

CEU SUMMER SCHOOL Invites you to the
PUBLIC SCREENINGS and DISCUSSIONS WITH THE FILMMAKERS AND PRODUCERS

DOCUMENTARY CINEMA IN THE DIGITAL CENTURY

June 25, 7-9pm CEU Auditorium **FREE FALL**

(Péter Forgács, Hungary, 1996, 75 min)

The home movies of the talented musician, photographer and businessman, György Pető allow a glimpse to the private experiences of the interwar years, followed by the darkest chapter of the 20th century Hungary. We discover Pető's happiness along with the fearful signs of the future as the banal everyday life is framed by the lived experience of the discriminating anti-Jewish laws. Free Fall makes palpable how the illusions of a Jewish Hungarian family are gradually eroded. We follow the family's determination, and their illusions and hopes until the very last moments.

GUEST: Péter Forgács, director



June 26, 7-9pm CEU Auditorium **BARREN**

(director Tamás Almási, Hungary, 1995, 72 min)

6th episode from the series made with the Roma of Ózd village. The camera follows the unemployed inhabitants collecting scrap metal, transporting heavy loads of stones, undergoing eviction from their houses. Combining reenactments, observational style, and interviews, the film reconstructs the psychological burden and high social cost of this lifestyle, producing a strong emotion impact. The exposure of the daily experience of poverty and all-saturating aggression becomes a powerful commentary on the social context that reproduces the vicious circle of suffering.

GUEST: Tamás Almási, director



June 28, 7-9pm OSA Archivum **VIRTUAL JFK**

(director Koji Masutani, US, 2008, 80 min)

Virtual JFK investigates one of the most debated "what if" scenarios in the history of US foreign policy: what would President John F. Kennedy have done in Vietnam if he had not been assassinated in 1963, and had he been re-elected in 1964? The resulting film employs what Harvard historian Niall Ferguson calls "virtual history," assessing the plausibility of counterfactuals - "what ifs" - and the outcomes they might have produced. The film makes use of an array of resources including recently declassified and never-before-seen archival footage, documents, and audio tapes, and testimony from a critical oral history conference including Kennedy and Johnson administration officials.

GUEST: Peter Almond, producer



July 2, 7-9pm CEU Auditorium **CLOSING IN ON TANJA**

(director Leo de Boer, the Netherlands, 2010, 90 min)

During a raid on FARC rebel camps in 2007, a diary written by Tanja Nijmeijer is found. Enthralled by the vision of a leftist rebel movement fighting for the freedom of an oppressed people, this small-town student-teacher decided to join the guerilleros in the Colombian jungle. After the publication of her diaries, Tanja Nijmeijer hit the headlines worldwide. Filmmaker Leo de Boer makes contact with Dutch FARC-expert Liduine Zumpolle, who disclosed the diaries. Tanja's mother also arrives in Colombia and travels with the film crew to the front lines in an attempt to contact her daughter and convince her to return. Is Tanja still alive? Where is she now?

GUEST: Leo de Boer, director



July 3, 7-9pm CEU Auditorium **GREAT COMMUNIST BANK ROBBERY**

(director Alexandru Solomon, Romania, 2004, 75 min)

In 1959 Romanian State Bank was allegedly robbed by a mysterious band of gangsters, who got away with millions of lei intended for the salaries of hard-working citizens. The police, helped by the secret agents, 'discovered' that the robbery had been carried out by a group of high-ranking communists, all holding important posts in government and all, as it happened, Jews. A show-trial followed, and the accused were forced to appear in a filmed 'reconstruction' of the robbery in exchange for promises of reduced sentences. Over forty years later, director Alexandru Solomon reconstructs the reconstruction, incorporating interviews with former prisoners, the cameraman of the infamous film, neighbors and secret police agents.

GUEST: Alexandru Solomon, director



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