



With the success of Film Expo 2011, the Asian Educational Media Service (AEMS) was invited back to organize film screenings for this year's Association for Asian Studies annual conference in Toronto.

AAS Film Expo 2012: Asia in Current Motion will take place March 15 - 17, 2012 in the City Hall Room of Sheraton Centre Toronto, located on the second floor.

All screenings are free and open to the public.

This program is supported by the Center for East Asian and Pacific Studies at the University of Illinois, of which AEMS is an outreach arm, and the Association for Asian Studies.



Schedule by Date:

Thursday, March 15, 2011

2:15 PM	Follow Your Heart	89 min		China
3:55 PM	Mumbai: Traffic	60 min		India
5:05 PM	Making Mao	52 min		China
6:00 PM	<i>BREAK</i>			
7:30 PM	The Fruit of Our Labor	30 min	Q&A	Afghanistan
8:10 PM	Resilience	75 min	Q&A	Korea

In This Section:

2011 AAS Film Screenings

Schedule by Date

- > [Thursday, March 15](#)
- > [Friday, March 16](#)
- > [Saturday, March 17](#)

Schedule By Region

- > [China](#)
- > [Japan](#)
- > [Korea](#)
- > [Southeast Asia](#)
- > [South Asia](#)

Friday, March 16, 2011

8:30 AM	Families of Philippines	30 min		Philippines
9:10 AM	Die For Japan	20 min		Japan
9:40 AM	Mizusawa in Japan's History	15 min	Q&A	Japan
10:05 AM	A Quiet Revolution	60 min		Singapore
11:15 AM	SUBVERSES China in Mozambique	45 min		China
12:10 PM	Dancing With The Goddess	70 min		India
1:30 PM	Into the Current: Burma's Political Prisoners	55 min	Q&A	Burma
2:35 PM	Woman Rebel	37 min	Q&A	Nepal
3:20 PM	The Water Cries	25 min		China
3:55 PM	Beijing Besieged By Waste	72 min	Q&A	China
5:10 PM	<i>BREAK</i>			
8:30 PM	Alms	24 min		China
9:05 PM	Bön: Mustang to Menri	52 min		India

Saturday, March 17, 2011

8:30 AM	Please Don't Beat Me, Sir!	75 min	Q&A	India
9:55 AM	The Insular Empire	59 min	Q&A	Guam/Marianas
11:05 AM	Google China Standoff	48 min	Q&A	China
12:05 PM	Is This The Mahabharata?	37 min	Q&A	India
12:55 PM	A Grandpa from Brazil	60 min	Q&A	Japan
2:05 PM	When China Met Africa	60 min		China
3:15 PM	Light Up Nippon	28 min	Q&A	Japan
3:55 PM	In The Matter of Cha Jung Hee	63 min	Q&A	Korea

5:05 PM	Diary of an Ethnologist in China	45 min		China
6:00 PM	<i>BREAK</i>			
7:45 PM	Kites and Monsters	22 min		Indonesia
8:15 PM	I AM	71 min	Q&A	India

Schedule by Region:

China

Follow Your Heart	89 min		Thu, 03/15/12	2:15 PM
Making Mao	52 min		Thu, 03/15/12	5:05 PM
SUBVERSESES China in Mozambique	45 min		Fri, 03/16/12	11:15 AM
The Water Cries	25 min		Fri, 03/16/12	3:20 PM
Beijing Besieged By Waste	72 min	Q&A	Fri, 03/16/12	3:55 PM
Alms	24 min		Fri, 03/16/12	8:30 PM
Google China Standoff	48 min	Q&A	Sat, 03/17/12	11:05 AM
When China Met Africa	60 min		Sat, 03/17/12	2:05 PM
Diary of an Ethnologist in China	45 min		Sat, 03/17/12	5:05 PM

Japan

Die For Japan	20 min		Fri, 03/16/12	9:10 AM
Mizusawa in Japan's History	15 min	Q&A	Fri, 03/16/12	9:40 AM
A Grandpa from Brazil	60 min	Q&A	Sat, 03/17/12	12:55 PM
Light Up Nippon	28 min	Q&A	Sat, 03/17/12	3:15 PM

Korea

Resilience	75 min	Q&A	Thu, 03/15/12	8:10 PM
In The Matter of Cha Jung Hee	63 min	Q&A	Sat, 03/17/12	3:55 PM

Southeast Asia

Families of Philippines	30 min		Fri, 03/16/12	8:30 AM
A Quiet Revolution (Singapore)	60 min		Fri, 03/16/12	10:05 AM
Into the Current: Burma's Political Prisoners	55 min	Q&A	Fri, 03/16/12	1:30 PM

The Insular Empire (Guam/Marianas)	59 min	Q&A	Sat, 03/17/12	9:55 AM
Kites and Monsters (Indonesia)	22 min		Sat, 03/17/12	7:45 PM

South Asia

Mumbai: Traffic	60 min		Thu, 03/15/12	3:55 PM
The Fruit of Our Labor	30 min	Q&A	Thu, 03/15/12	7:30 PM
Dancing With The Goddess	70 min		Fri, 03/16/12	12:10 PM
Woman Rebel	37 min	Q&A	Fri, 03/16/12	2:35 PM
Bön: Mustang to Menri	52 min		Fri, 03/16/12	9:05 PM
Please Don't Beat Me, Sir!	75 min	Q&A	Sat, 03/17/12	8:30 AM
Is This The Mahabharata?	37 min	Q&A	Sat, 03/17/12	12:05 PM
I AM	71 min	Q&A	Sat, 03/17/12	8:15 PM

Last updated March 20, 2012

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AAS
Film Expo
2012: Asia in Current Motion
March 15-17, Sheraton Centre Toronto



Film Descriptions:



Follow Your Heart: China's New Youth Movement

Directed by Duncan Jepson. 2007. 89 minutes.
2:15 PM -- Thursday, March 15, 2012

In highlighting China's national hiphop movement this film illustrates how a generation of Chinese youth embraces technology, art, and consumer culture to express individuality in ways that clash with both traditional and modern Chinese values.

Distributed by: Third World Newsreel
www.twn.org

Making Mao

Directed by Terranova. 2009. 52 minutes.
5:05 PM -- Thursday, March 15, 2012

This film examines the creation of the Mao-centered iconography that permeated the visual, performing, and popular arts as China struggled thru its metamorphosis into a modern nation.

Distributed by: Films Media Group
www.films.com

SUBVERSES China In Mozambique

Directed by Ella Raidel. 2011. 45 minutes.

11:15 AM -- Friday, March 16, 2012

Many Chinese are investing and living in Africa. SUBVERSES gives insight to China's presence in Mozambique through the voices of slam poets, construction workers and Chinese who are telling their reverse stories about these investments.

Distributed by: Sixpack Film

www.sixpackfilm.com

The Water Cries

Directed by Wang Meng. 2009. 25 minutes.

3:20 PM -- Friday, March 16, 2012

The Water Cries is a series of sixteen programs surveying water-related concerns, such as over-consumption, shortages, pollution, desertification, and drought in China. We'll be presenting the opening episode of the series.

Distributed by: Asia Pacific Films

www.AsiaPacificFilms.com

Beijing Besieged By Waste

Directed by Wang Jiu-liang. 2011. 72 minutes.

3:55 PM -- Friday, March 16, 2012

Online Q&A with Kevin Lee (VP of Programming and Education, dGenerate Films)

Photographer Wang Jiu-liang travels to more than 500 landfills, fearlessly documenting Beijing's unholy cycle of consumption through poignant observational visits with the scavengers who live and work in the dumps.

Distributed by: dGenerate Films

www.dGenerateFilms.com

Alms

Directed by Edward A. Burger. 2009. 24 minutes.

8:30 PM -- Friday, March 16, 2012

Alms explores the basics of Chan Buddhist monastic life through the eyes of the head chef of a monastery in Southern China. Witness how this community functions as a self-sufficient micro-society in which every element of daily life is an expression of this distinctive Buddhist school.

Distributed by Commonfolk Films

www.commonfolkfilms.com/ALMS.html

Google China Standoff

Directed by Marije Meerman. 2011. 48 minutes.

11:05 AM -- Saturday, March 17, 2012

In Person Q&A with Ying Zhu (Producer, *Google China Standoff*)

The Chinese government blocks and censors information that it deems detrimental in

the name of "Chinese national interest." *Google China Standoff* calls attention to the restricted nature of cyberspace and the visibility of the state in regulating, virtually, national borders.

Distributed by: VPRO Sales

www.vpro.nl

When China Met Africa

Directed by Marc and Nick Francis. 2011. 60 minutes.

2:05 PM -- Saturday, March 17, 2012

This film examines China's expanding footprint in Africa through the stories of three people in Zambia: a Chinese farmer, a Chinese multinational's road project manager and Zambia's trade minister.

Distributed by: Bullfrog Films

www.bullfrogfilms.com

Diary of an Ethnologist in China

Directed by Patrice Fava. 1988/2009. 46 minutes.

5:05 PM -- Saturday, March 17, 2012

Ethnologist Patrice Fava's filmmaking centers around surviving Chinese traditions, mainly of Taoist origin. His recently reissued 1988 documentary, which won the Nanook award at the Bilan du Film ethnographique in Paris (1989), offers viewers a look back to these Chinese traditions as practiced in the late 1980's.

Distributed by: CNRS Images

<http://videotheque.cnrs.fr>



Mumbai: Traffic

Produced by Danish Radio. 2011. 60 minutes.

3:55 PM -- Thursday, March 15, 2012

Mumbai is growing so fast that the infrastructure is collapsing and could put an end to economic growth. Public trains are filled to the bursting point, and traffic is nearing a complete gridlock. An eight lane highway is being built out to the sea to ease matters. Part of the Cities On Speed Series produced by Danish Radio.

Distributed by: Filmmakers Library

www.filmakers.com

The Fruit of Our Labor: Afghan Perspectives in Film

Produced by Community Supported Film. 2011. 114 minutes.

7:30 PM -- Thursday, March 15, 2012

Online Q&A with Michael Sheridan (Educator/Director of Community Supported Film)

This collection of short, character-driven documentaries made by Afghans show daily realities of contemporary Afghanistan, and reveal Afghan culture through intimate conversations at home and workplaces. *Knocking on Time's Door* (6 min), *Bearing the Weight* (13 min) and *Water Ways* (11 min) are selected to screen at AAS.

Distributed by: Community Supported Film

www.csfilm.org

Dancing With The Goddess: Ras-Garba Traditions of Gujarat

Directed by Purnima Shah. 2011. 70 minutes.

12:10 PM -- Friday, March 16, 2012

This ethnographic film focuses on ritual dances related to goddess worship in Gujarat, India. It covers a variety of regional performances associated with the Navaratri festival.

Please direct film inquiries to: pshah@duke.edu

Woman Rebels

Directed by Kiran Deol. 2010. 37 minutes.

2:35 PM -- Friday, March 16, 2012

Online Q&A with Kiran Deol (Director/Producer, *Woman Rebels*)

Over the course of a ten year revolution in Nepal, forty percent of the guerilla army fighting against the government were women. *Woman Rebels* follows the story of one such woman -- codename 'Silu'-- on her journey from the jungles to Parliament.

Distributed by: New Day Films

www.newday.com

Bön: Mustang to Menri

Directed by Tad Fettig. 2011. 52 minutes.

9:05 PM -- Friday, March 16, 2012

This film is about a boy's journey from Mustang to Menri and how now as an educated Geshe, he will give back to his village. Interwoven with ancient Bön and life at Menri Monastery, it shows Bön's unique place in Tibetan history, and how and why the work monks, lamas, and Geshes do is important.

Please direct film inquiries to: andreaheckman@earthlink.net

Please Don't Beat Me, Sir!

Directed by Shashwati Talukdar. 2011. 75 minutes.

8:30 AM -- Saturday, March 17, 2012

Online Q&A with Shashwati Talukdar & P. Kerim Friedman (Director and Producer, *Please Don't Beat Me, Sir!*)

Indian society calls them "born criminals." They call themselves "born actors." And through street theater, they are fighting back -- against police brutality, discrimination and history. This film follows the lives of young Chhara actors and their families as they take their struggle to the streets, hoping their plays will spark a revolution.

Distributed by: Four Nine and a Half Pictures
<http://dontbeatmesir.com>

Is This The Mahabharata?

Director of Animation, Ravichandran Arumugam.
Produced by Dr. Brenda Beck. 2011. 37 minutes.
12:05 PM -- Saturday, March 17, 2012
In Person Q&A with Dr. Brenda Beck (Producer, *Is This The Mahabharata?*)

One part of a 26 episode 2D animation depicting South Indian epic folk stories reminiscent of the Bhavagad Gita... and much more. Is this a folk Mahabharata? You decide.

Distributed by: Ponnivala Productions
www.ponnivala.com

I AM

Directed by Sonali Gulati. 2011. 71 minutes.
8:15 PM -- Saturday, March 17, 2012
Online Q&A with Sonali Gulati (Director/Producer, *I Am*)

After eleven years, an Indian lesbian filmmaker chronicles the journey home to finally confront the loss of her mother whom she never came out to. By meeting parents of other gay and lesbian Indians, she pieces together the fabric of what family truly means, in a landscape where being gay was, until recently, a criminal and punishable offense.

Distributed by filmmaker.
<http://sonalifilm.com/I-AM.html>



Resilience

Directed by Tammy Chu. 2010. 75 minutes.
8:10 PM -- Thursday, March 15, 2012
In Person Q&A with Jessica Windt (Producer, *Resilience*)

This award-winning documentary takes a look at a side of adoption rarely told - what happens after the reunion. *Resilience* follows a Korean birth mother and her American son as they reunite and attempt to build a relationship after 30 years apart.

Distributed by: 7th Art Releasing
www.7thart.com

In The Matter of Cha Jung Hee

Directed by Deann Borshay Liem. 2010. 63 minutes.

3:55 PM -- Saturday, March 17, 2012

In Person Q&A with Deann Borshay Liem (Director/Producer, *In The Matter of Cha Jung Hee*)

After 40 years, filmmaker Deann Borshay Liem, a Korean adoptee who came to the US in 1966 as Cha Jung Hee, returns to her native Korea to find her "double," the mysterious girl whose place she took in America. This moving and provocative film probes the ethics of international adoptions and reveals the cost of living a lie.

Distributed by: New Day Films

www.newday.com



Die For Japan

Directed by Jeffrey Dym. 2012. 20 minutes.

9:10 AM -- Friday, March 16, 2012

While American World War II propaganda often focused on killing the enemy, Japanese propaganda focused more on dying for the nation. This film exams Japanese World War II propaganda as depicted in kamishibai—Japanese paper plays, a form of street entertainment popular in Japan at the time.

Please direct film inquiries to: dym@csus.edu

Mizuzawa in Japan's History

Directed by David W. Plath. 2011. 15 minutes.

9:40 AM -- Friday, March 16, 2012

In Person Introduction and Q&A with David Plath (Producer, *More About Mizuzawa*)

Completed shortly before disaster hit Northeastern Japan on 11 March 2011, this film is built around a conversation between noted Japan scholars -- anthropologist Keith Brown and historian Ronald P. Toby who discuss the long and special role of this region in Japanese history.

Distributed by: The Media Production Group

www.cantgonative.com

A Grandpa From Brazil

Directed by Nanako Kurihara. 2008/2011. 60 minutes.

12:55 PM -- Saturday, March 17, 2012

Online Q&A with Nanako Kurihara (Director/Producer, *A Grandpa From Brazil*)

A Grandpa from Brazil focuses on the journey of Ken'ichi Konno, a 92-year-old Japanese man who migrated to Brazil in 1931. In telling Ken'ichi's story, the film also traces the history of Japanese immigration to Brazil and the current "reverse

immigration" from Brazil to Japan.

Distributed by filmmaker.
<http://nanakokurihara.com>

Light Up Nippon

Directed by Kensaku Kakimoto. 2012. 28 minutes.

3:15 PM -- Saturday, March 17, 2012

In Person Response with Theodore C. Bestor (Professor and Chair of the Department of Anthropology, Harvard University)

Light Up Nippon documents the mission of a group of volunteers to set off fireworks on the night of August 11, 2011 in more than 10 towns and cities hit by the earthquake and tsunami of March 11, 2011. The film tells a bittersweet story, of the pursuit to remind everyone the original meaning of fireworks: as both a memorial to the victims and as a sign of hope.

Distributed by: The Japan Foundation
<http://lightupnippon.jp>



Families of Philippines

Directed by Eleanor Marquisee. 2011. 37 minutes.

8:30 AM -- Friday, March 16, 2012

This documentary shows the lives of two children and their families in the Philippines from morning to night -- how they go to school, what they eat, and what are some of their activities. One family lives in a rural area on the Island of Cebu and another family lives in Manila.

Distributed by: Master Communications
www.master-comm.com

A Quiet Revolution: Singapore's World Class Education System

Produced by Baney Media/Moving Bits. 2011. 60 minutes.

8:15 PM -- Friday, March 16, 2012

Many say Singapore has the best education system in the world. This documentary shows how this system has produced amazing results and how it differs from the U.S. educational philosophy.

Distributed by Filmmakers Library
www.filmakers.com

Into The Current: Burma's Political Prisoners

Directed by Jeanne Hallacy. 2011. 55 minutes.

1:30 PM -- Friday, March 16, 2012

In Person Q&A with Tin Maung Htoo (Executive Director, Canadian Friends of Burma) and Paul Copeland (Toronto Burma Roundtable)

Into The Current tells the story of Burma's unsung heroes -- its prisoners of conscience, and the price they pay for speaking the truth about military dictatorship. Using footage secretly shot in Burma, the film uncovers the stories and sacrifices of 'ordinary' people of exceptional courage, and the leaders who inspire them.

Distributed by: Ellen Bruno Films

www.intothecurrent.org

The Insular Empire: America in the Mariana Islands

Directed by Vanessa Warheit. 2010. 59 minutes.

9:55 AM -- Saturday, March 17, 2012

Online Q&A with Vanessa Warheit (Director/Producer, *The Insular Empire: America in the Mariana Islands*)

This documentary is about America's historic and ongoing colonial relationship with Guam, and the Northern Mariana Islands. Although most Americans don't believe the US is an empire, by many standards, these "insular areas" are American colonies. And most Americans know nothing about them.

Distributed by: New Day Films

www.newday.com

Kites and Monsters

Directed by Robert Lemelson. 2011. 22 minutes.

9:10 AM -- Saturday, March 17, 2012

Kites and Monsters follows Wayan Yoga, a young Balinese from boyhood to manhood, discovering the influential and protective aspects of culture that may guide developmental neuropsychiatric processes. The protective buffer of his family guides him successfully into normative Balinese adulthood.

Distributed by: Documentary Educational Resources

www.der.org



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