

## **NEWS RELEASE**

From the Shepherdstown Film Society  
Shepherdstown, WV

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For Immediate Release

(For further info contact Shepherdstown Film Society member Lisa Welch, telephone: 304-876-1837, e-mail: [lmwelch@frontiernet.net](mailto:lmwelch@frontiernet.net).)

### **SHEPHERDSTOWN FILM SOCIETY SPRING SCHEDULE**

The Shepherdstown Film Society is pleased to announce its spring, 2019 series. Six films will be presented, starting on January 25 and running through April 19. Five films comprise our spring theme of films with a political twist, including one film presented in collaboration with Shepherd University's International Affairs Program and Department of History. One additional film is presented in conjunction with Shepherd University's Common Reading Program.

The political twist themed films are presented through our continuing partnership with the Scarborough Society of Shepherd University. This partnership gives the Shepherdstown Film Society the financial support it needs to maintain its commitment to show free films for Shepherd students and faculty, and the Shepherdstown community.

All films will be shown on Fridays. All showings are at 7:00 p.m. in Shepherd University's Reynolds Hall. As with all the Society's films, admission will be free and each showing will be followed by a discussion. An opening night reception at The War Memorial Building will kick off the series from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. on Friday, January 25.

More information on each film can be found on the Society's website at [www.shepherdstownfilmsociety.org](http://www.shepherdstownfilmsociety.org). The film schedule will be as follows:

January 25: "Good Bye Lenin!"  
February 8: "Under the Sun"  
February 22: "Timbuktu"  
March 8: "Good Morning, Vietnam"  
March 22: "The Insult"  
April 19: "The Motorcycle Diaries"

Details of the films follow below, in the order in which the films are being shown:

January 25: "Good Bye Lenin!" (Germany, 2003, 121 minutes, directed by Wolfgang Becker in German, English and Russian). Not everyone in East Berlin was happy when the Wall fell in 1989. A family of dedicated communists has their adjustment complicated by the fact that the mother has been in a coma for months. When she wakes up, they try to protect her from the bad news and the evils of capitalism. Comedy ensues. Post-film discussion led by Charlie Brown. Rated R for brief language and sexuality.

February 8: "Under the Sun" (North Korea and Russia, 2015, 106 minutes, directed by Vitaly Mansky in Korean). This documentary film follows a North Korean family through the year they prepare their daughter to join the Korean Children's Union. Tightly controlled by North Korean

handlers, the small Russian crew still managed to film some unauthorized footage to balance the film's point of view. This is a special presentation in conjunction with Shepherd University's Common Reading Program. Post-film discussion led by Dr. Marat Akopian, visiting professor in the Political Science/Global Studies Department at Shepherd University. Not rated.

February 22: "Timbuktu" (France and Mauritania, 2014, 97 minutes, directed by Abderrahmane Sissako, in French, Arabic, Bambara, English, Songhay and Tamashek). In 2012 a militant Islamic group, Ansar Dine, took control of the ancient city of Timbuktu on the southern edge of the Sahara Desert. Sharia law was imposed and the community had to adjust to its harsh and arbitrary rules. A dispute between a cattleman and fisherman exemplifies the human toll this abrupt change brings. This a special presented in collaboration with Shepherd University's International Affairs Program and Department of History. Post-film discussion led by Dr. Elizabeth Perego. Rated PG-13 for some violence and thematic elements.

March 8: "Good Morning, Vietnam" (USA, 1987, 121 minutes, directed by Barry Levinson). Based on the on-air persona of Armed Forces Radio disc jockey Adrian Cronaur, Robin Williams's manic comedy performance takes flight in Saigon as the Vietnam War is escalating. American boys are far from home but music and humor ease the fear and disorientation the feel. Post-film discussion led by Lex Miller. Rated R.

March 22: "The Insult" (Lebanon, 2017, 112 minutes, directed by Ziad Doueiri in Arabic). The social fabric of Lebanon is torn by multiple ethnic and religious divides. This film explores these divides through a dispute between a Christian homeowner and a Palestinian laborer. The dispute escalates from an insult to an assault and a legal battle in court. Post-film discussion led by Dr. Marty Amerikaner. Rated R for language and some violent images.

April 19: "The Motorcycle Diaries" (Argentina, Brazil and USA, 2004, 126 minutes, directed by Walter Salles in Spanish, Quechua and Mapudungun). Before he was Che, Ernesto Guevara and a friend took a road trip around South America by motorcycle. The economic and social repression they saw helped mold the political revolutionary that Che Guevara became. Post-film discussion led by Dr. Rachel Krantz. Rated R for language.

For further information about the Society and its films, visit their website or contact Lisa Welch at 304-876-1837 (email [lmwelch@frontiernet.net](mailto:lmwelch@frontiernet.net)) or Mina Goodrich at 304-876-2159.

End of Release