FALL 2012 FOREIGN FILM FESTIVAL
EVERY TUESDAY 3:45 and 7:00 PM
ROOM 105 EVANS BLDG.

Free admission to all SHSU students, faculty, staff and their guests. Sponsored by the Department of English and the College of Humanities and Social Sciences. Dr. Ralph Pease, Professor Emeritus, host for the series. For information call 294-1436

Tues. Sept 11- “Educating Rita”, Great Britain, 1983. An alcoholic, cynical literature professor is confronted by an ambitious, lower-class young woman determined to improve her station in life by getting a college education. D: Lewis Gilbert with Michael Caine and Julie Waters. 110 min color

Tues. Sept 18- “The Motorcycle Diaries” (Diarios de Motociclete) Argentina, 2004. An account, based on his personal diaries and the memoir of his best friend, of revolutionary activist Che Guevara’s transformation from medical student to political reformer. This is a fairly objective version of a life that was controversial. 128 min color

Tues. Sept 25- “No Regrets for Our Youth”, Japan, 1946. A spoiled city girl is forced to encounter the reality of rural life with its hard work and poverty. A coming-of-age film by one of the great directors of the 20th century. D: Akira Kurosawa with Satsuko Hara and Susumu Fujita. 110min. B/W

Tues. Oct 2- “Chariots of Fire”, United Kingdom, 1981. This Academy Award Winning Best Film tells the story of two remarkable athletes – one Jewish, one Protestant- as they compete in the 1924 Olympics. If you saw the opening ceremony of this year’s Olympics, you will better understand one of the film references made by Rowan Atkinson (“Mr. Bean”). This is an inspiring story about real people. D: Hugh Hudson with Ian Charleson and Ben Cross. 123 min. Color

Tues. Oct 9- “A Night to Remember”, Great Britain, 1955. Before there was James Cameron’s melodramatic, flashy, computer driven “Titanic”, the British gave us a sensitive, documentary-styled look at the sea disaster that cost 1,500 people their lives. This is the version praised by survivors as being accurate in fact and in mood. D: Roy Ward Baker with Kenneth More, Honor Blackman and over 200 speaking parts. 123 min B/W

Tues. Oct 16- “The Counterfeiters” (Die Sälscher), Austria/Germany, 2007. This was the 2007 Academy Award for Best Foreign Film. It tells the factual story of a known criminal whose counterfeiting skills were recruited by Nazis in exchange for his life, forcing him into a moral decision: comply and aid the party responsible for ruining Europe or refuse and die. D: Stefan Ruzowitzky with Karl Markovics and August Diehl. 98 min. color

Tues. Oct 23- “La Vie En Rose”, France, 2007. Edith Piaf was-and remains- the most popular and beloved of all French singers. Her life was as dramatic as her singing style. Marjol Cotillard’s performance as Piaf won her an Academy Award for Best Actress and led the reviewer for The New York Times to write that Cotillard’s performance is “The most astonishing immersion of one performer into the body and soul of another ever encountered in a film.” The film is told in a series of “snap shots”, jumping from Piaf’s early life to later and back again. Most of the songs are Piaf’s own recordings. D: Olivier Dahan with Clotilde Courau and Gerard Depardieu. 140 min color NOT FOR CHILDREN.

and others. D: Jack Clayton with Deborah Kerr and Michael Redgrave. Because the plot deals with the possible possession of two children by evil spirits, this is probably not a film to be viewed by youngsters.

Tues. Nov. 6-  “Ponyo”, Japan/US/France, 2008 Celebrated Japanese animator and Academy Award Winner Hayno Miyazaki updates Hans Christian Anderson’s The Little Mermaid into a visual treat worthy of comparison with Disney’s early, ground-breaking films. Miyazaki further proves that animation is not just for children. D: Miyazaki with voices of Tina Fey, Matt Damon, Cate Blanchett and others. 103 min Color

Tues. Nov. 13- “City of God”, Brazil, 2002. “One of the best films you’ll ever see” wrote film reviewer Robert Ebert about this violent, innovative mosaic of stories set in Rio de Janeiro’s worst slums. This is a slam bang, quick-cutting, brutal film that jars the senses but still manages to tell a hopeful story about a young man trying to find a way out of his hell – on – earth. A remarkable work of direction by Fernanso Meirelles with Matheus Nachtergade, Seu Jonge and hundreds of non-professionals. 131 min. Color

Tues. Nov. 20- Thanksgiving Holidays begin. No film.

Tues. Nov. 27- “Smiles of a Summer Night”, Sweden, 1995. Despite its late 19th century setting, this is a contemporary version of the ages-old bedroom farce conventions which suggest that sex is the eternal weapon of both genders, but women are the better warriors. A clever, sophisticated comedy that served as the basics for the musical “A Little Night Music” (“Send in the clowns…”) D: Ingmar Bergman with Ulla Jacobson and Eva Dahlbeck. 108 min B/W

Tues Dec. 4- Last Film of the Semester “A Christmas Carol,” Britain 1951. There have been over 15 film and TV versions of Charles Dickens’ famous story, but this one is the best. D: Brian Desmond Hurst with Alastair Sims and Patrick Macnee. 86 min. B/W

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