



Werner Herzog

in search of
ecstatic truth

Werner Herzog's range of work across artistic disciplines is unequalled. He has directed over 50 films and 20 opera productions on six continents, and has published numerous books, screenplays and articles. Established as one of the leading figures of world cinema, he has developed a powerful artistic vision with a capacity for critical reflection.

As a director, Werner Herzog challenges the lines between traditional, narrative feature and documentary film, and has even called his fictional film *Fitzcarraldo* the best documentary of his career. He proclaims that, "...it is possible to reach a deeper stratum of truth—a poetic, ecstatic truth, which is mysterious and can only be grasped with effort; one attains it through vision, style, and craft".

These events are sponsored by the William T. Patten Foundation and IU Cinema. The Patten Lecture series invites eminent writers, scholars, and artists to the Bloomington campus, offering stimulating opportunities for intellectual exchanges and artistic expressions. Screenings are \$3, unless noted.*

Burden of Dreams (1982) Directed by Les Blank

Tuesday - August 28 - 7:00 p.m.

For nearly five years, acclaimed German filmmaker Werner Herzog desperately tried to complete one of the most ambitious and difficult films of his career, *Fitzcarraldo*, the story of one man's attempt to build an opera house deep in the Amazon jungle. Documentary filmmaker Les Blank captured the unfolding of this production, made more perilous by Herzog's determination to shoot the most daunting scenes without models or special effects, including a sequence requiring hundreds of native Indians to pull a full-size, 320-ton steamship over a small mountain. The result is an extraordinary document of the filmmaking process and a unique look into the single-minded mission of one of cinema's most fearless directors. (DigiBeta. 85 min. Not rated.)



Fata Morgana (1971) Directed by Werner Herzog

Saturday - September 8 - 9:30 p.m.

Conceived in 1969 but not released until 1972, *Fata Morgana* is the first installment in a trilogy of films shot in Africa by a director who proved early on that he had vision few of his contemporaries could match. Filmed on location in the depths of the Sahara desert, the film has a reputation for its experimental techniques, which capture the beauty of the desert's legendarily mirage-studded landscape. Through the rendering of its inhabitants and their geographically inspired personalities, the solidification of Herzog's reputation for delivering unique perspectives to film began. (DigiBeta. 79 min. Not rated.)

Land of Silence and Darkness (1971)

Directed by Werner Herzog

Sunday - September 9 - 3:00 p.m.

Fini Straubinger is afflicted with both deafness and blindness. Werner Herzog introduces us to monumental undertakings in Fini's life, that for most of us are reflexive motions that require minimal effort or consideration. We follow Fini as she attends various events in the deaf-blind community and can almost feel the sense of isolation. Her interactions with her peers and their methods for communication are a clear reminder of the essential need for touch. The film is a heartfelt rumination of how much of an individual's identity is entwined in sensory output and input. (DigiBeta. 85 min. Not rated.)

Aguirre, Wrath of God (1972) ●

Directed by Werner Herzog

Monday - September 10 - 7:00 p.m.

Klaus Kinski stars as a Spanish conquistador who uses tyranny and his over-inflated ego to lead an ill-fated trip down the Amazon in search of the fabled riches of El Dorado. Featuring some of Werner Herzog's most complex and intricately staged camera set-ups, as well as authentic and treacherous on-location settings, Kinski strips away the veneer of his fearless, entitled leader to reveal abject terror and an almost hallucinatory progression towards insanity. Both Herzog and Kinski push themselves to their breaking points to reveal a man simultaneously drunk on power and feverishly unable to maintain a grasp on the escalating breakdown of his fortunes. (2K DCP. 93 min. Not rated.) – *World Premiere 2K DCP screening.*

Fitzcarraldo (1982) ●

Directed by Werner Herzog

Wednesday - September 12 - 7:00 p.m.

With a production filled with legend, this epic is full of vast shots of wide-open spaces, people trying to succeed at the near impossible and the proclivity of some men to set out to conquer the unconquerable. Klaus Kinski is Brian Sweeney Fitzgerald, a man with big aspirations and little achievement to validate his grandiosity. Like Aguirre before him, Fitzgerald becomes fixated on the realization of an improbable goal: the erection of a posh opera house in a small Peruvian city. With hopeful financing to come from the lucrative demand for rubber, Fitzgerald attempts to drag a very large steamer up the Amazon for the exportation of rubber trees. The local natives play both a vital and detrimental role in Fitzgerald's dreams of ascending to greatness. (2K DCP. 158 min. Rated PG.) – *World Premiere 2K DCP screening.*



Bad Lieutenant: Port of Call New Orleans (2009) ●

Directed by Werner Herzog

Friday - September 14 - 9:30 p.m.

Nicolas Cage proves that when given adequate material he can rise to the occasion and help dramatic subject matter (such as drug addiction and a life spiraling out of control) transcend into true art. Cage plays Terrence McDonagh, a cop who prefers his own shady brand of law enforcement, who winds up addicted to opiates after a rescue mission irreparably injures his back. After graduating from pain medication to cocaine, McDonagh maneuvers through several different modes of operation to keep his drug supply consistent and pure. The film is a meditation on the scruples of law enforcement officials as well as a strong character portrait of a man trading invaluable portions of his identity for white pills and powder. (35mm. 122 min. Rated R.)



Patten Lecture Werner Herzog

The Search for Ecstatic Truth

Tuesday - Sept. 11 - 7:30 p.m.

Whittenberger Auditorium

Patten Lecture Werner Herzog

The Transformative Role of Music in Film

Thursday - Sept. 13 - 7:30 p.m.

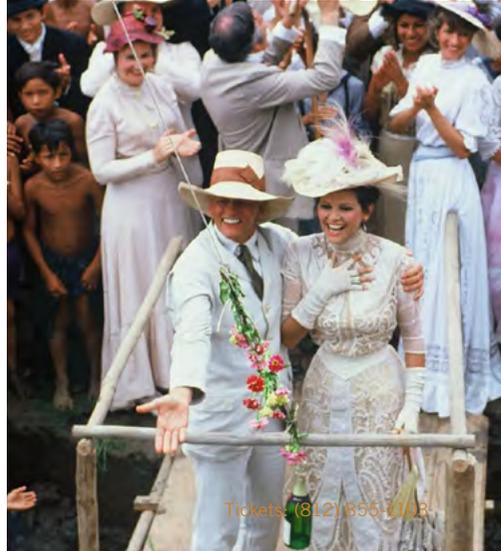
Whittenberger Auditorium

Public Interview Werner Herzog

Hosted by Professor Greg Waller

Friday - Sept. 14 - 3:00 p.m.

IU Cinema



Grizzly Man (2005) Directed by Werner Herzog ●

Friday - September 14 - 6:30 p.m.

In 2003, Timothy Treadwell and his girlfriend ventured out into Katmai National Park in Alaska to weather the lean summer months with a horde of grizzlies, a trip they would not return from. Over the course of thirteen summer seasons with the grizzlies, Treadwell grew to believe that they had developed a kinship with him. The film considers the borderline instability and almost delusional faith that its subject has in the large, notoriously dangerous mammals, without straying far from the core of Treadwell's well-intentioned mission - to shed light on the precariousness of the grizzly bear's existence. (35mm. 103 min. Rated R.) *This screening is free, but ticketed.

● Werner Herzog is scheduled to be in attendance at these noted events.



The Enigma of Kaspar Hauser

(1974) Directed by Werner Herzog

Sunday - September 16 - 3:00 p.m.

Kaspar Hauser lived the first seventeen years of his life chained in a dark cellar, to emerge in Nuremberg as if he had fallen from another planet. He has no concept of this world, but is rescued by a man who attempts to transform him through education, religion and music. Because of his unorthodox approach to religion and logic, Hauser remains an outcast. Based on a true story, Werner Herzog's lead character was formed from actual letters found with Hauser, as well as from the essence of his extraordinary, untrained actor, Bruno Schleinstein, whose own life shared similarities with that of Kaspar. The film won the Grand Jury Prize at the 1975 Cannes Film Festival. (DigiBeta. 110 min. Not rated.)

Into the Abyss (2011)

Directed by Werner Herzog

Sunday - September 16 - 6:30 p.m.

In his fascinating exploration of a triple homicide case in Conroe, Texas, Werner Herzog probes the human psyche to explore why people kill—and why a state kills. In intimate conversations with those involved, including 28-year-old death row inmate Michael Perry, Herzog achieves what he describes as “a gaze into the abyss of the human soul.” Herzog's inquiries also extend to the families of the victims and perpetrators as well as a state executioner and pastor who've been with death row prisoners as they've taken their final breaths. As he's so often done before, Herzog's investigation unveils layers of humanity, making an enlightening trip out of ominous territory. (35mm. 107 min. Rated PG-13.)

Nosferatu the Vampyre (1979) Directed by Werner Herzog

Friday - September 14 - 11:59 p.m.

A chillingly enigmatic Klaus Kinski stars as Count Dracula in Werner Herzog's hypnotic homage to F.W. Murnau's 1922 classic of German Expressionism. Recalling his earlier *Enigma of Kaspar Hauser* (1974) and *Heart of Glass* (1976), Herzog's version of the Dracula mythos depicts a world where the only thing more sublimely frightening than an undead vampire is the thin veneer separating rational, bourgeois society from utter madness. Also starring Bruno Ganz and Isabelle Adjani as Jonathan and Lucy Harker, *Nosferatu* represents Dracula as another Herzogian existential (anti-)hero, trailing the terrors of nature in his wake while also unveiling the destructive superstitions at civilization's margins. (2K DCP. 107 min. Rated PG.) – *World Premiere 2K DCP screening.*



Pema Tseden is considered the first Tibetan filmmaker to produce entirely Tibetan films. His first feature film, The Silent Holy Stones, set the tone for his films to come – use of Tibetan language, all Tibetan cast and crew, and Tibetan locations – giving them an authenticity of Tibetan culture set in contemporary complexities of everyday modern life. The series is sponsored by Indiana University Student Association, Central Eurasian Studies Department, Sinor Research Institute for Inner Asian Studies, East Asian Studies Center, Tibetan Studies Student Association and IU Cinema. Special thanks to Eveline Yang. Screenings are free, but ticketed.

The Search (2009) Directed by Pema Tseden

Saturday - September 29 - 7:00 p.m.

A Tibetan film director travels from village to village looking for actors to star in a film based on a Tibetan opera. Traveling by car, the director holds auditions in the most unlikely locations – construction sites, streets, bars, night clubs, and monasteries. This road movie takes us straight into the heart of a changing Tibet, raising questions about what tradition and identity mean in the modern world. Tibetan language with English subtitles. (35mm. 117 min. Rated PG)

Old Dog (2011) Directed by Pema Tseden

Saturday - September 22 - 6:30 p.m.

On the high Tibetan plains, a family struggles to survive. Their dog, a mastiff that has been in the family for years, is worth a fortune. But, what will it cost to lose it? After selling the dog to a dealer, Gonpo realizes what the decision has done to his family's dynamic, and understands what he needs to do. *Old Dog* is a poetic film about Tibet's changing society, where old values conflict with new. Tibetan language with English subtitles. (35mm. 88 min. Not rated.)

Director Pema Tseden is scheduled to be present.

Silent Holy Stones (2005) Directed by Pema Tseden

Saturday - September 15 - 6:30 p.m.

A young Tibetan lama from a mountain monastery, returns home for the New Year's celebrations. Fascinated by TV serials of Buddhist stories, he wants to bring his family's television to the monastery. The young boy struggles to balance his strict Buddhist training with explorations of the outside world through the novelty of television. Tibetan language with English subtitles. (35mm. 102 min. Not rated.)

