



**Department of Slavonic and Finno-Ugrian Studies,
University of Delhi**

With active support from the Embassy of the Czech Republic
and the Embassies of the Russian Federation,
The Republic of Poland, Bulgaria,
Hungary & Croatia
in India

Cordially invites you
To

**Little Europe, 2017
“Diaspora in Cinema”**

A Festival of Films
From
Bulgaria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland and Russia,

23rd October to 30th October, 2017

Audio-Visual Room, Room No-30
First Floor, Tutorial Building,
Department of Slavonic and Finno-Ugrian Studies,
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Little Europe 2017 “Diaspora in cinema”

“Diaspora in cinema” – this year’s film festival ‘Little Europe 2017’ brings together an interesting variety of stories and narratives that deal with this universal phenomenon encompassing not just the 20th century, but the present times as well. Indeed, the direction and the diversity of international migration that is taking place in the twenty-first century is of such magnitude that some social scientists term the contemporary age as “the century of migration”. Several factors have been responsible for the present situation – global economy, multinationals, the international labour market, political instability caused by ethnic conflicts and civil war, the rapid growth of modern transnational media etc. Before this, the 20th century also witnessed various waves of migrations albeit for different reasons. The social, political and economic upheavals, revolutions and conflicts of the 20th century give rise to waves of migration from Russia and countries of East and Central Europe. Thousands of migrants from these countries set out for near and distant lands in search of a safer, freer future without political repressions.

Cinema from all parts of the world has been deft to capture the various facets of these migrations. There are so many films dealing with diaspora that they constitute a separate genre for cinema studies just like diaspora literature. Diasporic films are a truly integral part of contemporary cinema which address the problems and paradoxes of dislocation, exiles and negotiations of differences and belonging. They raise the question of national identity and the nation, imagined and bounded territorial space and depict the difficulties of the uprooted diasporic communities. They draw our attention to the process of cultural assimilation, the fusion of the old way of life and the new, the continuing linkages with the home country, the formation of a new identity etc. Cinema has the advantage of manipulating the past and the present and envisaging the future; here reality and imagination are intertwined to appeal to the aesthetic sense of the audience and at the same time offer it a platform not only for critique but contemplation as well.

We hope that the films selected for this film festival “Diaspora in Cinema” will open new spaces for the students to explore and bring them closer not only to the culture of the languages they are learning, but also sensitize them to the harsh realities of life.

The Film Workshop

The screening of each film will be followed by a workshop conducted by a Film Studies scholar as well as the foreign language teachers of the Department. The objective of the workshop is to allow students to examine and discuss the culture and society of different countries and also encourage the appreciation of cinema as a unique art form. The workshop strives to inculcate a better understanding of the formal and creative aspects of film in an interactive manner, encouraging the students to question and critically analyse what they see.

In particular, the workshop will focus on developing awareness towards the technique, aesthetics and ideology of cinema, such as understanding the nuances of shots, scenes, sequences, lighting, montage, sound, music etc. The workshop will also focus on the different narratives of each film, drawing attention to the varied story lines, difference in cultural values and norms and the individual approach of each director. The workshop will culminate in a presentation by the students about what they liked and learnt from the Film Festival.



23rd October, 2017, Monday

Time: 1.30 pm

Kawasaki's Rose (Kawasakiho růže) 2009

Director: Jan Hrebejk

Writer: Petr Jarchovský (screenplay)

Cast: Lenka Vlasáková, Milan Mikulčík, Martin Huba and others

Duration: 1 hour 40 min.

"Kawasaki's Rose," a film from the Czech director Jan Hrebejk, is the chronicle of two betrayals, separated by three decades and a revolution. Renowned psychiatrist Pavel Josek is singled out to receive a "Memory of the Nation" medal, however, it transpires that this reputedly morally irreproachable dissident once collaborated with state security agencies, informing on a former friend of his wife, Borek, and ultimately being responsible for the latter's forced emigration. Josek's family and close friends try to come to terms with these new facts. **"Kawasaki's Rose"** Jan Hrebejk's political drama examines the misdeeds of the Czechoslovakian secret police and the legacy of Communist dictatorship. The Film was the Czech Oscar entry for 2011.



24th October, 2017, Tuesday

Time: 1.30 pm

Daniel Takes a Train (Szerencsés Dániel), 1983

Director: Pál Sándor

Writer: András Mezei

Cast: Péter Rudolf, Sándor Zsótér, Katalin Szerb and others

Duration: 1 hour 27 minutes

"Daniel Takes a Train", a 1983 Hungarian film was one of the first films to break the governmentally-imposed silence on the 1956 Soviet invasion of Hungary. Directed by Pál Sándor, the film takes a look at one of the turning points in modern European history through the experiences of a young man named Daniel. In the wake of Hungary's failed 1956 uprising against the Soviet Union, Budapest teen Daniel Szerencsés along with his trusted friend Gyuri attempt to escape by train to neighboring, democratic Austria where the family of his girlfriend, Marian, has already found asylum. At the film's conclusion, both Daniel and Gyuri are profoundly traumatized by the Soviet invasion, which comes directly to bear upon their respective personal lives.



25th October, 2017, Wednesday

Time: 1.30 pm

A Bar at the Victoria Station (Bar na Victorii), 2003

Director: Leszek Dawid

Cast: Peter Filip, Marek Zdobylak

Duration: 55 min.

The unemployed thirty-year old men, Mark and Piotek, dread a feeling that there is nothing to wait for in their home town. Opposed to the resigned neighbours, they succeed in resisting their fate and go to London to look for employment.

Through a confidential camera, this socially-critical documentary follows their journey for a promised job right from their block of flats to the dream city. But then the same happens as with many immigrants before: there is no work and the men end up in the streets.

This socially-roughened documentary of direct pictures of characters has been influenced by the heroism of prosaic moments of Ken Loach's films: the men appear to be the underside of society, but they do not resign. The still-following camera, full of inner unease, completes the documentary, in which the adventure of these two men becomes the sector of the social picture of still-changing Europe.



26th October, 2017, Thursday

Time: 1.30 pm

My Uncle's Legacy (Zivot sa stricem) 1988

Director: Krsto Papić

Writer: Ivan Aralica (novel and screenplay), Mate Matišić, Krsto Papić

Cast: Davor Janjić, Alma Prica, Miodrag Krivokapić and others

Duration: 1 hour 56 min.

Krsto Papić's "My Uncle's Legacy" has been simultaneously the most controversial and the most successful Yugoslavian film ever made. It's easy to see why it unflinchingly confronts the evils of the Communist Party in the 1950s, wielding its power exultantly in the wake of Tito's triumphant break with Stalin. The time is 1987. The camera picks up an elderly man in a bathrobe and pajamas shuffling across a stately Zagreb square. He makes his way to the book-strewn apartment of his nephew, a prominent middle-aged writer, and asks for a glass of water. What he is really asking for is forgiveness of the younger man, whom he has not seen in 36 years. He also asks that a priest officiate at his funeral, a scandalous request for a man who has been a top party official.



27th October, 2017, Friday

Time: 1.30 pm

Passport (Паспорт), 1990

Director: Georgiy Daneliya

Writers: Georgiy Daneliya, Revaz Gabriadze

Cast: Gérard Darmon, Natalya Gundareva, Oleg Yankovskiy and others

Duration: 1 hour 43 min.

A man, who is mistaken for his brother who was immigrating to Israel from USSR, finds himself caught up in the middle of a beaurocratic mess when he realizes that if he tells the truth about who he is, he will go to jail and his brother's family will never be allowed to leave the USSR. He therefore assumes his brother's identity to get to Israel hoping his distant uncle living there will help him out. The plan backfires, however, when he realizes that the uncle is a paranoid lunatic thinking the KGB is out to get him. He becomes stranded in Israel with no friends, no money, and no passport, trying to figure out a way to get back home.



30th October, 2017, Monday

Time: 1.30 pm

Forecast (Прогноза), 2009

Director: Zornitsa Sophia

Writers: Emil Bonev, Alexey Kozhuharov

Cast: Assen Blatechki, Teodora Duhovnikova, Kresimir Mikic and others

Duration: 1 hour 37 min.

The Bulgarian film "Forecast" by Director Zornitsa Sofia is about love, friendship, Balkan relationships and the encounter of different cultures and values. Margarita leaves the famous reporter Marco Matanich, joining her brother and his friends from different Balkan countries, windsurfing on an island. But the wind stops and a beach war-game begins. To prove his skills to Margarita, Marco shoots them in reportage. Quoted by leading media it fires a Balkan conflict, the friends start building national borders between their tents, while Margarita disappears in the open sea. Charged with energy and positivism, the film has a happy ending.

31st October, 2017, Tuesday

2.00 pm

Presentation by the students
Closing of the Film Festival

All films are provided with English subtitles.