

RUSSIAN FILM CLUB

Russian Cinema between Protests

The Russian Film Club invites you to its inaugural series dedicated to new Russian cinema. Released between two waves of protests, spanning from 2011 to 2019, this selection of independent films offers a critical reflection on life in contemporary Russia, cutting across genres and styles. Join us for the **screenings and discussions**. Stay tuned for **special events with the filmmakers!**

Introductions and moderation of discussions by Mark Lipovetsky (Slavic) and Daria Ezerova (Harriman Institute)

All films will be presented with English subtitles.

October 16, 7:30 pm: ZOOLOGY (2016, 83 min)
Ivan I. Tverdovsky, MATH 417

An allegory of alienation and a devastating comedy about a society where being different is forbidden.



October 30, 7:30 pm: SUMMER (2018, 126 min)
Kirill Serebrennikov, MATH 417

Leningrad, summer of 1984. Young Victor Tsoi rises to fame during the time of underground concerts, smuggled LPs of Lou Reed and Blondie, and of course, the Leningrad Rock Club.



November 13, 7:00 pm THE HUMORIST (2019, 100 min)
Mikhail Idov. IAB 404

The story of a Soviet stand-up comedian caught between public adoration and the oppressive censorship of a derelict regime.

Introduced by Mikhail Idov, Q&A to follow.



February 12, 7:30 pm: THE LAND OF OZ (2015, 100 min)
Vasily Sigarev, MATH 417

Blending Gogolian satire with absurdist poetics, this “New Year’s comedy” is a witty allegory of life in present-day Russia.



March 11, 7:30 pm: CLOSENESS (2017)
Kantemir Balagov, MATH 417

A film of arresting beauty, *Closeness* is the story of a kidnapping in a Jewish community in Nalchik. The film’s premiere at Cannes turned 26-year-old Balagov into an overnight sensation.



April 15, 7:30 pm: THE HOPE FACTORY (2014, 90 min)
Natalia Meschaninova. MATH 417

A coming-of-age drama focusing on Arctic urban youths trying to escape their native city of Norilsk, as their true grit turns to desperation.

