

European Film Festival

The European film festival "Europe: Unity and Diversity" provides a glimpse into historical developments in different parts of Europe and into contemporary life in Europe within and across borders.

The festival is run jointly by the Department of International Studies at Macquarie University and EUNIC, the European Union National Institutes for Culture and the Alliance Française, the Goethe-Institut, the Istituto Italiano di Cultura, the Instituto Cervantes, as well as the Polish and Russian consulates have strongly supported the selection and loan process for the films shown.

Program

Saturday 3 September 2011

11.00am	Welcome
11.30	<i>Ma Che Storia (What a History)</i>
1.30pm	<i>Little Rose</i>
4.00	<i>Im Juli (In July)</i>
6.00	<i>Sud Express</i>
8.15	<i>Qui M'aime Me Suive (Follow Me If You Love Me)</i>

Sunday 4 September 2011

11.00am	<i>La Leyenda del Tiempo (The Legend of Time)</i>
1.30pm	<i>Generazione 1000 Euro (The 1000 Euro Generation)</i>
3.45	<i>Kosmos Kak Predchuvstie (Dreaming of Space)</i>
5.30	<i>Jerichow</i>
7.30	<i>Mon Petit Doigt m'a Dit (A Little Birdie Told Me)</i>

Where: Theatre 1, Building Y3A,
Macquarie University

Cost: FREE

Parking: Parking fees apply.

Tickets can be purchased from vending machines in carparks (accepts coins and credit cards). W4, X3 and X4 car parks are designated for casual parking.

Food: Hot and cold refreshments will be available to purchase from the cafe on Level 1 of Building Y3A both days from 12 - 5pm.



Alliance Française



GOETHE
INSTITUT



Instituto Cervantes
Sydney



Istituto
Italiano
di
Cultura
Sydney



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EUNIC

IN AUSTRALIA SYDNEY



MACQUARIE
UNIVERSITY

FACULTY OF ARTS

European Film Festival Europe: Unity and Diversity



Saturday 3rd & Sunday 4th
September 2011

The Movies

Ma Che Storia (What a History) (2010)

Director: Gianfranco Pannone

Country: Italy

The film was produced for the festivities remembering the 150th anniversary of Italian Unification celebrated on March 17, 2011. It recalls the glorious and dark moments of this country that has marked cultural differences. The telling of this story is recounted via newsreels and documentaries from the Luce Institute archives, literary citations, and popular music spanning the history of the nation until the 1980s.

Running time: 78 minutes

Little Rose

Director: Jan Kidawa-Błoński's

Country: Poland

Little Rose is a story about a dangerous love triangle set in the Poland of the 1960's, where betrayal could have a political context. The script, by Kidawa-Błoński and Maciej Karpiński, is based on the character of Paweł Jasienica, a famous writer. He marries a younger, beautiful "girl from nowhere" despite the indignation of his colleagues. Blinded by love, he doesn't suspect that his controversial relationship is not accidental. His new wife is secretly involved with a government agent and informs on her husband under the code name is "Little Rose." The co-operation with the agent turns into passion, but she realizes that she is just a tool in a political game. This is a film about the methods of infiltration and the repression of the creative circles in Poland at the end of the 1960's.

Running time: 118 minutes

Im Juli (In July) (2000)

Director: Fatih Akin

Country: Germany

At the beginning of his summer holiday, a somewhat naïve trainee teacher Daniel (Moritz Bleibtreu) buys a ring from a stall run by Juli (Christiane Paul). The ring bears a Mayan sun symbol, which, according to Juli, has the power to lead him to the woman of his dreams, whom he will recognise by a similar sun symbol. As Juli has the ring's counterpart, and as she is in love with him, she invites Daniel to a party that evening, hoping that they will meet. Curious, Daniel goes to the party and meets Melek (İdil Üner), who is wearing a T-shirt imprinted with a sun symbol. Convinced that she is the woman of his dreams, Daniel talks to her. Melek is only passing through and looking for a place to spend the night. After spending the evening together seeing the sights of Hamburg, Daniel invites her to spend the night in his apartment. Daniel and Melek leave the party just as Juli arrived. She sees them leave together. In her disappointment, she decides to leave town. Next day she goes to the Autobahn to hitch a ride, with no predetermined destination. As fate would have it, Daniel is the first car to stop, on his way back from the airport, where he has just dropped Melek off. He has decided to drive to Istanbul in search of Melek, who, he knows, will be under the bridge over the Bosphorus a few days later. Daniel takes Juli with him in his neighbour's rusty old car. And this is the beginning a long and exciting trip across Eastern Europe

Running time: 99 minutes

Sud Express (2005)

Director: Chema de la Peña, Gabriel Velázquez

Country: Spain

Sud Express is the name of a famous night train connection originally between Paris and Lisbon, but now covering only the southern part of the traditional route. Sud Express is also an intersection of lives. Six stories about anonymous people intertwine during a train journey from Paris to Lisbon. The protagonists of this trip across south-western Europe allow us to explore their similarities and the great differences that still exist among them at this critical moment for the Old Continent. It is a lively film because trains have always meant just that: thrills in motion.

Running time: 103 minutes

Qui M'aime Me Suive (Follow Me If You Love Me) (2006)

Director: Benoît Cohen

Country: France

Follow me if you love me. This typical French expression was first used by King Philippe VI de Valois to enhance the braveness of his coward barons and have them involved in a bloody battle. Thus, we're running through a disaster in this movie. "Qui m'aime me suivre" tells the story of 35-year-old Maxime, a brilliant doctor, who leads an orderly life surrounded by his lawyer wife but admired by his friends and his happy family. But, one day he meets Chine, a singer, and receives the shock everyone close to him has always dreaded. Max decides to chuck in his career and starts up a rock group, fulfilling at last a youth dream. This black comedy is one of the most amazing messes of the last past years.

Running time: 100 minutes

La Leyenda del Tiempo (The Legend of Time) (2006)

Director: Isaki Lacuesta

Country: Spain

Writer/director Isaki Lacuesta's La Leyenda del Tiempo (The Legend of Time) marks the second major cinematic project within two years to devote itself to the life and work of the late, internationally revered flamenco singer Camarón de la Isla. As opposed to a straightforward biopic, the Lacuesta film charts the musical and cultural impact of de la Isla's work and suspends itself halfway between traditional scripted narrative and straight-laced documentary.

Running time: 109 minutes

Generazione 1000 Euro (The 1000 Euro Generation) (2009)

Director: Massimo Venier

Country: Italy

In this entertaining and witty romantic comedy, the hero faces the same dilemma as many Italian young professionals today: how to get by on a salary of just 1000 Euros a month? Matteo (Alessandro Tiberi) is a 30-year-old college graduate working in the marketing department of a telecommunications company. He learns the company is getting ready to restructure his department. His career prospects seem to be looking up, however, with the arrival of new Assistant Marketing Director, Angelica, who takes a shine to him. Based on the eponymous novel by Antonio Incorvaia and Alessandro Rimassa (which began as a hit online blog) *The 1000 Euro Generation* is a comedy about life's many choices.

Running time: 101 Minutes

Kosmos Kak Predchuvstvie (Dreaming of Space) (2005)

Director: Aleksei Uchitel

Country: Russia

The film's action takes place between the launch of the first sputnik in October 1957 and Gagarin's triumphal return in April 1961 from the first manned space flight. Thus, it is set in what some might identify as the high point of Soviet power, a time of optimism and expectations writ large as a "presentiment" of the vast potential of "space." The location is a remote provincial town, located right next to the Norwegian border (notionally Murmansk, though that is never made explicit). Dreaming of Space provides recreation of the Soviet past. But thanks in no small measure to Aleksandr Mindadze's script, this film is no exercise in nostalgia nor does it present a conventional expose of the evils of the Stalin era. Though there are some somewhat understated instances of repression in it, the critique is conducted at a more philosophical level, one hinted at in the title, which in a more literal (and better) translation would be "Space As Presentiment."

Running time: 90 minutes

Jerichow (2008)

Director: Christian Petzold

Country: Germany

Fate brings together a trio in Jerichow, a small town in Eastern Germany. The dishonorably discharged Afghanistan veteran Thomas returns to his home village of Jerichow. Ali, a local Turkish-German businessman, owner of a snack-bar chain, hires him as a driver. That is when Thomas meets Laura, his Turkish boss's young and attractive wife. A classic love triangle is born, unfolding in desolate northeast Germany, where thick forests suddenly end on cliffs overlooking the Baltic Sea. Caught between guilt and freedom, between passion and reason, the protagonists have no hopes for fulfillment of their dreams.

Running time: 93 minutes

Mon Petit Doigt m'a Dit (A Little Birdie Told Me) (2005)

Director: Pascal Thomas

Country: France

Prudence and Belisaire are what can be called an eccentric couple. How can you bear such impossible names in the first place? There must be no other Belisaire in France ; as for Prudence there are few more imprudent ladies than she is ! Just imagine : Belisaire is both a colonel in the military secret service and a past master at ... ironing ! And Prudence, not very inclined to be the model mother, prefers playing the amateur detective. Unsurprisingly, when several pensioners of an old people's home start dying mysteriously, Prudence is only too happy to leave daughter, son-in-law and grandkids behind in her beautiful home to follow the trail of adventure.

Running time: 105 minutes