

the center for religion and media

WWW.NYU.EDU/FAS/CENTER/RELIGIONANDMEDIA

The Center for Religion and Media seeks to develop interdisciplinary, cross-cultural knowledge of how religious ideas and practices are shaped and spread through a variety of media. The Center, inaugurated through The Pew Charitable Trusts, is a collaborative project of the Religious Studies Program and the Center for Media, Culture and History, providing a space for scholarly endeavor, a stage for public educational events, and an electronic interface with media specialists and the public through its innovative web journal, *The Revealer: A Daily Review of Religion and the Press*, www.therevealer.org

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the center for media, culture and history

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The Center for Media, Culture and History addresses issues of representation, social change and identity construction embedded in the development of film, television, video, and new media worldwide. It focuses on the role these media play in shaping our perceptions of history and culture; in forging individual, collective, national and transnational identities; and in mediating the direction of character of social change.

MAJOR FUNDING FOR THE CENTER FOR RELIGION AND MEDIA IS PROVIDED BY THE PEW CHARITABLE TRUSTS.

PHOTOS

- A: Nam June Paik, *TV Buddha*, 1974
Collection of Stedelijk Museum, Amsterdam
- B: From the film *The Dhamma Brothers*
- C: From the film *Under the Skin of the City*
- D: Melissa Shiff, *The Medium is the Matzo* (2005), book cover image for Jeffrey Shandler's *Jews, God and Videotape* (2009)
- E: Filmmaker Parvez Sharma, from the film *A Jihad for Loves*
- F: Elena Climent with her mural "At Home With Their Books," photo by Hiroko G. Masuike for *The New York Times*
- G: From the film *The Halfmoon Files*
- H: From the film *In Search of Bene Israel*
- I: From the film *Take Out*

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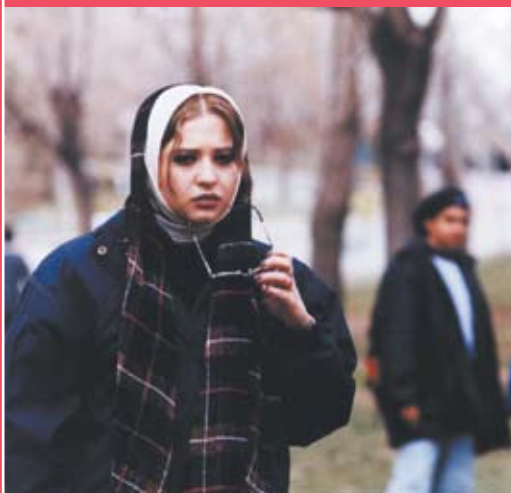


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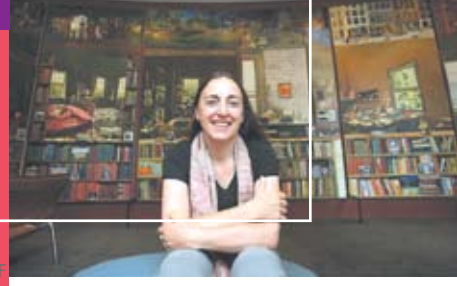


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SCREENING/ARTIST'S TALK

THURSDAY / JANUARY 29 / 6-8PM
THE GREAT ROOM, 19 UNIVERSITY PLACE

AT HOME WITH THEIR BOOKS Artist's Talk with Elena Climent

Screening: Writers' Rooms: The Making of a Mural
Marcia Rock, (2008, 30 min)

Introduction, Una Chaudhuri (English, NYU), Discussion with
Marcia Rock (NYU, Journalism) and Elena Climent.

NYC-based Mexican artist Elena Climent discusses her 5-part
mural painted on the walls of 19 University Place, depicting the
writing spaces of famous NY writers Washington Irving, Edith
Wharton, Zora Neale Hurston, Jane Jacobs and Pedro Pietri.

Followed by a reception and viewing of the mural.
CO-SPONSORED BY: ANTHROPOLOGY, ENGLISH, JOURNALISM

SCREENING/ DISCUSSION

THURSDAY / MARCH 26 / 7PM
721 BROADWAY, 6TH FLOOR, CINEMA STUDIES, ROOM 646

US PREMIERE: HALF MOON FILES Philip Scheffner (2007, 87 minutes)

In this experimental search "The Halfmoon Files," Philip
Scheffner traces prisoners at the Halfmoon prisoner of
war camp in Germany during World War I to the origin of
their recording.

Post screening discussion with the filmmaker.

CO-SPONSOR CINEMA STUDIES



SCREENING/ DISCUSSION

FRIDAY / FEBRUARY 6 / 4-6PM
KEVORKIAN CENTER SCREENING ROOM
50 WASHINGTON SQUARE SOUTH
AT 255 SULLIVAN STREET

IN SEARCH OF BENE ISRAEL Sadia Shepard (2008, 36 min)

Documentary filmmaker and writer Sadia Shepard
grew up in the US with a Muslim mother, Christian
father and Jewish grandmother. In 2001 she journeyed
to India to connect with her grandmother's Indian
Jewish community. This film-and her acclaimed 2008
book, *The Girl from Foreign: A Search for Shipwrecked
Ancestors, Forgotten Histories, and A Sense of
Home*—offer an account of what she discovered.

Post screening discussion with the filmmaker.

CO-SPONSORED BY NYU 'S HAGOP KEVORKIAN CENTER



FILM FESTIVAL

MARCH 26-29
NATIONAL MUSEUM OF THE AMERICAN INDIAN,
U.S. CUSTOM HOUSE/ONE BOWLING GREEN

4TH NATIVE AMERICAN FILM + VIDEO FESTIVAL

Celebrating 30 years of screening outstanding
Native film and media.

For more information: <http://www.nmai.si.edu/>

LECTURE/SCREENING

FRIDAY / FEBRUARY 13 / 3-7PM
THE KEVORKIAN CENTER,
50 WASHINGTON SQUARE SOUTH AT SULLIVAN STREET

FEMALE TROUBLE: Women's Representation in Iranian Cinema

Hamid Naficy (Communications, Northwestern)

A leading scholar on exilic and diasporic cinema and
media, Naficy examines the ideological work surrounding
the filmic representation of women and their participation
as filmmakers in this new era of Iranian cinema.

Followed by a screening of:

Under the Skin of the City

Rakhshan Bani-Etemad (2004, 92 minutes)

Tuba, a mother of four, faces challenges to her way of
life when her oldest son sells the family home for a
foreign work visa. When his plans crumble, Tuba takes
drastic measures to save her house and her son.

After-film discussion with Hamid Naficy.

CO-SPONSORED WITH NYU'S HAGOP KEVORKIAN CENTER

HOSTED BY THE HAGOP KEVORKIAN CENTER FOR NEAR EASTERN
STUDIES AT NEW YORK UNIVERSITY.

WEINER LECTURE

THURSDAY / APRIL 2 / 6-8PM
HEMMERDINGER HALL, 100 WASHINGTON SQUARE EAST

THREE MODALITIES OF ETHICS

Webb Keane (Department of Anthropology,
University of Michigan)

CO-SPONSORED BY ANTHROPOLOGY

SCREENING/ DISCUSSION

THURSDAY / APRIL 9 / 6:30-10PM
CANTOR FILM CENTER, THEATER 101, 36 EAST 8TH STREET

TAKE OUT

Sean Baker and Shih-Ching Tsou (2008, 87 min.)

This film presents an unvarnished view of a day in the
harsh life of Ming Ding, an illegal Chinese immigrant and
deliveryman for a NYC Chinese take-out shop.

Post screening discussion with the filmmakers.

RSVP at apa.rsvp@nyu.edu or 212.992.9653 or
visit www.apa.nyu.edu.

PRESENTED BY ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICAN INSTITUTE.

CO-SPONSORS: THE CENTER FOR MEDIA, CULTURE & HISTORY, THE
MUSEUM OF CHINESE IN AMERICA.



SCREENING/ DISCUSSION

FRIDAY / FEBRUARY 27 / 4-6:30PM
KEVORKIAN CENTER SCREENING ROOM
50 WASHINGTON SQUARE SOUTH AT 255 SULLIVAN STREET

A JIHAD FOR LOVE

Parvez Sharma (2007, 81 min)

Muslim gay filmmaker Parvez Sharma filmed in twelve
countries and nine languages, often in nations where
government permission to make this film was not an
option.

Post screening discussion with the filmmaker.

CO-SPONSORED BY LAW AND SOCIETY PROGRAM OF THE GRADUATE
SCHOOL OF ARTS AND SCIENCES CSGS, SCA, GENDER AND SEXUALITY
STUDIES, AND THE KEVORKIAN CENTER

SCREENING/ DISCUSSION

FRIDAY / MARCH 6 / 2-5:30PM
CINEMA STUDIES SCREENING ROOM, 721 BROADWAY, 6TH FLOOR

DEVOTED TO DISCIPLINE: religion, education and punishment in prison

The Dhamma Brothers:

East Meets West in the Deep South

Jenny Phillips, Anne Marie Stein, Andrew Kukura

(2008, 76 min)

A 10-day meditation retreat held in an Alabama men's
maximum-security prison makes a decisive difference in
several lives.

A post-screening discussion with filmmaker Jenny Phillips,
will be followed by a roundtable exploring the paradoxes of
discipline as religion, college education and punishment in
American prisons. Do religious practices and education
programs simply serve the punitive regime of the prison,
rendering inmates manageable? Or are they the lifeline for
moral integrity and dignity of the individuals who live inside?

With Tanya Erzen (OSU), an anthropologist researching
the role of faith-based initiatives in southern prisons, and
Daniel Karpowitz (Bard), a lawyer and academic director
of the Bard Prison Initiative in New York state. Moderator:
Angela Zito, (NYU)

COSPONSORED BY SCA, CSGS, AND RELIGIOUS STUDIES.

DISTINGUISHED LECTURE

THURSDAY / APRIL 23 / 6-8PM
CASA ITALIANA, 24 WEST 12TH STREET

JEW, GOD, AND VIDEOTAPE: Religion and Media in America

Jeffrey Shandler (Rutgers University)

From cantors' early sound recordings to contemporary
Hasidic outreach on the Internet, American Jews have
become much more than the "people of the book"
during the past century. Drawing on his lively new
book, *Jews, God, and Videotape* (NYU Press), Shandler
argues that such engagements with media of all kinds
have become central to defining contemporary religi-
osity not only for Jews but more broadly.

CO-SPONSORED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF ANTHROPOLOGY

SCREENING/ DISCUSSION

FRIDAY / MAY 1 / 4-6PM
SPACE TBD

SYNC OR SWIM

Cheryl Furjanic (2008, 90 min.)

An in-depth look at a marginal sport: U.S.A.'s top synchronized
swimmers endure rigorous training and overcome unthinkable
obstacles to compete for Olympic glory.

Post screening discussion with the filmmaker.