



University of Glasgow



Sponsored by GRAMNet, BEMIS & Glasgow Human Rights Network



GRAMNet Film Series 2011/12 Screenings Brochure

www.glasgow.ac.uk/gramnet
www.glasgow.ac.uk/humanrights
www.bemis.org.uk

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Film stills kindly provided courtesy of distribution companies/directors:
Tawona's Story: Gameli Tordzro
Les Arrivants (The Arrivals): Doc & Film International
The Deported/The Returnee: Mahbud Alam
One Way, A Tuareg Journey: Fabio Caramaschi
Dooman River: Global Film Initiative
Immigrant Nation! The Battle for the Dream: Esaú Melemdez
Art of Flight: Seventh Art Releasing

Design by Cactus, Glasgow.



www.glasgow.ac.uk/gramnet

Programme

The 2011/12 Film Series is organised in partnership between GRAMNet (Glasgow Refugee Asylum and Migration Network) and BEMIS (Black and Ethnic Minorities Infrastructure in Scotland), with the support of the newly established Glasgow Human Rights Network (GHRN). This year we will showcase films and documentaries addressing a whole range of migration-related issues including: journeys and narratives; asylum and immigration bureaucracies; recognition and social justice; deportation and humiliation; separation and reunion. The ethos underpinning the 2011/12 film series is **'Think Global, Act Local'**, through which we wish to promote active citizenship and human rights education. Following each film, invited local organisations and community groups will suggest positive actions that can be undertaken locally to address one or more of the issues raised in each film.

Screenings are accompanied by forums and Q&A for everyone to share views and thoughts in a friendly and supportive atmosphere. The audience is warmly invited to congregate in the Centre for Contemporary Arts (CCA) Café following each screening to continue our informal discussions.

Events are free of charge and open to everyone.

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Date	Screening	Observance
12 Oct	Tawona's Story (2010)	International Day Of Non-Violence Black History Month
16 Nov	The Arrivals (2009)	International Day For Tolerance
14 Dec	The Deported (2007) The Returnee (2009)	Human Rights Day International Migrants Day
29 Feb	The Broadest Shoulders (2011) One Way, A Tuareg Journey (2010)	World Day Of Social Justice
21 Mar	She, a Chinese (2009)	International Women's Day/ International Day For The Elimination Of Racial Discrimination
11 Apr	Dooman River (2009)	International Day For Street Children
23 May	Immigrant Nation! The Battle for the Dream (2010)	World Day For Cultural Diversity For Dialogue and Development
20 Jun	The Art of Flight (2005)	World Refugee Day

Film Synopsis

NOTE: All screenings start at 5.30pm

Wednesday
12 October 2011

2011/12 series launch

The Film Series launch will feature members of GRAMNet, BEMIS and invited speakers. The audience is warmly invited to join us in the CCA Café following the screening for a drink and to continue our informal discussion session.

Tawona's Story

Documentary: Scotland 2010
Director: Gameli Tordzro
Running time: 30 min

"No story is better told than by those the story is about"

There are many countless stories about the lives of the many people of African origins living and working in Scotland today. Many of these stories are success stories, not only of Africans, but

also of Scotland as nation with people of diverse backgrounds. The fact that there is an increase in the number of people from Africa and the Caribbean in Scotland is indicative of long lasting links between Scotland and Africa and the African Diaspora.

Tawona's Story is the first episode of the 'Our Stories' series that shines a light on the lives of various individuals in many different life endeavours and experiences in Scotland and beyond. The series captures inspiring stories of struggles, resilience, determination, and excellence. It records the history of our future as it occurs before us. Tawona's story is a truly wonderful, thought-provoking story, one that is absent from the 'common' stories we hear about migrants in Glasgow, Scotland and the UK in general.

The 'Our Stories' series is created and directed by one of Ghana's renowned storytellers Gameli Tordzro. Gameli is a theatre and film director living and working in Glasgow as the Artistic Director of Pan African Arts Scotland.



Wednesday
16 November 2011

Les Arrivants (The Arrivals)

Documentary: France 2009
Director: Patrice Chagnard and Claudine Bories
Running time: 113 min

"Hell is other people"

Caroline and Colette work in a modest office somewhere in Paris. This is where families from all parts of the world go to in search of help, accommodation or something to eat. The two of them are different to each other - different in the way that they fight against the growing despair of the asylum seekers and the madness of bureaucracy - but they both display a similar devotion to their work. The film holds a mirror up to us, the residents of the Schengen countries and illustrates how great the despair of asylum seekers is. It is a little chamber play with big emotions and a haunting power. Hell is, in fact, ourselves.

Awards

Best Film
International Film Festival Watch Docs, Warsaw
Best Film
Colombe d'or Festival de Leipzig, Leipzig



Wednesday
14 December 2011

The Deported | The Returnee

Documentary: Bangladesh 2007 | South Korea 2009
Director: Mahbud Alam
Running time: 22 and 25 min

The Deported: This Documentary film covers the story of the struggle of undocumented migrant workers from Bangladesh and Nepal in South Korea and the effects of the government's crackdown on them. Since 2003, the South Korean government has started to deport undocumented workers more strictly than ever. This documentary film shows how the deported workers settle back into their countries. Those deported experience hard time in getting used to their new life in their countries at first. However, the groups of people who were deported earlier and returned from South Korea help them to find a new job and settle back in.

The Returnee: After living in South Korea for more than a decade, Masum returns to his home in Bangladesh. His homecoming is bittersweet. Masum is one of three leaders of the Migrants Trade Union who were arrested on the same day and deported from Korea. *The Returnee* follows Masum's journey as he is reunited with his estranged family - a mother who prayed for his return and a daughter who met her father for the first time. Traveling in Bangladesh and Nepal, Masum meets old friends and new allies who continue to struggle for the plight of migrants seeking the Korean Dream.



Wednesday
29 February 2012

The Broadest Shoulders

Documentary: UK 2011
Director: Camcorder Guerillas
Running time: 4 min

This short film by Camcorder Guerillas, addresses the issue of cuts in UK public spending and their consequences on disabled people. The film will be shown before the main documentary: *One Way, A Tuareg Journey*.

The Broadest Shoulders is screened courtesy of Camcorder Guerillas. See their video archive at <http://vimeo.com/channels/camcorderguerillas>

One Way, A Tuareg Journey

Documentary: Italy | Niger 2010
Director: Caramaschi
Running time: 52 min

One Way, A Tuareg Journey is a documentary by Italian photographer, director and teacher Fabio Caramaschi. It narrates the parallel stories of Tuareg brothers Sidi and Alkhassoum, separated by the family's migration to Italy. While Sidi manages to join his father in Italy, together with his mother and sister, younger Alkhassoum cannot obtain the necessary documents and therefore has to be left behind in Niger, in the care of his paternal grandfather. The documentary follows Sidi over a period of several years, from his first arrival in Italy as a young boy to a teenager dreaming of becoming a journalist. All the time Alkhassoum's 'present absence' is intensely felt, and difficult questions are asked to which even adults do not always have an answer.

Shot both in Italy and Niger, *One Way* is filmed also partly through Sidi's eyes, as he holds the camera to record places and people and to explore personal histories and emotions. The result is a touching, powerful and yet profoundly gentle exploration of migration, childhood and relationships that raises several important and timely questions.

Awards

Selected for the 24th International Documentary Film Festival Amsterdam



Wednesday
21 March 2012

She, a Chinese

Drama: UK | France | Germany 2009
Director: Xiaolu Guo
Running time: 103 min
Certificate: 18

This is the story of Mei, an enigmatic young woman bored with life in her provincial Chinese village. Her longing for a different life takes her first to a city in her own country, where she finds love, and loses it. Still searching, she migrates to England, drifting and rootless.

She, a Chinese conjures the mix of cultures in the early 21st century and how people, lifestyles, consumer goods, and music all cross borders. Although these cross-cultural currents bring about a degree of chaos in Mei's life, she finds the will to escape isolation, and to follow her desires. John Parish's score is the perfect sonic landscape to accompany the story of a young Chinese migrant woman.

Awards
Screenplay Award
Hamburg Film Festival
Golden Leopard
Locarno International Film Festival



Wednesday
11 April 2012

Dooman River

Drama: China 2009
Director: Zhang Lu
Running time: 89 min

Twelve-year-old Chang-ho lives in a small town in China along the frozen river that borders North Korea. Despite the constant presence of poverty and hardship in the community that the family calls home, people of the town have remained sympathetic toward the Korean refugees fleeing famine and misery. Chang-ho finds friendship with one of the young border-crosser who comes to the town scavenging food for his sibling. But he soon turns on his new friend as suspicions mount against the undocumented migrants. He finds himself in a quandary over his loyalties in an exquisitely detailed story of compassion and strife across an uneasy geopolitical border.

Awards
Golden Orange
Antalya Golden Orange Film Festival
Crystal Bear – Special Mention
Berlin International Film Festival

Wednesday
23 May 2012

Immigrant Nation!: The Battle for the Dream

Documentary: Mexico | USA 2010
Director: Esaú Melemdez
Running time: 96 min

Imagine that you open your door one day to find police officers standing before you and requesting to see your documentation. This is the cataclysmic opening scene to Esaú Melemdez's shockingly poignant documentary, featuring a single mother named Elvira Arellano and her American-born son, Saul. Faced with the dilemma of vehemently protesting the deportation mandate or temporarily leaving her child behind so that he may continue living in America, Elvira realizes the full potential of the Latino American human rights movement. Upon witnessing the compelling scenes that feature giant street protests, heart wrenching interviews with displaced families, and the political dramas displayed on national news networks, the viewer begins to apply a human face to one of the most controversial issues of the decade. Elvira's visceral story inspires thoughtful debate and progressive action in support of the ever-changing mindset regarding international migration.

Awards
Cine Latino Award
DC Independent Film Festival, Washington
Best Documentary
Latino Film Festival, Chicago
Best Documentary
Cine Festival of San Antonio and various other awards.



Wednesday
20 June 2012

The Art of Flight

Documentary: Sudan | USA 2005
Director: Davin Anders Hutchins
Running time: 68 min

The Art Of Flight tells the story of refugees fleeing Sudan's civil war for Egypt and one journalist's struggle to get their story told. This feature-length film tells the story of three people who have found themselves struggling to survive in Egypt, which has reluctantly become their home. The film delves deep into the nature of charity, the consequences of American empire and the price of transience.

The Art of Flight is screened with kind permission from Seventh Art Releasing:
www.7thart.com



Our History

On December 4th 2009 the University of Glasgow hosted a unique workshop to assess the potential for establishing a network on a cross-cutting research theme addressing migration, asylum and refugees. The event was unique in that it engaged knowledge exchange partners in the public and third sector to identify themes and co-design potential future work for a research network in this field. The outcome was unanimously positive, and GRAMNet formally launched in early 2010.

One of the network's major accomplishments in the first year was the establishment of our annual Film Series hosted by the Glasgow CCA. The Series was organised in partnership between GRAMNet and BEMIS. The screenings enabled members of the network and the public to engage with issues pertaining to migration, human rights and social justice. Our audience came from diverse academic, organisational and societal backgrounds, and as our first season progressed the audience demographic continually shifted in response to the context explored in each screening. The Series provided a safe space for people to present their views and perspectives and successfully integrated local and global narratives through the use of film produced both internationally and locally.

About us

GRAMNet
A new approach to migration

GRAMNet brings together researchers and practitioners, NGOs (non governmental organisations) and policy makers concerned with migration issues in Scotland and beyond. The research initiative, currently based at the University of Glasgow, focuses on migrants, asylum seekers and refugees. The network provides a forum through which policy makers and academics can work together to connect communities through knowledge exchange, research and development. The city of Glasgow is host to the largest population of refugees and asylum seekers under the UK Government's dispersal policy and also has a history of attracting large communities of migrants. GRAMNet aims to build a context for the study of migrant communities based on the city's unique position.

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BEMIS
(Black and Ethnic Minorities Infrastructure in Scotland)

BEMIS is the Ethnic Minorities led national umbrella organisation for the Ethnic Minority Voluntary Sector & the communities that this sector represents. As a strategic national infrastructure organisation, BEMIS aims to empower the diverse Ethnic Minority third sector. We are committed to promoting inclusion, democratic active citizenship, recognition of diversity, human rights education, and wider representation. Our vision is of a Scotland that is Equal, Inclusive, and Responsive: A society where people from the diverse communities are valued, treated with dignity and respect, have equal citizenship, opportunities and quality of life, and who actively participate in civic society.

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Glasgow Human Rights Network
(GHRN)

The Glasgow Human Rights Network aims to bring together researchers, practitioners, members of civil society organisations and policymakers who address human rights issues. The University of Glasgow has a wide range of expertise on a variety of human rights issues, and conducts both research and teaching in this area, as do other universities in Scotland. The City of Glasgow, and Scotland more widely, also has many nongovernmental organisations involved in human rights issues. And Scotland constitutes a unique setting within the UK for addressing human rights issues within the context of devolution.

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CCA
(Centre for Contemporary Arts)

The CCA is a unique contemporary arts organisation at the heart of Glasgow's city centre and vibrant cultural community. With an eclectic programme offering visual arts, music, film, talks and performance, there's always something interesting going on. Fast developing a reputation for world class improvised, experimental and electronic music, CCA also screens independent short, foreign and documentary films otherwise unavailable across the city.

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Access
There is level access to CCA from Sauchiehall Street. All upper levels are fully accessible by lift. There is an induction loop at the Sales and Information desk and CCA4.