

THE BEST OF POLISH CINEMA

This fall, we will be showing a selection of films made in Poland. The screenings will proceed chronologically from the 1950's to the present, showcasing the most memorable works of the greatest Polish directors. Featured as Cinema 401, the course is being taught by Professor Steven Kovacs with graduate student Katarzyna Rogawska.

Admission is open to the public and it is free.

Time: Wednesdays, 7:10 p.m.

Place: August Coppola Theater, FA 101, San Francisco State University

August 24 – Andrzej Munk, EROICA, 1958

Two sketches set in World War II reveal that heroism is not a virtue for everyone.

August 31 - Andrzej Wajda, ASHES AND DIAMONDS, 1958

On the night of Poland's liberation from German occupation, young and old, nationalists and communists, continue their struggle.

September 7—Jerzy Kawalerowicz, MOTHER JOAN OF THE ANGELS, 1961

When a priest goes to a small parish in the countryside that is under demonic possession, he finds temptations waiting.

September 14--Krzysztof Zanussi, A WOMAN'S DECISION, 1975

Embezzlement in the office leads a forty-year-old woman to question her own choices.

September 21—Andrzej Wajda, A MAN OF MARBLE, 1977

A documentary filmmaker delves into the life of a workers' hero in the 1950's and discovers unpleasant truths that may prevent her from finishing her film.

September 28— Agnieszka Holland, PROVINCIAL ACTORS, 1979

An aging idol clashes with a young director in the staging of a classical play.

October 5 -- Kazimierz Kutz, THE BEADS OF ONE ROSARY, 1980

The refusal of an old miner to sell his house to the state causes a crisis for his family and himself.

October 12—Jerzy Kawalerowicz, AUSTERIA, 1982

During a pogrom on the eve of World War I, a group of Jews seek refuge from the Cossacks.

- October 19—Juliusz Machulski, SEXMISSION, 1984**
Two scientists wake up after fifty years in hibernation, to find that they are the only two males in a society composed exclusively of women.
- October 26—Ryszard Bugajski, INTERROGATION, 1989**
After a night of drinking, Tonia wakes up in prison and is tortured to confess to a crime she did not commit.
- November 2—Agnieszka Holland, EUROPA, EUROPA, 1990**
A boy in Nazi Germany joins the Hitler Youth to conceal that he is Jewish.
- November 9--Krzysztof Kieslowski, DEKALOG, 1990 (Episodes 5, 6)**
The Ten Commandments are subtly evoked in these portraits of life in the apartments of Warsaw.
- November 16—Wojciech Marczewski, ESCAPE FROM LIBERTY CINEMA, 1990**
During the screening of the film “Daybreak” movie characters begin to talk to the audience, causing a problem for the communist authorities.
- November 23—THANKSGIVING BREAK!**
- November 30--Krzysztof Kieslowski, THREE COLORS: BLUE, 1993**
A woman struggles to find a way to live her life after a car crash kills her husband and daughter. Featuring Juliette Binoche.
- December 7—Wladyslaw Pasikowski, JACK STRONG, 2014**
The true story of the Polish spy of the Cold War who informed Americans of the communist bloc’s top secrets.
- December 14—Borys Lankosz, THE REVERSE, 2009**
Mother and grandmother are unsuccessfully trying to fix up a shy 30-year old daughter with an eligible young man, until a terribly good-looking suitor arrives and everything changes.