William Paterson University and The David and Lorraine Cheng Library

AMERICAN MUSEUM & NATURAL HISTORY

MARGARET MEAD FILM & VIDEO FESTIVAL

present

Each film will be introduced by a member of the WPUNJ faculty.

Monday, February 6—12:30pm, Library Auditorium

In The Garden of Sounds

Nicola Bellucci. 2010, 85 minutes. Italy, Switzerland
Tucked into a small Swiss hamlet, Wolfgang Fasser's studio is filled with cymbals, drums, and other
noisemakers, including a therapeutic table built on a bed of musical strings. A former physical therapist
who became blind at age 22 from the genetic disease retinitis pigmentosa, he now works with developmentally
disabled children, using music and natural sounds to reach through each child's particular physical and mental

Monday, February 6—7pm, Library Auditorium

Because We Were Born

Jean-Pierre Duret and Andrea Santana, 2008, 90

minutes, Braz

At a truck stop in Brazil, Nego and Cocada live by their wits, picking up odd jobs. Alternately despairing and hopeful, these young boys on the brink of manhood carry around their small dreams, spun from the imperfect examples of the grownups that surround them. They turn to each other for comfort and company and wonder what no one of such a tender age should have to wonder:

Tuesday, February 7—12:30pm, Library Auditorium

A Mountain Musical

Eva Eckert. 2008, 52 minutes. Austria.

A man tears out his wife's hair. A young poacher is shot down by his father. A pig is violently butchered. For the people of the rural and industrial communities that surround Erzberg, a mountain in the Austrian Alps that has been mined for its iron ore since Roman times, these lyrics comprise the stories of their lives. Far from the sanitized image associated with Tyrolean folk singers, these hard-working, hard-drinking people from the heart of Bavaria provide a humorous and more genuine Alpine ethnomusicology.

Wednesday, February 8-12:30pm, Library Auditorium

Plug & Pray

Judith Malek-Mahdavi and Jens Schanze. 2009, 91 minutes. Germany, Italy, Japan, United States. Fifty years ago, computers in their current form were the stuff of science fiction. Today, we rely upon them to control the electric grid, fly planes, store our collective knowledge, fight our wars, communicate with friends, and teach our children. In Plug & Pray, one man comes forward to doubt the wisdom of this path. Joseph Weizenbaum, whose work in Al begat the technology used in cruise missiles, urges us to reconsider our wholehearted embrace of technology before robots become as ubiquitous as iPods.

Thursday, February 9-12:30pm, Library Auditorium

Shooting with Mursi

Osisarali Olibui and Ben Young. 2009, 57 minutes. Ethiopia.

Deep in the heart of Ethiopia's fertile Omo Valley, the Mursi are a nomadic people ruled by consensus and the wisdom of elders. Uprooting seasonally in order to graze their cattle and avoid the rainy season, they now find themselves encircled by three national parks, none of which they are allowed to enter. Tourism and recreational hunting threaten their culture with extinction. English-speaking tribal leader Olibui takes a digital camera among his people, capturing a candid portrayal of a people facing unwanted, inevitable change.

Friday, February 10-12:30pm, Library Auditorium

There Once Was An Island

Briar March. 2010, 80 minutes. Papua New Guinea.
The Takuu live in a Polynesian paradise without electricity or notions of private ownership. The rising
South Pacific is eroding their shores, threatening their taro crops and shoreline huts. Resisting
government plans for relocation, the Takuu ask for a better solution. New Zealand documentarian Briar
March creates a heartbreaking portrait of a people who must choose either to move away or die with their

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