



Photos by Mark Singer and Nathan Lyons

Film Society Offers Unexpected Worlds



— photo by Guendolen Cates



— image courtesy of New Yorker Films

Highlights of this season's offerings by the WNMU-Silver City International Film Society have included acclaimed independent director Chris Eyre's *Skins* (the director is pictured top) and the documentary *ABC Africa*. The IFS feature for Sunday, April 27 is Pedro Almodovar's *Talk to Her* (below), the winner of this year's Oscar for Best Original Screenplay.



— image courtesy of Sony Classics

Two strangers learn to communicate while caring for the two women in their lives, both of whom are in a coma and cannot speak. A shy widow finds a new way of life when she begins to dance. Two brothers find, each in his own way, that living as Native Americans brings struggles that are not easily overcome. These are the unique views of the world brought to WNMU, Silver City, and the Gila-Mimbres region through the films presented by the WNMU-Silver City International Film Society.

The WNMU-Silver City International Film Society's mission is to bring films to Silver City in which art and entertainment join forces. The International Film Society, as it is commonly known, shows a program of recent foreign and independent American films during an annual season that runs from October to April. These films are currently shown at 4:00 p.m. on Sundays at the Real West II Cinema. The International Film Society schedules a program of eight movies (though the next season may expand that to twelve), including at least one Latino movie, a year, and it also plans to show two or three movies during the summer beginning this year.

The International Film Society's series has been very successful. Society director Grits Gedgaudas says that attendance was up 25% for the 2002 - 2003 season, and that they sold out two showings during the season. An important part of the Society's support comes from individual memberships, and businesses or individual members sponsor a number of films each season. As part of the Society's service to the WNMU community, all students with a current semester's student I.D. are admitted to International Film Society screenings free, while non-student Society members also receive discounted admission.

The Society was founded by Jane Edwards-Miller and her husband Don in the fall of 1994. In the beginning, Jane did all of the booking of films and ran the office, and Don did most of the graphic design work. "She volunteered all of her time," says Gedgaudas. "There was a board of directors, but it provided

mostly oversight and suggestions. Now the board is doing more... and I am currently working in a half-time paid position as the director."

Films for the Society's series are selected by a committee, and that committee has to balance considerations of funding and availability as well as to balance each member's tastes, likes, and favorites. "Trying to select things is not easy. Especially when we're looking at classics... [We] think, 'should I push for something that I consider a great, old movie, or something I've never seen on the big screen?'"

This difficulty in deciding what to show and the challenge of finding distributors that can schedule films for single showings were brought home this season when the International Film Society had to quickly substitute another movie for its scheduled screening of *The High-Low Country* when, at the last minute, that film became unavailable because the last circulation print was damaged beyond repair. The Society quickly substituted a showing of the classic Western film *Shane* in its place. While they had been averaging 155 people at the season's previous screenings, only 45 people attended the screening of *Shane*. Gedgaudas says this raised the concern that "most people have seen these classics [on video], so will they come out and see it on the big screen, or if they want to see it do they just go to the video store and grab it?" However, many people have asked the International Film Society to show classic films, and it does plan to schedule one classic film as part of the 2003 - 2004 season while continuing to show recent films. "For the most part we have focused on current [films]. We try not to go much past a year back, because we are wanting to bring more new, international films."

As more and more people view films at home on videotape and DVD, the Society has continued to look at the public's interest in seeing films projected in a theater. Like many moviegoers, though, Gedgaudas remains convinced that a movie theater, rather than viewing on tape or DVD, provides the best way to see many films. Even with state of the

art DVD projection systems, he says, "[the color] is washed out. You're still getting a big image, and it's a pretty highly resolute image as well, but you can't approach the quality of 35mm film." With many films, he says, the cinematography sets the mode and tone, and "you don't really get that when you're looking at DVD or video formats."

The International Film Society is always looking for new ways to present a variety of movies for its audience. Adding 16mm films to their program in the current season has made it possible to show short subject films, and Gedgaudas says that many older or classic films are only distributed in 16mm. He says that one advantage of the 16mm format is that shipping costs for those films are lower, which can be a consideration for an organization dependent upon membership and grants. However, while 16mm adds another option for screening films, Gedgaudas says that 35mm film still provides the best picture and sound, and is likely to remain the focus of the International Film Society's presentations.

From its beginning, the International Film Society has worked closely with WNMU. "The 'WNMU' part of our name is there because we want to serve the university community as well as Silver City residents," Gedgaudas says. "We have always worked closely with the university, and usually at least one board member is on the faculty or staff of WNMU. The university provides funding to us annually, and Dr. & Mrs. Counts have also been film sponsors for several years. The university lets us use its facilities at no charge because of the affiliation we have with it. We are greatly appreciative of WNMU for its generosity."

The International Film Society receives support as well from New Mexico Arts, a division of the NM Office of Cultural Affairs, and the National Endowment for the Arts. As economic times have gotten harder, projects such as the International Film Society have faced a tougher task in

Two For One

Team Teaching Offers a New Approach to Gen Ed Class

Poet continued from page 1

Tester says that she began writing as a child, and she studied creative writing at the University of Houston. She says that the most important thing that she gained from her university study was making one on one contact with people who mentored her writing. "When a writer gets introduced to other writers and poets, the ones who live in books... it's a treasure. That's there for us. And," she laughs, "academics are usually wonderful people who have saved me again and again, even if I've never been a true academic and been more of a free spirit."

Tester's book of poetry Miracles of Sainted Earth, from which she will read on April 25, was the inaugural volume for the University of New Mexico Press's Mary Burritt Christiansen Poetry Series. Series editor V. B. Price writes of Tester's work that "she links her present life, the lives of her ancestors, the world beyond human nature, and the spirit of history and its unfolding in biography, with her spiritual love of the finite."

Tester's latest book, Dying in the City of Flowers, is a novel based as well on her life experience. It tells the story of a woman searching for her missing son, who has been taken to Peru by her ex-husband. "I think that a poet and writer blurs public and private writing," she says. "For us, we don't distinguish." That blending of the public and private might be uncomfortable for some, but Tester says that for writers, "we would want to feel exposed. If we don't feel exposed, then we probably haven't written a good poem or piece of writing! Exposed has a negative connotation, though; I would probably say 'revealed' or 'illuminated' - the genuine self [revealed]."

The strength of poetry is in that illumination, and poetry, especially

This fall, WNMU students will have a chance to experience something new: a class taught by two instructors who promise to bring "variety, innovation, and energetic debate" to a general education literature class.

While a few classes have been taught in this format before at WNMU, this is the first to be taught as a general education literature course says WNMU Professor of English Dr. Deborah Heller. "Structurally, something parallel has already happened, and that is that last year Jack Ellis and I team-taught Shakespeare. He brought in the theatrical perspective, and I worked from the literary perspective." With the confidence gained from that experience, Dr. Heller and Professor of Chicano Studies Patricia Cano began talking about how they could jointly teach a course that would bring both of their perspectives to the critical study of short stories from a broad range of world literature.

Team teaching, while not typical at WNMU, is not a new idea. Cano says that she taught language as part of a classroom team at the University of New

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assuring funding. "The same number or even a greater number of arts organizations are going after fewer dollars. We've had so many grant proposals shot down just because the foundations say 'we're not taking on new projects' or 'we're not doing anything this year.'"

Funding options remain available, though, and the record crowds at

when read, often touches people as nothing else can. "People have been known to weep at my readings," Tester laughs again. "It sounds cruel, but we want them to."

Mexico, but this is her first experience of this approach to teaching here at WNMU. "It gives us the opportunity to do a class that's comparative," say Cano. "Taking in our expertise - mine in Hispanic literature, and Dr. Heller's in English - I don't think that we could have a better set-up." She says that this dual expertise enables them to present a class where literature is studied in ways that are not as easily done with just one instructor.

"We're bringing in not just contemporary Hispanic-American literature," says Heller, "but we're also bringing in literature written by African-Americans, some Chekov, some Conrad... it's going to be a comparative literature class, and not just a 'brown/white' split of Hispanic literature and English literature. That's the crying need on this campus - a rigorous comparative literature course."

Both instructors note that this course represents not only a new approach to content, but also a new approach to teaching. Cano says. "It's not going to be a lecture [class]. At the very beginning we'll set up what the story is, and then

after that it's open."

"We're going to show them how to argue," Dr. Heller laughs. "We have a double novelty - two literatures, and two teachers."

"We're getting excited about it already," adds Cano.

Cano says that having two instructors teaching a class not only offers benefits for the students, but for the instructors as well. "I think that once we started talking about how this was going to work, we realized that we were going to get as much out of it as the students are," she says. It will also take more time for the two instructors to coordinate, and Cano and Dr. Heller are already planning a weekly "bull session" to evaluate where they are and plan for the next week.

Students who are interested in this new team approach to literature study can sign up for either Pat Cano's Humanities 205 (Hispanic American Literature) course or Dr. Heller's English 225 (The Short Story) course when they register for Fall 2003 classes. The joint class is scheduled from 2:00 - 3:15 p.m. on Monday and Wednesday.

International Film Society programs show that film-goers want the variety the Society offers. With foundation, business, and membership support, the Society will continue this fall with a new season of films, and will continue as well

its mission of presenting movies that, as Gedgaudas says, enable viewers to "[look] at things the way that other cultures do... to broaden your horizons, and to look at things from different angles in a way that helps you form your own opinions."

Pinos Altos

Under my skin, old churches, broken
roads to love and death.
At night I walk through the pioneer cemetery
with a man who wasn't raised by Jesuits,
but by the wind the and the grasshoppers.
He holds my hand,
and suddenly I know he's a wolf.
He licksthe lines of his free hand.
He's already seen how I'll abandon him,
and his delicate soul watches us
from behind the tree.

- from Miracles of Sainted Earth by Victoria Edwards Tester

Victoria Edwards Tester reads from her book Miracles of Sainted Earth at the Spring Evening of Poetry and Music from 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. on Friday, April 25 at the Webb Theater at WNMU. Admission to this event is free.

Calendar of Events

Friday, April 25

12:00 noon	AA Meeting	MECHA Building Downstairs
4:00 - 7:00p.m.	WNMU Graduates' Exhibition Opening Reception	McCray Gallery
6:00 p.m.	WNMU Graduates' Exhibition Awards	McCray Gallery
6:30 p.m.	Evening of Poetry and Music	Webb Theater
7:00 p.m.	WNMU Spring Choir Performance	Parotti Recital Hall

Saturday, April 26

8:00 a.m.	WNMU Golf Teams Fundraising Tournament	Silver City Golf Course
8:30-1:30 p.m.	Grant County Health and Safety Fair /Diabetes Walk and Run	Old James Stadium/Graham Gym
9:00 a.m. - noon	Yard Sales	Muir Heights Playground/Regents Row
7:00 p.m.	WNMU Spring Consort Performance	Parotti Recital Hall

Sunday, April 27

8:00 a.m.	WNMU Golf Teams Fundraising Tournament	Silver City Golf Course
3:00 p.m.	Jazz Ensemble and Concert Band	Fine Arts Center Theatre

Monday, May 5 - Thursday, May 8 Final Examinations Week

Friday, May 9

11:00 a.m.	Commencement Rehearsal
1:30 p.m.	Police Academy Certification Ceremony
3:00 p.m.	Nurse Pinning Ceremony
6:00 p.m.	Commencement

Monday, May 26 Memorial Day (campus closed)

Summer Session begins Monday, June 2

Graduates continued from page 5

Catherine Nichols Squires BSW Social Work	Kristen Elizabeth Tressler MAT Secondary Education	William J Widener BS Botany
Michael Jack Stanley MAT Secondary Education	Robert F Trujillo MA Educational Leadership	Marcy Lynn Blancett ADN Nursing
Walter Matthew Stelzer MA Educational Leadership	Yvonne Vejar Turrieta BBA Management	Michael K Witkamp BS Movement Sciences
Cicily Hicks Stevens MAT Secondary Education	Ruben Vejar Turrieta BS Forestry/Wildlife	Cynthia Lee Wolf BS Forestry/Wildlife
Amanda Dorothy Stoeber MA Counseling	Kristi Marie Tynan BS Fine Arts, General	Hope Woodward BS Biology
Susan K Taylor MA Educational Leadership	Caroline Shashewanie Ukestine MA Educational Leadership	Lisa M Perez AS Occupational Therapy Assistant
Laurel Taylor MAT Special Education, (K-12)	Christina M Valencia ADN Nursing	Antonio Zapata MATSecondary Education
Kurtis F. Thatcher BS Sociology	Louise K Villanova AS Computer Network Technology	
Mary Theodosia MA Educational Leadership	Abe A Vizcarra AS Computer Network Technology	
Jobe L Thilgen MA Educational Leadership	Marion Amanda Weary BS Social Science	
Pamela A Thompson MA Counseling	Troy Wertz BS Elementary Education	
Marie Anna Thompson MA Counseling	Shawn Alexander Whitty MA Interdisciplinary Studies	

The Mustang offices will be closed for the semester as of April 25, though we can still be reached by e-mail at mustang@iron.wnmu.edu through the end of finals week. Contributors to this issue (and past issues - come get your voucher, Brittany!), please e-mail to make arrangements to pick up your vouchers during finals week, or to pick them up directly from Mark starting April 25.

Where Am I?

We had many more entries for our last contest. The winner was Tim Turner in Media Services, whose entry was randomly chosen from all of those that correctly guessed "standing beside the closed counter at the Business Office in Castorena Hall."

Congratulations, Tim, and thanks to all of those who participated in this contest over the semester. If you have any suggestions for future contest, please e-mail mustang@iron.wnemu.edu and let you new editor know!

Aloha until Fall!



NEED HEALTH INSURANCE COVERAGE? DON'T GAMBLE WITH YOUR HEALTH!

Student Health Services has contracted with Heritage Insurance Managers Inc., to provide low-cost Student Accident and Sickness plans. Come by YOUR Student Health Services in the Juan Chacon Building, Room 250, for more information and an application!



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- Spanish + MBA = International Trade Manager
- General Studies + MBA = Store Manager
- Biology + MBA = Director Pharmaceutical firm

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Meeting for Prospective MBA Students
Western New Mexico University – MBA
Saturday, May 10th from 9:00-11:00
at the Phelps Dodge Building Room 110

Apartments for Rent

Wanted: Discerning adult tenants for newly renovated apartment building on Market Street. One bedroom and studio apartments. No smokers, no pets, cleanliness required.
Call 538-2931.

Spring 2003 Final Examination Schedule

This list of final exam times is taken from the WNMU Spring 2003 Class Schedule.

Please refer to that schedule for complete information about final examination week.

If a class meets regularly from:

- on -

then the final exam will be given on:

9:00 - 9:50 a.m.	Monday, Wednesday, Friday	Monday, May 5 7:30 - 9:30 a.m.
11:00 - 11:50 a.m.	Monday, Wednesday, Friday	10:00 - 12:00 noon
1:00 - 1:50 p.m.	Monday, Wednesday, Friday	12:30 - 2:30 p.m.
3:00 - 3:50 p.m. <i>or</i> 3:00 - 4:15 p.m.	Monday, Wednesday, Friday <i>or</i> Monday, Wednesday	3:00 - 5:00 p.m.
5:30 - 6:45 p.m.	Monday, Wednesday	5:15 - 7:15 p.m.
Tuesday, May 6		
8:00 - 9:15 a.m.	Tuesday, Thursday	7:30 - 9:30 a.m.
11:00 - 12:15 p.m.	Tuesday, Thursday	10:00 - 12:00 noon
2:00 - 3:15 p.m.	Tuesday, Thursday	12:30 - 2:30 p.m.
MAKE-UP EXAMS		3:00 - 5:00 p.m.
MAKE-UP EXAMS		5:15 - 7:15 p.m.
7:00 - 8:15 p.m.	Tuesday, Thursday	7:30 - 9:30 p.m.
Wednesday, May 7		
8:00 - 8:50 a.m.	Monday, Wednesday, Friday	7:30 - 9:30 a.m.
10:00 - 10:50 a.m.	Monday, Wednesday, Friday	10:00 - 12:00 noon
12:00 - 12:50 p.m.	Monday, Wednesday, Friday	12:30 - 2:30 p.m.
2:00 - 2:50 p.m.	Monday, Wednesday, Friday <i>or</i>	3:00 - 5:00 p.m.
2:00 - 3:15 p.m.	Monday, Wednesday	
4:00 - 4:50 p.m.	Monday, Wednesday, Friday <i>or</i>	5:15 - 7:15 p.m.
4:00 - 5:15 p.m.	Monday, Wednesday	
7:00 - 8:15 p.m.	Monday, Wednesday	7:30 - 9:30 p.m.
Thursday, May 8		
9:30 - 10:45 a.m.	Tuesday, Thursday	7:30 - 9:30 a.m.
12:30 - 1:45 p.m.	Tuesday, Thursday	10:00 - 12:00 noon
MAKE-UP EXAMS		12:30 - 2:30 p.m.
5:30 - 6:45 p.m.	Tuesday, Thursday	5:15 - 7:15 p.m.
MAKE-UP EXAMS		7:30 - 9:30 p.m.

Final exams for three hour evening classes which have starting times of 4:00 p.m. or later, and which meet regularly once a week, will be given during finals week on the regularly scheduled day and time as the class would normally meet.