

MISSOURI SOUTHERN STATE UNIVERSITY



FILM PASSPORT

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INSTITUTE OF INTERNATIONAL STUDIES





STAMP
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DARK BLUE WORLD

7 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 30, 2022

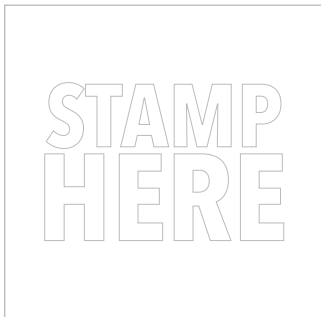
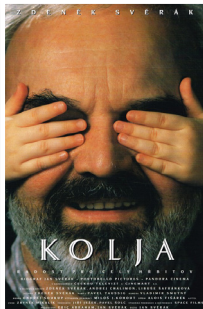
Cornell Auditorium in Plaster Hall

(dir. Jan Svěrák; 2001; 112 min.)

Introduction by Martin Zilvar (former MSSU student from Czechia)

Lt. František (Franta) Sláma is a top pilot in the Czech Air Force who is assigned to train a promising young flier, Karel Vojtišek and they soon become friends. When Nazi Germany invades Czechoslovakia in 1939, they both escape to England where they join other Czech exiles in the RAF. While flying a mission over England, Karel crash lands and happens upon the farmhouse of Susan, a young woman whose husband is in the Navy. Karel soon falls for Susan, but in time Susan decides she prefers the company of the older and more worldly Franta. Franta and Karel struggle to maintain their friendship despite their romantic rivalry. Rated R.

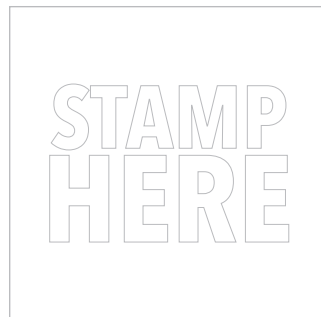
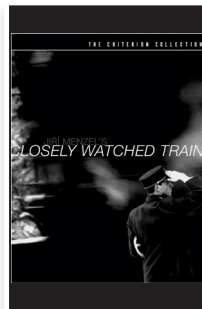




KOLYA

7 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 6, 2022
Cornell Auditorium in Plaster Hall
(dir. Jan Svěrák; 1996; 105 min.)
Introduction by Dr. Michael Howarth

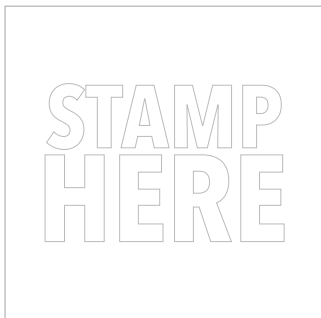
The Oscar-winning film *Kolya* was made in cooperation between the Svěrák father-and-son duo. Director Jan Svěrák does a brilliant job by putting on screen the story his father, Zdenek, so skillfully narrates. It's the story of the evolving relationship between the growing-old cellist Louka, who is not expecting much from life anymore, and a little boy named Kolya, who gets stuck with the man after a faked wedding with his Russian mother. The story takes place just before the Velvet Revolution of 1989, when the Communist regime was brought down. The film is also kind of a sightseeing trip around the Czech Republic. Rated PG-13.



CLOSELY WATCHED TRAINS

7 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 13, 2022
Bookhouse Cinema
(dir. Jiří Menzel; 1966; 93 min.)
Introduction by Dr. Bill Kumbier

At a village railway station in occupied Czechoslovakia, a bumbling dispatcher's apprentice longs to liberate himself from his virginity. Oblivious to the war and the resistance that surrounds him, this young man embarks on a journey of sexual awakening and self-discovery, encountering a universe of frustration, eroticism, and adventure within his sleepy backwater depot. Wry and tender, Academy Award-winning *Closely Watched Trains* is a masterpiece of human observation and one of the best-loved films of the Czech New Wave. **Harrison Kash**, founder of the MSSU International Film Festival, included it in his list of his top 31 films. Not Rated.



THE FIREMEN'S BALL

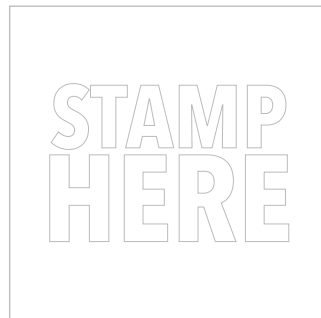
7 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 20, 2022

Bookhouse Cinema

(dir. Milos Forman; 1967; 73 min.)

Introduction by Dr. Chad Stebbins

A milestone of the Czech New Wave, Milos Forman's first color film *The Firemen's Ball* is both a dazzling comedy and a provocative political satire. A hilarious saga of good intentions confounded, the story chronicles a firemen's ball where nothing goes right – from a beauty pageant whose reluctant participants embarrass the organizers to a lottery from which nearly all the prizes are pilfered. Presumed to be a commentary on the floundering Czech leadership, the film was "banned forever" in Czechoslovakia following the Russian invasion and prompted Forman's move to America. Not Rated.



HAVEL

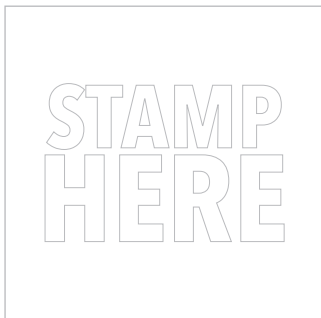
7 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 27, 2022

Cornell Auditorium in Plaster Hall

(dir. Slávek Horák; 2020; 104 min.)

Introduction by Dr. Jody Jensen

Havel is a historical drama loosely based on the dissident years of Vaclav Havel. The film follows his transformation from carefree playwright and playboy to banned and jailed human rights activist to eventual president of Czechoslovakia. His unorthodox relationship with his wife, Olga, who serves as his moral mirror and conscience, guides Havel's inner growth while he faces the constant threat of imprisonment or death. Adult content, sexual situations.



UNBEARABLE LIGHTNESS OF BEING

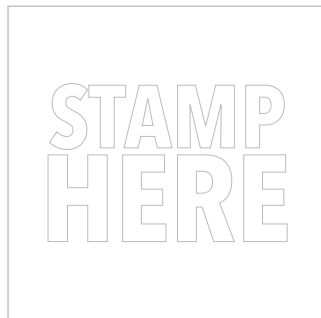
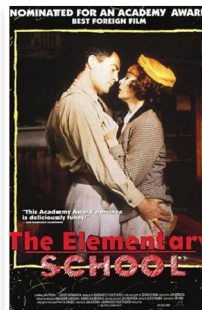
7 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 4, 2022

Bookhouse Cinema

(dir. Philip Kaufman; 1988; 171 min.)

Introduction by MSSU student Julie Harvey

Philip Kaufman achieves a delicate, erotic balance with his screen version of Milan Kundera's "unfilmable" novel. Adapted by Kaufman and Jean-Claude Carrière, the film follows a womanizing surgeon (Daniel Day-Lewis) as he struggles with his free-spirited mistress (Lena Olin) and his childlike wife (Juliette Binoche). An intimate epic, *The Unbearable Lightness of Being* charts the frontiers of relationships with wit, emotion, and devastating honesty. Rated R.



THE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

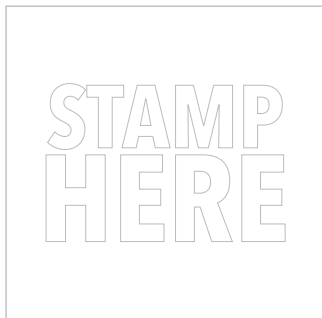
7 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 11, 2022

Cornell Auditorium in Plaster Hall

(dir. Jan Svěrák; 1991; 100 min.)

Introduction by Dr. Zdeněk Beran (visiting faculty member from Czechia)

A war hero is hired as a teacher just after World War II in Czechoslovakia and asked to discipline an unruly class of boys. He soon earns their respect, but he is threatened with termination over his reputed sexual relationship with two schoolgirls. The film was nominated for the Academy Award for Best Foreign Language Film and is considered one of the best Czechoslovak films ever. Zdeněk Svěrák, the director's father, wrote the screenplay and portrays the father of 10-year-old Eda. Not Rated.



ALL MY GOOD COUNTRYMEN

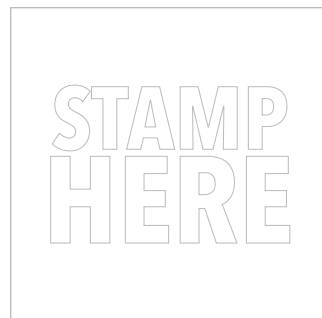
7 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 25, 2022

Bookhouse Cinema

(dir. Vojtěch Jasný; 1968; 120 min.)

Introduction by Dr. Chad Stebbins

Vojtěch Jasný won the best director award at the 1969 Cannes Film Festival for this sweeping portrait of a small Czech village between the years of 1945 and 1958, during which the residents go from hopeful in the aftermath of the defeat of the Nazis to increasingly demoralized in the face of the Communist takeover. Lyrical in its feeling for landscape but biting in its social and political commentary, *All My Good Countrymen* stands as the defining work by one of the lesser-known figures of the Czech New Wave. **Harrison Kash**, founder of the MSSU International Film Festival, included it in his list of his top 31 films. Not Rated.



AUTUMN SPRING

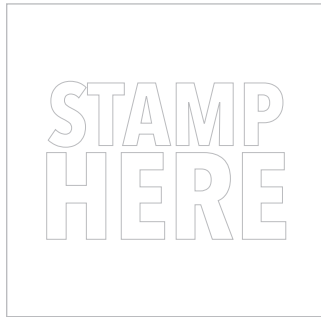
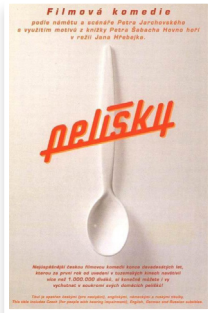
7 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 1, 2022

Cornell Auditorium in Plaster Hall

(dir. Vladimír Michálek.; 2001; 100 min.)

Introduction by Dr. Chad Stebbins

A bittersweet comedy starring the great Vlastimil Brodský as Fanda, an old man who refuses to grow up. Despite pleas from his exasperated wife who wants him to make serious decisions about the future, Fanda ignores the nagging and spends his days seeking amusement and adventure. Brodský was among the most beloved of Czech actors; he also starred in *Closely Watched Trains* and *All My Good Countrymen*. His final film was *Autumn Spring*. Rated PG-13.



COSY DENS

7 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 8, 2022

Bookhouse Cinema

(dir. Jan Hřebejk; 1999; 115 min.)

Introduction by Czech student Marjana Hafijčuková

A bittersweet coming-of-age story set in the months from Christmas 1967 leading up to the ill-fated 1968 Prague Spring. Lovelorn teenager Michal Šebek wants to end it all. He is hopelessly in love with his upstairs neighbor, Jindřiška. The trouble is, she is going out with his much cooler mate Elien, who gets all the latest movies, music, and fashion from his parents living in the States. To make matters worse, her father, Mr. Kraus is a rabid anti-Communist war hero who often has flaming rows with Michal's dad. This cult film remains a Christmas favorite in today's Czech Republic, although its second, somewhat more serious half, takes place in spring and summer. Not Rated.





Harrison and June Kash
INTERNATIONAL FILM SOCIETY

The **10 students** who attend the most Japan Semester films in Fall 2021 will receive either a Rick Steves' crossbody travel bag or a personal day pack for travel abroad.

Get your passport stamped every time you attend a film, and then turn it in to the Institute of International Studies in Webster Hall 337 after **Nov. 9**.

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