

Spring 2008 International Film Series

Jan 16 Noí (Iceland, 2003)

Noi (Noi Albinoi) is a modern parable about a young misfit living on a remote fjord in northern Iceland. Noi dreams of escaping from this white-walled prison with Iris, a city girl who works in a local gas station. But his clumsy attempt at escape spirals out of control so that only a natural disaster is capable of offering him a window into a better world. *Presented by Stefan Hall (English, UW-Green Bay)*

Jan 23 Reconstruction (Denmark, 2003)

First-time director Cristoffer Boe's *Reconstruction* is a twisty and entertaining urban love story that plays with both form and style. Late one evening, Alex suddenly abandons his girlfriend, Simone, to follow the beautiful Aimee. In his encounter with Aimee, time and place dissolve for him and he becomes a stranger to Simone. A psychological romantic drama, about a man, who forgets about his past and must put his faith in love, in order to gain a future. *Presented by David Coury (UW-Green Bay)*

Feb 6 How I spent the End of the World (Romania, 2006)

Bucharest 1989 – Last year of Ceausescu's dictatorship. Eva lives with her parents and her younger brother Lalalilu. One day at school, Eva and her boyfriend accidentally break a bust of Ceausescu. They are forced to confess their crime before a disciplinary committee and Eva is expelled from school. She soon meets Andrei and decides to escape Romania with him. Lalalilu is more and more convinced that Ceausescu is the main reason for Eva's decision to leave. So, with his friends from school, he devises a plan to kill the dictator.

Feb 20 L'america (Italy, 1994)

After nearly half a century of communist rule, a poverty stricken Albania falls subject to the invasion of two exploitive capitalists looking to prosper within the changing economy. As Albania's people try desperately to flee destitution, Gino and Fiore arrive from Italy with plans to use a makeshift manufacturing plant to front their next scam. *L'America* is a biting, profoundly moving drama that illustrates how the downtrodden of society, against the excitement of political change, are fated to do little more than shift from one kind of exploitation to another. *Presented by Riccardo Paterni in cooperation with the Italian-American Association of Green Bay*.

Mar 5 Fräulein (Switzerland, 2006)

A story of the friendship among three women from Yugoslavia who seek a new life in Switzerland. Reza, now in her fifties, has completely detached herself from the past and now owns a cafeteria in Zurich, but maintains an orderly, joyless existence. Mila, a waitress there, is a good-humored Croatian woman who also emigrated decades ago. Both of them receive a jolt when Ana, a young, itinerant woman who has fled Sarajevo, breezes into the cafeteria looking for work.

Mar 19 King of Hearts (France, 1966)

During the latter part of World War I, Private Charles Plumpick is chosen to go into the French town of Marville and disconnect a bomb that the German army has planted. However, Charles is chased by some Germans and finds himself holed up at the local insane asylum, where the inmates are convinced that he is the "King of Hearts." Feeling obligated to help the inmates, Charles attempts to lead them out of town, where they step into the characters of the fleeing villagers. *Presented by Trevor Jones and shown in conjunction with the exhibit "The Traitor State: Wisconsin in WWI" at the Neville Public Museum*.

Apr 2 Dead Man (USA, 1995)

Jim Jarmusch's *Dead Man* is the story of a young man's journey, both physically and spiritually, into very unfamiliar terrain. William Blake travels to the extreme western frontiers of America sometime in the 2nd half of the 19th century. Lost and badly wounded, he encounters an odd, outcast Native American, named "Nobody," who believes Blake is actually the dead English poet of the same name. The story, with Nobody's help, leads William Blake through situations that are in turn comical and violent. *Present by Prof. Lisa Poupart and Robert Fish (UW-Green Bay)* and *shown in cooperation with the department of First Nations Studies.*

Apr 16 Violin (Mexico, 2006)

Don Plutarco and his children live a double lives: on one hand they are musicians and humble farmers, on the other they support the peasant guerilla movement's armed efforts against the oppressive government. When the military seizes the village, the rebels flee to the sierra hills. While the guerillas organize a counter-attack, old Plutarco executes his own plan. He plays up his appearance as a harmless violin player, in order to get into the village and recover the ammunition hidden his corn field. His violin playing charms the army captain, who orders Plutarco to come back daily. Arms and music play a tenuous game of cat-and-mouse which ultimately results in painful betrayal. *Presented by Prof. Cristina Ortiz (Spanish, UW-Green Bay)*

Global Lens 2008

May 7 The Custodian (Argentina, 2006)

As a bodyguard for a high profile politician, Ruben is reduced to a mere shadow of a man: every action in his life is regulated by a series of mundane routines, and everywhere his boss goes he must follow, watching but never speaking. Resigned to his invisibility, his life is a series of days without meaning, punctuated only by visits to a prostitute, in this compelling chronicle by first-time director Rodrigo Moreno of a man without any true identity or connection to the world in which he lives. *Presented by Prof. Hernán Fernández-Meardi (Spanish, UW-Green Bay)*

May 21 Let the Wind Blow (*Hava aney dey*) (India, 2004)

At the height of nuclear tensions between India and Pakistan, Arjun and his best friend, Chabia, weigh their options for the future against the reality of life on the streets of Mumbai. Enticed by the promise of wealth and opportunity in the Persian Gulf, Chabia is eager to leave his job as a mechanic. But for Arjun, who must finish college and care for his mother, the decision is not so easy in director Partho Sen-Gupta's gritty, apocalyptic interpretation of Krishna's counsel to Arjuna, from the *Bhagavad Gita*. *Presented by Prof. Regan Gurung (Psychology, UW-Green Bay)*

June 11 The Bet Collector (Phillipines, 2006)

Amy, the family matriarch, makes ends meet by running a small convenience store out of her home. But in a struggling economy customers are scarce, and without the help of her husband or pregnant daughter, she is forced to supplement the family income by collecting bets for an illegal numbers game. In this starkly realistic narrative, director Jeffrey Jeturian presents a captivating portrait of a once-proud woman, haunted by memories of a dead son and hounded by the police, and her fragile and lonely life as a *kubrador* (bet collector) on the streets of Manila.

June 25 The Fish Fall in Love (Iran, 2006)

Atieh's singular passion is food, and her small but popular restaurant on the sleepy Caspian coast is her pride and joy. But when Aziz, a former lover, appears after a twenty-year absence with the intention of closing the restaurant, Atieh prepares his favorite dishes, one after the other, in a desperate effort to convince him otherwise. Loosely based on the Persian fable of Shahrazad and the *Thousand Myths (A Thousand and One Nights)*, director Ali Raffi uses the language of food to paint a richly textured portrait of life and love on the southern coast of Iran. *Presented by Saied Assef, Green Bay Film Society*

Sponsored by:

Neville Public Museum, Wisconsin Public Radio, N.E.W. Arts Council and Norden All films begin at 7:00pm in the auditorium of the Neville Public Museum