A WORD FROM THE DIRECTOR

DEAR STUDENTS AND FACULTY,

There has been a high buzz level surrounding the Film and Video Studies Program this semester. We have had massive student turnout for the directors and film scholars visiting our program: Dick Blau, Adam Rifkin, and Marcus Rediker. Students participating in FVS outreach programs have been teaching filmmaking at local middle schools and remaking scenes from a cheezy sci-fi flick with students at the Indiana School for the Blind and Visually Impaired, where directors create a medium shot by resting their walking stick on the shoulder of the actor. Read on for details about the return to our faculty of Emmy-award winning documentary film director Andrew Cohn and upcoming FVS events. I am happy to say that all of you this semester have visibly demonstrated how Film and Video Studies is a program where students actually like what they study. - Lance Duerfahrd, Film and Videos Studies Program Director

Special Thanks to KIMBERLY HUNT for designing this newsletter.

DIRECTORS AND FILM SCHOLARS VISIT THE FVS PROGRAM

DICK BLAU

FILMKATER, PHOTOGRAPHER, AND PROFESSOR OF FILM
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN MILWAUKEE

DICK WILL SHOW HIS DOCUMENTARIES AND ACCOMPANYING PHOTOGRAPHS ON:
Wed Feb 10
7:30pm in Wthr 172
HE WILL HOLD A PHOTO WORKSHOP ON:
Thurs Feb 11
11:30-1:20 in Pao B162r

An amazing crowd greeted visiting filmmaker and photographer Dick Blau, founder of the Film Program at the University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee. Dick talked about his photographs and screened his dazzling films UPTOWN ONE SUNDAY and TINTINABBULA. How good were these films? Some of them are still talking to me about them (peace out, Jim McDonald). The next day Dick ran a photo workshop to a group of 30.
GIUSEPPE MAKES A MOVIE

FREE SCREENING FOWLER HALL
WEDNESDAY MARCH 23RD @ 7:30PM
followed by Q & A with director
ADAM RIFKIN

On March 23 the Film and Video Studies Program hosted director Adam Rifkin, who screened his documentary GIUSEPPE MAKES A MOVIE for a loud and raucous crowd. The film follows underground filmmaker Giuseppe Andrews as tries to make a film in two days for under 1000 dollars. In Rifkin’s documentary we watch Giuseppe write, shoot, and direct GARBONZO GAS, inspired by the work of Rainer Werner Fassbinder. Rifkin’s film is a handbook on how to make a movie with a small budget and massive imagination, a monument to the art of spontaneity, and a portrait of true cinematic passion.

Purdue Film and Video Studies and The Long Center Present:

THE FIRST ANNUAL
15 AND UNDER FILM FESTIVAL

SUNDAY, MAY 1ST, 2:30PM
AT THE LONG CENTER OF THE PERFORMING ARTS,
DOWNTOWN LAFAYETTE

This is a state-wide festival celebrating movies made by directors aged 15 and younger. Come see the raw and unrestrained cinematic creativity of people who barely know how to operate a camera.

Prizes will be awarded to winning directors and the schools they represent. On hand will be a Balloon sculptor, a hayseed clown, and a magician to keep the joy level high.

In conjunction with the program in Global Studies, the Program in Film and Video Studies hosted Marcus Rediker, professor of history at the University of Pittsburgh, who spoke about his research and screened his film GHOSTS OF AMISTAD.

SPONSORED BY FILM AND VIDEO STUDIES
This spring the Film and Video Studies Program continues to offer filmmaking workshops with groups in the local community in which we help them recreate a scene from Ed Wood’s dismal 1959 sci-fi flick, PLAN 9 FROM OUTER SPACE. Why are we having them redo PLAN 9 and not INCEPTION, you ask? Because frankly there is no way a first time filmmaker can do any injustice to Wood’s film. Widely dismissed as amateurish, Ed Wood’s garbage masterpiece is being remade by amateurs as PLAN 9 FROM EARTH. This semester we are holding a series of workshops at the Indiana School for the Blind and Visually Impaired, where the students make props, build sets, design costumes, rehearse and act the roles, and perform the film score. If you want to participate, contact Lance at lduerfah@purdue.edu. Your capacity to make a film will be measured by how well you assist this group toward creating theirs.

To see an interview with Purdue senior and Rhodes finalist Brenda Ramirez, whose first research experience at Purdue was with Professor Duerfahrd and the Plan 9 FROM EARTH project, click here: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=v6_XmnOfKdA
JAWS ON A BEACH

In April the Film and Video Studies Program will sponsor a screening of JAWS in the only setting worthy of this film: a beach. At 7:00 on April 22nd, we will be showing Stephen Spielberg’s epic shark terror picture on Co-Rec sand volleyball courts #1 and #2. Admission will be free if you wear appropriate costume (this includes fake fins!).

The screening will be held in conjunction with a new club on campus, Boiler Film. Please come, bring beach chairs and chill with us in front of the great white.

FVS PUB CRAWL
Calling all FVS Seniors! We will be crawling from pub to pub on Thursday, April 21st! Pub Crawl starts at DT Kirby’s and ends at Harry’s Chocolate Shop (if you can make it). If Thursday the 21st does not work for you please contact Kimberly Hunt @ Hunt52@purdue.edu so that she can consider changing the date to a more suitable time.

FVSO
The Film and Video Student Organization has nominated a new President (Dom Gliatis), Vice President (Riley Johnston) and Treasurer (Qi Qi Wu). They will be having meetings and organizing activities and screenings. If you are interested in participating, please contact Dom @ dgliatis@purdue.edu

442 SCREENING
The screening of the final projects for Bobby Chastain’s FVS 442 class, plus the Film and Video Studies Program award ceremony, will take place at the Lafayette Theater in downtown Lafayette on Thursday, April 28.
Documentary film director Andrew Cohn, who won an Emmy last year for his film MEDORA, will be returning this fall to teach two film production classes: FVS 491-22/Documentary Film Production and FVS 491-25/Documentary Film: Practice and Theory.

FACULTY NEWS

Purdue University Press is publishing Re-Visioning Terrorism: A Humanistic Perspective, edited by Elena Coda and Ben Lawton in 2016. From the press release: “This collection of essays aims to offer a plurality of visions on terrorism, expanding its meaning across time and space and raising new questions that explore its multifaceted occurrences. The different ideological, philosophical, and cultural perspectives emerging from the essays and the variety of humanist disciplines involved intend to provide a complex and even contradictory picture that emphasizes the fact that there cannot be a univocal conception and response to terrorism, in either the practical or the intellectual domain.”


OUR EVENT HORIZON

Next semester Film and Video Studies will be hosting a fantastic lineup of guest directors: Ross McElwee, Professor in the Department of Visual and Environmental Studies at Harvard University, will be screening his fantastic documentaries BRIGHT LEAVES and SHERMAN’S MARCH (if you think this has something to do with the Civil War, then you are in for a big surprise). Also slated to appear is Jeffrey Mahlman, director of the absolutely stunning MARWENCOL, about a man who copes with his trauma by designing and photographing dolls posed in battle scenarios from the WWII era. Malini Schueller will visit to discuss her controversial film, IN HIS OWN HOME, about a disabled and unarmed black graduate student who was shot by campus police at the University of Florida. Finally, Film and Video Studies and the Hall of Music will be co-sponsoring a visit by Ken Burns, director of such classic documentary series as the CIVIL WAR, JAZZ and the CENTRAL PARK FIVE. The directors will be on hand to give you industry insider advice and answer your questions.
NEWS FROM RECENT FILM AND VIDEO STUDIES GRADUATES

JIAN “LAYLA” LUO (FVS ’14) is a film director living in New York City and pursuing her MFA at NYU Film School/Tisch School of the Arts. This year she received the Ang Lee scholarship to NYU Film School. Layla sent us some pictures of her with her mentor Ang Lee, director of CROUCHING TIGER, HIDDEN DRAGON, and a shot of her on the set of her recent film, CHEONGSAM.

ALISON WERNER (FVS ’15) is currently the Marketing Manager at Voltage Pictures, a production and distribution company. She is responsible for all aspects of key art design and trailer creation. She creates festival line-ups and announcements, organizes screenings and design booklets for every Film market, and handles all photos, key art, electronic press kits and promotional approvals with talent publicists.

This past year she attended the Cannes Film Festival for the premiere of Natalie Portman’s A TALE OF LOVE AND DARKNESS.

CHRIS PURDY (FVS ’13) is completing his final year in the MFA program in Film Production at Chapman University in Orange County, California, where his concentration is in cinematography. This semester Chris has worked on two “thesis films.” Chris shot one of these, JERRY, on location this past winter up in the mountains near Reno, Nevada. He shot the film on 35mm on a Panavision camera and worked with a live trained grizzly bear. He recently shot a documentary in Taiwan.