

Modern Languages Film Series

Fall 2018: Childhood in Film

(Co-sponsored by the Institut for Child and Youth Studies)

All films shown @ 4:30 in D634



1. *Les Quatre cents coups* [The 400 Blows] (France, François Truffaut, 1959)

A film that defines both the French New Wave and the representation of childhood in cinema. Truffaut's debut film is a tough, honest and sympathetic portrayal of a 12-year-old wild child, who gets into all kinds of trouble while navigating the choppy waters of neglectful parents, disciplinary teachers, intense friendships, and the universal challenges of growing up. Truffaut's artful pacing and artistic construction make this film a must-see. (In French with English subtitles)

Wed, 12 Sept
Thurs, 20 Sept



2. *El Espíritu de la colmena* [The Spirit of the Beehive] (Spain, Victor Erice, 1973)

Made during Franco's dictatorship, this film follows the inner life and outer circumstances of six-year-old Ana. Her world is infused with the devastation of the brutal Spanish civil war, while her imaginary life is saturated with images of the 1931 movie *Frankenstein*. The horrible but misunderstood monster becomes a powerful metaphor for Spain's lost innocence. (In Spanish with English subtitles)

Wed, 26 Sept
Thurs, 4 Oct



3. *大人の見る絵本 - 生れてはみたけれど* [I Was Born, but...] (Japan, Yasujiro Ozu, 1932)

Brothers Kenji and Ryoichi move to a new neighbourhood when their father gets a promotion. They make their mark by defeating a bully, but also learn that their father is not the important figure that they believed him to be. One of the last Japanese silent film masterpieces by Yasujiro Ozu, a celebrated portraitist of childhood and of 1930s Japan. (In Japanese with English subtitles)

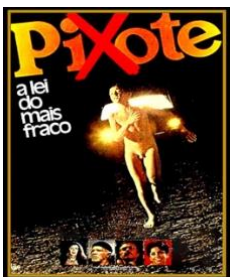
Wed, 10 Oct
Thurs, 18 Oct



4. *Paloma de papel* [Paper Dove] (Perú, Fabrizio Aguilar, 2003)

Eleven-year-old Juan is living a kid's life in the Peruvian Andes, unaware of the civil war that is raging at his doorstep. But when he discovers that his stepfather is a Marxist guerilla, Juan is kidnapped and taken to be indoctrinated and taught how to make weapons. Eventually the group holding him decides to attack his village, and Juan is faced with difficult choices. (In Spanish with English subtitles)

Wed, 24 Oct
Thurs, 1 Nov



5. *Pixote: a Lei do Mais Fraco* [Pixote] (Brazil, Héctor Babenco, 1980)

This documentary-style film tells the harsh story of Brazil's delinquent youth, who are used as pawns by corrupt police and crime organisations alike. Director Héctor Babenco chose to cast non-actors in the main roles. The results is a harrowing and honest portrayal of how an 11-year-old boy, abandoned by family and society, becomes hopelessly entangled in a life of crime. Rated R. (In Portuguese with English subtitles)

Thurs, 8 Nov
Wed, 21 Nov



6. *Malabar Princess* (France, Jean Becker, 2004)

Eight-year-old Tom is left with his grandfather by his neglectful dad, in the French Alps not far from where a plane crash had killed Tom's mother five years earlier. The hope is that Tom will at last make peace with the loss of his mother, but this in turn leads Tom on an unexpected adventure. Becker's imaginative response to the real-life tragedy of the 1950 Air India crash. (In French with English subtitles)

Thurs, 29 Nov
Wed, 5 Dec