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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 For more information, Please contact Mary Fessenden At 607.255.3883

# Early Fall 2011 Special Events & Series

All films open to the public

Ticket Prices:

\$7.00 general admission / \$5.50 seniors / \$4.50 students / \$4.00 CU Grad Students and kids12 & under

> \$4.00 all for matinees (screenings that start before 6pm) Special event prices may apply WSH=Willard Straight Theatre; URIS=Uris Hall Auditorium; SCPA=Schwartz Center for Performing Arts Film Forum For more information visit http://cinema.cornell.edu

#### Orientation Week at Cornell Cinema

Films are free Sunday, August 21 through Thursday, August 25 for new students with Cornell ID!

Featuring new and restored 35mm prints of Bringing Up Baby, Raging Bull, Breathless, The Conformist, Battleship Potemkin

Cornell Cinema is considered one of the best campus film exhibition programs in the country, and for five days in August, all new students are invited to sample its varied offerings for free. The screenings include Hollywood classics ranked among the best American Movies of All Time by the American Film Institute, as well as some of the most highly regarded foreign classics, including a newly restored print of Battleship Potemkin, which returns Sergei Eisenstein's masterwork to a form as close to its creator's bold vision as it has ever been, including the original score. In addition, on Tuesday August 23, don't miss a special Orientation to Cornell Cinema, with coming attraction trailers, student and other short films, free popcorn and door prizes, all hosted by Cinema director Mary Fessenden and Student Advisory Board president Eric Horn. Films are free Sunday, August 21 through Thursday, August 25 for new students with Cornell ID. And everybody gets in for free to screenings of the recent blockbusters Thor and Fast Five on Thursday, August 25, courtesy of the Welcome Weekend Committee. Regular student prices are just \$4.50 (\$4 for CU graduate students), or \$21 for a 6-admission pass, valid for one full year. Tickets and passes can be purchased at the theatre in the evenings (cash, check or CornellCard), at the Willard Straight Hall Ticket Desk (which takes credit cards as well) during the day,

and by credit card on-line, at CornellCinemaTickets.com (for special event tickets and 6-passes only).

The Godfather (1972)	Aug 21 & 23
Directed by Francis Ford Coppola	
Bringing Up Baby (1938)	Aug 22 & 24
Directed by Howard Hawks '18	
Raging Bull (1980)	Aug 22 & 24
Directed by Martin Scorsese	
An Orientation to Cornell Cinema	Aug 23
Thor (2011)	Aug 25 – 27
Directed by Kenneth Branagh	
Fast Five	Aug 25 - 27
Directed by Justin Lin	
The Conformist (1970)	Aug 26 & 28
Directed by Bernardo Bertolucci	
Breathless (1960)	Aug 26 & 28
Directed by Jean-Luc Godard	
Battleship Potemkin (1925)	Aug 27 & 30
Directed by Sergei Eisenstein	
<b>Vertigo</b> (1958)	Aug 27, 29 & 30
Directed by Alfred Hitchcock	

# Survey of American Film

With introduction by Professor Sabine Haenni on Monday, August 29 & Introduction and live piano accompaniment by Philip Carli on September 19, performing with an archival print of **Within Our Gates** (1920)

Cornell Cinema teams up with Assoc. Professor Sabine Haenni (Theatre, Film & Dance and American Studies), who this fall will be teaching her Survey of American Film course, to present twelve films as part of its Monday Night Classic Cinema series. From silent cinema to **Pulp Fiction**, and a fabulous smattering of everything in between, the series will enable viewers to develop a good foundation in American film history, all while enjoying the magic of seeing 35mm film prints projected on the big screen and chomping on popcorn! The line-up for the first part of the semester includes two archival prints: Oscar Michaux's historically significant **Within our Gates** (1920) from the Library of Congress and Dorothy Arzner's **The Wild Party** (1929) from the UCLA Film & Television Archive. The series is cosponsored with the Office of the Vice Provost for Undergraduate Education and by University Courses.

Vertigo (1958)	Aug 27, 29 & 30
Directed by Alfred Hitchcock	
Casablanca (1942)	Sept 5 & 6
Directed by Michael Curtiz	
2001: A Space Odyssey (1968)	Sent 12 13 & 15

Directed by Stanley Kubrick	
Within our Gates (1920)	Sept 19
Directed by Oscar Michaux	
The Wild Party (1929)	Sept 26 & 27
Directed by Dorothy Arzner	
Dracula (1931)	Oct 3 & 4
Directed by Tod Browning	
Coming in the next calendar:	
Sunset Boulevard (1950)	Oct 17 & 18
Directed by Billy Wilder	
Rebel Without a Cause (1955)	Oct 24 & 25
Directed by Nicholas Ray	
Midnight Cowboy (1969)	Oct 31 & Nov 1
Directed by John Schlesinger	
Taxi Driver (1976)	Nov 7 & 8
Directed by Martin Scorsese	
Blue Velvet (1986)	Nov 14 & 15
Directed by David Lynch	
Pulp Fiction (1994)	Nov 28 & 29
Directed by Quentin Tarantino	

# Terrence Malick: The Works

Featuring an archival print of Malick's first feature, Badlands

"In all [Malick's] five films and most especially the latest, **The Tree of Life**, he seems determined to turn narrative movies into vehicles for posing unanswerable metaphysical questions, not in words but in the quite distinct language of cinema." (Geoffrey O'Brien, *The New York Review of Books*) To fully appreciate the majesty of Malick's films they should be seen in 35mm film prints, projected on the big screen. So this fall, Cornell Cinema offers viewers that opportunity, including a rare screening of Malick's debut film, **Badlands**, starring Martin Sheen and Sissy Spacek in a print that comes courtesy of the Academy Film Archive.

Aug 31 & Sept 2
Sept 7 & 9
Sept 7, 9 - 11
Sept 14 & 17
Sept 21 & 24

#### Global Lens

Three Ithaca premieres including **The White Meadows**, made by jailed Iranian filmmaker, Mohammad Rasoulof

This fall, Cornell Cinema offers Ithaca foreign film lovers a sampling of the Global Lens 2011 film series, co-presented with its founding institution, the Global Film Initiative. Begun in 2003, Global Lens has been a unique and progressive forum for the art of

cinema, bringing otherwise buried perspectives to a wider audience. With over 75 films from 30 nations now in its archive, the series continues to grow with this year's crop of nine films, of which Cornell Cinema will be screening an eclectic trio. First up is the Uruguayan gem **A Useful Life** about the final days of operation of Montevideo's Cinemateca Uruguaya and the man who kept it running for the past 25 years. Then watch Kyrgyzstan's official submission to the 2010 Academy Awards, **The Light Thief**, a wry meditation on the monopolization of resources in the developing post-Soviet world. The trio concludes with the allegorical Iranian film **The White Meadows**, edited by Jafar Panahi and directed by Mohammad Rasoulof, both of whom were sentenced to six years in prison in December 2010 by the Iranian government. This film is cosponsored with the Iranian Student Organization. For more information about the Global Film Initiative and the Global Lens film series, visit <a href="https://www.globafilm.org">www.globafilm.org</a>.

A Useful Life (2010) Sept 1 & 3

Directed by Federico Veiroj

The Light Thief (2010) Sept 8 & 10

Directed by Aktan Arym Kubat

The White Meadows (2009) Sept 15 & 17

Directed by Mohammad Rasoulof

## The Games Women [can] Play

Featuring Ithaca premieres of a French & an Argentinian film

This mini-series is comprised of two delightful fables of female empowerment brought about by the protagonists' later-in-life discoveries of their talents for chess and the assembly of jigsaw puzzles. Each stars a remarkable actress: Sandrine Bonnaire (La Cérémonie, Monsieur Hire, Vagabond) in Queen to Play (appearing opposite Kevin Kline in his first all French speaking role), and Maria Onetto (The Headless Woman) in Puzzle. Both films are the directorial debuts of two young women. As added enticement, the hilarious silent Soviet short Chess Fever (1925) will be shown with Queen to Play.

Queen to Play (2009) Sept 2- 4

Directed by Caroline Bottaro

**Puzzle** (2009) Sept 30, Oct 1 & 4

Directed by Natalia Smirnoff

#### Art Docs Downtown

(and on campus too!)

Cornell Cinema heads downtown this fall to participate in First Friday Gallery Night (gallerynightithaca.com), a monthly 5 – 8pm walking tour of downtown Ithaca galleries presenting their latest art exhibits. The evening will now be capped off with a 9:15pm screening of an art documentary at Cinemapolis, organized by Cornell Cinema. Film selections will shed light on both historic and contemporary art and provide the perfect end to the evening. First up is !Women Art Revolution, an entertaining and revelatory "secret history" of Feminist Art that deftly illuminates this under-explored movement through conversations, observations, archival footage and works of visionary artists,

historians, curators and critics. Then in October see **Over Your Cities Grass Will Grow**, a portrait of German artist Anselm Kiefer's alchemical creative processes as practiced in his now-abandoned studio estate in the South of France. Tickets for the downtown screenings will be \$7 all (no comps, discount cards or passes accepted). Films will also be offered at least once on campus in Willard Straight Theatre for regular Cornell Cinema prices. Two more art documentaries will be shown as part of First Friday Gallery Night on November 4 and December 2. Cosponsored with the Cornell Dept. of Art, the Herbert F. Johnson Museum of Art and the Downtown Ithaca Alliance.

!Women Art Revolution (2010) Sept 2\*, 5 & 6

Directed by Lynn Hershman Leeson

Over Your Cities Grass Will Grow (2010) Oct 5 – 7\*

Directed by Sophie Fiennes

# Dark Matter: An Experimental Cinema Series

Presented by program curator and filmmaker Michael Robinson

Call it art or call it film, experimental cinema has experienced an immense rejuvenation over the past decade, fueled by an explosion of young artists raised in the televisual onslaught of the MTV age, and the surprising new directions taken by many timehonored makers. A revived and expanded network of international festivals, cinemathéques and museum series has grown up to exhibit and support this breed of work. Cornell Cinema joins their ranks with Dark Matter, a new monthly series programmed and presented by local artist Michael Robinson (voted as one of the top-ten avant-garde filmmakers of the 2000s by Film Comment magazine), who has put together thematic programs of outstanding contemporary film and video art for Ithaca audiences. Taking radical approaches to both form and content, the artists showcased in this series are working at the forefront of cinematic innovation. They blur the lines between abstraction, documentation and fiction, treating the medium of cinema as a loaded language from which vital poetry must be made. The series begins with September's Fits and Spells program, bringing together five mesmerizing short films exploring altered states of consciousness. Cosponsored with Cornell Council for the Arts and Dept of Art.

Fits and SpellsSept 13Other EvolutionsOct 18Heartache in the MachineNov 15

#### **Cornell Alums Make Movies**

Featuring a visit by Justin Lerner '02 presenting his feature film debut **Girlfriend** on September 16

<sup>\*</sup> Dates when films will be screened downtown

Cornell alums are out there working in every conceivable area of feature (and short) film production—as directors, producers, editors, screenwriters and special effects as independently coordinators—as well as animators, experimental makers, documentarians and more, and Cornell Cinema regularly invites these alums back to campus to present their work. They also present older films with which Cornell alums were involved. In this calendar, the immensely important roles Cornell alums played in three classic American films are showcased: Howard Hawks '18 directed Katherine Hepburn and Cary Grant in the hilarious screwball comedy Bringing Up Baby (1938); editor Thelma Schoonmaker '61 (a previous guest) won her first Academy Award for Raging Bull (1980); and playwright Murray Burnett '31 wrote "Everybody Comes to Ricks," the play upon which Casablanca (1942) was based. Patrons can also engage in a lively exchange with filmmaker and recent Cornell alum Justin Lerner '02 when he visits campus to present his independent feature Girlfriend (2010), a selection of the prestigious Toronto International Film Festival, which features a performance by Jackson Rathbone of Twilight movie fame, as well as an even more stunning performance by leading man (and childhood friend of Lerner's), Evan Sneider, who has Down Syndrome. In the next calendar, look for a screening of the Sundance award winning documentary Hell and Back Again (2011), which will be presented by Danfung Dennis '05.

**Bringing Up Baby** (1938) Aug 22 & 24

Directed by Howard Hawks '18

**Raging Bull** (1980) Aug 22 & 24

Directed by Martin Scorsese

Casablanca (1942) Sept 5 & 6

Directed by Michael Curtiz

Girlfriend (2010) Sept 16

Directed by Justin Lerner '02

Hell and Back Again (2011) Oct 27

Directed by Danfung Dennis '05

#### Sustainability Cinema

Free screenings featuring visits by filmmaker Randy Olson & Senior Fellow at the Aldo Leopold Foundation, Stan Temple

The David R. Atkinson Center for a Sustainable Future at Cornell will be hosting scientist-turned-filmmaker Randy Olson from September 18 – 22 and as part of his visit he'll be presenting his two feature films. Olson will introduce and lead post-screening discussions with free screenings of Sizzle: A Global Warming Comedy on September 20 at Cornell Cinema and Flock of Dodos: The Evolution-Intelligent Design Circus on September 21 at Cinemapolis in downtown Ithaca. Olson is also the author of *Don't Be Such a Scientist: Talking Substance in an Age of Style.* For more information about his residency at Cornell, which is sponsored by the Atkinson Forum in American Studies, visit sustainablefuture.cornell.edu. A week later, Cornell's Lab of Ornithology sponsors a free screening of Green Fire, a documentary about legendary conservationist Aldo Leopold and his environmental legacy. The film utilizes photographs, correspondence, manuscripts and other archival documents from the voluminous Aldo Leopold Archives as well as historical film and contemporary full-color footage on location, including

landscapes that influenced Leopold and that he, in turn, influenced. This screening will be presented by Professor Emeritus of Wildlife Ecology at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, and Senior Fellow at the Aldo Leopold Foundation, Stan Temple.

Sizzle: A Global Warming Comedy (2008) Sept 20

Directed by Randy Olson

Flock of Dodos: The Evolution-Intelligent Design Circus Sept 21

Directed by Randy Olson

Green Fire (2011) Sept 27

Directed by Ann & Steve Dunsky and Dave Steinke

#### Recent Romanian Cinema

Featuring a visit by Romanian filmmaker Andrei Ujicâ, who will present

The Autobiography of Nicolae Ceausescu on September 22

The Romanian New Wave, which took the international film world by storm in the mid-2000s, is the cinematic gift that keeps on giving, and this fall, Cornell Cinema will unwrap three new presents: the Ithaca premieres of a trio of recent films. They begin with Andrei Ujicâ's **The Autobiography of Nicolae Ceausescu**, a fascinating portrait of the dictator's 25-year reign, fashioned solely from found footage film of that time, much of it state-sanctioned. The film concludes Ujicâ's trilogy exploring the end of communism that began with the landmark **Videograms for a Revolution**, co-directed by German film essayist Harun Farocki. Then in the Late Fall '11 calendar, there will be screenings of **Tuesday, After Christmas**, the unflinching story of an unfaithful husband and the end of a marriage, and **Tales from the Golden Age**, an omnibus film comprised of absurd (but true) urban legends from the Ceausescu regime, whose title is an ironic reference to the way Ceausescu characterized his reign, which began in 1965. Cosponsored with the Institute for European Studies.

The Autobiography of Nicolae Ceaucescu (2010)	Sept 22 & 25
Directed by Andrei Ujicâ	
Tuesday, After Christmas (2010)	Oct 13 - 16*
Directed by Radu Muntean	
Tales from the Golden Age (2009)	Nov 3 - 8*
Directed by various	

<sup>\*</sup>exact dates within this date range TBD)

### '70s Sci-Fi x 3

Featuring a new print of **The Man Who Fell to Earth** & the Ithaca Premiere of R. W. Fassbinder's **World on a Wire** 

This fall Cornell Cinema showcases three sci-fi sensations from the '70s, beginning with a new 35<sup>th</sup> anniversary print of Nicolas Roeg's David Bowie-starrer **The Man Who Fell to Earth**, "the most intellectually provocative genre film of the 1970s." (*Time Out New York*) Make it an almost-all-Bowie evening by attending the No Radio Productions *David Bowie vs. the Talking Heads* dance party at 10pm at Pixel in Collegetown following the

Saturday, September 24 screening of the film! The following weekend catch the Director's Cut of Steven Spielberg's Capra-esque Close Encounters of the Third Kind. Then prepare for the October screenings of the recently rediscovered 1973 dystopian science-fiction epic World on a Wire by German wunderkind Rainer Werner Fassbinder. The film, originally shot for German television, has undergone a complete digital restoration and received its U.S. theatrical premiere this summer. According to distributor Janus Films, the film is Fassbinder's gloriously cracked, boundlessly inventive take on future paranoia. With dashes of Kubrick, Vonnegut, and Dick, but retaining a flavor entirely his own, Fassbinder tells the noir-spiked tale of reluctant action hero Fred Stiller (Klaus Lowitsch), a cybernetics engineer who uncovers a massive corporate and governmental conspiracy.

The Man Who Fell to Earth (1976) Sept 23 - 25 & 28 Directed by Nicolas Roeg Close Encounters of the Third Kind (1977) Sept 30, Oct 1 & 2 Directed by Steven Spielberg World on a Wire (1973) Oct 21 - 23 Directed by Rainer Werner Fassbinder

# More Documentary Premieres

In each of its calendars, Cornell Cinema premieres some of the most interesting documentary work being made today, films exploring both contemporary and historical topics, and this calendar is no different. First up is Conan O'Brien Can't Stop, an amusing and insightful portrait of the late night host in the aftermath of the NBC debacle over The Tonight Show, when O'Brien responded to his 6-month banishment from television by going on the road with his Legally Prohibited From Being Funny on Television Tour. Beats, Rhymes and Life: The Travels of a Tribe Called Quest is a documentary about one of the most influential and groundbreaking musical groups in hip-hop history, made by actor-turned-director Michael Rapaport, a hard-core fan of the group. Magic Trip, co-directed by Academy Award winning filmmaker Alex Gibney (Taxi to the Dark Side), is built with footage shot in 1964 by Ken Kesey and his Merry Pranksters as they travelled across the country from California to the New York World's Fair in a wildly painted old bus; a LSD-fuelled journey considered the starting point of the psychedelic '60s.

Conan O'Brien Can't Stop (2011) Sept 9, 14, 16 - 18 Directed by Rodman Flender Beats, Rhymes and Life (2011) Sept 8, 10 - 12 Directed by Michael Rapaport Magic Trip (2011) Sept 23, 24, 26 & 28 Directed by Alex Gibney & Alison Ellwood

# Films for One to Eight Projectors With filmmaker Roger Beebe on September 29

Renowned experimental filmmaker Roger Beebe, whose films have shown around the globe from Sundance to the Museum of Modern Art and from McMurdo Station in Antarctica to the CBS Jumbotron in Times Square, brings a program of his recent multiprojector films to Cornell Cinema. In these films Beebe explores the possibilities of using multiple projectors - running as many as 8 projectors simultaneously - not for a freeform VJ-type experience, but for the creation of discrete works of expanded cinema. The show builds from the relatively straightforward two-projector films The Strip Mall Trilogy and TB TX DANCE to the more elaborate three-projector studies Money Changes Everything and AAAAA Motion Picture, and finally onto the eight-projector meditation on the mysteries of space, Last Light of a Dying Star.

# Fantastic Film Friday: From Trash to Treasure Featuring the Ithaca premiere of Bellflower

On the last Friday of the month, Cornell Cinema presents a new genre movie selected by Hugues Barbier, Programmer of the Strasbourg European Fantastic Film Festival in France (who currently lives in Ithaca). In September, catch the Ithaca premiere of **Bellflower**, which had its world premiere at the 2011 Sundance Film Festival. In it, best friends Woodrow and Aiden spend all of their free time building **Mad Max**-inspired flamethrowers and muscle cars in preparation for the apocalypse. But when Woodrow falls hard in love with a charismatic young woman, the three set off on a journey that's far more violent, fiery and devastating than anything they'd imagined. Evan Glodell wrote, directed and stars in the film, but he also custom built the camera he used to shoot the movie along with many of the film's weird gadgets and weapons, a feat that was written up in *The New York Times* on July 29, 2011.

Bellflower

Sept 30, Oct 1 & 3

Directed by Evan Glodell