For Immediate Release
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Spring 2021 Advance Publicity
(Feb 5 – May 6)

Virtual Cinema at Cornell Cinema!
This Spring, Cornell Cinema continues Virtual Cinema, providing patrons free access to a variety of screenings!
There are a limited number of free views available for most titles, so reservations will be required.
Reservations can be made starting one week in advance of a title’s first playdate.
Reservations received before that time will not be processed.

Films will typically be available for about a week, or until the maximum number of views have been reached, whichever comes first.
If a film "sells-out," that will be noted on Cornell Cinema’s website, on the title’s individual page.

To make a reservation for a film, visit the film’s page on Cornell Cinema’s website for instructions, bearing in mind that these instructions may not be posted until one week in advance of the film’s start date.

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

Ithaca Premiere
The 21st Annual Animation Show of Shows
Friday, February 5 to Thursday, February 18
please note: $9.99 per view with a portion of the proceeds helping Cornell Cinema
2019 > various > Directed by various
Come enjoy a curated selection of the "best of the best" animated short films created by students and professionals around the world. Featuring ten films from seven countries, the 2019 edition of the program (which was originally scheduled for March 2020 but had to be canceled) offers an array of highly imaginative, thought-provoking, and moving works that reflect the filmmakers' unique perspectives and their relationship to the world. Suitable for ages 8+. Subtitled.
1 hr 24 min

Chungking Express
Friday, February 5 to Thursday, February 18
1994 > Hong Kong > Directed by Wong Kar Wai
With Brigitte Lin Ching-hsia, Tony Leung Chiu-wai, Takeshi Kaneshiro, Faye Wong
The film tells two stories, both set in contemporary Hong Kong, of young policemen trying to get over bad relationships and having crazy encounters with other women: a hit woman for the mob and an obsessive fast-food waitress. Fabulous soundtrack. The film that introduced American audiences to Hong Kong auteur Wong Kar Wai. In Cantonese & Mandarin.
Subtitled. Cosponsored with the East Asia Program. More at https://www.janusfilms.com/films/1030
1 hr 37 min
**Ikarie XB 1 aka Voyage to the End of the Universe**
Friday, February 12 to Thursday, February 18
1963 > Czechoslovakia > Directed by Jiříček Polák
With Zdenek Stepánek, Frantisek Smolík, Dana Medrická
1 hr 26 min

**Ithaca Premiere**

**M.C. Escher: Journey to Infinity**
Friday, February 12 to Monday, February 15  Please note shorter window of availability
2018 > Netherlands > Directed by Robin Lutz
With narration by Stephen Fry
"This engaging film about Dutch graphic artist Maurits Cornelis Escher takes viewers into his dreamlike world. Rich testimonials offer viewers a glimpse into the soul of the artist, who saw himself as a mathematician above all. The film's animations deftly express the mathematical dimensions of his work. Escher inspired many musicians in the 1960s and '70s, and his brilliant influence continues in contemporary graphic novels and cinema." (The International Festival of Films on Art) In Dutch, English, Italian & German. Subtitled. More at https://www.zeitgeistfilms.com/film/mcescherjourneytoinfinity
1 hr 21 min

**Ithaca Premiere**

**Acasa, My Home**
Friday, February 19 to Monday, February 22  Please note shorter window of availability
2020 > Romania/Germany > Directed by Radu Ciorniciuc
1 hr 26 min

**Ithaca Premiere**

**The Freshmen**
Friday, February 19 to Thursday, February 25
2018 > France > Directed by Thomas Lilti
With Vincent Lacoste, William Lebghil, Michel Lerousseau
**The Freshmen** follows Antoine, who is about to start his first year of medical school... for the third time. Meanwhile, Benjamin, fresh out of high school, will have his first stab at it. He soon realizes that it’s not exactly a walk in the park. With nights dedicated to hard studying, rather than hard partying, the two freshmen will have to adapt and find a middle ground between despair for the present and hope for the future. In French. Subtitled. More at https://www.distribfilmsus.com/portfolio/the-freshmen-french-film
1 hr 32 min

**In the Mood for Love**
Friday, February 19 to Thursday, February 25
2000 > Hong Kong > Directed by Wong Kar Wai
With Maggie Cheung, Tony Leung Chiu-wai
Two neighbors wrestle with irresistible desire for one another upon learning of their spouses' affair in a romantic and melancholic film set in 1960s Hong Kong. In Cantonese, Shanghainese, French & Spanish. Subtitled. Cosponsored with the East Asia Program. More at https://www.janusfilms.com/films/1021
1 hr 38 min
The Scar of Shame with pre-recorded introduction by Ken Fox, Director of library and archives at the George Eastman Museum in Rochester
Friday, February 19 to Thursday, February 25
A panel discussion with Samantha Sheppard, assistant professor of Cinema and Media Studies at Cornell; Ken Fox, director of library and archives at the George Eastman Museum in Rochester; and Barbara Lupack, a film scholar who has written and lectured on race films, will take place on Thursday, February 25 at 7:15pm.
1927 > USA > Directed by Frank Peregini
With Harry Henderson, Lucia Moses
An educated, upscale black musician marries a woman from a lower socioeconomic class to get her out of the clutches of her abusive stepfather. Once he "saves" her, however, he won't let his new wife meet his mother, as he knows she won't approve, a decision that leads to a downward spiral of events in this silent melodrama. Screening as part of the Finger Lakes Film Trail series Race Films/Race Matters, with series introduction by Samantha Sheppard (PMA). More at https://www.fingerlakesfilmtrail.org/race-films-series
1 hr 9 min

As Tears Go By
Friday, February 26 to Thursday, March 4
1988 > Hong Kong > Directed by Wong Kar Wai
With Andy Lau, Maggie Cheung, Jacky Cheung
Set amidst Hong Kong's ruthless, neon-lit gangland underworld, this operatic saga of ambition, honor, and revenge stars Andy Lau as a small-time mob enforcer who finds himself torn between a burgeoning romance with his ailing cousin and his loyalty to his loose cannon partner in crime whose reckless attempts to make a name for himself unleash a spiral of violence. Hong Kong auteur Wong Kar Wai's first feature length film. In Cantonese. Subtitled. Cosponsored with the East Asia Program. More at https://www.janusfilms.com/films/1975
1 hr 42 min

Ithaca Premiere
My Mexican Bretzel
Friday, February 26 to Thursday, March 4
2020 > Spain > Directed by Nuria Gimenez
Using text from a woman's diary to accompany silent images of gorgeous home movie footage shot by her wealthy industrialist husband while traveling the world with him from the 1940s into the 1960s, this travelogue morphs into melodrama in a “cinematic sleight of hand” (New York Film Festival), winner of the Found Footage Award at the International Film Festival Rotterdam. In Spanish. Subtitled. More at https://bretzelandtequila.com/en/my-mexican-bretzel-eng/
1 hr 14 min

Portrait of a Lady on Fire
Friday, February 26 to Monday, March 1
2019 > France > Directed by Céline Sciamma
With Noemie Merlant, Adele Haenel, Luana Bajrami
In the late 18th century, Marianne, a young painter, recalls being commissioned to secretly paint a wedding portrait of Heloise, the daughter of a French aristocrat and reluctant bride. As the bond between the women grows deeper, the portrait becomes a collaborative testament of their love. In French. Subtitled. More at portraitmovie.com
2 hrs 1 min

Ithaca Premiere
Strange Fish with a panel discussion featuring filmmaker Giulia Bertoluzzi on Tuesday, March 2 at noon
Friday, February 26 to Thursday, March 4
2018 > Italy/Tunisia > Directed by Giulia Bertoluzzi
Set primarily in Zarzis, Tunisia, and the waters of the Mediterranean Sea, Strange Fish tells the story of Tunisian fishermen who have been rescuing migrants and recovering the dead along the world's deadliest migration route since the early 2000s. The film's title, a reference to Billie Holiday's “Strange Fruit,” links the deaths of African migrants en route to Europe and the lynching of African Americans. In Arabic. Subtitled. Cosponsored by Cornell's Migrations Initiative and the Einaudi Center. More at https://prime.tv/strange-fish/?lang=en
54 min
**Days of Being Wild**
Friday, March 5 to Thursday, March 11
1991 > Hong Kong > Directed by Wong Kar Wai
With Leslie Cheung Kwok-wing, Maggie Cheung
1 hr 34 min

Ithaca Premiere
**Her Socialist Smile** with filmmaker John Gianvito Q&A on Wed, March 10 at 7:30pm
Friday, March 5 to Thursday, March 11
2020 > USA > Directed by John Gianvito
Beginning with her first public appearance in 1913 at age 32, Hellen Keller spent her entire adult life advocating for progressive causes. Though very little moving image or audio recordings exist of Keller, this experimental documentary works around these perceptual restraints to foreground Keller’s words with recorded voiceover and onscreen text. In doing so, filmmaker John Gianvito grapples with an historical figure whose popular image has been frozen in childhood, conveniently ignoring a complex rhetorical legacy. Winner of the Los Angeles Film Critics Association’s Douglas Edwards Experimental/Independent Film/Video Award.
1 hr 33 min

Ithaca Premiere
**Shiraz: A Romance of India**
Friday, March 5 to Thursday, March 11
1928 > India > Directed by Franz Osten
Shiraz is a ravishing, romantic tale behind the creation of one of the world’s most iconic structures: the Taj Mahal. Filmed on location in and around Jaipur with an all-Indian cast (including 50,000 extras, 300 camels and seven elephants), the film features stunning Islamic architecture and the landscape of Rajasthan. Shown in a recent digital restoration by the British Film Institute with a specially commissioned score by the Grammy Award-winning composer-sitar player Anoushka Shankar, performed by a traditional ensemble infused with strings and a Moog synthesizer. English intertitles.
More at https://junofilms.com
1 hr 45 min

Ithaca Premiere
**The Vasulka Effect**
Friday, March 5 to Thursday, March 11
2019 > Iceland > Directed by Hrafnhildur Gunnarsdóttir
With Steina Vasulka, Woody Vasulka
Pioneering video artists Steina and Woody Vasulka escaped the Soviet invasion of Czechoslovakia to find refuge in New York City. There, they founded the legendary art and performance gallery The Kitchen in 1971, which soon grew into the center of experimentation for performance, dance, music, and video. This intimate portrait reintroduces the Vasulkas for a new generation, as the couple, now retired in Santa Fe, reckon with age, mortality, debt, and the future of their artistic archive. More at https://sagafilm.is/film/the-vasulka-effect
1 hr 27 min

**Fallen Angels**
Friday, March 12 to Thursday, March 18
1996 > Hong Kong > Directed by Wong Kar Wai
With Leon Lai, Michelle Reis, Takeshi Kaneshiro, Charlie Yeung
1 hr 36 min
Ithaca Premiere

**maɬni -- towards the ocean, towards the shore** with pre-recorded introduction by Jeff Palmer (PMA)
Friday, March 12 to Thursday, March 18
2020 > USA > Directed by Sky Hopinka
With Jordan Mercier, Sweetwater Sahme
A poetic experimental documentary that follows Sweetwater Sahme and Jordan Mercier as they wander through their surroundings in the Pacific Northwest and contemplate the afterlife, rebirth, and the place in-between. Spoken mostly in chinuk wawa, their stories are departures from the Chinookan origin of death myth, with its distant beginning and circular shape. "Hopinka subtly inverts the tropes of the ethnographic documentary to depict indigenous life from an indigenous perspective." (Cinema Scope) Subtitled. More at https://grasshopperfilm.com/film/maɬni
1 hr 20 min

Ithaca Premiere

**Three Summers**
Friday, March 12 to Thursday, March 18
2019 > Brazil > Directed by Sandra Kogut
With Regina Case
"A chaotic class dramedy where the help and the helped wind up switching places, Three Summers (Três Verões) marks another occasion for Brazilian actress Regina Case (The Second Mother) to shine in the role of a housekeeper trying to overcome stiff social barriers and find her own slice of happiness." (The Hollywood Reporter) In Portuguese. Subtitled. More at https://www.distribfilmsus.com
1 hr 34 min

Happy Together
Friday, March 19 to Thursday, March 25
1997 > Hong Kong > Directed by Wong Kar Wai
With Tony Leung Chiu-Wai, Leslie Cheung
Wong Kar Wai deals with emotional entrapment in this film that won him the Best Director award at the 1997 Cannes Film Festival. Taking as its subject two gay lovers from Hong Kong spending the last few months of British rule away from home -- in Buenos Aires, Argentina - the film is characteristic of the director, with visuals that grab hold and never let go, and a soundtrack -- a mixture of Astor Piazzola, Frank Zappa and the Turtles -- that is undoubtedly one of the most expressive in years. In Mandarin, Cantonese & Spanish. Subtitled. Cosponsored with the East Asia Program. More at https://www.janusfilms.com/films/1743
1 hr 32 min

The River and The Wall w/panel discussion including Heather Mackey ’10 on Tuesday, March 23 at noon
Friday, March 19 to Thursday, March 25
2019 > USA > Directed by Ben Masters
With Heather Mackey ’10, Ben Masters, Filipe Deandrade, Austin Alvarado, Jay Kleberg
This spectacularly photographed documentary follows five friends on an immersive adventure through the unknown wilds of the Texas borderlands as they travel 1200 miles from El Paso to the Gulf of Mexico on horses, mountain bikes, and canoes. They set out to document the borderlands and explore the potential impacts of a border wall on the natural environment, but as the wilderness gives way to the more populated and heavily trafficked areas, they come face-to-face with the human side of the immigration debate. One of the adventurers is Heather Mackey, who earned her BS in Ecology and Evolutionary Biology from Cornell 2010. She has worked as a field biologist and done conservation research, and spent two seasons on the Rio Grande researching the impact of riparian restoration on bird and butterfly communities. Cosponsored by Cornell’s Migrations Initiative and the Einaudi Center. More at theriverandthewall.com
1 hr 49 min

La Strada
Friday, March 19 to Thursday, March 25
1954 > Italy > Directed by Federico Fellini
With Giulietta Masina, Anthony Quinn
One of the Italian master's best works and an indisputable classic, La Strada tells the fairy tale road story of Zampano (Anthony Quinn), a loutish strong man with ultimately only one trick, and Gelsomina (Masina), the dim-witted innocent
he buys to play a clown. Winner of the Oscar for Best Foreign Film. Offered in a new restoration. In Italian. Subtitled.
More at https://www.janusfilms.com/films/1020
1 hr 47 min

Ithaca Premiere

By the Grace of God
Friday, March 26 to Thursday, April 1
2018 > France > Directed by François Ozon
With Melvil Poupaud, Denis Ménochet, Swann Arlaud
This "brilliantly nuanced, coolly devastating account of a pedophilia scandal in the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Lyon, France" (LA Times) follows three men as they go public and seek justice against the priest who abused them as boys. "[T]he most important and assured movie on this treacherous topic made this decade.” (The Wrap) In French. Subtitled.
2 hrs 17 min

Ithaca Premiere

Crutch
Friday, March 26 to Thursday, April 1
2020 > USA > Directed by Sachi Cunningham & Chandler Evans
With Bill Shannon
The film chronicles the gravity defying life of Bill Shannon, an internationally renowned artist, breakdancer and skate(bo)ard punk - on crutches. "Dance, art, performance, and disability politics converge in this entertaining and enlightening portrait of Bill 'Crutch' Shannon.” (Culture Mix) More at https://www.crutchdoc.com/
1 hr 38 min

Ithaca Premiere

The Hand (Extended Cut)
Friday, March 26 to Thursday, April 1
2004 > Hong Kong > Directed by Wong Kar Wai
With Chang Chen, Gong Li
Originally conceived for the omnibus film Eros, this film - presented in this retrospective for the first time in its extended cut - tells the tale of Zhang, a shy tailor’s assistant enraptured by a mysterious client, Miss Hua. A hypnotic tale of obsession, repression, and class divisions, The Hand finds Wong Kar Wai continuing to transition from the frenetic, energized style of his earlier films into a register that is lush with romantic grandeur. In Mandarin. Subtitled. Cosponsored with the East Asia Program. More at https://www.janusfilms.com/films/2009
56 min

Ithaca Premiere

Sing Me a Song
Friday, April 2 to Thursday, April 8
2019 > France/Germany/Switzerland > Directed by Thomas Balmès
In Happiness (2014), filmmaker Balmès chronicled 8-year-old Peyangki's initiation into a monastery and the arrival of electricity to his remote Bhutan village. In his new film, ten years have passed, and the filmmaker finds the teenage monk tied to his mobile phone, pursuing a romance over WeChat with a bar singer in Bhutan's capital. "...a fascinating tale of romantic melancholy played out against the peaceful, meditative backdrop of the Himalayas." (LA Times) In Dzongkha. Subtitled. More at https://participant.com/film/sing-me-song
1 hr 40 min

Ithaca Premiere

Varda by Agnès
Friday, April 2 to Thursday, April 8
2019 > France > Directed by Agnès Varda
With Agnès Varda, Sandrine Bonnaire, Herve Chandes
The final film from the late, beloved Agnès Varda is a characteristically playful, profound, and personal summation of the director’s own brilliant career. Suffused with the people, places, and things she loved...this wonderfully idiosyncratic
work of imaginative autobiography is a warmly human, touchingly bittersweet parting gift from one of cinema's most luminous talents. In French. Subtitled. More at janusfilms.com/films/1944
2 hrs

**Synonyms**
Friday, April 9 to Thursday, April 15
2019 > Israel/France > Directed by Nadav Lapid
With Tom Mercier, Quentin Dolmaire, Louise Chevillotte
"The film, a faintly comedic, semi-autobiographical study of identity and the ambivalence of national belonging, tells the story of Yoav, played by newcomer Tom Mercier, and his struggle to reinvent himself as French" (Reuters) after moving to Paris from Israel. The film won the top prize at the 69th Berlin International Film Festival. In French, Hebrew & English.
Subtitled. More at janusfilms.com/films/1944
2 hrs 3 min

**Ithaca Premiere**
**Wild Relatives** with a panel discussion featuring filmmaker Jumana Manna on Tuesday, April 13 at noon
Friday, April 9 to Thursday, April 15
2018 > Germany/Lebanon/Norway > Directed by Jumana Manna
Forced to relocate from Aleppo to Lebanon due to the Syrian civil war, an international agricultural research center must begin the laborious process of replanting its seed collection from the back-up bank located beneath the Arctic permafrost in the Svalbard Global Seed Vault. The film captures the articulation between this large-scale international initiative and its local implementation in the Bekaa Valley of Lebanon, carried out primarily by young migrant women. In Arabic, Norwegian & English.
Subtitled.
Cosponsored by Cornell's Migrations Initiative and the Einaudi Center.
More at https://www.jumanamanna.com/Wild-Relatives
1 hr 5 min

**Ithaca Premiere**
**Fandango at the Wall** with a panel discussion featuring filmmaker Varda Bar-Kar ’82 and others Tuesday, April 27 at 1pm
Friday, April 16 – Monday, April 26
2020 > USA > Directed by Varda Bar-Kar ’82
An exuberant documentary that follows masterful son jarocho (a 300-year-old folk music rooted in the land that combines African, Indigenous and Spanish traditions) musicians from Veracruz, Mexico to the US-Mexico border where they join renowned New York Maestro Arturo O’Farrill and his Afro Latin Jazz Orchestra for a transformational music & dance festival, Fandango Fronterizo, taking place on both sides of the border. The event resulted in an album, a book and this documentary, directed by Cornell alumna Varda Bar-Kar ’82.
Subtitled.
Cosponsored by the Latin American Studies Program.
More at http://fandangowall.com/
1 hr 32 min

**Soleil Ô**
Friday, April 16 to Thursday, April 22
1970 > Mauritania > Directed by Med Hondo
With Robert Liensol, Theo Legitimus, Gabriel Glissand
A furious howl of resistance against racist oppression, this film is a bitterly funny, stylistically explosive attack on Western capitalism and its legacy of colonialism. A starry-eyed immigrant leaves West Africa for Paris in search of a job and cultural enrichment, but soon discovers a hostile society in which his very presence elicits fear and resentment. Drawing on the freewheeling experimentation of the French New Wave, **Soleil Ô** deploys a dizzying array of narrative and stylistic techniques - animation, docudrama, dream sequences, musical numbers, folklore, slapstick comedy, agitprop - to create a revolutionary landmark of political cinema and a shattering vision of awakening black consciousness. Offered in a new restoration. In French & Arabic.
Subtitled.
1 hr 42 min
Ithaca Premiere
**Our Time Machine**
Friday, April 23 to Thursday, April 29
2019 > China > Directed by Yang Sun, S. Leo Chiang
With Maleonn
Chinese conceptual artist Maleonn undertakes a monumental theatre piece, Papa's Time Machine, performed by life-sized mechanical puppets, as a way of connecting with his father, Ma Ke, the former artistic director of the Shanghai Chinese Opera Theater, after his father is diagnosed with Alzheimer's. A moving meditation on art, the agonies of love and loss, and the circle of life. In Chinese. Subtitled. More at http://timemachinefilm.com/
1 hr 21 min

Smooth Talk
Friday, April 23 to Thursday, April 29
1985 > USA > Directed by Joyce Chopra
With Laura Dern, Treat Williams, Mary Kay Place
Laura Dern gives a revelatory performance as a teen girl whose summertime idyll of beach trips, mall hangouts, and innocent flirtations is shattered by an encounter with a mysterious stranger. Winner of the Grand Jury Prize at Sundance, Joyce Chopra's debut film captures the thrill and terror of adolescent sexual exploration as it transforms the ingredients of a standard coming of age portrait into something altogether more troubling and profound. Offered in a new restoration. More at https://www.janusfilms.com/films/2004
1 hr 31 min

Ithaca Premiere
**The Spy Behind Home Plate** with filmmaker Aviva Kempner Q&A, moderated by Elliot Shapiro (Jewish Studies) on Thursday, April 29 at 7:30pm
Tuesday, April 27 to Thursday, April 29
Please note shorter window of availability
2019 > USA > Directed by Aviva Kempner
An engrossing documentary about the enigmatic, charming and brilliant Moe Berg, a Jewish baseball catcher behind the plate in the golden age of the major leagues who joined the OSS in WWII to spy on the Nazis' atomic bomb program. Cosponsored by the Jewish Studies Program. More at http://spybehindhomeplate.org
1 hr 41 min

Ithaca Premiere
**Antigone** with panel discussion with Greek tragedy specialists, date/time: TBA
Friday, April 30 to Thursday, May 6
2019 > Canada > Directed by Sophie Deraspe
With Nahéma Ricci, Rawad El-Zein, Antoine DesRochers
Antigone is an Algerian-born teenager living in Montreal with her immigrant family. A straight-A student and model citizen, her world is shaken when, at the hands of the police, tragedy strikes two of her brothers. Driven by her sense of justice, Antigone acts against the state, with potentially devastating consequences for her. This modern adaptation of the classic Greek tragedy incorporates urgent contemporary questions of immigration, identity, and the power of idealism. In French & Arabic. Subtitled. Cosponsored by the Department of Classics. More at https://cinemalibrestudio.com/antigone
1 hr 49 min