

FALL 2004

EAST ASIAN FILM SERIES



SATURDAY EVENINGS ON THE INDIANA UNIVERSITY CAMPUS.

FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

NOTE: THESE FILMS ARE NOT SUITABLE FOR A YOUNG AUDIENCE

September 11

Unknown Pleasures. 7:30 pm, Woodburn 101

PRC, 2002, Dir. Zhang Ke Jia, 113 min. Two friends, Bin Bin and Xiao, wander the streets of their northeast China city looking for their next dose of excitement. Their life in pool halls, discos, and bars eventually lead to Xiao falling for a mysterious club dancer. As each friend falls further into China's entertainment underworld, they soon realize that a life of crime may be a suitable profession for them. Will their life of crime lead to the end of the fun? An acclaimed selection in the 2002 Cannes Festival that is a biting critique of China's youth. In Mandarin with English subtitles.

September 25

Dolls. 7:30 pm, Woodburn 101

Japan, 2003, Dir. Takeshi Kitano, 113 min. Inspired by the *bunkaru* performances of Japan, this film tells three separate stories on how love appears. The first story, a tale of young lovers, provides hope for the future. The second story involves a *yakuza* boss and his younger companion, whom we hope can change the villain. Finally, we have an obsessive love, as shown through the actions of an obsessed fan. A unique romance film that is also a great introduction to Kitano's other work. In Japanese with English subtitles.

October 9

Good Men, Good Women. 7:30 pm, Woodburn 101

Taiwan, 1995, Dir. Hou Hsiao-hsien, 108 min. Most likely Taiwan's greatest director, Hou's work has always been received with equal amounts of condemnation and praise. This film tells the story of Liang Jing, a woman forced to review her life by revisiting an old journal. Her time as a film actress and as a drug addict barmaid force our heroine to find strength within herself. One of Hou's greatest films! In Mandarin with English subtitles.

October 23

***On the Occasion of Remembering the Turning Gate.
7:30 pm, Woodburn 101***

Korea, 2002, Dir. Hong Sang-soo, 116 min. This is a film with a straightforward plot and one that is entirely dependent on its actors. This is the story of a failing film actor in Seoul who travels throughout Korea with two female companions. The travelers are forced to deal with issues of love, friendship, career, and morality. A great example of the amazing films being produced in Korea. In Korean with English subtitles.

November 6

Love Letter. 7:30 pm, Woodburn 101

Japan, 2002, Dir. Shunji Iwai, 116 min. A film with beautiful landscape used as a character. This film is the story of Hiroko, a widow, who is seeking to move beyond her lost love by writing a letter to him. As her feelings and memories spring forward during the writing of the letter, Hiroko begins to dream of an alternate universe where the letter reaches her dead lover. A sweet and endearing film that never strays too far into sentimentalism. In Japanese with English subtitles.

November 20

The Way Home. 7:30 pm, Woodburn 101

Korea, 2002, Dir. Jeong-Hyang Lee, 88 min. This is the story of Sang-woo, a seven-year-old boy from the city, and his elderly grandmother, a mute who has spent her entire life in a small rural village. When Sang-woo's mother is forced to send him to live with his grandmother, Sang-woo is shocked at what he finds—a place without indoor plumbing or access to fast-food restaurants. Angry and confused, Sang-woo rejects his grandmother's attempts to please him. But, as time passes, the old woman's kindness begins to touch the young boy's heart—awakening curiosity, understanding and finally, love. In Korean with English subtitles. Rated PG.

December 4

The Mission. 7:30 pm, Woodburn 101

Hong Kong, 1999, Dir. Johnny To, 84 min. A film celebrating Hong Kong's cinematic past and promising a bright future. Mr. Lung, a mobster of great importance in Hong Kong is nearly killed. In response, the crime boss hires five men to make up an elite bodyguard force. However, as the men begin to see Mr. Lung for what he is and develop a fraternal bond, their role as enforcers are put to the test. This is not the typical Hong Kong crime thriller. It has a sleek, modern feel with a story that rises above its seeming melodramatic appearance. In Mandarin with English subtitles.

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Please note that these films are not suitable for a young audience.

For further information: East Asian Studies Center, Memorial Hall West 207; 855-3765; easc@indiana.edu