

UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS AMHERST
Interdepartmental Program in Film Studies

23rd annual



massachusetts multicultural film festival

Films about Film



wednesday 3 february

MEMORIES ON STONE (*Biranînen li ser kevîrî*)

(dir Shawkat Amin Korki , Iraqi Kurdistan/Germany, 2014, 97 min, Kurdish w/ English subtitles)

Culture, history, and the power of cinematic narrative clash in this dramatic dark comedy about efforts in present-day Iraq to make a film about the genocide of Kurdish people under Saddam Hussein.

Introduction by Matthew Ferrari, UMass.

7:30pm UMass Amherst
137 Isenberg School of Management



wednesday 10 february

SEMBÈNE!

(dir Samba Gadjigo & Jason Silverman, USA, 2015, 82 min)

Presenting the story of the “father of African cinema,” this documentary brings to life pioneering Senegalese filmmaker Ousmane Sembène’s 50-year-long battle to give African stories to Africans, with exclusive interviews and rare archival footage.

Introduction by Patrick Mensah, UMass.

Local filmmaker and Sembène colleague and biographer Samba Gadjigo will be present.

7:30pm UMass Amherst
137 Isenberg School of Management



wednesday 17 february

WHY CAN'T I BE TARKOVSKY (*Neden Tarkovski Olamiyorum*)

(dir Murat Düzgünoğlu, Turkey, 2015, 91 min, Turkish w/English subtitles)

This low-key, tragicomic story presents us with a glimpse of the life of Bahadır, director of TV movies, who dreams of making artistically ambitious films like those of his idol, Andrei Tarkovsky.

screening with



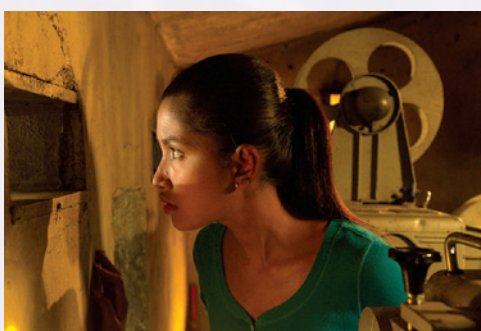
WE BEAR GOOD NEWS FOR OUR BELOVED COUNTRY, OUR CINEMA IS CELEBRATING ITS 100TH ANNIVERSARY (*Müjdelər Var Yurdumun Toprağına Taşına, Erdi Sinemam 100 Şeref Yaşına!*)

(dir Hakkı Kurtuluş & Melik Saraçoğlu, Turkey, 2015, 22 min, Turkish w/English subtitles)

This documentary short questions the received history of Turkish cinema, based on a mysterious and missing film allegedly shot on November 14, 1914, the so-called birthday of Turkish Cinema.

Introduction by Eren Odabasi, UMass.

7:30pm UMass Amherst
137 Isenberg School of Management



wednesday 24 february

THE LAST REEL

(dir Kulikar Sotho, Cambodia, 2014, 106 min, Khmer w/English subtitles)

A lost film reel beneath Cambodia’s killing fields will reveal different perspectives on truth and reconciliation for an independent young woman struggling to discover her place in love, family, and the ghosts of her nation’s past. *Introduction by Bernadine Mellis, Mount Holyoke College/Five Colleges.*

7:30pm UMass Amherst
137 Isenberg School of Management



wednesday 2 march

10,000 KM

(dir Carlos Marques-Marcet, Spain, 2014, 99 min, Catalan/Spanish/English w/English subtitles)

With a year apart and a continent between them, a young couple must rely on virtual communication to keep the flame of their relationship alive, but without each other’s touch or shared daily realities, can technology keep them together?

In collaboration with the Catalan Film Festival. Barbara Zecchi, UMass, will introduce the director who will introduce his film.

7:30pm UMass Amherst
137 Isenberg School of Management



wednesday 9 march

DECOR

(dir Ahmad Abdalla, Egypt, 2014, 116min, Arabic w/English subtitles)

In this multilayered drama, a successful film set designer working on a new production finds herself inexplicably transported into another persona as a married housewife, seemingly living within the very film on which she was working.

screening with



OPUS (*Kiyumi No Momoko Sayuru No Ryoka*)

(dir Satoru Sugita, Japan, 2015, 26 min, Japanese w/English subtitles)

In this experimental short, Momoko and Ryoka are on location to shoot the spring volume of “Kiyumi & Sayuru.” The cheerful picnic under cherry blossoms proves to be grey and cold and not at all what they expected. *Introduction by Andrew Ritchey, Smith College.*

7:30pm UMass Amherst
137 Isenberg School of Management



wednesday 23 march

GREY MATTER (*Matière Grise*)

(dir Kivu Ruhorahoza, Rwanda, 2011, 100 min, Kinyarwanda and French w/English subtitles)

Set in Rwanda’s capital, this self-referential film-within-a-film depicts the vision of a determined filmmaker, Balthazar, as he strives to produce his first feature about a brother and sister in the aftermath of genocide. The first feature-length narrative film produced in Rwanda by a native Rwandan filmmaker. *Introduction by Branwen Okpako, Hampshire College.*

7:30pm UMass Amherst
137 Isenberg School of Management



wednesday 30 march

REBEL CITIZEN

(dir Pamela Yates, USA, 2015, 76 min)

A tribute in honor of the recent passing of filmmaker Haskell Wexler, UMass alum Pamela Yates’ latest documentary offers a revelatory tour of the two-time Oscar-winning cinematographer’s political documentary work including clips from *The Bus*, chronicling the 1963 March on Washington, *Medium Cool*, and *Underground*, his film about the Weathermen.

Introduction by Daniel Pope, UMass. The director, Pamela Yates, and producer, Paco de Onis, will be present.

7:30pm UMass Amherst
137 Isenberg School of Management



wednesday 6 april

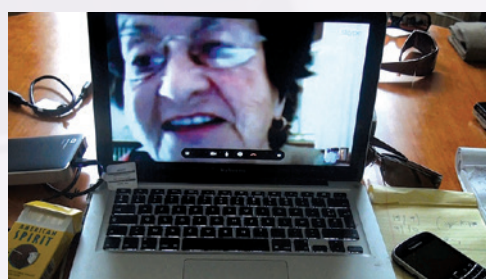
GO-GO BOYS: THE INSIDE STORY OF CANNON FILMS

(dir Hilla Medalia, Israel, 2014, 86 min, English/Hebrew/French w/English subtitles)

A cautionary tribute, this documentary relates the pursuit of the American dream by two Israeli-born cousins who turned the Hollywood power structures upside down, produced over 300 films, and formed the most powerful independent film company in the world.

In conjunction with the Pioneer Valley Jewish Film Festival. Introduction by Olga Gershenson, UMass.

7:30pm UMass Amherst
137 Isenberg School of Management



wednesday 13 april

NO HOME MOVIE

(dir Chantal Akerman, Belgium/France, 2015, 115min, French w/English subtitles)

At the center of Chantal Akerman’s pioneering work is her mother, a Holocaust survivor portrayed here in her Brussels apartment in the last years of her life. An intimate film of great formal precision and beauty, both personal and universal, as much a masterpiece as her 1975 career-defining *Jeanne Dielman, 23, quai du Commerce, 1080 Bruxelles*, it was also the legendary filmmaker’s final film.

Introduction by Catherine Portuges, UMass.

Note special location:

7:30pm Amherst Cinema
28 Amity Street, Amherst



wednesday 20 april

THE WATERMELON WOMAN

(dir Cheryl Dunye, USA, 1996, 90 min)

A newly re-mastered special 20th anniversary screening of this important debut feature that continues to influence African-American, LGBTQ, and independent filmmaking to this day. Cheryl (played by the director) struggles to make a video-documentary about a beautiful 1930s film actress.

Introduction by Demetria Shabazz, UMass.

The director will be present.

7:30pm UMass Amherst
137 Isenberg School of Management

All events are free and open to the public.

Film²

23rd annual



massachusetts multicultural film festival

Films about filmmakers, both documentary and fictional; films about the power of the cinema to ignite change, both political and personal; films about stories crucial to tell, relying on the moving image. "Films about Film." Presented by the Interdepartmental Program in Film Studies, the 2016 season of the Massachusetts Multicultural Film Festival, our 23rd year, brings together a unique collection of internationally produced feature films, documentaries, experimental and short subjects that reflect upon the medium of cinema itself. Hosting filmmakers throughout the season and featuring both promising and established talents, this season explores cinematic possibilities, honors great personalities in film history, presents a special anniversary screening, and offers a constellation of themes that haunt filmmakers from around the world today. Together, this season's program showcases the power, the magic, and the urgent necessity of the cinema as a source of inspiration, reflection, and creative interaction. All films are accompanied by critical introductions by scholars and filmmakers.

All events are free and open to the public.

Join us to celebrate 11 weeks of compelling cinema!



Interdepartmental Program in Film Studies
UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS AMHERST

Presented by the Interdepartmental Program in Film Studies at the University of Massachusetts Amherst. Shawn Shimpach, Curator; Catherine Portuges, Co-Curator; Assistant Curators: Daniel Pope and Barry Spence.

For updated Festival program information, please consult our website: www.umass.edu/film

Festival screenings at UMass Amherst are free and open to the public. Unless otherwise noted, all screenings are held in the Isenberg School of Management Flavin Family Auditorium (137 SOM) at 7:30pm on Wednesday evenings.

A one-credit colloquium (COMM 296F) is available to undergraduate students. For information, please contact colloquium faculty supervisor **Prof. Anne Ciecko**, Communication, UMass Amherst, tel. (413) 545-6348, email: ciecko@comm.umass.edu

The festival is made possible by the generous support of many departments, programs, colleges, and individuals at UMass Amherst, the Five Colleges, and beyond.

We wish to thank:

Major Sponsors:

UMass Amherst College of Humanities & Fine Arts; UMass Amherst College of Social & Behavioral Sciences; UMass Arts Council, Arts in a Series.

With additional support from:

Five College Film Council; Pioneer Valley Jewish Film Festival; Catalan Film Festival at UMass Amherst.



College of
Humanities
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CatalanStudies



Interdepartmental Program in Film Studies

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Spring 2016



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Films about Film



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