



# INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY CENTENARY 1911 – 2011

TUES 08 MAR 8.00<sup>PM</sup>

O'FLAHERTY THEATRE  
NUI, GALWAY



## WOMEN WITHOUT MEN

DIR. SHIRIN NESHAT

AUSTRIA/FRANCE/GERMANY 2009 99MINS

WOMEN WITHOUT MEN weaves together four women's lives in complex and enigmatic ways. Munis is serious, cerebral, and bullied by her brother for neglecting her demure womanly duties. Munis's friend is in love with this same brother who makes Munis's life a misery. Fakhri is a stylish, elegant married woman in her 40s, in love with an old flame. Finally there is Zarin, a prostitute, played with characteristic intensity by Orsi Tóth. With this debut feature, Neshat has made a picture with vision, poetry, sexual frankness and historical sinew. It brings together, on screen, the personal and the political in the story of four women and the way their lives are affected by the turbulence of the anti-Mossadeq coup, and revives the memory of a lost generation of Iranian politics and culture: the westernised liberal intelligentsia, a white-collar class exiled and effaced by the Shah's regime, but also fiercely repudiated by the theocracy installed by the Islamic revolution of 1979. The film underlines the fact that it is Iran which, in the 21st century, has repeatedly offered the world a vivid, unapologetically feminist cinema. A film which ensnares both the heart and the mind.  
*Winner - Best Director Silver Lion Award Venice Film Festival 2009.*

(HOSTED BY THE GLOBAL WOMEN'S STUDIES PROGRAMME, NUI GALWAY)

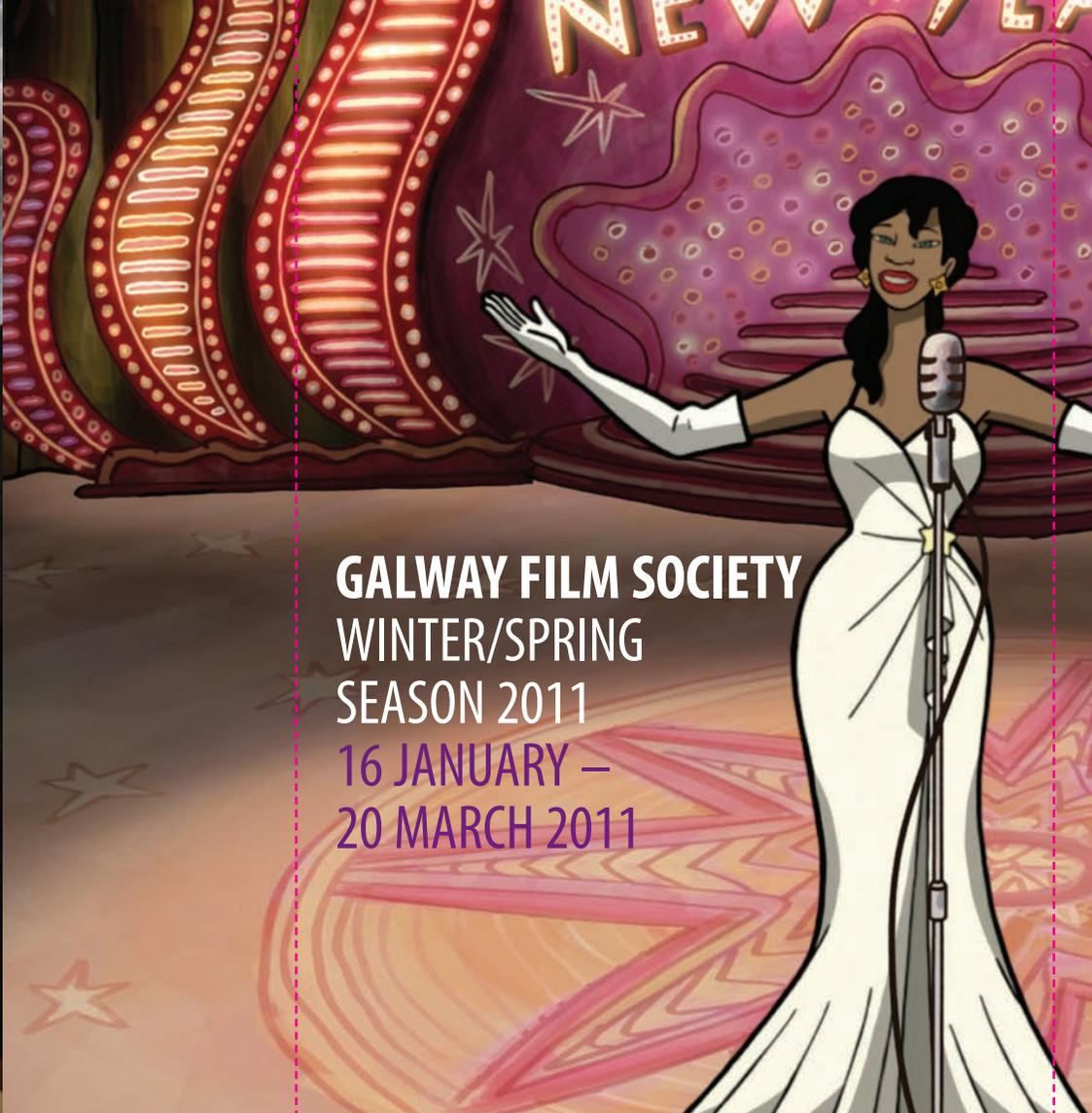
GFS WILL SCREEN THIS FILM IN ASSOCIATION WITH NUI, GALWAY FILM SOCIETY  
& AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL

ADMISSION: €7/5(CONCESSION).

INFORMATION/BOOKING TOWN HALL THEATRE, PHONE 091-569777 – ONLINE BOOKING THT.IE

DR. NIAMH REILLY, SENIOR LECTURER GLOBAL WOMEN'S STUDIES, SCHOOL OF POLITICAL  
SCIENCE AND SOCIOLOGY, NUI, GALWAY WILL GIVE A SHORT TALK BEFORE ABOVE SCREENING.

PLEASE NOTE AS THIS IS THE CENTENARY OF INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY A NUMBER OF  
ACTIVITIES WILL TAKE PLACE DURING THE DAY AT NUI, GALWAY PRIOR TO THIS SCREENING  
WATCH OUT FOR FURTHER DETAILS.



**GALWAY FILM SOCIETY**  
WINTER/SPRING  
SEASON 2011  
16 JANUARY –  
20 MARCH 2011



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SUN 16 JAN 8.15<sup>PM</sup>

MY AFTERNOONS WITH MARGUERITTE



DIR. JEAN BECKER FRANCE 2010 82 MINS

Fifty-something Germain lives a quiet life. At the local bar with his girlfriend Annette, in the park where he counts the pigeons, or in the vegetable garden where he grows produce to take to market. Germain is a simple man. His father left his mother when she became pregnant and she still blames her son for ruining her chance at love. One day, in the park, he meets Margueritte, an old lady whose work as a scientist took her all over the world. She has a passion for literature, which she soon shares with Germain. Before long, a true bond of affection unites them, and Germain realizes that he has the right to take control of his destiny. Veteran director Jean Becker's My Afternoons With Margueritte is French feel-good filmmaking at its best. A touching tale - about a fifty-something who learns some valuable lessons about life and literature. The film exudes a strong and universal emotional appeal, backed by Gerard Depardieu's finely tuned performance as a dungaree-wearing ogre with a heart.

SUN 23 JAN 8.15<sup>PM</sup>

THE MAID



DIR. SEBASTIAN SILVA CHILE 2009 96 MINS

After 23 years of service to the Valdes family, Raquel is comfortably ensconced in a vague existence between maid and her illusion that she is a family member. Her barely concealed bitterness and increased clashes with her employer's eldest daughter lead the family to think she is overworked. They hire more help, and, feeling usurped, Raquel begins to sabotage each new employee by resorting to childish antics, clinging to her ambiguous place within the family. In his remarkably astute second feature, Sebastian Silva questions, without bias, a dusty remnant of class division - the common, Latin American, aristocratic tradition of serfdom. Within this complex dynamic, we are privy to the inner workings of a well-intentioned family's relationship with their servant - however endearingly the word is used. Only Lucy, last in the line of new maids, is able to nudge Raquel gently toward the momentous kick-start needed to rediscover herself. Sebastian produces a painful, yet satisfying, comedic drama that shakes up and humanizes an insidious system.

Winner - Best Actress at Biarritz International Festival of Latin American Cinema 2009

Winner - Best Actress, Best Script Miami Film Festival 2009

Winner - Grand Jury Prize & Special Jury Prize Sundance Film Festival 2009

SUN 30 JAN 8.15<sup>PM</sup>

WINTERS BONE



DIR. DERA GRANIK USA 2010 100 MINS

The action takes place in the Ozark Mountains of Missouri, where teenage Ree looks after her mother, catatonic with depression, her younger brother and sister. Her father is absent, and thought to be engaged in criminal activity. When the sheriff informs Ree her daddy has posted the family home as bail, Ree must shoulder a strange breadwinner's burden - she must find her errant father. In doing so, she starts to dig up some very dangerous secrets. Everyone who knows the truth about Ree's dad has a great interest in keeping quiet about it, combined with a sentimental, family-based compulsion to help this one person who must be kept in the dark. Debra Granik's movie is told not as a thriller, but as a naturalistic drama, in which the thrills are the more potent for being unexpected, and she uses keening country music to underscore the stoicism and melancholy of this brutal, amoral world. In the end, Winter's Bone is about transgression and taboo, and the consequences of trespassing upon the past. But the film is given unironic dignity and power due to the outstanding lead performance from 20-year-old Jennifer Lawrence as Ree, a young woman who must take on some scary neighbourhood types to protect her family.

Winner - Grand Jury Prize 2010 Sundance Film Festival

SUN 06 FEB 8.15<sup>PM</sup>

THE HAPPIEST GIRL IN THE WORLD



DIR: RADU JUDE ROMANIA 2009 100 MINS

This latest find from Romania is an acerbic comedy about a young girl who wins a soft-drinks competition and finds that success comes with a catch. As part of her reward, she is doomed to spend a day in Bucharest shooting a commercial through clenched teeth, while her parents lay on the moral blackmail. Delia gamely speaks her lines, over and over again, but what looks like becoming a protracted gag about the capitalist dream gradually evolves into a resonant tragicomedy, its insight all the more trenchant for being executed with such casual economy. A modest, no-frills work, but one of the wittier and more honest films of the year. - Jonathan Romney

Radu Jude worked as assistant director on Cristi Puiu's The Death of Mr Lazarescu.

C.I.C.A.E. Award, Berlin International Film Festival 2009.

FIPRESCI Prize, Sofia International Film Festival 2009

The following short film will be screened before the feature:

THE HERD

DIR: KEN WARDROP IRELAND 2009 4 MINS

A farmer finds a deer befriendng his herd of cattle.

SUN 13 FEB 8.15<sup>PM</sup>

CHICO & RITA



DIR. FERNANDO TRUEBA & JAVIER MARISCAL SPAIN 2010 94 MINS

Chico & Rita, is an epic, animated love story set within the splendour of Cuban culture, history and music. Chico is a promising young pianist who spends his evenings taking American girls to Havana's latest hotspots. He discovers Rita's exquisite voice at a nightclub and the two quickly become enamoured and form a musical partnership. When an American producer, Ron, approaches Rita with a contract and an offer to travel to New York a misunderstanding with Chico leads Rita to accept the offer. Soon afterward, Chico sells his piano and follows her. Rita, now Rita LaBelle, is becoming increasingly famous. Old Havana is recreated with masterful fervour; the filmmakers use warm, bright hues to capture the charms and vibrancy of this captivating city. The palette shifts towards a monochromatic tone when the narrative moves to New York, and the result is a striking contrast between differing cultures. The film is also rife with jazz history. Charlie Parker and Dizzy Gillespie are seen playing the clubs. Chico and Rita is a tribute to Trueba and Mariscal's long love affair with the music, culture and people of Cuba.

SUN 20 FEB 8.15<sup>PM</sup>

NO FILM

SUN 27 FEB 8.15<sup>PM</sup>

UNCLE BOONMEE WHO CAN RECALL HIS PAST LIVES



DIR. APICHPONG WEERASETHAKUL THAILAND 2010 117 MINS

Boonmee is a middle-aged man, in need of kidney dialysis, who has come to the remote forest to end his days: this is an important place from his childhood, and, he believes, the location for his former existences. His recalling of these past lives is partly, but only partly, a case of previous incarnations being presented in a mystical flashback parallel. There is an extraordinary scene in which an unhappy princess converses and then has ecstatic sex with a catfish. The past lives of the title also refer to those of other people now lost to Boonmee: his dead wife and lost son. He has come to the forest with Laotian nurse Jaai, his sister-in-law Jen, and his young cousin Tong. At the dinner table, they are astonished when the ghost of Boonmee's wife, appears to them.

"Baldly recounted, these events sound ridiculous, and yet it all has something sublime and visionary about it, with a spiritual quality I can't remember seeing in any film recently. Uncle Boonmee offers pleasure and heartbreak in equal measure." - Peter Bradshaw / The Guardian

A gloriously worthy winner of the Palme d'Or at this year's Cannes film festival (2010)

SUN 06 MAR 8.15<sup>PM</sup>

LOOSE CANNONS



DIR. FERZAN OZPETEK ITALY 2010 110 MINS

Tommaso (Riccardo Scamarcio) has a comfortable life in Rome as an aspiring writer and is in a steady relationship with his boyfriend Marco - a life he has kept secret from his family. When he's called back to his hometown of Lecce in Southern Italy to help run the family business, he decides to reveal his homosexuality to his conservative family and hopefully get out of his business obligations in the process. But when his plans are thwarted, Tommaso gets stuck on the path that he was desperately trying to avoid. Ozpetek takes a playful approach to this family drama, matching a critique of provincial Southern values with an eccentric cast of characters that includes a philandering conservative father (the superb Ennio Fantastichini), a boozing aunt, a pair of disgruntled maids and Tommaso's bubbly friends. As each family member's quirks slowly come to the surface, Ozpetek's heartfelt film reveals that Tommaso isn't the only one struggling to navigate between la bella figura (a good public image) and his true desires.

Ferzan Ozpetek's coming-out comedy was nominated for Best Film and Best Director at the David di Donatello (Italian Academy) Awards 2010.

SUN 13 MAR 8.15<sup>PM</sup>

ALAMAR



DIR. PEDRO GONZALEZ-RUBIO MEXICO 2009 73 MINS

An unusual film in an unusual location: the Mexican coral reef Banco Chinchorro, where grandfather, father and five-year-old son spend their days fishing for crabs and snappers. A fisherman receives a visit from his son Jorge, who is recently divorced, and his five-year-old grandson. Every day, they dive for snappers, drink cups of coffee and maintain their fishing boat. Their life looks ideal: the days are made up of eating fish by the sea where it is caught, with hair wet from diving. Although a farewell is approaching between Jorge and his son, who is returning with his mother to Italy, that sentiment is not exploited. This cross-genre film - mixing documentary and fiction - rocks gently to the rhythm of the sea where the fishermen and the animals spend their days. Fishermen and prey live with each other on this coral reef, the second largest in the world, which has an intact ecosystem. On Banco Chinchorro, humans are not the dominant species and humility graces the characters.

Winner - FIPRESCI Prize, Toulouse Latin America Film Festival

SUN 20 MAR 8.15<sup>PM</sup>

ON TOUR



DIR. MATHIEU AMALRIC FRANCE 2010 111MINS

Joachim, a former Parisian television producer had left everything behind - his children, friends, enemies, lovers and regrets to start a new life in America. But he returns with a team of New Burlesque strip-tease performers whom he has filled with romantic dreams of a tour of France, of Paris! Traveling from town to town, despite the cheap hotel rooms and lack of money, the curvaceous showgirls invent an extravagant fantasy world of warmth and hedonism that wins an enthusiastic response from men and women alike. But their dream of a tour culminating in a last grand show in Paris goes up in smoke when Joachim is betrayed by an old friend and loses the theatre where they were due to perform. An obligatory return journey to the capital violently reopens the old wounds of his past. This film is the directorial debut of the award winning actor Mathieu Amalric who is best know for his leading role in THE DIVING BELL AND THE BUTTERFLY 2007.

Winner - Best Director, Cannes Film Festival 2010

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