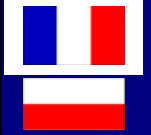




MODERN LANGUAGES DEPARTMENT
&
MIAMI FLORIDA
EUROPEAN UNION CENTER
OF EXCELLENCE



Spring 2007 **FRANCO-POLISH FILM FESTIVAL**
Presented by **LE CERCLE FRANCAIS**

(Showtime: 2:00 PM. All films have English subtitles)

Trois Couleurs: Bleu (1993) Director: Krzysztof Kieslowski (1:40) (March 1, GC 150)

This is the first film in the *Three Colors Trilogy* by the acclaimed Polish director Krzysztof Kieslowski, themed on the French Revolutionary ideals; Blanc and Rouge follow it. A complex psychological study of emotional liberty, this film is set in Paris, where Julie (Juliette Binoche), wife of the famous composer Patrice de Courcy, must cope with the death of her husband and daughter in an automobile accident she herself survives. (Venice Film Festival: Best Film, Best Actress, Best Cinematography; Cannes Film Festival: Best Actress, Best Sound, Best Editing; Goya Awards: Best European Film; several Golden Globe nominations).

Trois Couleurs: Blanc (1994) Director: Krzysztof Kieslowski (1:35) (March 6, GC 150)

The second film in this triptych based on the colors of the French flag and their symbolic representations, *Blanc* illustrates the theme of equality through the two desires of the protagonist Karol Karol: improving his station in life, and getting even. In contrast to the introspective, melancholic, and hopeful stories in *Bleu* and *Rouge*, *Blanc* is a black comedy. (Silver Bear Award for Directing at Berlin International Film Festival).

Trois Couleurs: Rouge (1994) Director: Krzysztof Kieslowski (1:36) (March 8, GC 150)

The final film in the *Three Colors Trilogy*, *Rouge* is set in Geneva and is a multi-layered story with many messages. A naïve university student and part-time model, Valentine, meets a lonely retired judge, after accidentally injuring his dog. The film focuses on the consequences of the judge's surveillance of private telephone conversations and the platonic friendship he develops with Valentine as he reveals his personal history to her. (Nominated for three Academy Awards: Directing, Best Cinematography, Best Original Screenplay; recipient of four Best Foreign Language Film awards; 5 César nominations).

Danton (1983) Director: Andrzej Wajda (2:16)(March 13, GC 140)

Eleven years after the French Revolution, an exhausted and haunted Robespierre is about to commence his Reign of Terror. His one time friend and co-founder of the revolution, Danton (Gérard Depardieu), returns from his self-imposed exile to find Paris on the verge of tearing itself apart. He has ideas of what is best for the people, but Robespierre, and more importantly his backbiting cronies, disagrees furiously. Depardieu in the title role, gives a performance which, if called passionate, would be an understatement. (BAFTA Award for Best Foreign Film)

La Double Vie de Véronique/The Double Life of Véronique (1991) Director: Krzysztof Kieslowski (1:38) (March 15, GC 150)

This film follows the lives of a young woman first in Poland, Weronika, and then a young woman in France, Véronique. Though unrelated, the two appear identical, share many personality traits, and seem to be aware of each other on some level...Is there such a thing as free will, or is it up to a creator of some kind, or is it just a matter of chance that one acts and thinks as one does? (Cannes Film Festival: Best Actress; Golden Duck Award: Best Polish film; several Golden Globe nominations).



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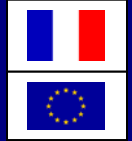
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FRENCH FILMS

to commemorate the European Week 

(All films have English subtitles)

March 26-29, 2007

MONDAY MARCH 26, 2:00 pm. GC 150

Ils se marièrent et eurent beaucoup d'enfants/Happily Ever After (2004) Director: Yvan Attal. (1: 40)

The pensive *Happily Ever After* is a story that enjoys the humor of life while asking just what makes a satisfying, successful relationship—just what does “happily ever after” really mean. “It’s French. It’s sexy. It’s got a killer soundtrack...It’s so good, so knowing, in its Gallic way, about love and marriage...It even has a cameo appearance by the great, wondrous and amazing Johnny Depp.” M. O’Sullivan, Washington Post.

TUESDAY MARCH 27, 6:15 pm. GC 140

La Cité des enfants perdus/The City of Lost Children (1995) Directors: Marc Caro & Jean-Pierre Jeunet. (1:52)

An old man incapable of dreaming kidnaps children in order to steal their dreams and feed off them. When Denré is kidnapped his “big brother” One decides to find him with Miette’s help... “The film addresses –with fantastic imagery yet serious intent- the loss (or, rather, the absence) of innocence and enchantment...and the tactics deployed by children to survive and make survival meaningful to them.” Film Studies Association of Canada.

WEDNESDAY MARCH 28, 7:00 pm. GC 150

Astérix et Obélix contre César/Astérix and Obélix vs. Caesar (1999). Director: Claude Zidi. (1:49)

Set in 50 B.C., Astérix and Obélix are a pair of comic book heroes living in a small but well-protected village in Gaul, where a magic potion concocted by Druids turns the townsfolk into mighty soldiers...The film “brings these cartoon characters to life on a grand scale; it was reportedly the most expensive French-language film ever, at a cost of \$48 million.” Mark Deming, All Movie Guide.

THURSDAY MARCH 29, 2:00 pm. GC 150

Nelly et M. Arnaud (1995) Director: Claude Sautet. (1:46)

Nelly, who works odd jobs, is frustrated by her unemployed husband who feels no compunction about living off her labor. When Nelly’s friend Jacqueline reintroduces her to M. Arnaud (they’d met at a long-ago social function), Nelly seems fascinated with the silver-haired gentleman. “It is a matter of great erotic fascination when two people are intrigued by the notion of becoming lovers, but are held back by the fear of rejection –and—the fear of involvement.” R. Ebert, Chicago Sun Times.



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