kept & Dreamless

November 5th
Spanish, with subtitles in English
Argentina, 2005 (94 minutes)

During Argentina’s economic crisis of the 90’s, nine year-old Eugenia and her mother, Florencia, live a seemingly colorful life surrounded by eccentric neighbors and a constant collection of family. But for Eugenia, who must deal with her mother's dysfunctional and drug-added lifestyle, life is anything but pleasant in this darkly inspiring story of expectation, acceptance and non-traditional family. Led by standout performances from director Vera Fagwell and young actress Luzia Sneg,

Pezheads

December 3rd
American, in English
American, 2005 (7 minutes)

PEZHEDS The Movie is a documentary that explores the phenomenon of PEZ collecting through interviews with a variety of collectors and vendors, as well as visits to conventions, the PEZ factory, and anywhere else we can find PEZ. It highlights the fun and quirky aspects of the hobby as well as the community and the friendships that develop around it. Also, we'll also be doing a free battle of a “Limited Edition” PEZ dispenser to celebrate the documentary. The dispenser is a film reel that says “PEZHEDS - The Movie” printed and packaged by PEZ Candy, Inc. Only 2000 were made, as per PEZs required minimum order.

American Carnival

November 19th
American, in English
American, 2007 (7 minutes)

A documentary on the lives of the carnies and the roads they travel through small towns Wisconsin. Director Laura Stewart preserves a dying lifestyle through this sometimes funny and sensitive work. Members of the troupe dispel some of the myths from the 40s and 50s that linger in association with the modern carnival. The film covers a season in Wisconsin. The film director and producer, Laura Stewart, will be on hand to present the film and answer any questions.

Mother of Mine

December 17th
German, with subtitles in English
Germany, 2005 (7 minutes)

Director Klaus Haro tackles the real-life drama of history in this heartbreaking film set against the backdrop of World War II. Entangled in the safety of neutral Sweden along with more than 76,000 other Finnish children, 9 year-old Eira (Toni Majamies) grapples with feeling abandoned by her biological parents and yet detached from her surrogate family. Unfortunately, things only get worse when he returns to a much different home life.

* All films are free and open to the public but recommended for mature audiences. Films start at 7:30 p.m. in the auditorium of the Neville Public Museum.

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August 6th

Bhutan: Creation, with subtitles in English

Oudji, 2006 (98 minutes)

After his friends are killed in a bizarre bar room argument, Gesar devises an unusual plan to deal with the least he will sell his house, buy a mobile tavern and travel from town to town, giving away free drinks to anyone who needs. But for everyone except Gesar, the idea is strangely appealing and a lot simpler, in director Anik Lee’s darkly humorous tale of loss and reconciliation, told as a metaphor for Bhutan’s gradual rediscovery of its sacred humanity lost during the war.

Opera Jawa

September 3rd

Indonesia, with subtitles in English

Indonesia, 2006 (106 minutes)

Setya and Siti live a peaceful life as husband and wife, selling earthenware in their village. But when Setya is called away on business, a mysterious witcher finds the village in order to seduce her. Tempted by song and dance, Siti initially refuses his advances but eventually succumbs to the witcher and becomes the subject of a erotic battle between two men. Located in lush forest and on pristine beaches of Java, director Garin Nugroho bases his deeply moving and dazzling visual narrative on “The Abduction of Site” from the Hindu epic, Ramayana.

The Kite

October 1st

Arabic, with subtitles in English

Lebanon, 2003 (80 minutes)

In director Fadi Khuri’s “fairytale for troubled times”, sixteen-year-old Lara must cross a border checkpoint between Lebanon and Israel to marry a man she has never met. Neither she nor her betrothed are eager to consummate a marriage to a stranger. A matter further complicated by Lara’s surprising admission that she is in love with the Israeli soldier guarding the border. Khuri’s engaging drama about marriage and betrayal is underscored by delicate symbolism and artistic reference to politics of Lebanon’s territories that have been annexed.

Bunny Chow

August 20th

Afrikaniz, with subtitles in English

South Africa, 2006 (95 minutes)

In director John Barker’s debut feature, up and coming comedians Kga, Kga and Davo mix the lives of a farm girl, Marie, her beloved pet chicken Balthazar. The two eventually become separated, but their experiences follow strangely parallel paths. As a young woman, Marie is cruelly abused by her lover, while Balthazar suffers at the hands of a number of different owners. But their moment ultimately becomes the vehicle for their spiritual transcendence and redemption. Presented by Mark Harris.

An Hasard Bulbazar

September 17th

French, with subtitles in English

France, 2006 (124 minutes)

This religious fable from director Robert Benoist traces the lives of a farm girl, Marie, and her beloved pet chicken, Balthazar. The two eventually become separated, but their experiences follow strangely parallel paths. As a young woman, Marie is cruelly abused by her lover, while Balthazar suffers at the hands of a number of different owners. But their moment ultimately becomes the vehicle for their spiritual transcendence and redemption. Presented by Mark Harris.

Luxury Car

October 16th

Mandarin (Voskodram, with subtitles in English

China, 2006 (95 minutes)

In this emotionally gripping film, Li Qiqi, a taxi driver, leaves his small village for the city of Wuhan, determined to fulfill his wife’s last wish of seeing her son. But instead of finding his son, he discovers his daughter working as a karaoke bar escort. Forcing her to come to terms with their long estranged relationship and the tenuous future of his family. Director Wang Quan opens Li Qiqi’s story to represent the painful reality of thousands of parents who have lost contact with their children through rural exodus and political oppression in China.