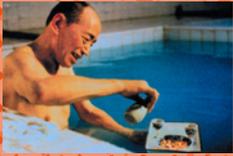


FILM PROGRAMME

17 MAY THURSDAY

Shower (1999) - 9.15pm

Cast: Zhu Xu, He Zheng, Pu Cun Xin, Zhang Jin Hao and Jiang Wu
Directed by: Zhang Yang
Country: China
Run-time: 95 mins
Genre: Drama



Synopsis: Set in a neighbourhood on the outskirts of modern Beijing, this is the tale of a prodigal son. The elder son returns to the place of his youth and his father's old age - an antique bathhouse that draws the neighbourhood men to bathe, gossip, pit cricket fights, quarrel and sing. This is a deceptively simple film wearing the veneer of a family comedy but with real depth.

A unique look at how the Buddhist spirit survived China's

Cultural Revolution in the hearts of the stubborn and compassionate.

This film recently won Best Film and Best Director at the Seattle Film Festival.
©Sony Pictures Entertainment.

18 May Friday

The Cup (1999) - 7.15pm

Cast: Jamyang Lodro, Orgyen Tobgyal, Neten Chokling, Kunsang Nyima
Directed by: Khyentse Norbu
Country: Bhutan/Australia
Run-time: 94 mins
Genre: Comedy



Synopsis: Buddhism is their philosophy. Soccer is their religion. A sweet, engaging comedy about a group of mischievous, soccer-obsessed child monks determined to smuggle a television set into their monastery so they can watch the World Cup. Featuring wonderful comic turns by a cast of actual monks from the monastery where the movie was shot, this film - the first ever produced in Bhutan - examines the tenets of Buddhism through

gentle humour and the awe-inspiring beauty of Bhutan's landscape. ©Fine Line Features

Travellers & Magicians (2003) - 9.30pm

Cast: Sonam Kinga, Deki Yangzom, Lhakpa Dorji, Tshewang Dendup, Sonam Kinga
Directed by: Khyentse Norbu
Country: Bhutan
Run-time: 108 mins
Genre: Drama



Synopsis: Part road movie, part Bhutanese fable, this film is two stories—one earthly and one magical, played out against the backdrop of the Himalayas. The stories weave together down their respective paths lined with seduction, deception and dreams. This is the second film from Bhutan-born Tibetan lama Khyentse Norbu (The Cup). ©Prayer Flag Pictures

19 MAY SATURDAY

King of the Hill: Won't You

Pimai My Neighbour (2000) - 2.15pm

Creator: Mike Judge
Run-time: 22 min
Country: USA

Producer/writer: John Altschuler and Dave Krinsky

Genre: Comedy



Synopsis: A long running animation success on FOX, Bobby is the son of Hank and Peggy Hill, just-folks Americans (often self referenced as "rednecks") living in the suburbs as the world changes rapidly around them. Immigration and contemporary culture challenge them and their friends at every turn. The show thrives on sharp satire and no subject is sacred or spared. ©FOX/Mike Judge

+ Words of My Perfect Teacher (2003) - 2.15pm

Directed by: Lesley Ann Patten
Country: Canada

Run-time: 101 mins
Genre: Documentary



Synopsis: Featuring appearances by Bernardo Bertolucci and Steven Seagal, this personal and revealing documentary about soccer obsessed, charismatic filmmaker and citizen of the world - Bhutanese lama Dzongsar Khyentse Rinpoche (director of The Cup and Travellers & Magicians) from the perspective of three students; sheds an often comedic light on the student/teacher relationship. ©Ziji Film and Television

The Simpsons: She of Little Faith (2001) - 5.00pm

Creator: Matt Groening
Country: USA

Run-time: 22 mins
Genre: Animation



Synopsis: One of the key characters of the most popular animated television program in the USA - Lisa Simpson finds herself frustrated with the commercialization of Christmas and seeks an alternative spiritual path. She encounters a Buddhist monk along the way (voiced by Richard Gere) and makes a decision. The Simpsons TM and © 2001 Twentieth Century Fox Film Corporation. All Rights Reserved.

+Compassion in Exile:

The Life of the 14th Dalai Lama (1993) - 5.00pm

Cast: Dalai Lama himself
Directed by: Mickey Lemle
Country: USA

Run-time: 60 mins
Genre: Documentary



Synopsis: An intimate portrait of Tenzin Gyatso, His Holiness the 14th Dalai Lama of Tibet. Inherent in the life story of this Nobel Peace Prize laureate is the saga of the suffering of the Tibetan people under Chinese occupation. ©Lemle Pictures, Inc.

Buddha's Lost Children (2006) - 7.00pm

Directed by: Mark Verkerk
Country: Netherlands

Run-time: 97 mins
Genre: Documentary



Synopsis: Buddha's Lost Children is a feature-length documentary film about a Thai Buddhist monk who - armed only with his faith and master boxer skills - wages an inspirational battle to help orphaned children, fight drug abuse, and preserve a vanishing way of life. ©EMS Films

Enlightenment Guaranteed (2000) - 9.30pm

Cast: Uwe Ochsenknecht and Gustav-Peter Wohler

Directed by: Doris Dörrie
Country: Germany

Run-time: 109 mins
Genre: Comedy



Synopsis: A delightful fish-out-of-water comedy follows two mismatched brothers - one an uptight family man whose wife just left him, and the other a naive New Age enthusiast - travelling to Japan for a retreat at a Buddhist monastery. After a hilariously disastrous night in Tokyo leaves them broke, confused, and humiliated, the brothers accidentally find themselves fully prepared for their immersion in Buddhist spirituality ©Capitol Entertainment

20 MAY SUNDAY

How to Cook Your Life (2006)

+ Talk by Ajahn Brahm - 2.45pm

Directed by: Doris Dörrie
Country: Germany

Run-time: 100 mins
Genre: Documentary



Synopsis: An upbeat documentary about the art of cooking, but also the art of cooking one's life without burning it, adding too much salt or over-cooking it. Together, Doris Dörrie and Zen priest of cookery, Edward Brown, demonstrate that food means much more than just nutrition and that cooking is a feast of the senses, as well as an act of love and generosity.

Films may be cancelled or rescheduled due to unforeseen circumstances.

For updates, please check the festival website at www.asianbuddhistfilmfest.org or at the SISTIC Authorised Agents.

Please check film ratings before purchase of tickets.

For R21 films, patrons must be above 21 years of age. For NC16, patrons must be above 16 years of age.

For M18 films, patrons must be above 18 years of age.

Tickets on sale at SISTIC: Hotline 6348 5555, www.sistic.com.sg