URBAN STUDIES FILM SERIES

Except where noted, events take place Tuesdays at 7:00 PM in Betts Auditorium, School of Architecture, Princeton University.

Tues, Feb 26, 7 PM
Berlin: Symphony of a Great City
1927. Germany. directed by Walter Ruttman. 65 min.
Introduction by Christine Boyer, Princeton University

Tues, Mar 5, 7 PM
West Side Story
1961. USA. directed by Robert Wise and Jerome Robbins. 152 min.
Introduction by Brian Herrera, Princeton University

Weds, Mar 6, 10 AM*
*special time & location
“Seeing the City: the Filming of West Side Story”
Julia Foulkes (The New School) in conversation with Brian Herrera (Princeton)
McCosh 62
West Side Story famously retells Romeo and Juliet on the Upper West Side of New York City. With music by Leonard Bernstein and lyrics by Stephen Sondheim, the instant classic won ten Academy Awards.

Tues, Mar 12, 7 PM
The Naked City
1948. USA. directed by Jules Dassin. 96 min.
Introduction by Christine Boyer, Princeton University
“There are eight million stories in the naked city,” as the narrator immortally states at the close of Jules Dassin’s breathtakingly vivid film—and this is one of them. A double Academy-Award-winner, The Naked City remains a benchmark for naturalism in noir.

Tues, Mar 26, 7 PM
Ecumenopolis: City Without Limits
2011. Turkey, Germany. directed by Imre Azem. 88 min.
Introduction by Molly Greene, Princeton University
Istanbul’s population is set to double by 2030 and the city must respond. Ecumenopolis speaks with investors, city-dwellers, experts and community leaders as they grapple with the deep transformations coming to the city.
Tues, Apr 2, 6 PM*
The Pruitt Igoe Myth
2011. USA. directed by Chad Freidrichs. 79 min.

Tues, Apr 2, 7:30 PM
“After Pruitt Igoe: New Prospects for Affordable Housing”
A conversation with Joseph Heathcott (The New School) and Timothy Henkel (Pennrose Properties)
Moderated by Purcell Carson, Princeton University
In 1955, the new Pruitt-Igoe public housing project demonstrated that America could house even its poorest citizens. Less than twenty years later, it was demolished. The film explores the debate surrounding the project.
*special time

Tues, April 9, 7pm
Gut Renovation
2012. USA. directed by Su Friedrich. 81 min.
Screening followed by discussion with Friedrich, Professor of Visual Arts, Princeton University.
A 2005 re-zoning law forced Su Friedrich out of her Brooklyn home of 20 years and transformed the neighborhood. Her film is a witty, personal—and angry—response to what happens when gentrification comes to town.

Tues, April 16, 7 pm
Decade of Fire: How the South Bronx was Burned
Work-in-Progress. USA. directed by Gretchen Hildebran & Vivian Vazquez.
Screening and discussion with the directors.
Moderated by Alison Isenberg, Princeton University
During ten years of Vivian Vazquez’s childhood, an epidemic of fire destroyed her neighborhood. In this documentary in progress, Vazquez returns to those streets, those times, and her neighbors, to ask why.

Tues, April 23, 7 PM
Greetings from Asbury Park
2008. USA. directed by Christina Eliopoulos. 79 min.
Screening followed by discussion with the director.
A documentary of progress and eminent domain, told through the eyes of the director’s 91-year old great aunt, who is losing her home and garden to make way for luxury condos by the beach.

Tues, April 30, 7 PM
La Sierra
2005. USA. directed by Scott Dalton and Margarita Martinez. 84 min.
Introduced by Robert Karl, Princeton University
A small neighborhood in Medellin, Colombia, La Sierra is ruled by young men affiliated with the country’s paramilitary armies. The film traces a year in the lives of three young residents and their experiences of war, death, and love.
Tues, May 7, 7 PM
The Trenton Project: Critique
Works-in-progress screening of student films from URB202, Documentary Film and the City
Together, these short films about home, housing and urban development in Trenton create a mosaic portrait of the city and its hopes for the future.

Mon, May 20, 6 PM*
The Trenton Project: Final
*special time & location
Final Public Screening of URB 202 Student Micro-Documentaries
ArtWorks, 19 Everett Alley, Trenton NJ

Sponsored by Urban Studies, Princeton University, with generous support from the Community Based Learning Initiative, Princeton University.

Series Organizers: Alison Isenberg, Purcell Carson, M. Christine Boyer

Events are free and open to the public.

Questions? Contact Alison Isenberg, Dept. of History and Co-Director Urban Studies, isenber@princeton.edu.