# SCREEN / SOCIETY



Millennium Mambo | New 4K Restoration! | Thursday January 18th, 7:00PM (Hou Hsiao-hsien, 2001, 106 min, Taiwan, Mandarin with English subtitles, DCP)

A stylish and seductive submersion into the neon nightlife of Taipei, Hou's much-misunderstood marvel stars Shu Qi as an aimless bar hostess drifting away from her blowhard boyfriend and towards Jack Kao's suave, sensitive gangster. Drenched in club lights and marked by an ecstatic endorphin-rush exhilaration and nagging undercurrent of ennui, *Millennium Mambo* is a transfixing, trance-out of a movie.



Monster | Friday January 19th, 7:00PM

(Hirokazu Kore-eda, 2023, 123 min, Japan, Japanese with English subtitles, DCP)

After a mother (Ando Sakura) discovers that a teacher's bullying is behind her young son's sudden strange behavior, she storms into his school demanding an explanation. Continually left without satisfactory answers, she furiously escalates her concerns to the school board and the media. But as the story unfolds through the multilayered perspectives of mother, teacher, and child, the real truth gradually emerges—and proves much more complex than anyone could have expected.

-- Winner of the Queer Palm and award for Best Screenplay at the 2023 Cannes Film Festival



Inside the Yellow Cocoon Shell | Thursday January 25th, 7:00PM

(Phạm Thiên Ân, 2023, 182 min, Vietnam, Vietnamese with English subtitles, DCP)

When a car accident claims the life of his sister-in-law and leaves his 5-year-old nephew an orphan, Thien (Le Phong Vu) leaves Saigon for what proves to be a transcendental trip back to his rural hometown. With its drifting camera, evocative use of natural light, and gratifying perambulatory nature, *Inside the Yellow Cocoon Shell* offers a reverie on faith, loss, and nature expressed with uncommon invention and depth.

-- Winner of the Camera d'Or for best first film at the 2023 Cannes Film Festival



Duke Experimental Film Society | Being in a Place: A Portrait of Margaret Tait (plus: 3 short films by Margaret Tait) | Wednesday January 31st, 7:00PM (Luke Fowler, 2022, 60 min)

Drawing on a wealth of unseen archival material, including sound recordings, film rushes, offcuts and unpublished notebooks, Luke Fowler's new feature film pays tribute to Margaret Tait, one of Scotland's most enigmatic filmmakers.

Also screening, three short films by Margart Tait:

A Portrait of Ga (1952, 5 min), Happy Bees (1955, 17 min), and A Place of Work (1976, 31 min)

### 2024 FRENCH FILM FESTIVAL | JANUARY 26th - FEBRUARY 10th, 2024

Sponsored by the Center for French and Francophone Studies, the 2024 French Film Festival at Duke is supported by the Albertine Cinémathèque, a program of FACE foundation and Villa Albertine, with support from the Centre National du Cinema et de l'Image Animée and the Fonds Culturel Franco-Américain SACEM. Co-sponsored by Duke Cinematic Arts. All films will be introduced in English and followed by a Q&A.



Saint Omer | Friday January 26th, 7:00PM

(Alice Diop, 2022, 122 min, France, French with English subtitles, DCP)

Bringing a documentarian's sense of open-ended inquiry to her first narrative feature, writer-director Alice Diop constructs a morally and emotionally layered courtroom drama unlike any other. Interweaving themes of mother-daughter bonds, immigrant alienation, and postcolonial trauma into a piercing portrait of two mysteriously connected women, Diop forgoes mere questions of guilt and innocence in order to plumb the unsettling unknowability of the human soul.



Return to Seoul | Thursday February 1st, 7:00PM

(Davy Chou, 2022, 119 min, France, French and Korean with English subtitles, DCP)

After an impulsive travel decision to visit friends, Freddie, 25, returns to South Korea for the first time, where she was born before being adopted and raised in France. Freddie suddenly finds herself embarking on an unexpected journey in a country she knows little about, taking her life in new and unexpected directions.



Rewind & Play | Friday February 2nd, 7:00PM

(Alain Gomis, 2022, 65 min, France/Germany, French with English subtitles, DCP)

Working with unseen outtakes from a 1969 French TV interview, director Alain Gomis (*Félicité*) reveals the disconnect between legendary jazz pianist and composer Thelonious Monk and his interviewer, Henri Renaud, whose unwittingly trivializing approach conveys the casual racism and exploitation prevalent in the music industry. Hypnotic, nerve-wrangling, and immersive, *Rewind & Play* offers a unique opportunity to see Monk in a way that very few people did.



The Super 8 Years | Saturday February 3rd, 7:00PM

(Annie Ernaux and David Ernaux-Briot, 2022, 63 min, France, French with English subtitles, DCP)

French writer and 2022 Nobel Prize awardee Annie Ernaux opens a treasure trove with this delicate journey into her family's memory. Compiling gorgeously textured home movies and supplying her own introspective voiceover, Ernaux and her co-filmmaker, her son David, guide the viewer through fragments of a decade, diffuse and vivid in equal measure. *The Super 8 Years* is a remarkable visual extension of Ernaux's ongoing literary project to make sense of the mysterious past and the unknowable future.

## SCREEN / SOCIETY



The Gang of Four | Thursday February 8th, 7:00PM

(Jacques Rivette, 1989, 160 min, France/Switzerland, French and Portuguese with English subtitles, DCP)

A quartet of aspiring actresses live together while studying under a demanding teacher named Constance Dumas (Bulle Ogier). As they rehearse Pierre Marivaux's *La Double Inconstance*, offstage drama creeps into their lives in the form of a menacing mystery man (Benoît Régent) with a sinister story. Rivette won the Critics Prize at Berlin for this late-career masterwork. With characters trapped between reality and its representation, *The Gang of Four* casts an enigmatic look at duality.



The Assembly Line | Friday February 9th, 7:00PM

(Mathias Gokalp, 2023, 117 min, France, French with English subtitles, DCP)

In May 1968, the largest general strikes ever seen halted the labor of two-thirds of France's workforce. Set on the heels of that upheaval, Robert (Swann Arlaud), an academic and far-left activist, takes a job as a car factory line worker, aiming to infiltrate the factory and rekindle the revolutionary fire—but the majority of workers are tired of political struggles. When the company demands extra work by all employees without compensation, Robert sees the opportunity to ignite a social movement.



The Mother and the Whore | New 4K Restoration! | Saturday February 10th, \*2:00PM\* (Jean Eustache, 1973, 219 min, France, French with English subtitles, DCP)

After the French New Wave, the sexual revolution, and May '68 came *The Mother and the Whore*, the legendary, autobiographical magnum opus by Jean Eustache that captured a disillusioned generation navigating the post-idealism 1970s within the microcosm of a ménage à trois. Transmitting his own sex life to the screen with a startling immediacy, Eustache achieves an intimacy so deep it cuts.



#### Ann Arbor Film Festival Traveling Tour Program #1 | Thursday February 22nd, 7:00PM

Established in 1963, the Ann Arbor Film Festival is the oldest avant garde and experimental film festival in North America. In 2023, the festival featured 46 programs with over 170 films from nearly 40 countries of all lengths and genres, including experimental, animation, documentary, narrative, hybrid, and performance based works. Program #1 includes experimental shorts by Prapat Jiwarangsan, Kevin Edward Steen, Monteith McCollum, Janelle VanderKelen, Tania Hernández Velasco, Adrian Flury, Emily Elizabeth Morus-Jones, and Wendy Kirkup.



The Juniper Tree | New 4K Restoration! | Friday February 23rd, 7:00PM (Nietzchka Keene, 1990, 78 min, Iceland, English, DCP)

An unsung talent in her lifetime, Nietzchka Keene's stark, stunning debut feature is loosely based on the Brothers Grimm fairy tale of the same name, and stars Björk in her first on-screen performance. Photographed on location in Iceland in spectacular black-and-white and filled with indelible waking dream sequences (courtesy of legendary experimental filmmaker Pat O'Neill), *The Juniper Tree* is a potent allegory for misogyny and its attendant tragedies. A major rediscovery for arthouse audiences.



#### Iranian Essay, Experimental, and Documentary Films | Saturday February 24th, 7:00PM

A program of Iranian essay, experimental, and documentary films, curated by Yasaman Baghban.

Films to be screened: **Subtotals** (Mohammadreza Farhad, 2022, 15 min) **The Charcoal Alley** (Niyaz Saghari, 1998, 6 min) **Filmfarsi** (Ehsan Khoshbakht, 2019, 84 min)



#### Duke Experimental Film Society | 3 Short Films by Warren Sonbert | Wednesday February 28th, 7:00PM

A program of short works from a seminal figure of American independent filmmaking, Warren Sonbert.

Films to be screened: Amphetamine (1966, 10 min) Friendly Witness (1989, 22 min) The Bad and the Beautiful (1968, 34 min)



Amazon Lab: Brazilian Indigenous Women Filmmaker Shorts Program | Thursday February 29th, 7:00PM

Films to be screened:

Thuë Pihi Kuuwi – Uma Mulher Pensando (A Woman Thinking) (Aida Harika Yanomami, Edmar Tokorino Yanomami and Roseane Yariana Yanomami, 2023, 9 min)

Jeroky Gwasu – Grande Canto (Michele Perito Concianza Kaiowá, 2021, 12 min)

Kaapora, O Chamado das Matas (Kaapora – The Calling of the Woods) (Olinda Tupinambá, 2020, 20 min) Yãy Tu Nunãhã Payexop: Encontro de Pajés (Sueli Maxacali, 2021, 26 min)

All screenings are free and open to the public, and are coordinated and sponsored by Duke Cinematic Arts. Screenings take place in the Rubenstein Arts Center's film theater (2020 Campus Drive, Duke University, Durham, NC). More info: <a href="http://cinematicarts.duke.edu/screensociety">http://cinematicarts.duke.edu/screensociety</a>







