

The Institute for Advanced Study Asian Film Collaborative presents
An Asian film series of Chinese, Japanese, Korean, and Indian films
English subtitles

Thursdays at 7:00 p.m.
125 Nolte Center

Free public events; refreshments will be served

This series is co-sponsored by the Department of Asian Languages and Literatures.

The Asian Film Collaborative will also present a series of Chinese, Japanese, Korean, Arab, and Indian films during fall semester. Watch for the schedule to be posted on www.ias.umn.edu and www.all.umn.edu.

Check <http://imdb.com/> for more details on movies

Thursday, June 29, 7 p.m. in 125 Nolte Center

A Chinese Ghost Story

Directed by Ching Siu-Tung
1987, Cantonese, 98 minutes



Cast: Leslie Cheung Kwok-Wing, Joey Wong Cho-Yin, Wu Ma, Lau Siu-Ming, Lin Wei, David Wu, and Dai-Wai.

Leslie Cheung stars as Ning, a meek tax collector who finds himself involved in a wacky supernatural romance. He's slated to become a victim to Nie, an enchanting ghost who's bound to an evil tree demon who feeds on men's souls. Ning's soul is destined for consumption, but due to a variety of circumstances, he's prevented from becoming soul food. The comely Nie grows to care for Ning, and vice versa.

Then roving ghostbuster Wu Ma shows up to take down spirits with his nifty Taoist methods. This 1980s Hong Kong cinema classic includes over-the-top action, a wild mix of genres, and overwrought emotions that prove surprisingly compelling and a full of cinematic energy. The original supernatural action-comedy-romance-horror-swordplay flick!

Hochi, The Earless, a selection from Kwaidan

Directed by Masaki Kobayashi.
1964, Japanese, 102 minutes

Kwaidan is one of the most meticulously crafted supernatural fantasy films ever made. In this highly stylized re-telling of four Japanese ghost stories by Lafcadio Hearn, Kobayashi reveals his extensive study of Japanese art and his admiration for traditional theatrical forms. Each of the four tales is set in a different historical era, and each is captured with lavish attention to visual and aural detail. A full description of Kwaidan is at the end of this document.

A blind young monk journeys every night to an abandoned graveyard, compelled by the ghosts of a famous battle to retell their story, over and over again.

Thursday, July 6, 7 p.m. in 125 Nolte Center

High and Low

Directed by Akira Kurosawa
1963, Japanese, 143 minutes



Cast: Toshiro Mifune, Kyoko Kagawa, Tatusya Mihashi, Yutaka Sada, Tatsuya Nakadai, Takashi Shimura, Susumo Fujita, Jenijiro Ishiyama, Lo Kimura, Takeshi Kato, Yoshio Tsuchiyama, Kiroshi Unayama, Koji Mitsui, and Tsutomu Yamazaki.

Toshiro Mifune stars as a wealthy industrialist whose family becomes the target of a ruthless kidnapper in Akira Kurosawa's take on film noir, based on Ed McBain's detective novel King's Ransom. The kidnapper takes the son of the gardener by mistake, but demands that the industrialist pay or the boy dies. The industrialist must choose between financial ruin and the death of someone else's son. High and Low is a riveting thriller and a brilliant commentary on contemporary Japanese society.

Thursday, July 13, 7 p.m. in 125 Nolte Center

Old Boy

Directed by Chan-Wook Park
2003, Korean, 120 minutes



Cast: Min-sik Choi, Ji-tae Yu, Hye-jeong Kang, Dae-han Ji, Dal-su Oh, Byeong-ok Kim, Su-hyeon Kim, Seung-jin Lee, Su-kyeong Yun, Myeong-shin Park

Oh Dae-su is kidnapped and held in a private housing cell for fifteen years. Upon his release, he is given one task by his captor: to find out why he was imprisoned. With a decade and a half of built up aggression and burning curiosity, Oh Dae-su searches for the answers that robbed him of his life.

Thursday, July 20, 7 p.m. in 125 Nolte Center

Bounce Ko Gals

Directed by Masato Harada
1997, Japanese, 106 minutes



Cast: Hitomi Sato, Jun Murakami, Yukiko Okamoto, Yasue Sato, and Koji Yakusho.

Fresh out of high school in Sendai, Lisa is en route to study in New York where she wishes to forge a new life. Upon arrival in Tokyo she encounters the similarly aged Raku by a gang of thugs, and they are threatened in the resulting escape she loses all of the money she has spent the past year working for and is faced with the task of earning back lost money before her departure. Raku sets up and agrees to accompany her on a number of lucrative paid dates over the course of the evening. In the meantime, Jonko is being warned away from her own enterprises by yakuza boss Oshima, who sees 'kyo garu' hookers as impinging on his own local monopoly of the sex industry. This semi-documentary style shows the dynamics between the three main characters and the milieu in which they operate with captivating and sympathetic performances that address the issues of the Japanese 'rori-kon' or Lolita-complex in a non-exploitative and highly spirited manner.

Thursday, July 27, 7 p.m. in 125 Nolte Center

Ashes of Time

Director/Screenwriter, Wong Kar-wai
1994, Cantonese, 95 minutes



Cast: Leslie Cheung, Tony Leung Ka-fai, Brigitte Lin, Ching Hsia, Tony Leung

Chiu-wai, Carina Lau, Jacky Cheung, Charlie Yeung, and Maggie Cheung. A gang of angst-ridden, lovelorn swordsmen-for-hire face the problems of unrequited love and rejection in this introspective and impressionistic martial arts film.

The Black Hair, a selection from Kwaidan

Directed by Masaki Kobayashi.
1964, Japanese, 37 minutes

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A poor samurai divorces his loving wife when he gets a chance to marry a rich man's daughter. He quickly discovers that wealth and security mean nothing next to true love.

Thursday, August 3, 7 p.m. in 125 Nolte Center
JSA/Joint Security Area

Directed by Chan-Wook Park
2000, Korean, 107 minutes



Cast: Yeong-ae Lee, Byung-hun Lee, Kang-ho Song, Tae-woo Kim, and Ha-kyun Shin.

A drama, mystery, and thriller set in the demilitarized zone separating North and South Korea. Two North Korean soldiers have been killed, supposedly by one South Korean soldier but the neutral Swedish and Swiss investigating team suspect a conspiracy

Thursday, August 10, 7 p.m. in 125 Nolte Center
Mother India

Directed by Mehboob Khan
1957, Hindi, 172 minutes



Cast: Nargis, Raaj Kumar, Sunil Dutt, Rajendra Kumar, and Dinesh Raheja.

Mother India is Hindi cinema's seminal epic about a grassroots-level Indian family whose fate forever hangs on the caprice of several obdurate forces. Radha, a young bride, faces a chain of tragedies and setbacks as she toils to raise food on a barren, rocky plot. After each disaster she rebuilds her life from scratch and becomes a living totem of strength, love and willpower for her village and her children.

Thursday, August 17, 7 p.m. in 125 Nolte Center
Chunhyang

Directed by Im Kwon Taek
2000, Korean, 120 minutes



Hyo-jeong Lee, Seung-woo Cho, Sung-nyu Kim, Hak-young Kim, Jung-hun Lee, Ji-youn Choi, Hae-eun Lee, Kyung-yen Hong, Sang-hyun Cho, Myung-hwan Kim, Hae-ryong Lee, Jun-hwam Gok, and Keun-mo Yoon.

Chunhyang and Mongryong have wed secretly and enjoy a brief, yet passionate

interlude before fate sends them on separate paths. Chunhyang is full of sweet innocence, although she is the daughter of a courtesan. She is reluctant, but finds her true ecstasy in marriage. Just when she has discovered this new world of pleasure, her husband must leave with his father to study for an exam while living in Seoul. After Mongryong leaves her to follow his career, we realize how vulnerable Chunhyang is without the protection of her husband. The corrupt governor has heard of her beauty and decides to make her one of his courtesans. This retelling of a Korean classic is a combination of fading ancient art forms, modern movie making, and universal themes that transcend cultural boundaries. It is a story of eternal devotion, youthful passion and lyrical promises.

The Snow Maiden, a selection from Kwaidan

Directed by Masaki Kobayashi.
1964, Japanese, 75 minutes

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A woodcutter marries a woman whose true calling is to wander enveloped in swirling snowflakes, bringing death to mortals.

Thursday, August 24, 7 p.m. in 125 Nolte Center

Suzhou River

Directed by Lou Ye
2000, Cantonese, 83 minutes

Cast: Zhou Xun, Jia Hongsheng, Hua Zhongkai, Yao Anlian, and Nai An.

Mardar, a motorcycle courier in his mid-twenties, rides all over the city with all kinds of packages for his clients. He knows every inch and is successful thanks to the fact that he never asks questions. One day he is asked by a shady alcohol smuggler to deliver his sixteen-year-old daughter, Moudan, to her aunt. Mardar and Moudan grow fond of each other. But their tender happiness is disrupted when Moudan thinks that Mardar has kidnapped her for a ransom. She is so disappointed in him that she jumps off the bridge into the Suzhou River, and he is accused of murder. When he comes out of jail a couple of years later, he becomes fascinated by the dancer Mei mei.



Thursday, August 31, 7 p.m. in 125 Nolte Center

Lagaan: Once Upon a Time in India

Directed by Ashutosh Gowariker
2001, Hindi, 224 minutes

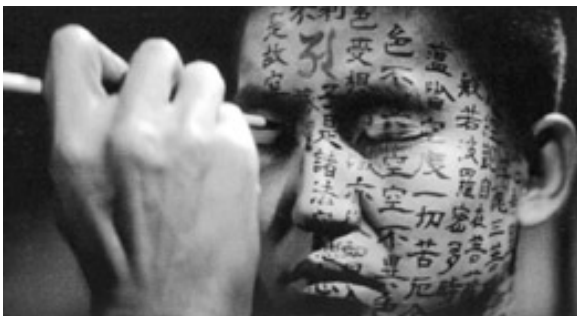


Cast: Aamir Khan, Gracy Singh, Rachel Shelley, Paul Blackthorne, Suhasini Mulay, Kulbhushan Kharbanda, Raghuvir Yadav, Rajendra Gupta, Rajesh Vivek Shri Vallabh Vyas, Javed Khan, Rajendranath Zutshi, Akhilendra Mishra, Daya Shankar Pandey, and Yashpal Sharma.

The people of a small village in Victorian India stake their future on a game of cricket against their ruthless British rulers. The British exploit the village by collecting lagaan (tax). Most of the harvest surplus is gone and there is just enough left for food for the farmers themselves. The British challenge the village to a game of cricket. If the villagers win, there will be no taxes for three years. If the British win they will collect triple taxes, and know it will mean the end of the village.

Kwaidan

Directed by Masaki Kobayashi.
1964, Japanese



Cast: Rentaro Mikuni, Michiyo Aratama, Tatsuya Nakadai, Keiko Kishi, Kazuo Nakamura, and Takashi Shimura.

This is a full description of selections shown on June 29, July 27, and August 17. Kwaidan is one of the most meticulously crafted supernatural fantasy films ever made. In this highly stylized re-telling of four Japanese ghost stories by Lafcadio Hearn, Kobayashi reveals his extensive study of Japanese art and his admiration for traditional theatrical forms. Each of the four tales is set in a different historical era, and each is captured with lavish attention to visual and aural detail.

Hochi, The Earless; A blind young monk journeys every night to an abandoned graveyard, compelled by the ghosts of a famous battle to retell their story, over and over again. **The Black Hair;** A poor samurai divorces his loving wife when he gets a chance to marry a rich man's daughter. Then quickly discovers that wealth and security mean nothing next to true love. **The Snow Maiden;** A woodcutter marries a woman whose true calling is to wander enveloped in swirling snowflakes, bringing death to mortals. **In a Cup of Tea;** A writer recounts the saga of a warrior who discovers the reflection of someone else while glancing into his cup of tea.