

Center for East Asian and Pacific Studies
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Year of Asia

Pan-Asian Cinema Series

Friday, March 11



4:15 pm

Story of the Weeping Camel

Directed by Byambasuren Davaa and Luigi Falorni, 2003 (Mongolia)

A camel belonging to a family of nomadic herders gives birth to a rare white calf but rejects her offspring. When it becomes clear that the calf will die without its mother's attention, the nomads send their two young sons on a journey in search of a musician who can perform a ceremony that will reunite the mother and baby. 90 minutes.

6:30 pm

Introduction to the Series

George T. Yu, Director,
Center for East Asian and Pacific Studies



6:35 pm

Vertical Ray of the Sun

Directed by Anh Hung Tran, 2000 (Vietnam)

A slow-paced, beautifully shot drama. Three sisters and their brother meet on the anniversary of their mother's death. Secrets lying beneath the family's apparent calm and happiness are slowly revealed over the course of a month during a hot Hanoi summer. 112 minutes.



9:20 pm

Millennium Mambo

Directed by Hsiao-hsien Hou, 2001 (Taiwan)

The most recent film by Taiwan's most celebrated director, Mambo follows Vicky, a young woman whose life revolves around clubs and drugs as she navigates between her unfaithful boyfriend and an older gangster. 120 minutes.

Saturday, March 12



1:45 pm

Shaolin Soccer

Directed by Stephen Chow, 2001 (Hong Kong)

A down-and-out Shaolin monk propels a makeshift soccer team to the National Finals by reuniting his fellow monks. This fast-paced film blends comedy with martial arts in a deft parody of both the kung fu and sports genres. 113 minutes.



4:20 pm

Small Voices

Directed by Gil Portes, 2002 (Philippines)

An idealistic young schoolteacher moves from Manila to a rural farming village where she confronts poverty and despair. A regional singing contest provides a chance to bolster village dreams of a better future and to finance much-needed school improvements. 118 minutes.



7:05 pm

Kick the Moon

Directed by Sang-Jin Kim, 2001 (South Korea)

One of South Korea's most successful comedies, Kick the Moon tells the story of an odd love triangle between a high school nerd turned gangster, a teenage thug turned teacher, and a beautiful noodle shop owner. 118 minutes.



9:45 pm

Last Life in the Universe

Directed by Pen-Ek Ratanaruang, 2003 (Thailand/Japan)

A suicidal Japanese librarian living in Bangkok falls into a strange love affair with a Thai bar hostess while fleeing the gangsters who killed his brother. Stunning cinematography, a whimsical story and touches of both comedy and violence combine in an unforgettable film. 112 minutes.



Free Admission



All performances are at the
Virginia Theatre, 203 W. Park Ave.,
Champaign, IL

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