

**ADVANCING
SOCIAL JUSTICE
IN TIMES OF CRISIS** **FILMS**

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 9

10:00am

Capitalism Hits the Fan
Richard Wolff

Richard Wolff breaks down the root causes of today's economic crisis, showing how it was decades in the making and reflects seismic failures within the structures of American-style capitalism itself. By placing the crisis within this larger historical and systemic frame, Wolff argues that the proposed government "bailouts," stimulus packages, and calls for increased market regulation will not address the real causes of the crisis - in the end suggesting that far more fundamental change will be necessary to avoid future catastrophes. Richly illustrated with motion graphics and charts, this is a superb introduction designed to help ordinary citizens understand, and react to, the unraveling economic crisis.

11:00am

City of Trash
Patricia B Cohen

This short documentary traces cartoneros in Brazil and Argentina through the process of paper recycling, exploring social justice issues.

11:25am

Tum ho
Ashraf Karkar*

A short film about eunuchs in Pakistan and the social stigma attached to them.

11:50am

Bodies/Borders: The Journey
Maria Amelia Viteri*

What makes you a man or a woman? Following the many crossroads of the body, this documentary marks the beginning of a journey where graduate students, activists, academics and artists are unexpectedly united by a political and activist performance. By questioning the borders of 'masculine' and 'feminine' this unlikely coalition breaks with traditional meanings around what is considered to be "man" and/or "woman" inviting the audience to expand their views. Bodies/Borders: The Journey begins to re-draw the city's geography calling into question the unequal access to public spaces. This documentary invites you to also question the borders of your body.

1:45pm

Cooperativa Püporé
Valeria Treves

Having traveled to Argentina in 2006 when the country was recovering from its recession, media activist Valeria Treves brings us a documentary profiling Cooperativa Püporé, a small shoe producer in La Matanza, an impoverished sector in the outskirts of Buenos Aires. As the workers explain, forming a cooperative has not only meant earning their livelihood but also a fundamental change in their relation to work and to their community.

2:00pm

Poto Mitan
Mark Schuller*

Told through lives of five courageous Haitian women workers, Poto Mitan gives the global economy a human face. Each personal story explains how neoliberal globalization is gendered, and how it impacts Haiti: inhumane working/living conditions, violence, poverty, lack of education, and poor health care. Through their collective activism, these women demonstrate that despite monumental obstacles in a poor country like Haiti, collective action makes change possible. These five brave women demonstrate that despite monumental obstacles in a poor country like Haiti, collective action makes change possible.

3:30pm

Very Young Girls
David Schisgall, Nina Alvarez and Priya Swaminathan

Very Young Girls is an expose of human trafficking that follows thirteen and fourteen year old American girls as they are seduced, abused, and sold on New York's streets by pimps, and treated as adult criminals by police. The film identifies hope for these girls in the organization GEMS, a recovery center founded and run by Rachel Lloyd, herself a survivor of sexual exploitation. Given a chance to piece their lives back together, some will succeed, but many will remain suspended on the edge of two different worlds consistently battling the force that will suck them back into the underground. Very Young Girls' unprecedented access to girls and pimps will change the way law enforcement, the media, and society as a whole look at sexual exploitation, street prostitution and human trafficking that is happening right in our own backyard.

* filmmaker or representative will be present for discussion

**ADVANCING
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SATURDAY, OCTOBER 10

10:15am

Your Name is My Name

Osato Dixon*

In 2007 African-American Albino, Osato Dixon, was awarded a Fulbright Fellowship to Zimbabwe, to produce a documentary that explores the lives of albino children. Although the political climate erupted into chaos, Osato continued to document the struggle of these children. This documentary is an in-depth look into that journey. Most NGOs within Africa are not aware of the likely death from skin cancer that these children face or even the pervasive cultural discrimination that ultimately proves to be just as deadly. Their stories reflect the tragedy that has affected their lives but their actions demonstrate their hope for the future.

10:30am

From Duluth to Balad

Michael Latsch*

Close Air Support, the military mission of dropping bombs to aid troops fighting on the ground has become a political flashpoint in the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq. Lightning airstrikes intended to save the lives of U.S. soldiers kill noncombatants with horrifying regularity, and have contributed to undermining the legitimacy of the U.S. and NATO projects there. In Duluth, MN, an Air National Guard fighter wing was formed in 1948 to provide air defense over the northern approaches to the nation. As with all units of the Guard and Reserves, the unit was bureaucratically incorporated into the war plans of the U.S. in the late 1990s. The "Global War on Terror" has made this incorporation graphically real with the Duluth wing deploying to Balad, Iraq three times since 2005. "From Duluth to Balad" asks Duluth, and by extension, all communities that host Guard and Reserve units, what sort of support they should give their citizen soldiers.

11:05pm

Stealing a Nation

Pohn Pilger

A film about the plight of people of the Chagos Islands in the Indian Ocean - secretly and brutally expelled from their homeland by British governments in the late 1960s and early 1970s, to make way for an American military base. The base, on the main island of Diego Garcia, was a launch pad for the invasions of Afghanistan and Iraq. Stealing a Nation has won both the Royal Television Society's top award as Britain's best documentary in 2004-5, and a 'Chris Award' at the Columbus International Film and Video Festival. (discussed by David Vine* and Olivier Bancoult*)

2:30

El Porvenir

Oscar Estrada

On the morning of April 5, 2003, news broke of a violent clash between members of the Mara 18 gang and common prisoners at the El Porvenir penal farm in La Ceiba, Honduras. When the fighting was over, 69 people, mainly gang members, were dead—most of them shot, stabbed, beaten or burned. Although prison officials initially claimed that the Mara 18 had initiated the violence and set the deadly fire in their cellblock, subsequent evidence revealed that the conflict was a premeditated massacre in which prison authorities were actively involved in the execution of unarmed gang members. In "El Porvenir," survivors and families of the victims tell the story of what happened that day and of their subsequent struggles for truth and justice. Using the tragedy as a springboard, the film also explores the broader issue of gangs in Honduras. While members of Honduran society agree it is a problem in need of a solution, the roots of the problem and the means to solve it aren't easy questions to answer. (discussed by Adrienne Pine*)

3:40pm

Roots of Migration

Mikel Barton

This film explores why millions of migrant workers and families risk their lives to cross the U.S./ Mexico border, how U.S. policies are responsible, and what can be done.

4:15pm

Filmmaker Discussion

Using Film to Advance Social Justice

Including: Ashraf Karkar, Maria Amelia Viteri, Mark Schuller, Osato Dixon,
Michael Latsch, David Vine, Olivier Bancoult, and Adrienne Pine

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