Narimon Salaviz; Pasfarda Arts & Culture Exchange; and MALA.

—Barbara Scharres

COUP 53
2019, Taghi Amirani, UK/Iran, 118 min.
Saturday, February 8, 7:30 pm
Sunday, February 9, 2:00 pm
This daring documentary dissects the 1953 British-American coup that brought down Iran’s democratically elected prime minister Mohammad Mossadegh in order to prop up the reign of Shah Mohammad Reza Pahlavi. Utilizing archival footage, interviews, and newly unearthed transcripts, director Amirani weaves a gripping tale of spies, turncoats, secret negotiations, and suppressed documents. In English and Persian with English subtitles. DCP digital. (BS)

On Saturday, the audience is invited to a post-show anniversary reception in our Gallery/Café, sponsored by MALA.

A HAIRY TALE
(MASHKAREBAZ)
2019, Amir Homayoun Ghanizadeh, Iran, 100 min.
With Saber Abar, Ali Nasirian
Sunday, February 9, 5:15 pm
This delightfully bizarre black comedy by one of Iran’s best-known avant-garde stage directors pays tribute to the surrealism of playwrights including Beckett and Ionesco. A barbershop with an old-time retro air is the setting for dark and sometimes macabre flights of fancy involving the owner Kazem and his employees Danesh and Shapour. Danesh’s dream of a film career comes to life in elaborate fantasy sequences, while a murder mystery intrudes on his dreams. In Persian with English subtitles. DCP digital. (BS)

FINDING FARIDEH
2018, Khourosh Ataee and Azadeh Moussari, Iran/Netherlands, 88 min.
Saturday, February 15, 6:00 pm
Sunday, February 16, 5:00 pm
In Iran’s official Oscar submission, an Iranian woman adopted at age two from a Tehran orphanage by a Dutch family makes an emotional journey in search of her birth family. Now 38, Farideh ventures to Iran, where three different families are seeking to claim her. Joy and tears mix in excess when these extended clans welcome her as their long-lost daughter. The film builds to the tense day when the results of the DNA tests will tell the tale. In Persian, Dutch, and English with English subtitles. DCP digital. (BS)
TEHRAN: CITY OF LOVE
2018, Ali Jaberansari, Iran/UK/Netherlands, 102 min.
With Forough Ghajabagli, Mehdi Saki

Saturday, February 15, 8:00 pm
Sunday, February 16, 3:00 pm

Three surprising tales of thwarted romance provide a perfect Valentine’s Day chaser. Director Jaberansari ventures into unusual territory for Iranian cinema with innuendo-laced escapades featuring Mina, a lonely overweight receptionist at a unisex body-salon; Hessam, a personal trainer whose longing for a hunky young weightlifter interferes with a career opportunity; and Vahid, a funeral singer who opts for a career change in the hope of attracting women. In Persian with English subtitles. DCP digital. (BS)

FILMFARSI
2019, Ehsan Khoshbakht, Iran/UK, 83 min.

Saturday, February 22, 6:15 pm
Sunday, February 23, 5:00 pm

Car chases, lurid affairs, and flashy musical numbers all figured into Iranian cinema’s pre-1979 signature. Compiled from clips painstakingly sourced from surviving VHS tapes and accompanied by insightful commentary by director Khoshbakht, FILMFARSI bursts with spirited revelations of the heyday of a popular cinema willfully destroyed in the wake of the Islamic revolution. In Persian with English subtitles. DCP digital. (BS)

Following the Sunday screening, the audience is invited to a reception in our Gallery/Café celebrating the festival’s 30th anniversary, sponsored by Pasfarda Arts & Culture Exchange.

THE WARDEN
(SORKHPOUST)
2019, Nima Javidi, Iran, 90 min.
With Navid Mohammadzadeh, Parinaz Izadyar

Saturday, February 22, 8:00 pm
Sunday, February 23, 3:00 pm

Set in 1966, this mystery/thriller pits a preening, promotion-hungry warden against a wily death-row escapee who goes missing just as the facility is about to be shut down. Director Javidi (MELBOURNE) makes the story less about the cat-and-mouse game between warden and prisoner than a pressure-cooker drama revolving around ambition, guilt in high places, and the warden’s barely disguised attraction to a female social worker who comes to plead for the missing man. In Persian with English subtitles. DCP digital. (BS)

Festival of Films from Iran continues on next page.

CHICAGO PREMIERE!
MARIE CLÉMENCE ANDRIAMONTE-PAES IN PERSON!

FAHAVALO, MADAGASCAR 1947
2018, Marie Clémence Andriamonte-Paes, France, 90 min.

Friday, February 21, 7:45 pm

The little-known story of a post-WWII insurrection by the indigenous population of Madagascar is recalled in this film that is both ethnographic documentary and chronicle of a revolution. In Malagasy with English subtitles. Co-sponsored with French Cultural Services at the Consulate General of France, Chicago. DCP digital. (BS)

Director Marie Clémence Andriamonte-Paes is scheduled to appear for audience discussion.
FIRST CHICAGO RUN!

I WAS AT HOME, BUT...

(ICH WAR ZUHAUSE, ABER...) 2019, Angela Schanelec, Germany, 105 min.
With Maren Eggert, Franz Rogowski

“A cumulatively brilliant achievement...it’s clear that we’re in the hands of a modern master.” —Neil Young, Hollywood Reporter

High on many year-end Top Ten lists, I WAS AT HOME, BUT... centers on Astrid (Eggert), a stressed-out Berlin mother struggling to cope following her husband’s death and the week-long disappearance of her 13-year-old son. The narrative is expanded and complicated through Schanelec’s adventurous use of time-shifts, ellipses, and digressions, including a school production of Hamlet, pastoral scenes with a dog and a donkey, and an extended dispute over the purchase of a defective bicycle. In German with English subtitles. DCP digital. (MR)

February 28—March 5
Fri., 2/28 at 2 pm and 8 pm; Sat., 2/29 at 5:15 pm; Sun., 3/1 at 2:30 pm; Mon., 3/2 at 7:45 pm; Wed., 3/4 at 6 pm; Thu., 3/5 at 8:30 pm

FEB 2020 164 North State Street. Tickets available at www.siskelfilmcenter.org. For more information, visit our website or call 312-846-2800.
LOVE & BASKETBALL
2000, Gina Prince-Bythewood, USA, 124 min.
With Sanaa Lathan, Omar Epps

Saturday, February 1, 3:00 pm
Wednesday, February 5, 8:15 pm

The title says it all. Prince-Bythewood’s dazzling debut emphasizes the love over the basketball, and the female point of view over the male, but without short-changing the other side in either case. The story covers roughly a dozen years in the relationship between Monica (Lathan) and Quincy (Epps), next-door neighbors since childhood, both nurturing hoop dreams. Quincy, the son of an NBA star, has been groomed for glory, while Monica has to struggle during an era when opportunities for women are limited. 35mm. (MR)

IF BEALE STREET COULD TALK
2018, Barry Jenkins, USA, 119 min.
With KiKi Layne, Stephan James, Regina King

Saturday, February 1, 5:30 pm
Monday, February 3, 8:15 pm

This adaptation of James Baldwin’s Harlem-set 1974 novel centers on Tish (Layne) and Fonny (James), whose romance is captured in the sensual, impressionistic style that marked director Jenkins’s MOONLIGHT. But this is a love story deeply embedded in the larger contexts of African American family life and racial injustice, the latter coming to the fore when Fonny is faced with a trumped-up rape charge. Regina King (Watchmen) won an Oscar for her performance as Tish’s fiercely supportive mother. DCP digital. (MR)

NINOTCHKA
1939, Ernst Lubitsch, USA, 110 min.
With Greta Garbo, Melvyn Douglas

Friday, February 7, 2:00 pm
Saturday, February 8, 3:15 pm
Wednesday, February 12, 6:00 pm

In Lubitsch’s most famous film, Garbo satirizes her own saturnine image as she plays a straitlaced Russian envoy who journeys to Paris to fetch back three straying commissars but finds herself succumbing to capitalism, champagne, and a charmingly decadent Count (Douglas). Avoiding simplistic politics, the film tweaks both the self-indulgent West and the self-righteous East, with laughter and romance working together to rewrite ideology. 35mm. (MR)

A Fine Romance continues on next page.
SWING TIME
1936, George Stevens, USA, 103 min.
With Fred Astaire, Ginger Rogers, Victor Moore

Friday, February 7, 6:00 pm
Saturday, February 8, 5:30 pm
Monday, February 10, 6:00 pm

Director Stevens’s romantic style has made SWING TIME many fans’ favorite in the Astaire-Rogers series of classic musicals. The plot faces Fred with choices between dancing and gambling, and between rich fiancée Betty Furness and dance partner Ginger. The Jerome Kern score gives the duo a great elegant number ("Waltz in Swing Time") and a great comic one ("A Fine Romance"), as well as a sensational solo for Astaire ("Bojangles of Harlem"). 35mm. (MR)

THE UMBRELLAS OF CHERBOURG
(LES PARAPLUIES DE CHERBOURG)
1964, Jacques Demy, France, 91 min.
With Catherine Deneuve, Nino Castelnuovo

Friday, February 14, 2:00 pm
Saturday, February 15, 2:00 pm
Wednesday, February 19, 6:00 pm

Demy’s unique experiment in all-singing, no-dancing narrative packs a devastating emotional punch beneath its charming, candy-colored surface. In the rainy coastal town of Cherbourg, the daughter (Deneuve) of an umbrella-shop owner falls in love with an auto mechanic (Castelnuovo), but the Algerian War intervenes. In French with English subtitles. DCP digital. (MR)

BEFORE SUNRISE
1995, Richard Linklater, USA, 101 min.
With Ethan Hawke, Julie Delpy

Friday, February 14, 6:00 pm
Saturday, February 15, 4:00 pm
Thursday, February 20, 8:15 pm

BEFORE SUNRISE blazed a new path for modern screen romance. Meeting on a train from Budapest, American backpacker Jesse (Hawke) and Parisian student Celine (Delpy) spend the night wandering through Vienna before his plane departs the next morning. As they walk, talk, and mingle with the poets, punks, and Ferris wheels of Vienna, their brief encounter becomes haunted by a sense of what might have been and what still might be. 35mm. (MR)

ROMAN HOLIDAY
1953, William Wyler, USA, 119 min.
With Audrey Hepburn, Gregory Peck

Friday, February 21, 2:00 pm
Saturday, February 22, 2:00 pm

Audrey Hepburn made one of the most sensational debuts in screen history, winning an Oscar for her first starring role. In this modern-day fairy tale (reputedly based on a real-life experience of Britain’s Princess Margaret…but also remarkably similar to the reel-life model of IT HAPPENED ONE NIGHT), a cooped-up princess on an Italian tour runs away from her royal duties and into the arms of an American newsman (Peck), who must choose between a career-making scoop and a risky romance. 4K DCP digital. (MR)
I KNOW WHERE I’M GOING!
1945, Michael Powell and Emeric Pressburger, UK, 91 min.
With Wendy Hiller, Roger Livesey

Saturday, February 22, 4:15 pm
Monday, February 24, 6:00 pm

Joan Webster (Hiller) knows where she’s going: to the remote Scottish Isle of Kiloran for her imminent wedding to a wealthy industrialist. Waylaid by inclement weather on the Isle of Mull, Joan finds ever more obstacles placed in her way, including the provincial charms of a British naval officer (Livesey) marooned alongside her. Handsomely shot in part on location, Powell and Pressburger’s luminous spin on the romantic comedy would prove to be one of their most enduring and beloved films. 35mm. (CW)

GREGORY’S GIRL
1980, Bill Forsyth, UK, 91 min.
With John Gordon Sinclair, Dee Hepburn

Saturday, February 29, 2:30 pm
Monday, March 2, 6:00 pm

Gawky, gangly 16-year-old Gregory (Sinclair) loses his position on the school soccer team—and his heart—to new arrival Dorothy (Hepburn). Striving to impress the goal-scoring goddess, he finally wins a date, but his longed-for rendezvous takes some unexpected detours in the course of an extended summer’s eve odyssey. With its breezy charm, off-kilter humor, and prescient sense of gender-role subversion, GREGORY’S GIRL looks fresher than ever in a new 2K DCP digital restoration. (MR)

MY SUMMER OF LOVE
2004, Pawel Pawlikowski, UK, 86 min.
With Natalie Press, Emily Blunt

Friday, February 28, 6:15 pm
Saturday, February 29, 4:15 pm
Wednesday, March 4, 8:00 pm

This early success by the director of IDA is a same-sex variation on the classic adolescent summer romance. Orphaned, dumped by her boyfriend, and dismayed by her brother’s religious zealotry, 16-year-old Mona (Press) is stagnating in a Yorkshire village when she meets glamorous rich girl Tamsin (Blunt). The two have an intense affair, but class differences and Tamsin’s taste for fantasy threaten to turn it all into a seasonal mirage. 35mm. (MR)

NEW 4K RESTORATION!

Winchester ’73
1950, Anthony Mann, USA, 92 min.
With James Stewart, Shelley Winters

Friday, February 7, 4:00 pm
Saturday, February 8, 3:45 pm
Monday, February 10, 8:00 pm

The first in Mann’s groundbreaking series of James Stewart westerns, WINCHESTER ’73 reinvigorated the genre with its noirish hero, flamboyant villains, and magnificent use of landscape. A prized rifle is the connective tissue in the film’s wide-ranging, episodic narrative, passing from hand to hand as the revenge-bent hero pursues his all-too-close nemesis. New 4K DCP digital restoration. (MR)
From Jan. 24 through May 5, we offer From Asia, With Love: Contemporary Cinema from Hong Kong, Taiwan, South Korea, Japan, and China, a series of fourteen programs with weekly Tuesday lectures by Jennifer Dorothy Lee, Assistant Professor of East Asian Art at SAIC. The series is presented in cooperation with the SAIC Dept. of Art History, Theory, and Criticism. Additional screenings of the films on Fri. or Sat. do not include Prof. Lee’s lecture. Admission to all From Asia, With Love programs is $5 for Film Center members; usual prices for non-members.

—Martin Rubin

This series will examine how new uses of moving image and sound in cinema from Hong Kong, Taiwan, South Korea, Japan, and China demonstrate the intense preoccupations of their filmmakers. Themes of national loss and cross-border tensions, of seeking revenge and settling debts, and of transcending the unbearable present in the fantastical will be explored. In what ways do contemporary filmmakers from Asia negotiate devastating histories and memories, all the while performing on a globalizing stage for international viewships?

—Jennifer Dorothy Lee

**AUDITION**
(Odishon)
1999, Takashi Miike, Japan, 115 min.
With Ryo Ishibashi, Eihi Shiina

Friday, January 31, 8:15 pm
Tuesday, February 4, 6:00 pm

Miike’s monumental mind-f---er is one of the iconic films of the J-Horror movement. Middle-aged widower Aoyama (Ishibashi) stages a cattle-call audition for a bogus TV show as a way to scout for a new wife. He is quickly drawn to number 28 on the list: tall, skinny, soft-spoken Asami (Shiina). Either you already know the rest, or you are best left to discover it on your own. Note: Contains graphic violence. In Japanese with English subtitles. DCP digital. (MR)

**TETSUO: THE IRON MAN**
(Tetsuo)
1989, Shin'ya Tsukamoto, Japan, 67 min.
With Tomôro Taguchi, Shin'ya Tsukamoto

Tuesday, February 11, 6:00 pm

In Tsukamoto’s cyberpunk cult classic, a diabolical metal fetishist crosses paths with a horn-rimmed salaryman who will unwittingly serve as a pioneer into the hard new world of steel and iron. Flesh merges with pipes, wires, nuts, bolts, and all manner of metallic detritus in ever more grotesque configurations, including a drill-shaped phallus that serves as the centerpiece of one of the most demented sex scenes ever filmed. Note: Contains explicit sex and violence. In Japanese with English subtitles. DCP digital. (MR)

**LADY VENGEANCE**
(Chin-Jeol-Han Geum-Ja-ssi)
2005, Park Chan-wook, South Korea, 115 min.
With Lee Yeong-ae, Choi Min-sik

Friday, February 14, 8:15 pm
Tuesday, February 18, 6:00 pm

Getting even, and possibly a bit more, is a two-edged sword in this final chapter in director Park’s “Vengeance Trilogy.” A sweet-faced schoolgirl is sent to the slammer for a sensational child murder she didn’t commit. Taking the old adage “Don’t get mad; get even” to heart, she spends 13 years behind bars ingeniously planning for the day of reckoning with the man who betrayed her. Soon the circle of vengeance widens beyond even what this ice-cold heroine had imagined. In Korean with English subtitles. 35mm. (BS)
MOTHER
(MADEO)
2009, Bong Joon-ho, South Korea, 129 min.
With Kim Hye-ja, Won Bin

Friday, February 21, 2:00 pm
Tuesday, February 25, 6:00 pm

Director Bong (PARASITE, THE HOST) has long been the standard-bearer for a unique strain of fantastical horror-tinged Korean cinema. Dim-witted Do-joon (Won) is permanently tied to his mother’s (Kim) apron strings, the apple of her shrewd eye. When a local schoolgirl is found murdered, suspicions point to Do-joon. Typical of Bong, the audience will pay big-time for falling for the irresistibly eccentric title character, who is hell-bent on protecting her son at any cost. In Korean with English subtitles. 35mm. (BS)

SHOPLIFTERS
(MANBIKI KAZOKU)
2018, Hirokazu Kore-eda, Japan, 121 min.
With Lily Franky, Kirin Kiki

Friday, February 28, 4:00 pm
Tuesday, March 3, 6:00 pm

This heart-rending Cannes Palme d’Or winner and Oscar nominee centers on a family living on the precarious edge of insolvency in a tiny apartment. World-class skill in shoplifting supplements their meager income. Their number grows when a five-year-old girl is found shivering and hungry in the street. A devastating family unraveling is soon in the offing with a crisis that reveals that all is not as it seems in this cozy setup. In Japanese with English subtitles. DCP digital. (BS)

I Wish I Knew
(HAI SHANG CHUAN QI)
2010, Jia Zhang-ke, China, 119 min.

Friday, February 14, 6:00 pm
Saturday, February 15, 6:00 pm
Wednesday, February 19, 7:45 pm

This ambitious documentary by China’s most important contemporary filmmaker focuses on the city of Shanghai, exploring the city’s past through interviews with survivors of China’s historical upheavals and capturing its present in stunningly composed widescreen images. In Mandarin with English subtitles. New 2K DCP digital restoration. (MR)
Conversations at the Edge is a weekly series of screenings, performances, and talks by groundbreaking media artists. The program is organized by the Department of Film, Video, New Media, and Animation at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago in collaboration with the Gene Siskel Film Center and the Video Data Bank.

For more, visit www.saic.edu/cate.

Vaginal Davis in person!

**An Evening with Vaginal Davis**  
1986-99, Vaginal Davis, USA, ca. 75 min.  
**Thursday, February 6, 6:00 pm**

A key figure in the history of queer music, performance, and video art, Vaginal Davis presents a selection of some of her most significant videos from the 1980s and 1990s.  
Presented in partnership with the Art Institute of Chicago and the Society for Contemporary Art in conjunction with the exhibition *The White to be Angry* (February 1-April 26, 2020).

Lori Felker in person!  

**Lori Felker: Intrusions and Interruptions**  
2016-20, Lori Felker USA, ca. 75 min.  
**Thursday, February 13, 6:00 pm**

Known for genre-bending explorations of human relationships, award-winning filmmaker Lori Felker (MFA 2007) debuts a collection of slippery, semiautobiographical tales of motherhood, miscarriages, and missing people.

Curator Greg de Cuir and artist Edgar Arceneaux in person!  

**Avant-Noir**  
2017-19, Multiple directors, Multiple countries, ca. 90 min.  
**Thursday, February 20, 6:00 pm**

Conceived by Belgrade-based curator Greg de Cuir Jr. as an “intervention into the status quo,” *Avant-Noir* features contemporary films and videos by international artists of African descent to showcase visual representations of Black cultures in their many complexities.

Curator Greg de Cuir in person!  

**South by Southeast**  
2017-19, Multiple directors, multiple nations, ca. 60 min.  
**Saturday, February 22, 12:00 pm**

*South by Southeast* convenes a wide range of artistic works from southern and eastern Europe, many screening for the first time in the United States, to deconstruct aesthetic and geopolitical boundaries.

Mariah Garnett in person!  

**TROUBLE**  
2019, Mariah Garnett, UK/USA, 83 min.  
**Thursday, March 5, 6:00 pm**

In this extraordinary documentary, Los Angeles-based artist and filmmaker Mariah Garnett revisits her father’s early life during the Troubles in 1970s Northern Ireland and reenacts a 1971 BBC documentary about his controversial interfaith relationship on the streets of present-day Belfast.
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The Gene Siskel Film Center is a public program of the School of the Art Institute of Chicago and is located at 164 North State Street. Main Office: 312-846-2600.

**Location:** 164 North State Street  
**Tickets:** Visit our website for online ticket purchasing information. For showtimes visit www.siskelfilmcenter.org or call 312-846-2800.

**Discount Parking for Film Center Patrons!**  
Park at the InterPark Self-Park at 20 E. Randolph St. and pay only $20 for 24 hours with a rebate ticket obtained from the Film Center box office.

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The Gene Siskel Film Center is located one-half block south of the State/Lake L (brown, green, orange, pink, and purple lines), and just outside of the Lake red line subway stop. We are also located on a number of State Street buslines.

**Ticket prices:**  
$12 General Admission;  
$7 Students;  
$6 Members.  
Unless otherwise noted.

**FRINGE BENEFITS**
We continue this mostly monthly series dedicated to provocative and outré films that have galvanized audiences and critics alike, incited passionate conversation, and inspired devoted cult followings among adventurous cinephiles.

1970, Brian De Palma, USA, 87 min.  
With Robert De Niro, Jennifer Salt, Allen Garfield

**Friday, February 7, 8:00 pm**  
**Thursday, February 13, 6:15 pm**

Before achieving notoriety as a director of big-budget thrillers, De Palma made a series of oddball underground features that culminated with this scabrous comedy. De Niro stars as a Vietnam vet navigating the seedier corners of New York City, first as a pornographer, then as a member of a politically radical avant-garde theater company, before eventually dipping his toes into domestic terrorism.  
35mm. (CW)