

May 12, 2004

To: Jim Swartz, Dean of the College  
From: Jin Feng, Chair, Cultural Film Committee  
Re: Annual Report (2003-04)

The Cultural Film Committee, consisting of Sarah Purcell, Carmen Valentin, and myself, has sponsored or co-sponsored various activities in addition to our regular screenings of films this year even with a limited budget.

During the Family Weekend in the fall semester, we sponsored a reception for the showing of *State Fair* in conjunction with the "Roots of Renewal Project" by the town and the college, both to pay tribute to the community from which the college derives its support and to beguile the visiting parents with a little local color. Although the crowd was not large, due to the array of activities during that weekend, it was a nice mix of faculty, students, parents, and community people. In the spring semester, we collaborated with the Department of Chinese and the East Asian Studies Concentration to invite James Polachek, a visiting independent scholar at the University of Iowa, to come and give a talk on the sound track in a popular Chinese film. The faculty and students who attended the talk all agreed it was vastly stimulating and enjoyable.

Before the spring semester started, I sent out a call for film titles to all faculty, asking them to suggest films "that can serve your curricular needs, enhance major campus events, internationalize or diversify the film offerings on campus, or are just classic must-sees," and received enthusiastic responses. In fact, we had to postpone showing some of the suggested films to next year since the slots were quickly filled up. I am enclosing at the end of this report the films we have screened for this academic year for your reference.

I would like to take a moment to thank my two colleagues working on the committee, Sarah and Carmen, for their tireless support and grace under pressure when mishaps occurred. This year, the film distributors unfortunately made quite a few mistakes. We also hope that the AV center assistants could keep better track of the film schedule and also be more on time for each screening in the future. Thanks to the vigilance and resourcefulness of our committee members, we have managed to avert complete disasters several times. I would also like to express my appreciation for Jan Graham, our Academic Support person, who, as always, took meticulous care of posters, handled the communications with the Memos and various other departments, and took on a variety of other miscellaneous tasks to ensure the successful running of the cultural film series.

Below are the two charts for the films we have shown this school year:  
Fall semester:

Date	Title	Country	Distributor
8/29-8/31	My Beautiful Launderette	Britain	Facets
9/5-9/7	The Thin Blue Line	US	Facets
9/12-9/14	Traffic Jam	Japan	Facets
9/19-9/21	Before Night	US	Facets

	Falls		
9/26-9/28	The Wind	US	Facets
10/3-10/5	Russian Ark	Russia/Germany	Facets
10/10-10/12 (Family Weekend)	State Fair	US	Facets
10/24-10/26	Running out of Time	Spain	Facets
10/31-11/2	The Blue Kite	China	Facets
11/7-11/9	Topkapi	USA	Facets
11/14-11/16	Cet Amour-là	France	New York Films
11/21-11/23	Secret Ballot	Iran	Facets

Spring 2004:

Date	Title	Country	Distributor
1/23-25	Movies of Color: Black Southern Cinema (2001)	USA	Facets-DVD
1/30-2/1	Train of Life (1998)	France/Belgium/Netherlands	Facets- DVD
2/6-8	Shall We Dance (1997)	Japan	Facets-DVD
2/13-15	The Seven Samurai (1954)	Japan (208 minutes)	Facets-DVD
2/20-22	No Man's Land (2001)	Bosnian/Belgium/Great Britain/Italy/France/Slovenia	Facets-DVD
2/27-29	The Wedding Banquet (1994)	Taiwan	Facets-DVD
3/5-7	Amarilly of Clothes-Line Alley (1918)	USA (silent)	Facets- DVD
4/2-4	Our Lady of the Assassins (2000)	Colombia/France	Facets- DVD
4/9-11	Duck Soup (1933)	USA	Swank-DVD
4/16-18	Nowhere in Africa (2002)	Germany	Facets-DVD
4/23-25	Tilai (1990)	Burkina Faso	Facets-DVD
4/30-5/2	Salaam Bombay (1988)	India/Great Britain	Facets-DVD

Respectfully,

Jin Feng