

INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL REVIEW

Bryan Kapschull
For the Capital Times

The late Stanley Kubrick had a fantastic vision for the year 2001. He saw man in deep space, exploring the boundaries of our universe and interacting with artificial intelligence. While this notion seems far-fetched, so does the idea of an International Film Festival at the Capital Campus. But, the Film Festival is happening.

The Student Activity Fund and the Faculty Senate Committee on International and Cultural Affairs have sponsored the festival through two grants. Most of the grant money pays for performance rights, which can be as much as \$500 per showing.

The Committee on International and Cultural Affairs worked with Mr. Eton Churchill, professor of humanities and resident film guru. Churchill approached the group nearly two years ago with the idea of a film festival. The committee liked the idea and began suggesting possible films. After an arduous screening process, the committee narrowed it down to 10 films.

The first film, *Run Lola Run*, premiered last week to a small crowd in the Olmsted auditorium. Churchill hopes that the absence of Hollywood glam doesn't discourage students from attending the films, "We put up 10 really good, interesting movies, but no one is going because they don't have a designer label on them." Several of the people at the premier of *Lola* weren't even PSH stu-



dents. Churchill explained that the festival is promoted on a website and may aid in bringing in film fans outside of the Penn State community.

Of the students that did attend the screening, reviews were positive. Drew Ames, communications major, said, "I think it's cool that they're bringing these films in." Ames had already seen *Lola*, but was excited to see it again, as he explained, "It's like *Groundhog Day*, only better."

Ames wasn't the only one impressed with *Lola*, "I think it's one of my favorite movies now," said Louie Hallman, also a communications major. "I had no idea what to expect, but it was great."

In the coming weeks, titles from around the globe will be shown. Included are *Afterlife*, a film from Japan which addresses the journey from life to death and Poland's *The Dekalog* series, which examines the confrontation between our desires and the rules many claim to live by (the Ten Commandments). Also being shown are John Woo's *The Killer* and Ireland's lighthearted *Waking Ned Divine*.

While you may have missed *Run Lola Run* or *Koyla*, which premiered Feb. 12, you still have the opportunity to see eight more excellent films. Admission is free and there are films to meet all tastes. See the display in front of the Olmsted auditorium for movie titles, descriptions and show times.

WE WANT YOURS!

(Reasons, that is)

Come up with 10 good reasons to not come to the film festival and we'll give you a really BIG COOKIE!

Here are the top 10 reasons why I don't go to the International Film Festival:

1. I don't have the time.
Bah.
2. There's no popcorn, and I like paying \$7.00 for a movie.
3. I don't DO subtitles.
4. There are no happy endings or cheap emotions.
5. I am *comfortable* with my ethnocentricity.
6. It's not like *Titanic*.
7. I miss the sticky floors—carpet static can kill you.
8. Entertainment? At school?
That's SICK!
9. I just don't get it.
10. MY DOG ATE IT.

These are now off-limits, but bring your own to the Humanities suite W356, and drop them in the "Gripes" box. Thanks!

—Coming up next on the marquis for the spring—

INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL



Sankofa

February 21
8:30 P.M.

East is East

February 26 & 28
3:00 P.M.

Afterlife

March 13
12:00 Noon
March 14
8:30 P.M.

FRISBEETARIANISM IS THE BELIEF THAT
WHEN YOU DIE, YOUR SOUL GOES UP
ON THE ROOF AND GETS STUCK.

—George Carlin