



UWM French Film Festival 2002

The Fifth Annual French Film Festival features six of the newest and best films from French cinema. Scheduled for Feb. 8-10 and 15-17, the festival takes place in the UWM Union Theatre, 2200 E. Kenwood Blvd., 2nd floor, UWM Union. All films are in French with subtitles. The Films are free, except "The Town is Quiet"(\$4 Discount, \$5 General).

The Town is Quiet *Milwaukee Premiere

Friday-Sunday, February 8-10 - 8 p.m.

Cost: \$4.00 Discount, \$5.00 General

"One of the top five films of the year! A masterpiece...establishes Mr. Guediguian as a major international filmmaker...not to be missed."-Stephen Holden, The New York Times
Like Robert Guediguian's previous films (including the 1997 hit Marius and Jeannette), The Town is Quiet portrays working-class life in Marseilles with enormous sympathy and insight. Depicting Marseilles as a city in crisis, similar to Robert Altman's Nashville, through a large cast of intersecting characters which include Ariane Ascaride as a hard-bitten but compassionate fish market-worker with a drug addicted daughter, Gerard Maylan as a moody bartender with a shocking secret life, a Georgian boy piano prodigy playing for handouts, a North-African ex-convict trying to rebuild his life, and a wealthy cynic estranged from his music teacher wife. (Robert Guediguian, France, 132min, French w/English Subtitles, 35mm, 2000)

The Gleaners and I *Milwaukee Premiere

Saturday -Sunday, February 9 & 10 - 6 p.m.

WINNER, BEST DOCUMENTARY OF 2001

New York Film Critics Circle, Los Angeles Film Critics Association, Boston Society of Film Critics, and New York Film Critics Online

"4 Stars!"

Roger Ebert, Chicago Sun-Times

An intimate, picaresque inquiry into French life as lived by the country's poor and its provident, as well as by the film's own director, Agnès Varda. The aesthetic, political and moral point of departure for Varda are gleaners, those individuals who pick at already-reaped fields for the odd potato, the leftover turnip, and in previous generations were immortalized by the likes of Millet and Van Gogh. Varda isn't particularly interested in immortalizing today's gleaners but in investigating the reasons that lead the anonymous (desperate and quixotic both) and the celebrated (including a famous chef) to sift through our detritus. (From New York Film Festival catalogue)

Time Regained



Friday, February 15 - 8 p.m.

(Raul Ruiz, France, 158min, French w/English Subtitles, 35mm, 1999)

Marcel Proust's epic masterwork, *Remembrance of Things Past* comes to shimmering life in this mesmerizing and ingenuous adaptation of its final volume by acclaimed director Raoul Ruiz. Set among a group of French aristocrats during and after the Great War, *Time Regained* is an extraordinary visualization of one man's memory of lost loves, long ago friendships and a world of seemingly genteel society which hides many dark secrets. The all-star cast includes Catherine Deneuve, Emmanuelle Bert, John Malkovich, Marcello Mazzarella, Marie-France Pisier, and Vincent Perez. "Altogether triumphant! The daring of its conception is matched only by the brilliance of its execution!" J. Hoberman, *Village Voice*

Human Resources *Milwaukee Premiere

Saturday, February 16 - 6 p.m.

(Laurent Cantet, France, 100min, French w/English Subtitles, 35mm, 2000)

This human morality tale, which skillfully intertwines both filial love and political ideologies, is an incisive treatise on class warfare. Franck, a fresh faced Paris business-school graduate returns home as a management trainee in the factory where both his father and sister have toiled for years. His ambitions for bettering the workers conditions are subverted by management and used to layoff older, higher-paid workers like his father. When Frank is forced to choose sides between either management or the workers devastating consequences ensue. Using a realistic style of shooting and a cast of mostly non-professionals, first time director Laurent Cantet won the Cesar Award for Best First Film 2001.

Faat-Kine *Milwaukee Premiere

Saturday, February 16 - 8 p.m.; Sunday, February 17 - 6 p.m.

"One of the Top Ten Films Of the Year!"

Elvis Mitchell, *The New York Times*

An inspiring heroine, Faat Kine is a brash, bawdy, self-made woman who is managing a gas station, supporting her mother, and putting two children through college. Disowned as a teenager by her father when she became pregnant by her professor, then betrayed and abandoned by the father of her second child, Kine worked her way up from gas station attendant to financial security. The film's mixture of celebration and accusation climaxes in a raucous graduation party where the undeserving men are driven out and the deserving one welcomed into Kine's arms. Ousmane Sembene, recently called "the greatest of all African filmmakers" (Jonathan Rosenbaum, *Film Comment*), directed this easygoing comedy with an outspoken social consciousness and a strong feminist slant. (Ousmane Sembene, Senegal, 118min, French and Wolof w/English Subtitles, 35mm, 2000)

The Taste of Others

Sunday, February 17 - 8 p.m.

A beautifully nuanced, deliciously sly social satire about the attraction of opposites in a world balkanized by the dictatorship of taste. Castella, a coarse, curmudgeonly, but very successful Rouen businessman who, dragged one evening to a theatre performance of Berenice, by his wife Angelique, is smitten by the lead actress. Infatuated, he bulldogs his way into her theatre circle of highbrow thespians, gay painters and a pot-selling waitress (played by director Agnes Jaoui). This witty, well-acted and unsentimental romantic comedy was a runaway hit in France! 2001 Cesar Awards for Best Film, Best Screenplay, and Best Supporting Actors (Agnes Jaoui, France, 112min, French w/English Subtitles, 35mm, 2000)