

LACMA FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

LACMA PUBLIC PROGRAMS DECEMBER 2011



SYMPOSIUM: CONTESTED VISIONS IN THE SPANISH COLONIAL WORLD



LECTURE: TRANSPOSING THE TALE OF GENJI



YEONGSANJAE BUDDHIST CEREMONY



TUESDAY MATINEE: IT HAPPENED ONE NIGHT

TALKS & COURSES

Symposium: Contested Visions in the Spanish Colonial World

December 2, 3, 4

Bing Theater | Free, no reservations

LACMA and UCLA are co-sponsoring a major international three-day symposium in conjunction with the special exhibition *Contested Visions in the Spanish Colonial World*, which brings together thirty of the most distinguished scholars in the field from Mexico, South America, Europe, and the United States.

http://www.lacma.org/sites/default/files/CV_Symposium_Program.pdf

Lecture: Transposing the Tale of Genji

Sunday, December 4, 2011 | 3:30 pm

Brown Auditorium | Free, reservations required: call (323) 857-6565 by November 28. Seating is limited

Written a millennium ago by Murasaki Shikibu, *The Tale of Genji* has captured the hearts of generations of Japanese audiences. Lynne K. Miyake, professor of Japanese, Asian studies, and Asian American studies at Pomona College, delivers the Twenty-fourth Annual Michele Berton Memorial Lecture on Japanese Art, in which she traces the incredible cultural journey of what is considered to be the world's first novel to its current influence on manga comics.

Banned in Arizona Welcomed at LACMA

Sunday, December 4, 2011 | 4 pm

Art Catalogues Bookstore, Ahmanson Building, Level 1 | Free, seating is limited, program starts promptly | Please call or email to pre-order 310 857-6587 artcatalogues@lacma.org

Created in 1984 in San Francisco's Mission District, Culture Clash, the nation's leading performance trio and L.A.'s favorite satirical sons, gather for their first reading/performance of *Oh, Wild West!*, their stunning new book of plays published by Theater Communications Group.

Readings and an intimate discussion regarding the process of making plays, culture, and controversy will be a part of the wonderful afternoon at the venerable LACMA temple. This award-winning theater company was recently swept up in the attorney general of Arizona's complaint (which has since become law in that state) deeming the works of Culture Clash as not suitable for high school teaching, thereby banning the plays as illegal in high schools in Tucson and surrounding areas. Along with Shakespeare and ethnic studies, Culture Clash's work goes before the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals in a matter of months. This not only makes Culture Clash urgent but places them slightly ahead of what is current and hip--a banned book is close to a burned book. Art Catalogues at LACMA is a safe place where we can read, discuss, and push the conversation forward in this wonderful setting. Come hear what all the fuss and new laws are about!

Panel Discussion: Ai Weiwei

Monday, December 5, 2011 | 7:30 pm

Bing Theater | Free, no reservations

A conversation about the work of Chinese artist Ai Weiwei among Stephen Little, curator and department head of the Chinese and Korean Art Department, Franklin Sirmans, Terri and Michael Smooke Curator and Department Head of Contemporary Art, and Christina Yu, assistant curator of Chinese and Korean Art. Ai Weiwei's *Circle of Animals/Zodiac Heads* will be on view at LACMA from August 20, 2011, to February 12, 2012.

Gallery Discussion: The Art of Looking

Thursday, December 8, 2011 | Free, no reservations

Join museum educators as they offer one-hour facilitated gallery discussions looking in depth at the permanent collection.

L.A. Print: Edition 2

Saturday, December 10, 2011 | 12 pm

LACMA West, 5th floor | Free, no reservations | For more information: pdc@lacma.org or 323 857-6558

The Prints and Drawings Council and LACMA Muse host this annual event and print fair focusing on current trends in printmaking and print publishing in L.A. Attendees connect with artists, curators, and printers and can purchase art directly through artists or dealers specializing in prints, photographs, editions, zines, and artist books.

Yeongsanjae Buddhist Ceremony

Sunday, December 11, 2011 | 2 pm

Los Angeles Times Central Court | Free, no reservations

The Yeongsanjae is a Korean Buddhist ceremony reenacting the Buddha's delivery of the Lotus Sutra on Vulture Peak in India more than 2,600 years ago. Monks from the Kuyangsa Temple in Incheon, South Korea, will be performing the unique ritual that combines music, chanting, and dance in conjunction with the unveiling of the recently restored painting, *Buddha Seokamoni (Shakyamuni) Preaching to the Assembly on Vulture Peak*.

MUSIC

Sundays Live

Sundays Live is an ongoing series and includes free classical music concerts presented by LACMA in cooperation with Friends of Sundays Live.

These concerts take place in the Bing Theater and feature mid-career professionals and student virtuosos taking center stage. Please note: Sundays Live concerts can be heard live via streaming audio at lacma.org, or by delayed broadcast the following Wednesday at noon on KCSN, 88.5 FM.

Bing Theater | Free, no reservations

Violinist Phillip Levy & Pianist François Chouchan

Sunday, December 4 | 6 pm

Bing Theater | Free, no reservations

Performing Franck: *Sonata in A Major* and Mozart: *Sonata in E Minor, K. 304*.

Santa Barbara Chamber Orchestra

Sunday, December 11 | 6 pm

Bing Theater | Free, no reservations

Performing Bruckner: *String Quintet in F Minor* and other works to be announced.

Cellist Ruslan Biryukov & Pianist Armen Guzelimian

Sunday, December 18 | 6 pm

Bing Theater | Free, no reservations

Performing Chopin: *Introduction and Polonaise Brillante*, Haydn: *Divertimento*, and Edouard Lalo: *Sonata for Cello and Piano*.

FILM

Series: Film Independent at LACMA

Film Independent, the non-profit arts organization that produces the Spirit Awards and the Los Angeles Film Festival, and LACMA celebrate the launch of the Film Independent at LACMA Film Series, presented by *The New York Times*, on Thursday, October 13. The inclusive series offers unique film experiences, bringing together Film Independent's large community of filmmakers and wide spectrum of audiences, with LACMA's commitment to presenting cinema in an artistic and historical context. The new program will present classic and contemporary narrative and documentary films, artists and their influences, emerging auteurs, international showcases, special guest-curated programs, in addition to conversations with artists, curators and special guests. Film Independent at LACMA is under the curatorial leadership of esteemed film critic Elvis Mitchell in collaboration with LACMA Film Coordinator Bernardo Rondeau and Film Independent's programming team.

Diner

Thursday, December 1, 2011 | 7:30 pm

Bing Theater | In person: Gavin O'Connor and Paul Feig

1982/color/110 min.

Scr/dir: Barry Levinson; w/ Steve Guttenberg, Daniel Stern, Mickey Rourke, Kevin Bacon, Tim Daly, Ellen Barkin, Paul Reiser.

Former sketch comedy writer Barry Levinson's directorial debut gave a number of today's notable actors—Kevin Bacon, Timothy Daly, Mickey Rourke, Steve Guttenberg, Daniel Stern—a crucial break, as well as being the film debut of both Ellen Barkin and Paul Reiser. Set during the last days of 1959, *Diner* is a seriocomic look at the lives of five Baltimore guys testing each other and their friendships as an era comes to an end.

Writer-director Gavin O'Connor (*Warrior*, *Miracle*) and director Paul Feig (*Bridesmaids*) will appear in person to discuss the influence Levinson's world had on their work.

\$10 for the general public, \$7 for LACMA members, seniors (62+), and students with valid ID | Tickets available Thursday, November 17 at 5 pm.

\$5 for Film Independent, LACMA Film Club, and New York Times Film Club Members | Pre-sale tickets available Thursday, November 10 at 5 pm | Members of these groups will be required to show proof of membership when retrieving their tickets | Tickets: 323 857-6010 or purchase online.

Spotlight on Aki Kaurismäki: La Vie de Bohème

Thursday, December 8, 2011 | 7:30 pm

1992/b&w/100 min.

Bing Theater

Scr/dir: Aki Kaurismäki; w/: Andre Wilms, Matti Pellonpää, Kari Väänänen

The delectably sardonic and bittersweet films of Finnish writer-director Aki Kaurismäki remain seldom seen in the United States (with the exception of his Oscar-nominated 2002 film *The Man Without a Past*). Working with a loyal company of actors, Kaurismäki's films are equal parts Beckettian comedy, kitchen-sink melodrama, and inebriated Nouvelle Vague lyricism. Precise, witty, and ultimately poignant, his low-key portraits of working-class life buzz to a rockabilly swagger while maintaining a poker-faced decorum. Kaurismäki's acerbic take on *La Vie de Bohème* is comedy-drama so deadpan that it verges on the cadaverous. Three itinerant artists—an Albanian painter, a French poet, and an Irish composer—elbow, charm, and cajole their way through the streets of Paris as they struggle to maintain a modest standard of living and practice their crafts. The lovely *Le Havre*, Kaurismäki's newest film, is a de facto sequel to *La Vie de Bohème* that follows one of its protagonists nearly twenty years later and expands on the theme of creating a community. If *Le Havre* is an opera, then *La Vie de Bohème* is its oddly emotional overture.

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Spotlight on Aki Kaurismäki: Drifting Clouds

Thursday, December 8, 2011 | 9:20 pm

1996/color/96 min.

Bing Theater

Scr/dir: Aki Kaurismäki; w/ Kati Outinen, Kari Väänänen, Elina Salo,

Markku Peltola, Sakari Kuosmanen

One of Kaurismäki's most celebrated, though least seen, films, *Drifting Clouds*, follows a proletarian couple typical of the director's oeuvre—a head waitress and a tram driver—as they lose their jobs in quick succession and must fend for themselves through a gauntlet of false starts, all the while trying to keep their new TV from being repossessed. Equally inspired by *Bicycle Thieves* and *It's a Wonderful Life*, Kaurismäki's film captures both the quiet despair of being unmoored and the heartening bond of love that serves as its antidote. The film is dedicated to Matti Pellonpää, one of the stars of *La Vie de Bohème* who passed away shortly before *Drifting Clouds* began shooting.

\$10 for the general public, \$7 for LACMA members, seniors (62+), and students with valid ID | Tickets available Thursday, November 17 at 5 pm | Limit two tickets per customer.

\$5 for Film Independent, LACMA Film Club, and New York Times Film Club members | Pre-sale tickets available Thursday, November 10 at 5 pm | Members of these groups will be

required to show proof of membership when retrieving their tickets | Tickets: 323 857-6010 or purchase online.

Awaara

Saturday, December 10, 2011 | 7:30 pm

1951/b&w/193 min.

Bing Theater | New 35mm print available thanks to *Raj Kapoor and The Golden Age of Indian Cinema*, curated by Noah Cowan, Artistic Director, TIFF Bell Lightbox, and organized by TIFF, IIFA, and RK Films with the support of the Government of Ontario.

Scr: K.A. Abbas, V.P. Sathe; dir: Raj Kapoor; w/ Raj Kapoor, Nargis, Prithviraj Kapoor, Leela Chitnis

Raj Kapoor was one of the first Hindi directors to receive wide recognition and acclaim outside of his Indian homeland and among the first to compete for the Grand Prix at the Cannes Film Festival with his 1951 film *Awaara*. An actor and mogul as well as a director, Kapoor is also synonymous with the rise of Bollywood. He is revered not only in India but also throughout the former Soviet world, the Middle East, and beyond for the films he made during the Golden Age of Indian cinema. Beginning his career acting in his father Prithviraj's famed theater company and then in small film roles starting in 1935, Kapoor founded RK Films in 1948 and made his debut as producer, director, and star with the hit film *Aag* (Fire), in which he starred for the first time with his onscreen muse Nargis. Deriving his screen persona from the smirk and swagger of Clark Gable, the heightened emotions and showmanship of Gene Kelly, and most significantly Charlie Chaplin's underdog heroism and sense of pathos, Kapoor rapidly became the biggest superstar in Indian cinema. Meanwhile, his stylistic innovations and meticulous craftsmanship as a director helped set the template for the Bollywood film as it is today. *Awaara* (The Vagabond) was a global sensation. Only twenty-six at the time of production, Kapoor commands the screen as the film's title character, a charming vagrant unaware of his high-class roots. It marks the first appearance of Kapoor's iconic tramp alter ego—a sly street urchin who stands in for India's downtrodden—and boasts a twelve-minute surrealist dream sequence of staggering proportions.

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Live Read, directed by Jason Reitman

Thursday, December 15, 2011 | 7:30 pm

Bing Theater

The next installment in the series of director Jason Reitman's readings of canonical film scripts will once again feature surprise casts revisiting screen classics. Details to come!

\$10 for the general public, \$7 for LACMA members, seniors (62+), and students with valid ID | Tickets available Thursday, November 17 at 5 pm. | Limit two tickets per customer.

\$5 for Film Independent, LACMA Film Club, and New York Times Film Club members with proof of membership at will call | Limit two tickets per customer. Ticket Office: 323 857 6010.

Series: Tuesday Matinees

Every Tuesday at 1 pm, LACMA screens a Hollywood classic.

Anatomy of a Murder

Tuesday, December 6, 2011 | 1 pm

1959/b&w/161 min.

Bing Theater | \$2 general admission; \$1 seniors 62+

Scr: Wendell Mayes; dir: Otto Preminger; w/ James Stewart, Lee Remick, Ben Gazzara

A small-town lawyer gets the case of a lifetime when a military man avenges an attack on his wife.

It Happened One Night

Tuesday, December 13, 2011 | 1 pm

Bing Theater | \$2 general admission; \$1 seniors 62+

1934/b&w/105 min.

Scr: Robert Riskin; dir: Frank Capra; w/ Clark Gable, Claudette Colbert.

A newspaperman tracks a runaway heiress on a madcap cross-country tour.

Lawrence of Arabia

Tuesday, December 20, 2011 | 1 pm

Bing Theater | Free admission, no reservations.

1962/color/222 min./Scope

Scr: Robert Bolt; dir: David Lean; w/ Peter O'Toole, Alec Guinness, Anthony Quinn, Claude Rains.

A British military officer enlists the Arabs for desert warfare in World War I.

FAMILY PROGRAMS

Storytelling in the Boone Children's Gallery

December 2, 5, 9, 12, 16, 19, 23, 26, 30 | 2 pm

Hammer Building, Level 2 | Free, no reservations

Join us in the Boone Children's Gallery for storytelling every Monday and Friday at 2 pm.

About LACMA

Since its inception in 1965, LACMA has been devoted to collecting works of art that span both history and geography and represent Los Angeles's uniquely diverse population. Today, the museum features particularly strong collections of Asian, Latin American, European, and American art, as well as a contemporary museum on its campus. With this expanded space for contemporary art, innovative collaborations with artists, and an ongoing Transformation project, LACMA is creating a truly modern lens through which to view its rich encyclopedic collection.

Location and Contact: 5905 Wilshire Boulevard (at Fairfax Avenue), Los Angeles, CA, 90036 | 323 857-6000 | lacma.org

Hours: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday: noon-8 pm; Friday: noon-9 pm; Saturday, Sunday: 11 am-8 pm; closed Wednesday

General Admission: Adults: \$15; students 18+ with ID and senior citizens 62+: \$10

Free General Admission: Members; children 17 and under; after 5 pm weekdays for L.A. County residents; second Tuesday of every month; Target Free Holiday Mondays

Images (page 1)

(Left) (Detail) *Folding Screen with the Genealogy of the Incas (Biombo con la genealogía de los incas)*, 1837, Cuzco Circle, Pastor Family Collection, Lima, Peru, Photo © D. Giannoni

(Center, Left) *Toba Shōko*, *NHK manga de yomu koten Genji monogatari* (NHK Reading the Classics through Manga: The Tale of Genji), Tokyo: Kadokawa Shoten, 1991, 1997. ÓNHK/SHOKO TOBA/Kadokawa Shoten 1991.

(Center, Right) *Yeongsanjae Buddhist Ceremony*, Image © Nunghwa

(Right) Image: *It Happened One Night*, 1934, directed by Frank Capra.

Press Contact: For additional information, contact LACMA Communications at press@lacma.org or 323 857-6522.

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