

For Immediate Release
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Summer 2010 Special Events & Series

All films open to the public

Ticket Prices:

\$7.00 general admission/\$5.50 seniors/\$4.00 students & kids 12 and under

Special event prices may apply

All summer screenings in Willard Straight Theatre, except where noted

For more information, including screening times, visit

<http://cinema.cornell.edu>

Cornell Cinema's 40th Anniversary Celebration

June 23 – 26, 2010

Featuring an Outdoor Terrace Screening of **A Hard Day's Night**, June 23

For the Love of Movies, with filmmaker/critic Gerald Peary, June 24

It Came from Kuchar, with former Cinema Director Richard Herskowitz, June 25
and **Metropolis**, with the Alloy Orchestra, June 26

Cornell Cinema has been Ithaca's year-round film festival for forty years, and this June they celebrate this milestone with a long weekend of special programs, films and guests. The festivities begin on Wednesday, June 23, with an outdoor Terrace screening of the Beatles in **A Hard Day's Night**. The summer screenings on the beautiful Willard Straight Terrace are one of their most successful and popular innovations over the past decade, with most selling out in advance. The doors open at 8:30, with music, a cash bar and complimentary snacks; the film starts after sunset, around 9:30. Tickets are \$12/\$10 students and seniors, and are available starting Monday, June 21 at CornellCinemaTickets.com and from the Cornell Cinema Office, 104 Willard Straight Hall. On Thursday, June 24 at 7:45, they welcome film scholar/critic/professor Gerald Peary, longtime film critic for the *Boston Phoenix*, with his documentary film debut, **For the Love of Movies: The Story of American Film Criticism**. Both a love letter and the sounding of an alarm, the film traces the history of the art of film criticism and the potential threats to it in the digital age. Richard Herskowitz, Cornell Cinema Director from 1981 – 1994, will return on Friday, June 25 to introduce the new documentary **It Came From Kuchar**, about experimental underground filmmakers and twin brothers George and Mike Kuchar, whose work Herskowitz championed, along with many other experimental filmmakers, as part of his long-running Expanding Cinema series during his tenure. Finally, on Saturday, June 26 at 7:15, they present the Ithaca premiere of the

definitive restoration of Fritz Lang's **Metropolis**, featuring 25 minutes of previously lost footage that was rediscovered in 2008 in a film museum in Argentina. Over 80 years since the film premiered in Berlin, Ithaca audiences will now be able to see Lang's original vision, accompanied by an original score by the Alloy Orchestra, who have been delighting Ithacans with their unique, synthesizer-and-junk-percussion music since 1991, when they formed to create a soundtrack for the then-90-minute version of **Metropolis**. Tickets are \$15/\$10 students and seniors, and are available now at CornellCinemaTickets.com and starting June 21 from Ithaca Guitarworks and the Cornell Cinema Office. For more information on tickets for these events, as well as a celebratory party scheduled for Friday, June 25, please call 607-255-3522 or visit cinema.cornell.edu/series_summer2010/40thAnniversary.html.

A Hard Day's Night (1964) Directed by Richard Lester	June 23
For the Love of Movies (2009) Directed by Gerald Peary	June 24
It Came From Kuchar (2010) Directed by Jennifer M. Kroot	June 25
Metropolis (1926) Directed by Fritz Lang	June 26

Summer Silents

with the Alloy Orchestra on June 26
and pianist Dr. Philip Carli on July 12 & 19

This summer Cornell Cinema brings to Ithaca three programs of celebrated accompanists performing live scores to classic silent films, giving modern audiences a taste of the experience of early cinema, as well as a contemporary, unusual experience. On June 26, as part of Cornell Cinema's 40th Anniversary celebrations, the Alloy Orchestra performs their unique score to the definitive and newly restored cut of Fritz Lang's **Metropolis** (1927). Long celebrated for its dystopian vision and visual sci-fi spectacle, the film was tragically cut after its initial release, but in 2008, a copy of the original version, with 25 minutes of lost footage, was found in a film archive in Buenos Aires, Argentina. A new restoration was undertaken, resulting in the closest version of the original **Metropolis** we are likely to see, with subplots restored, minor characters revealed and a newly magnificent film to behold. The Cambridge-based Alloy Orchestra, who formed in 1991 to create a score for the then-90-minute version of **Metropolis**, has updated and expanded that score to accompany the new 147-minute film, using all manner of percussion and melody to create a soundtrack as otherworldly and passionate as the film itself. Then, as part of the UCLA Festival of Preservation series happening throughout the summer (see below), Cornell Cinema will screen two other classics, featuring accompaniment by celebrated pianist Dr. Philip Carli. The first is Edward S. Curtis's 1914 ethnographic film **In the Land of the Head Hunters**, a reflection of the contemporary life among the Kwakwaka'wakw people, who live in the Queen Charlotte Strait of British Columbia, and which features their customs and traditions, and stages many authentic ceremonies, including the tribe's potlatch ceremony. The second is **The Salvation Hunters** (1925), Josef von Sternberg's first film, shot for less than \$4,800 on location in the mud flats of the San Pedro harbor district, L.A.'s Chinatown, and the

San Fernando Valley, and is considered the first “independent” feature. Both films will be accompanied by longtime favorite of Cornell Cinema audiences, pianist, composer, conductor and film scholar Dr. Philip Carli. He has been accompanying silent films since the age of 13, and has toured extensively as a film accompanist throughout North American and Europe, performing on keyboard and with orchestra at such venues as Lincoln Center and the Museum of Modern Art in New York, the National Gallery in Washington, DC, the Cinémathèque Québécoise in Montreal, the National Film Theatre in London, and the Berlin International Film Festival. He is the staff accompanist for the George Eastman House in Rochester, New York, and performs annually at several film festivals in the United States, as well as at Le Giornate del Cinema Muto in Italy. Special ticket prices will be charged for all three screenings: \$15 general/\$10 seniors & students for **Metropolis**, and \$8 general/\$7 seniors/\$6 students for the other two events. Advance tickets for **Metropolis** can be purchased online at CornellCinemaTickets.com immediately, and starting Monday, June 21 downtown at Ithaca Guitar Works and from the Cornell Cinema office, 104 Willard Straight Hall, 9am-5pm. Tickets for the others can be purchased at the box office on the day of the shows. For more information, visit cinema.cornell.edu or call 607-255-3522.

Metropolis (1926)	June 26
Directed by Fritz Lang	
In the Land of the Head Hunters (1914)	July 12
Directed by Edward S. Curtis	
The Salvation Hunters (1925)	July 19
Directed by Josef von Sternberg	

The UCLA Film & Television Archive Festival of Preservation A Touring Series

For the first time in its fourteen-year history of presenting a Festival of Preservation, the UCLA Film & Television Archive—the second largest moving image archive in the U.S.—made an abridged version of Festival titles available for touring across the country. Cornell Cinema, the only venue in the Central New York region that continues to offer regular screenings of classic titles, and features quality projection on reel-to-reel 35mm projectors—the only way these Festival prints are allowed to be screened—is happy to be the last stop on the tour, which began last summer and made seven stops, in Berkeley, CA; Chicago, IL; Columbus, OH; Portland, OR; Washington DC; Houston, TX and Vancouver, BC. According to Archive director Dr. Jan-Christopher Horak, writing in the Festival catalog, the Festival “presents a veritable mixture of complex restorations and simple preservations, silent masterpieces and sound diversions, fictional shorts and full-length documentaries.” Within the line-up are several mini-series: two films by one of Twentieth Century Fox’s most acclaimed directors in the late ‘20s & ‘30s, Frank Borzage (**Song O’ My Heart** and **Young America**); two films by independent American filmmaker John Sayles (**Return of the Secaucus Seven** and **The Brother from Another Planet**); two silent classics, both of which will be accompanied by Cornell Cinema regular, Dr. Philip Carli (Edward S. Curtis’s **In the Land of the Head Hunters** and Josef von Sternberg’s first film, **The Salvation Hunters**). Other independent productions in the series include John Cassavetes’s masterpiece, **A Woman Under the**

Influence, starring the incomparable Gena Rowlands; Emile de Antonio's landmark in political cinema, the documentary **Point of Order!**, about the 1954 Army-McCarthy hearings; the first independently produced film from Sri Lanka (formerly Ceylon), **Gamperaliya**; and what is widely considered the first feature-length documentary on gay and lesbian identity, **Word is Out: Stories of Some of Our Lives**. The series is rounded out by a number of restored classic Hollywood films made by some of cinema's greatest auteurs: Joseph Losey's pre-blacklist film noir, **The Prowler**; Fritz Lang's psychological thriller, **Secret Beyond the Door**; and Edgar G. Ulmer's noirish **Citizen Kane**-like melodrama, **Ruthless**. The series will conclude with the delightful **Vitaphone Varieties 1927-1931**, a program of shorts featuring musicians, vaudeville acts and radio stars. The series is cosponsored with the School of Criticism and Theory, the Ithaca Motion Picture Project (IMPP) and Cornell's School of Continuing Education and Summer Sessions.

Secret Beyond the Door (1948) Directed by Fritz Lang	June 28 & 30
Song O' My Heart (1930) Directed by Frank Borzage	July 5
Young America (1932) Directed by Frank Borzage	July 5
Word is Out (1977) Directed by Peter Adair, Nancy Adair, Veronica Selver, Andrew Brown, Robert Epstein and Lucy Massie Phenix	July 8
Ruthless (1948) Directed by Edgar G. Ulmer	July 9
In the Land of the Head Hunters (1914) Directed by Edward S. Curtis	July 12
A Woman Under the Influence (1974) Directed by John Cassavetes	July 14
Return of the Secaucus Seven (1980) Directed by John Sayles	July 17
The Brother from Another Planet (1984) Directed by John Sayles	July 18
The Salvation Hunters (1925) Directed by Josef von Sternberg	July 19
The Prowler (1951) Directed by Joseph Losey	July 23 & 26
Point of Order! (1964) Directed by Emile de Antonio	July 28
Gamperaliya (1960) Directed by Lester James Peries	August 4 & 6
Vitaphone Varieties (1927-1931) Directed by various	August 5

Cinema Under the Stars
Outdoor Screenings on the Willard Straight Terrace
June 23, July 7 & July 21

Cornell Cinema continues their tradition of outdoor screenings on the Willard Straight Terrace this summer with three audience-selected titles. With images flickering on the screen hung alongside the Willard Straight Memorial Room windows, stars twinkling above, and a warm summer breeze wafting through the air, these screenings are among Ithaca's most popular summer activities. Each event begins at 8:30pm, when patrons are welcome to listen to music and watch the sun set over Cayuga Lake from one of Cornell's loveliest locations. A cash bar and complimentary snacks are provided to enjoy before and during the screenings, which begin around 9:30pm, after sunset. The series begins with the Beatles' rollicking and rocking semi-documentary **A Hard Day's Night**, on Wednesday, June 23; continues with Tim Burton's modern fairy tale **Edward Scissorhands** on Wednesday, July 7; and ends with Frank Capra's delightfully tart romantic comedy **It Happened One Night** on Wednesday, July 21. In the unlikely event of a summer rain, the shows will take place in Willard Straight Theatre. Prior Terrace screenings have sold out in advance, so attendees are encouraged to buy their tickets early. Prices are \$12/\$10 students & seniors. No comps, discount cards or guest passes accepted. Advance tickets will go on sale starting the Monday before each screening, except for **Edward Scissorhands**, which go on sale the Tuesday before the screening (June 21, July 6, and July 19 respectively), available online at CornellCinemaTickets.com, in the Cinema office, 104 Willard Straight Hall, from 9am – 5pm, or from the theatre box office, from 7:25pm – 8:15pm. For more info call 255-3522.

A Hard Day's Night (1964)	June 23
Directed by Richard Lester	
Edward Scissorhands (1990)	July 7
Directed by Tim Burton	
It Happened One Night (1934)	July 21
Directed by Frank Capra	

My Dog Tulip

with an introduction by animator and Cornell visiting professor Lynn Tomlinson '88
 Thursday, July 29 & Monday, August 2 at 7:45pm
 in the Willard Straight Theatre

One of the few animated films geared distinctly toward adults, **My Dog Tulip** also holds the distinction of being the first animated film to be entirely hand-drawn using computer technology (a Wacom tablet and Mirage, the 2-D animation software by Bauhaus). Director Paul Fierlinger and art director Sandra Fierlinger, who were guest lecturers at Cornell a few years ago and are married, have been producing adult animation pieces for PBS for the past fifteen years, including the Peabody Award-winning **Still Life with Animated Dogs** (2001), an autobiographical film that touches on some of the same themes of **My Dog Tulip**. The latter, based on the autobiographical work of writer J. R. Ackerley, details the 14-year relationship between a lonely British man who has given up on humans and Tulip, an excitable German Shepherd. Their story is surprising and bittersweet, an eminently relatable work for anyone who has ever owned a dog and found therein the perfect friend. "[T]his dog story captures the particular feelings of pet owners without being overly mawkish. At once a portrait of the dog lover and a provocative meditation on the wonders of nature, **My Dog Tulip** is a playful and moving

ode to mans' best friend. With their whimsical and visionary style, the Fierlingers convey this sensitive subject with humor and a strange sweetness." (*Toronto Film Festival*) Animator and visiting Professor Lynn Tomlinson '88, who teaches the summer animation course, will introduce both screenings. Cosponsored with the School of Continuing Education and Summer Sessions.

More Ithaca Premieres

Ithaca audiences searching for new cinematic experiences need look no further than Cornell Cinema. In each calendar they present films and events that otherwise would not be seen in the region. In addition to others mentioned in this release, three premieres round out their calendar. The first is **Breaking Upwards**, the brainchild of filmmaker Daryl Wein and his girlfriend and filmmaking partner Zoe Lister-Jones, and inspired by their actual experiences. In it, they star as a couple named Daryl and Zoe who, after four years together, are starting to bristle at their co-dependency and their humdrum sex life, so decide to break up part time. Next is **Beetle Queen Conquers Tokyo**, which despite its B-movie title does not involve monster bugs bent on destruction. Instead, this documentary is a probing, surprising and lyrical look at Japan's captivation with insects. Made by an animal keeper at the American Museum of Natural History, it moves from urban shops where children buy beetles as pets to insect harvesters who earn enough to buy Ferraris. Ultimately, this fascinating foray into entomology becomes an unexpected glimpse into a nation's character. The third film is the subtle comedy **Lourdes** by Jessica Hausner. which reflects on the meaning of faith by observing a group of pilgrims, including a woman in a wheelchair suffering from multiple sclerosis, who have traveled to a French village in the Pyrenees famed for its miraculous healing waters. While Hausner's film is not an overt criticism of religion, it abounds with the subtle absurdities of grand ceremony, simply by gazing steadily at its subjects.

Breaking Upwards (2010) Directed by Daryl Wein	June 20, 21, 22 & 27
Beetle Queen Conquers Tokyo (2010) Directed by Jessica Oreck	July 15, 16 & 20
Lourdes (2009) Directed by Jessica Hauser	July 30 & 31, August 3

Arthouse Repeats

This summer Cornell Cinema brings back three of the best films of arthouse cinema from the past year. If you missed it when it first came out, or it was so good that you *have* to see it again, they are here to help. The first is **The Ghost Writer**, Roman Polanski's taut thriller about a writer hired to revamp the memoirs of a former British Prime Minister (obviously modeled after Tony Blair), who finds himself trapped in clandestine affairs and political intrigue that may well have killed his predecessor. **The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo** is the screen adaptation of Stieg Laarson's international best seller about disgraced journalist Mikael Blomkvist and mysterious computer hacker Lisbeth Salander, who join forces to solve the 40-year-old murder of a powerful tycoon's niece, in the process uncovering a violent and disturbing underside of Swedish society. Lastly, the

winner of the Palme d'Or at Cannes, Michael Haneke's **The White Ribbon**, presents a small town in Northern Germany in the years directly preceding World War I, hinting at the origins of fascism within the cruelty these townspeople visit upon themselves – the pastor, for instance, tortures his own children by making them wear the titular white ribbon for seemingly trivial mistakes like being late for dinner. Shot in black and white but offering a much more complex morality, this latest cinematic masterwork from the director of **The Piano Teacher** and **Caché** offers no easy answers, but is always compelling.

The Ghost Writer (2010) Directed by Roman Polanski	July 4, 6, 9 & 10
The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo (2010) Directed by Niels Arden Oplev	July 10, 11, 13 & 17
The White Ribbon (2010) Directed by Michael Haneke	July 22, 24 & 27

Popular Hits

One way Cornell Cinema is different from other repertory cinemas is that in addition to the classics, the foreign films, the documentaries, silents and experimental works, they also screen popular Hollywood hits. This summer, they encourage you to stop by, eat some popcorn (with *real* butter), and slip down the rabbit hole into Tim Burton's **Alice in Wonderland**; delight in the beautiful animation and the classic boy-and-his-fire-breathing-dragon story **How to Train Your Dragon**; explore the thrilling madness of Martin Scorsese's **Shutter Island**; get your ultra-violent ya-yas out with the blockbuster **Kick-Ass**; rediscover Nottingham in Ridley Scott's **Robin Hood**; and thrill to the expanded super hero universe of **Iron Man 2**.

Alice in Wonderland (2010) Directed by Tim Burton	June 27, July 1, 2 & 3
How to Train Your Dragon (2010) Directed by Decan DeBlois, Chris Sanders	July 2, 3 & 4
Shutter Island (2010) Directed by Martin Scorsese	July 11, 16 & 18
Kick-Ass (2010) Directed by Matthew Vaughn	July 23, 24, 25 & 30
Robin Hood (2010) Directed by Ridley Scott	July 25 & 31, August 1
Iron Man 2 (2010) Directed by Jon Favreau	August 1, 6 & 7