

For Immediate Release
For more information,
Please contact Mary Fessenden
At 607.255.3883

Summer 2009 Advance Publicity

All films open to the public

Ticket Prices:

\$6.50 general admission / \$5.00 seniors and CU staff & faculty/ \$4.00 students and kids 12 & under

Special event prices may apply

All summer screenings in Willard Straight Theatre except for outdoor terrace shows

For more information visit <http://cinema.cornell.edu>

Ithaca Premiere

Anita O'Day: The Life of a Jazz Singer

Sunday, June 14 8:00

Tuesday, June 16 8:00

Friday, June 19 9:40

2008 > USA > Directed by Robbie Cavolina & Ian McCrudden

With John Cameron Mitchell

Considered by many to be one of the "Three Queens" of classic jazz (notably, the only white one) next to Billie Holiday and Ella Fitzgerald, the late Anita O'Day was as tough as ever when she died in 2006 at the age of 87. Surviving what she termed a "jazz life," including several marriages and abortions, drug arrests, alcoholism, and 15 years of heroin addiction, O'Day nevertheless had no regrets. Discovered by Gene Krupa in 1940, O'Day, who used her voice like a jazz instrument, was at the peak of her career when she was filmed for the documentary **Jazz on a Summer's Day** singing "Sweet Georgia Brown" at the 1958 Newport Jazz Festival. "Fast-paced, enthralling film...." (Stephen Holden, *NY Times*) More at <http://anitaodaydoc.com> 35mm Shown with the fabulous Oscar-nominated short, **Jammin' the Blues** (1944, 10 mins) by Gjon Mili, in which a group of prominent jazz musicians of the 1940s get together for a rare filming of a jam session. Marie Bryant's vocal is amazing. 16mm.

1 hr 33 min

Ithaca Premiere

Throw Down Your Heart

Monday, June 15 8:00

Wednesday, June 17 8:00

Friday, June 19 7:30

2009 > USA > Directed by Sascha Paladino

With Béla Fleck

American banjo virtuoso Béla Fleck embarks on a pilgrimage to trace his instrument's little-known African roots. "At every stop on a journey that takes him from Uganda to Tanzania to Gambia and finally to Mali, Mr. Fleck plays and records with gifted local musicians. Early in the film, a Ugandan villager insists that the common perception of Africa as a continent ravaged by war and disease is "just a very small bit of what Africa is," and **Throw Down Your Heart** sets out to prove him right." (*NY Times*) more at <http://throwdownyourheart.com> . Video projection.

1 hr 37 min

Ithaca Premiere

Fados

Thursday, June 18 8:00
Saturday, June 20 7:30
Tuesday, June 23 8:00

2009 > Portugal/Spain > Directed by Carlos Saura

With Mariza, Camané, Carlos do Carmo, Cuca Roseta

Veteran Spanish director Saura, who previously brought us passionate performance-film homages with **Flamenco** (1995) and **Tango** (1998), has now turned his attention to the bluesy, soul-baring Portuguese music known as fado. "Like those other two films, **Fados** epitomizes the style of the titular art...**Fados**, however, is less inflamed. But that's only because fado emanates from a region well north of the loins. Its songwriters and singers plaintively intertwine memory and soul, nostalgia, and romance...The film consists of more than a dozen performance pieces - singers, guitarists, percussionists, dancers, many of them renowned, many revered - filmed in a closed studio. It's theater treated as cinema." (*Boston Globe*) In Portuguese with English subtitles. more at <http://zeitgeist.com>. 35mm.

1 hr 30 min

Coraline

Saturday, June 20 9:30
Sunday, June 21 7:00
Saturday, June 27 7:30

2009 > USA > Directed by Henry Selick

With Dakota Fanning, Teri Hatcher, Jennifer Saunders, Ian McShane

Eleven-year-old Coraline moves into a new house with her inattentive parents and discovers a door to an alternate universe where she finds a life very much like her own, only better. As she becomes more involved with and attached to her alternate life and her doting Other parents, it becomes harder and harder to return to her normal one, and her once-happy universe begins to feel like a nightmare she cannot wake up from. "The results are nothing short of magical." (*The Onion AV Club*) more at <http://coraline.com>. 35mm.

1 hr 40 min

Examined Life

Sunday, June 21 9:15
Monday, June 22 8:00

2009 > USA > Directed by Astra Taylor

With Cornel West, Kwame Anthony Appiah, Martha Nussbaum, Slavoj Zizek, Judith Butler, Sunaura Taylor

Examined Life pulls philosophy out of academic journals and classrooms, and puts it back on the streets as filmmaker Astra Taylor (**Zizek!**) accompanies some of today's most influential thinkers on a series of unique excursions through places and spaces that hold particular resonance for them and their ideas. more at <http://zeitgeistfilms.com/examinedlife>. 35mm.

1 hr 28 min

Ithaca Premiere

Know Your Mushrooms

Wednesday, June 24 8:00
Friday, June 26 7:30
Monday, June 29 8:00

2009 > Canada > Directed by Ron Mann

With Garry Linfoff, Larry "the Indiana Jones of mushrooms" Evans

Documentarian Ron Mann asks us to open our mind in his new film that explores the surprising and delightful world of the underappreciated mushroom, from the culinary to the scientific, the environmental and, of course, the mystical. "As with all of Mann's films, his enthusiasm is infectious. He comes to praise mushrooms, not to bury them, and long may his frying pan sizzle." (*Toronto Star*) With a soundtrack by the Flaming Lips! more at <http://sphinxproductions.com/films/mushrooms>. 35mm.

1 hr 13 min

Outdoor Screening on the Willard Straight Hall Terrace!

Duck Soup

Thursday, June 25 doors open at 8:30; film starts at 9:30

1933 > USA > Directed by Leo McCarey

With the Marx Brothers, Margaret Dumont

Probably the most successful of all of the Marx Brothers' films in terms of gagery and timing, **Duck Soup** features Groucho, Chico, Harpo, and Zeppo in some of their most famous roles, with Groucho playing Rufus T. Firefly, soon-to-be leader of the small country of Freedonia. Cash bar and complimentary snacks provided. Tickets are \$12/\$10 students & seniors. Comps and discount cards not accepted. Advance tickets go on sale starting Monday, June 22 from the Cinema office in 104 Willard Straight Hall, 9am to 5pm, and from the Willard Straight box office, 7:40 – 8:30pm. For more info call 255-3522. Rain location: Willard Straight Theatre. Video projection.

1 hr 10 min

Duplicity

Friday, June 26 9:15

Sunday, June 28 7:00 & 9:30

Saturday, July 4 9:30

2009 > USA/Germany > Directed by Tony Gilroy

With Julia Roberts, Clive Owen, Tom Wilkinson, Paul Giamatti

This cerebral thriller from writer-director Tony Gilroy (**Michael Clayton**) combines high-stakes intrigue with good old-fashioned romantic banter à la Hepburn and Tracy. Roberts, at the top of her game, plays ex-CIA agent Claire Stenwick, a woman whose spy skills are rivaled only by her ex-M16 counterpart Ray (a smoldering Clive Owen). The film jets between New York, London, Rome, Dubai, and the narrative is sliced apart so that the audience is as in-the-dark about whom to trust as the ex-spies. Paul Giamatti and Tom Wilkinson star as corporate titans who aren't above a petty fistfight on a tarmac.... "Superior entertainment." (*NY Times*) more at <http://duplicitymovie.net> 35mm Cinemascope.

2 hr 5 min

Watchmen

Saturday, June 27 9:45

Friday, July 3 9:45

Sunday, July 5 7:00

2009 > UK/USA > Directed by Zack Snyder

With Jackie Earle Haley, Patrick Wilson, Billy Crudup

In an alternate 1985 America, former heroes find themselves enmeshed in mystery following the death of a former colleague in this possibly brilliant adaptation of Alan Moore's heretofore-thought unfilmable graphic novel. "A terrific comic-book movie, the most completely satisfying and unsettling one I've ever seen." (Andrew O'Hehir, *Salon.com*) more at

<http://watchmenmovie.warnerbros.com> 35mm Cinemascope.

2 hr 43 min

Ithaca Premiere

Battle for Terra

Tuesday, June 30 8:00

Thursday, July 2 8:00

Saturday, July 4 7:30

2007 > USA > Directed by Aristomenis Tsirbas

With voices of Luke Wilson, Evan Rachel Wood, Danny Glover, Rosanna Arquette, Brian Cox

An interesting twist on the "they came from outer space" theme in which humans are the invaders of the peaceful planet of Terra, populated by tadpole-ish beings who have constructed an entire civilization using the local flora and fauna. When humans seek to overtake Terra after destroying their own planet, their plan is foiled by a bright Terrian girl named Mala, who rescues and then befriends a human pilot who's begun to question his race's quest for domination, even as a last chance at survival. A dreamily animated, earnest and environmentally-friendly take on the sci-fi genre. Appropriate for all ages from 7 & up. more at

<http://battleforterra.com>. 35mm.

1 hr 25 min

New Print!

Dersu Uzala

Wednesday, July 1 8:00
Friday, July 3 7:00
Tuesday, July 7 8:00

1975 > Japan /Russia > Directed by Akira Kurosawa

With Maxim Munzuk, Yury Solomin

A portrait of the friendship that grows between an aging hunter and a Russian surveyor in turn-of-the-century Siberia. Winner of the Best Foreign Language Film Oscar in 1975. more at <http://kino.com>. 35mm Cinemascope.

2 hr 17 min

Ithaca Premiere

Hunger

Monday, July 6 8:00
Wednesday, July 8 8:00
Friday, July 10 7:30

2008 > UK/Ireland > Directed by Steve McQueen

With Michael Fassbender, Liam Cunningham, Stuart Graham

A brutally lyrical film from Turner Prize winning visual artist Steve McQueen about I.R.A. prisoners in Thatcher's England staging a hunger strike and no-clothes, no-washing protests. "Positively riveting. An artistic masterpiece. A harrowing, poetic film."

(*Washington Post*) more at <http://ifcfilms.com>. 35mm Cinemascope.

1 hr 30 min

Outdoor Screening on the Willard Straight Hall Terrace!

The African Queen

Thursday, July 9 doors open at 8:30; film starts at 9:30

1951 > USA > Directed by John Huston

With Katharine Hepburn, Humphrey Bogart, Robert Morley

Humphrey Bogart and Katharine Hepburn are a legendary odd couple in one of the cinema's classic adventures, fleeing upriver from German occupation of the Congo during WWI. Cash bar and complimentary snacks provided. Tickets are \$12/\$10 students & seniors. Comps and discount cards not accepted. Advance tickets go on sale starting Monday, July 6 from the Cinema office in 104 Willard Straight Hall, 9am to 5pm, and from the Willard Straight box office, 7:40 – 8:30pm. For more info call 255-3522. Rain location: Willard Straight Theatre. Video projection.

1 hr 43 min.

New Print!

Amarcord

Friday, July 10 9:35
Saturday, July 11 7:30
Monday, July 13 8:00

1974 > Italy > Directed by Federico Fellini

With Magali Noel, Bruno Zanin

Fellini's affectionate, semi-autobiographical film about the seaside town of Rimini under the fascists. Winner of the Best Foreign Language Film Oscar in 1974, this new restoration was supervised by director of photography Giuseppe Rotunno. more at

<http://janusfilms.com/amarcord>. 35mm.

1 hr 51 min

Adventureland

Saturday, July 11 9:45
Sunday, July 12 7:00 & 9:00
Friday, July 17 9:45

2009 > USA > Directed by Greg Mottola

With Jesse Eisenberg, Kristen Stewart, Ryan Reynolds

Superbad director Greg Mottola's semi-autobiographical 1980s-set amusement-park romantic comedy stars **The Squid and the Whale**'s Jesse Eisenberg as a Renaissance studies college grad whose plans for the great European summer tour collapse when his

parents tell him they can't finance his trip. Instead, he ends up taking a job at a mildly seedy theme park called Adventureland. "A hilarious coming-of-age tale that will speak to anyone who ever had the job from hell but still wouldn't trade the experience for anything." (*Sundance Film Festival*) more at <http://miramax.com/adventureland>. 35mm.

1 hr 30 min

Ithaca Premiere

Of Time and the City

Tuesday, July 14 8:00with introduction by Prof. Amy Villarejo (Film) – not confirmed at press time

Thursday, July 16 8:00

2008 > UK > Directed by Terence Davies

Terence Davies's droll meditation on the blighted Liverpool of his youth marries archival footage, witty musical accompaniments, and a rhapsodic voiceover by the filmmaker in an homage to the personal and the past. more at <http://oftimeandthecity.com>.

35mm.

1 hr 12 min

The Silence Before Bach

Wednesday, July 15 8:00

Saturday, July 18 7:30

Monday, July 20 8:00

2008 > Spain > Directed by Pere Portabella

This highly unusual film by legendary Spanish Surrealist Portabella "brings Bach's music to life with a mysterious, magnificent blend of drama, documentary, and quasi-surrealist whimsy. Beginning with a scene of a player piano rattling off the Goldberg Variations while rolling through a bright, bare loft, Portabella tickles the senses with a series of skits... From puckish humor and borderline kitsch, a great and serious notion emerges: the construction of modern Europe on the basis of classical music." (Richard Brody, *The New Yorker*) Portabella does not release his films on DVD. In Spanish, Catalan and German with English subtitles. more at <http://shadowdistribution.com>. 35mm.

1 hr 42 min

New Print!

Z

Friday, July 17 7:15

Sunday, July 19 9:15

Tuesday, July 21 8:00

1969 > France/Algeria > Directed by Constantine Costa-Gavras

With Yves Montand, Irene Papas, Jean-Louis Trintignant

The seminal political thriller, **Z** remains as riveting today as it was when it was released to controversy forty years ago. Based on the Lambrakis affair - an assassination which pointed to rampant police and governmental corruption in 1963 Greece. Winner Best Foreign Language Film and Best Editing Oscars in 1969. In French with English subtitles. more at <http://rialtopictures.com>. 35mm.

2 hr 8 min

Sunshine Cleaning

Saturday, July 18 9:45

Sunday, July 19 7:00

Friday, July 24 9:30

2009 > USA > Directed by Christine Jeffs

With Alan Arkin, Amy Adams, Emily Blunt, Steve Zahn

Single mom Rose Lorkowski (Adams) recruits her sister (Blunt) and dad (Arkin) to start a crime-scene cleanup business to raise money to send her gifted son to private school in this comedy-drama from the producers of **Little Miss Sunshine**. "Amy Adams and Emily Blunt are two highly attractive, naturally funny actresses on the cusp of stardom so their pairing here as two lost souls is genius." (*The Hollywood Reporter*) more at <http://sunshinecleaning-themovie.com>. 35mm Cinemascope.

1 hr 42 min

Outdoor Screening on the Willard Straight Hall Terrace!

Double Indemnity

Wednesday, July 22 doors open at 8:30; film starts at 9:30

1944 > USA > Directed by Billy Wilder

With Barbara Stanwyck, Fred MacMurray, Edward G. Robinson

Wilder's **Double Indemnity** defined the noir genre with its calculated coolness and eerily familiar scenes of suburban LA. Barbara Stanwyck plays the ultimate femme fatale: a woman who lures a hapless insurance salesman (MacMurray in a handsome suit) into a complex murder scheme. The electricity between the killer couple is palpable and Edward G. Robinson (as MacMurray's emasculated boss) crackles each time he steps into the frame. Cash bar and complimentary snacks provided. Tickets are \$12/\$10 students & seniors. Comps and discount cards not accepted. Advance tickets go on sale starting Monday, July 20 from the Cinema office in 104 Willard Straight Hall, 9am to 5pm, and from the Willard Straight box office, 7:40 – 8:30pm. For more info call 255-3522. Rain location: Willard Straight Theatre. Video projection.

1 hr 47 min

The Garden

Thursday, July 23 8:00

Saturday, July 25 7:30

2009 > USA > Directed by Scott Hamilton Kennedy

With Danny Glover, Darryl Hannah

When the largest community garden in the United States – in the middle of South Central LA— is threatened, the low-income Latinos who farm there band together to fight corrupt politicians, greedy developers, and racism to save their oasis. “This intricate and compelling documentary paints a saddening portrait of American politics.” (*NY Times*) Nominated for an Academy Award for Best Documentary Feature. more at <http://thegardenmovie.com>. 35mm.

1 hr 20 min

Ithaca Premiere

Warsaw Bridge

Friday, July 24 7:30

Monday, July 27 8:00

Wednesday, July 29 8:00

1990 > Spain > Directed by Pere Portabella

With Paco Guíjar, Jordi Dauder, Carme Elias

“The body of a scuba diver is discovered in a burning forest, and while the mystery of his death is explained at the end, its resolution is not really the point of **Warsaw Bridge**,” the elusive, deconstructed tale of a professor, a writer and an orchestra conductor, which takes place mostly in Barcelona and “is not shy about declaring a debt to Buñuelian surrealism...[But] if the imagery and scenery suggest later Buñuel, the world-weary mood and suave discontinuity have more in common with the recent work of Jean-Luc Godard. Like Mr. Godard, Mr. Portabella clings to aesthetic principles — a commitment to difficulty, to seriousness, to scenes involving fine-boned women with grave expressions and without clothes — that can seem both fragile and complacent.” (*NY Times*) more at <http://shadowdistribution.com>. 35mm.

1 hr 25 min

Sin Nombre

Saturday, July 25 9:15

Tuesday, July 28 8:00

Saturday, August 1 7:30

2009 > USA > Directed by Cary Joji Fukunaga

With Paulina Gaitan, Edgar Flores

A beautiful young Honduran woman, braving the gauntlet of a trans-Central-American train journey with the hope of reaching relatives in the U.S., crosses paths with Casper, a teenaged Mexican gang deserter, in **Sin Nombre** — “the thrilling and beautifully crafted...winner of top directing and cinematography awards at Sundance earlier this year. Rooted in the filmmaker's first-hand research into the experiences of immigrants and gang members living in Chiapas, **Sin Nombre** was shot in real locations, stars Mexican and Central American actors (no U.S. celebrity “immigrants”), and is sprinkled with eye-catching production design details and bits of business that give it an authentic feel.” (*Toronto Globe and Mail*) In Spanish with English subtitles. more at http://filminfocus.com/focusfeatures/film/sin_nombre. 35mm Cinemascope.

1 hr 36 min

The Soloist

Sunday, July 26 7:00

Friday, July 31 7:30

Saturday, August 1 9:35

2009 > USA > Directed by Joe Wright

With Jamie Foxx, Robert Downey, Jr., Catherine Keener

A jaded journalist (Downey, Jr.) encounters a schizophrenic, homeless former classical music prodigy (Foxx) playing a two-stringed violin under a statue of Beethoven in the middle of L.A., beginning a friendship that changes both men. **"The Soloist** is a moving, inspirational story told in a straightforward style, refreshingly devoid of sentimentality." (*NY Observer*) More at

<http://soloistmovie.com>. 35mm Cinemascope.

1 hr 45 min

Ithaca Premiere

Tokyo!

Sunday, July 26 9:15

Thursday, July 30 8:00

Friday, July 31 9:45

2009 > France/Japan > Directed by Michel Gondry, Leos Carax, Bong Joon-ho

With Ayako Fujitani, Ryo Kase; Terukyki Kagawa, Yu Aoi, Naoto Takenaka

Three playfully apocalyptic, futuristic tales of Tokyo life from some of today's most talented and eccentric international filmmakers.

In Japanese and French with English subtitles. more at <http://tokyo-movie.jp> 35mm

1 hr 52 min