AFI PREVIEW
PROGRAMMING GUIDE AND MOVIE CALENDAR
MAY 4 - JULY 5

50 YEARS OF JANUS FILMS
PART ONE

JOHN WAYNE
BUSTER KEATON
CHINA FILM FESTIVAL
REDISCOVER NORTH IRELAND
SHAKESPEARE IN WASHINGTON

AFI Silver
THEATRE AND CULTURAL CENTER

AFI 1967-2007 40
KOREAN FILM FESTIVAL DC 2007

May 26 through June 28

Some of the most creative filmmaking in the world today happens in Korea. DC’s third Korean Film Festival will take place during an area-wide celebration of Korean art and culture in May and June, with screenings at AFI Silver, the Freer Gallery of Art, the National Museum of Natural History and the National Museum of Women in the Arts.

Organized by Tom Vick, film programmer for the Smithsonian’s Freer and Sackler Galleries, and Hyunjun Min of the University of Maryland, the festival is made possible by support from the Korea Foundation, the Korean Film Council, and the US-Korea Business Council. All films are in Korean with English subtitles. For complete program information, please visit www.asia.si.edu/KoreanFilm2007.

SA-KWA
Saturday, May 26, 6:00; Monday, May 30, 7:00
By turns heart-breaking and humorous, Kang Ki-kwan’s debut film features a powerhouse performance by the phenomenally gifted actress Moon So-ri. This subtle drama of shifting moods—with acute observation of the dynamics of relationships—stars Moon as a woman who, after being dumped by her fiancé, marries another. A hit of a film. DIR/SCR Ha Yu. South Korea, 2006, color, 141 min. In Korean with English subtitles. NOT RATED

MURDER, TAKE ONE [BAKSU-CHILTAE DEONAR]
Tuesday, June 19, 9:30; Thursday, June 21, 9:20
A giddy mix of comedy, suspense, action and drama, this film from director Jang Jin is a murder mystery with a twist. When a beautiful executive is found murdered in a luxury hotel room, the police go in search of the killer—but the crime, it turns out, is much more than it seems. Not only that, their investigation is being broadcast on a reality television show. DIR/SCR Jin Jang. South Korea, 2005, color, 115 min. NOT RATED

A DIRTY CARNIVAL [BIYEOLHAN GEORI]
Saturday, June 9, 9:30; Sunday, June 10, 8:15
A true gangland epic, Yoo Ha’s sprawling film charts the dangerous trajectory of a tough-but-honest young hoodlum who has to balance his devotion to family and friends with his duty to the treacherous gangsters he works for. Chock full of great characters and exciting action scenes, this movie delivers the goods. DIR/SCR Ha Yu. South Korea, 2006, color, 141 min. In Korean with English subtitles. NOT RATED

THE PRESIDENT’S LAST BANG
Wednesday, June 20, 9:30; Friday, June 22, 9:30
A recreation of the events surrounding the 1979 assassination of Korean president Park Chung-hee, this biting, bitter political satire pulls no punches in its attack on corruption and cronyism in Park’s repressive regime. Im Sang-soo’s film is bold, thrilling, and full of pitch-black humor. DIR/SCR Im Sang-soo. South Korea, 2005, color, 102 min. NOT RATED

A BITTERSWEET LIFE [DALKOMHAN INSAENG]
Tuesday, June 26, 9:20; Thursday, June 28, 9:25
Sleek and stylish, this gangland saga from director Kim Ji-woon delivers the shootouts, vengeance and betrayal, but it also brings more depth to the screen than the average crime flick. This story of an assassin who discovers his conscience just a bit too late is a prime example of Korean action movies at their best. DIR/SCR Kim Ji-woon. South Korea, 2005, color, 120 min. NOT RATED

Mark Your Calendars. It’s Back!
The 7th Annual 48 Hour Film Project
A competition for do-it-yourself filmmakers; you’re given a genre, a prop, a character and a line of dialogue—the rest is up to you. Purchase tickets early, as all shows are expected to sell out. Advance tickets are available at www.AFI.com/Silver. NEVER A SERVICE FEE
For more information about the project, visit www.48hourfilm.com

AFI Silver thanks the Hong Kong Economic & Trade Office for sponsoring the INFERNAL AFFAIRS series, March 9-15, 2007.
May 12 through July 5

The classic distribution company Janus Films brought to America many of the greatest movies ever made by the now legendary directors who defined the art of cinema, including Jean Renoir, Ingmar Bergman, Francois Truffaut and Akira Kurosawa. One half-century later, the name Janus Films is synonymous with the groundbreaking foreign language films it championed. This retrospective celebrating the 50th anniversary of Janus Films premiered as a sidebar presentation at last year’s New York Film Festival and will tour North America throughout 2007. All films shown are stunning new 35mm prints. Look for Part II of this one-of-a-kind series at AFI Silver this summer.

AFI member passes will be accepted at all screenings in the 50 Years of Janus Films Series.

50 YEARS OF JANUS FILMS

The Earrings of Madame de...

"[A] romantic masterpiece!"
– DAVE KEHR, THE NEW YORK TIMES

THE EARRINGS OF MADAME DE...

Saturday, May 12, 7:00; Sunday, May 13, 1:00 & 5:00; Monday, May 14, 7:00 & 9:10; Tuesday, May 15, 7:00 & 9:10; Thursday, May 17, 9:30

In turn-of-the-century Paris, Madame de… (we never learn her name) sells her earrings—a wedding present from her husband the General—to erase a gambling debt. The jeweler betrays her and sells them back to the General, who gives them to his mistress, but she gambles them away too. When Madame de’s true love the Baron (the great Vittorio de Sica) presents the earrings to her, the jewels take on deeper meaning as the web of deception unravels.

DIR/SCR Max Ophuls; SCR Marcel Achard, based on the novel by Louise de Vilmorin. France/Italy, 1953, b&w, 105 min. In French with English subtitles. NOT RATED

THE LADY VANISHES

Friday, May 18, 7:00; Saturday, May 19, 9:30; Wednesday, May 23, 7:00

The greatest of Alfred Hitchcock’s British films: not just the template for his later Hollywood films in its deft blend of suspenseful mystery and wry comedy, but a hugely influential film for all moviemaking. Brits Michael Redgrave and Margaret Lockwood become embroiled in a mystery aboard a transcontinental train after Lockwood witnesses the strange disappearance of fellow traveler Dame May Whitty. Their search for clues among a parade of bizarre and sinister passengers uncovers an international espionage ring and imminent danger. DIR Alfred Hitchcock; SCR Sidney Gilliat and Frank Launder, based on the book by Ethel Lina White. UK, 1938, b&w, 97 min. NOT RATED

#34 on AFI’s 100 Years…100 Passions

BEAUTY AND THE BEAST (LA BELLE ET LA BÊTE)

Saturday, May 19, 2:30; Sunday, May 20, 9:30; Tuesday, May 22, 9:50

Rife with symbolism, allegory, and surrealism, this is not Disney’s version of the fairy tale, but instead Jean Cocteau’s masterpiece, conceived as a respite for weary post-war France. When the father of delicate beauty Josette Day is sentenced to death for picking a rose from beastly Jean Marais’s garden, she offers to go in his stead. Inevitably the beast falls in love and proposes marriage, but she refuses out of love for a handsome but loathsome prince, also played by Marais.

DIR/SCR Jean Cocteau; SCR Jean-Marie Leprince de Beaumont. France/Luxembourg, 1946, b&w, 93 min. In French with English subtitles. NOT RATED

SUMMER WITH MONIKA [SOMMAREN MED MONIKA]

Friday, May 25, 6:30; Saturday, May 26, 1:00; Tuesday, May 29, 6:00; Thursday, May 31, 9:30; Saturday, June 2, 1:45

Ingmar Bergman’s moving story of two young lovers (Lars Ekborg and 18-year-old Harriet Andersson,) who spend a summer idyll together, only to see it wither in the light of real-world responsibilities. Handled with sensitivity, the film’s frank depiction of sexuality made it an international sensation. Years—even decades—after its release, MONIKA has been cited as an influence by filmmakers from Jean-Luc Godard to Martin Scorsese and Woody Allen. DIR Ingmar Bergman. Sweden, 1953, b&w, 92 min. In Swedish with English subtitles. NOT RATED

TICKETS & FULL SCHEDULE at WWW.AFI.COM/SILVER  3
SEVEN SAMURAI [SHICHININ NO SAMURAI]
Friday, May 25, 8:30; Saturday, May 26, 8:30; Sunday, May 27, 5:30; Monday, May 28, 8:00; Tuesday, May 29, 8:00

Hailed as one of the greatest Japanese films of all time, SEVEN SAMURAI has spawned imitations, including THE WILD BUNCH and THE MAGNIFICENT SEVEN, but remains unsurpassed in its virtuosity—due in large part to Kurosawa’s collaborator, actor Toshiro Mifune, who cites this role as his all-time favorite. Farmers in a small hamlet hire seven samurai to protect them from pillagers. Though the village can only offer food in payment, each samurai takes on the near-suicidal mission for his own personal reasons. DIR/SCR Akira Kurosawa; SCR Shinobu Hashimoto and Hideo Oguni; PROD Sojirō Motoki. Japan, 1954, b&w, 206 min. In Japanese with English subtitles. NOT RATED 🎥

THE SEVENTH SEAL [DET SJUNDE INSEGLET]
Saturday, June 2, 10:30; Wednesday, June 6, 9:20; Thursday, June 7, 9:20

Ingmar Bergman’s best-known and most iconic film is a touchstone of international cinema’s golden age of the 1950s and ‘60s, and essential, rite-of-passage viewing for every film buff. Knight Max von Sydow, returning from crusading, discovers his country ravaged by plague and comes face to face with Death himself. Unwilling to go quietly, von Sydow challenges Death to a game of chess. An allegorical parade of human foibles and suffering passes by as the two match wits. DIR Ingmar Bergman; PROD Allan Ekelund. Sweden, 1957, b&w, 92 min. In Swedish with English subtitles. NOT RATED 🎥

WILD STRAWBERRIES [SMULTRONSTÅLLET]
Saturday, June 9, 1:00; Sunday, June 10, 5:45

Ingmar Bergman’s masterpiece is to cinema what Marcel Proust’s Remembrance of Things Past is to the novel: the definitive “memory piece” of the art form. Silent-era director Victor Sjöström—an idol of Bergman’s—gives a remarkable performance as an elderly professor traveling by car to receive an honorary degree, an old man for whom the past seems as present as the countryside outside his car window. The cinematic conjuring of memory, using dream sequences and flashbacks, evokes a bittersweet nostalgia. DIR/SCR Ingmar Bergman; PROD Allan Ekelund. Sweden, 1957, b&w, 91 min. In Swedish with English subtitles. NOT RATED 🎥

DAY OF WRATH [VREDENS DAG]
Sunday, June 3, 8:45; Monday, June 4, 9:05; Tuesday, June 5, 9:20

Filmed under Nazi occupation in Denmark, this fascinating film, often read as political and feminist allego-
rty, is set in a small Danish village during the 1620s. An elderly woman, sentenced to death for witchcraft, curses her persecutors before dying. Soon, the elderly pastor who condemned her finds himself in the middle of a family drama as his young and beautiful second wife falls in love with his adult son and her moral transgressions result in devastation. DIR Carl Dreyer. Denmark, 1943, b&w, 97 min. In Danish with English subtitles. NOT RATED 🎥

THE MAIKO SISTERS [SASAME-YUKI]
Tuesday, June 19, 6:45; Wednesday, June 20, 6:45; Saturday, June 23, 1:45

One of the cinema’s finest elegies for a passing era, Kon Ichikawa’s colorful, clever adaptation of Junichiro Tanizaki’s novel is a rich drama of incident and a touching comedy of manners that will appeal to Jane Austen fans.
50 YEARS OF JANUS FILMS

and Ozu devotees. Four daughters in a wealthy merchant family debate marriage and money during cherry blossom time in 1938 Osaka. Prospective suitors come for traditional-minded sister Sayuri Yoshinaga, while headstrong youngest sister Yûko Kotegawa prefers to use her dowry money to start her own business. **DIR/SCR Kon Ichikawa; SCR Shinya Hidaka, based on the novel by Junichirio Tanizaki. Japan, 1983, color, 104 min. In Japanese with English subtitles. NOT RATED**

**THE MAKIOKA SISTERS [Sasame-yuki]**

**LA STRADA**

Thursday, June 21, 7:00; Saturday, June 23, 7:00; Tuesday, June 26, 7:00

The film that brought director Fellini international acclaim and his first Academy Award for Best Foreign Film. Simple, kind-hearted Gelsomina (Fellini’s wife Giulietta Masina) is sold by her poverty-stricken family to the brutish Zampano (Anthony Quinn), the strongman in a shabby traveling circus. When Zampano’s temper erupts, tragedy unfolds. Martin Scorsese, who based the Jake LaMotta character in RAGING BULL on Zampano, says “I was enthralled by the film’s resolution, where the power of the spirit overpowers brute force.” **DIR/SCR Federico Fellini; SCR Tullio Pinelli and Ennio Flaiano; PROD Dino De Laurentis and Carlo Ponti. Italy, 1954, b&w, 110 min. In Italian with English subtitles. NOT RATED**

**WALKABOUT**

Friday, June 29, 9:45; Monday, July 2, 9:45; Tuesday, July 3, 7:00; Thursday, July 5, 9:45

Nicolas Roeg’s strange, beautiful, and nightmarish vision of two siblings who become stranded in the Australian outback after their father inexplicably goes mad. As the adolescent sister and 6-year-old brother wander, they join a teenaged Aborigine boy on walkabout: a tribal initiation into manhood. Initially, the three inhabit a dream-like Eden, but tension mounts with tragic consequences as modern city attitudes are juxtaposed with nature in all of its terror and beauty. **DIR Nicolas Roeg; SCR Edward Bond, based on the novel by James Vance Marshall; PROD Si Litvinoff. UK, 1971, color, 100 min. RATED R**

**HIGH AND LOW [TENGO KU TO JIGOKU]**

Saturday, June 30, 3:45; Sunday, July 1, 1:00; Monday, July 2, 7:00; Thursday, July 5, 7:00

Akira Kurosawa’s powerful adaptation of American crime master Evan Hunter’s novel King’s Ransom makes for a thriller of the highest order, and provides intellectually rich, pulse-pounding entertainment. Powerful businessman Toshiro Mifune receives a ransom letter for his son, only to discover the kidnappers mistakenly grabbed the son of his chauffeur. Along with chief detective Tatsuya Nakadai, Mifune becomes personally involved in the case, journeying from his castle-in-the-sky penthouse to the lower depths of Tokyo’s squalid slums. **DIR/SCR Akira Kurosawa; SCR Eijirô Hisaita, Ryuzo Kikushima, Hideo Oguni and Hayakawa Shobo, based on the novel by Evan Hunter; PROD Ryuzo Kikushima and Tomoyuki Tanaka. Japan, 1963, color, 143 min. In Japanese with English subtitles. NOT RATED**
May 12 through July 4

Costar Richard Widmark called him the “ideal Western hero,” and John Wayne’s screen persona indeed projected authority, assurance and resolve. Though the image was carefully calculated, it largely avoided the clichés and easy formulations of the Western genre and put Wayne in a class by himself. Nearly three decades after his death, he still dominates the popular idea of the Old West.

Perennially underrated as an actor, Wayne made up for his limited range of roles with virtuoso portrayals of his signature character: the authority figure. Sometimes he wore badges or stripes, sometimes it was just in the way he walked. He played younger than he was throughout the 1960s, but won his first and only Oscar for TRUE GRIT in 1970, by then an old man playing old man roles and excelling at them. This ten-film series of the Duke’s best work celebrates the centennial of a true screen icon.

All films Not Rated

AFI member passes will be accepted at all screenings in the
John Wayne Centennial Series.

THE BIG TRAIL
Restored 70 mm Print

Saturday, May 12, 3:30; Wednesday, May 16, 6:30

This lost masterpiece—an early experiment in 70mm—has been restored to its widescreen grandeur thanks to The Museum of Modern Art. In his first leading role, Wayne plays the scout for a wagon train headed for the Oregon territory. The startlingly young Wayne impresses physically, and because this part of a soulful nature boy is so different from his later tough-guy roles. DIR Raoul Walsh. US, 1930, b&w, 158 min. NOT RATED

STAGECOACH

#63 on AFI’s 100 Years…100 Movies

Friday, May 18, 5:00; Saturday, May 19, 12:30; Wednesday, May 23, 9:00

In John Wayne’s first major role for John Ford and Ford’s first use of the Monument Valley locale, a motley assortment of travelers, some respectable and others from the wrong side of the tracks, make a hazardous journey from Arizona to New Mexico, fighting off Indian attacks and each others’ prejudices along the way. Wayne is incomparable, but the whole ensemble shines, led by Claire Trevor, John Carradine and Thomas Mitchell, who won Best Supporting Actor for his portrayal of a drunken doctor. DIR John Ford. US, 1939, b&w, 96 min. NOT RATED

SHE WORE A YELLOW RIBBON

Friday, May 25, 4:00; Saturday, May 26, 3:00; Monday, May 28, 3:30

John Wayne’s favorite role—YELLOW RIBBON’s Cavalry Captain Nathan Brittíles—inaugurated a major element of the Wayne persona: the beloved leader of men with an air of easy authority. Brittíles, set to retire, takes on a final mission to protect both his fort community and the local Indian tribe from impending attack by hostile Indians. DIR John Ford; SCR Frank Nugent and Laurence Stallings. US, 1949, color, 103 min. NOT RATED

RIO GRANDE

Sunday, May 27, 1:00; Monday, May 28, 5:45

John Ford’s third and final Cavalry picture features the first of five memorable pairings of John Wayne with Maureen O’Hara. Already contending with warring Apaches making cross-border raids from Mexico, Wayne’s Lt. Colonel is shaken by the return of his estranged wife O’Hara, come to buy their son out of the Army. As old passions are stirred, the Apaches latest provocation results in a hostage crisis, pairing Wayne and son in a daring rescue mission.

DIR/PROD John Ford; SCR James Kevin McGuinness; PROD Merian C. Cooper. US, 1950, b&w, 105 min. NOT RATED
THE DUKE: JOHN WAYNE CENTENNIAL

FORT APACHE
Sunday, May 27, 9:30; Monday, May 28, 1:00; Monday, May 30, 9:20
John Ford’s two greatest leading men, Henry Fonda and John Wayne, are pitted against each other as rivalrous officers in the 7th Cavalry of 1870s Texas. When Fonda’s bull-headedness and glory-seeking lead him and his men into a massacre, Wayne must race the clock to avert disaster. The superb supporting cast includes Ford stalwarts Ward Bond, George O’Brien and Victor McLaglen. DIR John Ford. US, 1948, b&w, 125 min. NOT RATED

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#64 on AFI’s 100 Years…100 Passions
THE QUIET MAN
Friday, June 8, 4:00; Saturday, June 9, 3:30; Sunday, June 10, 1:00
Seven Oscar nominations and wins for photography and Best Director—John Ford’s sixth and last Oscar. After a mishap in the ring, American boxing champ John Wayne returns to his native Ireland and falls for the charms of fiery redhead Maureen O’Hara. Her shifty brother Victor McLaglen is eager to marry her off, but when McLaglen fails to deliver the dowry, O’Hara informs Wayne there’ll be no peace until he gets it for her—amid much comic mayhem. DIR/PROD John Ford; SCR Frank S. Nugent; PROD Merian C. Cooper, G.B. Forbes, and L.T. Rosso. US, 1952, color, 129 min. In English and Irish Gaelic with English subtitles. NOT RATED

#96 on AFI’s 100 Years…100 Movies
THE SEARCHERS
Friday, June 22, 7:00; Saturday, June 23, 4:30; Monday, June 25, 7:00; Wednesday, June 27, 7:00; Thursday, June 28, 7:00
John Wayne’s performance here ranks as his most complex, combining commanding authority with darkest obsessions. Wayne’s anti-hero Ethan Edwards is implacable in his efforts to track down the Indians who massacred his family and took young niece Debbie hostage. Jeffrey Hunter, his adopted nephew and fellow searcher, is concerned that if they find Debbie, Ethan’s intentions may be more murderous than merciful. DIR John Ford; SCR Frank S. Nugent, based on the novel by Alan Le May; PROD C.V. Whitney. US, 1956, color, 119 min. NOT RATED

THE MAN WHO SHOT LIBERTY VALANCE
Friday, June 29, 4:30; Sunday, July 1, 8:30; Wednesday, July 4, 1:00
“When the legend becomes fact, print the legend.” John Ford’s haunting tribute to the men who built the Old West. Sharp-shooter John Wayne is a well-respected but rough-and-tumble individualist in love with pretty waitress Vera Miles. When Jimmy Stewart comes to town armed only with a law degree and idealism, the two men quickly butt heads, but when outlaw Lee Marvin threatens the peace, they unite—and in the process usher in statehood and modern ideals of law and order. DIR John Ford; SCR James Warner Bellah and Willis Goldbeck; PROD Willis Goldbeck. US, 1962, b&w, 123 min. NOT RATED

RIO BRAVO
Friday, June 29, 7:00; Saturday, June 30, 8:15; Sunday, July 1, 5:45
With the younger brother of a feared outlaw locked up in his jail, Sheriff John Wayne hunkers down for the older brother’s attack. His deputies include a drunken Dean Martin, hot-headed teenager Ricky Nelson, and cantankerous coot Walter Brennan. Howard Hawks’s high-spirited masterpiece has it all: comedy, drama, action—even a musical number—plus career-best performances from Martin and Brennan, and an eye-catching turn from Angie Dickinson as gambling lady “Feathers.” DIR/PROD Howard Hawks; SCR Jules Furthman and Leigh Brackett, based on the short story by B.H. McCampbell. US, 1959, color, 141 min. In English and Spanish with English subtitles. NOT RATED

RED RIVER
Friday, June 1, 4:00; Sunday, June 3, 4:00; Wednesday, June 6, 6:45; Thursday, June 7, 6:45
Arguably Howard Hawks’s greatest film, and a major hit for Wayne, establishing him as a box office force for the next 25 years. Wayne plays a swaggering cattle baron, riding his men, his herd and himself hard across the Texas range to the railhead in Kansas. On the verge of a crackup and having descended into tyranny, Wayne is relieved of his command by adopt-
When this year’s Academy Award for Best Picture went to Martin Scorsese’s THE DEPARTED, a remake of Andrew Lau’s 2002 Hong Kong hit INFERNAL AFFAIRS, the Chinese film industry got another feather in its cap—after two decades of growing recognition in the West. As the world’s third largest producer of feature films, after India and the United States, the Chinese industry’s size alone warrants attention, but China’s influential and celebrated filmmakers and performers have established themselves here. Directors like Chen Kaige and Zhang Yimou regularly exhibit their films in US theaters, while John Woo and Wong Kar-Wai have branched out to US production. Actors Jackie Chan and Ziyi Zhang have international fan bases. Beyond these established stars, emerging Chinese talents have made many outstanding films not yet introduced to American viewers. AFI Silver’s Chinese Film Festival highlights outstanding works of contemporary Chinese cinema, including new work and the latest films by recognized masters.

LITTLE RED FLOWERS [KAN SHANG QU HEN MEI]
Friday, May 4, 5:00; Saturday, May 5, 12:30
Four-year-old Qiang has been orphaned and deposited into a Beijing kindergarten. He has trouble acclimating to the school’s regimen of how and when to eat, dress, wash his hands and use the bathroom. The formation of good habits is rewarded with coveted little red flowers, but because he can’t yet dress himself and still wets his bed, he’s unable to earn any. His frustration and defiance soon put him at odds with the head teacher, Mrs. Li. (Toronto Film Festival) DIR/SCR/PXD Yuan Zhang; SCR Dia Ning; PROD Li Bolun, Allen Chan, Yao Lifeng, Marco Muller. China/Italy, 2006, color, 92 min. In Mandarin with English subtitles. NOT RATED

THE GO MASTER [WU QINGYUAN]
Friday, May 4, 7:00; Sunday, May 6, 9:35
Based on the life of prodigy Wu Qingyuan, (beautifully played by Chang Chen), the Chinese master of the Japanese board game “go.” Torn by bellicose relations between the two countries, Wu stays in Japan and is pulled into a religious cult that exploits his celebrity. At the center of the storm, Wu maintains his own spiritual counsel and loyalty to the discipline of his chosen vocation. This moving and perceptive portrait boasts ravishing lighting and cinematography. (New York Film Festival) DIR Zhuangzhuang Tian; SCR Cheng Ah and Jingzhi Zou; PROD Xiandian Lui. Japan/China, 2006, color, 104 min. In Mandarin with English subtitles. NOT RATED

SHANGHAI DREAMS [QING HONG]
Saturday, May 5, 2:30; Monday, May 7, 9:00
Qinghong’s father has always regretted moving his family from Shanghai to Guizhou in the 1960s to fulfill patriotic duties. Dreaming of returning to his native city, he wants to prevent his daughter from putting down roots in Guizhou. He stalks her when she falls for a local boy and poisons his life with loneliness. SHANGHAI DREAMS maintains a chilling sense of suspense and thriller-like momentum throughout its tale of personal tragedy. (Toronto Film Festival) DIR/SCR Xiaoshuai Wang; PROD Li Pi. China, 2005, color, 123
CHINA FILM FESTIVAL

TUYA’S MARRIAGE [TUYA DE HUN SHI]
DATE TIME TK
Winner of the Golden Bear at this year’s Berlin Film Festival. Though conditions in her village are unforgiving, Tuya refuses to migrate to the city, preferring to stay with her disabled husband Bater, two children and flock of sheep. However, when Tuya falls ill, she begins to consider her husband’s divorce proposal, as this would enable her to better take care of him and her children. None of her suitors are eager to provide for Bater until a classmate emerges from the past to court Tuya with dramatic results. DIR/SCR Quanan Wang; SCR Wei Lu; PROD Jugang Yan. China, 2006, color, 96 min. In Mandarin with English subtitles. NOT RATED

STILL LIFE [SANXIA HAOREN]
DATE TIME TK
Winner of the prestigious Golden Lion at Venice in 2006, STILL LIFE interweaves two fictional stories in connection with the actual geographical transformation of Fengjie, a two-millennia old city which is now underwater to accommodate the Three Gorges Dam, the largest engineering project in the world. Han Siming is a miner who revisits the city looking for his wife and adult daughter while nurse Shen Hong (Zhao Tao) looks to reconnect with her estranged husband. A beautiful mediation on loss and alienation. DIR/SCR Zhang Ke Jia; PROD Tianyan Wang, Pengle Xu, Jiong Zhu. China/Hong Kong, 2006, color, 108 min. In Mandarin with English subtitles. NOT RATED

DAM STREET [HONG YAN]
Saturday, May 5, 5:00: Monday, May 7, 7:00
Director Yu Librings fresh perspective to classic melodrama in this artful and affecting film. When feisty small-town high schooler Liu gets pregnant in 1983 Sichuan province, she is expelled and publicly denounced. Liu’s family arranges a secret adoption, after telling her the child died. Ten years later, lonely Liu—dreaming of singing opera but stuck singing pop songs in dive bars—begins an unusual friendship with a precocious young boy, much to her family’s consternation. DIR Yu Li; SCR Li Fang and Kechun Li; PROD Li Fang. France/China, 2005, color, 93 min. In Mandarin with English subtitles. NOT RATED

THE BANQUET [YE YAN]
Saturday, May 5, 7:00
Set in 10th-century China, Zhang Ziyi is legendary beauty and swordswoman Empress Wan. Locked in a hollow marriage to the Emperor, Wan harbors a secret love for the introverted Prince Wu (Chinese idol Daniel Wu). Once her childhood sweetheart, Prince Wu is now her stepson. When the Emperor dies suddenly, his conniving younger brother Li assumes the throne. The Empress sees through Li’s murderous ambition and conceives to marry Li, knowing that otherwise Wu’s days are numbered. (Toronto Film Festival) DIR Xiaogang Feng; SCR Gangjian Qui; PROD John Chong and Zhongjun Wang. China, 2006, color, 131 min. In Mandarin with English subtitles. NOT RATED

EXILED [FONG JUK]
Saturday, May 5, 9:40; Sunday, May 6, 7:30
Director Johnny To’s genre-bending black comedy packs narrative tension with thrilling action and superb cinematography. Hit man Wo wants to quit his criminal life and live quietly with his family, but his former buddies consider him a traitor and come to kill him. Resolved to take him down, they negotiate a gentlemen’s agreement, granting Wo another day of life and helping him find one last job to provide for his future widow and newborn baby. (Toronto Film Festival) DIR/PROD Johnny To; SCR Kam-Yuen Szeto and Tin-Shing Yip. Hong Kong, 2006, color, 100 min. In Cantonese with English subtitles. NOT RATED

min. In Mandarin and Shanghainese with English subtitles. NOT RATED

min. In Mandarin with English subtitles. NOT RATED
TITANIC TOWN
Thursday, May 31, 7:00
TITANIC TOWN is Belfast—the doomed ship was built in and launched from its shipyards—here beset by the daily political strife of the early 1970s that was “the Troubles.” Julie Walters gives a stirring performance as a housewife who lost a loved one to IRA crossfire. With her neighborhood under constant harassment from the British Army, she naively becomes a voice for the fledgling peace movement. Director Roger Michell (VENUS, NOTTING HILL) blends sly humor into this gripping drama. DIR Roger Mitchell; SCR Anne Devlin, based on the novel by Mary Costello; PROD George Faber and Charles Pattinson. UK/Ireland, 1998, color, 100 min. NOT RATED

TEENAGE KICKS: THE UNDERTONES
Friday, June 1, 9:30
The story of legendary proto-punk band The Undertones, as told by radio personality and #1 fan John Peel, from their formation in Derry to their rise to fame with seminal LP Teenage Kicks, through their rancorous split and tentative reunion. DIR/SCR Tom Collins; SCR/PROD Vinny Cunningham. Ireland/UK, 2001, color, 72 min. NOT RATED

WITH SHELLSHOCK ROCK
Charting the creative explosion of punk music during the Troubles in 1970s Belfast, documentarian John T. Davis captures the bands behind the Good Vibrations record label, including the legendary Stiff Little Fingers (fans of HIGH FIDELITY will remember them as John Cusack’s character’s favorite band) and the meteoric rise and fall of The Undertones.

DIR/PROD John T. Davis; SCR. Ireland/UK, 1979, color, 46 min. NOT RATED

MICKYBO AND ME
Saturday, June 2, 2:45
Based on Owen McCafferty’s award-winning play Jonjo Mickybo, the film tells the story of two Belfast boys from opposite backgrounds—one Catholic, the other Protestant—who become friends during the beginning of the Troubles in 1970. Their shared obsession with the film BUTCH CASSIDY AND THE SUNDANCE KID, which they view repeatedly by sneaking into the local cinema, leads them to several “outlaw” adventures of their own, including running away across Northern Ireland and planning an escape to faraway Australia. DIR/SCR Terry Loane, based on the play by Owen McCafferty; PROD Mark Huffam, Mike McGeagh. Ireland, 2004, color, 95 min. RATED R
THE CRYING GAME
Saturday, June 2, 5:00
Fifteen years ago, Neil Jordan’s THE CRYING GAME parlayed an ingenious and unprecedented plot twist into a word-of-mouth sensation, becoming a sleeper hit and culminating in six Oscar nominations and a Best Screenplay win for Jordan. IRA grunt Stephen Rea has a bonding experience with his British soldier hostage Forest Whitaker. Later, Rea finds himself becoming involved with Whitaker’s girlfriend, calling into question his identity— as well as hers. Miranda Richardson dazzles as an icy IRA enforcer, intent on testing Rea’s loyalties. DIR/SCR Neil Jordan; PROD Stephen Woolley. UK/Japan, 2005, color, 135 min. RATED R

MIDDLETOWN
Monday, June 4, 7:00
When zealous young priest Matthew MacFadyen (PRIDE & PREJUDICE) returns to his Irish hometown from missionary work abroad, he begins an aggressive campaign for church-going and pub-avoiding, throwing him into conflict with his pub-owner brother and independent-minded sister-in-law. Gerard McSorley (THE CONSTANT GARDENER, OMAGH) is the father torn by his love for two warring sons in this neo-Gothic thriller, reminiscent of the psychological Westerns of Anthony Mann. DIR Brian Kirk; SCR Daragh Carville; PROD Michael Casey. UK/Ireland, 2006, color, 88 min. NOT RATED

OMAGH
Tuesday, June 5, 7:00
An extraordinarily sensitive examination of the “Real IRA’s” bombing in the border town of Omagh in 1998, written and produced by Paul Greengrass (BLOODY SUNDAY, UNITED 93). Gerard McSorley gives a powerful performance as the leader of the victims’ families, seeking justice in the delicate political climate of the early days after the peace treaty. DIR Pete Tavis, SCR Paul Greengrass and Guy Hibbert; PROD Paul Greengrass and Ed Guiney. Ireland/UK, 2004, color, 106 min. RATED PG-13

BREAKFAST ON PLUTO
Saturday, June 2, 7:45
Cillian Murphy shines in Neil Jordan’s Candide-like tale set during the 1960s and 1970s in Ireland and England. As Patrick “Kitten” Braden, Murphy grows from a foundling in small-town Ireland into a female impersonator in London, relying on his wit and good heart in ever-harsher circumstances, ultimately learning that sometimes you can go home again. A fanciful, colorful epic that manages to be both pointedly political and lightly comic, with high-spirit-ed performances from Liam Neeson, Brendan Gleeson, and Gavin Friday. DIR/SCR/PROD Neil Jordan, based on novel by Pat McCabe; PROD Alan Moloney and Stephen Woolley. Ireland/UK, 2005, color, 135 min. RATED R

BREAKFAST ON PLUTO
Saturday, June 2, 5:00

WITH
BYE-CHILD
Directed by Northern Irish Booker Prize–nominated novelist Bernard MacLaverty and based on a poem by Nobel laureate Seamus Heaney, BYE-CHILD casts a critical eye on Irish family life as the discovery of a wild child, kept in a garden shed, exposes the hypocrisies of a rural Irish family. DIR/SCR Bernard MacLaverty; PROD Andrew Bonner. UK, 2003, color, 15 min.
THE BEST OF BUSTER KEATON

May 6 through July 1

Rumor has it that as a very young child, Joseph Francis Keaton, Jr. tumbled down a flight of stairs, ending up unharmed and unfazed at the bottom. Harry Houdini (a fellow Vaudeville performer with Keaton’s parents) remarked, “What a buster your baby took!” and the name stuck.

A vaudevillian from the age of five, Keaton began his film career with Fatty Arbuckle at the age of 21, and began directing and starring in his own films a couple of years later. The films from this silent era are his most enduring—and are inventive, visionary, and as funny as anything that has followed. Unlike his contemporaries Chaplin or Harold Lloyd, Keaton does not mug; he does not implore his audience; he watches calmly along with the audience as chaos unfolds and reacts with his trademark smarts, physical skill and elegance.

Live Musical Performances
“Boister’s performances of original scores for classic Buster Keaton films have won widespread praise from critics including Roger Ebert. Boister’s spirited live shows have quickened pulses up and down the East Coast, and the band has appeared at a variety of venues, including the World Cafe, the Kennedy Center, numerous college campuses, and last year’s NXNE Festival in Toronto."

#62 on AFI’s 100 Years...100 Laughs
SHERLOCK JR. with THE BLACKSMITH
Sunday, May 13, 3:30
Movie theater projectionist and amateur detective Keaton is dejected when he is falsely accused of stealing the watch of his best girl’s father. Framed by his romantic rival, the dastardly “sheik,” he unhappily goes back to the movie house and falls asleep in the projection room. Through a series of inventive camera tricks well ahead of their time, Keaton is transported into the film onscreen, envisioning himself as the triumphant wooer and crack detective Sherlock, Jr. DIR Buster Keaton; SCR Clyde Bruckman, Jean Havez, Joe Mitchell; PROD Joseph M. Schenck. US, 1924, b&w, 44 min. NOT RATED Preceded by THE BLACKSMITH. When a blacksmith is arrested, his apprentice Keaton must take over with laugh-out-loud results.

#81 on AFI’s 100 Years...100 Laughs
THE NAVIGATOR
Sunday, May 20, 4:00
After Keaton begged producer Joseph Schneck to purchase an old ocean liner to use as a prop on a film, he and comedic partner Clyde Bruckman came up with the storyline of THE NAVIGATOR, Keaton’s biggest commercial success. Pampered rich boy Keaton falls in love with a pampered rich girl. When she rebuffs his marriage proposal, he sails to Honolulu on a whim—unaware that she is on the same boat due to some strange and very funny circumstances. DIR Donald Crisp and Buster Keaton; SCR Clyde Bruckman, Jean Havez, Joseph Mitchell; PROD Buster Keaton. US, 1924, b&w, 59 min. NOT RATED

THE GENERAL
Sunday, May 27, 3:30
Keaton’s most beloved comedic masterpiece was a critical and box office failure upon release. Proud confederate railroad engineer Keaton tries to join the army to make his girlfriend proud. When they reject him, deeming his profession a valuable southern asset, she rejects him too. When Northern spies steal his locomotive—and along with it his girl—Keaton springs into daring action. Deadpan, pitch-perfect comedic timing and Keaton’s incredible physical talent result in one of the greatest silent-era comedies. DIR/SCR Clyde Bruckman and Buster Keaton; PROD Buster Keaton and Joseph M. Schenck. US, 1927, b&w, 75 min. NOT RATED

SEVEN CHANCES
with THE PALEFACE
Live music by Boister
Sunday, June 3, 2:00
Keaton is a young lawyer poised to inherit $7 million at 7 o’clock on his 27th birthday—if he is married. Rebuffed by his childhood sweetheart who thinks he only wants to marry her for the money, Keaton looks for a stand-in without success until his buddy prints his story in the local paper. Soon he is up to his eyes in women as he is chased by hordes of wannabe brides down the Los Angeles streets. DIR Buster Keaton; SCR Clyde Bruckman; PROD Joseph M. Schenck. US, 1925, b&w, 56 min. English. NOT RATED
KEATON

Preceded by THE PALEFACE. Keaton is a naïve butterfly collector who inadvertently stumbles into a land dispute between a Native American tribe and greedy oil tycoons.

COLLEGE
Sunday, June 10, 4:00
When Keaton arrives at school he learns that jocks get all the girls. Attempting to impress pretty co-ed Anne Connolly, he tries an assortment of sports with varying degrees of hilarious failure. Out of pity, his dean gives him a shot on the rowing team where he somehow manages to become victorious. Infuriated, his rival Harold Goodwin kidnaps Cornwall out of revenge. Of course, Keaton comes to the rescue with his famed physical grace and athleticism. DIR James W. Horne; SCR Bryan Foy and Carl Harbaugh; PROD Joseph M. Schenck. US, 1927, b&w, 66 min. NOT RATED

STEAMBOAT BILL, JR.
with SCARECROW
Live music by Boister
Sunday, June 24, 2:00
Keaton is the sensitive son of a tough-talking steamboat captain who has waged a personal war against the wealthy owner of a ferryboat. When Keaton falls for the ferryboat owner’s pretty daughter, both try to end their quarreling, but things seem irreparable when Keaton’s dad punches the lady’s father in the mouth. More classic sight gags abound—including a 3-story house that practically crushes Keaton, who is saved only because the house’s window was left open! DIR Charles Reisner; SCR Carl Harbaugh. US, 1928, b&w, 71 min. NOT RATED

Preceded by THE SCARECROW. Keaton is in love with a farmer’s daughter who disapproves of him.

SHAKESPEARE CINEMA

May 12 through June 27
AFI Silver concludes its Shakespeare Cinema series with one of the greatest screen adaptations of the Bard by one of his greatest interpreters: Laurence Olivier’s HAMLET. In a lighter vein, look for Tom Stoppard’s clever gloss on the same play, ROSENCRANTZ AND GUILDENSTERN ARE DEAD, as well as Gus Van Sant’s trailblazing cult classic, MY OWN PRIVATE IDAHO, a delirious love letter to, among other things, Henry IV Parts 1 and 2.

May 19, 4:30; Tuesday, May 22, 7:00
Saturday, May 23, 9:30; Monday, May 28, 9:30; Wednesday, May 23, 9:30
May 16, 4:00; Wednesday, May 23, 9:30

“A decade-defining punk of a movie”
—MICHAEL ATKINSON, THE VILLAGE VOICE

MY OWN PRIVATE IDAHO
Saturday, May 12, 9:15; May 19, 9:30; Wednesday, May 16
Gus Van Sant audaciously transposes Shakespeare’s Henry IV into a male hustler’s demi-monde in Portland, Oregon. River Phoenix gives a heartbreaking performance as a dreamy—narcissistic, in fact—gay prostitute in love with rich kid Keanu Reeves—a naïve and penniless Ned Poin to Reeves’ calculatedly slumming Prince Hal. Cult star William Richert impresses as “Bob Pigeon,” the boys’ bad-influence Falstaff figure. Comically trashy and achingly poignant, Van Sant’s vision remains true to the larger themes of the source material. DIR/SCR Gus Van Sant, based on the play by William Shakespeare; PROD Laurie Parker. US, 1991, color, 102 min. RATED R

ROSENCRANTZ & GUILDENSTERN ARE DEAD
Saturday, June 23, 9:30; Monday, June 25, 9:20; Wednesday, June 27, 9:20
Tom Stoppard directs the screen adaptation of the play that made his reputation 25 years earlier. Gary Oldman and Tim Roth dazzle as the ill-fated pair, relegated in Shakespeare’s original Hamlet to the sidelines but here taking the lead, comically comprehending as the familiar story plays out around—and just a step ahead of—them. Laurel and Hardy meet Beckett and the Bard in this freewheeling and clever farce, winner of the Golden Lion at the 1990 Venice Film Festival. DIR/SCR Tom Stoppard; PROD Emanuel Azenberg and Michael Brandman. UK/US, 1990, color, 117 min. RATED PG

HAMLET
Saturday, May 19, 4:30; Sunday, May 20, 1:00; Tuesday, May 22, 7:00
May 22 marks the 100th birthday of legendary stage and screen star Laurence Olivier. We commemorate by screening one of his finest achievements, HAMLET. Despite many notable screen versions of the play, Olivier’s sets the standard with its psychological probing and Noir sensibility. Look for Hammer Films icons Peter Cushing and Christopher Lee in two of their earliest roles, and for Jean Simmons as Ophelia. Seven Oscar nominations and four wins, including Best Picture and Best Actor for Olivier. DIR Laurence Olivier; SCR William Shakespeare. UK, 1948, b&w, 155 min. NOT RATED
SUMMER PALACE [YIHE YUAN]
Friday, May 4, 9:10; Sunday, May 6, 4:45
This erotically charged epic of the post–Cultural Revolution generation made waves at the 2006 Cannes Film Festival and recently appeared in the “Distributor Wanted section of Film Comment. Director Lou Ye (SUZHOU RIVER; PURPLE BUTTERFLY) charts the sentimental education of Yu Hong—played by stunning newcomer Hao Lei—from small town life in the borderlands through wild years at Beijing University to the hard-earned wisdom of adulthood. Generational signposts—Tiananmen Square, the Berlin Wall, cell phones—give Yu’s story global resonance. DIR/SCR Ye Lou; SCR Feng Mei, and Ma Yingli; PROD Sylvian Bursztejn, Li Fang, and An Nai. China/France, 2006, color, 140 min. In Mandarin and German with English subtitles. NOT RATED

#51 on AFI’s 100 Years…100 Movies
#15 on AFI’s 100 Years…100 Laughs
THE PHILADELPHIA STORY
Friday, May 11, 4:00; Saturday, May 12, 1:00; May 13, 7:10
Nominated for 6 Academy Awards and James Stewart's sole Oscar win, this intensely likeable screwball comedy marked Katherine Hepburn's return to the top of the Hollywood food chain. Hepburn plays a demanding socialite about to put her first marriage to arrogant play-boy Cary Grant behind her with an impending marriage to boring, but reliable, self-made man, John Howard. When Grant learns that 'Spy Magazine' intends to scandalize her philandering father, he promises the editor the scoop of a lifetime on the wedding instead. Enter journalist Stewart who also falls head over heels for Hepburn as the three men vie for her affections. DIR George Cukor; SCR Donald Ogden Stewart, based on play by Phillip Barry; PROD Joseph L. Mankiewicz. US, 1940, b&w, 112 min. NOT RATED

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Once again, AFI Silver will screen a series of films in conjunction with Montgomery College film courses. A college instructor will introduce each film in the series and lead a post-film audience discussion. The general public is invited to attend. Tickets are $5. For more information, visit www.AFI.com/Silver.

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**May 4 – July 6 at AFI Silver**

Calendar lists all repertory dates and Special Events/Programs as of press time. Always check www.AFI.com/Silver and local listings for daily showtimes. Visit www.AFI.com/Silver for additional openings and register for AFI Silver’s weekly e-blast to receive up-to-the-minute program information.

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