

## September 11 THE CLASS

Drama, France (2008), 128 min.  
Rated PG-13, French.

*The Class* is an absorbing journey into a multicultural high school in Paris over the course of a school year. François Bégaudeau—an actual teacher and the author upon whose work the film was based—is utterly convincing as François, an openminded teacher in charge of a classroom of youngsters from a wide variety of backgrounds. As the school year progresses, tensions rise, until François finds himself in a position he



never imagined he'd be in. Winner of the Palme d'Or at the 2008 Cannes Film Festival.

## September 25 BARRY LYNDON

Period Epic/Costume Drama, UK (1975),  
194 min. (with 10 min. intermission), Rated PG, English.

From director Stanley Kubrick comes a “ravishing, overwhelming, uncompromised artistic vision” (TIME). “Barry Lyndon catalogues the rise and fall of a likeable scoundrel, liar, cheat, and social climber, transporting the viewer into a world of long ago, and creating the

kind of magic few movies accomplish and few directors attempt in a lifetime” (Rex Reed). A meticulously crafted, deliberately paced epic, *Barry Lyndon* stuns the senses, and one four Oscars and National Board of Review awards for Best Picture and Director.

## October 9 HUD

Drama/Western, USA (1963), 112 min.  
Not rated (PG-13?). English.

Paul Newman plays Hud Bannon, a ruthless ranch hand who tarnishes everything and everyone he touches. Hud is the perfect embodiment of alienated youth, out for kicks with no regard for the consequences. There is bitter conflict between the callous Hud and his stern and highly principled father. Hud's nephew admires his cheating ways, though he soon becomes aware of his reckless amorality to bear him anymore. “Built around a huge performance by Newman this is an immensely powerful character piece, intelligently written and visually striking throughout.” (Channel 4 Film)



## October 23 WALTZ WITH BASHIR

Animated Documentary/Biography.  
Israel (2008). 90 min. Rated R.  
Hebrew/German/English/Arabic.

Ari Folman's acclaimed animated documentary *Waltz with Bashir* presents an Israeli film director who can't remember a massacre that took place when he served in the army in the 1982 invasion of Lebanon. He seeks out men he

served with to help him remember what happened, ultimately having the shocking truth hit him harder than he could have ever imagined.



## November 6 THE BURMESE HARP

Drama/War. Japan (1956), 116 min.  
Not rated (PG-13?).

Japanese/Burmese/English.  
In World War II, an Imperial Japanese Army regiment surrenders to British forces in Burma and finds harmony through song. A private, thought to be dead, disguises himself as a Buddhist monk and stumbles upon spiritual enlightenment. An oblique yet moving film, *The Burmese Harp* achieves much of its power and poignancy through the juxtaposition of the detritus and horror of war with the beauty and tranquility of nature. Magnificently shot in hushed black and white, *The Burmese Harp* is one of Japanese cinema's most overwhelming antiwar statements, both tender and brutal in its grappling with Japan's wartime legacy.



## November 20 MAN ON WIRE

Documentary. UK/USA (2008),  
94 min. Rated PD-13.  
English and French.

Director James Marsh's dazzling, invigorating documentary *Man on Wire* pays out like a heist thriller, it depicts the “artistic crime of the century,” an amazing 1974 tightrope walk across the newly-constructed World Trade Center towers by daring young Frenchman Philippe Petit, and the story



behind it. The Battelle Film Club is proud to present the Academy Award-winner for Best Documentary Feature, *Man on Wire*.

## December 4 STILL WALKING

Drama. Japan (2008).  
114 min.  
Not rated (PG-13?).  
Japanese.

Directing his own brilliantly measured screenplay, Hirokazu Koreeda frames his characters in long, fixed takes, turning a coolly observational eye on the assembled party as they deflect rather than confront potential sources of conflict or submerge their accumulated regrets in the performance of domestic ritual: cooking, eating, bathing. *Still Walking* is a family drama that gets the family dynamic exactly right, a film that understands the ways in which unspoken resentments tend to accumulate and unresolved conflicts later harden into regrets. Unfolding over the course of a single day, the picture brings together three generations of a middle-class Japanese family under the grandparents' roof to pay tribute to their long deceased eldest son on the anniversary of his death.



## December 18 EVERLASTING MOMENTS

Drama. Sweden (2008). 131 min.  
Not rated. Swedish/Finnish.

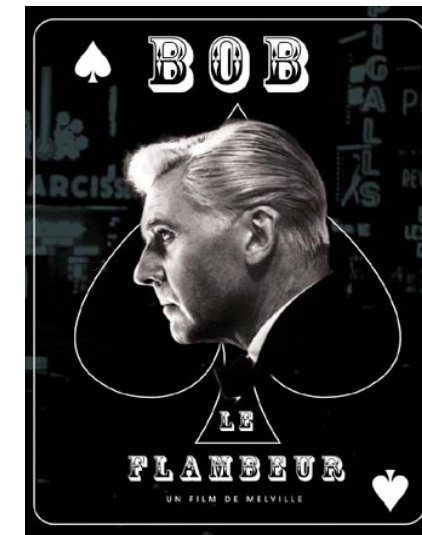
In impoverished turn-of-the-century Sweden, a housewife unexpectedly wins a camera in a lottery. When a friend convinces her to keep it, it sparks a years-long artistic passion that provides an outlet from an abusive domestic life, and gives her purpose and self-worth. Based on the true story of Maria Larsson.



## January 15 BOB LE FLAMBEUR

Crime/Drama. France (1956). 98 min.  
Rated PG. French.

Often called “the godfather of the French New Wave,” master director Jean-Pierre Melville crafted some of the most memorable hard-boiled crime films of all time. A delightful, essential – most of all, fun – classic, *Bob le Flambeur* shows us an aging compulsive gambler who is running out of cash. With the help of his friends, he masterminds the heist of a Deauville casino that can only lead to trouble. The climax of the film involves surprising developments that approach cosmic irony.



## January 29 RUE DU RETRAIT

Drama. France (2001). 90 min.  
Not rated. French.

The ambiguous friendship between a businesswoman in her 40s and a 90-year-old lady is portrayed with subtlety and grace in *Rue du Retrait*. Deceptively simple yet extremely rich in its themes and insights, ultra-low-budget two-hander is a compelling portrait of old age and a deft exploration of how neighbors can seemingly dwell in different eras.



Showtime: 8PM (free refreshments following)  
Battelle Auditorium, Richland  
Adults \$3 (Series passes \$13 or \$10 for BSA members)

More info: <http://bsa.pnl.gov/filmclub/> or 388-0362

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