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## Spring 2005

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**Showtime:** 8PM  
Free refreshments after the show.

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

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

**Disclaimer:** The links on this page to film reviews and other websites have been provided as a courtesy only. We are not responsible for the content at those sites.

**More info:** Rosie Neitzel (375-6921)

### March 11

## Maria Full of Grace



USA/Colombia, 2004, Color, 101 min.

Language: Spanish/English\*

Rating: R

Direction: Joshua Marston

Cast: Catalina Sandino Moreno, Yenny Paola Vega, Orlando Tobon, Virginia Ariza, Wilson Guerrero, John Alex Toro

Official website: <http://www.mariafullofgrace.com>

Trailer: [Links to trailers from IMDB](#)  
[Internet Movie Database](#)

Reviews: [Movie Review Query Engine](#)  
[Interview with Joshua Marston](#)

These pellets contain heroin. Each weighs 10 grams. Each is 4.2 cm long and 1.4 cm wide. And they're on their way to New York in the stomach of a 17-year-old girl.

A bright, spirited 17-year old, Maria Alvarez, lives with three generations of her family in a cramped house in rural Colombia and works stripping thorns from flowers in a rose plantation. The offer of a lucrative job involving travel--in fact, becoming a drug "mule"--changes the course of her life. Far from the uneventful trip she is promised, Maria is transported into the risky and ruthless world of international drug trafficking. Her mission becomes one of determination and survival and she finally emerges with the grace that will carry her forward into a new life.

**Awards:**  
Numerous international awards (Berlin, Broadcast Film Critics, Chico Film Critics, Deauville, European Film Awards, Seattle, Sundance etc) for best first film, best director, best breakthrough performance, best foreign language film, best actress (Catalino Sandino Moreno), including the Sundance Film Festival's Audience Award. Catalina Sandino Moreno has been nominated for a 2005 Screen Actors Guild Award for best actress in a leading role.



### March 25

## Under the Sand ("Sous le Sable")





France, 2001, Color, 95 min.

Language: French\*

Rating: Not rated

Direction: Francois Ozon

Cast: Charlotte Rampling, Bruno Cremer

Official website: None

Trailer: [\[French\]](#)

[Internet Movie Database](#)

Reviews: [Movie Review Query Engine](#)

Marie, a professor of English literature in a Paris university, has been happily married to Jean for 25 years, although they have no children. During their summer vacations in the southwest of France, Jean leaves Marie sunbathing on the beach and goes to swim in the sea. When Marie turns back, she cannot find Jean. Has he left her? committed suicide? drowned? With no clue and no body to mourn over, Marie acts as if her husband were still alive.

*Under the Sand* is a moving exploration of the nature of loss and denial, written especially for Charlotte Rampling, who is stunning in the role of Marie.

Awards:

Nominated for France's Cesar Awards (Best Actress, Best Director, Best Film), European Film Awards (Audience Award for Best Actress, Best Director) and San Sebastian International Film Festival (Golden Seashell, Francois Ozon).



April 8

## Blind Shaft ("Mang Jing")



Germany, Hong Kong, 2003, Color, 92 min.

Language: Mandarin\*

Rating: NR

Direction: Li Yang

Cast: Wang Suanbao, Li Yixiang, Wang Baoqiang, An Jing, Bao Zhenjiang

Official website: [kino.com](#), with excerpts from an interview with the director Li Yang.

Trailer: [Quicktime](#)

[Internet Movie Database](#)

Reviews: [Movie Review Query Engine](#)

Both a commentary on socialism and a film noir, Li Yang's *Blind Shaft* is a compelling film about underpaid, trapped miners doing their jobs, moving from one shabby mining operation to another, conjuring faked ID's and collecting on the death of a "relative". They then burn through the money on whores and alcohol. The mine owners they bilk are just as heartless. Its wan, gray skies and omnipresent squalor give it the feel of a B&W "B" movie. It "recalls the kind of pared-down genre movies that used to come out of Warner Brothers in the 1930's." (NY Times) This film was banned in China.

Awards:

One of the NY Times's 10 Best Movies of 2004. Numerous international film festival awards and nominations for the director, screenplay, and actors), including Bangkok (Best Actor), Berlin (Silver Bear for Outstanding artistic Achievement, Yang Li), Bratislava, Buenos Aires, Deauville Asian Film Festival (Best Film), Edinburgh (New Director's Award), Hawaii, Hong Kong, Tribeca.



April 22

## The Story of the Weeping Camel



China, 2004, Color, 87 min

Language: Mongolian\*

Rating: PG

Direction: Byambasuren Davaa and Luigi Falorni

Cast: Janchiv Ayurzana, Chimed Ohin, Amgaabazar Gonson, Zeweljamz Nyam and others.

Official website: [www.weepingcamel.com](#)

Trailer: [Quicktime](#)



Springtime in the Gobi Desert, Mongolia. One of the camels belonging to a family of herders gives birth to a rare white colt, but rejects it and won't let it nurse. The herdsmen go to a local town to find a musician to play to the mother camel, in hopes to persuade her to accept her baby. A documentary (National Geographic is a co-producer) which has been compared to Atanaquaj (The Fast Runner) which the Battelle Film Club presented on January 14, 2005.

Awards:  
Many film festival awards, including San Francisco (FIPRESCI Prize to the directors), Guild of German Art House Cinemas (best documentary), Bavaian Film Awards (best documentary), Buenos Aires, Indianapolis and Karlovy Vary festivals (audience awards).



May 6

## Motorcycle Diaries ("Diarios de motocicleta")



USA/Germany/UK/Argentina/Chile/Peru, 2004, B&W and Color, 128 min.

Language: Spanish\*

Rating: R

Direction: Walter Salles

From books by Che Guevara & Alberto Granado

Cast: Gael Garcia Bernal as Ernesto Guevara de la Serna; Rodrigo de la Serna as Alberto Granado.

Official [focusfeatures.com](http://focusfeatures.com)  
website: [motorcyclediariesmovie.com](http://motorcyclediariesmovie.com)

Trailer: [Apple.com \(Quicktime\)](#) , also at official site (Quicktime & WMP)

[Internet Movie Database](#)

Reviews: [Movie Review Query Engine](#)

"The Motorcycle Diaries is an adaptation of a journal written by Ernesto "Che" Guevara (Bernal) when he was 23 years old. He and his friend, Alberto Granado (de la Serna) are typical college students who, seeking fun and adventure before graduation, decide to travel across Argentina, Chile, Brazil and Peru in order to do their medical residency at a leper colony. Beginning as a buddy/road movie in which Ernesto and Alberto are looking for chicks, fun and adventure before they must grow up and have a more serious life. As is said in the film itself, it's about "two lives running parallel for a while." The two best friends start off with the same goals and aspirations, but by the time the film is over, it's clear what each man's destiny has become." (bondish at Internet Movie Database)

Awards:  
Nominated for 2005 Academy Awards (for Best Original Song, Best Screenplay Based on Previously Published Material); also numerous other award nominations, including Writers Guild of America, Online Film Critics, Independent Spirit Award, Golden Globes, Cannes (won Econumenical Jury Prize, Technical Grand Prize, Francois Chalais Award), British Independent Film Awards, BAFTA.



May 20

## The Fog of War: Eleven Lessons from the Life of Robert S. McNamara



USA, 2003, Color, 107min.

Language: English

Rating: PG-13

Direction: Errol Morris

Cast: Robert S. McNamara, plus archival film footage.

Official <http://www.fogofwarmovie.com/>  
website:

Trailer: [Quicktime](#)

[Internet Movie Database](#)

Reviews: [Movie Review Query Engine](#)

"Errol Morris's new film is a dazzling cinematic dialogue with the conscience of Robert S. McNamara - WWII military strategist, auto executive and, most famously, Secretary of Defense during the escalation of the Vietnam War. Morris asks the question: how can a mere mortal come to terms with history, particularly one who has done so much to shape it? For the all-too-human McNamara, past haunts present, hindsight is stopped dead in its tracks by the lingering reality of military and human catastrophe, and apology and self-justification keep trumping one another. Morris appears to let his subject, over 80 but as

sharp as ever, lead the way, and the filmmaker uses archival footage, visual aids and a Philip Glass score, not to mention his own fiery intelligence, to offer a subtly ironic counterpoint. What develops is a haunting, crystal-clear portrait of human error in action. A genuine tour-de-force, from a filmmaker at the top of his form. " (New York Film Festival, 2003)

Awards:  
Won Academy Award for Best Feature-length Documentary (2004), Best Documentary awards from the Chicago Film Critics Association, Independent Spirit Awards, Los Angeles Film Critics Association, National Board of Review, and Toronto Film Critics Association, as well nominations for best documentary film by a number of others.



June 3

## Mishima: A Life in Four Chapters



USA, 1985, B&W and Color, 121 min.

Language: Japanese\*, English

Rating: R

Direction: Paul Schrader

Cast: Ken Ogata, Mashayuki Shionoya, Hiroshi Mikami, Naoko Otani.

Official website:

Trailer: Not available

[Internet Movie Database](#)

Reviews: [Movie Review Query Engine](#)

"The Japanese author Yukio Mishima seems to have thought of his life as a work of art, and more than anyone since Ernest Hemingway he got other people to think of it that way, too. He was a brilliant self-promoter who not only wrote important novels and plays, but also cultivated the press, posed for beefcake photographs and founded his own private army. He was an advocate of a return to medieval Japanese values, considered himself a samurai, and died on schedule and according to his own plan: After occupying an army garrison with some of his soldiers, he disembowled himself while being beheaded by a follower.

Mishima's life obviously supplies the materials for a sensationalistic film. Paul Schrader has not made one. Instead, his "Mishima: A Life in Four Chapters" takes this most flamboyant of writers and translates his life into a carefully structured examination of three different Mishimas: public, private and literary." (Roger Ebert)

Music by Philip Glass



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