FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 2006

THE UNFORGIVEN - YONGSÔ PACHI MOTHAH CHA
DIRECTED BY YOON JONG-BIN - 2005
FRIDAY, 9/29, 7:00PM
A young college student, Seung-young (SEO Jang-won), enters compulsory military service and is confronted with a harsh, hierarchical military culture. By coincidence, his commanding officer, Tae-jung (HA Jung-woo) is an old classmate of his and takes him under his wing. Much later, Seung-young seeks out the discharged Tae-jung to tell him “something important.” The film is structured as a series of suspenseful flashbacks from that day, following Seung-young’s psychological transformation with a building sense of dread as he rises through the military ranks. Not yet rated; content may not be suitable for younger audiences. (121 min)

PLEASE STAY FOR A DISCUSSION WITH THE DIRECTOR, YOON JONG-BIN, AFTER THE FILM SCREENING.

RELATED KOREA WORKSHOP
Seungsook Moon (Vassar College), “The Rise and Decline of Militarized Modernity in South Korea,” Thursday, 9/28, 3:00PM, Lucy Ellis Lounge, Foreign Languages Building

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 2006

TEACHING KOREA THROUGH FILM: K-12 EDUCATOR WORKSHOP
SATURDAY, 9/30, 10:30 AM – 1:30 PM
Contact AEMS at 217-333-9597 or aems@uiuc.edu to register. For more information, see: www.aEMS.uiuc.edu

EMPRESS CHUNG - WANGHU SIMCH’ÔNG
DIRECTED BY NELSON SHIN - 2005
SATURDAY, 9/30, 2:00PM
The first Korean film ever to be released simultaneously in North and South Korea, this sumptuous animated feature tells the traditional Korean tale of Shim Chung, the “dutiful daughter.” After Shim Chung’s father, a government official, loses his eyesight, he and his daughter struggle in poverty. Shim Chung grows up to be a strong and beautiful girl with the help of her animal friends—a dog, a goose and a turtle. One day, she is given the opportunity to restore her father’s sight by sacrificing herself to the Sea Dragon King. Plunging into the sea, Shim Chung finds herself in an fantastic undersea palace. Director Nelson Shin’s studio, Aesom Production Co., has produced American television hits such as The Simpsons, X-Men, and Transformers. (95 min) Family Film!

PLEASE TEACH ME ENGLISH - YÔNG’Ô WANJÔN CHÔNGBOK
DIRECTED BY KIM SUNG-SOO - 2003
SATURDAY, 9/30, 4:30PM
In this offbeat romantic comedy an awkward young public official, Na Yeong-Ju (LEE Na-young) is pressured into taking English classes. In class, she falls for fellow student Park Mun-su (JANG Hyuk)—a.k.a. “Elvis”—a ladies man whose priority seems to be flirting with their sexy Australian teacher, Catherine (Angela KELLY). Mun-su actually has a more serious reason for learning English: his sister, who was given up for adoption years ago, is returning from the United States to visit. Meanwhile, Yeong-ju is determined to win Mun-su’s heart, despite repeated humiliations, before the class session ends. Quirky, animated fantasies pepper this satire of the South Korean obsession with learning English. Not yet rated. (118 min)

SAD MOVIE - SÆDU MUBI
DIRECTED BY KWON JONG-KWAN - 2005
SATURDAY, 9/30, 7:00PM
This star-studded film chronicles the lives of several ordinary people as they deal with love, loss, and life in four bittersweet, loosely interconnected stories. A deaf girl (SHIN Min-A) flirts with an artist (LI Ki-woo) at the amusement park where she works but is afraid to show her true face. Meanwhile, her sister (IM Su Jung) yearns for a marriage proposal from her fireman boyfriend (JUNG Woo-sung). An unemployed young man (CHA Tae-hyun) tries to win back his girlfriend by concocting an unusual entrepreneurial scheme. And a young boy tries to understand his mother’s love for him as she fights cancer. Connecting all four stories is the struggle to communicate. Not yet rated; content may not be suitable for younger audiences. (138 min)

SYMPATHY FOR LADY VENGEANCE - CH’INJÔHRAN KŬMJASSI
DIRECTED BY PARK CHAN-WOOK - 2005
SATURDAY, 9/30, 9:30PM
The sequel to PARK Chan-wook’s international success “Oldboy”, this film tells the story of LEE Geum-Ja (LEE Yeong-ae), who goes to prison for the murder and abduction of a child on behalf of her accomplice Mr. Baek (CHOI Min-shik), only to find out he has betrayed her. While in prison, she carefully prepares for her revenge by winning the hearts of her fellow inmates with her kindness, thus earning herself the nickname “the kind Ms. Geum-Ja.” Upon her release from prison after 13 years, she seeks revenge with the help of her former prison mates. Rated R for strong violent content—some involving children—and some sexuality. (115 min)

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