

Free Foreign Language Films Fall 2011

The World Language Lab will be showing free foreign films this Fall semester 2011 from 12:30 PM to 2:30 PM in room D-174. We warmly invite students, faculty and staff to these wonderful foreign films that will entertain, educate and inspire conversations.

This semester our foreign films will be all about FOOD. The best foreign films about food have the power to tempt and tantalize with their sumptuous imagery. These films will rejoice in the most exquisite details and celebrate in the delight and enjoyment of food. These films will transport an audience to the sights, sounds and flavors of far off places, so plan on joining us this semester these movies may make you laugh, make you cry or may even inspire you, but they are all sure to make you hungry!!!!

Free popcorn

Week 3 September 15th, 2011

***Babette's Feast* –**

With the mysterious arrival of Babette, a refugee from France's civil war, life for two pious sisters and their tiny hamlet begins to change. Before long, Babette has convinced them to try something other than boiled codfish and ale bread--a gourmet French meal! Her feast scandalizes the elders, except for the visiting General. Just who is this strangely talented Babette, who has terrified this pious town with the prospect of losing their souls for enjoying too much earthly pleasure?

103 minutes (Danish and French with English subtitles)

Week 4 September 22nd, 2011

Eat Drink Man woman (1994)-

In this film the sensuous joy of food and its associated rituals is further examined through the story of a father and his three grown up daughters. The elaborate preparation of their Sunday dinners together acts as an expression of their unspoken thoughts and feelings. A retired master chef and widower is worried about the future of his three unmarried daughters who are skeptical about marriage. Yet he himself surprises them with his secret love affair with a young woman many years his junior

Eat Drink Man woman was made and set in Taiwan.

124 minutes In Chinese with English subtitles

Week 5 September 29th, 2011 ***Like Water for chocolate*** – This Mexican film centers on the love between Tita and Pedro, which endures despite Tita's mother forbidding them to marry. When Pedro marries Tita's older sister instead, She finds herself in the unenviable position of having to make the wedding cake for the man she loves. Consequently, she pours all her repressed emotions into her cooking, with surprising results.

2 hrs and 34 minutes In Spanish with English subtitles.

Week 6 October 6th, 2011

Woman on top - Another movie about food where a woman uses her cooking skills to escape a bad marriage, this time the stunning Penelope Cruz as a Brazilian chef turned cooking show goddess. The movie is quirky and goofy, yet Cruz is adorable in the lead and with food as a metaphor for life she learns that she does not need a man in her life. She needs to cook and be her own woman

1 hour and 33 minutes In Spanish with English subtitles

Week 7 October 13th, 2011

Mùa hè chiều thẳng đứng
(Vertical Ray of the Sun) - Three sisters-Lien, Khanh, and Suong-whose parents have recently died come together on the anniversary of the mother's death, preparing the memorial dinner. The men in their lives include their brother Hai, and husbands Kien and Quoc. The family is, however, prey to all the romantic entanglements, confessions, secrets, passions and troubles that eventually ensnare all. With Chekhovian decorum, the film examines the domestic emotions and small eruptions of feeling that punctuate the slow, vaguely sorrowful serenity of the sister's daily lives.

112 minutes (Vietnamese with English subtitles)

Week 8 October 20th, 2011

Tampopo –

You've heard of a spaghetti western? How about a Japanese noodle western? This funny and poignant Japanese story interweaves several stories all based around food. The central storyline involves a chef who wants to learn how to make the best noodles in the land, and the Clint Eastwood-like trucker/drifter who helps on the journey. Kind of like Zen and the art of noodles, this movie shows a

true love of food and the people who make and enjoy it. So let's sit down with a great bowl of Ramen noodles and watch this movie.

1 hour and 54 minutes in Japanese with English subtitles

Week 9 October 27th, 2011

Tortilla soup-

The always splendid Hector Elizondo stars as the widowed patriarch of a Mexican-American family. Elizondo, a chef who has lost his sense of taste tries to hold together his family consisting of three lovely daughters through mandatory lavish Sunday dinners. I can relate to this, as my father always insisted on the entire family assembling for Saturday dinners when I was young. The more they try to pull away, the more he tries to hold on. A true family values movie with wonderful cooking scenes, the movie is based on the acclaimed Chinese film *Eat Drink Man Woman*.

1 hour and 50 minutes In Spanish/English

Week 10 November 3rd, 2011

Soul food

Another movie based on the Chinese film *Eat Drink Man Woman*, this time from the African-American point of view. Without the family dinners of Mama Joe once she is hospitalized, her daughters begin to splinter apart, only to find their way inspired by Mama's soul food. A fine cast led by Vanessa Williams and Vivica A. Fox.

1 hour and 54 minutes

Week 11 November 10th, 2011

Big night –

The movie that launched thousands of restaurant theme dinners. Perhaps no movie has ever captured the painstaking detail in creating a special feast. The ensuing planning and cooking is stunning on the screen. Stanley Tucci co-wrote, co-directed and starred in this delightful funny, moving story about a failing Italian restaurant. The simple charm of the movie, the plight of the owners and the loving manner in which all the food is prepared is captivating. ***Big Night*** may be set in New York but it is Italian in essence, through and through,

1 hour and 54 minutes

Week 12 November 17th, 2011

Ratatouille (2007)

The Oscar winner for best animated film follows the adventure of an aspiring chef, and the gastronomic genius rat that helps him cook. It is remarkable how many true food principles are on display in this film, but the true message is that anybody can cook!!!! *1 hour and 51 minutes*

Week 13 ***November 24th, 2011 Thanksgiving Holiday - No Film***

Week 14 December 1st, 2011

Chocolat (2000)

Huliette Binoche is wonderful as a drifter, who along with her young daughter opens a chocolate shop in a conservative 1960 French town. The town is mostly won over by her exquisite chocolate with the exception of the evil town mayor who organizes a boycott of her decadent immoral treats. Johnny depp is along for the ride as an Irish gypsy. A fun, sexy and entertaining film filled with great performances.'

1 hour and 45 minutes in French with English subtitles