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Fall-Winter 2004-2005 Film Series

Date	Film
November 5	Battle of Algiers
November 19	On the Waterfront
December 3	Ruang Talok 69
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January 14	The Fast Runner
January 28	The Great McGinty
February 11	Danzon
February 25	Twilight Samurai

Showtime: 8PM
Free refreshments after the show.

Location: Battelle Auditorium
[Directions to the Auditorium](#)

Tickets: Adults \$3
Series passes \$13 (\$10 for BSA members)

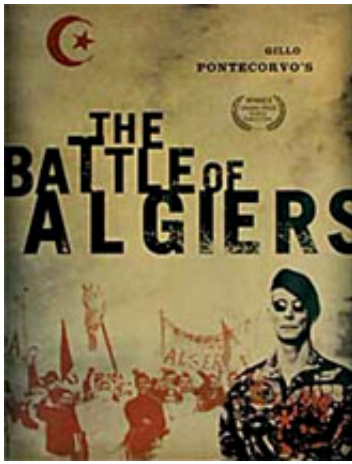
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More info: Rosie Neitzel (375-6921)



November 5

Battle of Algiers



Italy, 1967, B&W, 117 min.

Language: French, Arabic

Rating: Unrated

Direction: Gillo Pontecorvo

Cast: Brahim Haggiag, Jean Martin, Yacef Saadi

[Internet Movie Database](#)

Reviews: [Movie Review Query Engine](#)

[New York Times](#)

[Washington Post](#)

Official site: [Rialto Pictures](#)

Trailer: [Rialto Pictures](#)

Michael Kaufman wrote in The New York Times about *The Battle of Algiers*: Challenged by terrorist tactics and guerrilla warfare in Iraq, the Pentagon recently held a screening of "The Battle of Algiers," the film that in the late 1960's was required viewing and something of a teaching tool for radicalized Americans and revolutionary wannabes opposing the Vietnam War.

Back in those days the young audiences that often sat through several showings of Gillo Pontecorvo's 1965 re-enactment of the urban struggle between French troops and Algerian nationalists, shared the director's sympathies for the guerrillas of the F.L.N., Algeria's National Liberation Front. Those viewers identified with and even cheered for Ali La Pointe, the streetwise operator who drew on his underworld connections to organize a network of terrorist cells and entrenched it within the Casbah, the city's old Muslim section. In the same way they would hiss Colonel Mathieu, the character based on Jacques Massu, the actual commander of the French forces.

"The Pentagon's showing drew a more professionally detached audience of about 40 officers and civilian experts who were urged to consider and discuss the implicit issues at the core of the film - the problematic but alluring efficacy of brutal and repressive means in fighting clandestine terrorists in places like Algeria and Iraq. Or more specifically, the advantages and costs of resorting to torture and intimidation in seeking vital human intelligence about enemy plans.

As the flier inviting guests to the Pentagon screening declared: "How to win a battle against terrorism and lose the war of ideas. Children shoot soldiers at point-blank range. Women plant bombs in cafes. Soon the entire Arab population builds to a mad fervor. Sound familiar? The French have a plan. It succeeds tactically, but fails strategically. To understand why, come to a rare showing of this film."

[Michael Kaufman, The New York Times, September 7, 2003](#) (complete article)



November 19

On the Waterfront



USA, 1954, B&W, 108 min.

Language: English

Rating: Not rated

Direction: Elia Kazan

Cast: Marlon Brando, Rod Steiger, Karl Malden, Eva Marie Saint

[Internet Movie Database](#)

Reviews: [Movie Review Query Engine](#)

[The New York Times \(1954\)](#)

Official site: none

Trailer: [NY Times \(1954 trailer\)](#)

This classic story of Mob informers was based on a number of true stories and filmed on location in and around the docks of New York and New Jersey. Mob-connected union boss Johnny Friendly (Lee J. Cobb) rules the waterfront with an iron fist. The police know that he's been responsible for a number of murders, but witnesses play deaf and dumb ("plead D & D"). Washed-up boxer Terry Malloy (Marlon Brando) has had an errand-boy job because of the influence of his brother Charley, a crooked union lawyer (Rod Steiger).

Witnessing one of Friendly's rub-outs, Terry is willing to keep his mouth shut until he meets the dead dockworker's sister Edie (Eva Marie Saint).

Terry is persuaded to cooperate with the Crime Commission investigating Friendly. Featuring Brando's famous "I coulda been a contendah" speech, *On the Waterfront* has often been seen as an allegory of "naming names" against suspected Communists during the anti-Communist investigations of the 1950s. --[A.H. Weiler review](#)

Awards:

On the Waterfront won Oscars for Best Picture, Best Director, Best Adapted Screenplay, Best Actor for Brando, and Best Supporting Actress for Saint



December 3

Ruang Talok 69 ("Sixtynin9")



Thailand, 1999, 115 min.

Language: Thai*

Rating: R

Direction: Pen-Ek Ratanaruang

Cast: Lalita Panyopas, Tasanawalai Ongartittichai, Black Phomtong, Arun Wannarbodeewong

[Internet Movie Database](#)

Reviews: [Movie Review Query Engine](#)

Official site: none

Trailer: not available

A woman (Tum), fired from a financial corporation during the Asia crisis, returns home with no money. The next day, she finds a box filled with a large amount of cash in front of her door, and decides to keep it. However, the people that left it there soon want it back. It had been left by mistake; the number of her apartment is "6" and because it has only one nail in it, it keeps flipping over to show "9" (hence the title "Sixtynin9").

The task before Tum is how to make off with the cash without getting herself killed, and what follows is low level gang war, with plenty of bodies and witty dialog, and by most reports, it doesn't make profound sense but is quite clever. The evident influence of Quentin Tarantino (*Pulp Fiction*) informs but doesn't diminish the story.

Awards:

In 2000, Berlin International Film Festival (Don Quixote Award--Special Mention), Hong Kong International Film Festival (FIPRESCI prize), Rotterdam International Film Festival (nominated for Tiger Award), Singapore International Film Festival (nominated for Silver Screen Award for best Asian Feature Film), Williamsburg Brooklyn Film Festival (Chameleon award for Best Feature Film).



December 17

Goodbye Lenin



Germany, 2003, 121min.

Language: German

Rating: R

Direction: Wolfgang Becker

Cast: Daniel Bruhl, Katrin Sass

[Internet Movie Database](#)

Reviews: [Movie Review Query Engine](#)

Official site: [Sony Pictures Classics](#)

Trailer: [RottenTomatoes.com](#) (any)
[Apple.com](#) (Quicktime)



In East Germany in 1989, Alex loves his patriotic mother even if he doesn't love the Communist control over his teen life. Just as the Berlin Wall is about to come down, she suffers a heart attack and falls into a coma. When she awakes 8 months later, she has missed the collapse of the Wall and the westernization of the East. Alex is convinced that she is too frail to be told the truth about her country's reform, and that he must pretend nothing has changed. Acute political satire at its very best.

Awards:

Awards: Blue Angel for Best Director (2003 Berlin International Film Festival); Best Film, Audience Award for Best Director, Best Actor (Bruhl), Audience Award for Best Actor (Bruhl), Audience Award for Best Actress (Sass), Best Screenwriter (Lichtenberg) (2003 European Film Awards); Best Film, Audience Award for German Film of the Year, Best Director, Best Supporting Actor (Lukas), Best Production Design, Best Editing, Best Music (2003 German Film Awards); Best Screenplay (2002 German Screenplay Awards); Best German Film (2003 Guild of German Art House Cinemas); Best European Union Film (2004 Cesars)
Nominations: Best Foreign Language Film (2003 Golden Globe Awards)



January 14

The Fast Runner ("Atanarjuat")



Canada, 2001, 172min

Rating: R

Language: Inuktitut*

Direction, Zacharias Kunuk
Production,
Screenplay:

Cast: Natar Ungalaaq, Sylvia Ivalu, Peter-Henry
Arnatsiaq, Lucy Tulugarjuk, Madeline Ivalu,
Pauloosie Qulitalik

[Internet Movie Database](#)

Reviews: [Movie Review Query Engine](#)
[Bright Lights Film Journal](#)

Official site: [Lot 47 Films](#)

Trailer: [Apple.com](#) (Quicktime)

This film is about the legend of Antanarjuat and his brother Amaqjuaq, two warriors who battle evil spirits and jealous tribal rivals to bring harmony and peace to their families. Beautifully shot in the far north and acted by an excellent Inuit cast. A unique and original view into another culture.

Set on the small island of Igloolik, the film extends from this 1,200-person community in Arctic Canada. With archeological evidence suggesting some 4,000 years of continuous habitation, the Inuits of Igloolik have a native culture expressed almost wholly through an oral tradition.

Over the last 20 years, Igloolik has also become the site for an experimental marriage between ancient customs and modern technology. Beginning in 1983, screenwriter Paul Apak Angilirq formed a government-sponsored TV, video, and motion picture production facility. Kunuk joined him a year later and the pair began collaborating, eventually creating Canada's first entirely Inuit production company, Igloolik Isuma Productions. More about the background of this production at [Bright Lights Film Journal](#).

Awards:

Camera d'Or, Cannes Film Festival (2001)



January 28

The Great McGinty



USA, 1940, 82min., B&W

Rating: NR

Language: English

Direction: Preston Sturges

Cast: Brian Donlevy, Muriel Angelus, Akim Tamiroff,
William Demarest

[Internet Movie Database](#)



Reviews: [Movie Review Query Engine](#)

Official site: None

Trailer: Try [Video Detective](#). (Search for The Great McGinty) (Windows Media)

Dan McGinty was just a bum looking for a way to survive in Depression-era America. He finds himself moving up the political ladder with the backing of some of the more unsavory folks in his community. A politically convenient marriage to Catherine forces Dan to rethink his dishonest ways.

Awards:

Academy Award (Best Writing, Best Original Screenplay) to Preston Sturges (1941).



February 11

Danzon



Mexico, Spain, 1991, 120 min, color

Rating: PG-13

Language: Spanish*

Direction: Maria Novaro

Cast: Maria Rojo, Carmen Salinas, Tito Vasconcelos, Margarita Isabel

[Internet Movie Database](#)

Reviews: [Movie Review Query Engine](#)

Official site: None

Trailer: Not available.

Julia (Rojo) is a phone operator in Mexico City who divides her time between her job, her daughter and the danzon: a Cuban dance very popular in Mexico and Central America. Every Wednesday Julia does the danzon with Carmelo (Rergis) in the old "Salon Colonia". They've danced for years but barely know each other. One night Carmelo disappears without a trace. Feeling lonely and sad, Julia takes a train to Veracruz, where she knows Carmelo has a brother. That sudden trip will change Julia's life forever. (Summary by Maximiliano Maza at Internet Movie Database)

Film course [study guide](#) to this film.

Awards:

Best Actress (Maria Rojo) Valladolid International Film Festival (1991), nominated for Independent Spirit Award (Best Foreign Film, 1993), nominated for Golden Ariel (Maria Novaro) and Silver Ariel (Best Direction, Best Music Theme)(Mexico, 1992).



February 25

Twilight Samurai ("Tasogare Seibei")



Japan, 2002, 129 min.

Rating: NR

Language: Japanese*

Direction: Yoji Yamada

Cast: HiroYuki Sanada, Rie Miyazawa

[Internet Movie Database](#)

Reviews: [Movie Review Query Engine](#)

Official site: [Empire Pictures](#)

Trailer: none

Set in 19th century Japan in the last years of war between rival clans, when the days of the honorable warrior are numbered. Seibei Iguchi is a lowly samurai working as an ill-paid clerk in a clan's warehouse. A widower whose wife has recently died of TB, he works day and night to support his two young daughters and senile mother. As a result, he is unkempt and an object of ridicule among his office colleagues. However, he is made of the right stuff, and duels to defend the honor of his childhood sweetheart, the spirited Tomoe (Rie Miyazawa). With only a stick to his opponent's sword, he humiliates her abusive ex-husband, which leads to an unwelcome order from the head of the clan to kill a great swordsman. "Carefully measured and beautifully observed in its handling of the relationship between father and daughters" (Philip French, *The Guardian*), this is "terrific, old-fashioned storytelling with a rich sense of time and place." (Peter Bradshaw, *The Guardian*)

HiroYuki Sanada has been seen lately in Tom Cruise's film *The Last Samurai*.

Awards:

2002 Japan Film Academy Awards: including Best Picture, Director, Screenplay, Actor, Actress

2003 Louis Vuitton Hawaii International Film Festival: Best Feature

2004 Hong Kong Film Awards: Best Asian Film

2003 Academy Award Nomination - Best Foreign Language Film



*If the language of the film is not English, it will be shown with English subtitles.



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