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A Program of the Department of Theatre, Film and Dance
Cosponsored by the Office of the Dean of Students

For Immediate Release
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April/May 2018 Special Events & Series

All films open to the public

Ticket Prices:

\$8.50 general admission/\$6.50 seniors/

\$6 CU graduate students /\$5.50 CU undergrad students and kids 12 & under

\$5.50 matinees (before 6pm)

Special event prices may apply

All screenings in Willard Straight Theatre unless otherwise noted

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

Tres ciudades en blanco y negro (Three Cities in Black and White)

In conjunction with the course Cinematic Cities, being taught by Patricia Keller (Romance Studies/Comparative Literature) and Cecelia Lawless (Romance Studies), Cornell Cinema presents three Spanish language gems, set in Havana, New York and Mexico City respectively, and filmed in glorious black and white. From the course description: Beginning in the early days of silent cinema, a rich tradition of what are called "city films," combine technological innovation with the exploration of specific urban spaces. Students in this class will learn how to think about the possibilities and limits of cinema as a way of "knowing" a city and its cultures, including linguistic cultures. The series begins with a new digital restoration of Tomas Gutierrez Alea's **Memories of Underdevelopment**, a benchmark in New Latin cinema, and the first post-revolution Cuban film to make it to overseas audiences. David Riker's **La Ciudad** was also recently made available in a digital restoration, which highlights its exquisite black and white cinematography in a film that recalls the best of Italian neo-realism. Alonso Ruiz Palacios's **Güeros** is a deadpan comedy set in late-90s Mexico City during the National University strike, and it won five Ariel Awards (Mexico's Academy Awards). Cosponsored with the Dept of Romance Studies.

Memories of Underdevelopment (1968) Directed by Tomas Gutierrez Alea	April 10
La Ciudad (1999) Directed by David Riker	April 17
Güeros (2015) Directed by Alonso Ruiz Palacios	April 24

CU Alums Make Movies Two free events

Cornell Cinema will host a free Skype conversation with Cornell alum David Greenbaum '98, Co-Head of Production for Fox Searchlight Pictures, at 5pm on Thursday, April 12. Mr. Greenbaum has shepherded award-winning films that include Guillermo Del Toro's Academy Award-winning **The Shape of Water**, Martin McDonagh's **Three**

Billboards Outside Ebbing, Missouri, Jonathan Dayton & Valerie Faris' **Battle of the Sexes** and Jean-Marc Vallée's **Wild**. Fox Searchlight's upcoming slate includes Wes Anderson's **Isle of Dogs**, Yorgos Lanthimos' **The Favourite**, and Benh Zeitlin's **Wendy**. An American Studies major at Cornell, Greenbaum took film courses with retired Cornell Senior Lecturer Lynda Bogel, who will moderate the conversation. Audience members will be given the opportunity to submit questions for David in advance. Cornell Cinema will also screen Steven Spielberg's **The Post**, executive produced by Cornell alum Trevor White '07, whose previous credits include **LBJ**, **Wind River**, **Ingrid Goes West** and the upcoming **Welcome Home with Aaron Paul**. He co-wrote and directed the 2014 feature **Jamesy Boy** and most recently directed **A Crooked Somebody**, co-starring Ed Harris, Rich Sommer, Clifton Collins Jr and Joanne Froggatt. He also is an executive producer on the upcoming miniseries on Amazon, *Mercury 13*. **The Post** screening is sponsored by the Cornell Historical Society.

A Skype Conversation with David Greenbaum '98	FREE	POSTPONED to September 2018
With David Greenbaum '98 via Skype and Lynda Bogel		
The Post (2017)	FREE	April 21
Directed by Steven Spielberg		

A Smorgasbord of Special Events

Abbas Kiarostami's last film, visiting Indian filmmakers, the Ithaca premiere of **RBG** (about Justice Ruth Bader Ginsberg '54) and more!

Cornell Cinema winds down the semester with a wide variety of special events. Right after Spring Break, students can see a free show of the soon-to-be-released horror film, **Truth or Dare**, or check out the Ithaca premiere of late Iranian director Abbas Kiarostami's **24 Frames**, "a sustained meditation on the process of image making. . . a graceful and elegiac farewell from one of the giants of world cinema." (Janus Films) On April 18, Cornell Cinema will host a screening of the recent documentary **An Insignificant Man**, about Indian politician Arvind Kejriwal and his insurgent party, Common Man's Party, a free event sponsored by the South Asian Council & International Student Union, who are bringing filmmakers Khushboo Ranka and Vinay Shukl to speak in person following the screening. The Cornell Cinema Student Advisory Board invites students to attend a show of the original animated hit **The Incredibles** in advance of the release of **The Incredibles 2** in June. The event will take place in the Willard Straight Memorial Room and include a prescreening party featuring free snacks, games, and super-hero masks! Finally, Cornell Cinema is thrilled to present the Ithaca premiere of **RBG**, an inspiring portrait of Supreme Court Justice and Cornell alum Ruth Bader Ginsberg '54. "Ginsburg's life - and its many lessons, both learned and taught - come to entertaining and energetic life" (*Indiewire*) in this new documentary that bowed at the Sundance Film Festival in January.

Truth or Dare (2018)	FREE to CU students w/pass	April 10
Directed by Jeff Wadlow		
24 Frames (2017)		April 11, 12
Directed by Abbas Kiarostami		
An Insignificant Man (2016)	FREE	April 18
With filmmakers Khushboo Ranka & Vinay Shukla in person		
The Incredibles (2004)		April 27
Directed by Brad Bird		
Special screening in the WSH Memorial Room		
RBG (2018)		May 8
Directed by Julie Cohen & Betsy West		

LGBTQ Celebration

Cornell Cinema presents four films tackling gay, lesbian, and trans issues, bookended by two recent Academy Award winning films: Luca Guadagnino's **Call Me by Your Name** (Winner, Best Adapted Screenplay), and **A Fantastic Woman** (Winner, Best Foreign Language Film). Also screening is Norway's submission for Best Foreign Language Film, **Thelma**, about a young woman's suppressed desires for a classmate manifesting in an unusual manner. Composer and percussionist Sarah Hennies will be here in person to present her debut film, **Contralto**, a multimedia piece exploring transfeminine identity with a cast of transgender women speaking, singing, and performing vocal exercises, accompanied by a dense and varied musical score that includes a

variety of conventional and "non-musical" approaches to sound-making. Cosponsored with LGBT Studies. **Contralto** is sponsored by the Society for the Humanities.

Call Me by Your Name (2017) Directed by Luca Guadagnino	April 12, 13
Thelma (2017) Directed by Joachim Trier	April 14, 15
Contralto (2017) FREE With filmmaker Sarah Hennies in person	April 15
A Fantastic Woman (2017) Directed by Sebastian Lelio	April 25, 26

Japanese Animation

Cornell Cinema presents two Japanese animations this April, one from Academy Award-nominated director Hiromasa Yonebayashi (**When Marnie Was There**) and the other from cult anime director Masaaki Yuasa. **Mary and the Witch's Flower** is the first release from Studio Ponoc following Yonebayashi's departure from legendary animation outfit Studio Ghibli. **Mind Game** is receiving its first-ever American theatrical distribution, and has been hailed as one of the greatest anime films ever made.

Mary and the Witch's Flower (2017) Directed by Hiromasa Yonebayashi	April 13, 14
Mind Game (2004) Directed by Masaaki Yuasa	April 20, 21

Homecoming Myanmar: A Midi Z Retrospective

Three Free Ithaca Premieres

Currently based in Taiwan, Burmese expat Midi Z is a protégé of legendary Taiwanese filmmaker Hou Hsiao-Hsien. Midi Z's realist films tell stories about the Chinese & Burmese diaspora in Southeast Asia, focusing on the poverty and economic displacement that plagues Myanmar. His films concern themselves with the rights and living/working conditions of migrant laborers and minority groups who risk their lives undertaking illicit work which often includes smuggling and drug trafficking. This series features Midi Z's Homecoming Trilogy, as well as his short film, **Palace on the Sea** (2014). A related public lecture with Professor Brian Bernards on the displacement of migrant workers, Chinese diaspora and transnational film practices, will be held at 4:30pm on April 23 in the A.D. White House. Cosponsored with the Taiwan Cinema Toolkit, East Asia Program (EAP)'s Graduate Student Steering Committee (GSSC), Dept of Comparative Literature's Comparative Culture and Literature Forum (CCLF), Southeast Asia Program, Society for the Humanities, Dept of Comparative Literature, Dept of Performing and Media Arts, and Dept of History of Art.

Poor Folk (2012) FREE Directed by Midi Z	April 16
Return to Burma (2015) FREE Directed by Midi Z Preceded by Palace on the Sea (2014)	April 23
Ice Poison (2014) FREE Directed by Midi Z	April 30

Foreign Language Films: Selections from the 2017 Oscar Submissions List

Continuing a series from earlier this semester, Cornell Cinema presents three more Foreign Language submissions for the 2017 Oscars. Norway's official submission was Joachim Trier's **Thelma** about "a young woman's blossoming sexuality [that] tilts into telekinetic horror..., a Norwegian art-house **Carrie** filtered through cool blue tones." (*Entertainment Weekly*) Argentina's submission was auteur Lucrecia Martel's **Zama**, based on the Antonio di Benedetto novel about a low-level 18th-century colonial bureaucrat living in a remote part of Paraguay who awaits a transfer to Buenos Aires that never comes. First published

in 1956, the book was only recently translated into English, but is now recognized as one of the masterpieces of modern Argentine and Spanish-language literature. Martel's film brings it to vivid life. Chile's submission, **A Fantastic Woman**, about the challenges faced by a transgender singer after her boyfriend dies suddenly, won the Best Foreign Language Oscar at this year's Academy Awards.

Thelma (2017) Directed by Joachim Trier	April 14, 15
A Fantastic Woman (2017) Directed by Sebastian Lelio	April 25, 26
Zama (2017) Directed by Lucrecia Martel	May 2, 3

Contested Southwest Landscapes

Two Ithaca premieres featuring in-person or via-Skype filmmakers

Cornell Cinema welcomes back former Cornell film professor J.P. Sniadecki, who now teaches at Northwestern University, and Ithaca College professor Joshua Bonnetta (Cinema & Photography) to present their first collaboration, **El Mar la Mar** (named for a poem by Spain's Rafael Alberti), shot over several years in the Sonoran Desert. Reviewing the film for the British film journal *Sight & Sound* after seeing the premiere at the 2017 Berlin International Film Festival, Jordan Cronk wrote, "J.P. Sniadecki and Joshua Bonnetta's avant-garde anthropological film plays out like a horror movie as it offers an unsettling portrait of the American southwest and people caught in purgatory." Sniadecki is an alum of Harvard's celebrated Sensory Ethnography Laboratory (SEL), and in a manner after the SEL's founding principles, the film "combines anthropological filmmaking interests with multiple modes associated with the cinematic avant-garde, including observational portraiture, landscape photography, and oral histories of both personal and political import." One week earlier, see the Ithaca premiere of Robinson Devor's **Pow Wow**, "a visually striking anthropological study of a most exotic and surreal culture: that of the Coachella Valley in Palm Springs, CA. Training a precise eye on the communities that have chosen to make their home in a part of the world that would appear to be unsuited for human habitation, Devor is carefully attuned to the absurdity and paradoxes of his subject, as well as to the historical layers and class dynamics that underlie it." (Anthology Film Archive) Schedule permitting, Devor, or the film's editor, Adam Sekuler, will participate in a post-screening Q & A via Skype. **El Mar la Mar** is cosponsored with the Dept of Art.

Pow Wow (2016) Directed by Robinson Devor	April 19
El Mar la Mar (2017) With filmmakers J.P. Sniadecki & Joshua Bonnetta in person	April 26

More Film Favorites

Phantom Thread (2018) Directed by Paul Thomas Anderson	April 19, 20, 22
Loving Vincent (2017) Directed by Dorota Kobiela & Hugh Welchman	May 2, 3
Annihilation (2018) Directed by Alex Garland	May 11, 12
Black Panther (2018) Directed by Ryan Coogler	May 17, 18, 19