

FILM FORUM

209 WEST HOUSTON ST. NEW YORK, NY 10014

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filmforum.org

INDEPENDENT PREMIERES & CLASSICS **DEC 2023 / JAN 2024**

**NEW 4K
RESTORATION**

DECEMBER 1-7 ONE WEEK

"Stylishly well-crafted and thoroughly entertaining... embellished with black wit."

— Geoff Andrew, *Time Out*



BERTRAND TAVERNIER'S **COUP DE TORCHON**

Starring **PHILIPPE NOIRET
ISABELLE HUPPERT
STÉPHANE AUDRAN**

(1981) In pre-WWII Bourkassa, a fictional one-cow outpost in French colonial Senegal, spineless lawman Philippe Noiret is humiliated by wife Stéphane Audran, pushed around by two local pimps, and bullied by the military *commandant* in Dakar... though he still finds time for some hanky panky with the new schoolteacher and more-than-willing married woman Isabelle Huppert. But then the worm turns, as he opts for a "clean slate." Blackly comic adaptation of Jim Thompson's 1964 American pulp novel *Pop. 1280*.

APPROX. 128 MIN. FRANCE IN FRENCH WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES
RIALTO PICTURES

*With support from the George Fasel Memorial Fund for Classic French Cinema
and the Ada Katz Fund for Literature in Film*

*Restored in 4K from the original negative by Studiocanal at L'Image Retrouvée, with
color correction by Jean Achache on behalf of Bertrand Tavernier. Funding by the CNC.*

OPENS DECEMBER 8

TOTAL TRUST

DIRECTED BY JIALING ZHANG

For two decades, China has implemented high-tech security and surveillance to monitor its citizens. In this fascinating and chilling documentary, Jialing Zhang (co-director of *ONE CHILD NATION*) immerses us in this daily reality: half a billion cameras pointed at the populace, invasive neighborhood watch programs ("Sharp Eyes"), employees monitored for stress levels, and a "social credit" point system that rewards for community service and penalizes perceived societal infractions. Zhang focuses on three courageous women fighting for civil liberties and justice, including independent journalist Sophia Xueqin Huang, one of the first Chinese reporters to investigate #MeToo accusations. A bracing portrait of a society for whom privacy is all but extinct and a warning for democracies employing surveillance tools in unprecedented ways.

97 MIN. GERMANY / THE NETHERLANDS
IN MANDARIN WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES **FILM MOVEMENT**

*With support from the Richard Brick, Geri Ashur, and Sara Bershtel
Fund for Social Justice Documentaries*



DECEMBER 8-21 TWO WEEKS

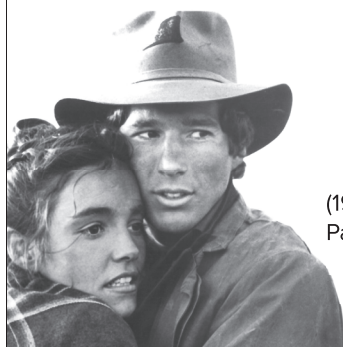
"MALICK'S MASTERPIECE." — Bilge Ebiri

TERRENCE MALICK'S **DAYS OF HEAVEN**

Starring **RICHARD GERE BROOKE ADAMS SAM SHEPARD**

(1978) It's 1916, and Chicagoans Richard Gere, kid sister Linda Manz, and lover Brooke Adams head for the Texas Panhandle to work for farmer Sam Shepard — the beginning of a bizarre love triangle. Malick's second film (before a twenty-year break) was acclaimed for its dazzling, Oscar®-winning visuals (shot by the great cinematographer Néstor Almendros) and won Malick Best Director awards from the New York Film Critics Circle and at Cannes.

APPROX. 95 MIN. USA **PARAMOUNT PICTURES**



**NEW 4K
RESTORATION**

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OPENS DECEMBER 15

GODARD CINEMA

DIRECTED BY CYRIL LEUTHY 100 MIN. FRANCE

TRAILER OF A FILM THAT WILL NEVER EXIST: PHONY WARS

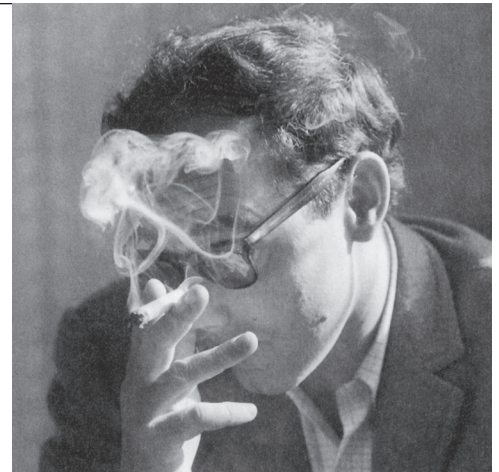
DIRECTED BY JEAN-LUC GODARD 20 MIN. FRANCE / SWITZERLAND

Over 60 years and 140 films, no filmmaker evokes the essence of cinema more than Jean-Luc Godard (1930–2022): artistic rebel, political provocateur, theorist, enigmatic misanthrope. In six parts that move dynamically through Godard's extraordinary and sometimes confounding evolution — from *BREATHLESS* (1960) to his Maoist militant period, to his mainstream return with *EVERY MAN FOR HIMSELF*, and his magnum opus, *HISTOIRE(S) DU CINEMA* — this rich portrait draws from new interviews with family, frenemies, and muses (Nathalie Baye, Julie Delpy, Hanna Schygulla). Packed with iconic scenes from his oeuvre, and archival footage featuring off-script moments with both Godard the filmmaker and Godard the man.

Preceded by *Trailer of a Film That Will Never Exist: Phony Wars*. Although the film was never produced, Godard's preparatory essay-trailer — a beautifully confounding collage of history and politics, text and image, sound and silence — stands as his final work.

120 MIN. TOTAL IN FRENCH WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES KINO LORBER

With support from the Roy Lichtenstein Foundation Fund



DECEMBER 22 – 28 ONE WEEK

100th ANNIVERSARY

CHARLES CHAPLIN'S

A WOMAN OF PARIS

Starring EDNA PURVIANCE ADOLPHE MENJOU

(1923) "The first serious drama written and directed by myself," reads the opening title. For his premiere release for United Artists, Charlie Chaplin chose a sophisticated drama sans himself (apart from a heavily-disguised cameo), with erstwhile leading lady Edna Purviance as the title *femme* kept by philanderer Adolphe Menjou. Chaplin's subtle use of innuendo and objects to reveal relationships was a major influence on moviemakers.

APPROX. 78 MIN. USA
JANUS FILMS

Restored in 4K by Fondazione
Cineteca di Bologna at L'Immagine Ritrovata
Laboratory.

Music by Chaplin, newly restored, orchestrated
and conducted by Timothy Brock.

Also showing this week:

CITY LIGHTS (1931)
MODERN TIMES (1936)
THE GREAT DICTATOR (1940)
THE GOLD RUSH (1925)
THE KID (1921)
THE CIRCUS (1928)
MONSIEUR VERDOUX (1947)

OPENS DECEMBER 25

OCCUPIED CITY

DIRECTED BY STEVE MCQUEEN

From 1940–1945, Nazis occupied the magnificent city of Amsterdam, which suffered mass deportations, a general strike uprising, and a crippling blockade that resulted in the "Hunger Winter" famine of 1944–45. Informed by historian/filmmaker Bianca Stigter's *Atlas of an Occupied City, Amsterdam 1940–1945*, and eschewing the conventions of WWII documentaries, *OCCUPIED CITY* is a monumental excavation of the city's wartime history. Academy Award®-winner Steve McQueen (12 YEARS A SLAVE) presents only contemporary footage of the city, along with hauntingly matter-of-fact narration, to trace the effects of the occupation on human lives block by block, address by address. Shot during the early days of COVID, McQueen captures a city under its first curfew since the war and beset by protests of the government's handling of the pandemic, climate change, and racial injustice. His audacious approach evokes how the history of atrocities — as well as acts of heroism — hover over the freedoms of modern citizens.

262 MIN. (including 15-min. intermission) UK IN ENGLISH A24





DECEMBER 29 – JANUARY 4 ONE WEEK

CAROL REED'S
THE THIRD MAN IN 35mm

Starring JOSEPH COTTEN ALIDA VALLI ORSON WELLES

75th ANNIVERSARY

(1949) Orson Welles' Harry Lime rises from the dead, only to give pulp novelist buddy Joseph Cotten the slip in chaotic post-war Vienna, as zithers play and atmosphere drips from the screen. Cannes Grand Prize; Oscar® winner for Robert Krasker's cinematography; and on top 100 lists of British and American films (#1 for the Brits).

APPROX. 103 MIN. UK RIALTO PICTURES

NEW 4K
RESTORATION

JANUARY 5 – 11 ONE WEEK

ACADEMY AWARD® BEST DOCUMENTARY FEATURE 1986

ARTIE SHAW:
TIME IS ALL YOU'VE GOT

A film by BRIGITTE BERMAN, director of BIX

(1985) "Beware of what you wish for... you may be so unfortunate as to get it." — Artie Shaw. Anchored by an incisive interview with its subject (at age 72, looking back on his five-decade career), a portrait of the outspoken clarinetist and bandleader Artie Shaw (born Arthur Arshawsky on the Lower East Side), one of the most popular figures of the Swing era, whose restlessness (he was married five times) and intellectual curiosity led him to shun celebrity. "Shaw comes alive for you in ways that go beyond his physical presence... Berman makes history live." — *Los Angeles Times*



APPROX. 114 MIN. CANADA

With support from the Roy Lichtenstein Foundation Fund

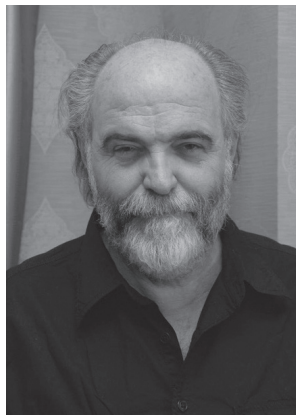
JANUARY 5 – 11 ONE WEEK

"Just as Scorsese and Sidney Lumet have given us a New York of corrupt cops and colorful mafiosi, Leon has given us a New York of heartbreaks and shattered dreams."

— Jorge Ulla

LEON ICHASO
POET OF LATIN NEW YORK

An émigré from revolutionary Cuba at age 14, the late Leon Ichaso (1948–2023) eventually settled in New York City, where he felt "a sense of abandon and pure joy" for the first time. Early stints in advertising gave him the itch to become a filmmaker, realized with his acclaimed low-budget debut comedy *EL SUPER*, hailed by the *Miami Herald* as "the ultimate Cuban exile film." Shot entirely in NYC, on the streets and in real apartments, *EL SUPER* explored both the city and themes of exile, outsiders, and assimilation — with the Latin music explosion added to the mix of later films starring Rubén Blades, Marc Anthony, Jennifer Lopez, Elizabeth Peña, and Benjamin Bratt.



Including:
EL SUPER (1979)
CROSSOVER DREAMS (1985)
PIÑERO (2001)
EL CANTANTE (2006)

Special thanks to Leon's sister Mari Rodriguez Ichaso and his friends and colleagues Manuel Arce and David Tedeschi.

With support from the Robert E. Appel Fund for Spanish and Portuguese Language Films

OPENS JANUARY 12

INSHALLAH A BOY

DIRECTED BY AMJAD AL-RASHEED



The sudden death of her husband leaves a young Arab woman and her daughter without rights or property under Islamic law — and at the mercy of male relatives. Both her own brother and brother-in-law at first show sympathy. But soon it's clear that any whiff of assertion — *I paid for half this house; I will keep my job; I will raise my daughter as I see fit* — is met

with the forces of patriarchy. Amjad Al-Rasheed's gripping, taut debut immerses us in the tangled impossibilities for a woman who simply wants to keep her home and protect her daughter, without a husband or male heir to legitimize her. Her acts of resistance (including necessary deception) enmesh multiple players in a complex web of risk and hope — reminiscent of Asghar Farhadi's masterpiece *A SEPARATION* — as we root and fear for her at every turn.

113 MIN. JORDAN IN ARABIC WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

GREENWICH ENTERTAINMENT

NEW 4K
RESTORATION

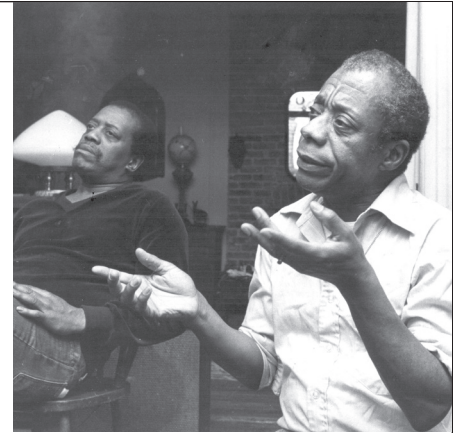
JANUARY 12 – 25 TWO WEEKS

COMMEMORATING THE JAMES BALDWIN CENTENNIAL

I HEARD IT THROUGH THE GRAPEVINE

PRODUCED AND DIRECTED BY DICK FONTAINE AND PAT HARTLEY

(1982) “James Baldwin retraces his time in the South during the Civil Rights Movement, reflecting with his trademark brilliance and insight on the passage of more than two decades. From Selma to Birmingham, Atlanta to the battleground beaches of St. Augustine, Florida, accompanied by Nigerian novelist Chinua Achebe, and back north for a visit to Newark with Amiri Baraka, Baldwin lays bare the fiction of progress in post-Civil Rights America — wondering ‘what happened to those who did not die, but whose lives were smashed on Freedom Road.’” — Rich Blint



Also showing:

MEETING THE MAN: JAMES BALDWIN IN PARIS (1970)

JAMES BALDWIN: FROM ANOTHER PLACE (1973)

RAOUL PECK'S **I AM NOT YOUR NEGRO** (2016) and more

APPROX. 102 MIN. USA / UK THE FILM DESK

Restored by Harvard Film Archive. Special thanks to Gugulethu Mseleku, Smokey Fontaine, and the late Dick Fontaine.

With support from the Richard Brick, Geri Ashur, and Sara Bershtel Fund for Social Justice Documentaries and the Ada Katz Fund for Literature in Film

OPENS JANUARY 26

TÓTEM

DIRECTED BY LILA AVILÉS

“Exuberantly lovely. A dazzling, vibrant child’s-eye view of jubilation and tragedy” (Jessica Kiang, *Sight and Sound*). Lila Avilés’ radiant follow-up to her debut, *THE CHAMBERMAID* (a 2019 Film Forum premiere), *TÓTEM* follows 7-year-old Sol helping her aunts prepare for her father’s surprise birthday party, as the house grows increasingly boisterous and her dad’s absence increasingly mysterious. “There isn’t a false note in the tender Mexican drama *TÓTEM*... With intricate staging, lapidary camerawork and an expressionistically warm palette — along with charming appearances from the natural world — the writer-director Lila Avilés creates a richly textured, deeply compassionate portrait of a family that’s falling apart as one of the youngest members comes into consciousness. *TÓTEM* is only Avilés’ second feature... but it’s also one of the finest movies you’ll see this year.” — Manohla Dargis, *The New York Times*

95 MIN. MEXICO / DENMARK / FRANCE IN SPANISH WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

SIDESHOW / JANUS FILMS

With support from the Robert E. Appel Fund for Spanish and Portuguese Language Films



JANUARY 26 – FEBRUARY 1 ONE WEEK

NEW 4K
RESTORATION

WINNER OF 3 ACADEMY AWARDS® BEST DIRECTOR, BEST ACTOR, BEST SCREENPLAY

PALME D’OR, CANNES FILM FESTIVAL

ROMAN POLANSKI'S THE PIANIST Starring ADRIEN BRODY

(2002) “An adaptation of concert pianist Władysław Szpilman’s memoirs about his experiences in Nazi-occupied Warsaw, Polanski’s cinematic return to the ravaged world of his childhood starts inauspiciously... Once Szpilman is left behind, however... his struggle simply to survive is rendered with increasing subtlety, and Brody’s [Oscar®-winning] lead performance steadily comes into its own. Old-fashioned in both visual and narrative style and in its overall restraint, the film clearly benefits from the director’s first-hand knowledge of the territory.” — Geoff Andrew, *Time Out*. “A tour de force of claustrophobia and surreal desperation.” — A.O. Scott, *The New York Times*

APPROX. 150 MIN. FRANCE / GERMANY / POLAND / UK RIALTO PICTURES

With support from the Joan S. Constantiner Fund for Jewish and Holocaust Films, donated by Leon Constantiner and Family

Restored in 4K from the original camera negative by StudioCanal in collaboration with DI Factory at DI Factory and reKino laboratory.

Funding provided by StudioCanal and the Polish Film Institute.

