

Swedish Film Series

Winter, 2006; Fridays at 7 pm; 221 McKenzie Hall

FREE and open to the public



Wild Strawberries

13 January

Wild Strawberries (Smultronstället) 1956

Directed by Ingmar Bergman

Professor Isak Borg, age 78, is called from his home in Stockholm to the university town of Lund to receive an honorary doctorate for his services to science. Events during the automobile trip to Lund—and several dreams in which he relives his past and is made aware once again of his faults—force Isak to review his life and resolve his terrible bitterness. After the ceremony later that day, he finally seems reconciled with himself and others, and looks forward to sleep, at peace at last with his conscience.

20 January

My Life as a Dog (Mitt Liv som Hund) 1987

Directed by Lasse Hallström

To give his terminally-ill mother a rest, 12-year-old Ingmar is shipped off to live with his uncle for the summer, where he finds unexpected adventures with the help of the town's warmhearted eccentrics. His experiences there give him the inner strength to accept his life and to eventually enjoy childhood.

27 January

The Emigrants

(Utvandrarna) 1971

Directed by Jan Troell

Nominated for four Academy Awards in 1972, this film depicts the unbearable conditions which existed in rural Sweden in the mid-1800s,

the agony of the ocean voyage, and the promise of a better life in North America. This powerful saga is for many of us a lost part of our family lore: the experiences of our immigrant ancestors.



The Emigrants

3 February

House of Angels (Änglagård) 1992

Directed by Colin Nutley

Set in small-town Sweden, this film is about Fanny, a woman from the big city who comes back to claim her ancestral home after the death of her grandfather (whom she never met). The petite blonde arrives the day of the funeral—with her swarthy, bisexual boyfriend, Zac—on a big, black motorcycle, wearing black leather and spike heels. When it becomes clear that Fanny and Zac plan to stay in the house rather than sell it, sparks begin to fly among the local townspeople.

10 February

Elvira Madigan 1967

Directed by Bo Widerberg

Based on the true story of a young Danish tightrope dancer who in 1889 falls passionately in love with a married Swedish army officer. Together, they flee to Denmark where for one short summer

Probably no other nation of comparative population has matched the artistic success of Sweden in the film industry. Come sample a rich variety of wonderful films, from Ingmar Bergman classics to the contemporary films of Colin Nutley. All the films have subtitles in English. Each film will be preceded by a short presentation about a particular aspect of Swedish culture (e.g., food, language, geography), as well as a brief introduction to the film itself.

At the conclusion of the film, the audience will be invited to participate in a short discussion of the film.

McKenzie Hall—the former Law School—is located near 12th and Kincaid, on the west edge of the university campus.

they have a marvelous affair. Then, as the money runs out, the atmosphere changes. This film's photography is both sumptuous and impressionistic and it is beautifully accompanied by Mozart's Piano Concerto No. 21 in C major.



Elvira Madigan

17 February

Together (Tillsammans) 2000

Directed by Lukas Moodysson

Elisabeth tires of her husband Rolf, so she packs her bags, takes the kids, and moves in with her brother Göran. The year is 1975 and Göran lives in a leftist commune called *Tillsammans* along with a half-dozen other adults and several children. The events that subsequently unfold affect not only the extended family members, but others as well....

24 February (no film)

3 March

Smiles of a Summer Night (Sommarnattens Leende) 1955

Directed by Ingmar Bergman

"A sexy frolic about the sport of love." Set at the turn of the last century, four men and four women—including lawyer Fredrik Egerman, whose wife of two years is still "untouched" and whose adult son lusts after the family's maid—display their interests and affections in a setting of cultivated merriment. The sets and costumes are some of the best ever used by Bergman.

10 March

Kitchen Stories (Salmer fra Kjøkkenet) 2003

Directed by Bent Hamer

In this Norwegian-made film, a Swedish efficiency researcher is sent to study and improve a Norwegian farmer's kitchen habits. The rule that they must not speak to each other is soon broken, however, and the men become fast friends, spending afternoons sipping coffee and telling stories.

17 March

Under the Sun (Under Solen) 1998

Directed by Colin Nutley

It's 1956. Olof lives alone on his family's farm after the death of his mother. Unable to read or write, he is dependent on his younger friend Erik who helps him in the afternoons. Olof decides one day to advertise in a local paper for a housekeeper, and Ellen, a middle-class city woman, arrives to take over the house and, as the summer progresses, Olof's heart and Erik's desire as well.

Co-sponsored by *Friends of Scandinavian Studies* and *Vasa Order of America, Odin Lodge*

Conceived and organized by Whitey Lueck