CINEMA GUILD 2019-2020 A/W

CHINESE PORTRAIT

EDUCATIONAL CATALOG
OUR TITLES AT A GLANCE...

THE IMAGE YOU MISSED

UN FILM DRAMATIQUE

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MEMORIES OF DESIRE
**THE IMAGE YOU MISSED**

**Directed by**

DÓNAL FOREMAN

An emotional essay film from the son of Arthur MacCaig, the documentarian best known for his films on the Northern Irish Troubles, grapples with questions of fatherhood, artistic sacrifice, and legacy.

**Subjects:**

IRISH STUDIES

PEACE & CONFLICT

FAMILY RELATIONS

MEDIA STUDIES

CINEMA STUDIES

EUROPEAN STUDIES

Years after documentarian Arthur MacCaig (1948-2008) shot his last footage amidst the blood and heat of the Northern Irish Troubles, his son, filmmaker Dónal Foreman, sifts through thirty years’ worth of never-before-seen footage left behind by his estranged father, discovering both an anti-colonial, socialist history of the conflict, and traces of his father left behind.

*The Image you Missed* is structured as a dialogue between two émigré political filmmaker filmmakers born into very different political movements, yet also father and son. By weaving together a history of the Troubles with the story of a son’s search for his father, Foreman is able to dive straight to the heart of Irish identity, artistic and familial bonds, and the political potency of the moving image.

**DVD:** $310 | **DSL:** $310 | **DVD+BD:** $360 | **DVD+DSL:** $465
UN FILM DRAMATIQUE

Directed by ÉRIC BAUDELAIRE

Humorous, intimate, and illuminating, Prix Marcel Duchamp winning filmmaker Éric Baudelaire’s new film follows 20 budding Parisian film students as they experiment with cameras on their own terms.

Commissioned as a dedicated artwork for the newly constructed Dora Maar middle school on the outskirts of Paris, Un Film Dramatique is a lively portrait of the first class to attend the school, filmed over the course of four years. The group of 21 middle schoolers discuss the drama of their daily lives and experiment with cameras and equipment. They are the film’s subjects, and also its makers.

With a refreshingly uninhibited approach, Baudelaire (Also Known as Jihadi, The Anabasis of May...) offers a new perspective on the realities of our current socio-political moment that is both playful and purposeful. As the students debate the approaching elections and the immigration crisis, they also seek to answer a key political question—what are we doing here together?

Subjects:
- CINEMA STUDIES
- EDUCATION
- PERFORMING ARTS
- EUROPEAN STUDIES
- CULTURAL STUDIES

PENNY SLINGER: OUT OF THE SHADOWS

Directed by RICHARD KOVITCH

A new documentary that sheds a light on the life and work of feminist surrealist artist Penny Slinger, and the countercultural climate of the 1970s that inspired themes of sexuality, feminism, and mysticism.

Subjects:
WOMEN’S STUDIES
HUMAN SEXUALITY
ART HISTORY

Penny Slinger: Out of the Shadows is the untold story of the British artist Penny Slinger and the traumatic events that led to the creation of her masterpiece, the 1977 photo-romance, An Exorcism. A product of the post-war austerity and the subsequent explosion of color that characterized the 1960s counterculture, Slinger embraced her generation’s quest for personal freedom and sexual liberation, and channeled these desires into her ground-breaking art.

Kovitch documents Slinger’s story for the first time, immersing the viewer in the 1960s counterculture, interviewing her key collaborators, respected art critics and contemporary artist.
Follow Laila Haidari, a former child bride, and her brother to help suffering drug addicts in Afghanistan, the country with the highest rate of opium production and addiction in the world.

Under a dark and damp bridge in Kabul, Afghanistan, a squalid group of drug addicts is getting high or fiending for their next fix. Former child bride Laila Haidari offers salvation by inviting these lost souls to the detox clinics she runs with her brother, a recovered addict himself. Fearless and relentless in the face of physical threats, governmental opposition, and the departure of the international community from Afghanistan, Laila brings love, hope to these victims of the global addiction epidemic.

A deeply personal perspective that contextualizes the Afghan opium trade and global addiction epidemic, Laila at the Bridge chronicles the resilience of not only Laila, but also of Afghans who, despite facing the daily threat of death due to an interminable war, are able to bounce back.
I’M LEAVING NOW

Directed by
LINDSEY CORDERO & ARMANDO CRODA

A searing and intimate portrait of an undocumented worker on the margins, supporting the family he left behind in Mexico.

Subjects:
IMMIGRATION
LATINX STUDIES
CHICANX STUDIES
URBAN STUDIES

Felipe, an undocumented Mexican immigrant, has reached a crossroads: after 16 years in Brooklyn, working three low-paying jobs and sending the bulk of his earnings to his wife and children in Mexico, he’s decided to return home to the family he hasn’t seen in almost two decades. But when he informs them of his plans, he discovers that they’ve squandered the money, are deeply in debt and don’t want him to return. They need him to stay in the U.S. and continue to earn.

Shot over two years in the heart of Brooklyn’s immigrant community, I’m Leaving Now brings a warm humanity to one of the most pressing political issues of our time, without sentimentalizing or trivializing its subject. In allowing the rhythms, emotions and sounds of Felipe’s day-to-day life to drive the story, Cordero and Croda open an impressionistic, cinematic window onto a life that might otherwise remain unseen.
THE FOURTH KINGDOM

Directed by Adán Aliaga & Alex Lora

Subjects:
- URBAN STUDIES
- IMMIGRATION
- CHICANX STUDIES
- ENVIRONMENTAL STUDIES
- LABOR STUDIES

A compassionate through-the-seasons study of a non-profit recycling and redemption center in New York called Sure We Can, and the diverse group of immigrants, homeless individuals and outcasts that work there.

Sure We Can was founded by Spanish missionary Ana Martinez de Luco in 2007 and has since been a home for people previously living in the rough. As a mother figure, Ana provides guidance to canners and volunteers alike. One of her “sons” is René, a Mexican immigrant struggling to remain sober. Far from home with no prospects of returning, René watches videos of his children back home, as he diligently follows Alcoholics Anonymous’s 12-step program. Eugene and Pierre are also troubled. Once a jazz pianist, Pierre suffers from depression but finds solace and meaning picking up cans. Eugene also struggles with drug addiction.

Forging a surrogate family, Ana, René, Pierre, and Eugene discuss God, physics, loneliness and UFOs while feeding kittens, playing music and recycling, in this artful observational film with touches of magic realism.
ALSO KNOWN AS JIHADI

DVD: $350 | DSL: $350 | DVD+BD: $400 | DVD+DSL: $525

Directed by ÉRIC BAUDELAIRE

An elusive journey tracing a man’s path towards radicalism without ever showing him onscreen. A continuation of award winning artist Eric Baudelaire’s exploration of the role of our environments in shaping ideology.

Subjects:
MIDDLE EASTERN STUDIES
CINEMA STUDIES
TERRORISM STUDIES
URBAN STUDIES
CULTURAL STUDIES

Pulling from real events and court documents in the wake of the 2015 Paris terror attacks, Also Known As Jihadi follows a young man’s journey to radicalism not through his actions, but through his surroundings. Without ever showing him on screen, Baudelaire traces the man’s route from France to Syria, alternating between the landscapes his subject traveled through and the judicial reports from his eventual arrest, and recreates a path that is incomprehensible to many, making it all the more compelling as it allows the audience to dwell on the implications of the images it presents.

Baudelaire expands upon the "landscape theory" proposed by Japanese filmmaker Masao Adachi, who posited landscape as expression of political power structures in his 1969 film AKA Serial Killer.
In a series of delicately composed tableaus that were shot over ten years, “Sixth Generation” Chinese filmmaker Wang Xiaoshuai documents not only China’s incredible diversity of people, but also the rapid urbanization of its environment. From acclaimed director Wang Xiaoshuai (Beijing Bicycle; So Long, My Son) comes a personal snapshot of contemporary China. Shot over the course of ten years on both film and video, the film consists of a series of carefully composed tableaus of people and environments, each one more extraordinary than the last. Pedestrians shuffle across a bustling Beijing street, steelworkers linger outside a deserted factory, tourists laugh and scamper across a crowded beach, worshippers kneel to pray in a remote village. With a painterly eye for composition, Wang captures China as he sees it, calling to a temporary halt a land in a constant state of change.
HÍBRIDOS, THE SPIRITS OF BRAZIL

An unforgettable ethnomusicological experience documenting the sights and sounds of Brazilian culture that also tracks back to examine the African and Catholic origins of these traditions.

Directed by VINCENT MOON & PRISCILLA TELMON

Subjects:
LATIN AMERICAN STUDIES
ETHNOMUSICOLOGY
ANTHROPOLOGY
RELIGION & SPIRITUALITY
INDIGENOUS STUDIES

Dive into the sacred culture of Brazil, from Roman Catholic to Umbanda and candomblé—mixtures of African traditions with Catholicism. A result of four years of research, French artists and filmmakers Vincent Moon and Priscilla Telmon break down the distance between viewer and subject, guiding them through a realm of movements, non-stop dances, and music pulsating at high rhythms, exploring the relationship between trance, ecstasy, music, apparitions and spiritual rituals.

With no narration and only the sounds of rituals and the chants of the devotees, HÍBRIDOS is a music film of a new kind.
This dynamic monster.
THE EARLY WORKS OF ANA VAZ

Directed by ANA VAZ

A collection of 8 early films by award-winning Brazilian artist and filmmaker Ana Vaz that critically reflects on the relationship between colonialism, modernity and the impending ecological disaster.

Subjects:
- LATIN-AMERICAN STUDIES
- CINEMA STUDIES
- EXPERIMENTAL FILM
- ANTHROPOLOGY

The selection traces the development of her distinctively “embodied” cinema. With an emphasis on the materiality of analogue film, Vaz proposes film as a physical experience, extending the notion of corporeal cinema onto film’s very own body. Hers is a haptic filmmaking that destabilizes and questions the hierarchical gaze of ethnographic cinema, highlighting the instability of perspective as well as the presences before and behind the camera. At the core of the collection is a cycle of works that explore the colonial and post-colonial exchange between Europe and the Americas.


The incredible, unusual and thrilling story of two Americans, Neill and Nancy Macaulay, and their participation in the Cuban Revolution and their attempt to live in post-war Cuba.

A newly eloped army veteran from South Carolina, Neill Macaulay volunteers his guns and himself to the Cuban cause and moves there with his wife Nancy. Assigned to the revolutionary forces of Comandante Escalona in the province of Pinar del Rio, Neill is immediately thrust into run-ins with the enemy batistianos, and attacks on their barracks and highway patrols. But as the war comes to an end and with the rapidly changing political climate, can Neill and Nancy sustain a normal life as foreigners in Castro’s Cuba?

One of the few non-Cubans to be intimately involved in the Cuban Revolution, Neill and Nancy Macaulay give the viewer an inside look at one of the most important historical events of the 20th century.
A prescient documentary on Puerto Rico’s rescates de terrenos, who build homes and communities on deserted land, explores a history of political movements and housing concerns on the island.

Roughly translated as “land rescue”, rescates de terrenos movement rose to prominence in the late 1960s when the urban poor population, faced with housing shortages and government neglect, began occupying deserted land. When faced against government crackdown, participants of the movement employed a diversity of tactics such as pickets, mass mobilizations and civil disobedience. Their struggle would evolve into a political and social movement that not only challenged the notion of private property, but also provided the framework for struggling communities in Puerto Rico to mobilize and become political actors.

Director Pedro Ángel Rivera Muñoz interweaves archival photos and interviews with land rescuers, presenting an oral history for a watershed moment in Puerto Rico’s political history.
I AM GAGARIN

Directed by OLGA DARFY

A bright and bitter reflection on the birth and death of Moscow rave scene — a youth movement that could have only exist during the post-Soviet transition in Russia.

Subjects:
RUSSIAN STUDIES
MUSIC STUDIES
WORLD HISTORY
URBAN STUDIES
CULTURAL STUDIES

In 1991, the collapse of the USSR effectively ushered a new era for Russia. Eager to find a means of self-expression given their new-found freedom, punks, rebels, and avant-garde artists join at the first Gagarin Party just weeks after the collapse of the USSR, marking the birth of a new nightlife subculture. With rare archival footage and photographs, Darfy recalls the momentous night celebrating with the heart and soul of the rave scene, Vanya Salmaksov.

But in 1998, Vanya mysteriously disappeared without a trace. 20 years later, Darfy embarks on an odyssey in search of Vanya, collecting testimonies along the way from friends, DJs, promoters, and avant-garde artists.

DVD: $310 | DSL: $310 | DVD+BD: $360 | DVD+DSL: $465
**THE CALL**

Directed by
**ENRICO MAISTO**

Subjects:
**SOCIOLOGY**
**LEGAL STUDIES**
**CULTURAL STUDIES**
**EUROPEAN STUDIES**

A candid, fly-on-the-wall look at the Italian jury selection process shot at the Court of Assize in Milan, capturing the nervousness, and even humor throughout this bureaucratic, undoubtedly serious procedure.

The Call is an inside look at the turbulent jury selection process in Italy. In Italy, citizens can be summoned at a day’s notice for potential jury duty. 60 common citizens are randomly selected by a computer and notified by the police in person to appear in court—by the end of the day, 6 people are selected to be jurors.

Shot with three cameras from a fly-on-the-wall perspective, director Enrico Maisto chronicles the selection process in Milan’s Court of Assize—which tries the country’s most notorious crimes—capturing the expression of worried potential jurors as they nervously wait to be individually interviewed by lead judge Anna Conforti. Their whispers, nervous questions, humorous comments, and discomfort are all captured and brought together in a soft cacophony full of reflection on a little-known civic duty.
WHEN PIGS COME

Directed by
BILJANA TUTOROV

A film that intimately captures the essence of life in Serbia past and present as seen through Dragoslava, a retired teacher who has managed to live in five different countries while remaining in the same flat for her entire life.

Subjects:
AGING/
GERONTOLOGY
EASTERN EUROPE
WORLD HISTORY
CULTURAL STUDIES

Dragoslava is an ordinary Serbian citizen -- she is a woman like any other in a country that seems to be constantly in transition. A retired teacher, Dragoslava juggles four TV sets, three grandchildren, two best friends and a husband. She has lived in five countries without ever moving from her flat in a small border town. The media and politics creep into the everyday family life but she reflects about it with humor and determination. For the kids, she invents real life stories instead of fairy tales and keeps her desire to see a future of hope. Through the retelling of her own life, we examine the past and present Serbia, and the changes to come.
MEMORIES OF DESIRE

Directed by
VICTORIA SCHULTZ

DVD: $250 | DSL: $250 | DVD+BD: $300 | DVD+DSL: $375

WOMEN’S STUDIES
AGING/
GERONTOLOGY
CINEMA STUDIES
EXPERIMENTAL FILM

A beautiful black and white short from feminist filmmaker Victoria Schultz that sees an older woman delving into her past, considering a relationship with an older man she had as a teenager in the 1950s.

Victoria Schultz relives a painful memory when as a teenager in the late 1950's, she became entangled with a sophisticated older man whose support for her dream of becoming a writer drew her into strange, even frightening erotic situations with him. Shot on gorgeous 35mm black and white, the renowned feminist filmmaker explores her own history, seen here in a new light during the #metoo movement.

Feminist filmmaker Victoria Schultz has trained her documentary lens on women and marginalized subjects in her politically charged films for over 40 years. She has traveled and documented around the world as an independent filmmaker and documentary staff producer for the United Nations. Memories of Desire is her first foray into fiction film.
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