"(Re)Defining Power: Paradigms of Praxis"
Film Festival Program
8th Annual Public Anthropology Conference
American University, Washington DC

*All screenings will be followed by a short discussion session with the film’s producer or a designated presenter. Snacks will be served.

Saturday, October 15th

10:00 AM  Ward 2

A-Way From Paolo Sarpi: Ethnographic Reportage from the Milan’s Chinatown

49 minutes
Director: Lidia K.C. Manzo
Presenter: Lidia K.C. Manzo

Not all the spaces are so strongly loaded with cultural and political baggage as “Chinatown” of Milan, where a handful of roads and the global flow of Chinese goods and the daily routines of elderly people and families are merged. This documentary presents the images of the extreme vitality of the Chinese second generation together with their ethnic economic success. At the same time we could see the political rhetoric against cultural diversity in Milan city. This is a network of prospects very changeable, that if one side carries the urban conflict, on the other emerges an interesting cultural variety.

1:00 PM  Ward 2

The Mountain Music Project: A Musical Odyssey from Appalachia to Himalaya

57 minutes
Producers: Tara Linhardt, Jake Chance, Danny Knicely
Presenters: Tara Linhardt and Ted Samuel

Following the journey of two bluegrass musicians from the hills of Virginia to the mountains of rural Nepal, The Mountain Music Project explores the extraordinary similarities between Appalachian and Nepali Himalayan folk music and culture. The film, shot in both Nepal and Virginia, has great interviews, scenes, and music with influential musicians who have grown up in the mountain music cultures, weaving an touching and enlightening story of the evolution and realities of the music and the culture and the people who live it.
For the Ngarrindjeri people of South Australia, the living and the dead are connected through shared land and heritage. The preservation of this connection is at the heart of the community’s effort to repatriate the bones of its ancestors.

Subject to strict controls in the UK, three women asylum seekers wait for claims to be processed and decisions made. Arriving from Africa and Asia to be housed in Greater Manchester, they rely on informal networks to get by. They find the lives which they fled to save put on indefinite hold.

This short documentary is a work in progress that explores the historical and cultural importance of Crummell School, an old public school building, to the community of Ivy City in Northeast Washington DC where it is located. The film seeks to involve the community through active participation by contributing oral history, narrating sections and expressing their views on what they would like to see happen to the school.
20 Minutes...An American Tale

24 minutes
Director, Writer: G. Lloyd Morris (The Morris Project)
Presenter: G. Lloyd Morris

After being released from prison, Evan has vowed that he is done with the life that has cost him his freedom. Though frustrated with broken promises, his brother Miles agrees to let Evan stay with him. The catch: 'Be here in 20 minutes, otherwise, stay where you're at.' So begins the journey to pass through his old surrounding to reach his new opportunity. Aware of his responsibilities - a child, a promise to his brother, and the pledge to himself to never return to jail - Evan has 20 minutes to decide. Does he make it?

Sunday, October 15th

Audism Unveiled

57 minutes
Producers: Dirksen Bauman, Benjamin Bahan, and Facundo Montenegro.
Presenter: Bridget Klein

Audism noun: the notion that one is superior based on one's ability to hear and speak, or behave in the manner of one who hears and speaks. This powerful documentary uses real life experiences from Deaf people of varied social, racial and educational backgrounds - showing how audism does lasting and harmful damage. As they share their struggles with this emotionally charged matter, they reveal the scars that may never heal.

EXODUS: A Deaf Jewish Family Escapes the Holocaust

25 minutes
Producer: Patti Durr
Presenter Patti Durr

A short documentary about the Wiener/Rattner family's flight from Nazi occupied Austria and their detainment on Ellis Island.
**The Deaf Man**

Length: 8 Min  
Director, Writer: David Kurs  
Presenter: Patti Durr

*A deaf man is held against his wishes by an unseen narrator who persuasively invites the audience to question how this man might function in the real world.*

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**(Still) Working on a Dream**

20 minutes  
Directors: Melissa Maldonado-Salcedo and Pablo Gaston Alvarez  
Presenters: Melissa Maldonado-Salcedo and Pablo Gaston Alvarez

*(Still) Working On a Dream gives a snapshot into the lives of women "Dreamers" who attend Hunter College (a Public University in New York.) They contemplate their identity as undocumented American citizens. They consider their options as they work on their dreams to become the best persons they could possibly be in this country via a college education.*

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**War**

37 minutes  
Director, Producer: Arvind Singh  
Presenter: Arvind Singh

*Evolved through a South Asian lens, War observes a slice of “war hit” America and peace movement emerging in response to post 9/11 wars. The filmmaker, a human-rights attorney and a documentarian from India goes and lives with the members of Codepink, an anti war group, in the house rented by them in Washington DC. Here, she encounters an army nurse transforming into a staunch opponent of war. In the painful harmonies of 1960s songs, one can hear the transmission of a peace activist sensibility and the moral imperative of maintaining opposition to government policies and social attitudes that pursue wars over resources and ideology.*
Roots of Love

27 minutes
Director: Harjant Gill
Presenter: Harjant Gill

Told through the stories of six different men ranging in age from fourteen to eighty-six, Roots of Love documents the changing significance of hair and the turban among Sikhs in India. We see younger Sikh men abandoning their hair and turban to follow the current fashion trends, while the older generation struggles to retain the visible symbols of their religious identity. The film is a timely and relevant exploration of the inherent conflict between tradition and modernity, between pragmatism and faith. The choice of cutting one’s hair is one that not only concerns the individual and his family, but an entire community.

Special Sneak Preview of Fine Cut of "Through the Eye of the Needle: The Art of Esther NisenthalKrinitz"

30 minutes
Director: Nina Shapiro-Perl
Presenter: Nina Shapiro-Perl

"Through the Eye of the Needle” follows the journey of Esther NisenthalKrinitz, a Holocaust survivor and seamstress who created a series of tapestries to share her experiences as a 15-year old girl fleeing the Nazis. Searching for a way to keep alive the memory of the family she lost, she picked up her needle and went back in time… creating an eyewitness account … and timeless art. The film tells us about Esther’s character, spirit, artistry and the human capacity to create and heal. But more than that, it reminds us of the danger of labeling someone as “the other,” and that we are called to link arms across gender, race, sexual orientation, religion and community to win peace and justice for all people.

The Charleston 5

Length: 52 min
Director: Paul Durrenberger
Presenter: Paul Durrenberger