



Wednesday, Feb. 3

Lunacy (2005)

Described by Švankmajer himself, as a “philosophical horror film”, Lunacy is loosely based on two short stories by Edgar Allan Poe, is inspired by the works of the Marquis de Sade and has as a focus of its presentation, a surrealistic lunatic asylum where the patients have complete freedom and the staff are locked up behind bars.

Director: Jan Švankmajer

Facilitator: Andrew Loman, English

Wednesday, Feb. 17

Soy Cuba (Cuba, 1967)

Four vignettes in Batista’s Cuba dramatize the need for revolution; long, mobile shots tell almost wordless stories.

Director: Mikhail Kalatozov

Facilitator: Steve Crocker, Sociology

Wednesday, March 3

Caramel (Lebanon, 2008)

In Beirut, five women meet regularly in a beauty salon—a colourful and sensual microcosm of the city where several generations come into contact—to talk and confide in each other. Between haircuts and sugar waxing with caramel, their intimate and liberated conversations revolve around men, sex and motherhood.

Director: Nadine Labaki

Facilitator: Marica Cassis, History

Wednesday, March 17

Lacombe, Lucien (France, 1974)

The story of a teenage boy during the German occupation of France in World War II, whose involvement in the “French Gestapo” collides with his personal relationships.

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Director: Louis Malle

Facilitator: James Bradley (Philosophy)

Wednesday, March 31

Kings (Ireland, 2007)

A Navvy’s (Irish working man) clock does not stop for alienation or inner despair. They are working men: strong, even indestructible, the kings of Kilburn High...until tragedy strikes Jackie, the youngest, brightest and bravest of them. Joined by Jackie’s father, in the classic setting of an Irish wake, they are ultimately forced to confront the possibility that Jackie’s death was no accident and that even “kings” aren’t impervious to human frailty.

Director: Tom Collins

Facilitator: Visiting Gaelic scholar, Brid Falconer

Wednesday, April 14

The Hidden Blade (Japan, 2004)

Faced with declining social status in a quickly changing world, the samurai, Katagiri, tries to create for himself a situation of happiness. But social expectations force him to abandon even that—a situation made more complicated when he’s called upon to assassinate a political rebel who is also his closest friend.

Director: Yoji Yamada

Facilitator: Mike O’Brien, History