

FILM FORUM

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Calendar Programmed by Karen Cooper and Mike Maggiore

A Non-Profit Cinema

Since 1970

MAY 11 - 24

2 WEEKS



CITY OF LIFE AND DEATH

WRITTEN & DIRECTED BY LU CHUAN

CHINA / HONG KONG 2009 135 MINS. IN MANDARIN, JAPANESE, ENGLISH & SHANGHAISE
WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES KINO INTERNATIONAL

December 9, 1937: the Imperial Japanese Army lays siege to Nanking, the Chinese capital, beginning a reign of terror that kills as many as 300,000 civilians. For the first time, a Chinese filmmaker tells the story of the Rape of Nanking – an infamous tragedy, the details of which Japan disputes to this day. Shot in stark black-and-white, CITY OF LIFE AND DEATH follows those caught in the crossfire: a young Chinese general who leads a platoon in street fighting; the German businessman John Rabe, who establishes a safety zone to protect the lives of countless Chinese; and a Japanese officer conflicted by the brutality of his commander. “One of the most talented Chinese filmmakers to emerge in recent years...a phantasmagoric vision...Mr. Lu smartly toggles between the prisoners and their captors, a strategy that helps to humanize the invaders, giving a face to evil.” – Manohla Dargis, *The New York Times* **1:00, 3:45, 6:30, 9:15**

MAY 25 - JUNE 7

2 WEEKS

TUESDAY, AFTER CHRISTMAS

DIRECTED BY RADU MUNTEAN

ROMANIA 2010 99 MINS. IN ROMANIAN WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES LORBER FILMS

The Romanian New Wave of the past decade has yielded such internationally acclaimed gems as 4 MONTHS, 3 WEEKS AND 2 DAYS, THE DEATH OF MR. LAZARESCU and 12:08 EAST OF BUCHAREST. Add to them TUESDAY, AFTER CHRISTMAS, an elegant, emotionally resonant drama of a middle-class couple whose 10-year marriage is rocked by the husband’s illicit affair with their daughter’s sexy dentist. In many respects it’s an oft-told tale: Paul must choose between the easy rapport and stability of his family life and the uncertainty and excitement of a relationship with a much younger woman. In scorchingly intense long takes, the power dynamics among these three are unpredictable and, in the end, devastating. The fact that the two leads are actually a married couple adds to the verisimilitude. “A remarkable, pitch-perfect work, as convincing and affecting a portrayal of the subtleties of modern life and marriage as you’ll find on the screen.” – Steven Zeitchik, *Los Angeles Times* **1:15, 3:15, 6, 8, 10**



JUNE 8 - 21

2 WEEKS



ONE LUCKY ELEPHANT

DIRECTED BY LISA LEEMAN

PRODUCED BY CRISTINA COLISSIMO & JORDANA GLICK-FRANZHEIM USA 2010 84 MINS.

“The thinking person’s DUMBO. A parable of pachydermish proportions” — John Anderson, *Variety*. Where does an elephant go after a life in the circus? Sixteen years have passed since circus producer David Balding adopted Flora, the orphaned baby African elephant. As Flora approaches adulthood, he realizes that she is not happy performing. Ultimately, David must face the difficult truth that the circus is no place for Flora; she needs to be with other elephants. The road to Flora’s retirement, however, is a difficult and emotional journey which tests their bond in unexpected ways. Ten years in the making, ONE LUCKY ELEPHANT eschews easy sentimentality and doesn’t shy away from examining the problems and mysteries posed by keeping wild animals in captivity. This is the denouement of a love story between two individuals — one of them weighing 10,000 pounds — who share feelings of loyalty, sorrow, admiration and joy. Suitable for children, 10 and older. **1, 2:50, 4:40, 6:30, 8:20, 10:10**

JUNE 22 - JULY 5

2 WEEKS

PASSIONE

DIRECTED BY JOHN TURTURRO

ITALY / USA 2010 90 MINS. IN ENGLISH AND ITALIAN WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

Little wonder that PASSIONE, John Turturro’s wild, colorful, sexy ode to the music and people of Naples, was “rapturously received” (*Variety*) and interrupted by “spontaneous outbreaks of applause” (*Sight + Sound Magazine*) in Italy, where it played for more than four months (its soundtrack on the charts for five). A brilliant actor in film, theater, and television, Turturro is also the director of three features (including the hilarious, irreverent ROMANCE & CIGARETTES which premiered at Film Forum) and a man whose talents are fueled by an unquenchable zest for life. He describes PASSIONE as “a musical adventure that comes directly out of the people and the volcanic land they inhabit. Conjuring ancient stories and myths that still live — of love, sex, jealousy, and social protest — each song is a small screenplay, an emotional postcard. I tried to see if I could understand in a small way, a little bit of the soul of the city, while at the same time killing clichés about it. There are places you go and once is enough. Then there’s *Napoli*.” **1, 2:50, 4:40, 6:30, 8:20, 10:10**



JULY 6 - 19

2 WEEKS



RAPT

WRITTEN & DIRECTED BY LUCAS BELVAUX

FRANCE / BELGIUM 2009 126 MINS. IN FRENCH WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES LORBER FILMS

Lucas Belvaux’s RAPT is good, nasty fun: a Chabrolian crime thriller based on the actual 1978 kidnapping of a French-Belgian executive whose harrowing 9-week experience at the hands of a criminal band is, ultimately, less life-threatening to him than the details of his scandalous life which the tabloids uncover in the course of these events. Yvan Attal stars as a wildly attractive businessman and political mover and shaker who hops effortlessly from one chauffeured Mercedes to another as he trades boardrooms for bedrooms. A thoroughly harrowing kidnapping finds him handcuffed, abused, terrified, unshaven, hungry and in need of 50 million euros. His picture-perfect Parisian wife, two svelte teenage daughters and elegant grand-dame *maman* are left to consider just how much his life and *liberté* are worth to them. **1:15, 4:00, 6:40, 9:10**

JULY 20 - 26

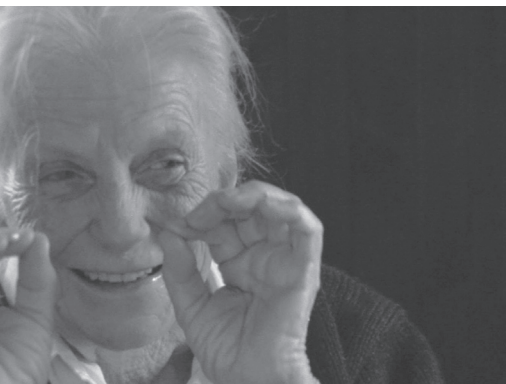
1 WEEK

THE WOMAN WITH THE 5 ELEPHANTS

WRITTEN AND DIRECTED BY VADIM JENDREYKO

SWITZERLAND / GERMANY 2009 94 MINS. IN GERMAN WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES CINEMA GUILD

The 5 elephants are Dostoyevsky’s great literary works, all of which have been translated by the 87-year-old Svetlana Geier, considered the world’s most masterful translator of Russian literature into German. The filmmaker visits with a woman whose fascinating, dramatic life story has been colored by some of the most violent events in 20th century European history: Stalin’s purges of the kulaks (responsible for her father’s death) and the Nazi occupation of the Ukraine (ultimately responsible for saving her life and leading to a university education in Germany). A rigorous intellectual whom we’re privileged to watch parse the language, word by word, with her colleague, she warms the screen with the depths of her dignity and humanity. Language as a civilizing force is the thread that runs through Geier’s life, and it illuminates every minute of the film. **1:15, 3:15, 6, 8, 10**



JULY 27 - AUGUST 9

2 WEEKS



EL BULLI
COOKING IN PROGRESS

DIRECTED BY GEREON WETZEL

GERMANY 2010 108 MINS. IN SPANISH WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES ALIVE MIND CINEMA

El Bulli has been called the best restaurant in the world and Ferran Adrià, its creator, deemed a brilliant innovator, the father of molecular gastronomy, or sometimes just a crazy chef. The restaurant, located outside of Barcelona, closes each year for 6 months, as Adrià and staff sequester themselves to concentrate on creating the new culinary wonders that will become their next 30-course menu. (The restaurant accommodates only 50 for dinner, despite two million annual requests for reservations.) This is cooking as avant-garde art: a cocktail composed of hazelnut oil, salt, and water or a dessert of freeze-dried peppermint and ice shavings. Surrounded by bizarre hi-tech equipment, elaborate containers, chopping blocks and knives, they experiment with making mushroom juice and sweet potato meringue. Gereon Wetzel’s elegant, observational documentary captures the razor-sharp, science-fiction sensibility at work. Adrià exclaims: “The more bewilderment, the better.” **1, 3:15, 5:30, 7:50, 10**

AUGUST 10 - 23

2 WEEKS

OVER YOUR CITIES GRASS WILL GROW

DIRECTED BY SOPHIE FIENNES

FRANCE / THE NETHERLANDS / UK 2010 105 MINS. IN FRENCH, ENGLISH & GERMAN WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES ALIVE MIND CINEMA

Sophie Fiennes records Anselm Kiefer, as the 65-year-old world-renowned artist creates a spectacular architectonic landscape. “In 1993 (Kiefer) left his native Germany and settled in Barjac in France, where he bought a derelict silk factory, transforming it into an extraordinary artistic centre... at once the place where his paintings and sculptures are housed and displayed, and a colossal, evolving architectural artwork in itself. Fiennes begins by roaming through the tunnels and corridors of his studio-network: huge, disorienting shapes and forms loom, composed of earth and mud. There are giant, organic pillars, like stalagmites or termite mounds, a visual or conceptual rhyme to the towers built outside... Fiennes’s emphases are almost abstract: color, light, texture, form – and to these, she adds sound, using the music of Jörg Widmann and György Ligeti. Anselm’s studio is a place where real, hard work is going on: smelting, sawing and hammering... His artistry looks as if it could be taking place centuries ago, and yet it feels very modern... A deeply serious meditation on artistic practice and expression.” – Peter Bradshaw, *The Guardian* (UK) **1, 3:10, 5:40, 7:50, 10**



AUGUST 24 - 30

1 WEEK



IRON CROWS

DIRECTED BY BONG-NAM PARK

SOUTH KOREA 2009 93 MINS. IN BENGALI WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

The world center for ship-breaking is located in the port city of Chittagong in Bangladesh — perhaps the poorest nation on earth — is home to the ship-breaking industry. Here huge megaton behemoths that once sailed the seas are sent to be broken apart by men and boys (some as young as 12, often wearing flip-flops) who earn \$2 a day, from which they send money home to their families. They wrestle with thousands of tons of iron and asbestos, wielding blow-torches, hammers and crowbars. Here is half of world’s retired vessels are dismantled by 20,000 people who risk their lives to eke out the barest living. Much like MANUFACTURED LANDSCAPES (a record of industrial waste in China), IRON CROWS is a remarkably beautiful film, in this case, not just for its superb cinematography, but also for its indelible insight into how some of the most exploited people in the world retain their courage, decency and integrity. **1, 3:15, 6, 8, 10**

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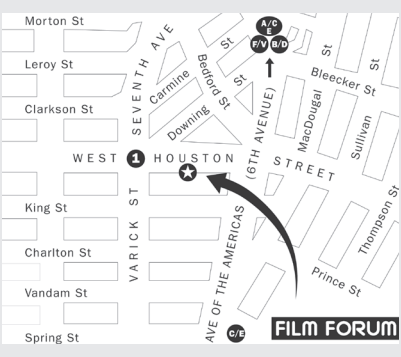
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No seating after the first 20 minutes of any show. Program subject to change.
Assistive listening devices are available at the box office upon request. **DESIGN: Gates Sisters Studio**

FILM FORUM is located on West Houston St., west of 6th Ave. (Ave. of the Americas).

SUBWAYS
1 to Houston St.
C/E to Spring St.
A/B/C/D/E/F/M to West 4th St.

BUSES
#5, 6, 21 to 6th Ave and Houston St;
#20 to Varick and Houston St.

PARKING Limited metered parking is available in the immediate vicinity.



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CIRCLE OF ARTISTS: Professionals in the arts (film, theater, fashion, visual arts, design, music, literature, dance, etc.) who contribute \$1,000 / \$5,000 / \$10,000. Co-chairs for 2011: to be announced.

For additional information, please contact Keith Butler
212-627-2035 x225 or Keith@filmforum.org

KEEPING CURRENT

Whenever possible, films that prove unusually popular on our calendars will be held for longer runs. Please check our advertising in the Village Voice, Time Out NY and The New York Times (Wed/Fri/Sat/Sun) for up-to-the-minute information. And check our Web site: www.filmforum.org.

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We make every effort to remove duplicates from our mailing list. However, if you receive more than one calendar, please send us the actual mailing label of the duplicate you would like removed. Or e-mail us at Jeffrey@filmforum.org.

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Reduced price tickets (\$7) often are available for groups of 10 or more. Generally we limit group sales to Monday-Thursday matinees. We encourage teachers with students to attend on this basis. Please call Group Sales Coordinator (212) 627-2035 or e-mail groupsales@filmforum.org.

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Nonprofit organizations may wish to use individual screenings as a benefit event. Blocks of tickets (at full price, \$12.50) may be purchased in advance for this purpose. We welcome inquiries. Please call Benefits Coordinator (212) 627-2035 or e-mail benefitscoordinator@filmforum.org.

GIFT CARDS

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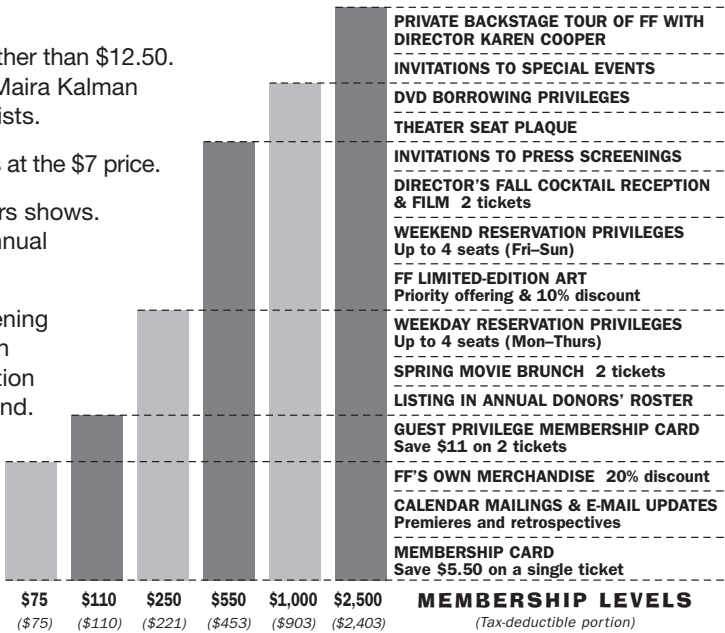
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- \$110 members have a guest privilege card, allowing the purchase of 2 tickets at the \$7 price.
- \$250 members and above may make telephone reservations for Mon-Thurs shows. They receive 2 tickets to our Spring Movie Brunch, and are listed in our annual donors' roster published in January.
- \$550 members and above may make telephone reservations for any screening (weekends included!). They receive priority offering and a 10% discount on new FF limited-edition art and are invited to the Director's Cocktail Reception and Movie in the fall. They receive invitations to press screenings year-round.
- \$1,000 members and above have DVD borrowing privileges. Depending upon availability, we offer a 2-week loan of DVDs of films we have played in the past. They also receive a seat plaque in one of the cinemas.
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BENEFITS



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1, 3:15, 5:40, 7:50, 10

OPENS FRIDAY JUNE 3

REJOICE & SHOUT

Directed by Don McGlynn
Produced by Joe Lauro

magnolia pictures

Featuring

THE SOUL STIRRERS WITH SAM COOKE
THE DINWIDDIE COLORED QUARTET (1902)
THE UTICA QUARTET
THE GOLDEN GATE QUARTET
SISTER ROSETTA THARPE
THE DIXIE HUMMINGBIRDS
MAHALIA JACKSON
THE SWAN SILVERTONES (with CLAUDE JETER)
THE CLARA WARD SINGERS
THE FIVE BLIND BOYS OF MISSISSIPPI
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THE STAPLE SINGERS
REVEREND JAMES CLEVELAND
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ANDRAE CROUCH
THE SELVEY FAMILY
DARREL PETTIES
SMOKEY ROBINSON

EL BULLI
opens July 27.

PREMIERES
MAY - AUGUST 2011

CHRISTMAS
TUESDAY, AFTER
opens May 25.

ONE LUCKY ELEPHANT
opens June 8.

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