In addition to the special events in this newsletter, Amherst Cinema shows current-release film on four screens every day. Visit amherstcinema.org and join our weekly e-newsletter for the latest offerings.

AGNÈS Varda

Amherst Cinema celebrates this playful visionary of the French New Wave with six films spanning five decades of filmmaking.

CLÉO FROM 5 TO 7
Dir. Agnès Varda, 1962, NR, 89 min, French w/subtitles
Sunday September 30, 2pm
Tuesday October 2, 7pm
Varda eloquently captures 1962 Paris with this real-time portrait of a singer (Corinne Marchand) set adrift in the city as she awaits the results of a biopsy. This spirited mix of vivid vérité and melodrama features a score by Michel Legrand and cameos by Jean-Luc Godard and Anna Karina.

DOUBLE FEATURE:
LE BONHEUR
Dir. Agnès Varda, 1965, NR, 80 min, French w/subtitles
BLACK PANTHERS
Dir. Agnès Varda, 1968, NR, 28 min
Sunday October 7, 2pm
Tuesday October 9, 7pm
Enjoy two of Varda’s mid-to-late-’60s films in this double feature. In feature LE BONHEUR, a young husband and father finds himself falling unquestioningly into an affair with an attractive postal worker, examining the ideas of fidelity and happiness in a modern, self-centered world. In documentary short BLACK PANTHERS, shot in Oakland during the summer of 1968, Varda turns her camera on a demonstration against the imprisonment of activist and Black Panthers co-founder Huey P. Newton.

ONE SINGS, THE OTHER DOESN’T
Dir. Agnès Varda, 1977, NR, 120 min, French w/subtitles
Sunday October 14, 2pm
Tuesday October 16, 7pm
This unsung feminist anthem is both a buoyant chronicle of a transformative friendship and an empowering vision of universal sisterhood.

VAGABOND
Dir. Agnès Varda, 1985, NR, 105 min, French w/subtitles
Sunday October 21, 2pm
Tuesday October 23, 7pm
Sandrine Bonnaire won the Best Actress César for her portrayal of defiant young drifter Mona. Her story is told through flashbacks by those who encountered her, a splintered portrait of an enigmatic woman.

THE BEACHES OF AGNÈS
Dir. Agnès Varda, 2008, NR, 110 min, French w/subtitles
Sunday October 28, 2pm
Tuesday October 30, 7pm
BEACHES synthesizes fifty years of filmmaking and eighty years of a life well-lived. Stories of Varda’s childhood in Brussels, her adolescence in occupied Paris, Los Angeles in the ’60s, and life in her Paris neighborhood are melded with clips from both documentary and fiction work.

NEW FILMS FROM GERMANY
Amherst Cinema and the Goethe-Institut Boston present New Films From Germany, focusing on the work of emerging directors. An additional film will be announced for December 16, and the series will continue into 2019.

A DYSFUNCTIONAL CAT
Dir. Susan Gordanshekan, 2018, NR, 93 min, German and Persian w/subtitles
Sunday October 14, 10:30am
Mina, from Iran, leaves home for Germany to marry Kian, an Iranian-German assistant doctor. They try to make their arranged marriage work, but an adopted cat widens the gap between the two and jeopardizes their attempts to embrace their new life.

THE SILENT REVOLUTION
Dir. Lars Kraume, 2018, NR, 111 min, German w/subtitles
Sunday November 4, 10:30am
A group of sixth-grade pupils in 1956 East Germany decide to show their solidarity with the victims of the Hungarian uprising by staging a minute’s silence during lessons. While the headmaster plays it off as an act of youthful folly, the children become objects of political machinations of the fledgling government.
The Bellwether series presents innovative films coming from new voices with fresh approaches to fiction, non-fiction, and experimental cinema.

Filmmakers visit Amherst Cinema and discuss their films during engaging post-screening Q&As with the audience.

Bellwether films are free to Amherst Cinema Members!

An additional Bellwether film will be announced for Thursday October 18. Once confirmed, program info will be available at amherstcinema.org.

SHAKEDOWN
Dir. Leilah Weinraub, 2018, NR, 82 min
Thursday November 15, 7pm
Through incredible archival footage and interviews, SHAKEDOWN chronicles a series of parties at underground lesbian strip clubs in mid-00’s Los Angeles. The Shakedown scene existed as one of the few spaces in the city for lesbian subculture, which brought together and galvanized a community of queer people of color. Official selection, Berlin International Film Festival. Director Leilah Weinraub in person!

HALE COUNTY THIS MORNING, THIS EVENING
Dir. RaMell Ross, 2018, NR, 76 min
Thursday December 6, 7pm
Composed of intimate and unencumbered moments of people in a community, HALE COUNTY allows an emotive impression of the historic South—trumpeting the beauty of life and consequences of the social construction of race, while simultaneously a testament to dreaming—despite the odds. Director RaMell Ross in person!

CHRISTINE
Dir. John Carpenter, 1983, R, 110 min
Wednesday October 31, 7pm
Horror auteur John Carpenter’s CHRISTINE, adapted from the book by Stephen King, focuses on a red and white 1958 Plymouth Fury with an evil, indestructible vengeance.

Dr. Joydeep Biswas of UMass Amherst will introduce this special Halloween screening, speaking on the radical future of self-driving cars.
NT LIVE: JULIE
Dir. Carrie Cracknell, 2018, 95 min
Thursday September 27, 7pm
Saturday October 6, 12:30pm
Vanessa Kirby (THE CROWN) and Eric Kofi-Abrefa (THE AMEN CORNER) feature in the cast of this new version of August Strinberg’s play MISS JULIE. Please note that this production contains strobe lighting.

NT LIVE: THE CURIOUS INCIDENT OF THE DOG IN THE NIGHT-TIME
Dir. Marianne Elliott, 2012, 170 min
Monday October 8, 12:30pm
15-year-old Christopher has an extraordinary brain: he is exceptional at mathematics but ill-equipped to interpret everyday life. But he ventures out into the world to solve the mystery of who killed his neighbor’s dog with a garden fork. This Olivier and Tony Award-winning production returns for an encore matinee this Columbus Day.

NT LIVE: FRANKENSTEIN
Dir. Danny Boyle, 2011, NR, 140 min
Saturday October 27, 12:30pm
Saturday November 10, 12:30pm
Frankenstein’s bewildered creature is cast out into a hostile universe by his horror-struck maker in this play that sees Benedict Cumberbatch and Jonny Lee Miller alternating the roles of Victor Frankenstein and the Creature. Cumberbatch plays the Creature on October 27, and Miller plays the creature on November 10.

NT LIVE: KING LEAR
Dir. Jonathan Munby, 2018, 220 min
Saturday November 3, 12:30pm
Monday November 12, 7pm
Following the National Theatre Live smash hit NO MAN’S LAND, Sir Ian McKellen returns to the London stage to give an “extraordinarily moving portrayal” (The Independent) in this contemporary retelling of Shakespeare’s tender, violent, moving and shocking play. Please note that this production contains strobe lighting.

BOLSHOI BALLET: LA SYLPHIDE
Music Herman Severin Løvenskiold, Choreography Johan Kobborg, 2018, 120 min
Sunday December 9, 12:30pm
On his wedding day, the young Scotsman James is awakened with a kiss from a Sylphe, an ethereal winged creature. Entranced by her beauty, James risks everything to pursue an unattainable love.

MARIINSKY THEATRE: THE NUTCRACKER
Music Pyotr Ilyich Tchaikovsky, Choreography Wassili Vainonen, 2011, 105 min
Sunday December 23, 12:30pm
In this Russian Nutcracker from the Mariinsky Theatre in St Petersburg, Tchaikovsky’s glorious score and Vainonen’s colorful, traditional production make this as magical and memorable a holiday treat as ever.

WORLD STAGE ON SCREEN
Theater and dance productions captured live from around the globe shine on the Amherst Cinema big screen.

THE WICKER MAN
Dir. Robin Hardy, 1973, R, 94 min
Friday October 5, 9:45pm
A police sergeant is sent to a Scottish island village in search of a missing girl whom the townsfolk claim never existed.

GANJA & HESS
Dir. Bill Gunn, 1973, R, 113 min
Friday October 12, 9:45pm
An anthropologist is stabbed with an ancient ceremonial dagger and develops a thirst for blood. Flirting with blaxploitation and horror, Bill Gunn’s revolutionary independent film is a highly stylized and utterly original treatise on sex, religion, and African American identity.

GODZILLA
Dir. Ishiro Honda, 1954, NR, 96 min, Japanese w/subtitles
Friday October 19, 9:45pm
A thrilling, tactile spectacle that continues to be a cult phenomenon, GODZILLA (a.k.a. GODJIRA) is the roaring granddaddy of all monster movies.

THE BIRD WITH THE CRYSTAL PLUMAGE
Dir. Dario Argento, 1970, NR, 98 min
Friday October 26, 9:45pm
In 1970, young debut director Dario Argento (DEEP RED, SUSPIRIA) redefined the “giallo” genre of murder-mystery thrillers with this assured, Hitchcockian first feature.

THE ROOM
Dir. Tommy Wiseau, 2003, R, 99 min
Friday November 2, 9:45pm
Tommy Wiseau’s instant cult favorite is often touted as the best worst movie ever made - a true disasterpiece.

STALKER
Dir. Andrei Tarkovsky, 1979, NR, 161 min, Russian w/subtitles
Friday November 9, 9:45pm
One of the most immersive and rarefied experiences in all cinema, STALKER embarks on a metaphysical journey through an enigmatic post-apocalyptic landscape.

LATE NIGHTS
Friday nights, join us for the best cult, genre, and other outré film. From ’50s monster movies to ’70s art house horror to ’00s schlockfests, this series runs the gamut of adventurous cinema.

GANJA & HESS
THE WICKER MAN
KING LEAR
STALKER
Friends –

Thanks to your support, this year has been another cinematic feast: over 275 programs in more than 20 languages.

New films: The improbable love story told against the backdrop of the Cold War in THE SHAPE OF WATER, the legacy of kindness left by Mr. Rogers in WON'T YOU BE MY NEIGHBOR?, the depths of racial disharmony in BLACKKKLANSMAN, the quirkiness of ISLE OF DOGS, the angst of middle school in EIGHTH GRADE, the indomitable spirit of Ruth Bader Ginsberg in RBG – and so much more!

A rich tapestry of special programs, such as:

• Sound & Vision, offering concert films, biographies and documentaries.
• Theater and dance productions from internationally renowned companies.
• Art on Screen films, featuring Bosch, Canaletto, Hockney, Hokusai, Monet, and Van Gogh.
• Late Nights series, offering cult, genre, and other outre film.
• Science on Screen, with experts speaking about old growth forests and global water resources.
• Bellwether, hosting innovative filmmakers who come for engaging dialogue – with you!

We’re excited about what’s ahead, too. Your gifts to our Annual Fund will help assure that Amherst Cinema will be here – for you and for everyone in our wonderful cinema family.

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P.S. As we count our blessings at this time of year, we want you to know that grass roots support from individuals like you is what sustains us – won’t you make your gift to our Annual Fund today? We’re in this together!