DAYS OF HEAVEN
dir. Terrence Malick | 1978 | 94 min | PG
Sunday, Feb. 4 @ 1:30pm
Tuesday, Feb. 13 @ 7:00pm
Richard Gere, Brooke Adams, and Linda Manz star as a trio of Chicagoans trying to make a new life working on a Texas wheat farm during WWI. Winning an Oscar for Best Cinematography, the film’s painterly compositions, shot mostly during the golden hour, are breathtaking. New 4K restoration.

MAHJONG
dir. Edward Yang | 1996 | 121 min | NR | Mandarin w/subs
Sunday, Feb. 18 at 1:30pm
Tuesday, Feb. 27 at 7:00pm
MAHJONG follows several intertwined tales of greed, violence, and shattered principles in an acerbic, sprawling tragicomedy—a poison love letter to Taipei as a rising cosmopolis of big money, big dreams, and big cons. Taiwanese director Edward Yang’s penultimate film has been, until now, nearly impossible to see. New 4K restoration.

BUSHMAN
dir. David Schickele | 1971 | 73 min | NR
Sunday, March 3 at 1:30pm
Tuesday, March 12 at 7:00pm
In 1968, Peace Corps veteran David Schickele enlisted his friend Paul Eyam Nzie Okpokam to star in a comedy about a well-educated Nigerian immigrant in San Francisco, resulting in a vibrant snapshot of place and time. But BUSHMAN morphs into documentary when Okpokam is arrested for a crime he did not commit. New 4K restoration.

FAREWELL MY CONCUBINE
dir. Chen Kaige | 1993 | 170 min | NR | Mandarin w/subs
Sunday, March 24 at 1:00pm
Tuesday, April 2 at 7:00pm
This passionate epic follows two young stars of the Beijing Opera House (Leslie Cheung and Fengyi Zhang) and their turbulent relationship. Opening in 1924, the decades-long story intertwines with half a century of Chinese history. Includes 20 minutes cut from its original U.S. release. New 4K restoration.

PANDORA’S BOX
dir. G.W. Pabst | 1929 | 133 min | NR
Sunday, April 7 at 1:30pm
Tuesday, April 16 at 7:00pm
Sensationally modern, G.W. Pabst’s lurid masterpiece of silent cinema follows the downward spiral of the fiery, brash, yet innocent showgirl Lulu (Jazz Age icon Louise Brooks), whose sexual vivacity has a devastating effect on everyone with whom she comes in contact. New 2K restoration.

FINDING CHRISTA
dir. Camille Billops, James Hatch | 1991 | 59 min | NR
Monday, March 25 @ 7:00pm
Post-film discussion with Daphne Lamothe, Professor of Africana Studies, Smith College. This startlingly personal documentary explores the feelings surrounding the reunion between filmmaker Camille Billops and her own daughter, 20 years after she was given up for adoption. New 2K restoration.

FAREWELL MY CONCUBINE

→ Restorations continue on the next page
FROM BEHIND THE SCREEN
Yasmin Chin Eisenhauer, Executive Director

Dear film friends,

When you see a film at Amherst Cinema, we hope you also see yourself. Whether you relate to a specific character or encounter a storyline that resonates with your own lived experience, representation is an important lens through which we deliver our programming.

This season, we shine a spotlight on women working in film. Our Cinema Seminars feature four pros leading change in the industry. Ukrainian filmmaker Iryna Tsilyk delves into the complicated work of filmmaking in times of war, while independent filmmaker Anaiis Cisco sheds light on revolutionary ideas in Black indie cinema. Two Hollywood trailblazers, casting director Cindy Tolan and sound editor Midge Costin, share insights from their storied careers (including that time Midge was invited to Barbra Streisand’s home—yup, I just name-dropped!).

While our films may reinforce a sense of belonging and connection, they also hold the promise of transformation. The most impactful stories change us, helping us feel, see, and make sense of the world from different perspectives. You may leave the theater a little lighter from laughter (BUT I’M A CHEERLEADER), blown away by breathtaking cinematography (DAYS OF HEAVEN), or inspired by experts who make us curious to dig deeper (take your pick of incredible Science on Screen® programs).

Storytelling is an expression of our shared humanity, and, at Amherst Cinema, we bring stories to life on the big screen. Whatever your pleasure, we’re holding a seat for you.

As always, thank you for supporting Amherst Cinema and for being a part of our amazing community. We hope you’ll consider joining us for one or more programs. If you’re not currently a Member, we encourage you to become one today. Membership perks include discounted admissions, free popcorn, and most importantly, the knowledge that you’re championing a home for the film arts in Western Massachusetts.

With gratitude,

Yours truly,

Yasmin Chin Eisenhauer
Executive Director

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LE SAMOURAÏ

dir. Jean-Pierre Melville | 1967 | 105 min | NR | French w/subs
Sunday, April 28 at 1:30 & Tuesday, May 7 at 7:00
In a career-defining performance, Alain Delon plays a contract killer with samurai instincts. A razor-sharp cocktail of ‘40s American gangster cinema and ‘60s French pop culture—with a liberal dose of Japanese lone-warrior mythology—LE SAMOURAÏ oozes cool. **New 4K restoration.**

HOUSEHOLD SAINTS

dir. Nancy Savoca | 1993 | 125 min | R
Sunday, May 12 at 1:30 & Tuesday, May 21 at 7:00
Nancy Savoca’s star-studded indie gem is a chronicle of three generations of a spirited Italian-American New York family. Perfectly balancing humor, tragedy, and pathos, HOUSEHOLD SAINTS stars Vincent D’Onofrio, Tracey Ullman, Illeana Douglas, Michael Imperioli, and more. **New 4K restoration.**

PAINTING THE MODERN GARDEN: MONET TO MATISSE (Encore)

dir. David Bickerstaff | 2016 | 93 min | NR
Wednesday, Feb. 28 at 7:00 & Saturday, March 9 at 1:30
Shot at the Royal Academy of Arts, London, this remarkable collection of Impressionists, Post-Impressionists, and avant-garde artists of the early 20th century reveals the rise of the modern garden in popular culture.

JOHN SINGER SARGENT: FASHION & SWAGGER

dir. David Bickerstaff | 2024 | 90 min | NR
Wednesday, April 17 at 7:00 & Saturday, May 4 at 1:30
Filmed at the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston and the Tate Britain, London, step into the glittering world of fashion, scandal, and shameless self-promotion that made John Singer Sargent the painter who defined an era.
Take a deep dive into film worlds both new and familiar with Cinema Seminars. Designed as a communal and conversational experience, Cinema Seminars offer participants the opportunity to explore, engage, and foster new understandings of the film form within historical and cultural contexts. Curious learners of all levels are welcome!

Seminar: “Filmmaking in Times of War”

**ROCK.PAPER.GRENADE**
**dir. Iryna Tsilyk | 2022 | 92 min | NR | Ukrainian w/subs**
**Wednesday, March 27: Film at 7:00PM, seminar to follow**
Presented by filmmaker Iryna Tsilyk and moderated by Ivan Kozenko, Visiting Researcher at Amherst College. This drama tells the story of a young boy growing up in a shaky, post-Soviet Ukraine, who, looking for a mentor, befriends an Afghan war veteran. After the film, Iryna Tsilyk and Ivan Kozenko discuss working across modes of documentary, feature film, and animation, and adapting literature for the screen.
Co-presented with the 2024 Massachusetts Multicultural Film Festival. Free to the general public.

Seminar: “Breakthroughs in Black Cinema”

**LOSING GROUND**
**dir. Kathleen Collins | 1982 | 86 min | NR**
**Wednesday, April 3: Seminar at 7:00PM, film to follow**
Presented by filmmaker Anaiis Cisco, Assistant Professor of Film & Media Studies, Smith College. Sara (Seret Scott), a philosophy professor, and her husband, Victor (Bill Gunn), an ecstatic painter, spend a summer away from the city, straining their already rocky relationship. In this seminar, Anaiis Cisco explores the aesthetics of LOSING GROUND and its nuanced portrayal of Black female sexuality. The film navigates the interiority of Black womanhood while also illuminating alternate routes for independent filmmaking.

Seminar: “From Beale Street to Batman: Casting a Major Motion Picture”

**WEST SIDE STORY**
**dir. Steven Spielberg | 2021 | 156 min | PG-13**
**Saturday, April 20: Seminar at 12:30PM, film to follow**
Presented by Cindy Tolan, Casting Director. From understanding the director’s vision to identifying the right talent, film casting is an art form. In this seminar, award-winning casting director Cindy Tolan shares stories from her career in casting for major films including IF BEALE STREET COULD TALK, STRAIGHT OUTTA COMPTON, THE FABELMANS, and THE BATMAN. Following the seminar, join us for Steven Spielberg’s WEST SIDE STORY, one of Tolan’s celebrated recent films with a huge ensemble cast.

Seminar: “Beyond the Visual: Exploring the Art and Craft of Sound”

**MAKING WAVES: THE ART OF CINEMATIC SOUND**
**dir. Midge Costin | 2019 | 94 min | NR**
**Tuesday, May 14: Film at 7:00PM, seminar to follow**
Presented by filmmaker and sound editor Midge Costin, Professor of Cinematic Arts, University of Southern California, and moderated by Nina Kleinberg. In MAKING WAVES, Midge Costin reveals the hidden power of sound in cinema through film clips and insight from visionary directors and sound designers. Following the film, Costin shares highlights from her career as a Hollywood sound editor and passionate teacher and advocate for the creative use of sound in the cinematic arts.

**A Thousand Words**
This new series invites writers, poets, and novelists to Amherst Cinema, asking each guest to program a film accompanying a discussion around their use of the written word in relationship to the moving image. Discover how the selected film inspires them, and where it intersects with their practice.

**MIRROR**
**dir. Andrei Tarkovsky | 1974 | 106 min | NR | Russian w/subs**
**Thursday, May 2 at 7:00PM**
For this inaugural screening, we are joined by poet Polina Barskova, Assistant Professor of Slavic Languages and Literature, University of California, Berkeley. A senses-ravishing odyssey through the halls of time and memory, Andrei Tarkovsky’s sublime reflection on 20th century Russian history is as much a film as it is a poem composed in images, as much a work of cinema as it is a hypnagogic hallucination.
Featuring fresh approaches to fiction, non-fiction, and experimental works, the Bellwether series welcomes artists to the Amherst Cinema stage, putting filmmakers and filmgoers together in conversation. Bellwether screenings are free to Amherst Cinema Members.

**THE CRAFT**
dir. Andrew Fleming | 1996 | 101 min | R
**Friday, Feb. 2 @ 9:45pm**
Four high school misfits who experiment with witchcraft must deal with the consequences of their newfound abilities.

**PHANTASM**
dir. Don Coscarelli | 1979 | 88 min | R
**Friday, Feb. 9 @ 9:45pm**
A teenage boy and his friends face off against a mysterious grave robber, known as the Tall Man, who employs a lethal arsenal of unearthly weapons.

**NOWHERE (Director’s Cut)**
dir. Gregg Araki | 1997 | 83 min | R
**Friday, Feb. 16 @ 9:45pm**
This Los Angeles-set cult classic follows a group of queer adolescent outsiders over the course of a single day and ensuing night, all leading up to a huge party. (Plus aliens.) New 4k restoration.

**BLACK DYNAMITE**
dir. Scott Sanders | 2009 | 84 min | R
**Friday, Feb. 23 @ 9:45pm**
Director Scott Sanders, along with co-writer and star Michael Jai White, crafts a scalpel-sharp satire of 70s Blaxploitation cinema, right down to the Naugahyde jackets and outrageously large Afros.

**CONFESSIONS OF A GOOD SAMARITAN**
dir. Penny Lane | 2023 | 105 min | NR
**Thursday, Feb. 29 @ 7:00pm**
Post-film Q&A with filmmaker Penny Lane. Who is your neighbor, and what do you owe them? Director Penny Lane’s decision to become a “Good Samaritan” organ donor by giving one of her kidneys to a stranger launches her on an unexpectedly funny, intimate, and provocative quest to understand why everyone seems to think she’s crazy.

**THE RAID: REDEMPTION**
dir. Gareth Evans | 2011 | 101 min | R | Indonesian w/subs
**Friday, March 1 @ 9:45pm**
In one of the great action films of the 21st century, a S.W.A.T. team in Jakarta must escape a tenement run by a ruthless mobster and his army of killers.

**POSSESSION**
dir. Andrzej Żuławski | 1981 | 124 min | R
**Friday, March 8 @ 9:45pm**
Starring Isabelle Adjani and Sam Neil, this stunningly choreographed nightmare of a marriage unraveling is an experience unlike any other.

**THE CHURCH (LA CHIESA)**
dir. Michele Soavi | 1989 | 102 min | R
**Friday, March 15 @ 9:45pm**
When a mysterious crypt is opened, a group of tourists and church staff find themselves possessed by unleashed demonic forces. Co-written and produced by Dario Argento. New 4k restoration.

**RIDDLE OF FIRE**
dir. Weston Razzoli | 2024 | 113 min | PG-13
**Friday, March 22 @ 9:45pm**
Three rascal children run afoul of an enigmatic, gun-toting coven in this whimsical neo-fairytale. Evoking a menagerie of esoteric genres, this selection of TIFF and Fantastic Fest was gorgeously shot on 16mm.

**BUT I’M A CHEERLEADER**
dir. Jamie Babbit | 1999 | 90 min | R
**Friday, March 29 @ 9:45pm**
Natasha Lyonne plays Megan, whose suburban existence is upended when her straight-laced parents suspect she may be a lesbian.

**MESSIAH OF EVIL**
dir. Willard Huyck, Gloria Katz | 1973 | 90 min | R
**Friday, April 5 @ 9:45pm**
A young woman searching for her missing father visits a strange California seaside town governed by a mysterious undead cult. New 4k restoration.

**RUNAWAY NIGHTMARE**
dir. Mike Cartel | 1982 | 94 min | NR
**Friday, April 12 @ 9:45pm**
In this unclassifiable work of outsider cinema, two Death Valley worm farmers are kidnapped by an all-female cult of gun runners who plan to steal a suitcase full of platinum from the mafia.
ENCANTO SING-ALONG  
dir. Jared Bush, Byron Howard, Charise Castro Smith  
2021 | 102 min | PG  
Saturday, May 25 @ 12:45 pm  
Following a sold-out screening last spring, the magical ENCANTO sing-along returns to the Amherst Cinema screen!

VANYA  
dir. Sam Yates  
2024 | 110 min  
Thursday, March 16 @ 12:30 pm  
Chris Rohmann, theatre critic and director, and John Bechtold, ARPS Performing Arts Department Head, join us on March 16 for a post-screening discussion. Andrew Scott brings multiple characters to life in Simon Stephens’s radical new version of Chekhov’s Uncle Vanya.

FLEABAG (Encore)  
dir. Vicky Jones  
2019 | 80 min  
Thursday, April 25 @ 7:00 pm & Saturday, May 11 @ 12:30 pm  
Don’t miss encores of Phoebe Waller-Bridge’s hilarious one-woman show that inspired the BBC’s hit TV series Fleabag, recorded in 2019.

NYE  
dir. Rufus Norris  
2024 | 160 min  
Thursday, May 23 @ 7:00 pm & Saturday, June 8 @ 12:30 pm  
Michael Sheen plays Nye Bevan in a surreal and spectacular journey through the life and legacy of the man who led the battle to create the National Health Service. Confronted with death, Bevan’s deepest memories lead him on a mind-bending journey across the timeline of his existence.

BEAUTY AND THE BEAST SING-ALONG  
dir. Gary Trousdale, Kirk Wise  
1991 | 84 min | G  
Saturday, Feb. 24 @ 12:45 pm  
This sing-along version of Disney’s 1991 animated hit features on-screen lyrics. Lend your voice to “Beauty and the Beast,” “Be Our Guest,” “Belle,” and more!

PADDINGTON  
dir. Paul King  
2014 | 95 min | PG  
Saturday, March 23 @ 12:45 pm  
In this gentle adaptation of the children’s book, a young Peruvian bear travels to London in search of a home. Finding himself lost and alone at Paddington Station, he meets the kindly Brown family, who offer him a temporary haven.

THE MOTIVE AND THE CUE  
dir. Sam Mendes  
2024 | 180 min  
Thursday, March 21 @ 7:00 pm & Saturday, April 6 @ 12:30 pm  
In 1964, Richard Burton (Johnny Flynn) is to play the title role in an experimental new Broadway production of Hamlet under the exacting direction of John Gielgud (Mark Gatiss). But as rehearsals progress, the collaboration between actor and director threatens to unravel.

THE SAFETY LAST!  
dir. Fred C. Newmeyer, Sam Taylor  
1923 | 74 min | NR  
Saturday, Feb. 22 @ 7:00 pm & Saturday, March 16 @ 12:30 pm  
Needing dough to marry his sweetheart, lowly salesclerk Harold Lloyd cooks up a million dollar “human fly” publicity stunt. Shot on rooftop sets over a real downtown L.A., this slapstick classic is a hilarious, accessible introduction to silent film.

DIFFERENT FILMS WILL BE APPROPRIATE FOR DIFFERENT CHILDREN AT DIFFERENT AGES. WE RECOMMEND COMMON SENSE MEDIA AND THE PARENTS GUIDE SECTION OF IMDB.COM AS HELPFUL RESOURCES IN DETERMINING WHAT’S RIGHT FOR YOUR CHILD.
In addition to the special events listed in this newsletter, Amherst Cinema shows new-release films on four screens every day of the year. Visit our website to discover our daily offerings and any newly added special events. Tickets are available online and at our physical box office.

**Science on Screen® presents creative pairings of current, classic, and cult films with lively introductions by notable figures in the fields of science, technology, and medicine.**

Science on Screen is an initiative of the Coolidge Corner Theatre with major support from the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation.

**AMMONITE**
*dir. Francis Lee | 2020 | 117 min | R*
**Wednesday, Feb. 21 @ 7:00PM**
In 1840s England, fossil hunter Mary Anning (Kate Winslet) and a young woman (Saoirse Ronan) sent to convalesce by the sea develop an intense relationship, altering their lives forever. **Speaker: Sara Pruss, Professor of Geosciences, Smith College. “Colossal fossils: The trailblazing contributions of Mary Anning in the Heroic Age of Geology”**

**RAIDERS OF THE LOST ARK**
*dir. Steven Spielberg | 1981 | 115 min | PG*
**Monday, March 4 @ 7:00PM**
In 1936, archaeologist and adventurer Indiana Jones is hired to find the Ark of the Covenant before the Nazis can obtain its awesome powers. **Speaker: Victoria Reed, Sadler Curator for Provenance, Museum of Fine Arts, Boston. “Finders keepers? Louted art and artifacts, and the case for repatriation”**

**PLANET OF THE APES**
*dir. Franklin J. Schaffner | 1968 | 112 min | G*
**Wednesday, March 13 @ 7:00PM**
An astronaut crew crash-lands on a planet where highly intelligent apes are dominant and humans are enslaved. **Speaker: Tara Mandalaywala, Assistant Professor, Dept. of Psychological and Brain Sciences, UMass Amherst. “Who’s the damn dirty ape now? What PLANET OF THE APES got right (and wrong) about life as a great ape”**