

JANUARY - MAY 2005 ADMISSION: \$10 NON-MEMBERS / \$5 MEMBERS

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# FILM FORUM

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CALENDAR PROGRAMMED BY KAREN COOPER  
AND MIKE MAGGIORE



MACHUCA

JANUARY 19 - FEBRUARY 1  
2 WEEKS

## Machuca

DIRECTED BY ANDRÉS WOOD

CHILE / SPAIN / UK / FRANCE 2004 120 MINS.  
IN SPANISH WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES MENEMSHA FILMS

**SANTIAGO, CHILE, 1973: TWO 11-YEAR-OLD BOYS FROM DIFFERENT SIDES OF THE TRACKS** share the same classroom, but different perspectives on the impending coup against Allende. Gonzalo lives in a wealthy suburb, unaware of the growing resistance of his class to the socialist president; the more outgoing Machuca is one of many children inhabiting the city's rough and tumble shantytown. When they become buddies, Machuca teaches Gonzalo to take advantage of the situation by selling nationalist banners to right-wing protesters and Communist banners to left-wing activists! But when the coup arrives they are affected in drastically dissimilar ways. MACHUCA is not just a political drama, but a poignant coming-of-age film, with perfectly pitched performances by the young actors, based on filmmaker Andrés Wood's own childhood.

1:30, 4:30, 7:15, 9:40



DAYBREAK

FEBRUARY 2 - 15  
2 WEEKS

## Daybreak

WRITTEN AND DIRECTED BY BJÖRN RUNGE  
SWEDEN 2003 108 MINS.  
IN SWEDISH WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES NEWMARKET FILMS

**THOUGHTS OF SWEDEN BRING TO MIND CLICHÉS OF BLOND AFFLUENCE** and blond wood (good taste taken to democratic extremes, à la Ikea); but they are counterbalanced by the darker waters Ingmar Bergman trawled so brilliantly for a generation. The Swedish drama DAYBREAK, a tripartite tale of middle-aged people plunging headlong into a host of crises, falls clearly into the latter category: A dashing surgeon returns to his Architectural Digest-caliber home to discover that his dinner guests have some sordid surprises in store; a workaholic bricklayer encounters a vociferously alienated aging twosome in need of his services; an embittered divorcee discovers an ingenious way to take revenge on her happily re-married ex-husband. Pernilla August, a longtime favorite of Bergman's, heads a superb ensemble cast that captures the fire and ice beneath the surface of so-called ordinary life.

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



CINEVARDAPHOTO

FEBRUARY 16 - MARCH 1  
2 WEEKS

## Cinevardaphoto

WRITTEN AND DIRECTED BY AGNES VARDA  
FRANCE 2004/1982/1963 96 MINS.  
IN ENGLISH AND FRENCH WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

**"SHE RENDERS THE POLITICAL PERSONAL AND THE PERSONAL UNIVERSAL."** - Lisa Nesselson, *Variety*, writing on Agnes Varda's new film, a collection (indeed a *gleaning* from her own archives) of three short cine-essays: YDESSA, THE BEARS, AND ETC. (2004), ULYSSES (1982) and SALUT LES CUBAINS (1963). A photographer before she turned to film, Varda explores the medium's ability to preserve a moment for eternity, while remaining open to an array of interpretations that evolve over time. Her newest film, YDESSA..., records a moving and macabre exhibit of early 20th century photographs, each featuring a teddy bear. The curator/collector/bear aficionado is Ydessa Hendeles, a scarlet-haired sylph of a woman, who looks to be a figment of Edward Gorey's imagination.

1, 2:50, 4:40, 6:30, 8:20, 10:10

MARCH 2 - 15  
2 WEEKS

## The Best of Youth

DIRECTED BY MARCO TULLIO GIORDANA

ITALY 2003 PART I AND 2: EACH 3 HOURS  
IN ITALIAN WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES MIRAMAX FILMS

**AFTER ITS ACCLAIMED PREMIERE AT THE 2003 NEW YORK FILM FESTIVAL, THE BEST OF YOUTH, AN EPIC DRAMA OF AN ITALIAN FAMILY** spanning the late '60s through the present day, finally opens theatrically! "The story is full of nuance and complexity, but it is also as accessible and engrossing as a grand 19th-century novel... (The film) begins in Rome in 1966, in the bustling apartment of the middle-class Carati family. There are four children, but most of the attention focuses on Nicola and Matteo... Despite its unblinking attention to the destructive forces at large in Italian society — from the Red Brigades terror and the political scandals of the 1970s to the anti-Mafia campaigns... the spirit of THE BEST OF YOUTH is quietly, wryly optimistic... The extended denouement is very much in keeping with the capaciousness and warmth of this wonderful film. Long as it is, you hate to see it end." - A.O. Scott, *NY Times*

PART I MON/WED/THURS/SAT: 1:00, 8:00 TUES/FRI/SUN: 4:30  
PART 2 MON/WED/THURS/SAT: 4:30 TUES/FRI/SUN: 1:00, 8:00  
(SEPARATE ADMISSION FOR EACH PART.)



THE BEST OF YOUTH

MARCH 16 - 22  
1 WEEK

## The Venetian Dilemma

PRODUCED AND DIRECTED BY CAROLE RIFKIND AND RICHARD RIFKIND

USA 2004 73 MINS. IN ITALIAN WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

**21st CENTURY VENICE: A SOULLESS AND DEGRADED DISNEYLAND OR A REAL AND LIVELY HOME TOWN?** New Yorkers Carole and Richard Rifkind are also part-time Venetians, who bring to their adopted city a profound appreciation of its heritage and very special way of life. Today, Venice is overrun by more than 14 million annual visitors who vastly outnumber the city's ever-dwindling residents. While "Venice is sinking" has been a battle-cry for decades, the Rifkinds explore a host of other issues that plague Venetians. Where are the day care centers, bakeries, playing fields, medical facilities, and grocery stores? Once-vibrant neighborhoods are jammed full of tourist-serving restaurants, cheesy souvenir shops and hotels. Ordinary Venetians, city planners and environmentalists confront the threats to future life in Venice, providing a fascinating insiders' view that tourists can never hope to have.

1, 2:40, 4:15, 5:45, 7:15, 8:45, 10:15



THE VENETIAN DILEMMA

MARCH 23 - APRIL 5  
2 WEEKS

## Mondovino

DIRECTED BY JONATHAN NOSSITER

USA / FRANCE 2004 131 MINS. IN ENGLISH, FRENCH, ITALIAN, PORTUGUESE & SPANISH WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES THINKFILM

**ONCE UPON A TIME AMERICANS DRANK MARTINIS. TODAY WINE IS THE BEVERAGE OF CHOICE.** MONDOVINO explores the culture, economics and politics of the wine phenomenon. From Napa Valley to the sun-drenched vineyards of France, Italy and South America, Jonathan Nossiter ferrets out the controversy over wines with *terroir* versus the vanillization of wine. Featuring Robert Parker, a world-renowned wine critic; Michel Rolland, a chortling, jet-setting consultant for vintners; Michael Broadbent, wine director for Christie's (London); Neal Rosenthal, a wine importer, and various members of the Mondavi, De Montille, Frescobaldi, Antinori, Etchart and Staglin families — as well as European wine makers who are *not* household names, but who have plenty to say about those who are.

1, 3:40, 6:30, 9



MONDOVINO



DAVID HOCKNEY: THE COLORS OF MUSIC

APRIL 6 - 19  
2 WEEKS

## David Hockney The Colors of Music

DIRECTED BY MARYTE KAVALIAUSKAS  
AND SETH SCHNEIDMAN

PRODUCED BY CHANTAL BERNHEIM

USA / FRANCE 2003 85 MINS. IN ENGLISH

**"WHEN I GO TO THE OPERA, I WANT TO HAVE SOMETHING TO LOOK AT."** - DAVID HOCKNEY. Known as a brilliant colorist, British-born David Hockney has produced stage designs and costumes for 11 operas. THE COLORS OF MUSIC follows the artist's creative process and includes sequences from *The Rake's Progress*, *The Magic Flute*, *Parade*, *Le Sacre Du Printemps*, *Tristan and Isolde*, *Turandot* and *Die Frau Ohne Schatten*. Dressed in his signature colors (aquamarine, yellow, robin's egg blue), Hockney displays humor, compassion and candor (he was losing his hearing throughout the years of filming). The directors' exquisite sensitivity to both the look and sound of these operas creates nothing less than a banquet for the senses.

1, 2:45, 4:30, 6:15, 8, 10



SAVE THE GREEN PLANET

APRIL 20 - MAY 3  
2 WEEKS

## Save the Green Planet

WRITTEN AND DIRECTED BY JANG JUN-HWAN

SOUTH KOREA 2003 118 MINS.  
IN KOREAN WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES KOCH LORBER FILMS

**IS A LONESOME BEE WRANGLER THE ONLY PERSON ON EARTH WHO CAN PROTECT THE HUMAN RACE FROM ALIENS?** He seems to think so — and thus justifies kidnapping the CEO of a chemical manufacturing firm, shaving his head (to prevent transmission of messages through his hair), prodding him for information on the alien prince who sent him, and trying to extract his "royal genetic DNA code." Or, maybe he's just a serial killer who has seen too many sequels to MEN IN BLACK? From South Korea, SAVE THE GREEN PLANET dares to ask these questions with a heady melange of genres — sci-fi, black comedy, social commentary, even martial arts. Wildly unpredictable, the film has triumphed as a cult hit and audience favorite at festivals worldwide.

1:30, 4, 7:20, 9:40



WRITER OF O

MAY 4 - 17  
2 WEEKS

## Writer of O

WRITTEN AND DIRECTED BY POLA RAPAPORT

USA / FRANCE 2004 80 MINS.  
IN ENGLISH AND FRENCH WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

**PUBLISHED IN PARIS IN 1954, THE STORY OF O WAS AN IMMEDIATE BESTSELLER AND LITERARY SCANDAL: AN ELEGANTLY WRITTEN S&M FANTASY** that had all the hallmarks of being an autobiographical account by the pseudonymous Pauline Réage. In 1994 Dominique Aury, a mild-mannered, dowdy editor for France's prestigious Gallimard press, revealed her authorship. Pola Rapaport explores Aury's inspiration, recreating the world of '50s literary Paris and setting it against dramatic sequences that bring the infamous book to life. The author as well as various French intellectuals expound on the thorny relationship between sexuality and power, submission and freedom, liberation and non-being. Even today, *The Story of O* mystifies in its power and confounds in its contradictions.

1, 2:45, 4:30, 6:15, 8, 10

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