

CALGARY BUDDHIST FILM SERIES – 2009



The Calgary Buddhist Temple is pleased to present the Calgary Buddhist Film Series,

**INTERNATIONAL BUDDHISM
“THUS HAVE I SEEN.....”**

NOVEMBER 5, 2009 AT THE CALGARY BUDDHIST TEMPLE
207 - 6th Street N.E.

AND

NOVEMBER 6, 7, and 8, 2009 at the CALGARY CENTRAL LIBRARY
John Dutton Theatre

This Film Series is presented by the **Calgary Buddhist Temple (Jodo Shinshu) and the Calgary Public Library.**

The series intends to provide a meaningful learning experience in Buddhist teachings (Dharma) as illuminated through film.

Temple Senseis will be available for dharma discussion, and inquiries, throughout the Series.

This Series is made possible through the generous support of the Calgary Buddhist Temple and the Public Library and their volunteers.

Light refreshments and Jodo Shinshu literature and merchandise will be available for sale.

The Library will display a wide selection of Buddhist material, available for loan.

All are welcome; admission is free. (Please note film ratings.)

NOVEMBER 5, THURSDAY EVENING: AT THE CALGARY BUDDHIST TEMPLE

6:30 PM

DOKOTU – YAKEATOCHI NI IKASARETE (ROOTS OF BLESSING) (2003)

JAPAN

"This is a personal documentary film which focuses on Shinkouji Temple, (Jodoshinshu Temple).... "Dotoku,' literally meaning 'benevolent of dirt,' is the perfect word for describing how we are blessed with community, climate and history. It is also a view of life, so to speak, which my father showed

me before he passed away. Hiroshima people have been called "Aki-monto," which means followers of the Jodo Shinshu sect. Aohara was born to a family of Buddhist monks, with his father being a successor of Shinkouji Temple.

The film is the result of 11 years of shooting, both before and after his father's death.

Running time – 118 min.

Rated – not rated

NOVEMBER 6, FRIDAY EVENING

6:30 PM

YATRA TRILOGY – PART ONE

LAOS, THAILAND AND BURMA (MYANMAR)

Yatra is the Sanskrit word for pilgrimage or spiritual journey. These visually stunning documentaries are cinematic pilgrimages to legendary places in Southeast Asia and Tibet, including the spiritual wonders of Laos, Thailand, Burma, Bali, Cambodia, Java, and Central Tibet. Journey into the living traditions and lost civilizations of this vibrant part of the world and explore the universal ideals of wisdom, compassion, and inner peace at the very heart of these ancient Buddhist cultures.

Running time – 81 min.

Rated - not rated

8:00 PM

SIDDHARTHA (1972)

INDIA

Siddhartha, directed by Conrad Rooks is the disarmingly simple story of a young Brahmin, and his search for a meaningful way of life. This search takes him through periods of harsh asceticism, sensual pleasures, material wealth, then self-revulsion and eventually to the oneness and harmony with himself that he had been seeking. Siddhartha learns that the secret of life cannot be passed on from one person to another, but must be achieved through inner experience.

(Based on the novel by Herman Hesse)

Running time – 83 min.

Rated – R (sexuality, nudity)

NOVEMBER 7, SATURDAY AFTERNOON

1:00 PM

YATRA TRILOGY – PART TWO

JOURNEY INTO BUDDHISM

PRAJNA EARTH

CAMBODIA, BALI, JAVA, BOROBUDUR

Running time – 85 min.

Rated – not rated

3:00 PM

DALMAGA DONGJOK-EURO GAN KKADAKEUN? (WHY HAS BODHI-DHARMA LEFT FOR THE EAST?) (1989)

KOREA

Bae Yong-kyun's Zen masterpiece is simply one of the most ravishing films ever made. In a remote monastery high up in the mountains, an old master, a young monk and an orphaned boy devote themselves to their Buddhist teachings. As the master faces death, he becomes more desperate to lead his disciples away from the outside world and point them toward their quest for enlightenment. This magnificent film, astonishingly rich in its formal beauty and affirmation of life, is not only a cinematic gem but also a transcendent evocation of the mystery and humanity of Zen Buddhism.

The film's title, although not explained literally in the film, is a reference to [Bodhidharma](#), a 6th century Buddhist monk from India who transmitted [Zen](#) to China

Running time – 175 min.

Rated - PG

NOVEMBER 7, SATURDAY EVENING

6:30 PM

BUDDHA'S LOST CHILDREN (2006)

THAILAND

Dutch director, Mark Verkerk's feature-length documentary about a Thai Buddhist monk who armed only with his faith and master boxer skills wages an inspirational battle to help orphaned children, fight drug abuse, and preserve a vanishing way of life. This delightful film, set in the Golden Triangle, is a wonderful example of "no nonsense" Buddhism.

Running time – 97 min.

Rated – PG

8:30PM

UN BUDA (A BUDDHA) (2005)

ARGENTINA

The first movie from a young director, with a low budget but plenty of art and style, filled with poetry, sincere emotions and simple but true Zen teachings. It takes place in Argentina, country where eastern culture has a small place on its culture and it's often not understood. It shows us the simple things in life, the things that really matter in a simple but not naive way. The two cultures (eastern and western) "confront" each other in the main characters, which happen to be brothers. And each of them learns things from the other.

Running time – 115 min.

Rated – PG 13

NOVEMBER 8, SUNDAY AFTERNOON

1:00 PM

YATRA TRILOGY – PART THREE

JOURNEY INTO BUDDHISM

VAJRA SKY OVER TIBET

TIBET

Running time – 89 min.

Rated – not rated

3:00 PM

HA-GILGUL (UNMISTAKEN CHILD) (2009)

NEPAL

In 2001, when his master Lama Konchog passed away, a Nepalese monk, Tenzin Zopa, his disciple of 21 years, sets out to find his master's reincarnation, who is expected to be embodied in a little boy and might be anywhere in the world.

This film by Israeli director Nati Baratz is a fascinating insider's perspective that inspires as many questions as it answers.

Running time – 102 min.

Rated - General

HAVE A QUESTION? ASK A SENSEI AT THE FILM SERIES

Calgary Buddhist Temple

WEBSITE: www.calgary-buddhist.ab.ca

E-mail: info@calgary-buddhist.ab.ca

CONTACT INFORMATION

TEMPLE:

jlmartin@telusplanet.net

diane.westerhoff@gmail.com

LIBRARY

gerry.burger-martindale@calgarypubliclibrary.com