THE WAY YOU LOVE,
Aug. 1, 15, 21

ALSO: Hitchcock

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A MASTER BUILDER

(aka FEAR OF FALLING)
2013, Jonathan Demme, USA, 127 min.
With Wallace Shawn, Lisa Joyce

“Terrifically performed...channels rage, joy and delusions.”—Jordan Mintzer, Hollywood Reporter

Wallace Shawn and André Gregory (MY DINNER WITH ANDRÉ, VANYA ON 42ND STREET) join Oscar-winning director Demme for a grippingly fresh interpretation of Ibsen's most autobiographical work. Runaway ego and monster hubris are embodied in an ailing architect (Shawn) who cruelly bends others to his will. The unexpected arrival of vivacious young Hilda (Chicago's own Jeff Award and Pulitzer-nominated Lisa Joyce) fatefully changes the dynamic. Shawn and Joyce strike sparks off each other in a scintillating battle of wits as death looms in the background. DCP digital widescreen. (BS)

Actor Lisa Joyce will be present for audience discussion on Saturday and Sunday.

AUGUST
8—14
Fri., Tue., and Thu. at 6:00 pm;
Sat. at 4:45 pm;
Sun. at 3:00 pm;
Mon. and Wed. at 7:45 pm

THE GERMAN DOCTOR

(WAKOLDA)
2013, Lucía Puenzo, Argentina, 93 min.
With Alex Brendemühl, Florencia Bado

It's 1960, and, deep among the snow-capped mountains of Patagonia, a charismatic doctor (Brendemühl) attaches himself to a newly arrived family in a community filled with German ex-pats. The story, based on director Puenzo's novel, is seen through the eyes of 12-year-old Lilit (Bado), who develops a girlish crush after being pronounced "a perfect specimen" by the dapper physician. Secrets, experimental therapies, and the imminent arrival of Nazi-hunters suggest that this controlling family friend is not who he seems. In Spanish, German, and Hebrew with English subtitles. DCP digital widescreen. (BS)

August 15—21
Fri., Mon., and Wed. at 8:00 pm;
Sat. at 3:00 pm and 6:15 pm;
Sun. at 5:00 pm;
Tue. and Thu. at 6:00 pm

“A smart and unsettling atmospheric thriller.”
—Mick LaSalle, San Francisco Chronicle

CHICAGO PREMIERE! Lisa Joyce in person!

FIRST CHICAGO RUN!

164 North State Street. Tickets: Go to our website for on-line ticket purchasing information. For more information, visit us online at: www.siskelfilmcenter.org or call 312-846-2800.
### Schedule

**SUNDAY 3**
- 3:00 | Half of a Yellow Sun (Run), p. 11
- 3:00 | The Grand Seduction (Run), p. 11
- 5:15 | Jayhawkers (Black), p. 11
- 5:15 | Half of a Yellow Sun (Run), p. 11

**MONDAY 4**
- 6:00 | Shorts: Black History—Last and Found (Black), p. 6
- 6:00 | The Grand Seduction (Run), p. 11
- 8:15 | Jayhawkers (Black), p. 11
- 8:15 | Half of a Yellow Sun (Run), p. 11

**TUESDAY 5**
- 6:00 | Shorts: Black History—Lost and Found (Black), p. 6
- 6:15 | The Grand Seduction (Run), p. 11
- 8:15 | Melvin & Jean (Black), p. 7
- 8:15 | The Grand Seduction (Run), p. 10

**WEDNESDAY 6**
- 6:00 | The Grand Seduction (Run), p. 11
- 6:15 | Melvin & Jean + short (Black), p. 7
- 8:15 | Half of a Yellow Sun (Run), p. 11
- 8:30 | Shorts: Made in Chicago (Black), p. 6

**THURSDAY 7**
- 6:00 | Half of a Yellow Sun (Run), p. 11
- 6:15 | The Grand Seduction (Run), p. 11
- 8:30 | Shorts: Made in Chicago (Black), p. 6

**FRIDAY 8**
- 6:00 | A Master Builder (Run), p. 2
- 6:30 | Finding Forever in Love (Black), p. 14
- 8:30 | The Grand Seduction (Run), p. 11

**SATURDAY 9**
- 3:00 | Rich and Strange (Hitchcock), p. 12
- 5:00 | The Grand Seduction (Run), p. 11
- 4:45 | Sordid (Hitchcock), p. 13
- 5:00 | The Grand Seduction (Run), p. 11
- 6:15 | Half of a Yellow Sun (Run), p. 11
- 8:15 | Half of a Yellow Sun (Run), p. 11

To receive weekly updates and special offers, join our email list at www.siskelfilmcenter.org
From August 1 through 28, the Gene Siskel Film Center presents the 20th anniversary edition of the Black Harvest Film Festival, celebrating the stories, images, heritage, and history of the black experience in the U.S. and around the world. It’s been an incredible twenty years and counting. Many of our early discoveries have gone on to become established filmmakers, while new, emerging filmmakers are just now making their mark. This anniversary festival is bigger and more diverse than ever, with personal appearances by filmmakers at almost every show.

Get in the swing of celebration on opening night, Friday, August 1, when NBC 5’s LeeAnn Trotter MCs A Black Harvest Feast. Included is the presentation of this year’s Deloris Jordan Award for Excellence in Community Leadership to Chaz Ebert and (posthumously) Roger Ebert for their work in advancing minority and independent filmmaking—efforts which Chaz tirelessly continues through RogerEbert.com. Join us after the show, when neighbors and partners The Joffrey Ballet and Chicago Sinfonietta help us throw an unforgettable 20th anniversary party at Joffrey Tower.

Our August 28 closing night will be equally memorable when we premiere Norry Niven’s FROM ABOVE starring Danny Glover. Check our web site for exciting updates on personal appearances for this evening, and add our closing night party sponsored by Whole Foods Market to your calendar now.

As we go to press, more than thirty filmmakers are confirmed to be present for discussion at screenings. Be sure to check our web site at siskelfilmcenter.org for updates on personal appearances and special events. All films are eligible for the Black Harvest Audience Award; ballots available in our lobby.

Enjoy the art exhibit Fresh Juju, curated by Rashayla Marie Brown, in our gallery/café throughout the festival.

The Black Harvest Film Festival is supported by the Illinois Arts Council, a state agency, and the Chicago Department of Cultural Affairs and Special Events. Special thanks to festival consultant Sergio Mims, our Black Harvest Community Council, and to the many filmmakers who help make this festival possible.

— Barbara Scharres

PURCHASE A BLACK HARVEST FESTIVAL PASS FOR $50!
Six movies for less than the price of five, plus a free small popcorn with each film. Turn in your pass at the end of the festival for a $5 discount on a Gene Siskel Film Center membership. A $92 value for $50!
OPENING NIGHT CELEBRATION

Join Master of Ceremonies LeeAnn Trotter of NBC 5 Chicago for the opening night celebration. The Deloris Jordan Award for Excellence in Community Leadership will be presented to Chaz Ebert and (posthumously) Roger Ebert. Immediately following the show, the audience is invited to join our celebrity guests for a reception across the street at Joffrey Tower (8 E. Randolph St.), home of the Joffrey Ballet Chicago, with music by Musicians of the Chicago Sinfonietta.

The Joffrey Ballet and the Chicago Sinfonietta congratulate the Gene Siskel Film Center on the 20th Annual Black Harvest Film Festival.

Friday, August 1, 6:15 pm

OPENING NIGHT FILMS!
A Black Harvest Feast
2013-14, Various directors, USA/UK/Martinique, 73 min.
Friday, August 1, 6:15 pm


Directors Delmar Washington and, tentatively, Derrick Sanders will be present.

Special admission prices for this program: General Admission $25; Students $20; Members $15. Proceeds from this screening benefit the educational programs of the Gene Siskel Film Center. No free passes, blue tickets, or Black Harvest festival passes will be valid for this screening.

CLOSING NIGHT FILM!
FILMMAKERS IN PERSON!
FROM ABOVE
(aka CHASING SHAKESPEARE)
2013, Norry Niven, USA, 112 min.
With Danny Glover, Mike Wade, Clarence Gilyard, Jr.
Thursday, August 28, 6:30 pm

A magic realist tale steeped in Native American myth and the poetic power of Shakespeare, FROM ABOVE unreels in flashback as William Ward (Glover) and his cherished wife Venus (Tantoo Cardinal) face a climactic experience one stormy night. Young William (Wade) long ago fell for Native American Venus (Chelsea Ricketts), would-be star of a small-town Romeo and Juliet, but her Lightning Clan ancestors set a course of trials for the impulsive African American suitor. DCP digital. (BS)

Actor Mike Wade and, tentatively, Danny Glover and Clarence Gilyard, Jr. will be present for audience discussion immediately following the show, there will be a reception hosted by Whole Foods Market. No free passes, blue tickets, or Black Harvest festival passes will be valid for this screening.
Black Harvest Film Festival

**TAKING OVER, TAKING BACK, Aug. 2, 6**

**WHY DO YOU HAVE BLACK DOLLS?, Aug. 4**

**JAYHAWKERS, Aug. 3, 4**

Kevin Willmott in person!

**JAYHAWKERS**
2014, Kevin Willmott, USA, 106 min.
With Justin Wesley, Kip Niven

**SHORTS PROGRAM:**
**Made in Chicago**
2013-2014, Various directors, USA, 77 min.

Saturday, August 2, 8:30 pm
Wednesday, August 6, 8:30 pm

Five films featuring Chicago talent:

Directors Derek Dow and Lonnie Edwards will be present for audience discussion at both screenings; Derrick Sanders on Saturday only.

Kevin Willmott in person!

**JAYHAWKERS**
2014, Kevin Willmott, USA, 106 min.
With Justin Wesley, Kip Niven

Sunday, August 3, 5:15 pm
Monday, August 4, 8:00 pm

This expertly recreated historical drama tells the story of basketball legend Wilt Chamberlain's epochal early years at the University of Kansas. The first “big man” to be considered a great athlete, Chamberlain led the Jayhawks to the 1957 NCAA Championship Game. He also created fireworks off the court, openly dating white women and defying “Whites Only” prohibitions. DCP digital widescreen. (MR)

Director Kevin Willmott will be present for audience discussion at both screenings.

Maia Wechsler in person!

**MELVIN & JEAN: AN AMERICAN STORY**
2012, Maia Wechsler, USA, 60 min.

Tuesday, August 5, 8:15 pm
Wednesday, August 6, 6:15 pm

In 1972, as an act of protest against the Vietnam War, Melvin and Jean McNair hijacked a plane from Detroit to Algeria. Documentarian Wechsler movingly chronicles their reflections on the past and their ongoing struggle for repatriation from France, where they’ve lived as model citizens for forty years. DigiBeta video. Preceded by FREEDOM ROAD (2013, Shane Vermooten, South Africa, 22 min.). DVCAM video. (BS)

Director Maia Wechsler will be present for audience discussion at both screenings.

Shorts Program:
Black History—Lost and Found
2012-2014, Various directors, USA/South Africa, 90 min.

**JAYHAWKERS**, Aug. 3, 4

**MELVIN & JEAN, Aug. 5, 6**

**SHORTS PROGRAM:**
**Black History—Lost and Found**
2012-2014, Various directors, USA/South Africa, 90 min.

Monday, August 4, 6:00 pm

Four thought-provoking films with historical themes:
STRANGE FRUIT (2014, Elizabeth Myer, 12 min.),
WHY DO YOU HAVE BLACK DOLLS? (2012, Samantha Knowles, 25 min.),
DANCING LIKE HOME (2013, Joyce Guy, 31 min.), and FREEDOM ROAD (2013, Shane Vermooten, South Africa, 22 min.). Various formats.

**SHORTS PROGRAM:**
**Black History—Lost and Found**
2012-2014, Various directors, USA/South Africa, 90 min.

**JAYHAWKERS**, Aug. 3, 4

**MELVIN & JEAN, Aug. 5, 6**

**SHORTS PROGRAM:**
**Black History—Lost and Found**
2012-2014, Various directors, USA/South Africa, 90 min.

Monday, August 4, 6:00 pm

Four thought-provoking films with historical themes:
STRANGE FRUIT (2014, Elizabeth Myer, 12 min.),
WHY DO YOU HAVE BLACK DOLLS? (2012, Samantha Knowles, 25 min.),
DANCING LIKE HOME (2013, Joyce Guy, 31 min.), and FREEDOM ROAD (2013, Shane Vermooten, South Africa, 22 min.). Various formats.
LORD THING, Aug. 7

Panel discussion

LORD THING
1970, DeWitt Beall, USA, 52 min.
Thursday, August 7, 8:00 pm
Chicago Film Archives has restored two remarkable “lost” films that shed new light on the role of gangs in West Side neighborhoods in the 1950s-1960s, especially the organization known as the Vice Lords. LORD THING in particular qualifies as a major rediscovery, not only for its eye-opening subject matter, but also for its dynamic style. Preceded by THE CORNER (1963, Robert Ford, 26 min.). Both in 16mm. (MR)
The screening will be followed by a panel discussion; check our website for information on the participants.

Filmmakers in person!

FINDING FOREVER IN LOVE
2014, Deri Tyton, USA, 72 min.
With Tyrell Crawford, Dan-Neika Clay
Friday, August 8, 6:30 pm
Saturday, August 9, 8:15 pm
Former Chicagoan Tyton (TOOT’S AND BLOW’S) returns with a grown-up romantic drama. Preach (Crawford) is a talented poet whose fondness for weed and grief for his late girlfriend inhibit both his writing career and his current relationship with the mature and challenging Arika (Clay). The arrival of a friend carrying a dangerous secret brings Preach to a crossroads where he must choose his destiny. DigiBeta video. (MR)
Director Deri Tyton and selected cast and crew members will be present for audience discussion at both screenings.

Filmmakers in person!

THE 4TH MEETING
2013, Josh MacNeal, USA, 67 min.
With Malynda Hale, Aayisha Chanel
Friday, August 8, 8:30 pm
Thursday, August 14, 8:30 pm
In their first feature, Chicago-based brother-sister team Josh MacNeal and Cy Weisman craft an intriguing character study that avoids stereotypes and clichés. Diana (Hale), a successful career woman, has been battling survivor guilt since the death of her husband in an auto accident. She takes out her anger on her wayward younger sister (Chanel), but, as flashbacks reveal, Diana has a few skeletons in her own closet. HDCAM video. (MR)
Director Josh MacNeal and writer/producer Cy Weisman will be present for audience discussion at both screenings.

Festival workshop
Free admission!

The Realities of Screenwriting
Sunday, August 10, 1:00 pm
Thinking about writing a screenplay? Get the real scoop in this free workshop conducted by our Black Harvest consultant, critic Sergio Mims, who’s been there, done that. In this informative 90-minute session, he reveals what screenwriting books don’t tell you.

Director Rob Underhill in person!

DAR HE: THE LYNCHING OF EMMETT TILL
2012, Rob Underhill, USA, 70 min.
With Mike Wiley
Sunday, August 10, 6:00 pm
Monday, August 11, 8:15 pm
There have been numerous treatments of the horrific 1955 murder in Mississippi of fourteen-year-old Chicagoan Emmett Till, but none like this stunning dramatization in which actor-writer Mike Wiley plays all 39 roles—black, white, male, female, young, and old. Wiley’s tour de force defamiliarizes the material with startling effectiveness and compels us to get under the skins of all the major players in the tragic events. HDCAM video. (MR)
Director Rob Underhill will be present for audience discussion on Sunday.

Black Harvest continues on next page
Shorts Program:
International Visions
2012-13, Various directors, Various nations, 84 min.

Monday, August 11, 6:15 pm

FRAYED, Aug. 11

DAUGHTER OF FORTUNE, Aug. 13

UN SOUND, Aug. 12, 13

DIVINE RITE, Aug. 15, 21

Darius Britt in person!

UN SOUND
2013, Darius Britt, USA, 93 min.
With Darius Britt, Torrence Wolf

Tuesday, August 12, 8:30 pm
Wednesday, August 13, 6:15 pm
Based on the filmmaker's own life experience, this story of love challenged and a relationship torn and mended portrays an epic battle of wills between mother and son. Regi (Britt), a filmmaker embarking on his dream project, is pulled back into the darkness of his wily mother's schizophrenia when she goes off her meds. HDCAM video. (85)

Director Darius Britt will be present for audience discussion at both screenings.

Filmmakers in person!

Shorts Program:
Family Matters
2012-14, Various directors, USA, 87 min.

Wednesday, August 13, 8:30 pm

Director Channing Godfrey Peoples and producer Neil Creque Williams (RED), and director Sean Addo and producer Harry Locke IV (DEEPER THAN BLACK) will be present for audience discussion.

Filmmakers in person!

Shorts Program:
Love African American Style
2013-14, Various directors, USA/UK, 87 min.

Friday, August 15, 6:15 pm
Thursday, August 21, 8:15 pm

Directors Lydia Darly (THE WAY YOU LOVE) and Shequeta L. Smith (THE TAKEOVER), and producer Anthony Davis (CONTAMINATION) will be present for audience discussion on Friday.
**THAT DAUGHTER’S CRAZY**
2014, Elzbieta Szoka, USA, 58 min.

**Friday, August 15, 8:30 pm**
**Saturday, August 16, 8:30 pm**
Growing up the biracial daughter of comedy legend Richard Pryor wasn’t easy, as performer Rain Pryor demonstrates in her one-woman show *Fried Chicken and Latkes.* Hilarious excerpts from the show punctuate this portrait that explores Rain’s bid for a place in showbiz and her childhood in a fractured multi-cultural family. DCP digital. Preceded by *CHRIS’S BRISS* (2013, Delmar Washington, 12 min.) and *THE BATHROOM ATTENDANT* (2013, Deon H. Hayman, 14 min.). Both in HDCAM video. (BS)

Filmmakers in person!

**BAD HAIR**
2013, Mariana Rondón, Venezuela, 93 min.

**Sunday, August 17, 3:00 pm**
**Monday, August 18, 6:00 pm**
A young Latin American boy’s social and sexual identity becomes invested in the status of his ‘fro. Obsessed with straightening his kinky hair, Junior incurs the wrath of his harried working mother, and his innocent crush on a handsome news vendor sends ripples of homophobia through his dysfunctional family. Special advance screening courtesy of Figa Films. In Spanish with English subtitles. DCP digital. (BS)

Filmmakers in person!

**CASS**
2012, Hugh Schulze, USA, 112 min.

**Sunday, August 17, 5:00 pm**
**Monday, August 18, 8:00 pm**
Still reeling from her mother’s death, fifteen-year-old Cass lives in Detroit with her little brother and widowed dad. A vagrant takes up residence in the boarded-up house next door, and what first seems threatening becomes a catalyst for Cass’s ambitions as an artist. The city of Detroit in all its faded glory and new creative energy is front and center. HDCAM video. (BS)

Director Hugh Schulze and actors Rachel Hilson and Linda Boston will be present for audience discussion on Sunday. Schulze will be present on Monday.

Filmmakers in person!
164 North State Street. Tickets: Go to our website for on-line ticket purchasing information. For more information, visit us online at: www.siskelfilmcenter.org or call 312-846-2800.

Black Harvest Film Festival

CONTINUED

THE BICYCLE, Aug. 19, 20

TEN-YEAR-OLD Bobbi resents her prospective stepfather Teddy. After her bicycle is grabbed by a bully, Bobbi and Teddy become reluctant partners in a search across Queens to track down the thief. This loose and lovely spin on the classic BICYCLE THIEVES uses sharp social observation and brief animation segments to enrich a journey whose unexpected outcome broadens the horizons of those involved. HDCAM video. (MR)

Producer Janice Sequiera will be present for audience discussion at both screenings.

GRAND GESTURE, Aug. 22, 23

GRAND GESTURE
2014, Dana Verde, USA, 65 min.
With Alfred E. Rutherford, Serena Reeder
Friday, August 22, 6:15 pm
Saturday, August 23, 8:15 pm

This romantic comedy plays out as a rousing shaggy-dog story when recently dumped Craig camps out for a day in a Harlem diner awaiting a reunion with the ex-girlfriend who may or may not show up. Flashbacks recap the highlights and low-points in this star-crossed relationship, including a romantic hotel rendezvous-gone-wrong. HDCAM video. (BS)

Special advance screening!
Filmmakers in person!

HOGTOWN, Aug. 22, 25

HOGTOWN
2014, Daniel Nearing, USA, 113 min.
With Herman Wilkins, Diandra Lyle
Friday, August 22, 8:00 pm
Monday, August 25, 8:15 pm

Nearing's CHICAGO HEIGHTS drew turnaway crowds at the 2010 BHFF and was deemed "brilliant" by Roger Ebert. His new film begins in Chicago in the winter of 1919 and initially centers on a police manhunt for a missing millionaire. Expanding into a multilayered, multicultural tapestry of a city and a century, HOGTOWN is ravishingly photographed, designed, and scored. Special advance screening courtesy of 9:23 Films. In English, Spanish, and Mandarin with English subtitles. DCP digital. (MR)

Director Daniel Nearing, actor Herman Wilkins, and selected cast and crew members will be present for audience discussion at both screenings.

A RAGE IN HARLEM, Aug. 24

A RAGE IN HARLEM
1981, Bill Duke, USA, 109 min.
With Forest Whitaker, Robin Givens
Sunday, August 24, 5:15 pm

We honor distinguished director, actor, and humanitarian Bill Duke with a special screening of his first feature film. Based on pulp maestro Chester Himes's 1950s-set ghetto tall tale, A RAGE IN HARLEM features a sensational screen debut by Robin Givens as a voluptuous Mississippi vixen who sashays into Harlem with a trunkful of gold that acts as a magnet for crooks, con men, and killers. 35mm. (MR)

Director Bill Duke will be present for audience discussion.
THE FORGOTTEN KINGDOM, Aug. 26, 27

**Special advance screening!**
Sejake Matsela in person!

**THE FORGOTTEN KINGDOM**
2013, Andrew Mudge, USA/South Africa, 97 min.
With Zenzo Ngqobe

**Tuesday, August 26, 8:15 pm**
**Wednesday, August 27, 6:15 pm**
A prodigal son reluctantly returns to his roots in this moving story of self-discovery. Atang, a tough Johannesburg bad boy, has to escort his father’s body back to his native village. It will take another journey, led by a mysterious child through myth, witchcraft, and Lesotho’s stunning mountainous landscape, to awaken Atang’s heart. Special advance screening courtesy of Kino Lorber. In Sesotho with English subtitles. DCP digital. (BS)

Assistant director Sejake Matsela will tentatively be present for audience discussion at both screenings.

**HALF OF A YELLOW SUN**
2013, Biyi Bandele, Nigeria/UK, 111 min.
With Thandie Newton, Chiwetel Ejiofor, Anika Noni Rose

Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie’s novel has been compared to Gone with the Wind and The Unbearable Lightness of Being for its balancing of deep personal drama against a broad canvas of national upheaval. Beginning with Nigeria’s independence in 1960, this handsome adaptation centers on two sisters. Scholarly Olanna (Newton of CRASH) takes up with the revolutionary Odenigbo (Ejiofor of 12 YEARS A SLAVE), while pragmatic Kainene (Rose of DREAMGIRLS) becomes a successful businesswoman. Ethnic tensions erupt into civil war, forcing Olanna and Odenigbo to flee to the ill-fated breakaway republic of Biafra.
In English. DCP digital. (MR)

**“An epic and striking adaptation... powerful and moving performances.”**
—Mark Adams, Screen Daily

**Back by popular demand!**

**ONLY LIGHT, Aug. 27**

**Shorts Program:**
**Black Noir**
2012-2014, Various directors, USA, 81 min.
**Wednesday, August 27, 8:30 pm**

From August 2 through September 4, the Gene Siskel Film Center presents Hitchcock: Early, Rare, and Classic, a series of ten programs with an emphasis on overlooked and rarely shown films from the master’s early British period. All feature films are being shown in 35mm prints.

Hitchcock’s early British films offer a fertile field for exploration and discovery. In addition to their revelation of neglected works ripe for reappraisal, we can appreciate them for their introduction of themes, motifs, and devices that would be central throughout his career. Among these are the wrong man, the double chase, the couple forged on the run, the plot pretext that Hitchcock called the Maguffin, and, for more adventurous cinephiles, the metafictional references to the spectator, the movie screen, the camera eye, and the eye of eyes, Hitchcock himself.

At the same time, these early films display dimensions of Hitchcock that would become less visible as time went on. Today Hitchcock’s name is practically synonymous with the thriller, yet only three of his first sixteen films could be clearly classified as thrillers. It was only with the “thriller sextet” of 1934-38 that his identification with a single genre was cemented. In later years, Hitchcock sometimes expressed frustration with his reputation, which made it difficult for him to find financing or audience acceptance for his rare attempts to move beyond the thriller. Films such as MURDER!, THE SKIN GAME, RICH AND STRANGE, WALTZES FROM VIENNA, and the apprentice work THE WHITE SHADOW enable us to glimpse a time when Hitchcock was still a wide-ranging and versatile filmmaker, freer to shift gears and experiment.

Special thanks to Eric Di Bernardo, Rialto Pictures; Chris Chouinard, Park Circus Inc.; May Haduong and Cassie Blake, Academy Film Archive; Fleur Buckley and George Watson, British Film Institute.

— Martin Rubin

RICH AND STRANGE, Aug. 2, 5

RICH AND STRANGE
1931, Alfred Hitchcock, UK, 83 min.
With Henry Kendall, Joan Barry
Saturday, August 2, 3:00 pm
Tuesday, August 5, 6:15 pm

Marriage is a major subject throughout Hitchcock’s career, but it’s usually folded into a thriller framework (as in SABOTAGE, THE 39 STEPS, etc.). RICH AND STRANGE removes the genre-coating, and the result is one of his most overtly experimental, bitter (though often quite funny), and personal films. A disgruntled office drone (Kendall) and his weary wife (Barry) take a round-the-world cruise. Rather than being inspired by their exotic surroundings, they remain mired in their pettiness, bad faith, and ingrained prejudices, until disaster gives them a final chance. 35mm. (MR)
SABOTAGE
1936, Alfred Hitchcock, UK, 76 min.
With Sylvia Sidney, Oscar Homolka

Saturday, August 2, 4:45 pm
Thursday, August 7, 6:15 pm

Adapted from Joseph Conrad’s The Secret Agent; SABOTAGE is set in a pre-war London disrupted by random acts of terrorism and a massive power blackout. The hard-working wife (Sidney) of a movie theater owner is unaware of the secret harbored by her morose European husband (Homolka). Hitchcock’s split-second timing mercilessly builds suspense as terrorists unfold a plan to blow up the Piccadilly Tube Station. 35mm. (BS)

BLACKMAIL
1929, Alfred Hitchcock, UK, 85 min.
With Anny Ondra, John Longden

Saturday, August 9, 3:00 pm
Thursday, August 14, 6:15 pm

Hitchcock’s first talking picture remains one of his most powerful, provocative, and disturbing. A London shop girl (Ondra) unwisely accepts an invitation to an artist’s flat and, when his initially playful advances head rapeward, stabs him to death. Her boyfriend (Longden), a Scotland Yard detective, is assigned to the case, and a blackmailer turns up to put them both through the wringer. 35mm. (MR)

THE SKIN GAME
1931, Alfred Hitchcock, UK, 77 min.
With Edmund Gwenn, Helen Haye

Saturday, August 9, 4:45 pm
Tuesday, August 12, 6:15 pm

Hitchcock cited John Galsworthy as one of the writers who had influenced him the most. This astute adaptation of a 1926 Galsworthy drama centers on the conflict between two families, one (the Hillcrists) representing genteel old money, the other (the Hornblowers) vulgar but vigorous new money. When the Hornblower patriarch (Gwenn) sets out to obtain a crucial parcel of land, the Hillcrists retaliate ruthlessly. 35mm. (MR)

THE WHITE SHADOW
1924, Graham Cutts, UK, 43 min.
With Betty Compson, Clive Brook

Saturday, August 16, 3:00 pm

This recent discovery (of which only the first half survives) is Hitchcock’s earliest existing film work. He served as screenwriter, assistant director, editor, and set designer for a fanciful melodrama about twin sisters—one pure, the other pure evil. 35mm print courtesy of the Academy Film Archive. Preceded by Hitchcock Home Movies 1928-1936 (20 min.). ProRes digital file courtesy of the Alfred Hitchcock Estate and the Academy Film Archive. Live piano accompaniment by David Drazin. (MR)

Hitchcock continues on next page
YOUNG AND INNOCENT
1937, Alfred Hitchcock, UK, 83 min.
With Nova Pilbeam, Derrick De Marney

Saturday, August 16, 4:30 pm
Thursday, August 21, 6:15 pm

Amid seaside cliffs and country lanes, a young man (De Marney) suspected of murder enlists the reluctant aid of a local constable's teenage daughter (Pilbeam) to elude the police and track down the real killer, a man with a telltale facial tic. One of Hitchcock's most romantic and affirmative films, YOUNG AND INNOCENT features two celebrated set pieces: a children's birthday party fraught with emotional crosscurrents, and the climactic crane shot, a swooping embodiment of relentless destiny. 35mm. (MR)

WALTZES FROM VIENNA
1934, Alfred Hitchcock, UK, 80 min.
With Jesse Matthews, Edmund Gwenn

Saturday, August 23, 3:00 pm

In 19th-century Vienna, Johann Strauss the Younger (Desmond Knight) struggles to emerge from his famous father's shadow. Perhaps Hitchcock's most neglected film, WALTZES FROM VIENNA represents an important advance both in the crucial role of music in his films and in the psychological depth of his characters. Beneath the frothy surface lies an Oedipal drama of considerable intensity, involving young Strauss's relationships not only with his intimidating father (Gwenn) but also with a countess/mother-figure (Fay Compton) whose attraction becomes provocatively non-maternal. Archival 35mm print courtesy of the British Film Institute. (MR)

MURDER!
1930, Alfred Hitchcock, UK, 103 min.
With Herbert Marshall, Norah Baring

Saturday, August 23, 4:45 pm
Tuesday, August 26, 6:15 pm

MURDER! is one of Hitchcock's richest and most adventurous early films. It introduces the beautiful-woman-on-trial-for-her-life theme later explored in THE PARADINE CASE and DIAL M FOR MURDER, but, after the first act, the focus shifts from the condemned (Baring) to one of the jurors who convicted her: a celebrated actor-manager (Marshall) who has second thoughts and sets out to prove her innocence. The film's use of theatrical motifs is dazzling; also notable are its inventive sound techniques, its doubly exotic prime suspect, and its sensational circus climax. 35mm. (MR)
The Unquiet American:
Transgressive Comedies from the U.S.

Lecturer: Jonathan Rosenbaum

From August 29 through December 9, we present a series of fourteen programs entitled The Unquiet American: Transgressive Comedies from the U.S., with weekly Tuesday lectures by Jonathan Rosenbaum, internationally renowned film critic. The series is presented in cooperation with the School of the Art Institute of Chicago's Department of Art History, Theory, and Criticism. Additional screenings of the films on Friday or Saturday do not include the lecture. Admission to all Unquiet American programs is $5 for Film Center members; usual admission prices apply for non-members. The complete schedule will appear in the September Gazette.

LAUGHTER
1930, Harry d'Arrast, USA, 85 min.
With Nancy Carroll, Frederic March

Friday, August 29, 6:15 pm
Tuesday, September 2, 6:00 pm

This rarely seen film is an important precursor to the great screwball comedies of the 1930s. A Follies dancer (Carroll) quits showbiz to marry a wealthy older man (Frank Morgan). Her Bohemian spirit is rekindled when a former boyfriend (March) returns from Paris, but will she be able to choose laughter over luxury? 35mm. (MR)

THE 39 STEPS
1935, Alfred Hitchcock, UK, 85 min.
With Robert Donat, Madeleine Carroll

Saturday, August 30, 3:00 pm
Thursday, September 4, 6:00 pm

THE 39 STEPS established Hitchcock as a master in the mystery-spy genre, and it remains one of his most satisfying films, bristling with cleverness and superbly conceived sequences. A man (Donat) attends a London vaudeville show and is unwittingly launched into a new identity as suspected murderer, fugitive, and foil of foreign spies. Hitchcock brilliantly evokes the anonymity and dankness of London, the dour side of Scotland, and the queasy paranoia of pre-World War II Europe. 35mm. (BS)

NUMBER SEVENTEEN
1932, Alfred Hitchcock, UK, 63 min.
With Leon M. Lion, John Stuart

Saturday, August 30, 4:45 pm
Wednesday, September 3, 6:00 pm

Reputedly assigned to this film as punishment for the failure of his pet project RICH AND STRANGE, Hitchcock embraced its tongue-in-cheek potential, sending up mysterious-house conventions in the first part, and race-to-the-rescue conventions in the second. Involving an old dark house, a stolen necklace, and a runaway train, this stylish, dreamlike tale serves up corpses, heroines, mustached villains, and undercover policemen who proliferate and vanish with dizzying unpredictability. 35mm. (MR)

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A SUMMER’S TALE

[CONTE D’ÉTÉ]
1996, Eric Rohmer, France, 113 min.
With Melvil Poupaud, Amanda Langlet

In this Rohmer classic never released theatrically in the U.S., a student (Poupaud) arrives at a Brittany resort to await the arrival of his girlfriend and gets involved with two other women: Margot (Langlet), who becomes his confidante, and Solene, whose appeal is more overtly sensual. As in CLAIRE’S KNEE and other films, Rohmer (abetted by the sunny atmosphere and an attractive young cast in bathing suits) generates enormous erotic tension without resorting to explicitness. In French with English subtitles. (MR)

Note: An imported 35mm archival print of the film, courtesy of the Institut Français, will be shown on Sunday and Monday. All other screenings will be in the newly restored DCP digital version.

JEALOUSY

CHICAGO PREMIERE!

[LA JALOUSIE]
2013, Philippe Garrel, France, 77 min.
With Louis Garrel, Anna Mouglalis

The French do have a way with love on the screen. Director Garrel (REGULAR LOVERS) has cornered the market in romantic duplicity over four films starring his heartthrob son. Louis (Garrel), a struggling young actor, juggles relationships with his neurotically possessive live-in lover Claudia (Mouglalis), his devastated ex-wife Clothilde, and his precocious little daughter Charlotte (quite a scene-stealer). So many gray areas, and all rendered in lovely black-and-white. Voted best undistributed film in Film Comment’s 2013 poll. In French with English subtitles. DCP digital widescreen. (BS)

August 22—28
Fri., Mon., and Wed. at 6:00 pm;
Sat. at 3:00 pm and 7:45 pm;
Sun. at 3:00 pm;
Tue. and Thu. at 8:00 pm

“A rare love story with heart and heartbreak.”
—Trish Ferris, Sound on Sight

August 29—September 4
Fri. and Tue. at 8:15 pm;
Sat. at 6:15 pm and 8:00 pm;
Sun. at 4:45 pm, 6:30 pm, and 8:15 pm;
Mon. at 3:00 pm and 5:15 pm;
Wed. at 6:00 pm;
Thu. At 8:00 pm

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A LETTER TO MOMO

Three mischievous goblins ease a young girl's transition into a new life after the death of her dad in this poignant and often comic coming-of-age saga. Director Okiura (JIN-ROH: THE WOLF BRIGADE) employed the talents of illustrator Ando Masahi (SPIRITED AWAY) and art director Ono Hiroshi (KIKI'S DELIVERY SERVICE) to create a handcrafted film that tenderly evokes the heartache of loss and the bumpiness of new beginnings. Presented in English with voices by Amanda Pace and Stephanie Sheh, and in Japanese with English subtitles. DCP digital. (BS)

August 29—September 4
Fri. at 6:00 pm (English);
Sat. at 3:00 pm (English) and 7:45 pm (subtitled);
Sun. at 3:00 pm (English) and 5:15 pm (subtitled);
Monday at 3:00 pm (English);
Tue. at 6:00 pm (subtitled);
Wed. at 7:30 pm (English);
Thu. at 7:45 pm (subtitled)

FIRST CHICAGO RUN! LESLIE ZEMECKIS IN PERSON!

BOUND BY FLESH

2012, Leslie Zemeckis, USA, 90 min.

“Remarkable...a gripping roller-coaster tale of showbiz tragedy.” —Inkoo Kang, Indiewire

This compelling documentary chronicles the sensational saga of conjoined twins Daisy and Violet Hilton. Born in 1908, and exploited by a series of ruthless entrepreneurs, the highly photogenic girls were world-famous attractions in sideshows, vaudeville, and Tod Browning’s cult film FREAKS. With an astonishing wealth of archival film, audiotape, and photo documentation, director Zemeckis (BEHIND THE BURLY Q) traces their amazing careers from glory days through poignant decline to final obscurity as small-town supermarket cashiers. DCP digital. (BS)

August 29—September 4
Fri. at 8:15 pm;
Sat at 5:15 pm;
Sun. at 3:00 pm and 7:45 pm;
Mon. at 4:45 pm;
Wed. at 7:45 pm;
Thu. at 6:00 pm

Director Leslie Zemeckis will be present for audience discussion on Friday.
THE GRAND SEDUCTION

2013, Don McKellar, Canada, 113 min. With Taylor Kitsch, Brendan Gleeson

“It’s adorable.”

“Breathtakingly great.”
—Ray Pride, NewCity

The setting is spectacular in this much funnier remake of the 2003 Sundance comedy hit SEDUCING DOCTOR LEWIS. The residents of a Newfoundland fishing village lure a hotshot urban doctor (Kitsch) for a visit with the aim of making his stay permanent, because the down-at-the-heels town needs a full-time medico in order to obtain a much-needed factory. The crusty mayor (Gleeson) launches a shameless and hilariously deceptive initiative to convince the dubious doc that Tickle Head is his kind of town. DCP digital. (BS)

August 1—7
Fri. at 8:30 pm; Sat. at 3:00 pm and 5:15 pm; Sun. at 3:00 pm; Mon. and Wed. at 6:00 pm; Tue. and Thu. at 8:15 pm

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IDA

2013, Pawel Pawlikowski, Poland, 80 min. With Agata Kulesza, Agata Trzebuchowska

“One of the year’s gems.”
—Michael Phillips, Chicago Tribune

“It’s graceful and sweet and wise where it counts, and often brilliantly acted, and it made me laugh.”
—Matt Zoeller Seitz, RogerEbert.com

One of the best reviewed films of the year, IDA is a film of quiet power. Before taking her final vows, docile and devout Anna, a novice nun in Sixties Poland, where memories of WWII are still fresh, is sent to visit her only living relative, the hard-bitten, hard-drinking aunt she never knew. Faith and the past collide as Anna learns the shocking truth about herself and her family, and the two women embark on a road trip into troubling territory. In Polish with English subtitles. DCP digital. (BS)

August 8—14
Fri., Tue., and Thu. at 8:30 pm; Sat. at 3:00 pm, 6:30 pm, and 8:15 pm; Sun. at 1:15 pm, 3:15 pm, and 5:00 pm; Mon. and Wed. at 6:00 pm
Everyone likes to talk about movies, so let’s keep the conversation going! The Gene Siskel Film Center will get everyone talking with monthly film conversations. Beginning in August, audiences will be invited to informal post-screening conversations led by—but not monopolized by—a carefully selected facilitator.

GSFC Movie Club
Wednesday, August 20, 8:15 pm
LITTLE WHITE LIE (see description on page 9)
Facilitated by Brian Babylon, Wait Wait Don’t Tell Me panelist and Vocalo host.
DINOSAUR 13

2014, Todd Douglas Miller, USA, 105 min.

“Awespiring and tragic... shifts into a swiftly-paced legal thriller.”
—Eric Kohn, Indiewire

Everyone knows Sue, the majestic T. Rex skeleton that is the pride of Chicago’s Field Museum. Less known is the bizarre seven-year tale of intrigue, double-dealing, and government intervention that resulted in Sue’s discoverers being divested of their find, cheated of recognition, and even sent to prison. Filmmaker Miller meticulously assembles an astounding story that includes footage of Sue’s discovery and recovery, her kidnapping by heavily armed FBI agents, the rip-roaring courtroom battle over her ownership, and her eventual sale at auction for a heart-stopping sum. DCP digital. (85)

TWO-WEEK RUN!

August 15—21
Fri., Mon., and Wed. at 6:00 pm;
Sat., Tue. and Thu. at 8:00 pm;
Sun. at 3:00 pm

August 22—28
Fri. and Wed. at 8:15 pm;
Sat. at 5:15 pm;
Sun. at 3:00 pm and 5:15 pm;
Mon. at 6:00 pm and 8:15 pm;
Tue. and Thu. at 6:00 pm