

THE LITTLE THEATRE, WXXI, AND THE SUSAN B. ANTHONY INSTITUTE FOR GENDER AND WOMEN'S STUDIES PRESENT

WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH FILM SERIES:

HONORING WOMEN IN PUBLIC SERVICE

LITTLE THEATRE MARCH 6-26



Dreamcatcher
Difret
Heart of
a Dog
Radical Grace
Sworn Virgin
Grab a Hunk
of Lightning

The Little Theatre,
WXXI, and The Susan
B. Anthony Institute for
Gender and Women's
Studies present six
engaging films to honor
Women's History Month.

The series is supported by
a grant from the New York
Council for the Humanities.

New York Council for the Humanities

WXXI
Go Public.

SBAI
SUSAN B. ANTHONY INSTITUTE
FOR GENDER & WOMEN'S STUDIES

All films screen at
the Little Theatre
240 East Ave

LITTLE



Dreamcatcher

Sunday March 6 at 3pm

TICKETS: \$5

Dreamcatcher takes us into a hidden world through the eyes of one of its survivors; Brenda Myers-Powell. A former teenage prostitute who worked the streets of Chicago, Brenda defied the odds to become a powerful advocate for change in her community. With warmth and humour, Brenda gives hope to those who have none. Her story is their inspiration.

For twenty-five years Brenda Myers-Powell called herself ‘Breezy’ and she dominated her world, or that’s what she thought. It was a world that had turned her into a teenage, drug-addicted prostitute. After a violent encounter, Brenda woke up in the hospital and decided to change her life. Today she is a beacon of hope for hundreds of women and girls as young as fourteen who want to change their own lives.

A panel discussion follows the screening.

Panelist:

Kate Cerulli

*Director Susan B. Anthony Center
for Women’s Leadership at the
University of Rochester*

Panelist:

Barb LeSavoy

*Director of Gender and
Women’s Studies at the
College of Brockport*



Difret

Sunday March 6 at 6pm

TICKETS: \$5

From executive producer Angelina Jolie Pitt comes the award-winning drama *Difret*, based on the inspirational true story of a young Ethiopian girl and a tenacious lawyer embroiled in a life-or-death clash between cultural traditions and their country’s advancement of equal rights. When 14-year-old Hirut is abducted in her rural village’s tradition of kidnapping women for marriage, she fights back, accidentally killing her captor and intended husband. Local law demands a death sentence for Hirut, but Meaza, a tough and passionate lawyer from a women’s legal aide practice, steps in to fight for her. With both Hirut’s life and the future of the practice at stake the two women must make their case for self-defense against one of Ethiopia’s oldest and most deeply-rooted traditions.

A Skype Q&A with Producer Mehret Mandefro follows the screening moderated by Bri Merkel, Little Theatre Special Events Manager



One Take: Stories Through the Lens presents

Heart of a Dog

Tuesday March 8 at 7pm

TICKETS: \$8

Lolabelle was Laurie Anderson's beloved rat terrier. "Hello, little bone-head. I'll love you forever," is how she greets the puppy in the movie's hilarious first scene in which she gives birth to her dog. Dreams, memories, and stories of childhood trauma and loss form a kind of emotional wallpaper against which Anderson foregrounds her story. The musician/composer/poet/philosopher creates a humorous, deeply moving meditation on the relationship of woman and dog, and in the process comments with wit and prescience on the changes in post-9/11 America.

A panel discussion follows the screening.

Moderator/Panelist:

Linda Moroney
*Documentary Filmmaker
and film series programmer*

PRESENTED BY:



Radical Grace

Sunday March 13 at 3pm

TICKETS: \$5

When the Vatican reprimands U.S. nuns – citing their “radical feminism” – three fearless nuns risk their place in the Church to follow another higher calling: social justice.

One sister takes on Church patriarchy, another finds hope in the former prisoners she counsels, and the third launches a cross-country Nuns on the Bus tour, leveraging her newfound fame to spotlight social needs. These sisters “bring humor and down-to-earth grit to an epic battle for justice, equality and the dignity of women” (Gene Siskel Film Center).

Following their struggles through the election of Pope Francis, *Radical Grace* captures a period of dramatic transformation as the Catholic Church grapples with the modern word.

A panel discussion follows the screening.

Moderator/Panelist:

Denise Yarbrough
*Director of the Interfaith Chapel
at the University of Rochester*



Sworn Virgin

Sunday March 20 at 6pm

TICKETS: \$5

As a young woman living within the confines of a Northern Albanian village, Hana longs to escape the shackles of womanhood, and live her life as a man. To do so she must evoke an old law of the Kanun and take an oath to eternally remain a virgin. Years later, as Mark, she leaves home for the first time crossing over into a world unlike anything she has known before. There, she discovers herself again, leading her to contemplate the possibility of undoing the vow she made so long ago.

This evocative and introspective film brings light to the centuries-long Albanian tradition of the sworn virgin, or burrnesha. The practice allowed women to break out of their prescribed roles and avoid a life of domesticity by electing to take on another set of rigid gender roles. Actress Alba Rohrwacher delivers a nuanced and powerful performance as a woman whose gender isn't as easily defined as the world expects it to be.

A panel discussion follows the screening.

Moderator/Panelist:

Barbara LeSavoy
*Director of Gender and Women's
Studies at the College of Brockport*

PRESENTED BY:



Grab a Hunk of Lightning

Saturday March 26 at 3pm

TICKETS: \$5

Her celebrated photograph Migrant Mother is one of the most recognized and arresting images in the world, a haunting portrait that came to represent the suffering of America's Great Depression. Yet few know the story, struggles and profound body of work of the woman who created the portrait: Dorothea Lange. *Grab a Hunk of Lightning* explores the life, passions and uncompromising vision of the influential photographer, whose enduring images document five turbulent decades of American history. Peabody and five-time Emmy award-winning cinematographer Dyanna Taylor – the granddaughter of Lange and writer/social scientist Paul Schuster Taylor – directs and narrates this intimate documentary. Taylor, who learned to see the visual world through her grandmother's eyes, combines family memories and journals with never-before-seen photos and film footage to bring Lange's story into sharp focus.

A panel discussion follows the screening.

Moderator:

Linda Moroney
*Documentary Filmmaker
and film series programmer*

Panelist:

Dyanna Taylor
Cinematographer



INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY

MARCH 8

WXXI celebrates the social, economic, cultural
and political achievements of women.

WXXI

#PledgeForParity