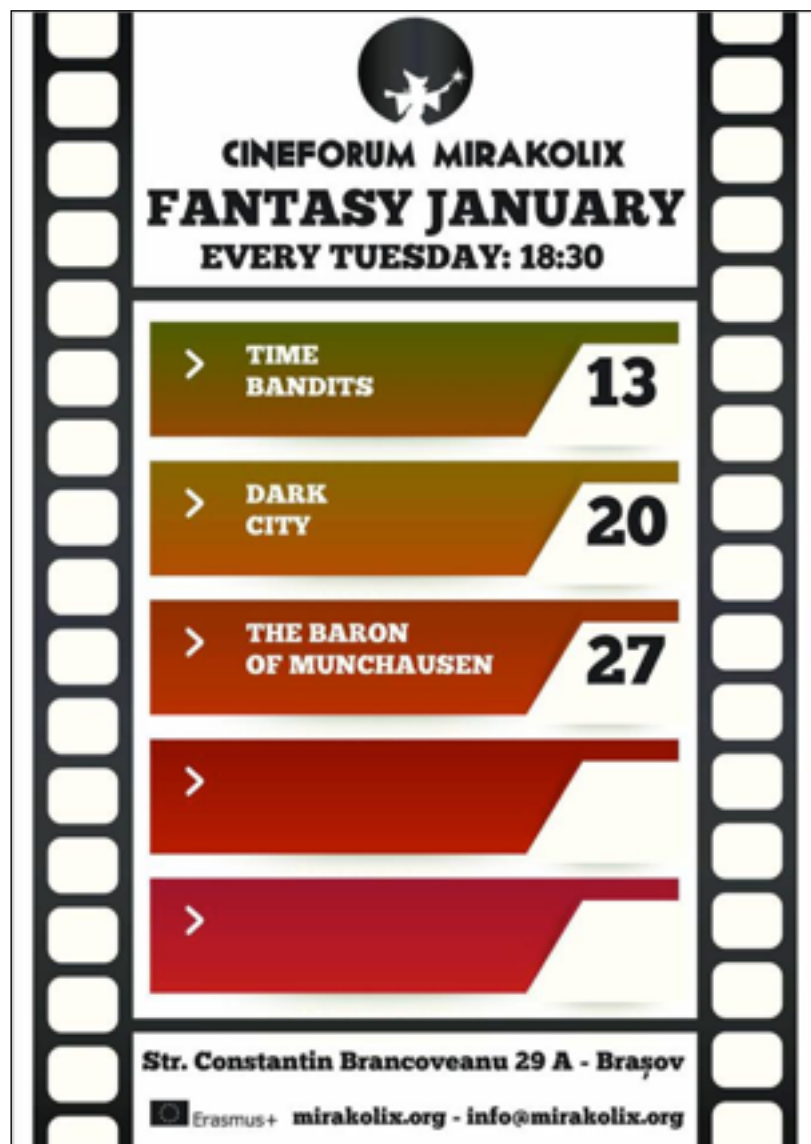

The Cineforum Collection

An overview of the movies we have projected during the project *Inside Journey* and how they can broaden the horizon of the youngsters' minds.

Thomas van Uden - coordinator of the Cineforum sessions and volunteer in the frame of *Inside Journey* project



Introduction

The Cineforum Sessions were organised by Thomas van Uden (international volunteer within the project Inside Journey) and Pierre Marquet (international volunteer within the project Reshape Urban Places) as weekly movie sessions during January and June 2015.

Main goal:

The power of movies do open up unknown worlds, realities. In the Cineforum youngsters from Braşov watched movies together with youngsters from other European countries in a safe and relaxing atmosphere. The idea was to stimulate the view upon movies as art and a window to an unknown reality and to broaden the horizons and new perspectives of the participating youngsters. In order to achieve this, the sessions were organised not just as watching the movies, but also talking about them with the attending people and trying to get to the core topic by a discussion.



The movies.

With this goal in mind there were selected movies that might seem a little out of the ordinary at first glance. However this is connected with the philosophy of the Cineforum to watch, talk and learn about previously unknown topics. We strived to show also movies from different cultural backgrounds such as French, Iranian, Turkish and possibly even Indian movies. To learn about distant far away cultures while staying in the known and comfort of your own world. This is obviously related to the opening of new perspectives and attitudes.

Through provoking movies, we wanted to lead to question our own views and install an openness, and sensitivity to new and other perhaps sometimes even clashing perspectives, ideas and believes. These abilities will in the end even enable the youngsters to reflect upon their own lives and ideas and possibly society as a whole.

The monthly topics:

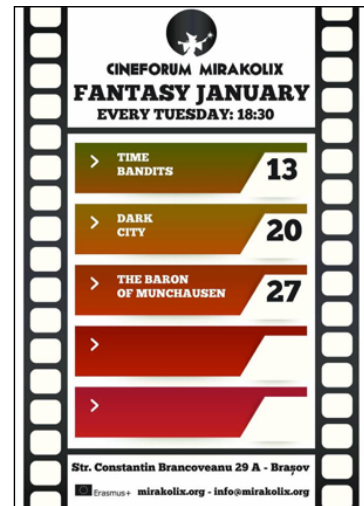
Each month during January and June 2015 the movies were selected according to a main theme such as: Fantasy, Social, Documentary, International, European Culture, Romania

The team:

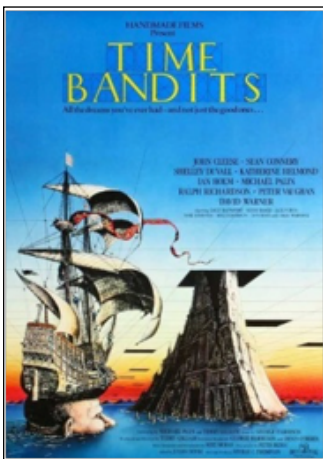
Thomas van Uden (international volunteer within the project Inside Journey) and Pierre Marquet (international volunteer within the project Reshape Urban Places) with the help of other volunteers from Inside Journey project: Mirco Gremlin and Veronica Peral Galvez

CINEFORUM SESSIONS

JANUARY 2015



Time Bandits



Time Bandits shows the incredible adventures of Kevin and the time bandits clan. The movie makes a strong case about the subjectivity of history. It portrays well-known figures and episodes of history from just a little different perspective than is done normally. This creates a tension and uneasiness for the viewer that makes the viewer think twice about history and its implications.

What is time? Is there a plan or law (higher being?) behind history? Learning and reflecting that there are multiple perspectives on history

Directed by: Terry Gilliam

Year of release: 1981

Dark City

John Murdoch awakens alone in a strange hotel to find that he has lost his memory and is wanted for a series of brutal and bizarre murders. While trying to piece together his past, he stumbles upon a hellish underworld controlled by a group of beings known as "The Strangers" who possess the ability to put people to sleep and alter the city and its inhabitants.

In essence this movie is a quest to find out what makes a human being an individual. "The Strangers" are creature without individuality and they are keen to find out what makes that humans are individuals. To achieve this they manipulate time and research the behavior of the humans in Dark City.

Reflecting insight in the Human condition, the importance of our personal history to form our identity and individualism

Directed by: Alex Proyas

Year of release: 1998



The Adventures of the Baron Munchausen



Directed by: Terry Gilliam
Year of release: 1988

The fantastic tales of 18th century aristocrat Munchausen, his bizarre but gifted henchmen and a little girl in their efforts to save a town from defeat by the Turks. Being swallowed by a giant sea-monster, a trip to the moon, a dance with Venus and an escape from the Grim Reaper are only some of the improbable adventures undertaken by the Baron and his trusted henchmen.

The adventures of the Baron of Munchausen trace back to the time before the dawn of scientific thought, to Europe's past of folk's tales and magic. A world forever lost to us, a more magical world with more receptiveness to superstition, imagination and the powers of witchcraft. The world of folk's tales, unimaginable imagination and a less rational, scientific outlook on life.

Demagicalization of the world around us. Development in history from pre-modern to modern view and the idea that progress is not necessarily positive.

CINEFORUM SESSIONS

FEBRUARY 2015



It's a free World

When Angie gets the sack from a recruitment agency, she seizes the chance to team up with her friend, Rose, and to run a recruitment business of her own. With immigrants desperate for work the opportunities are considerable, particularly for two girls so in tune with these unforgiving times.

The core message of the movie is the inequality within the system we are all a part of. Angie is treated with no regard for respect or rights and starts to act likewise in a system that holds no esteem for humans. She gets corrupted by the chances of a quick buck and disregards the misery and desperation among her immigrant labor force. The titles refer to a powerful scene in which Angie and her dad express their views on work and solidarity. There appears a huge gap between the two generations and the viewer is left to wonder which approach of the labor market he or she prefers. In the end it all comes down to the definition of freedom, in this case economic freedom what does it mean and where does it end?

Reflect on solidarity in society and the rat race on the labor market, income and related to them differences between the rights human have

Directed by: Ken Loach

Year of release: 2007



Motorcycle diaries



This coming of age movie depicts in the travels Che Guevara made, through Southern America, before he decided to alter his life and become a communist freedom fighter. From a bourgeois background the young Ernesto has never had to worry about anything all the more confrontational is the realization that for many people on his beloved continent everyday life could not be more different than the type of life Ernesto is used to. What path do you follow when you realize the society you are a part of is fundamentally unjust and unequal?

Critical thinking about society and the position and responsibility you hold as an individual in the society you happen to live in.

Directed by: Walter Salles

Year of release: 2004

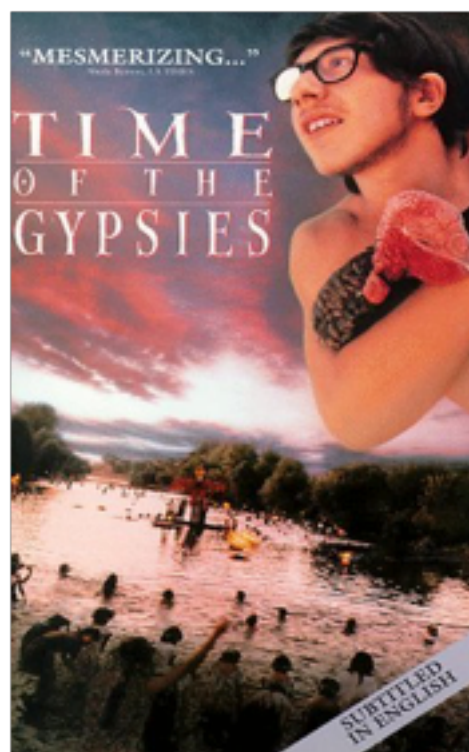
Time of the Gypsies

In this luminous tale set in the former Yugoslavia and Italy, Perhan, an engaging young Romany with telekinetic powers, is seduced by the quick-cash world of petty crime that threatens to destroy him and those he loves. The movie depicts the harsh reality faced by Roma people in Europe. Perhan wants to do good for the people he loves and tries to alter his and their fates for the better. Instead he ends up in the criminal enterprises Roma are so notorious for. At heart committed to make it in a honest way, he does not want to settle for this poverty and discrimination and decides that if he cannot make it honest, he will in a sleazy way. An unnerving movie about the situation many Roma are faced with troubles relating to descent, prejudice and indifference towards society among the Roma.

How to deal with minorities and the problems they may face to integrate in society. Reflecting upon society and the differences between people based on social, racial or religious background.

Directed by: Emir Kusturica

Year of release: 1988



No one knows about Persian cats

Negar and Ashkan, two young Iranian songwriters, who just have been released from prison, decide to set up an underground band and look for other musicians to join them. The pair befriend a man named Nader, an underground music enthusiast and producer who helps them travel around Tehran and its surrounding areas in order to meet other underground musicians possibly interested in forming a band. However the authorities keep following the young musicians efforts and putting a spanner in the works. Fed up with being hindered from expressing themselves, the two young people try to get documents to leave the country for Europe.

An intrusive portrait of two young, ambitious men who want to make something of their lives but find themselves hindered by the regime they live under. What is it like to live under a dictatorship that limits your freedoms and prevents you from doing what you love the most? The troublesome path the men go, being torn between expressing themselves and loyalty towards their beloved culture and society.

Critical thinking about society and it's limits when it comes to the rights of its citizens. What does it mean to live under a dictatorship and how does it mean for the personal live?

Directed by: Bahman Ghobadi

Year of release: 2009



CINEFORUM SESSIONS

MARCH 2015

CINEFORUM MIRAKOLIX DOCUMENTARY MARCH EVERY TUESDAY: 18:30	
> SICKO	3
> THE LIGHT BULB CONSPIRACY	10
> BASIC INCOME	17
> THE SHOCK DOCTRINE	31

str. C-tin Brâncoveanu 29 ap 1 - Braşov
Erasmus+ mirakolix.org - info@mirakolix.org

Sicko



Another provocative, typical Michael Moore documentary takes a look at the health care in the United States. The private rules health care system in the US is compared to free, universal care in Canada, the U.K., and France. He interviews patients and doctors in the U.K. about cost, quality, and salaries. He talks with U.S. ex-pats in Paris about French services and their experiences. He examines why Nixon promoted HMOs in 1971, and why the Clintons' reform effort failed in the 1990s. And last but not least he takes three 9/11 clean-up volunteers, who developed respiratory problems, to Cuba for free health care, denied to these "American Heroes" by their own society. Moore asks Americans, "Who are we?"

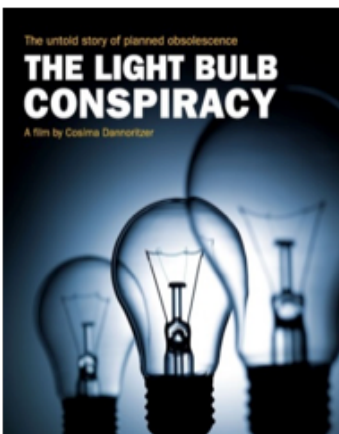
At the core of the movie is the question how does a society want to set up her structure? Do we choose for solidarity or survival of the fittest? The documentary makes the viewer reflect on what he or she holds dear and how to guarantee these in society.

Reflecting upon solidarity and its pros and cons. What does it entail to be solidary and why is it beneficial to society?

Directed by: Michael Moore

Year of release: 2007

The Light Bulb Conspiracy



Once upon a time..... products were made to last. Then, at the beginning of the 1920s, a group of businessmen were struck by the following insight: 'A product that refuses to wear out is a tragedy to business' (1928). Thus the concept of 'Planned Obsolescence' was born. Shortly after, the first worldwide cartel was set up expressly to reduce the life span of the incandescent light bulb, a symbol for innovation and bright new ideas, and the first official victim of Planned Obsolescence. During the 1950s, with the birth of the consumer society, the economy flourished, everybody had everything, the waste was piling up (preferably far away in illegal dumps in the Third World) - until consumers started rebelling... Can the modern growth society survive without Planned Obsolescence?

This documentary raises fundamental questions about our capitalistic economical system and its implications to our society and environment. It transmits a grim depiction of the current society and poses the question if citizens possess the power to change it? Critical thinking about the capitalistic system its perspective on value and human live.

Directed by: Cosmina Dannoritzer

Year of release: 2010

Basic Income



"An income is like the wind beneath your wings" it says at the start of the film. Should this be an unconditional right for everyone? Is this at all possible - a financial human right?

The film is exiting, moving, motivating and focuses on a precise rational point of view. It places the relationship and the main task of money under a new light. As a theme it is of the utmost relevance to our time.

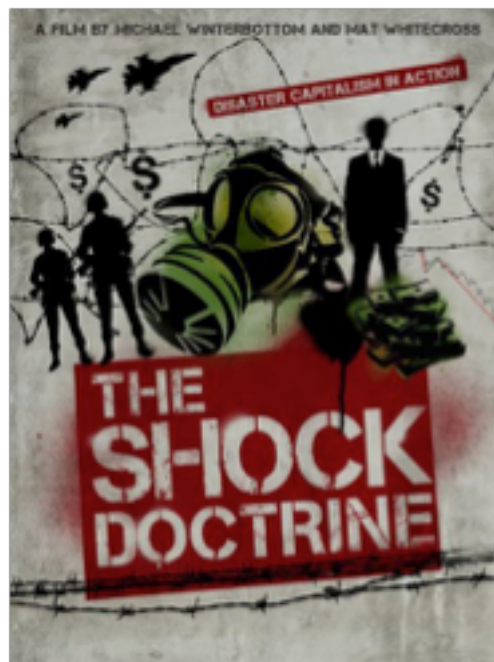
This documentary leads to reflecting about the importance of work and money in our society and to what extent humans have become dependent on these parameters for the well-being, health and happiness. However there is an alternative, the basic income for everybody without restrictions or conditions. What gives a life meaning and how could we raise the standard of living quality for everybody in a society that is changing and won't have jobs available for all citizens?

Directed by: Daniel Hani and Enno Schmidt

Year of release: 2008

The Shock Doctrine

The Shock Doctrine draws attention to far reaching effects of the adaptation of the Shock Doctrine technique in psychiatry by the world of economics and politics during the 1960s and 1970s. She moves chronologically, providing examples to underpin her theory: Pinochet's Chile, Argentina and its junta, Yeltsin's Russia, Bush and Bremer's Iraq. A trumped-up villain provides distraction or rationalization: Marxism, the Falklands, nuclear weapons, terrorists; and, always, there is a great shift of money and power from the many to the few. News footage, a narrator, and talking heads back up Klein's analysis. The documentary raises the question to what extent our society with its focus on economy and politics has developed into a freer, equal society? What are the results when economists and politicians start believing in the malleability of society?



Directed by: Mat Whitecross and Michael Winterbottom based on Naomi Klein's book: "The Shock Doctrine".

Year of release: 2009

CINEFORUM SESSIONS

APRIL 2015



OSS 117

Hubert Bonisseur de la Bath, aka OSS 117, is the French spy considered by his superiors to be the best in the business. The year is 1967 - he's been sent on a mission to Rio de Janeiro, to find a former high-ranking Nazi who went into exile in South America. His eventful investigation takes him all across Brazil, from Rio to Brasilia and the Iguazu Falls, accompanied by a charming Mossad agent who is also looking for the Nazi. The man is charming, and so is the young woman. Set to the strains of bossa nova, their tale is by turns an adventure and a love story.

Although at first glance not a real cultural or politically engaged movie, it depicts some telling aspects about French society. For starters there is the relationship and hierarchy between people and more specifically the way women are portrayed in relation to men. But on a more political level the movie reflects the Gaullism and the idea of "La Grande France". The political ideology about the autonomous and powerful France that has its own political interests, independent from the Anglo-Saxon countries foreign politics an ideology that till today influences French foreign politics.

Directed by: Michel Hazanavicius

Year of release: 2009



Il secondo Tragico Fantozzi

Fantozzi tells the tale of the desk employee Ugo Fantozzi, the struggles and the constant humiliation he is faced with in this life. Fantozzi himself is a clear reference to the economic boom after the Second World War especially during the 1950s and 1960s when for the first time a middle class developed in Italy. However as the experiences of Fantozzi clearly illustrate it was not an easy struggle to gain the recognition of the traditional elite bourgeois classes in society. This led to a particular Italian understanding of the meritocracy society, which took root throughout Europe in the 1950s and 1960s. Whereas in Western Europe authority figures and vested interests were discarded in Italy clientelism remained the predominant principle governing (business and political) relations in society. Clientelism is an exchange of goods and services for political support a quid pro quo attitude which shapes the interpersonal contact and style of business.

Meritocracy what does this entail and to what extent should human beings put up with insults and humiliation from their superiors on the work floor and in life? Where does human dignity begin and are all humans acknowledged as individuals who possess a meaning in themselves.

Directed by: Luciano Salce

Year of release: 1976



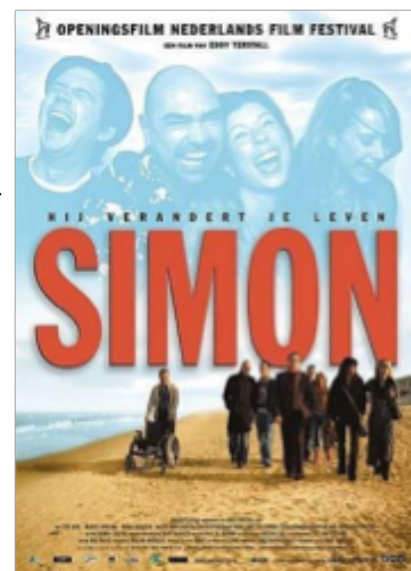
Simon

Starting off as an engaging and intriguing narrative about the friendship between two unlikely men, the one a soft drug dealer the other a dentist student. The movie is a reference to the liberal spirit in Dutch society of the late seventies and early eighties of the twentieth century when everything seemed possible. There is something peculiar about the relation between the two men and soon becomes apparent and the story takes an unexpected turn. Time passes and the men lose track of each other, when they suddenly meet again and their friendship is reignited. However the circumstances have, since they last met, changed dramatically. Simon is no longer the vibrant drug dealer but a cancer patient who faces death, Camiel on the other hand is doing just fine as a dentist with his male partner. Their friendship develops into a more personal relation between two men trying to make sense of life when it seems so arbitrary and meaningless. What is important life and what's there to value? As such it is a depiction of the Dutch society its liberalism concerning freedom of choice and same sex relationships.

The fragility of life and the unforeseen events we in our lives can be confronted with and how we react to them. The debate about the freedom or the sanctity of life. Liberal spirit and meaning in life if anything is always an option? Critical thinking about life and the type of society we live in and what responsibilities this entails.

Directed by: Eddy Terstall

Year of release: 2004



in

Soul Kitchen

In Hamburg, Zinos has a restaurant serving poor-man's fare; he gets by, but his girlfriend has taken a job in Shanghai, he's hurt his back and can't cook, his reckless brother can be on daily parole from jail only if Zinos employs him (though his brother doesn't want to work), a school acquaintance wants to buy the restaurant property, and the tax authority and health inspector are on his case. Zinos hires a temperamental chef and loses all his customers, signs a power of attorney giving his brother full authority at the restaurant, and buys a ticket to Shanghai. Is this a recipe for disaster?

This movie focuses on the difficulties faced by second or third generation immigrants in European society. They are being torn between their cultural and familial loyalties, their desire to make it economically in society and the prejudices, discrimination and exclusion they constantly face. It's a fast paced and harsh account of the struggles young immigrants willing to contribute to society, yet self-aware and expect to earn their own place in society realize the sobering truth about the so called free and capitalist society they thought they lived in.

Directed by: Fatih Akin

Year of release: 2009



The 20 CINEFORUM sessions were part of the project **INSIDE JOURNEY**, funded with support from the European Commission through the Erasmus+ Programme, Key Action 1: Learning Mobility of Individuals (European Voluntary Service).

The “Inside Journey” project took place in Braşov, between 01.08.2014 and 31.11.2015, and involved 4 international volunteers coming from the Netherlands, Germany, Italy and Spain. The international volunteers were hosted by our organisation in the frame of the European Voluntary Service.

Maria from Germany, Thomas from the Netherlands, Mirco from Italy and Vero from Spain (Catalonia) worked together with the organisation members, local volunteers and local youth workers to inspire an „inside” journey: in the local communities, and inside themselves, for self-development and self-awareness.

Through the contribution of international and local volunteers we were able to stimulate the personal resources of youngsters and design activities, which contribute to the personal and professional development of young people in Braşov.

More details about experiences and results here: <http://mirakolix.org/2015/11/06/inside-journey-project-at-the-end/?lang=en>

INSIDE JOURNEY project has been funded with support from the European Commission. This communication reflects only the views of the author, and the Commission cannot be held responsible for any use which may be made of information contained herein.