

**GENE SISKEL  
FILM  
CENTER**

Chicago's Premier Movie Theater

a public program of the



School of the Art Institute  
of Chicago

**MARCH 2018**

GAZETTE ■ Vol. 46, No. 3



SOUVENIR  
(Belgium),  
March 10, 12

**CHICAGO  
EUROPEAN  
UNION  
FILM  
FESTIVAL ★**

**MORE FRIDAY MATINEES!**

**ALSO: CATE, Apocalypse Then**

    164 N. State Street  
[www.siskelfilmcenter.org](http://www.siskelfilmcenter.org)



**BAREFOOT (Czech Republic), March 11, 12**

## 21st Annual Chicago European Union Film Festival

From March 9 through April 5, the Gene Siskel Film Center welcomes you to our 21st Annual Chicago European Union Film Festival. This largest festival in North America exclusively showcasing films originating in the European Union brings the vibrant cultures of Europe to the comfort of your theater seat, with 61 Chicago premieres representing all 28 EU nations.

According to the tradition of our festival, the opening night is presided over by the nation in the presidency of the European Union, and this year Bulgaria has the honor. On Friday, March 9, the evening is hosted by Dr. Ivan Anchev, Consul General of the Republic of Bulgaria in Chicago. Our opening night presentation is the zesty drama *DIRECTIONS* by critically acclaimed director Stephan Komandarev.

This year's festival will be enhanced by an exciting array of guest filmmakers. Italian director Fabio Mollo will be present on March 10, with his touching *THERE IS A LIGHT*. A Dutch elementary school classroom becomes a microcosm of a better world in *MISS KIET'S CHILDREN*, for which co-director Peter Lataster will be present on March 16 and 18.

Dutch director Marleen Jonkman and casting director Rodrigo del Castillo will be present on March 23 and 24 for *MESSI AND MAUD*, a road movie saga set in Chile.

Sparkling Italian wines figure prominently in murder mystery *THE LAST PROSECCO*, and director Antonio Padovan and associate producer Alessia Gatti will be present on March 24. A prosecco tasting and short wine lecture will follow the March 27 screening. Irish actor Barry Ward is tentatively scheduled to appear with March 30 and April 1 screenings of *MAZE*, a tense drama based on Ireland's biggest jailbreak.

The festival closes on Thursday, April 5, with *THE YOUNG KARL MARX* by Raoul Peck (Oscar-nominated for *I AM NOT YOUR NEGRO*), followed by a reception hosted by the European Union National Institutes for Culture (EUNIC).

*The Gene Siskel Film Center thanks the consulates, the consuls general, and the cultural institutes of the European Union in Chicago, and their embassies in Washington, D.C., for their enthusiastic participation. We especially salute the efforts of all those who served as festival advisors.*

—Barbara Scharres and Martin Rubin

# Gene Siskel Film Center MOVIE CLUB

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

**Wednesday, March 28, 6:00 pm**

## THIS IS OUR LAND

(see description on p. 11)  
Facilitator TBD.

### FRIDAY 9

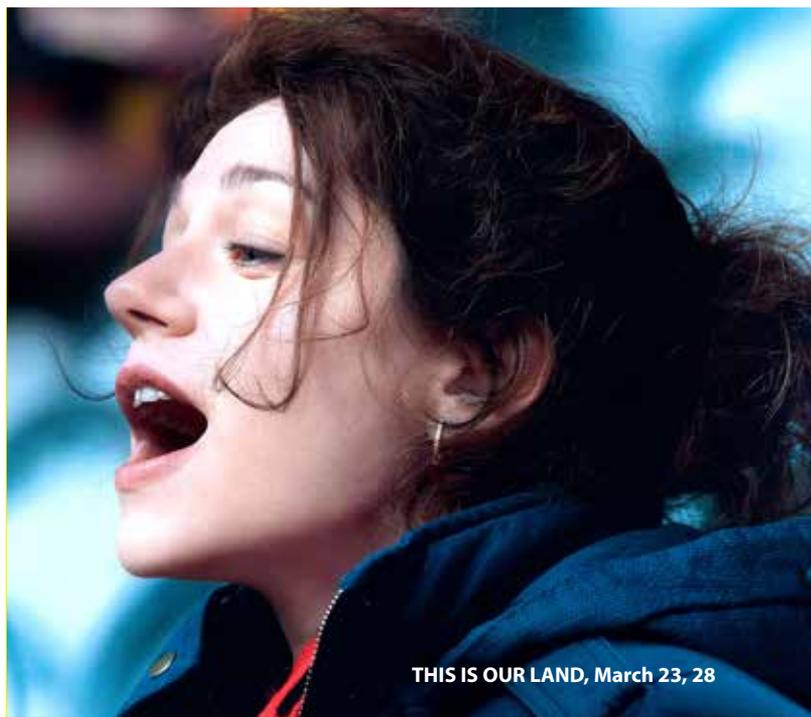
2:00 CATCH THE WIND (EU/Fr), p. 9  
2:00 HITLER'S HOLLYWOOD (EU/Ge), p. 11  
4:00 LOTS OF KIDS, A MONKEY AND A CASTLE (EU/Sp), p. 18  
4:00 LOVE TO PARADISE (EU/Ma), p. 16  
6:00 DIRECTIONS (EU/Bu), pg. 5 ★

### SATURDAY 10

3:00 SOUVENIR (EU/Be), p. 6  
3:00 SONG OF GRANITE (EU/Ir), p. 13  
5:00 THERE IS A LIGHT (EU/It), p. 15 ★  
5:15 JUPITER'S MOON (EU/Hu), p. 13  
8:00 THE DEATH OF STALIN (EU/UK), p. 20  
8:00 HAPPY BIRTHDAY (EU/Cy), p. 7

See our website for descriptions of films playing March 1-8.

DISCOUNT MATINEES FRIDAYS UNTIL 5:00 PM! \$8 GENERAL, \$5 MEMBERS/STUDENTS



THIS IS OUR LAND, March 23, 28

SUNDAY 11	MONDAY 12	TUESDAY 13	WEDNESDAY 14	THURSDAY 15	16	17
3:00 JEANNETTE (EU/Fr), p. 10 3:00 BAREFOOT (EU/Cz), p. 8 5:15 INDIVISIBLE (EU/It), p. 14 5:15 GUTLAND (EU/Lu), p. 15	6:00 SOUVENIR (EU/Be), p. 6 6:00 LOTS OF KIDS, A MONKEY AND A CASTLE (EU/Sp), p. 18 7:45 JUPITER'S MOON (EU/Hu), p. 13 7:45 BAREFOOT (EU/Cz), p. 8	6:00 THE KILLING FIELDS (Apocalypse), p. 22 ★ 6:00 LOVE TO PARADISE (EU/Ma), p. 16 7:45 GUTLAND (EU/Lu), p. 15	6:00 THE DEATH OF STALIN (EU/UK), p. 20 6:00 HITLER'S HOLLYWOOD (EU/Ge), p. 11 8:15 CATCH THE WIND (EU/Fr), p. 9 8:15 HAPPY BIRTHDAY (EU/Cy), p. 7	6:00 JEANNETTE (EU/Fr), p. 10 6:00 SONG OF GRANITE (EU/Ir), p. 13 8:15 INDIVISIBLE (EU/It), p. 14 8:15 DIRECTIONS (EU/Bu), pg. 5	2:00 MISS KIET'S CHILDREN (EU/Ne), p. 16 ★ 2:00 GREEN CATS (EU/Es), p. 8 4:00 THE MISSING PICTURE (Apocalypse), p. 22 5:00 MY AUNT IN SARAJEVO + Short (EU/Sw), p. 19 6:00 GORAN (EU/Cr), p. 7 6:30 RAINBOW: A PRIVATE AFFAIR (EU/It), p. 14 8:00 FIRSTBORN (EU/La), p. 15 8:15 WILD MOUSE (EU/Au), p. 6	3:30 GORAN (EU/Cr), p. 7 3:30 STRANGERS ON THE EARTH (EU/Sp), p. 19 5:30 ISMAEL'S GHOSTS (EU/Fr), p. 10 5:30 SCARRED HEARTS (EU/Ro), p. 18 8:15 XAMOU (EU/Gr), p. 12 8:15 A MOMENT IN THE REEDS (EU/Fi), p. 9
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
2:00 MISS KIET'S CHILDREN (EU/Ne), p. 16 ★ 2:00 THE NOTHING FACTORY (EU/Pr), p. 17 5:00 NUMBER ONE (EU/Fr), p. 10 5:15 GREEN CATS (EU/Es), p. 8	6:00 NUMBER ONE (EU/Fr), p. 10 6:00 STRANGERS ON THE EARTH (EU/Sp), p. 19 8:00 FIRSTBORN (EU/La), p. 15 8:15 WILD MOUSE (EU/Au), p. 6	6:00 THE MISSING PICTURE (Apocalypse), p. 22 ★ 6:30 THE NOTHING FACTORY (EU/Pr), p. 17	6:00 RAINBOW: A PRIVATE AFFAIR (EU/It), p. 14 6:00 MY AUNT IN SARAJEVO + Short (EU/Sw), p. 19 7:30 SCARRED HEARTS (EU/Ro), p. 18 7:45 BET ON REVENGE (EU/Hu), p. 12	6:00 ISMAEL'S GHOSTS (EU/Fr), p. 10 6:00 Edward Owens (CATE), p. 21 ★ 8:30 XAMOU (EU/Gr), p. 12 8:30 A MOMENT IN THE REEDS (EU/Fi), p. 9	2:00 RUSTY BOYS (EU/Lu), p. 16 2:00 A HUSTLER'S DIARY (EU/Sw), p. 19 3:45 SON OF SOFIA (EU/Gr), p. 12 4:00 ANCHOR AND HOPE (EU/UK), p. 19 6:00 THIS IS OUR LAND (EU/Fr), p. 11 6:15 THE DEAD NATION (EU/Ro), p. 17 8:00 GHOST STORIES (EU/UK), p. 20 8:15 MESSI AND MAUD (EU/Ne), p. 16 ★	3:00 SUBMERGENCE (EU/Ge), p. 12 3:00 BET ON REVENGE (EU/Hu), p. 12 5:15 MESSI AND MAUD (EU/Ne), p. 16 ★ 5:30 OMNIPRESENT (EU/Bu), p. 7 8:00 THE LAST PROSECCO (EU/It), p. 14 ★ 8:15 A HEART OF LOVE (EU/Pl), p. 17
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
2:30 THE GUARDIANS (EU/Fr), p. 9 3:00 MADEMOISELLE PARADIS (EU/Au), p. 6 5:00 OUT (EU/Sk), p. 18 5:15 CASTING (EU/Ge), p. 11	6:00 CASTING (EU/Ge), p. 11 6:00 OUT (EU/Sk), p. 18 7:45 ANCHOR AND HOPE (EU/UK), p. 19 7:45 THE DEAD NATION (EU/Ro), p. 17	6:00 THE LAST PROSECCO (EU/It), p. 14 6:00 A HUSTLER'S DIARY (EU/Sw), p. 19 8:00 SUBMERGENCE (EU/Ge), p. 12 8:00 A HEART OF LOVE (EU/Pl), p. 17	6:00 THIS IS OUR LAND (EU/Fr), p. 11 ★ Movie Club 6:00 RUSTY BOYS (EU/Lu), p. 16 7:45 OMNIPRESENT (EU/Bu), p. 7 8:15 MADEMOISELLE PARADIS (EU/Au), p. 6	6:00 THE GUARDIANS (EU/Fr), p. 9 6:00 FURUSATO (CATE), p. 21 ★ 8:30 GHOST STORIES (EU/UK), p. 20 8:30 SON OF SOFIA (EU/Gr), p. 12	2:00 BYE BYE GERMANY (EU/Ge), p. 11 2:00 HAVE YOU SEEN MY MOVIE? (EU/UK), p. 20 4:00 LET YOURSELF GO (EU/It), p. 14 6:00 MONTPARNASSE BIENVENUE (EU/Fr), p. 10 6:00 THE MINER (EU/Sn), p. 18 8:00 MAZE (EU/Ir), p. 13 ★ 8:00 THE CITIZEN (EU/Hu), p. 13	3:00 THE YOUNG KARL MARX (EU/Ge), p. 5 3:00 HAVE YOU SEEN MY MOVIE? (EU/UK), p. 20 5:15 MIRACLE (EU/Li), p. 15 5:45 BLIND SPOT (EU/Be), p. 6 8:00 LET YOURSELF GO (EU/It), p. 14 8:00 ICE MOTHER (EU/Cz), p. 8
APRIL 1	2	3	4	5	<h1>MARCH</h1> <p>★ indicates special guest appearance</p> <p>164 North State Street</p>	
3:00 GODARD MON AMOUR (EU/Fr), p. 9 3:00 BYE BYE GERMANY (EU/Ge), p. 11 5:00 A REAL VERMEER (EU/Ne), p. 17 5:15 MAZE (EU/Ir), p. 13 ★	6:00 MONTPARNASSE BIENVENUE (EU/Fr), p. 10 6:00 WHILE WE LIVE (EU/De), p. 8 8:00 MIRACLE (EU/Li), p. 15 8:00 THE MINER (EU/Sn), p. 18	6:00 FAR FROM VIETNAM (Apocalypse), p. 22 ★ 6:00 THE CITIZEN (EU/Hu), p. 13 8:15 BLIND SPOT (EU/Be), p. 6	6:00 GODARD MON AMOUR (EU/Fr), p. 9 6:00 BOY ON THE BRIDGE (EU/Cy), p. 7 8:00 A REAL VERMEER (EU/Ne), p. 17 8:15 ICE MOTHER (EU/Cz), p. 8	6:00 THE YOUNG KARL MARX (EU/Ge), p. 5 6:00 Hayoun Kwon (CATE), p. 21 ★ 8:30 WHILE WE LIVE (EU/De), p. 8 8:30 BOY ON THE BRIDGE (EU/Cy), p. 7		

**Key to EU countries:** Au = Austria, Be = Belgium, Bu = Bulgaria, Cr = Croatia, Cy = Cyprus, Cz = Czech Republic, De = Denmark, Es = Estonia, Fi = Finland, Fr = France, Ge = Germany, Gr = Greece, Hu = Hungary, Ir = Ireland, It = Italy, La = Latvia, Li = Lithuania, Lu = Luxembourg, Ma = Malta, Ne = Netherlands, Pl = Poland, Pr = Portugal, Ro = Romania, Sk = Slovakia, Sn = Slovenia, Sp = Spain, Sw = Sweden, UK = United Kingdom

To check for updates or to sign up for our email list, visit [www.siskelfilmcenter.org](http://www.siskelfilmcenter.org) or call 312-846-2800

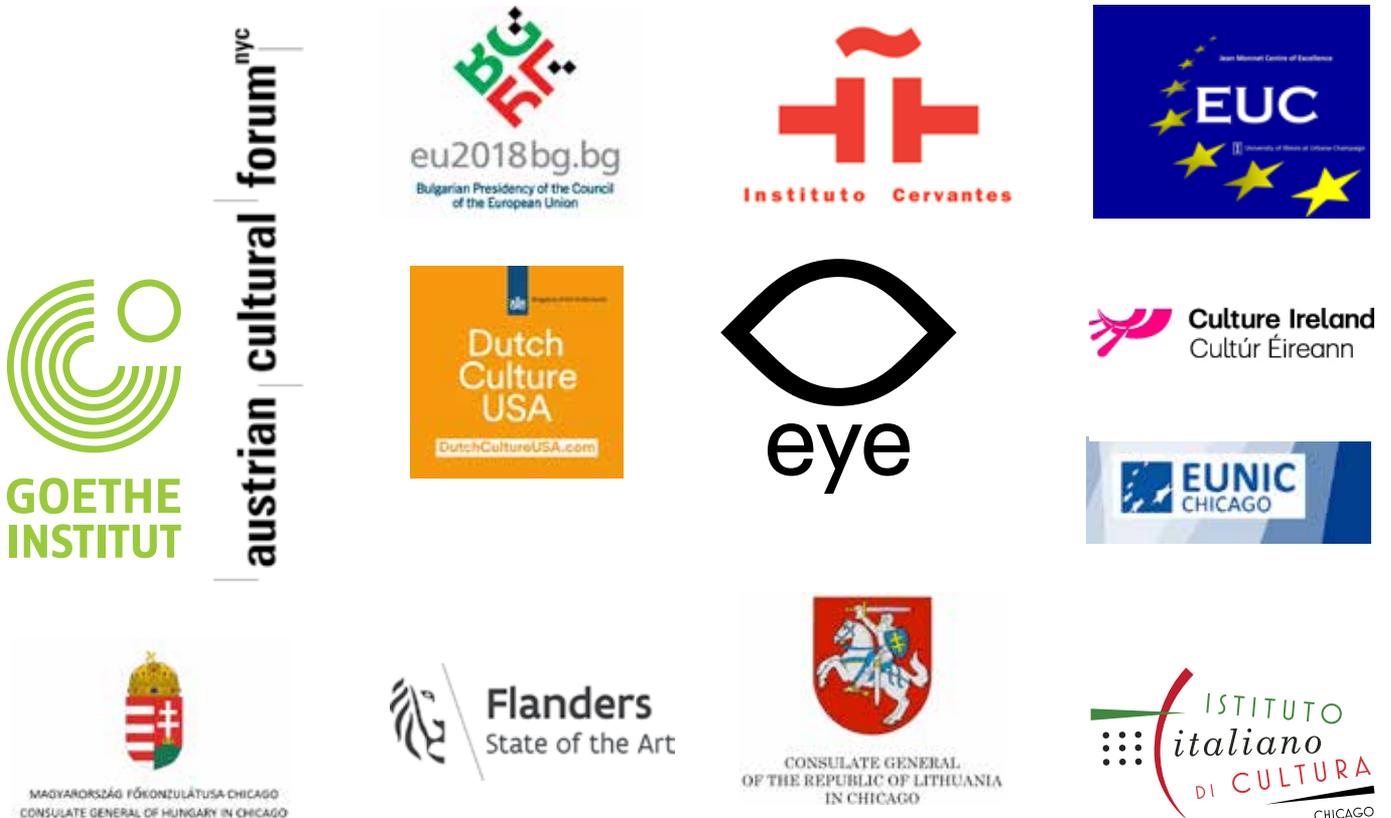
MAR 2018 3

# European Union Film Festival

## PROMOTIONAL SPONSORS



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- Swedish American Museum

## SPECIAL THANKS

- Marlene Iglitzen
- Averill Leviton
- Margaret MacLean
- Daelmans Stroopwafels
- Courtney A. Thompson



# 21st Annual Chicago European Union Film Festival

## OPENING NIGHT FILM!



## DIRECTIONS

(POSOKI)

2017, Stephan Komandarev, Bulgaria/Germany, 103 min.  
With Vasil Banov, Ivan Barnev

**Friday, March 9, 6:00 pm**  
**Thursday, March 15, 8:15 pm**

Director Komandarev (THE WORLD IS BIG AND SALVATION LURKS AROUND THE CORNER) brings poignancy and a zesty sense of humor to an episodic drama set in the streets of Sofia and unfolding in a series of taxi rides. While a shocking murder-suicide monopolizes the talk-radio airwaves, five tuned-in drivers meet up with fares through the night, ranging from a frisky businessman on an extramarital adventure to an unemployed teacher with a death wish, a doctor on an urgent mission, and a moonlighting priest. In Bulgarian with English subtitles. DCP digital. (BS)

*Immediately following the Opening Night film and program, the audience is invited to a reception in our Gallery/Café generously hosted by Dr. Ivan Anchev, Consul General of The Republic of Bulgaria*

*Note: No free passes or blue tickets will be valid for the opening night screening.*

## CLOSING NIGHT FILM!



## THE YOUNG KARL MARX

(DER JUNGE KARL MARX)

2017, Raoul Peck, Germany/France, 114 min.  
With August Diehl, Stefan Konarske

**Saturday, March 31, 3:00 pm**  
**Thursday, April 5, 6:00 pm**

In his latest film, Peck (I AM NOT YOUR NEGRO) takes on one of the most influential figures in modern history. The film begins in 1843 with Europe on the brink of political revolution. Marx (Diehl) is a impoverished journalist struggling to support his family while his inflammatory writings keep them on the move, from Prussia to Paris to Brussels to London. His path crosses that of wealthy mill-owner's son Friedrich Engels, and they join forces to shape a theoretical foundation for the political ferment that is boiling over in Europe. In German, French, and English with English subtitles. DCP digital. (MR)

*Immediately following the Closing Night film and program, the audience is invited to a reception in our Gallery/Café generously hosted by the European Union National Institutes for Culture (EUNIC).*

*Note: No free passes or blue tickets will be valid for the closing night screening.*

## Vote for the Audience Award! Enter to win Free Membership!

VVote for the Chicago European Union Film Festival's Audience Award, and your ballot may be selected for the grand prize of a year's membership to the Gene Siskel Film Center! Ballots are available in the lobby. Past winners of the award include I'M NOT SCARED (2004), COLOSSAL SENSATION! (2005), CLEAN (2006), AFTER THE WEDDING (2007), THE UNKNOWN WOMAN (2008), THE BEACHES OF AGNÈS (2009), THE WORLD IS BIG AND SALVATION LURKS AROUND THE CORNER (2010), DESERT FLOWER (2011), THE WELL-DIGGER'S DAUGHTER (2012), BROKEN (2013), BICYCLING WITH MOLIÈRE (2014), THE DARK VALLEY (2015), LAND OF SONGS (2016), and TRUMAN (2017).



# 21st Annual Chicago European Union Film Festival



AUSTRIA

## MADEMOISELLE PARADIS

2017, Barbara Albert, Austria/Germany, 97 min.  
With Maria Dragus, Devid Streisow

**Sunday, March 25, 3:00 pm**  
**Wednesday, March 28, 8:15 pm**

In 1777, in a last-ditch bid for a cure, a wealthy Viennese couple commits their ungainly blind daughter Maria (Dragus), a self-taught harpsichord prodigy, to the care of Dr. Franz Mesmer (Streisow), notorious for his unorthodox experiments with hypnotism. Eschewing romanticism, director Albert (FREE RADICALS) combines historical accuracy and sumptuous production design with an acutely contemporary sense of class and the mechanics of manipulation, as the talented Maria becomes a pawn between her parents and the ambitious society doctor. In German and French with English subtitles. (BS)



AUSTRIA

## WILDE MAUS

(WILDE MAUS)  
2017, Josef Hader, Austria/Germany, 103 min.  
With Josef Hader, Pia Hierzegger

**Friday, March 16, 8:15 pm**  
**Monday, March 19, 8:15 pm**

A stuffy music critic gets dumped by his newspaper in favor of a clueless but cheaper millennial, kicking off this arch mid-life-crisis comedy by popular standup comic and actor Hader (STEFAN ZWEIG: FAREWELL TO EUROPE). Georg (Hader) continues to fake the highbrow life to his younger wife, as a chance encounter puts him in an unusual business arrangement with his childhood nemesis, and he plots a string of prankish strikes against his former editor. In German and Italian with English subtitles. (BS)



BELGIUM

## BLIND SPOT

(DODE HOEK)  
2017, Nabil Ben Yadir, Belgium, 105 min.  
With Peter Van den Begin, Soufiane Chilah

**Saturday, March 31, 5:45 pm**  
**Tuesday, April 3, 8:15 pm**

In Moroccan-Belgian director Ben Yadir's Antwerp-set urban thriller, a ruthlessly corrupt police commissioner (Van den Begin in a savage performance) plans to enter conservative politics, parading his mentor relationship with a young Moroccan cop to defuse public distaste for his nativist views. On the eve of announcing his candidacy, he plots the showboating capture of a Turkish drug lord, a plan based precariously on intelligence from a murky source. In Flemish and French with English subtitles. (BS)



BELGIUM

## SOUVENIR

2016, Bavo Defurne, Belgium/Luxembourg/France, 90 min  
With Isabelle Huppert, Kévin Azais, Johan Leyson

**Saturday, March 10, 3:00 pm**  
**Monday, March 12, 6:00 pm**

Isabelle Huppert (ELLE) once again dares to work outside her comfort zone, playing a has-been chanteuse unexpectedly courted by a man young enough to be her son. Now working a prep line in a catering firm's food factory, buttoned-up, intensely private Liliane (Huppert) enters into a workplace flirtation with Jean (Azais), a twenty-something amateur boxer who coaxes her back into the limelight for what promises to be a risky and emotion-fraught reinvention for both of them. In French with English subtitles. (BS)



# 21st Annual Chicago European Union Film Festival

**BULGARIA** DIRECTIONS — OPENING NIGHT FILM — SEE PAGE 5



**BULGARIA**

## OMNIPRESENT

2017, Ilian Djevelevkov, Bulgaria, 120 min.  
With Velislav Pavlov, Teodora Duhovnikova

**Saturday, March 24, 5:30 pm**  
**Wednesday, March 28, 7:45 pm**

In this hilarious cautionary tale for the digital age, ad agency owner Emil rigs up a spy camera in his invalid dad's living room in order to catch a thief, presumed to be the caregiver, but the camera proves otherwise. The process is intoxicating, and soon Emil has planted cameras throughout his home and workplace, reveling in his access to secret liaisons, betrayals, and bad habits. It's the ultimate reality TV, until it all goes wrong, and Emil's worst nightmare comeuppance goes viral. In Bulgarian with English subtitles. (BS)



**CROATIA**

## GORAN

2016, Nevio Marasovic, Croatia, 90 min.  
With Franjo Dijak, Natasa Janjic

**Friday, March 16, 6:00 pm**  
**Saturday, March 17, 3:30 pm**

This deceptively somber drama takes a screeching left turn into black comedy, and has been termed "the Croatian FARGO." Goran, a morose cab driver in the snowy hinterlands, has every reason to celebrate. It's his birthday, and his wife has just announced she's pregnant—news that will strangely enough set off a violent chain of events. Unknown to his wife, Goran is sterile, a fact that puts each of his clutch of good-time buddies under suspicion. In Croatian with English subtitles. (BS)



**CYPRUS**

## BOY ON THE BRIDGE

(TO AGÖRI STI GÉFYRA)  
2016, Petros Charalambous, Cyprus, 85 min.  
With Constantino Farmakas, Andreas C. Tselepos

**Wednesday, April 4, 6:00 pm**  
**Thursday, April 5, 8:30 pm**

The peace of an idyllic Cypriot village is shattered one day in 1988, when a murder is discovered at the height of the local holiday carnival. The increasingly dangerous pranks of twelve-year-old Socrates border on delinquency, as he models himself on the naive fantasy of the freedom-fighter grandfather he never met. A fireworks caper that goes too far not only blows a series of intimate family secrets wide open but makes the boy a prime suspect in the murder. In Greek with English subtitles. (BS)



**CYPRUS**

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY

2017, Christos Georgiou, Cyprus/Greece, 85 min.  
With Nefeli Kouri, Dimitris Imellos

**Saturday, March 10, 8:00 pm**  
**Wednesday, March 14, 8:15 pm**

In this third feature by award-winning Cypriot director Georgiou (UNDER THE STARS), the forbidden thrill of throwing a Molotov cocktail in an Athens street demonstration has a chilling coda when teenaged Margarita goes home to face her dad, a riot squad cop who was wounded in the encounter. Forced into a time-out weekend at an isolated cottage, the rebellious girl refuses all attempts at reconciliation and instead gets a deeper look into the violent camaraderie of the police force. In Greek with English subtitles. DCP digital. (BS)

Chicago European Union Film Festival continues on next page



# 21st Annual Chicago European Union Film Festival



CZECH REPUBLIC

## BAREFOOT

*(PO STRNIŠTI BOS)*  
2017, Jan Sverák, Czech Republic/Slovakia, 111 min.  
With Alois Grec, Tereza Voriskova

**Sunday, March 11, 3:00 pm**  
**Monday, March 12, 7:45 pm**

This gentle look at the WWII years through the eyes of a young boy yields a fresh take on a time more often seen through the filter of violence. After the Germans commandeer their Prague apartment, the family of eight-year-old Eda is forced to move in with rural relatives. Adjusting quickly, Eda takes the presence of a succession of Nazis, Russians, and Americans as all part of the exotic pageant of his new country life, in this story based on the autobiographical novel by the director's father. In Czech with English subtitles. (BS)



CZECH REPUBLIC

## ICE MOTHER

*(BÁBA Z LEDU)*  
2017, Bohdan Sláma, Czech Republic/France/Slovakia, 106 min.  
With Zuzana Kronerová, Pavel Nový

**Saturday, March 31, 8:00 pm**  
**Wednesday, April 4, 8:15 pm**

Long-widowed Hana (Kronerová), feisty and vital, is inexplicably a doormat to her spoiled adult sons and their needy wives. That begins to change when, attending a race for ice swimmers, she surprises one and all by performing a rescue in the freezing river and in the process finds a lover in Brona (Nový), an unusual man with a checkered life history. Director Sláma (THE COUNTRY TEACHER) peppers the drama with bursts of comedy in this Czech submission for 2018 Oscar consideration. In Czech with English subtitles. (BS)



DENMARK

## WHILE WE LIVE

*(MENS VI LEVER)*  
2017, Mehdi Avaz, Denmark, 98 min.  
With Sebastian Jessen, Julie Christiansen

**Monday, April 2, 6:00 pm**  
**Thursday, April 5, 8:30 pm**

Returning to the hometown he had fled years before, Kristian is plunged back into the unquiet past, when he was taken in by a family whose golden-boy son Tobias and daughter Trine became his best friend and lover, respectively, until a catastrophic event shattered the bond between them. The intricately structured narrative interweaves past and present to peel back layers of buried resentment and guilt, suspending Kristian between two lives and compelling him to make a choice. In Danish with English subtitles. (MR)



ESTONIA

## GREEN CATS

*(ROHELISED KASSID)*  
2017, Andres Puustusmaa, Estonia, 105 min.  
With Tõnu Kark, Sergei Makovetski

**Friday, March 16, 2:00 pm**  
**Sunday, March 18, 5:15 pm**

In this gentle tragicomic caper, newly paroled cellmates Markus and Eduard agree to meet up in a week after taking time to get their personal affairs in order. An old hand at larceny, Markus effects a no-cost makeover before pursuing a courtship, but finds that a walk down memory lane may be leading to a dead end. Sly, spry Eduard reclaims his red-hot motorcycle and scores a red-headed partner-in-crime at the welfare office. The surprise circumstances of their reunion change everything. In Estonian and Russian with English subtitles. (BS)



# 21st Annual Chicago European Union Film Festival



FINLAND

## A MOMENT IN THE REEDS

(*TÄMÄ HETKI KAISLIKOSSA*)  
2017, Mikko Makela, Finland, 107 min.  
With Janne Puustinen, Boodi Kabbani

**Saturday, March 17, 8:15 pm**  
**Thursday, March 22, 8:30 pm**

This sensitive romance has been billed as the first gay love story to be made in Finland. Leevi, a lit student studying in Paris, returns to Finland after his mother's death to help his father fix up their lakeside cabin. Hired to assist them is Tareek, a recent Syrian refugee. Left to themselves, Leevi and Tareek commence a romance that moves from tentative to passionate to serious, but the return of Leevi's conservative father strains the lovers' relationship to the breaking point. In Finnish and English with English subtitles. (MR)



FRANCE

## CATCH THE WIND

(*PRENDRE LE LARGE*)  
2017, Gaël Morel, France, 104 min.  
With Sandrine Bonnaire, Mouna Fettou, Lubna Azabal

**Friday, March 9, 2:00 pm**  
**Wednesday, March 14, 8:15 pm**

Bonnaire (*VAGABOND*) proves once again why she is one of the world's finest working actors, channeling her fierce, even perverse sense of independence to play Edith, a 45-year-old widow whose life is centered on her job in a French textile factory. When the factory closes down, she astonishes everyone by choosing the relocation option over a tidy severance package. Relocation means a transfer to Tangiers, where Edith doggedly confronts hostility, culture shock, and sweatshop-like working conditions. In French with English subtitles. (MR)



FRANCE

## GODARD MON AMOUR

(*LE REDOUBTABLE*)  
2017, Michel Hazanavicius, France/Italy, 107 min.  
With Louis Garrel, Stacey Martin

**Sunday, April 1, 3:00 pm**  
**Wednesday, April 4, 6:00 pm**

Hazanavicius (*THE ARTIST*) chronicles the marriage between legendary filmmaker Jean-Luc Godard (Garrel) and actress Anne Wiazemsky (Martin) in this breezy, comedic adaptation of her autobiographical novel *Un an après*. When negative reaction to their first collaboration, the Maoist-flirting *LA CHINOISE*, plunges the director into a personal, artistic, and political crisis, Wiazemsky finds herself less and less enthralled with his antics. In French with English subtitles. Special advance screening. DCP digital. (CW)



FRANCE

## THE GUARDIANS

(*LES GARDIENNES*)  
2017, Xavier Beauvois, France, 135 min.  
With Iris Bry, Nathalie Baye, Laura Smet

**Sunday, March 25, 2:30 pm**  
**Thursday, March 29, 6:00 pm**

In wartime France in 1916, it is the women who work the land. Unable to find a male farmhand, the Sandrail family hire a housemaid named Francine (Bry). The strapping red-headed orphan proves equal to the task, becoming a fixture in the family and falling in love with one of their soldier sons, until allegiances of class and blood intervene. Director Beauvois (*OF GODS AND MEN*) delivers a model of absorbing, classical storytelling, set against a ruggedly beautiful backdrop of rural life. In French with English subtitles. (MR)

Chicago European Union Film Festival continues on next page



# 21st Annual Chicago European Union Film Festival



FRANCE

## ISMAEL'S GHOSTS

(LES FANTÔMES D'ISMAËL)

2017, Arnaud Desplechin, France, 135 min.

With Mathieu Amalric, Marion Cotillard, Charlotte Gainsbourg

**Saturday, March 17, 5:30 pm**

**Thursday, March 22, 6:00 pm**

The adventurous Desplechin's latest is a wild mélange of 8½ and VERTIGO, with a dash of spy thriller thrown in. Filmmaker Ismaël (Amalric) is on the verge of a breakdown as he struggles to complete a tale of diplomatic intrigue based on the exploits of his late brother (Louis Garrel). Stability is provided by Ismaël's lover (Gainsbourg), but that shatters when his first wife (Cotillard), missing for 20 years, reappears. Is she real, a ghost, or an extension of Ismaël's overactive imagination? In French with English subtitles. (MR)



FRANCE

## JEANNETTE: THE CHILDHOOD OF JOAN OF ARC

(JEANNETTE: L'ENFANCE DE JEANNE D'ARC)

2017, Bruno Dumont, France, 108 min

With Lise Leplat Prudhomme, Jeanne Voison

**Sunday, March 11, 3:00 pm**

**Thursday, March 15, 6:00 pm**

In 1425 the future Joan of Arc is still Jeannette, an impetuous 8-year-old shepherdess who is troubled by France's ongoing war with England and communicates her spiritual crises to her family, neighbors, and sheep through song and dance. Setting Jeannette's laments to a pounding electronic score by metal musician Iggorr, the resolutely unpredictable Dumont directs one of the strangest musicals of recent years, a humanizing and massively endearing portrait of one of France's most iconic figures. In French with English subtitles. (CW)



FRANCE

## MONTPARNASSE BIENVENÛE

(JEUNE FEMME)

2017, Léonor Serraille, France, 98 min.

With Laetitia Dosch, Nathalie Richard

**Friday, March 30, 6:00 pm**

**Monday, April 2, 6:00 pm**

First-time director Serraille took the 2017 Cannes Film Festival by storm with this unruly-young-woman-on-the-loose saga built around Dosch's whirlwind performance. After being muse, lover, and appendage to a hotshot photographer for ten years, Paula (Dosch) is abruptly dumped. She scrambles to rebuild her life by embracing impulse and improvisation--bouncing from one crash pad to another; faking her way through job interviews; taking shameless advantage of friends, family, and complete strangers. In French with English subtitles. (MR)



FRANCE

## NUMBER ONE

(NUMÉRO UNE)

2017, Tonie Marshall, France, 110 min.

With Emmanuelle Devos, Suzanne Clément

**Sunday, March 18, 5:00 pm**

**Monday, March 19, 6:00 pm**

César-nominated Devos plays an ambitious and highly effective senior executive in a sustainable energy company who is scouted by a feminist caucus to vie for a job that would make her the first-ever female CEO of a top-tier corporation. Her decision plunges her into a ruthless arena of corporate hardball, filled with dirty tricks, blackmail, and character assassination. This savvy film does a superb job of dramatizing the games that a woman must play (and put up with) as the only female in the boardroom. In French with English subtitles. (MR)



# 21st Annual Chicago European Union Film Festival



FRANCE

## THIS IS OUR LAND

(CHEZ NOUS)  
2017, Lucas Belvaux, France/Belgium, 118 min.  
With Émilie Dequenne, André Dussollier

**Friday, March 23, 6:00 pm**  
**Wednesday, March 28, 6:00 pm**

With its explicit references to Marine Le Pen and the Front National, this was the most controversial film of the year in France, although its convincing depiction of how right-wing “populist” movements soft-pedal their extremism has much wider relevance. Pauline (Dequenne), a well-liked nurse in a northern French town, is recruited by the “Renewed Nation Party” as an ideally inoffensive candidate to run for mayor. In French with English subtitles. (MR)

*The Wednesday, March 28, screening is a Movie Club event (see p. 3).*



GERMANY

## BYE BYE GERMANY

(ES WAR EINMAL IN DEUTSCHLAND)  
2017, Sam Gabarski, Germany, 102 min.  
With Moritz Bleibtreu, Antje Traue

**Friday, March 30, 2:00 pm**  
**Sunday, April 1, 3:00 pm**

This bittersweet dramedy centers on a dapper Holocaust survivor (Bleibtreu) who, after the war, enlists a team of fellow Jews in a scheme to sell linens to guilt-ridden Germans. Under investigation by the American Army for suspected Nazi collaboration, he tells a skeptical female officer (Traue) how his joke-telling prowess impressed the concentration camp commandant so much that he was enlisted to teach Hitler how to be funny! An unlikely tale, but what if it were true? In German, English, and Yiddish with English subtitles. (MR)



GERMANY

## CASTING

2017, Nicolas Wackerbarth, Germany, 91 min.  
With Judith Engel, Andreas Lust

**Sunday, March 25, 5:15 pm**  
**Monday, March 26, 6:00 pm**

This ingenious tour de farce centers on a made-for-TV remake of Fassbinder’s 1972 masterpiece THE BITTER TEARS OF PETRA VON KANT. The remake’s director (Engel) has already taken the dubious step of heterosexualizing the all-lesbian original, and things get worse when she is unable to cast the lead role. Actress after actress is auditioned, while the crew grumbles, the producers grow more frantic, and an obscure actor (Lust) used as a stand-in sees a chance to profit from the confusion. In German with English subtitles. DCP digital. (MR)



GERMANY

## HITLER’S HOLLYWOOD

2017, Rüdiger Suchsland, Germany, 105 min.  
Narrated by Udo Kier

**Friday, March 9, 2:00 pm**  
**Wednesday, March 14, 6:00 pm**

Historian/filmmaker Suchsland (FROM CALIGARI TO HITLER) continues his journey through German film history with this fascinating exploration of its darkest, most problematic period. Closely overseen by propaganda minister Joseph Goebbels, the Nazi film industry sought to become a second Hollywood. Very few of the Nazi-produced films were overt propaganda, but neither were they harmless entertainment. With beautifully preserved excerpts, the film revisits the Nazi cinema’s greatest stars, lavish blockbusters, and now-obscure gems. In English and German with English subtitles. (MR)

*Chicago European Union Film Festival continues on next page*



# 21st Annual Chicago European Union Film Festival



GERMANY

## SUBMERGENCE

2017, Wim Wenders, Germany/France/Spain/USA, 112 min.  
With James McAvoy, Alicia Vikander

**Saturday, March 24, 3:00 pm**  
**Tuesday, March 27, 8:00 pm**

Based on J.M. Ledgard's international bestseller, SUBMERGENCE encompasses grand crashing-surf romance, dangerous espionage, international terrorism, and environmental crisis, all wrapped around the central metaphors of water and enveloping depths. Dani (Vikander) and James (McAvoy) fall intensely in love at a Normandy seaside resort, before embarking on separate missions: James as a British spy seeking to infiltrate a terrorist base in Somalia, Dani as a marine scientist searching the deepest layer of the ocean for clues to the sustainability of life on earth. In English. (MR)

GERMANY

**THE YOUNG KARL MARX — CLOSING NIGHT FILM — SEE PAGE 5**



GREECE

## SON OF SOFIA

2017, Elina Pyskou, Greece/Bulgaria/France, 105 min.  
With Victor Khomut, Valery Tscheplanowa

**Friday, March 23, 3:45 pm**  
**Thursday, March 29, 8:30 pm**

Rejoining his widowed mother after a two-year absence, lonely eleven-year-old Misha, meets an ogre in the form of his new stepfather. Set against the background of the 2004 Athens Olympics, the film creates its own internal mythology with a bit of Oedipal rivalry, a dash of harsh realism, and a whole lot of whimsy, when the imaginative boy comes under the unorthodox home schooling of a stern and half-crazy geezer bent on reenacting his past as the host of a children's TV show. In Russian and Greek with English subtitles (BS)



GREECE

## XAMOU

2016, Clio Fanouraki, Greece, 87 min.  
With Georges Corraface, Sophia Hill

**Saturday, March 17, 8:15 pm**  
**Thursday, March 22, 8:30 pm**

Until the day he is laid off, Johnny (Corraface), manager for a four-star hotel chain, is all but immune to the lush beauties of the island of Crete, where he lives with his second wife and teenage kids. At loose ends, he humorously begs his vineyard-owning neighbor for a job in the grape harvest. One thing leads to another in this pure fantasy of a plot that rides on the abundant charm of international star Corraface while showing off Crete's eye-popping landscape and traditional culture at every turn. In Greek and English with English subtitles. (BS)



HUNGARY

## BET ON REVENGE

(KINCSEM)  
2017, Gábor Herendi, Hungary, 121 min.  
With Ervin Nagy, Andrea Petrik

**Wednesday, March 21, 7:45 pm**  
**Saturday, March 24, 3:00 pm**

Hungary's runaway box-office hit is a wildly over-the-top celebration of a national hero that happens to be a racehorse. The pomp and pageantry of the empire at its height figure grandly in this tale, as a military coup makes an orphan of boy aristocrat Erno, and the family estate reverts to the victor. Adult Erno, a penniless wastrel and gambler with a keen eye for horse flesh, meets haughty horse-owner Klara, daughter of his dad's killer, and they're soon off and running. In Hungarian and English with English subtitles. (BS)



# 21st Annual Chicago European Union Film Festival



HUNGARY

## THE CITIZEN

(AZ ÁLLAMPOLGÁR)  
2016, Roland Vranik, Hungary, 109 min.  
With Cake-Baly Marcelo, Ágnes Máhr

**Friday, March 30, 8:00 pm**  
**Tuesday, April 3, 6:00 pm**

This touching humanist drama exposes the unwelcoming climate that greets many immigrants to Europe. Middle-aged African immigrant Wilson fled the civil war that killed his family. Now he works as a security guard in a Budapest supermarket, striving to become a full-fledged citizen of his new country. He finds a sympathetic teacher and prospective lover in lonely abused wife Mari and makes the dangerous misstep of giving shelter to a young pregnant Iranian. In Hungarian with English subtitles. DCP digital. (BS)



HUNGARY

## JUPITER'S MOON

(JUPITER HOLDJA)  
2017, Kornél Mundruczó, Hungary/Germany/France, 129 min.  
With Merab Ninidze, Zsombor Jéger

**Saturday, March 10, 5:15 pm**  
**Monday, March 12, 7:45 pm**

Director Mundruczó (WHITE GOD) tops himself with a magic realist tale of Aryan (Jéger), an illegal Syrian immigrant who rises miraculously from a violent death able to levitate at will, only to be cruelly blackmailed and exploited by a corrupt doctor, who represents the young man to gullible clients as an angelic healer. The story slides imperceptibly into a zanier mode that includes a heart-stopping car chase, SWAT-team action in the Grand Budapest Hotel, and a satisfying side of redemption. In Hungarian with English subtitles. (BS)



IRELAND

## MAZE

2017, Stephen Burke, Ireland/UK, 93 min.  
With Tom Vaughan-Lawlor, Barry Ward

**Friday, March 30, 8:00 pm**  
**Sunday, April 1, 5:15 pm**

**Actor Barry Ward  
in person at both  
screenings (tentative.)**

The biggest jailbreak in British and Irish history, involving the escape of 38 IRA prisoners from high-security Maze prison in September 1983, is dramatized in a tense but remarkably even-handed story that foregrounds the relationship between failed hunger-striker Larry Marley (Vaughan-Lawlor) and steely, arrogant head guard Gordon (Ward, of Ken Loach's JIMMY'S HALL). Marley wins over his compatriots to an escape plan, hoping to play his captor like a fish, but complications grow, along with his grudging respect for the hardened guard. In English. (BS)



IRELAND

## SONG OF GRANITE

2017, Pat Collins, Ireland/Canada, 114 min.  
With Macdara Ó Fátharta, Leni Parker

**Saturday, March 10, 3:00 pm**  
**Thursday, March 15, 6:00 pm**

This poetic portrait of the life of traditional Irish folksinger Joe Heaney is less a documentary than a set of impressionist tableaux that capture the mood of the hard, spare life of Heaney's rural childhood and the footloose career as a laborer and pub-singer that finally takes him to America. Elegant black-and-white cinematography gives the vistas of County Galway a timeless quality, and beautifully accentuates the underlying gravity and melancholy of many of the vocal performances. In Irish Gaelic and English with English subtitles. DCP digital. (BS)

Chicago European Union Film Festival continues on next page



# 21st Annual Chicago European Union Film Festival



ITALY

## INDIVISIBLE

*(INDIVISIBILI)*  
2016, Edoardo De Angelis, Italy, 105 min.  
With Angela Fontana, Marianna Fontana

**Sunday, March 11, 5:15 pm**  
**Thursday, March 15, 8:15 pm**

Viola and Dasy are conjoined twins whose angelic beauty and heavenly voices brighten the rough Naples neighborhood where they live and perform under the exploitative thumb of their parents. When a doctor informs them that they could be separated without risk, the adventurous Dasy persuades the timid Viola to run away. This offbeat modern-day fairy tale blends the tawdry and the magical to haunting effect, and identical twins Angela and Marianna Fontana deliver subtle, affecting performances. In Italian with English subtitles. (MR)



ITALY

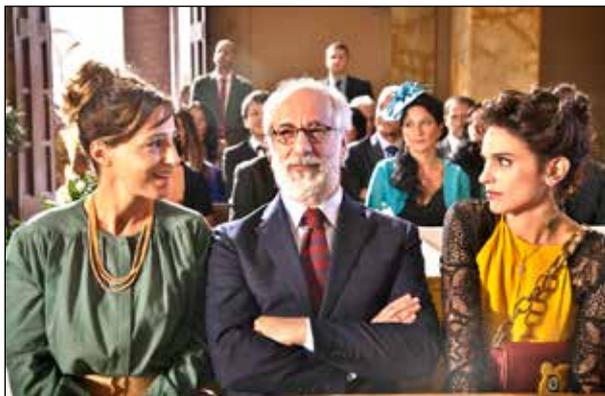
## THE LAST PROSECCO

*(FINCHÉ C'È PROSECCO C'È SPERANZA)*  
2017, Antonio Padovan, Italy, 101 min.  
With Giuseppe Battiston, Teco Celio

**Saturday, March 24, 8:00 pm**  
**Tuesday, March 27, 6:00 pm**

**Director Antonio Padovan and co-producer Alessia Gatti in person on March 24. Prosecco tasting on March 27.**

This elegant murder mystery is inflected with a strong environmental message. Opinionated Prosecco-maker Count Ancillotto kills himself with the flair and style that have marked his life. The motives for the suicide are mysterious, and the mystery deepens when a couple of the Count's best-known enemies are gunned down. Portly police inspector Stucky (Battiston), a socially awkward outsider of half-Persian descent, is assigned to this baffling case in which the main suspect is a dead man. In Italian with English subtitles. (MR)



## LET YOURSELF GO

*(LASCIATI ANDARE)*  
2017, Francesco Amati, Italy, 103 min.  
With Toni Servillo, Verónica Echegui

**Friday, March 30, 4:00 pm**  
**Saturday, March 31, 8:00 pm**

It's screwball comedy Italian style, as top Italian actor Toni Servillo (THE GREAT BEAUTY) plays a Rome-based Jewish psychiatrist who likes to keep life at a comfortable, well-managed distance. Then his doctor's orders to get more exercise put him on a collision course with hot-blooded fitness instructor Claudia (Echegui), who becomes his personal trainer and whose baggage includes a son who likes to set things on fire and a jailbird boyfriend looking for a pile of ill-gotten loot. In Italian with English subtitles. (MR)



ITALY

## RAINBOW: A PRIVATE AFFAIR

*(UNA QUESTIONAE PRIVATA)*  
2017, Paolo Taviani, Italy, 84 min.  
With Luca Marinelli, Valentina Bellè

**Friday, March 16, 6:30 pm**  
**Wednesday, March 21, 6:00 pm**

The Taviani brothers return to the subject of their 1982 masterpiece THE NIGHT OF THE SHOOTING STARS with a tale of the WWII Resistance. A partisan using the alias Milton (Marinelli) comes upon a hilltop mansion that triggers memories of his prewar romance with the elusive Fulvia (Bellè). When his best friend (and possible romantic rival) is captured by the Fascists, Milton sets off on a desperate journey through a misty Piedmont landscape haunted by war and memory. In Italian with English subtitles. (MR)



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ITALY

## THERE IS A LIGHT

*(IL PADRE D'ITALIA)*  
2017, Fabio Mollo, Italy, 94 min.  
With Luca Marinelli, Isabella Ragonese

Director Fabio Mollo  
in person.

**Saturday, March 10, 5:00 pm**

Mollo's second feature blends an offbeat love story with a freewheeling road movie to examine a generation poised on the brink of adulthood. Paolo (Marinelli), recently split from his longtime boyfriend, is nursing his sorrow in a Turin nightclub when Mia (Ragonese), a six-months-pregnant free spirit, commandeers him in a haphazard search for the child's father. They head south, to Rome, Naples, and Calabria, on a journey that takes them beyond sexual categories and the weight of their pasts. In Italian with English subtitles. (MR)



LATVIA

## FIRSTBORN

*(PIRMZIMTAIS)*  
2017, Aik Karapetian, Latvia, 90 min.  
With Kaspars Znotiņš, Maija Doveika

**Friday, March 16, 8:00 pm**  
**Monday, March 19, 8:00 pm**

A thriller that intricately chronicles the dissolution of a marriage of opposites, **FIRSTBORN** is set in the world of effete urban couples. Francis, a bookish intellectual, and his wife Katrina are robbed by a biker while walking home one night. The humiliating incident poses a double threat to Francis's shaken sense of manhood when it is followed by the announcement of Katrina's long-hoped-for pregnancy, and by a police investigation led by a detective who happens to be her old boyfriend. In Latvian with English subtitles. (BS)



LITHUANIA

## MIRACLE

*(STEBUKLAS)*  
2017, Eglė Vertelytė, Lithuania, 88 min.  
With Eglė Mikulionytė, Vyto Ruginis

**Saturday, March 31, 5:15 pm**  
**Monday, April 2, 8:00 pm**

In the early 1990s, after the fall of communism, the collective pig farm managed by Irena (Mikulionytė) has fallen on hard times. Arriving to make everything great again is Bernardas (Ruginis), a glad-handing, red-headed American who buys the farm and brings apparent prosperity to the village. Too good to be true? You'd better believe it! This ironic fable employs deadpan, Kaurismäki-style comedy to cast a critical eye on both restrictive communism and rapacious capitalism. In Lithuanian with English subtitles. (MR)



LUXEMBOURG

## GUTLAND

2017, Govinda Van Maele, Luxembourg/Germany/Belgium, 107 min.  
With Frederick Lau, Vicky Krieps

**Sunday, March 11, 5:15 pm**  
**Tuesday, March 13, 7:45 pm**

When a scruffy long-haired stranger (Lau) walks into a farming village looking for seasonal work, the locals turn their backs. But, after he has a quickie that night with the mayor's flirty daughter (Krieps), the close-knit community welcomes him with a job and a place to stay. Director Van Maele fosters a creeping sense of dread in this edgy thriller, letting ominous details signal that the unknown is right around the corner. The clues point in disparate directions, and don't add up...until they do. In Luxembourgish and German with English subtitles. DCP digital. (BS)

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LUXEMBOURG

## RUSTY BOYS

(ALTE JUNGS)  
2017, Andy Bausch, Luxembourg, 90 min.  
With André Jung, March Lorenzini

**Friday, March 23, 2:00 pm**  
**Wednesday, March 28, 6:00 pm**

When adult children treat their parents like naughty toddlers, four gentlemen of a certain age mount a rebellion that is comic fodder for director Bausch, foremost chronicler of Luxembourg's humorous side. Nuckles, the aging security guard at a retirement home, joins with Fons, the resident who rigs up porno channels for his friends, to bust out and restart life on their own terms. Soon it's a movement of feisty fed-up seniors ripe to buy a house and found their own co-op colony. In Luxembourgish with English subtitles. (BS)



MALTA

## LOVE TO PARADISE

2017, Julian Galea, Malta/Australia, 80 min.  
With Myko Olivier, Marysia S. Peres

**Friday, March 9, 4:00 pm**  
**Tuesday, March 13, 6:00 pm**

Giovanni (Olivier of GLEE), an American tourist ducking out on business woes back home, lands in Malta, gets a wild ride of an introduction to the local culture from a rambunctious cab driver, and quickly meets Carmen (Peres), a fiery miss who has just ditched her faithless lover. Director Galea lets rocky romance take its course while never losing sight of Malta's truly breathtaking beauties and landmarks, including the famed rock formation known as the Azure Window, filmed shortly before its collapse. In English. (BS)



NETHERLANDS

## MISS KIET'S CHILDREN

(DER KINDEREN VAN JUF KIET)  
2016, Peter Lataster and Petra Lataster-Czisch, Netherlands, 115 min.

**Friday, March 16, 2:00 pm**  
**Sunday, March 18, 2:00 pm**

This remarkable, intimate documentary traces a few days in a Dutch village school for a group of very young elementary school students, all recent immigrants from nations including Syria. The unflappable Miss Kiet, a wise and nurturing teacher, gently but firmly encourages, guides, and listens, as her small charges struggle with challenges ranging from wet pants to bullying to living with the memory of war traumas. A must-see for parents, teachers, or anyone who was once a child. In Dutch with English subtitles. (BS)

Co-director  
Peter Lataster in  
person at both  
screenings.



PANORAMA  
LATINX

NETHERLANDS

## MESSI AND MAUD

(LA HOLANDESA)  
2017, Marleen Jonkman, Netherlands, 92 min.  
With Rifka Lodeizen, Cristóbal Farias

**Friday, March 23, 8:15 pm**  
**Saturday, March 24, 5:15 pm**

In this road movie set against the ever-changing landscape of Chile, Maud (Lodeizen), the childless survivor of one too many miscarriages, ditches her husband on their Andes ski vacation and takes off alone in the night. A ride with an abusive truck driver ends with Maud escaping with his little boy. Less a surrogate mother than a free-spirited playmate, Maud finds fun times wearing thin in the face of the child's expectations, and searches her soul for an endgame. In Dutch and Spanish with English subtitles. (BS)

Director Marleen  
Jonkman and casting  
director Rodrigo del  
Castillo in person at  
both screenings.



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NETHERLANDS

## A REAL VERMEER

(EEN ECHTE VERMEER)

2016, Rudolf van den Berg, Netherlands/Belgium/Luxembourg, 115 min.

With Jeroen Spitzenberger, Liza Feryn

**Sunday, April 1, 5:00 pm**  
**Wednesday, April 4, 8:00 pm**

The life of the notorious art forger Han van Meegeren is colorfully embroidered in this fictionalized account. When talented artist Han finds his old-fashioned style spurned by critics and collectors, he takes the more lucrative path of forging paintings by Vermeer. His new career becomes dangerous when one of his forgeries is coveted by a high-ranking Nazi, and the provenance of the work becomes the focus of a post-war show trial, with the artist accused as a collaborator. In Dutch with English subtitles. (BS)



POLAND

## A HEART OF LOVE

(SERCE MILOSCI)

2017, Lukasz Ronduda, Poland, 77 min.

With Justyna Wasileska, Jacek Poniedzialek

**Saturday, March 24, 8:15 pm**  
**Tuesday, March 27, 8:00 pm**

Love of art provides the erotic drive for two Warsaw artists in this fictionalized chronicle of the relationship between graphic artist, poet, and avant-garde musician Wojtek Bakowski (Poniedzialek) and younger writer Zuzanna Bartoszek (Wasileska), the latter eerily hairless due to an autoimmune condition. The two spar relentlessly in sex and in free-form art, as curator/filmmaker Ronduda conjures up the dimensions of their shared life and love with audacious avant-garde imagery. In Polish with English subtitles. (BS)



PORTUGAL

## THE NOTHING FACTORY

(A FÁBRICE DE NADA)

2017, Pedro Pinho, Portugal, 177 min.

With José Smith Vargas, Carla Galvão

**Sunday, March 18, 2:00 pm**  
**Tuesday, March 20, 6:30 pm**

A famous strike in a Lisbon factory was the inspiration for this drama that freely mixes its prevailing cinéma-vérité style with unorthodox musical numbers. Workers at an elevator factory are faced with the impossible choice between accepting a severance package or digging in their heels. Director Pinho approaches the situation from every angle, from the collective to the personal, and from the realism of workers' meetings to the whimsy of impromptu dances on the factory floor. In Portuguese and French with English subtitles. (BS)



ROMANIA

## THE DEAD NATION

(TARA MOARTĂ)

2017, Radu Jude, Romania, 83 min.

**Friday, March 23, 6:15 pm**  
**Monday, March 26, 7:45 pm**

Director Jude (SCARRED HEARTS, AFERIM!) uses a trove of 8,600 photographs taken between 1937 and 1946 in a Romanian small-town studio as the raw material for a searing film essay in which the fate of the nation's Jews is evoked in the gap between the seen and the unseen. Grouped by year, photos of prosperous Aryan families and farmers are accompanied by the raucous strains of fascist anthems and anti-Semitic radio rants, in stark contrast to narration from the diary of a Jewish doctor. In Romanian with English subtitles. (BS)

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ROMANIA

## SCARRED HEARTS

(INIMI CICATRIZATE)  
2016, Radu Jude, Romania/Germany, 141 min.  
With Lucian Teodor Rus, Ivana Mladenovic

**Saturday, March 17, 5:30 pm**  
**Wednesday, March 21, 7:30 pm**

While Hitler is coming to power in the outside world, a microcosm of 1937 Europe takes shape within the confines of an exclusive sanatorium, where promising young writer Emanuel (Rus) is being treated for a bone disease that is expected to be fatal. Director Jude (THE DEAD NATION) draws on the semi-autobiographical novel by Jewish Romanian author Max Blecher for a narrative that is both effortlessly intellectual in its formal construction and filled with black-humorous scenarios. In Romanian with English subtitles. (BS)



SLOVAKIA

## OUT

2017, György Kristóf, Slovakia/France, 88 min.  
With Sándor Terhes, Éva Bandor

**Sunday, March 25, 5:00 pm**  
**Monday, March 26, 6:00 pm**

In this colorfully absurd quasi-road movie, a middle-aged man searching for work among the faltering economies of Eastern Europe leaves wife and daughter to pursue a job. The opportunity turns out to be a scam, but it involves a strange payoff, as odd and odder circumstances come his way, ranging from a would-be lover with a fixation on an earless stuffed rabbit to an all-night pickles-and-vodka bacchanal that goes mind-bogglingly wrong. In Slovak, Hungarian, Latvian, and Russian with English subtitles. (BS)



SLOVENIA

## THE MINER

(RUDAR)  
2017, Hanna Antonina Wojcik Slak, Slovenia/Croatia, 98 min.  
With Leon Lucev, Boris Cavazza

**Friday, March 30, 6:00 pm**  
**Monday, April 2, 8:00 pm**

Slovenia's submission for Oscar consideration is a tense fictional tale delving into the discovery of the evidence of a war crime down an abandoned mine shaft. Aljja, a miner for a company in the process of downsizing, faces a crisis of conscience when sent on a fool's errand to inspect a long-shuttered tunnel. Instructed under threat of dismissal to certify that the mine contains nothing, he discovers that behind a carefully built wall there is horrifying evidence of a mass murder. In Slovenian with English subtitles. (BS)



SPAIN

## LOTS OF KIDS, A MONKEY AND A CASTLE

(MUCHOS HIJOS, UN MONO Y UN CASTILLO)  
2017, Gustavo Salmerón, Spain, 89 min.

**Friday, March 9, 4:00 pm**  
**Monday, March 12, 6:00 pm**

An award-winner at several film festivals as well as a surprise box-office hit in Spain, this documentary is a tribute by Spanish actor/filmmaker Salmerón to his 81-year-old mother Julita, whose many endearing eccentricities achieve outlandish proportions. The title refers to three wishes that were made by Julita as a girl and, in fairy-tale fashion, eventually came true. But life isn't a fairy tale, and, like Spain itself, the family's fortunes turned downward with the 2008 economic crisis. In Spanish with English subtitles. (MR)

PANORAMA  
LATINX



# 21st Annual Chicago European Union Film Festival



SPAIN

## STRANGERS ON THE EARTH

2016, Tristan Cook, Spain/USA, 97 min.

**Saturday, March 17, 3:30 pm**  
**Monday, March 19, 6:00 pm**

PANORAMA  
LATINX

Several films have been made about the Camino de Santiago, the 600-mile route across northern Spain that has attracted pilgrims since the Middle Ages. This documentary is distinguished by its graceful interweaving of four threads: the scenic cinematography, an informal Spanish-language narration that fills in the background of the Camino, a mosaic of voiceover commentaries by the pilgrims themselves, and the journey of American cellist Dane Johansen, walking the Camino with his cello strapped to his back and performing Bach at 36 churches along the route. In Spanish and English with English subtitles. (MR)



SWEDEN

## A HUSTLER'S DIARY

(MÅSTE GITT)  
2017, Ivica Zubak, Sweden, 97 min.  
With Can Demirtas, Lena Endre

**Friday, March 23, 2:00 pm**  
**Tuesday, March 27, 6:00 pm**

Metin (Demirtas), a petty crook living a thug's life in the Turkish-immigrant ghetto of Jordbro, compulsively keeps a diary of his criminal exploits. Filled with incriminating material, it accidentally falls into the hands of a high-toned book editor looking for the next hot thing. As Metin scrambles to get the document back, his culture-clash encounters with the literary world provide this fast-moving crime story with its comic grist, and his bumpy path toward redemption reveals its heart. In Swedish with English subtitles. (MR)



SWEDEN

## MY AUNT IN SARAJEVO

(MIN FASTER I SARAJEVO)  
2016, Goran Kapetanovic, Sweden/Bosnia, 58 min.  
With Milan Dragisic, Sadzida Setic

**Friday, March 16, 5:00 pm**  
**Wednesday, March 21, 6:00 pm**

Zlatko, a Bosnian refugee in Sweden, has left the past behind him—until his Swedish-born daughter insists on going to Sarajevo to visit the aunt she has never seen. But there is a secret surrounding this aunt, just as there is another one surrounding Zlatko's former life. This tale of loss and remembrance contains an undercurrent of dark humor, as well as a heartfelt tribute to the city of Sarajevo. In Swedish, Bosnian, and English with English subtitles. Preceded by Kapetanovic's short film REFUGEE 532 (2016, 15 min.). (MR)



UNITED KINGDOM

## ANCHOR AND HOPE

2017, Carlos Marques-Marcet, UK/Spain, 114 min.  
With Oona Chaplin, Natalia Tena

**Friday, March 23, 4:00 pm**  
**Monday, March 26, 7:45 pm**

Like a JULES AND JIM for the 21st century, this radical reworking of rom-com formulas challenges conventional notions of gender, marriage, and family. Eva (Chaplin) and Kat (Tena) are a lesbian couple living on a boat on London's Regent's Canal. Eva feels the call of motherhood, but the more bohemian Kat sees this as a threat to her unanchored lifestyle. Along comes Kat's Spanish friend Roger, who breaks the impasse with a sperm donation. The three maintain a volatile ménage, until a catastrophe threatens to split them apart forever. In English and Spanish with English subtitles. (MR)

Chicago European Union Film Festival continues on next page



# 21st Annual Chicago European Union Film Festival



UNITED KINGDOM

## THE DEATH OF STALIN

2017, Armando Iannucci, UK/France/Belgium, 107 min.  
With Andrea Riseborough, Jason Isaacs

**Saturday, March 10, 8:00 pm**  
**Wednesday, March 14, 6:00 pm**

Having proven himself the master of contemporary political satire, Iannucci (*Veep*) sets his sites on Russian history. When Joseph Stalin is felled by a stroke after decades of terrorizing his political subordinates and the USSR at large, a struggle for who will take his place begins at the highest level of the Soviet regime. Without shying away from nasty particularities like state-sanctioned murder, Iannucci plays this bloody transition as farce, ensuring that every one of the film's plentiful laughs will stick in your throat. In English. (CW)



UNITED KINGDOM

## GHOST STORIES

2017, Jeremy Dyson and Andy Nyman, UK, 98 min.  
With Andy Nyman, Martin Freeman

**Friday, March 23, 8:00 pm**  
**Thursday, March 29, 8:30 pm**

This adaptation of the hit London play draws cleverly on classic creepshows like *THE CABINET OF DR. CALIGARI* and *DEAD OF NIGHT*, but it serves up plenty of juicy jump-scares, too. Prof. Philip Goodman (Nyman), a Jewish skeptic who has devoted his life to debunking phony spiritualists, is sent to investigate three cases that seem beyond rational explanation. His rationalism remains unfazed, until a series of spectacular twists collapse the three tales into each other for a karmic comeuppance that you wouldn't wish on your worst enemy. In English. (MR)



UNITED KINGDOM

## HAVE YOU SEEN MY MOVIE?

2016, Paul Anton Smith, UK/Canada, 136 min.

**Friday, March 30, 2:00 pm**  
**Saturday, March 31, 3:00 pm**

The movies look at themselves in Smith's debut feature, which recalls the myriad ways in which they have been publicly exhibited, from opulent movie palaces to drive-ins to seedy porn theaters. A close collaborator of Christian Marclay and one of the battery of editors employed to work on his seminal found-footage work *THE CLOCK*, Smith draws on clips from hundreds of films and finds a narrative through-line across decades of moviegoing that demonstrates the integral role that the ritual of viewing movies in public has maintained for over a century. In English. (CW)

### For their generous assistance in obtaining films for the **Chicago European Union Film Festival**, the Gene Siskel Film Center thanks:

**Austria:** Nadja Weidmann, Austrian Cultural Forum New York; Anne Laurent-Delage, Austrian Films; Sergi Steemann, Roxana Richter, The Match Factory; **Belgium:** Martin Gondre, Indie Sales; **Bulgaria:** Ramona Sehr, Arri Releasing; Stephan Komandarev; Mila Voinikova, Miramar Film; **Cyprus:** Marios Piperides, AMP Filmworks; Martin Hampel, Twenty Twenty Vision Filmproduktion; **Czech Republic:** Martina Moudrá, Biograf Jan Sverák; **Denmark:** Adeline Monzier, UniFrance; **Estonia:** Katerina Monastyrskaya, Leo Production; **France:** Adeline Monzier, UniFrance; Ilaria Gomasasca, Pyramide International; **Germany:** Irmi Maunu-Kocian, Goethe-Institut Chicago; **Greece:** Liza Linardou, Greek Film Center; Christina Liapos, Heretic Outreach; Clio Fanouraki; **Hungary:** Krisztina Orr, Magyar Filmunió; Zita Bencsik, General Consulate of Hungary; Roxana Richter, The Match Factory; **Ireland:** Stephen Burke, Mammoth Films; Barry Ward; **Italy:** Alberta Lai, Italian Cultural Institute, Chicago; Barbara Klein, Italian Film Festival of St. Louis; Alessia Gatti, Valentina Zanella, KPlusFilm; Ilaria Gomasasca, Pyramide International; Lucetta Lanfranchi, Rai Com; **Latvia:** Alberto Alvarez Aguilera, Reel Suspects; **Lithuania:** Egle Lauzonyte, Consulate General of the Republic of Lithuania, Chicago; Matthias Angoulvant, Wide Management; **Luxembourg:** Paul Thiltges Distribution; **Malta:** Susan Ronald, Malta Film Commission; Julian Galea, Galea Pictures; **Netherlands:** Vera Kuipers, Consulate General of the Kingdom of Netherlands, New York; André Naus, Eye International; Paul Thiltges Distribution; **Portugal:** Irène Cadavid, Memento Films International; **Romania:** Bojana Maric, Taskovski Films; **Slovakia:** Sebastian Chesneau, Cercamon; **Slovenia:** Nerina Kocjancic, Slovenian National Film Center; Siniša Juricic, Nukleus Film; **Spain:** Luke Brawley, Dogwoof Ltd.; Teresa Hernando Rojo, Instituto Cervantes de Chicago; **Sweden:** Theo Tsappas, Swedish Film Institute; China Åhlander; **UK:** Paul Anton Smith; **and also:** ArtMattan Productions; Jonathan Howell, Big World Pictures; Bill Thompson, Cohen Media Group; Mike Repsch, Dark Star Pictures; Gary Palmucci and Ira Deutchman, Deutchman Company, Inc.; Clemence Taillandier, Distrib Films US; Jeffrey Winter, The Film Collaborative; Maxwell Wolkin, Film Movement; Meredith Finch, FilmRise; Marc Mauerci, First Run Features; Taylor Devorsky, Samuel Goldwyn Films; Bob Hunter, Icarus Films; Elizabeth Brambilla, Justin DiPietro, IFC Films; Mika Kimoto, KimStim; Jonathan Hertzberg and Graham Swindoll, Kino Lorber Films; Danielle McCarthy-Boles, Magnolia Pictures; Neil Friedman, Menemsha Films; Kyle Westphal, Music Box Films; Richard Matson, The Orchard; Cameron Swanagon, Oscilloscope Pictures; Mike Williams, Strand Releasing; Joe Yanick, Visit Films.

# conversations at the edge

experimental media series

*Conversations at the Edge* is a dynamic weekly series of screenings, artist talks, and performances by some of the most compelling media artists of yesterday and today.

CATE 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 Video Data Bank and the Gene Siskel Film Center.

Visit CATE's blog!  
<http://blogs.saic.edu/cate/>

*Laura Huertas Millán in person!*

## Laura Huertas Millán: Ethnographic Fictions

2016-17, Laura Huertas Millán, Colombia/Mexico, ca. 72 min.

**Thursday, March 8, 6:00 pm**

Investigating the terrain between fiction and ethnography, French-Colombian filmmaker Laura Huertas Millán has created a multi-faceted body of work where political history and personal narrative meet. *SOL NEGRO* (2016) is a portrait of Antonia, a Colombian opera singer, her sister, and her niece. *LA LIBERTAD* (2017) explores the ties that bind labor and creativity by centering on the Navarros, a Mesoamerican matriarchal family that has mastered the art of weaving on the backstrap loom. DCP digital. (Ariel Clark-Semyck)

*Ed Halter in person!*

## Edward Owens: A Portrait Study

1966-68, Edward Owens, USA, 57 min.

**Thursday, March 22, 6:00 pm**

In the mid 1960s, Edward Owens (SAIC 1966-67), a young African American artist from the South Side of Chicago, burst onto New York's underground scene with a series of strikingly beautiful films of heartbreak, queer desire, and his own family. Rarely screened in his home town, the films in this program offer a unique opportunity to reassess Owens's singular body of work, including *TOMORROW'S PROMISE* (1967) and *PRIVATE IMAGININGS AND NARRATIVE FACTS* (1968). Critic Ed Halter will introduce the program. Digital file. (Amy Beste)

## FURUSATO

2016, Thorsten Trimpop, Japan, 90 min.

**Thursday, March 29, 6:00 pm**

Trimpop's films explore the many ways cultural, political, and ecological histories are borne by individuals in their daily lives. *FURUSATO*, his most recent feature, exposes the devastating



## Edward Owens: A Portrait Study, March 22



## FURUSATO, March 29

effects of the Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant meltdown on the surrounding landscape and its inhabitants. Shot over the course of four years, the film follows a media-savvy activist, a horse breeder, a teen-rocker, and a nuclear engineer as they struggle to cope with the fallout of the ongoing disaster. DCP digital.

*Hayoun Kwon in person!*

## Hayoun Kwon: Films and Virtual Realities

2011-17, Hayoun Kwon, South Korea/France/USA, 75 min.

**Thursday, April 5, 6:00 pm**

Through a unique interplay of documentary techniques and animation technologies, the films and virtual reality projects of Paris-based South Korean artist Hayoun Kwon present new realms for history and memory. The artist presents a selection of films, two recent virtual reality projects, and discusses the ideas and technologies that sustain her practice. Included in the program: *LACK OF EVIDENCE* (2011), *489 YEARS* (2015), *THE BIRD LADY* (2017). Multiple formats. (Ariel Clark-Semyck)

# APOCALYPSE THEN

## THE VIETNAM WAR ON FILM

Lecturer: Nora Annesley Taylor

From Jan. 27 through May 8, we offer *Apocalypse Then: The Vietnam War on Film*, a series of fourteen programs with weekly Tuesday lectures by Nora Annesley Taylor, Alsdorf Professor of South and Southeast Asian Art at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago. 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 the lecture. Admission to all *Apocalypse Then* programs is \$5 for Film Center members; usual prices for non-members.

—Martin Rubin

After the Vietnam War ended in 1975, Hollywood began to explore the trauma and legacy of the war on the American psyche. With the 50th anniversary of the Tet Offensive occurring in January 2018, and the recent broadcast of Ken Burns and Lynn Novick's PBS documentary, these films, along with those made by Vietnamese and Cambodian filmmakers, deserve to be revisited. The series will take a close look at how the war and its legacy was imagined and represented in film, from the perspective of both Southeast Asian and international filmmakers.

—Nora Annesley Taylor



### THE KILLING FIELDS

1984, Roland Joffé, USA, 141 min.  
With Sam Waterston, Dr. Haing S. Ngor

Tuesday, March 13, 6:00 pm

This suspenseful, sobering drama centers on the friendship between correspondent Sydney Schanberg and his assistant Dith Pran, who disappeared into the nightmare of the Khmer Rouge regime. 35mm. (MR)

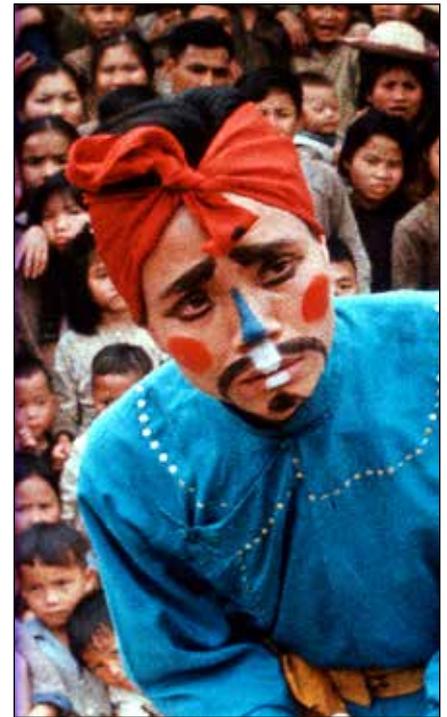


### THE MISSING PICTURE

2013, Rithy Panh, Cambodia/France, 92 min.

Friday, March 16, 4:00 pm  
Tuesday, March 20, 6:00 pm

A childhood survivor of the Cambodian killing fields, Panh revisits the painful past primarily through childlike dioramas peopled with clay figures. In English and French with English subtitles. DCP digital. (MR)



### FAR FROM VIETNAM

1967, Chris Marker et al., France, 116 min.

Tuesday, April 3, 6:00 pm

Responses to the war by Jean-Luc Godard, Joris Ivens, William Klein, Claude Lelouch, Alain Resnais, Agnès Varda, and supervising editor Marker. In French, Vietnamese, and English with English subtitles. DCP digital. (MR)

### Upcoming films in *Apocalypse Then*

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

#### April 7 and 10 FORGETTING VIETNAM

2016, Trinh T. Minh-ha, South Korea/Vietnam/USA, 90 min.

#### April 14 and 17 DON'T THINK I'VE FORGOTTEN

2014, John Pirozzi, USA/  
Cambodia/France, 105 min.

#### April 21 and 24 GOLDEN SLUMBERS

2011, Davy Chou, France/  
Cambodia, 96 min.

#### April 28 and May 1 DAUGHTER FROM DANANG

2002, Gail Dolgin and Vicente  
Franco, USA, 83 min.

#### May 5 and 8 CAMBODIAN SON

2014, Masahiro Sugano, USA/  
Cambodia, 90 min.

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**Members pay only \$6 per movie!**

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**BENEFITS:** Pay \$6 admission to each screening (\$5 to each spring and autumn lecture series screening); 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.

## PANORAMA LATINX

PANORAMA LATINX is an initiative at the Gene Siskel Film Center supported by a three-year grant from the Reva and David Logan Foundation. The goal of the initiative is to support audience development and to engage the Latino community through advocacy, programming, partnerships, and showcasing emerging local filmmakers. Latin America is experiencing a film renaissance right now. The Film Center is proud to be the year-round home for international screenings, including the important new work being made by Latino filmmakers. The Film Center strives to be welcoming and responsive to all communities.

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**Location:** 164 North State Street. **Tickets:** Visit our website for online ticket purchasing information. **For showtimes:** visit [www.siskelfilmcenter.org](http://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 \$19 for 24 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:**  
\$11 General Admission;  
\$7 Students;  
\$6 Members.  
*Unless otherwise noted.*

# See Europe by Film



**NEW FILMS BY**  
Barbara Albert  
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Bohdan Sláma  
Jan Sverák  
Paolo Taviani  
Wim Wenders  
And many more!

**21st Annual Chicago  
European Union Film Festival  
21st year! All month! 61 films! 28 nations!**

**BET ON REVENGE  
(Hungary), March 21, 24**