



FALL 2004

the center for media,
culture and history

the center for religion and media

RELIGIOUS EXPERIENCE: memory, media, marketing



distinguished lecture

THURSDAY/OCTOBER 14/6-8PM
721 BROADWAY, 12TH FLOOR/DEAN'S CONFERENCE ROOM

PROJECTING BLACKNESS: African-American Religion in American Film

Judith Weisenfeld (Religion, Vassar College)

An exploration of how Americans encountered African-American religion in the first half of the 20th century through film—from Hollywood's early talkies and black-cast musicals, through race movies and World War II-era integration films.

CO-SPONSOR: RELIGIOUS STUDIES PROGRAM

screening/discussion

FRIDAY/SEPTEMBER 10/5-7PM
721 BROADWAY, ROOM 109

INVESTIGATION OF A FLAME

Lynne Sachs, 2001, 45 minutes

An experimental documentary about the civil disobedience of the Catonsville Nine, the Berrigan brothers and other religiously-inspired peace activists, who burned draft records to protest the Vietnam War.

A discussion between the filmmaker **Lynne Sachs** and **Father Daniel Berrigan** will follow the screening.

This screening inaugurates *Faith on Film*, a series of documentary films exploring religion, spirituality and ethics, a project jointly sponsored with Auburn Media, a division of The Center for Multifaith Education at Auburn Theological Seminary, Macky Alston, Director. For a complete list of screening dates, see www.auburnsem.org

screening/roundtable

FRIDAY/OCTOBER 15/4-6PM
KEVORKIAN CENTER SCREENING ROOM /50 WASHINGTON SQUARE SOUTH (CORNER OF SULLIVAN ST.)

SHOJA AZERI

Maria De Los Angeles, 2003, 54 minutes

This "fictional documentary" provides a behind-the-scenes look at the making of *Tooba*, performance artist Shirin Neshat's recent installation, exploring the confluence of Iranian and Western cultures and the blurring of boundaries between fiction and reality. A discussion with the filmmaker will follow the screening.

CO-SPONSOR: KEVORKIAN CENTER

lecture

FRIDAY/OCTOBER 29/4-6PM
KEVORKIAN CENTER SCREENING ROOM/50 WASHINGTON SQUARE SOUTH (CORNER OF SULLIVAN ST.)

EVANGELICALS, POPULAR CULTURE, AND MIDEAST POLITICS

Melani McAlister (American Studies and International Affairs, George Washington University)

Recent popular Christian novels and movies present events in the Middle East as part of the unfolding of God's plan for the end times. These apocalyptic visions have helped to reshape the terrain of modern evangelical culture in the region.

CO-SPONSORS: DEPARTMENT OF JOURNALISM AND KEVORKIAN CENTER

distinguished lecture

THURSDAY/SEPTEMBER 16/6-8PM
721 BROADWAY, 12TH FLOOR/DEAN'S CONFERENCE ROOM

MY LIFE IN THE BUSH OF GHOSTS: "World Music" and the Commodification of Religious Experience

Steven Feld (Anthropology/Music, University of New Mexico)

This talk explores what happens when sacred music is drawn into the expanding world market through three contested cases: (1) the "Qu'ran" track on the *My Life in the Bush of Ghosts* CD in the 80s, (2) Tibetan recordings by/with rock stars and their relationship with the explosion of Gregorian Chant music in the 90s, (3) the popularization of Appalachian "old time religion" recordings after 9/11.

colloquium

THURSDAY/NOVEMBER 4/5-6PM
SILVER CENTER /100 WASHINGTON SQUARE EAST/ROOM 207

WHEN IS A CHRISTIAN? Belief, Time and the Problem of Christian Culture

Joel Robbins (Anthropology, University of California, San Diego)

What does it mean to call recently missionized non-Western people "Christian"? How do anthropological ideas about time and meaning distort understandings of the impact of conversion to Christianity in different cultural settings?

SPONSORED BY THE ANTHROPOLOGY DEPARTMENT

screening/discussion

FRIDAY/OCTOBER 1/4-6:30PM
NATIONAL MUSEUM OF THE AMERICAN INDIAN
1 BOWLING GREEN, AUDITORIUM

EAST COAST PREMIERE THE LAND HAS EYES PEAR TA MA 'ON MAF

Vilsoni Hereniko, 2003, 87 minutes, Fiji

This first feature by a Fiji native premiered at the Sundance Film Festival. Set in the colonial era, it tells the story of a young woman inspired by her tradition of the Warrior Woman to clear her family name and resist the imposition of Christian values.

A discussion with the director **Vilsoni Hereniko** and producer **Jeannette Paulson Hereniko** will follow the screening.

PRESENTED IN COLLABORATION WITH THE NATIONAL MUSEUM OF THE AMERICAN INDIAN. FOR INFORMATION: WWW.NATIVE NETWORKS.SI.EDU/ENG/BLUE/ATM_04.HTM



screening/discussion

FRIDAY/DECEMBER 3/4-6PM
KEVORKIAN CENTER SCREENING ROOM/50 WASHINGTON SQUARE SOUTH (CORNER OF SULLIVAN ST.)

THE FENCE

Alexandre Trudeau, 2004, 45 minutes

Filmmaker Alexandre Trudeau spent a season working and living with families in Israel and the Palestinian Territory. *The Fence* is the intimate tale of two families on the opposing sides of the security barrier in the Jenin-Afula area.

A discussion with the filmmaker will follow the screening.

CO-SPONSOR: KEVORKIAN CENTER. PRESENTED IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE CANADIAN CONSULATE

conference

FRIDAY-SATURDAY/OCTOBER 8-9 SYLVESTER: The Life and Work of a Musical Icon

An exploration of the impact of the work of Sylvester—the influential yet overlooked African-American disco singer—on our understandings of music, race, celebrity, gender, and sexuality.

For information: www.nyu.edu/fas/gender.sexuality

SPONSORED BY THE CENTER FOR THE STUDY OF GENDER AND SEXUALITY, NYU AND THE CLIVE DAVIS DEPARTMENT OF RECORDED MUSIC, TISCH SCHOOL OF THE ARTS

symposium

MONDAY/OCTOBER 11
KING JUAN CARLOS I OF SPAIN/54 WASHINGTON SQUARE SOUTH

EL SALVADOR 1932: Historical Memory, Justice, Identity, and Indigenous Peoples' Rights

Scholars, indigenous leaders, and human rights experts examine the profound significance of the Matanza Massacre of 1932 on Salvadoran society.

For information: 212.998.8686 or www.nyu.edu/gsas/dept/latin

THIS EVENT IS PART OF A 3-DAY SYMPOSIUM SPONSORED BY CENTER FOR LATIN AND CARIBBEAN STUDIES, NYU; NASSAU COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE; CUNY GRADUATE CENTER

festival

NOVEMBER 11-14, AND NOVEMBER 20-21

MARGARET MEAD FILM & VIDEO FESTIVAL

In conjunction with the American Museum of Natural History exhibition, "Totems to Turquoise," the Margaret Mead Film & Video Festival will showcase new films and videos by and about indigenous communities of the Northwest and the Southwest, as well as a panel on Native American documentary production.

For information: 212.769.5305 or www.amnh.org/mead
PRESENTED IN COLLABORATION WITH THE SMITHSONIAN'S NATIONAL MUSEUM OF THE AMERICAN INDIAN.

screening series

RUBIN MUSEUM OF ART/150 WEST 17TH STREET

THE DEMONIC DIVINE...

"Monsters/Mentors" is a film series in conjunction with *The Demonic Divine in Himalayan Art and Beyond*, the opening exhibition of the new Rubin Museum of Art. The series explores the theme of the "monstrous protector" in world cinema, ranging from Jean Cocteau's *La Belle et la Bête* to Jonathan Demme's *Silence of the Lambs*.

For complete information: www.rmanyc.org

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

All events are co-sponsored by the Department of Anthropology and the Department of Cinema Studies (TSOA). All events are free and open to the public, but seating is limited. Call 212.998.3759 to make a reservation. Persons with a disability are requested to call the Center for Media, Culture and History in advance at 212.998.3759.

PHOTOS
A: Nam June Paik, TV Buddha, 1974 Collection of Stedelijk museum, Amsterdam
B: Angela Zito
C: The Jesus Film Project
D: Detail from "THE CORN BLUE ROOM, 1998" by Jolene Rickard
E: FSA photograph by Russell Lee (March 1940) of signs near Hobbs, NM