

SAIC School of the Art Institute of Chicago

a public program of the

APR 202 (COVERS APRIL 3-30)

GAZETTE ■ Vol. 48, No. 4





ALSO: Asian American Showcase

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The Film Center's membership program is changing so you get more! In slightly raising our prices, members will enjoy added perks such as members-only screenings, reciprocal benefits to dozens of other art theaters, and more!

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Questions? filmcenter@saic.edu or 312.846.2600





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

Join us for the Gene Siskel Film Center Movie Club, which will include a post-screening conversation and a complimentary beverage in the Gene Siskel Film Center's Gallery/Café (movie ticket required).

Thursday, April 23, 6:00 pm THE BOOKSELLERS

WEDNESDAY 1 THURSDAY 2

- 6:00 NOMAD (FU/UK) 6:00 KIND HEARTS AND
- CORONETS (Run) 8:00 TWELVE THOUSAND (EU/Fr)
- 8:00 THE TROUPE (EU/Hu)
- 6:00 ON THE ROOF (FII/(7)★
- 6:00 This Set of Actions Is a Mirror (CATE), p. 16+
 - 8:15 KIND HEARTS AND

FRIDAY 3 SATURDAY 4

- 2:00 AND THEN WE DANCED (Run), p. 4 2:00 VIRAL: ANTISEMITISM IN FOUR MUTATIONS (Run) n 4
- TAIPEI STORY (Asia), p. 20
- NINA WU (Run), p. 5 4:15 6:00 NINA WU (Run), p. 5
- 6:15 POISON (Fringe), p. 24
- 8:00 VIRAL: ANTISEMITISM IN FOUR MUTATIONS
- (Run), p. 4★ 8:00 AND THEN WE DANCED (Run), p. 4
- 3:15 POISON (Fringe), p. 24 5:00 VIRAL: ANTISEMITISM IN FOUR MUTATIONS (Run), p. 4★

3:00 CONFIDENCE (Szabó), p. 12

- 5:15 AND THEN WE DANCED (Run), p. 4
- 7:45 NINA WU (Run), p. 5 8:00 IT MUST BE HEAVEN + Short (Palestine),

See our website for descriptions of (See description on p. 7.) Facilitator TBD. films playing April 1-2. DISCOUNT MATINEES FRIDAYS UNTIL 5:00 PM! \$8 GENERAL, \$5 MEMBERS/STUDENTS TUESDAY 7 8 10 SUNDAY 5 MONDAY 6 6:00 AND THEN WE 2:00 SEASONS OF CHANGE ON HENRY'S FARM 1:30 CYRANO DE BERGERAC (NT Live), p. 11 3:00 AND THEN WE 6:00 CONFIDENCE (Szabó) 6:00 TAIPEI STORY (Asia), 6:00 Wong Ping: Digital (Run), p. 6 2:00 **POLICE STORY** (Asia), p. 20 3:00 THE WILD GOOSE LAKE (Run), p. 5 DANCED (Run), p. 4 p. 12 6:00 **VIRAL: ANTISEMITISM** p. 20★ 6:00 **AND THEN WE** DANCED (Run), p. 4 **Fables** (CATE), p. 16 ★ 6:15 **NINA WU** (Run), p. 5 6:00 **NINA WU** (Run), p. 5 VIRAL: ANTISÉMITISM 5:15 SEASONS OF CHANGE ON HENRY'S FARM (Run), p. 6★ 5:15 **COLONEL REDL** (Szabó), p. 12 8:00 **BROOKLYN INSHALLAH + Short** (Palestine), IN FOUR MUTATIONS IN FOUR MUTATIONS DANCED (Run), p. 4 VIRAL: ANTISEMITISM **GAZA FIGHTS FOR** 3:45 THE WILD GOOSE LAKE (Run), p. 5 8:15 NINA WU (Run), p. 5 IN FOUR MUTATIONS FREEDOM + Short (Palestine), p. 14 ★ 4:00 DEERSKIN (Run), p. 6 6:00 SEASONS OF CHANGE ON HENRY'S FARM (Run), p. 4 5:00 **NINA WU** (Run), p. 5 7:45 AND THEN WE (Run), p. 4 ADVOCATE + Short DANCED (Run), p. 4 **IMPRISONING A VIRAL: ANTISEMITISM** p. 15★ 8:15 **DEERSKIN** (Run), p. 6 8:00 NINA WU (Run), p. 5 GENERATION + Short (Palestine), p. 14★ (Palestine), p. 13★ IN FOUR MUTATIONS 6:00 DEFRSKIN (Run) n 6 7:45 THE WILD GOOSE LAKE (Run), p. 5 (Run), p. 4 8:00 THE JOURNEY OF THE OTHERS + Shorts (Palestine), p. 14★ 12 13 14 15 16 18 6:00 SEASONS OF CHANGE 6:00 SEASONS OF CHANGE 6:00 POLICE STORY (Asia). 2:00 SEASONS OF CHANGE 6:00 McKenzie Wark 2:00 THE BOOKSELLERS (Run), p. 7 2:30 L'INNOCENTE (Special), p. 8 ON HENRY'S FARM ON HENRY'S FARM ON HENRY'S FARM and Legacy Russell 3:00 DONA FLOR AND HER TWO HUSBANDS 2:00 YOUNG AHMED (Run), p. 7 3:45 POLICE STORY 2 (Asia), p. 21 p. 20★ THE WILD GOOSE (Run), p. 6★ (Run), p. 6 (Special), p. 8 6:00 DEERSKIN (Run), p. 6 LAKE (Run), p. 5 8:15 DEERSKIN (Run), p. 6 6:00 **DEERSKIN** (Run), p. 6 7:45 **THE WILD GOOSE LAKE** THE WILD GOOSE MEPHISTO (Szabó), p. 12 3:00 DEEDSKIN (Run) n 6 4:00 SEASONS OF CHANGE ON HENRY'S FARM 4:45 THE WILD GOOSE LAKE 7:30 COLONEL REDL LAKE (Run) n 5 5:15 YOUNG AHMED (Run), p. 7 6:00 THE BOOKSELLERS (Run), p. 7 6:00 L'INNOCENTE (Special), p. 8 BETWEEN HEAVEN (Szabó), p. 12 7:45 THE BOOKSELLERS (Run), p. 7 (Run), p. 5 5:00 GA7A + Short 7:45 THE WILD GOOSE 8:00 GOLDEN HARVEST AND EARTH + Short 8:00 **GEOGRAPHIES OF KINSHIP** (Showcase), (Palestine), p. 15★ LAKE (Run), p. 5 + Short (Palestine). (Palestine), p. 15★ 8:00 I WILL MAKE YOU MINE (Showcase), p. 17 * p. 17★ 8:15 DEERSKIN (Run), p. 6 p. 15★ 8:30 YOUNG AHMED (Run), p. 7

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- (Run), p. 7 4:45 **L'innocente** (Special), p. 8
- 5:00 CHINATOWN RISING (Showcase), p. 18★
- 6:00 THE BOOKSELLERS
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- 6:00 YOUNG AHMED (Run), p. 7 7:45 **THE BOOKSELLERS**
- (Run), p. 7

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- 6:00 THE BOOKSELLERS (Run), p. 7 6:00 YOUNG AHMED (Run),
- - **Shorts Night** (Special), p. 21★

- p. 7 7:45 **MEPHISTO** (Szabó).
- p. 12 8:00 **Female Filmmaker**

- 6:00 THE BOOKSELLERS (Run) n 7
- MOVIÉ CLUB 6:00 DONA FLOR AND HER TWO HUSBANDS
- (Special), p. 8 SUMMER MOTHER (Showcase), p. 18 8:15 YOUNG AHMED (Run),
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3:00 PANDORA AND THE FLYING DUTCHMAN

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- 5:15 CODE OF THE FREAKS (Special), p. 11★
- 5:30 VITALINA VARELA (Run), p. 10
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- CHIN? (Showcase). p. 19★ 8:30 GOOD POSTURE (Run),

164 North State Street



FIRST CHICAGO RUN! ANDREW GOLDBERG VIA SKYPE!

2020, Andrew Goldberg, USA, 82 min.

"Brutal, yet vital...must-see viewing in our current age."—Christopher Reed, Hammer to Nail

This wide-ranging documentary examines the recent rise in hate speech and violent acts against Jews, focusing on four countries: the U.S., where survivors of the Tree of Life Synagogue massacre are interviewed; Hungary, where the streets are festooned with caricatures of Jewish billionaire-philanthropist George Soros; the U.K., where a blurring of anti-Zionism and antisemitism has infected the once-liberal Labour Party; and France, where there has been a rise in terrorist attacks against Jews. In English, Hungarian, and French with English subtitles. DCP digital. (MR)

April 3—9

Fri., 4/3 at 2 pm and 8 pm; Sat., 4/4 at 5 pm; Sun., 4/5 at 3:15 pm; Mon., 4/6 at 6 pm; Wed., 4/8 at 8 pm; Thu., 4/9 at 8:15 pm Director
Andrew
Goldberg is
scheduled to
appear via
Skype on Friday
(8 pm only) and
Saturday.



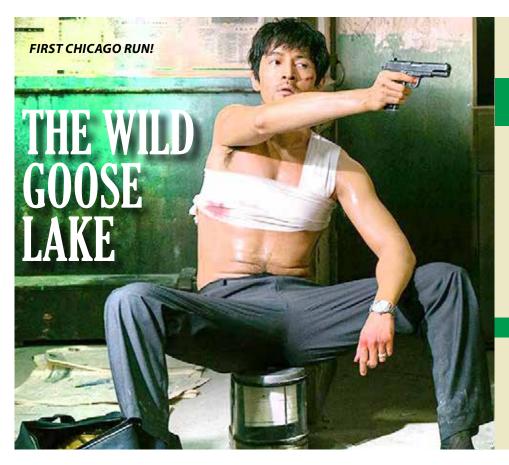
CHICAGO PREMIERE!

2019, Midi Z, Taiwan, 103 min. With Wu Ke-Xi, Vivian Sung

"Fascinating, glitchy, stylish...Wu Ke-Xi turns in a rivetingly brittle, vulnerable performance." —Jessica Kiang, Variety

In this flamboyant filmworld fable informed by the upheavals of the #MeToo era, Nina Wu is an aging, still struggling actress who gets an offer to audition for the coveted leading role in a big-budget spy thriller. She unexpectedly gets the part, survives the director's borderline abusive treatment, and seems poised for the stardom of her dreams when it all starts to unravel... In addition to delivering a gripping performance as Nina, actress Wu Ke-Xi co-wrote the screenplay, based in part on her own experiences. In Mandarin with English subtitles. DCP digital. (MR)





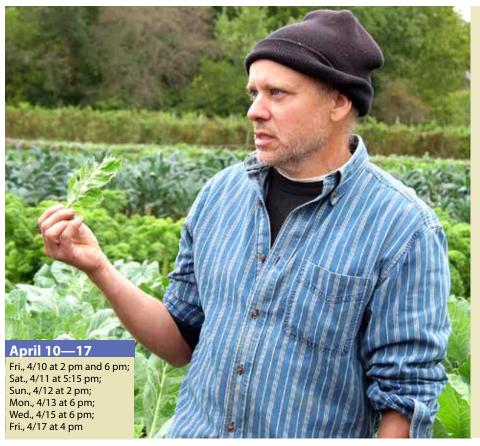
(NAN FANG CHE ZHA DE JU HUI) 2019, Diao Yinan, China, 117 min. With Hu Ge, Kwei Lun-mei

"Poetry in motion...an exercise in pure cinema, an abstract painting of a crime story."—Peter Howell, Toronto Star

THE WILD GOOSE LAKE delivers a neo-noir kick in a style that might be dubbed action impressionism. Two strangers, a cop-killer on the run and a part-time prostitute, meet under a viaduct. In a hotel basement, a meeting of rival gang members devolves into a violent melee over a scheme to divvy up territories. Studded with detail and vivid characterizations, a series of convoluted chases become the story, racing through the anonymous maze-like alleys of Wuhan in murky light. In Mandarin with English subtitles. DCP digital. (BS)

April 10—16

Fri., 4/10 at 3:45 pm and 7:45 pm; Sat., 4/11 at 3 pm; Sun., 4/12 at 4:45 pm; Mon., 4/13 at 7:45 pm; Tue., 4/14 at 6 pm; Wed., 4/15 at 7:45 pm; Thu., 4/16 at 6 pm



CHICAGO PREMIERE! FILMMAKERS IN PERSON! SEASONS OF CHANGE ON HENRY'S FARM

2019, Ines Sommer, USA, 83 min.

For a quarter-century, Henry Brockman has successfully operated a small Central Illinois vegetable farm based on principles of organic cultivation and biodiversity. Feeling the effects of age, he decides to take a sabbatical with his wife Hiroko in her native Japan. Left in the hands of a former intern, the farm is devastated by unusually heavy rainfall, and Henry's sojourn in Japan causes him to rethink the future of farming. Director Sommer (BAND OF SISTERS) effectively integrates an absorbing inside look at sustainable farming with a lyrical feeling for nature and a stirring portrait of a down-to-earth idealist. DCP digital. (MR)

Director **Ines Sommer** and producer **Terra Brockman** are scheduled to appear for audience discussion on Saturday and Sunday.

FIRST CHICAGO RUN!

DEERSKIN

(LE DAIM) 2019, Quentin Dupieux, France, 77 min. With Jean Dujardin, Adèle Haenel

"Enjoyably demented ...a high-concept lark with a sharp little sting in its tail."

—Justin Chang, Los Angeles Times

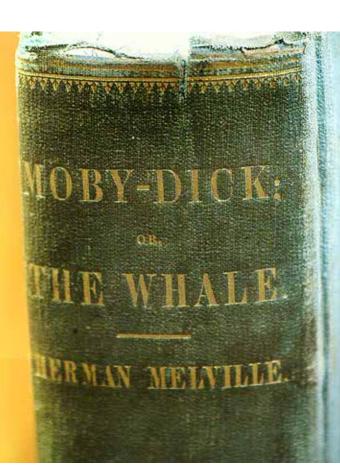
A midlife crisis takes a darkly humorous turn in this deliciously bizarre deadpan comedy-drama. Recently divorced and out of work, Georges (Dujardin of THE ARTIST) falls in love—with a fringed EASY RIDER-type buckskin jacket. The seller throws an old camcorder into the deal, and George becomes an undercover film director, finding a collaborator in gullible, starry-eyed

April 10—16

Fri., 4/10 at 4 pm and 6 pm; Sat., 4/11 at 8:15 pm; Sun., 4/12 at 3 pm; Mon., 4/13 at 6 pm; Tue., 4/14 at 8:15 pm; Wed., 4/15 at 6 pm; Thu., 4/16 at 8:15 pm hotel bartender Denise (Haenel). Little does George know that the jacket is in charge, and it will take him to the gates of hell. In French with English subtitles.



The Booksellers



2019, D.W. Young, USA, 99 min.

"A treat for anyone who appreciates the printed word."—Frank Scheck, Hollywood Reporter

The allure of the printed volume is at the heart of this engaging, Gotham-centered overview of the rare-book trade. One collector compares the relationship of an individual and a book to a love affair, and bibliophile Fran Lebowitz avows that she could never bring herself to throw a book away. The film explores the rapidly changing world of high-end book dealers, book scouts, collectors, and antiquarians. In the post-Amazon, post-Kindle world, are bookstores—and even the book itself—doomed? DCP digital. (MR)

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

April 17-23

Fri., 4/17 at 2 pm and 6 pm; Sat., 4/18 at 7:45 pm; Sun., 4/19 at 2:45 pm; Mon., 4/20 at 6 pm; Tue., 4/21 at 7:45 pm; Wed., 4/22 at 6 pm; Thu., 4/23 at 6 pm





NEW 4K RESTORATION!

DONA FLOR AND HER TWO HUSBANDS

1976, Bruno Barreto, Brazil, 113 min. With Sônia Braga, José Wilker, Mauro Mendonça

Saturday, April 18, 3:00 pm Monday, April 20, 6:00 pm Thursday, April 23, 6:00 pm

"A classic erotic comedy."

—Gary Arnold, Washington Post

An updated ribald folktale based on Jorge Amado's novel, DONA FLOR is an intoxicating carnival of a movie, full of bright colors, balmy Bahia atmosphere, pulsing Brazilian music, and steamy softcore sex. After being married to a lusty cad, the widowed Dona Flor (Braga) gets the respectable, considerate spouse (Mendonça) she always yearned for, but, much to her horror, she finds her neglected libido calling husband #1 back from the grave. In Portuguese with English subtitles. New 4K DCP digital restoration. (MR)

PAN RAMA LATINX





CHICAGO PREMIERE!

GOOD POSTURE

2019, Dolly Wells, USA, 91 min. With Emily Mortimer, Grace Van Patten

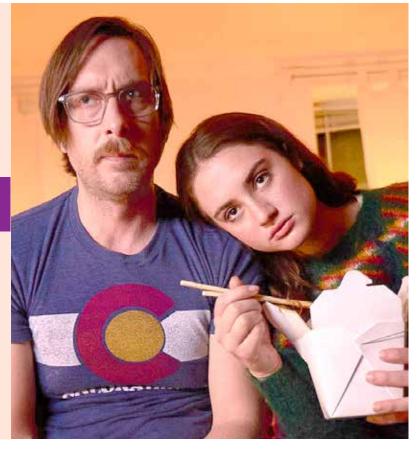
"Genuine and funny...treats its audience with intelligence"

—Kimber Myers, *The Playlist*

The feminist comedy takes a detour into slacker territory, where men most often reign. Clueless as to the future direction of her life, recent film-school grad Lillian (Van Patten) breaks up with her boyfriend and lands a spot as roomer/caretaker in the Brooklyn townhouse inhabited

April 24—30

Fi., 4/24 at 2 pm and 6 pm; Sat., 4/25 at 8:15 pm; Sun., 4/26 at 3 pm; Mon., 4/27 at 6 pm; Tue., 4/28 at 7:45 pm; Wed., 4/29 at 6:15 pm; Thu., 4/30 at 8:30 pm by hermit-like novelist Julia (Mortimer). Hatching a mostly smoke-and-mirrors plan to make a documentary on the famously reclusive author in order to make her ex and his new girlfriend jealous, Lillian is trapped into converting fabrications into action. DCP digital. (BS)



FIRST CHICAGO RUN!

Vitalina Varela

2019, Pedro Costa, Portugal, 124 min. With Vitalina Varela, Ventura

"A breathtakingly gorgeous movie about love, death and immigration."

—Monica Castillo, RogerEbert.com

Acclaimed director Costa returns to the shantytowns of Lisbon to tell the story of Vitalina Varela, the nonprofessional costar of his last feature HORSE MONEY. Separated from her husband for decades, Vitalina journeys from her home in Cape Verde to Lisbon for a reunion, only to be met with news of his recent demise. Moving into his crumbling house, Vitalina endeavors to make a new life, finding tenuous solidarity within an impoverished immigrant community. In Cape Verdean Creole and Portuguese with English subtitles. DCP digital. (CW)





NEW 4K RESTORATION!

PANDORA AND THE FLYING DITCHMAN

1951, Albert Lewin, UK, 122 min. With Ava Gardner, James Mason

Friday, April 24, 3:45 pm Saturday, April 25, 3:00 pm Monday, April 27, 7:45 pm Wednesday, April 29, 6:00 pm

"Masterpiece...the supreme encounter between Surrealism and Hollywood."—Jonathan Rosenbaum

This extravagantly romantic film is set among a colony of Costa Brava expatriates who orbit around the beautiful Pandora (Gardner). She breaks men's hearts until her own is captured by a mysterious mariner (Mason) who bridges the worlds of reality and myth. The literate, self-reflexive screenplay is counterpointed by spectacular action scenes involving two of Pandora's lovers, an auto racer and a bullfighter. Showcased in this new 4K DCP digital restoration, Jack Cardiff's stunning color cinematography rivals his work in BLACK NARCISSUS and THE RED SHOES. (MR)



NTLIVE

CYRANO DE BERGERAC

2019, Jamie Lloyd, UK, 217 min. With James McAvoy, Anita-Joy Uwajeh

Saturday, April 11, 1:30 pm

Fierce with a pen and notorious in combat, Cyrano (McAvoy of ATONEMENT) almost has it all—if only he could win the heart of his true love Roxane. There's just one big problem: he has a nose as huge as his heart. This classic play in a new adaptation by Martin Crimp is brought to life with linguistic ingenuity. DCP digital. (Description courtesy of NT Live)

SPECIAL PRICES: \$14 GENERAL; \$8 MEMBERS/STUDENTS

ROMANIAN FILM FESTIVAL OPENING NIGHT CHICAGO PREMIERE!

PARKING

2019, Tudor Giurgiu, Romania/Spain/Czech Republic, 110 min. With Mihai Smarandache, Relén Cuesta

Friday, April 24, 8:00 pm

We collaborate with RO Fest, Chicago's Romanian Film Festival (http://www.rofest.com/), to present its opening night. Adrian (Smarandache), a recent immigrant to Spain who works as a car-lot security guard becomes involved with a wiry blonde singer (Cuesta) and the dodgy deals of his car-lot boss. In Spanish and Romanian with English subtitles. DCP digital. (BS)





CHICAGO PREMIERE! FILMMAKERS IN PERSON!

code of the freaks

2019, Salome Chasnoff, USA, 68 min.

Saturday, April 25, 5:15 pm

The Chicago-made CODE OF THE FREAKS bills itself as the first documentary to critically examine Hollywood representations of characters with disabilities. A copious selection of clips is scathingly scrutinized by "our own rowdy and bitingly hilarious group of disabled activists, artists and critics," with no sparing of Oscar-winners and critical darlings. DCP digital. (MR)

Director **Salome Chasnoff**, cinematographer/editor **Jerzy Rose**, and writers **Susan Nussbaum**, **Alyson Patsavas**, and **Carrie Sandahl** are scheduled to appear for audience discussion.

István Szabó: Recently Restored

From April 4 through 22, the Gene Siskel Film Center presents new 4K restorations of three classic films by István Szabó. Along with Miklós Jancsó, Szabó was the most prominent Hungarian filmmaker to emerge during the Iron Curtain years, and, like Jancsó and many other Eastern European filmmakers, he effectively used allegory, allusion, and historical

parallels to comment on the contemporary political situation. Four of his films were nominated for Oscars in the Best Foreign Language Film category, with MEPHISTO winning in 1982.

—Martin Rubin

CONFIDENCE

(BIZALOM) 1980, István Szabó, Hungary, 107 min. With Ildikó Bánsági, Péter Andorai

Saturday, April 4, 3:00 pm Monday, April 6, 6:00 pm

Szabó considered this tense chamber-drama to be his finest film. During the Nazi occupation of Budapest, two strangers—a man and woman—are put in peril because of their ties to the Resistance. They are given new identities and pose as husband and wife in a boarding house whose owners are unaware of the deception. Thrown together in an atmosphere of isolation and dread, they begin to develop feelings for each other, complicated by the man's ingrained distrust. In Hungarian with English subtitles. New 4K DCP digital restoration. (MR)



COLONEL REDL

(OBERST REDL) 1985, István Szabó, Hungary, 152 min. With Klaus Maria Brandauer, Armin Mueller-Stahl

Saturday, April 11, 5:15 pm Monday, April 13, 7:30 pm

This Oscar nominee explores Szabó's recurring theme of an individual compromised by larger historical forces. In the Austro-Hungarian Empire, an army officer of humble origins (Brandauer) rises to become the ruthless head of a government agency designed to root out spies and disloyal officers. But Redl's low birth and closeted homosexuality leave him vulnerable, and he discovers that the system he serves so devotedly can be even more ruthless than he is. In Hungarian with English subtitles. New 4K DCP digital restoration. (MR)



MEPHISTO

1981, István Szabó, Germany/Hungary, 146 min. With Klaus Maria Brandauer, Rolf Hoppe, Karin Boyd

Saturday, April 18, 5:15 pm Wednesday, April 22, 7:45 pm

This Oscar-winner for Best Foreign Language Film features a mesmerizing turn by Brandauer that Roger Ebert called "one of the greatest movie performances I have ever seen." Brandauer plays a German actor who starts out in the 1920s with high ambitions and fashionably leftist ideals. His signature role is Mephistopheles in Goethe's Faust, but he proves to be more temptee than tempter when the Nazis take over and cultivate him as a tool of the regime. In German with English subtitles. New 4K DCP digital restoration. (MR)



CHICAGO PALESTINE FILM FESTIVAL

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From April 4 through 16, the Gene Siskel Film Center collaborates with the *Chicago Palestine Film Festival* to present the 19th annual festival representing the spirit and mood of contemporary Palestinian life.



hicago Palestine Film Festival

This year's festival is made possible in part through the support of the Crossroads Fund; the Center for Arab American Philanthropy; our sponsors; and the hard work of many volunteers.

For their invaluable cooperation, the Gene Siskel Film Center thanks the members of the Chicago Palestine Film Festival Committee.

-Barbara Scharres

IT MUST BE HEAVEN

2019, Elia Suleiman, France/Qatar/Germany, 97 min. With Elia Suleiman

Saturday, April 4, 8:00 pm

Slyly subversive satirist Suleiman (DIVINE INTERVENTION) stars Opening night film! Director Firas Khoury via Skype. Reception at 6:30 in our Gallery/Café.

himself as a keen observer of human foibles and follies, traveling to foreign parts in search of an alternative homeland. Discomfited by developments in his hometown of Nazareth, the deadpan Everyman takes off for Paris, followed by New York, ready to enjoy the freedoms of the West, but he soon finds hints that self-interest, rigid authoritarianism, and nationalism prevail even in these lands of license. In Arabic, French, and English with English subtitles.

Preceded by MARADONA'S LEGS (2019, Firas Khoury, Germany/Palestine, 23 min.). (BS)

ADVOCATE

2019, Philippe Bellaiche and Rachel Leah Jones, Israel/Canada/Switzerland, 108 min.

Sunday, April 5, 5:15 pm

Co-director Rachel Leah Jones via Skype (tentative).

Israeli lawyer Lea Tremel faces the

most difficult case in a long career dedicated to representing Palestinians accused of terrorism and other crimes in this gripping documentary that was short-listed for a 2020 Oscar nomination. Even though her odds of victory are near zero, she steps up to defend a 13-year-old boy charged with attempted murder after he ran through the streets waving an ornamental knife while his 15-year-old cousin (subsequently shot to death by police) carried out a non-fatal stabbing. In Hebrew, Arabic, and English with English subtitles.

Preceded by AMBIENCE (2019, Wisam Al Jafari, Palestine, 15 min.). (BS)

Chicago Palestine Film Festival continues on next page

CHICAGO PALESTINE FESTIVAL CONTINUED

IMPRISONING A GENERATION

2019, Zelda Edmunds, USA, 50 min.

Wednesday, April 8, 8:15 pm

The plight of four children charged with crimes and imprisoned by the Israeli military illustrates a series of

Director Zelda Edmunds via Skype.

injustices and inequities perpetrated against Palestinian youth. Director Edmunds focuses on the stories of four young teens, including fifteen-year-old Nooran, sent to jail for punching the checkpoint guard who demanded a strip-search; and twelve-year-old Shadi, imprisoned, tortured, and charged with attempted murder despite a security camera revealing neither a weapon nor a victim. In English and Arabic with English subtitles.

Preceded by JALAS (2019, Olga Arias, Spain, 30 min.). (BS)



2019, Abby Martin, USA, 74 min.

Thursday, April 9, 8:15 pm

Journalist/filmmaker Martin begins this searing documentary with a recap of the historical and

Director Abby Martin via Skype.

political factors that have brought the Gaza Strip to utter devastation, with a trapped population plagued by poverty, food shortages, and ongoing rocket bombardment. The film's centerpiece is you-are-there coverage of the Great March of Return in May, 2018, when thousands of frustrated Gaza citizens marched peacefully to the razor-wire barricades, only to be randomly picked off by Israeli snipers. In English, Arabic, and Hebrew with English subtitles.

Preceded by IN VITRO (2019, Søren Lind and Larissa Sansour, Denmark/UK/Palestine, 28 min.). (BS)

THE JOURNEY OF THE OTHERS

(EL VIAJE DE LOS OTROS) 2019, Jaime Villarreal, Chile/Jordan/Palestine, 74 min.

Friday, April 10, 8:00 pm

The cast and crew of Jenin's Freedom Theater prepare for a risky trip to New York to stage their

Director Jaime Villarreal via Skype (tentative).

banned play *The Siege*, a harrowing drama of six freedom fighters holed up in Bethlehem's Church of the Nativity. The planned U.S. tour dwindles to a premiere at NYU after other venues back out, and their stage manager is deported in chains upon arrival. The filmmaker parallels these events with a little boy's symbolic journey to a place safe from violence through the camp's theater and arts program for children. In English.

Preceded by 3 MINUTES (2019, Dima Sharif, UK/Palestine, 4 min.) and THE PIPE (2019, Sami Zarour, Palestine, 10 min.). (BS)











BROOKLYN INSHALLAH

2019, Ahmed Mansour, USA, 83 min.

Saturday, April 11, 8:00 pm

In the culturally diverse neighborhood of Bay Ridge, Brooklyn, Palestinian

Director Ahmed Mansour in person.

immigrant Khadar El-Yateem, a Lutheran pastor, mounts a political campaign aimed at becoming the first Arab American elected to the New York City council. This inspiring but bittersweet saga becomes a rousing fight for change, with El-Yateem aided by the dynamic Women's March organizer Linda Sarsour. In English and Arabic with English subtitles.

Preceded by NIGHTMARE OF GAZA (2019, Farah Nabulsi, UK/UAE, 13 min.). (BS)

GAZA

2019, Gary Keane and Andrew McConnell, Ireland/Palestine, 89 min.

Sunday, April 12, 5:00 pm

The images hauntingly speak for themselves in this lyrical and life-

Co-director Andrew McConnell via Skype.

affirming portrait of Gaza and its people, even as Israeli shells fall in the streets where children play. Only 25-miles long and 7-miles wide, this much-fought-over strip of land bristles with tenacious life, observed in its moments of joy and playfulness as well as peril. Ireland's submission for Oscar consideration. In Arabic with English subtitles.

Preceded by MARADONA'S LEGS (2019, Firas Khoury, Germany/Palestine, 23 min.). (BS)

THE GOLDEN HARVEST

2019, Alia Yunis, Jordan/UAE, 85 min.

Wednesday, April 15, 8:00 pm

Chicago-born filmmaker Yunis says, "My dad was born in Palestine, and so was olive oil." Journeying through Italy, Greece, and Spain, she explores Director Alia Yunis via Skype. Olive-oil tasting and sale at 7 pm in our Gallery/Café.

humankind's relationship with the golden elixir. Cultural and culinary lore give way to new stories and different meanings in Palestine, as she visits her deceased father's family for the first time. In English, Spanish, Greek, Italian, and Arabic with English subtitles.

Preceded by MADE IN PALESTINE (2019, Mariam Dwedar, USA, 8 min.). (BS)

BETWEEN HEAVEN AND EARTH

2019, Najwa Najjar, Palestine/Iceland/Luxembourg, 92 min. With Mouna Hawa, Firas Nasser

Thursday, April 16, 8:15 pm

A Palestinian couple seeking a quick divorce discover that they lack an essential document, sending them on a Closing night film! Director Najwa Najjar via Skype.

trek from the West Bank to the Golan Heights. Director Najjar weaves together the intimately connected dilemma of two people still ambivalent about their permanent parting with the wider political aspects that confront them at every turn. In Arabic, English, Hebrew, and French with English subtitles.

Preceded by SELFIE ZEIN (2019, Amira Diab, Palestine, 11 min.). (BS)



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.

This Set of Actions Is a Mirror

2016-19, Multiple directors, USA, ca. 75 min.

Thursday, April 2, 6:00 pm

Referencing a phrase from Carolyn Lazard's video A RECIPE FOR DISASTER (2018), *This Set of Actions Is a Mirror* gathers together works by Christine Sun Kim, Thomas Mader, Alison O'Daniel, and Carolyn Lazard that challenge the sensory hierarchies implicit in media and, by extension, society at large.

Wong Ping in person!

Wong Ping: Digital Fables

2014-19, Wong Ping, Hong Kong, ca. 70 min.

Thursday, April 9, 6:00 pm

In his digital-pop animations and installations, Hong Kong based artist Wong Ping combines ribald humor, scintillating sexual themes, and nuanced social commentary to create parables for modern life. Presented in partnership with the University of Chicago's Department of Visual Arts Open Practice Committee.

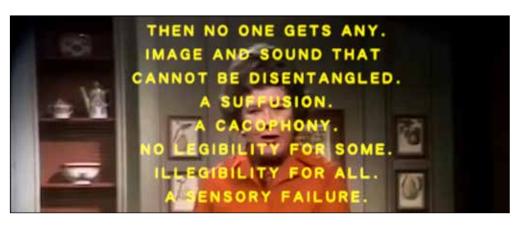
McKenzie Wark and Legacy Russell in person!

McKenzie Wark and Legacy Russell: Culture That Loves Us

1982--2019, Multiple directors, USA, ca. 60 min.

Thursday, April 16, 6:00 pm

Critics McKenzie Wark and Legacy Russell, winners of the 2019 Thoma Foundation Arts Writing Awards in Digital Art, come together for a generative screening and conversation about the impact of the digital age on the body and contemporary art. Presented in partnership with the Carl & Marilynn Thoma Art Foundation.







ANNUAL asian american showcase

The Gene Siskel Film Center and the Foundation for Asian American Independent Media (FAAIM) present the 25th anniversary edition of Asian American Showcase, April 17-30. Enjoy the freewheeling diversity of independent dramas, comedies, and documentaries, including selected screenings with filmmakers in person. Check our website at www. siskelfilmcenter.org for updates on appearances.

From April 5 through May 31, enjoy an exhibit of work by Asian American artists in our Gallery/Café. Showopening reception at 7:00 pm on Friday, April 17.

Off-site special events include the kickoff comedy night Finally FAAIMous on April 16, and Talk Stories on April 22. For details, location, and tickets,

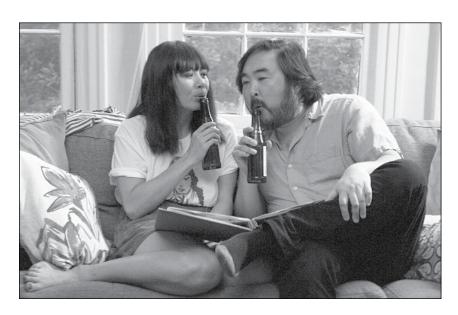
visit www.faaim.org.

For their essential role in making the

Asian American Showcase possible, the Gene Siskel Film Center

thanks Foundation for Asian American Independent Media (FAAIM) founding members Sooyoung Park, Ben Kim, and William Shin; Festival Director Tim Hugh; programming associates Jonathan Laxamana, Huu Ly, Lydia Fu, and Joe Monteverde: FAAIM's extended network of volunteers; the Filipino American Network; the Alphawood Foundation; the Illinois Arts Council, A State Agency; and the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation.

—Barbara Scharres



I WILL MAKE YOU MINE

2020, Lynn Chen, USA, 80 min. With Lynn Chen, Goh Nakamura

Friday, April 17, 8:00 pm

Opening night film! Actor/director Lynn Chen in person. Reception at 7:00 pm in our Gallery/Café.

Three women put singer/songwriter Goh Nakamura (playing a fictionalized version of himself) at the center of their romantic obsessions in this poignantly humorous film. Rachel (Lynn Chen), struggling with a rocky marriage, calls up feelings from college days, when Goh was her best friend with benefits. When he lands back in town, temptation beckons. Goh juggles his own marital woes with an on-and-off-again relationship with Erika (Ayako Fujitani). Struggling musician Yea-Ming (Yea-Ming Chen) revives the synergy of her long-past hookup with Goh when he shows up for a jam session. (BS)



GEOGRAPHIES OF KINSHIP

2019, Deann Borshay Liem, USA, 82 min

Director Deann Borshay Liem via Skype.

Saturday, April 18, 8:00 pm

An adoptee herself, who examined questions surrounding her own identity in previous films FIRST PERSON PLURAL and IN THE MATTER OF CHA JUNG HEE, Korean-born director Liem documents the family searches of those like herself, assimilated into nations and cultures far from their birthplace. Bi-racial Estelle revisits the orphanage from where she was adopted by an African American soldier; Michael discovers that he has an identical twin; Emma becomes privy to family secrets after finding her birth mother. In English, Korean, and Swedish with English subtitles. (BS)

Asian American Showcase continues on next page

asian american showcase continued

CHINATOWN RISING

2019, Josh Chuck and Harry Chuck, USA, 112 min.

Sunday, April 19, 5:00 pm

A promise made decades ago is kept at last, when 83-year-old Harry Chuck

Co-director Harry Chuck in person.

— lifelong Chinese American activist, youth mentor, and ordained minister—unpacks his treasure trove of photos and 16mm film footage shot in San Francisco's Chinatown from the '60s through the '80s. Called "the Holy Grail of Chinatown films," CHINATOWN RISING (co-directed with Harry's son Josh) is an astonishing historical record of Chinese American activism, documenting struggles to address issues that ranged from school busing in the '60s to a prolonged fight for fair housing in the '80s. (BS)



RESETTLED ROOTS: LEGACIES OF JAPANESE AMERICANS IN CHICAGO

2019, Anna Takada and Maria Pimentel, USA, 31 min.

Monday, April 20, 8:00 pm

The growth of Chicago's thriving Japanese American community is detailed through an ongoing oral history

Co-directors Anna Takada and Maria Pimentel in person.

project. Longtime residents call up memories that range from seeing family members taken away by the FBI after Pearl Harbor and growing up in the detention camps to present-day demonstrations spearheaded by a new generation of Japanese American activists. In English and Japanese with English subtitles.

Preceded by MOCHITSUKI (2019, Sky Bergman, USA, 5 min.) and FINDING DOHI (2020, Amber McClure, USA/Japan, 26 min.). (BS)

SUMMER MOTHER

2020, Michael Aki and Eugenia Yuan, USA, 91 min. With Eugenia Yuan, Shina Kay Idemoto

Thursday, April 23, 8:15 pm

A self-sufficient career woman has her priorities reset in this open-ended lyrical drama. Olivia (Yuan), unattached and proudly childless, is startled one morning by the appearance at her front door of 12-year-old Sam (Idemoto), the runaway daughter of Olivia's long-ago fiancé. In the course of a prolonged road trip across a stunning Southwestern landscape, the two build a delicate dependency in which the fantasy roles of parent and child become permeable. Original music score by Goh Nakamura. World premiere.









WALK RUN CHA-CHA



LUCKY GRANDMA

2019, Sasie Sealy, USA, 100 min. With Tsai Chin, Ha Hsiao-yuan

Saturday, April 25, 8:00 pm

Hilariously shrewd and breathtakingly resourceful, widowed Grandma Wong (Chin of THE JOY LUCK CLUB) is a stone-faced harridan-from-hell to those who cross her. After acquiring an ill-gotten fortune, she hires a lovably clueless bodyguard (Ha) to protect her from Chinatown gangs, but she proves more than capable of handling the dirty work herself. This first feature delightfully turns the stereotype of the maverick action hero on its head. In English, Mandarin, and Cantonese with English subtitles. DCP digital. (BS)

TAIWAN LOVE BOAT

2019, Valerie Soe, Taiwan/USA/Canada, 65 min.

Sunday, April 26, 5:00 pm

In 1965, the Taiwan government founded a summer educational program for offshore Chinese

Director Valerie Soe in person.

teens and young adults. The program became known as "the love boat" for its partying and hookups. For North American parents, this development was not unwelcome, for it introduced their progeny to a large pool of prospective Chinese marriage partners. A one-time participant herself, Soe interviews a host of administrators and former love-boaters. In English, French, and Mandarin with English subtitles. DCP digital. (BS)

Asian American Shorts: The Spaces Between Us

2019, Various directors, USA, 120 min.

Wednesday, April 29, 8:15 pm

Included: GO TO SLEEP (Phet Mahathogdy, 15 min.); STUCCO (Janina Gavankar and Russo Schelling, 18 min.); IT'S NOTHING (Anna Maguire, 17 min.); WAVES (Jane Hae Kim, 14 min.); A PERIOD PIECE (Shuchi Talati, 12 min.); NO CRYING AT THE DINNER TABLE (Carol Nguyen, 16 min.); SEE YOU NEXT TIME (Crystal Kayiza, 7 min.); and WALK RUN CHA-CHA (Laura Nix, 21 min.). In various languages with English subtitles. **Note:** Mature subject matter. DCP digital. (BS)

WHO KILLED VINCENT CHIN?

1987, Christine Choy and Renee Tajima-Pena, USA, 87 min.

Thursday, April 30, 8:15 pm

Charting a turning point in Asian American activism, this powerful documentary continues to raise questions more than thirty years after

Closing night film! Filmmaker in person (tentative).

it was nominated for an Oscar. In 1982 Detroit, Chinese American auto worker Vincent Chin was beaten to death by two unemployed men who got off with probation and a small fine. The filmmakers bring the whole picture into focus with a remarkable grasp of all the complex aspects of race, unemployment, and economic decline that the case spotlighted. In English and Mandarin with English subtitles. (BS)

FROM ASIA, WITH LOVE

Contemporary Cinema from Hong Kong, Taiwan, South Korea, Japan, and China

Lecturer: Jennifer Dorothy Lee

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 viewerships?

—Jennifer Dorothy Lee

TAIPEI STORY

(QING MEI ZHU MA) 1985, Edward Yang, Taiwan, 119 min. With Hou Hsiao-hsien, Tsai Chin

Friday, April 3, 3:45 pm Tuesday, April 7, 6:00 pm

Taipei provides an economically booming, neon-lit backdrop for characters undermined by a subtle sense of rootlessness, an ongoing theme in Edward Yang's work. Shu-chen (pop star Tsai Chin) and her lover Lon (Hou in a rare acting role) are a couple in the forefront of a new upwardly mobile class. They are smart, prosperous, and able to indulge their Westernized tastes. Yet, as time passes, each nurtures a profound dissatisfaction with life. The relationship begins to crumble when she loses her job in a corporate buyout and he demonstrates a renewed interest in an old flame. In Mandarin with English subtitles. DCP digital. (BS)



POLICE STORY

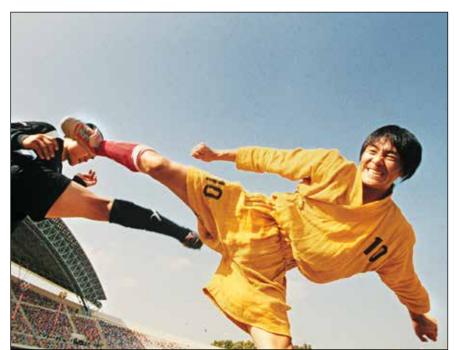
(GING CHAAT GOO SI) 1985, Jackie Chan, Hong Kong, 100 min. With Jackie Chan, Maggie Cheung, Lin Hsing-hsia

Friday, April 10, 2:00 pm Tuesday, April 14, 6:00 pm

At the zenith of his powers as action star and director, Chan doubles down on inventiveness for his role as Hong Kong's screwiest and most accident-prone narcotics cop, making for non-stop action set-pieces that top the stunts of his past films in terms of daring and danger. Pursuit of the perps is guaranteed to go hilariously, mind-bogglingly wrong every time, from the downhill car chase that leaves an entire shantytown decimated and the maneuver that strands Chan precariously atop a speeding bus, to his five-floor slide down a shopping mall pole amid exploding power cables. In Cantonese with English subtitles. DCP digital. (BS)







POLICE STORY 2

(GING CHAAT GOO SI JUK JAAP) 1988, Jackie Chan, Hong Kong, 122 min. With Jackie Chan, Maggie Cheung

Friday, April 17, 3:45 pm Tuesday, April 21, 6:00 pm

Chan exhibited a new sophistication in his action choreography in this dynamic stand-alone sequel to POLICE STORY. Busted down to traffic cop by superiors following his previous misadventures, Chan's earnest efforts to play by the rules go awry every time, leaving chaos, car wrecks, and devastation in his wake. Hong Kong is hit with a wave of bomb scares, and, deploying a dangerous arsenal of stunts, he brings the criminals to justice in an explosive finale. In Cantonese with English subtitles. DCP digital. (BS)

SHAOLIN SOCCER

(SIU LAM JUK KAU) 2001, Stephen Chow, Hong Kong, 112 min. With Stephen Chow, Ng Man-tat

Friday, April 24, 4:00 pm Tuesday, April 28, 6:00 pm

Stephen Chow carved out a place in the pantheon of Hong Kong action stars by honing his screen persona of the arrogant loser who must undergo a precipitous humbling before finding himself in a state of grace. Bursting with vitality and heart, SHAOLIN SOCCER stars Chow as a former soccer player fallen on hard times, who teams up with a crippled soccer master (Ng) and six defrocked Shaolin monks to form a ragtag team that takes on the preening stars of Team Evil. In Cantonese with English subtitles. Digital video. (BS)

Upcoming films in From Asia, With Love

(Friday and Saturday dates are subject to change. Please check the relevant month's *Gazette* and website.)

May 1 and 5

MADE IN HONG KONG

1997, Fruit Chan, Hong Kong, 109 min.



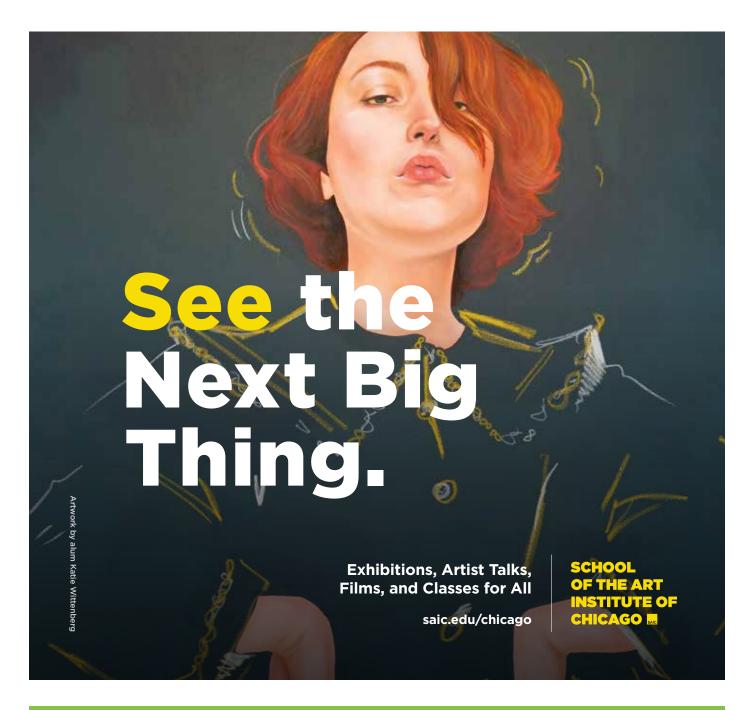
FILMMAKERS IN PERSON! MIDWEST FILM FESTIVAL PRESENTS

FEMALE FILMMAKER SHORTS NIGHT

2019-20, Various directors, USA, 90 min.

Wednesday, April 22, 8:00 pm

Enjoy a variety of films with one thing in common: all were directed by female filmmakers. Join us in celebrating and supporting talented female filmmakers of the Midwest! Tickets can be purchased at https://www.midwestfilm.com/get-tickets. Check out the Gene Siskel Film Center's website for more detailed information.





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BENEFITS: Pay \$6 admission to each screening (\$5 to each spring and autumn screenings/lecture series program); receive our monthly schedule, the Gazette, in the mail; \$10 discount on an Art Institute of Chicago membership; four free popcorns; sneak preview passes to major motion pictures and other special offers (see siskelfilmcenter.org/membership).

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THE GENE SISKEL FILM CENTER IS AVAILABLE FOR RENTAL! Call 312-846-2600 or visit siskelfilmcenter.org/rentals for details.

As a public program of the School of the Art Institute of Chicago (SAIC), I want to share that SAIC continues to closely monitor the outbreak of the novel coronavirus (COVID-19), and we are taking proactive measures to ensure the well-being of our community. Although there are no known cases in the SAIC and **GSFC** community, we are being extra vigilant in maintaining a **clean public space.** Our box-office staff will be wiping down surfaces and all door knobs to the theaters and bathrooms with sanitizer throughout our opening hours. There is hand sanitizer available for use at the concession counter and, as always, soap in both of the bathrooms.

> Jean de St. Aubin Executive Director



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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 \$18 for sixteen hours with a rebate ticket obtained from the Film Center box office.

Take the CTA!

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.



1991, Todd Haynes, USA, 85 min. With Edith Meeks, Larry Maxwell, Susan Norman

Friday, April 3, 6:15 pm Saturday, April 4, 3:15 pm

A reckless scientist develops a serum that turns him into a violent maniac. A seven-year-old delinquent kills his abusive father. Romance blossoms between two convicts in a Southern prison. Todd Haynes's feature debut unites these three Jean Genetinspired narratives into a mosaic of aberrant desires surviving under duress, imagining each section in a distinctly different style ranging from schlock horror homage to mockumentary exposé. 35mm. (CW)