



REEEC

Russian, East European, and Eurasian Center
University of Illinois at Urbana - Champaign

MULTIMEDIA LIBRARY FEATURE FILMS: RUSSIAN, UKRAINIAN, OR CENTRAL ASIAN

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FILMS WITH ENGLISH SUBTITLES

RUSSIAN/UKRAINIAN:

ADAM'S RIB 1992 77 min. (VHS)

Director: Vyacheslav Krishtofovich

Cast: I. Churikova, S. Ryabova, M. Golubkina, E. Bogdanova

This film portrays 3 generations of Russian women, living together in a typically tiny apartment and together enduring problems with men, finances and a changing society.

AELITA, THE QUEEN OF MARS Silent Film: 1924 111 min. (DVD)

Director: Yakov Protazanov

One of the most remarkable discoveries of the Soviet silent cinema, Aelita is a stunning big-budget science fiction spectacle. Enormous futuristic sets and radical constructionist costumes were designed by Alexandra Exter to enhance this story of romance, comedy and danger. A Moscow engineer designs a spaceship and travels to Mars to meet the woman who haunts his dreams.

ALADDIN'S MAGIC LAMP 1966 84 min. (DVD)

Director: Boris Rytsarev

Cast: Boris Bystrov, Dodo Chogovadze, Sarry Karryev

A Russian version of the Arabic fairy tale.

ALEXANDER NEVSKY 1938 110 min. (VHS)

Director: Sergei Eisenstein

Classic cinematic rendition of the historical tale of one of Russia's great heroes, the 13th-century warrior-prince. Sergei Prokofiev's score has been recorded by the St. Petersburg Philharmonic for this 1994 video release.

AMPHIBIAN MAN(CHELOVEK-AMFIBIIA) 1962 97 min. (DVD x2)

Directors: Gennadii Kazanskii and Vladimir Chebotarev

Cast: Vladimir Korenev, Anastasiia Vertinskaia, Mikhail Kozakov, Nikolai Simonov, Vladlen Davydov, Aleksandr Smiranin, Iurii Medvedev, Georgii Tusuzov

Based on a story by Russian science fiction author Aleksandr Beliaev. Panic overtakes a port city when local fishermen report sightings of a "sea devil." It turns out to be an amphibious man named Ichthyander. His origin is unusual, his life secretive and full of mysteries.

ANDREI RUBLEV 1966 185 min. (VHS & DVD)

Director: Andrei Tarkovsky

Tarkovsky's acclaimed film tells the tale of the 15th-century icon painter who survives the cruelties of medieval Russia to create works of art. (note: restored director's cut, letterbox format).

ANNA KARENINA 1988 103 min. (VHS)

Director: Alexander Zarkhi

Cast: Tatyana Samoylova, Nikolai Gritsenko, Vasili Lanovoi

This Russian production of Tolstoy's classic 1870 novel of passion and morality traces the paths of two people, Anna and Vronsky.

ARMAVIR 1991 129 min. (VHS)

Director: V. Abdrashitov

Cast: S. Kotakov, S. Shakurov, E. Shevchenko, M. Stoganova; Zh. Baizhambaev

A psychological drama in which the main character learns that a ship with his daughter aboard has sunk, with only a few passengers believed to have survived. The film recounts the father's search for his missing daughter.

ARSENAL Silent Film: 1928 73 min. (DVD)

Director: Alexander Dovzhenko

Cast: S. Svashenko; G. Kharkov; A. Buchma

Based on an actual incident from 1918, the film's story concerns a group of Ukrainian Bolsheviks who battle against counter-revolutionary nationalist troops in Kiev. The Bolsheviks put up an Alamo-like defense of their cause inside the city's "Arsenal" munitions plant. Outnumbered by the nationalist troops, the defenders are overrun and defeated in the climactic battle, but their revolutionary spirit prevails.

AT HOME AMONG STRANGERS, A STRANGER AMONG HIS OWN [SVOI SREDI CHUZHNIKH, CHUZHNI SREDI SVOIKH] 1974 97 min. (DVD)

Director: Nikita Mikhalkov

Cast: Iurii Bogatyrev, Anatolii Solonitsyn, Sergei Shakurov, Aleksandr Porokhovshchikov, Nikolai Pastukhov, Aleksandr Kaidanovskii, Nikita Mikhalkov

During the famines of the 1920s, the young Soviet government is gathering up gold across the land to buy bread from abroad. An armored, guarded wagon filled with valuables disappears on the road to Moscow, and Red Army man Shilov is suspected of stealing it. He learns that bandits kidnapped it, and decides to infiltrate their gang to recover the gold and restore his good name.

AUTUMN MARATHON 1980 100 min. (DVD)

Director: Georgii Danelia

Cast: O. Basilashvili, N. Gundareva, E. Leonov, N. Kriuchkov, M. Neyelova

Comedy about a translator who can't say "no" to anyone. He jogs with a Danish colleague and runs constantly from wife to admirers to publisher to colleagues.

BALLAD OF A SOLDIER 1959 89 min. (VHS & DVD)

Director: Grigorii Chukhrai

Cast: V. Ivashov; Zh. Prokhorenko; A. Maksimova; N. Kriuchkov; Ye. Urbanski

Touching film about a 19 year old soldier in World War II.

BARBARA THE FAIR WITH THE SILKEN HAIR 1969 85 min. (DVD)

Director: Alexander Row

Cast: Mikhail Pugovkin, Georgy Millyar, Anatoly Kubatsky

Fairy tale about a tsar held ransom by the underwater tsar Chudo-Yudo.

THE BARBER OF SIBERIA 1999 177 min. (DVD) Director: Nikita Mikhalkov

Cast: Oleg Menshikov, Julia Ormond, Richard Harris, Nikita Mikhalkov

A foreign entrepreneur ventures to Russia in 1885 with dreams of selling a new machine that can harvest trees in the Siberian forests. He tries to push his daughter into a relationship with an influential general in hopes of getting financing for his harvester, but his daughter has other plans.

THE BATTLESHIP POTEMKIN Silent Film: 1925 74 min. (VHS)

Director: Sergei Eisenstein

Cast: Alexander Antonov, Vladimir Barsky, Grigori Alexandrov

Eisenstein's depiction of the mutiny of the crew of the Potemkin during the insurrection of 1905 is one of the essential works in film history. Musical score by Dmitri Shostakovich, digitally remastered.

BED AND SOFA [TRET'IA MESHCHANSKAYA] Silent Film: 1927 73 min. (VHS & DVD)

Director: Abram Room

Script: Viktor Shklovski

This film is about a menage-a-trois during a housing shortage in Moscow. Allegedly based on the triangle romance of Mayakovski, Lili, and Osip Brik.

THE BLACK MONK 1988 (VHS)

Director: I. Dykhovichny

Cast: Stanislav Liubshin and Tatiana Drubich

Based on the Chekhov work of the same name. The familiar surroundings of an orchard serve as a backdrop for an ill-fated romance between an overeducated, slightly mad young man and the landowner's daughter. Interwoven are the encounters between the scholar and a fabled, fantastic black monk and their ensuing discussions on the relationship of genius to eccentricity.

BLOW THE WHISTLE TWICE IN THE FOG 1980 80 min. (DVD)

Director: Valerij Rodchenko

Cast: Nikolaj Grinko, Viktor Proskurin, Aleksandr Porokhovchikov, Elena Kapitsa, Dagun Omaev, Lyubov' Virolajnen

A seaplane makes an emergency landing by the lake in unpopulated tundra. It carries a large sum of money. Someone takes all the money, and the only witness is killed. A few days later, the last ship of the navigating season leaves northern port, and its captain has an uneasy puzzle to solve: which passenger was involved in the robbery and murder...

BRIEF ENCOUNTERS 1968 (VHS)

Director: Kira Muratova

Cast: Vladimir Vysotsky and Kira Muratova

Scripted by the feminist Natalya Ryazantseva, this is the first film by the renowned Kira Muratova. Because of the objections of censors, the film was held "on the shelf" until 1986. A busy District Soviet official interrupts her full schedule to befriend a young woman from the country and to recall her bittersweet memories of brief encounters with her often absent lover, a prospecting geologist.

BROTHER (BRAT) 1997 96 min. (DVD & VHS)

Director: Alexei Balabanov

Cast: Sergei Bodrov Jr., Victor Sukhorukov, Svetlana Pismichenko, Maria Zhukova, Yury Kuznetsov

A man returns from his army service to St. Petersburg, where he finds his brother is now a contract killer for the Russian mob. Soon, both brothers are in the service of organized crime and team up to kill a Chechen mafia boss. This crime film addresses the social breakdown and accepted grimness of city life in the former Soviet Union. Bodrov's performance won him the Best Actor award at the 1997 Chicago International Film Festival.

BROTHER 2 (BRAT 2) 2000 120 min. (DVD)

Director: Alexei Balabanov

Cast: Sergei Bodrov Jr., Viktor Sukhorukov, Sergei Makovetskii

In this sequel to **Brother** Danila meets up with his old army buddy, Konstantin, in Moscow. Konstantin tells Danila about his twin brother Dmitry, a professional hockey player in America, who is having a cash-flow problem, and wants to know if Danila can help him. Several days after this conversation Danila finds Konstantin dead. In order to straighten things out and avenge his friend, Danila goes to Chicago.

BURNT BY THE SUN 1994 134 min. (VHS)

Director: Nikita Mikhalkov

Cast: Oleg Menchikov, Nikita Mikhalkov, Ingeborga Darkunaite, Nadya Mikhalkov

This 1995 Academy Award and Cannes winner tells the story of the happy family of a war hero which is destroyed by Stalin's secret police. Nikita Mikhalkov directs and stars as Colonel S. Kotov, a hero of the Revolution, who is spending the summer in the country with his young daughter (Mikhalkov's real-life daughter), his wife and her eccentric family. But when his wife's childhood love suddenly appears, the idyllic summer day takes a surprising turn. A lyrical film filled with beauty and warmth, it is also an indelible

BY THE LAW and CHESS FEVER Silent Films: 1926 80 min. / 1925 28 min. (VHS)

Directors: Lev Kuleshov/Vsevolod Pudovkin

The first film, one of the most important of the Soviet silent era, is set in Alaska, where two men are killed in a remote cabin. The second film, Pudovkin's first, is the story of a young chess fanatic who misses his wedding appointment.

CHAPAYEV 1934 100 min. (VHS & DVD)

Directors: Serge Vasilyev and Georgi Vasilyev

A stirring account of a beloved hero of the Russian Revolution, an illiterate Russian who served in the Czar's army and, after the Revolution, formed his own forces and went to the Red side.

CIGARETTE GIRL OF MOSSELPROM Silent Film: 1924 78 min. (VHS)

Director: Yuri Zhelyabuzhsky

A boisterous comedy satirizing Soviet life and the making of movies in the '20s. The film follows the exploits of a cigarette girl suddenly discovered as an actress.

CIRCUS 1936 89 min. (VHS)

Director: Grigori Alexandrov

Cast: Lyubov Orlova

Capitalism meets communism in this incredible story of an American circus artist with a black baby, and the only way she can find happiness is among the Soviet people. Musical comedy.

CITY ZERO 1988 84 min. (VHS & DVD)

Director: Karen Shakhnazarov

Cast: L. Filatov; O. Basilashvili; V. Menshov; A. Dzhigarkhanian

Comedy of the absurd. Originally 103 min. Almost 20 minutes cut in video version. A richly imaginative comedy of the absurd, CITY ZERO is the portrait of a small Russian town still frozen under the spell of Stalinism. An impatient engineer from Moscow finds himself stranded on this trek into the Twilight Zone, and gets an offbeat look at Russian life.

CLOSE TO EDEN In Mongolian and Russian: 1992 109 min. (VHS)

Director: Nikita Mikhalkov

Cast: Badema, Bayaertu, Vladimir Gostukhin, Baoyinhexige

An Academy Award Nominee for Best Foreign Language Film, this film is set in the vast rolling steppes of inner Mongolia. A Russian truck driver, Sergei, accidentally enters the life of a Mongolian shepherd family and alters their traditional perspective when he takes the young shepherd Gombo on a trek into the city.

COME AND SEE 1985 142 min. (VHS & DVD)

Director: Elem Klimov

Cast: Aleksei Kravchenko, Olga Mironova

Set in 1943 German-occupied Byelorussia, the film follows an adolescent boy through the nightmare that is war.

COMMISSAR 1967 (1988) 105 min. (VHS, DVD)

Director: Alexander Askoldov

Cast: Nonna Mordiyukova, R. Bykov; R. Niedashkovskaya; V. Shukshin

This film was kept "in the drawer" for 21 years. It tells the story of a pregnant Red Army Commissar who is billeted with a Jewish family.

CRIME AND PUNISHMENT 1970 220 min. (VHS)

Director: Lev Kulijanov

Cast: Georgi Taratorkin, Innokenti Smoktunovsky, and Tatyana Bedova

An adaptation of Dostoevsky's novel about a student who, believing he is exempt from moral law, murders an old pawnbroker and her sister with an axe.

CRUEL ROMANCE 1985 145 min. (DVD)

Director: Eldar Riazanov

Cast: Alisa Freindlikh, Larisa Guzeeva, Nikita Mikhalkov

Based on the play *Bespridannitsa* ("Without Dowry") by Alexander Ostrovsky, about a daughter of an impoverished noblewoman who must weigh her true love for an untrustworthy man who is engaged to another woman against the practical considerations offered by another--a suitor she happens to despise.

THE CUCKOO In Russian, Finnish, and Lapp; 2002 103 min. (DVD)

Director: Alexander Rogozhkin

Cast: Anni-Kristina Juuso, Viktor Bychkov, Ville Haapasalo

September 1944, in a land torn apart by war, a Finnish sniper is labeled a coward by his compatriots; as punishment, he is nailed to a rock and left to his own devices. Not long after, a disgraced Russian Captain, en route to his court martial, is injured in an accident. Both men are about to find out they have one thing in common. Wounded and emotionally tortured, they are taken in by Anni, a young, resourceful war widow, who offers shelter to one while nursing the other back to health. None of them understands the others' languages, but it doesn't seem to matter. Isolated, the three unlikely roommates - a Finn, a Russian and a Lapp - overcome both comic and tragic misunderstandings to form a passionate three-way relationship.

DEFENSE COUNSEL SEDOV 1988/89 48 min. (VHS)

Director: Evgeny Tsimbal

Cast: Vladimir Ilyin; Vsevolod Larionov

A psychological study of the mass paranoia surrounding the Stalin-era purge trials. Based on a story by Ilya Zverev, published in 1964, but dropped from later collections of that author's works.

DEJA VU In Polish and Russian: 1988 106 min. (DVD)

Director: Juliusz Machulski

Cast: Galina Petrova, Nikolai Karachentsov, Vladimir Golovin, Oleg Shlovskii, Jerzy Stuhr

A comedy that moves between Chicago and Odessa in 1925. A Windy-City hitman is sent to Odessa to kill a mob informant. The victim-to-be is an enterprising soul, taking full advantage of a newly opened shipping line serving Chicago, Odessa and Constantinople. He jealously guards his smuggling operation by hiring his own hitman. Hilarious!

DERSU UZALA 1974 140 min. (VHS)

Director: Akira Kurosawa Screenplay: Akira Kurosawa and Yuri Nagibin

Cast: Maxim Munzuk, Yuri Solomin

Based on Vladimir Arsenyev's novel about an eccentric Mongolian frontiersman hired as a guide by a Soviet surveying crew. In this touching adventure, the soldiers first consider Uzala a naive relic of an uncivilized age. Yet his ingenuity and bravery are unmatched by any of them, and he becomes their unlikely savior in the treacherous Siberian wilderness. Winner of the Academy Award for Best Foreign Language Film 1975.

DESERTER 1933 105 min. (VHS & DVD)

Director: Vsevolod Pudovkin

When offered the chance to live in comfort in another land, a Hamburg dockworker must decide whether or not to abandon his comrades. "Deserter" uses dynamic montages and a powerful barrage of aural effects.

*DVD is with the film End of Saint Petersburg.

DIAMOND ARM (BRILLIANTOVAIA RUKA) 1968 100 min. (DVD)

Director: Leonid Gaidai

Cast: Iurii Nikulin, Nina Grebeshkova, Andrei Mironov, Anatolii Papanov

Semyon Gorbunkov goes on a cruise to Istanbul where he slips and breaks his arm. What he didn't know is that this was a signal for a gang of smugglers, also on the same cruise, to bandage his arm with gold and diamonds. After he returns home, the gangsters try to get their diamonds back, while the police try to catch them using Gorbunkov and his arm.

EARLY RUSSIAN CINEMA VOL. 6: CLASS DISTINCTIONS 94 min. (VHS)

Despite strict censorship intended to prevent inflammatory material, Vasilii Goncharov portrayed the hardship of rural life in *The Peasants' Lot* (1912), and an early film by Evgenii Bauer, *The Silent Witnesses* (1914) dealt frankly with servants' views of their masters.

EARLY RUSSIAN CINEMA VOL. 7: EVGENII BAUER 95 min. (VHS)

The major discovery of the early Russian cinema. In a mere five prolific years, Bauer achieved mastery of several genres, including the social melodrama of *A Child of the Big City* (1913), erotic comedies like *The 1002nd Ruse*, and the psychological gothic drama of *Daydreams*.

EARTH Silent Film: 1930 54 min. (VHS)

Director: Alexander Dovzhenko

Cast: Semyon Svashenko; Stephen Shkurat

The theme of the life cycle of man is developed through a constant juxtaposition and intertwining of images of life and death.

EAST/WEST (EST/OUEST) 1999 125 min. (DVD)

Director: Regis Wargnier

Cast: Sandrine Bonnaire, Oleg Menchikov, Catherine Deneuve

At the end of the war, Stalin invited Russians who fled the country to return. The talented young doctor Alexei Golovine optimistically returns to the Soviet Union with his French wife, Marie, and their son. Their arrival is a rude one. Interrogations are followed by the grim reality of post-war Soviet Union: shared apartments, suspicious neighbors, and lack of privacy. Marie soon starts to rebel against the circumstances, but her husband finds that his talents are needed and appreciated by the authorities. Marie soon faces a terrifying choice: to leave her husband and child for freedom, or to stay and confront a grim future.

THE END OF ST. PETERSBURG and DESERTER (DVD)

Director: Vsevolod Pudovkin

The End of St. Petersburg (1927, 87 min.) Epic film about the 1917 Revolution

Deserter (1933, 106 min.) The first sound film from Pudovkin. A Hamburg dockworker must decide whether or not to abandon his commitment to the class struggle.

ERRORS OF YOUTH 1989 87 min. (VHS)

Director: Boris Frumin

Cast: Stanislav Zhdanko, Marina Neyelova, Natalia Varley

Banned in 1979 because it was found to be too close to reality in the Soviet Union, this film is a complex portrait of a young man adrift in a society of diminished expectation and constant compromise.

THE EXTRAORDINARY ADVENTURES OF MR. WEST IN THE LAND OF THE BOLSHEVIK Silent Film: 1924 78 min. (DVD)

Director: Lev Kuleshov

Cast: Porfiri Podobed; Boris Barnet; Vsevolod Pudovkin

A satire of America's slanted view of Russia. A bourgeois American is challenged by his friends to visit those "mad, savage Russians." Once he arrives, he is beset by an onslaught of strange characters and events, thrusting him into a world of danger and intrigue. Soon Mr. West realizes that only through his all-American ingenuity can he survive.

FATHER OF A SOLDIER 1964 (VHS)

Director: Revaz Chkheidze

Cast: S. Zakhariadze; V. Privaltsev; A. Nazarov

The film's hero is an old peasant and vine-grower. During WWII he travels all the way to Berlin with the army in search of his son.

A FORGOTTEN TUNE FOR THE FLUTE 1987 131 min. (VHS)

Director: Eldar Ryazanov

Cast: Leonid Filatov; Tatyana Dogileva; and Irina Kupchenko

The bloated Soviet bureaucracy is satirized in this perestroika-era comedy about a love triangle. A high-ranking official in the Soviet Union has it all: a wife from an important family, a good job and a privileged lifestyle. But when he is hospitalized because of a minor heart attack, he finds himself falling in love with a vivacious nurse. She helps him discover the gentle and sensitive man he has buried under the bureaucrat.

FREEZE-DIE-COME TO LIFE 1989 105 min. (VHS)

Director: Vitaly Kanevsky

Cast: P. Nazarov; D. Durakarova; Ye. Popova

Deals with the conditions around a labor camp in the Stalinist period through the eyes of two children. It is based in part on the experience of the director.

A FRIEND OF THE DECEASED 1997 100 min. (VHS)

Director: Viacheslav Kristofovich

Cast: Alexandre Lazarev, Tatiana Krivitskaia, Evgueni Pachin, Elena Korikova, Angelika Nevolina, Constantin Kostychin, Serguei Romaniouk

In this dark comedy, a well-educated but unemployed translator, Tolla, discovers that his successful wife is planning to leave him. Unable to find a decent job, Tolla takes a drastic step that leads him, almost accidentally, into a world of casual crime and unusual punishment.

THE GENERAL LINE or THE OLD AND THE NEW Silent Film: 1929 90 min. (VHS)

Director: Sergei Eisenstein

Extensively revised to keep abreast of changing policies and strengthen anti-religious theme, this story of a farm woman who starts a co-operative village made extensive use of non-professional actors.

GENTLEMEN OF FORTUNE 1971 88 min. (DVD)

Director: Aleksandr Seryj

Cast: Georgij Vitsin, Anatolij Papanov, Lyubov' Sokolova, Evgenij Leonov, Savelij Kramarov, Pavel Shpringfeld, Roman Filippov

A kindergarten director, a very kind man and a talented teacher, finds himself chasing a stolen treasure, and not for his own profit, but with a noble aim: using his likeness to a dangerous thief, who had stolen Alexander the Great' helmet, he has to find and return the treasure to the country. The gentle hero has to live with the thieves, and his kindness and pedagogical experience have an unexpected effect on the hardened criminals...

GOOD LUCK, GENTLEMEN! 1992 95 min. (VHS)

Director: Vladimir Bortko

Cast: Nikolai Karchentsev and Darya Mikhailova

A tragicomic story about businessmen in Russia today. Follow the misadventures of Vladimir, Oleg, and Olga as they try to get ahead. Two soldiers and an aspiring actress romp through St. Petersburg in this romantic comedy concerning their attempts to earn enough money to establish themselves as brokers on the newly created stock exchanges of Russia in the early 1990s.

GORKY TRILOGY, PART I MY CHILDHOOD 1938 100 min. (VHS)

Director: Mark Donskoi

Part I in a three-part series based on the autobiography of Maxim Gorky. At the age of four Gorky is placed in the care of his cruel grandfather and loving grandmother, eventually forced onto the streets and becoming a wandering beggar.

GORKY TRILOGY, PART II MY APPRENTICESHIP 1939 100 min. (VHS)

Director: Mark Donskoi

In the second part of the trilogy, Gorky begins earning his living at the age of eight. Becoming an apprentice to a bourgeois family that falsely promises him an education, he secretly learns to read on his own and sets off on a series of land and sea voyages.

GORKY TRILOGY, PART III MY UNIVERSITY 1940 100 min. (VHS)

Director: Mark Donskoi

In the final part of his trilogy, Donskoi deals with Gorky's early manhood. At the University Gorky meets several liberal intellectuals and is introduced to their radical politics.

THE GUARD 1989 110 min. (VHS)

Director: Alexander Rogozhkin

Cast: A. Buldalkov; S. Kuprianov; A. Poluyan

Shot in gritty black and white, the psychology of army conscripts enduring nightmarish conditions as they escort hardened criminals on a high-security train from one prison to the next is examined.

HEART OF A DOG 1988 131 min. (DVD)

Director: V. Bortko

Cast: Evgeni Evstigneev, Roman Kartsev, Nina Ruslanova

A satire about a surgeon who implants a heart and brain of a human into a dog. The dog eventually transforms into a human, becomes associated with the local Party officialdom, and begins to terrorize the professor. The movie is based on the 1925 story by Mikhail Bulgakov which was very hard to find in Russia up until perestroika.

HIPSTERS 2008 125 min. (DVD) Director: Valeriy Todorovskiy Suitable for courses on de-stalinization, thaw, youth, Komsomol, American music, Soviet Union. Moscow 1955: Stalin has been dead for two years, but not even Khrushchev's thaw can prevent Komsomol shock troops from hounding hipsters (stilyagi), fans of American jazz, culture, and fashion. The student Mels, a Komsomol member, meets Poly, a hipster, while conducting a raid on a hipster hangout. Mels falls in love with Poly while his Communist comrade harbors romantic feelings for him.

HOUSE OF FOOLS 2002 108 min. (DVD)

Director: Andrei Konchalovsky

Cast: Julia Vysotsky; Stanislav Varkki; Elena Fomina; Marina Politseimako

Set in the Russian-Chechen War a group of inmates in an asylum are left to themselves as war rages on outside. Jana, a patient, struggles to lead the others as she dreams of the day her imaginary fiance, pop musician Bryan Adams, will come to take her away to a better life.

100 DAYS AFTER CHILDHOOD(VHS)

Director: O. Grigorovich

Cast: Boris Tokarev, Tatiana Drubich, Irina Madysheva

I AM CUBA In Spanish and Russian: 1964 141 min. (VHS)

Director: Mikhail Kalatozov

The Cuban Revolution is at the center of this poetic film that unites four stories. A uniquely earthy view of Cuba in the early 1960's. "[I am Cuba], director Mikhail Kalatozov and cinematographer Sergei Urusevsky's hybrid offspring of Soviet orthodoxy and Cuban tropicalismo, is a film of dazzling contrasts. In four intertwining stories of the revolution, Urusevsky's acrobatic camera takes the viewer on a dizzying ride through smoky nightclubs and rooftop pool parties, rickety shantytowns and rustling sugarcane fields, student protest rallies and remote guerilla outposts....

THE IDIOT 2003 500 min. (DVD)

Director: Vladimir Bortko

Cast: Evgeny Mironov; Lidiya Velezheva; Vladimir Mashkov; Aleksandr Lazarev

This film is based on the novel of Fyodor Dostoevsky "The Idiot."

INCIDENT AT MAP GRID 36-80 1983 85 min. (VHS)

Director: Mikhail Tumanshvili

A Cold War thriller about an apocalyptic struggle following a Soviet naval squadron's encounter with a disabled American nuclear submarine. The submarine's computer malfunctions, inadvertently launching its nuclear payload. The film is important for its unprecedented portrait of Soviet military life and its modern technology.

INSPECTOR GENERAL 1954 133 min. (VHS)

Director: Vladimir Petrov

Cast: Ivan Gorbachev; Iuri Tolubeev; Tamara Nosova; Aleksei Gribov

Gogol's play performed by the Moscow Art Theater troupe.

THE INTERVENTION 1968 107 min. (DVD)

Director: Gennadij Poloka

Cast: Yuriy Katin-Yartsev, Vladimir Vysotskij, Marlen Khutsiev, Efim Kopelyan, Andrej Tolubeev, Georgij Shtil', Nikolaj Marton

The movie is set during the last days of foreign intervention against Soviet Russia. Police are searching everywhere for a bolshevik named Brodsky but cannot find him. Meanwhile, a man named Michel Voronov serves as a teacher to a rich woman's son, Zhen'ka.

IRONY OF FATE OR HAVE A GOOD SAUNA 1975 185 min. (DVD)

Director: Eldar Riazanov

Cast: Andrei Miagkov, Babara Brylska, Iurii Iakovlev

A staple of Russian New Year's Eve broadcasts, this made-for-television feature ranks as one of the most popular comedies made in the former Soviet Union. A drunken New Year's gathering leaves a man in the wrong apartment in the wrong city, although the nearly identical surroundings make him think otherwise for a while. A run-in with the apartment's true resident leads to comical confrontations and unexpected romance.

THE ITALIAN 2005 99 min. (DVD)

Director: Andrei Kravchuk

Cast; Kolya Spiridonov, Maria Kuznetsova, Nikolai Reutov, Yuri Itskov

For most Russian orphans, the chance to be adopted is a dream come true. But six-year-old Vanya Solntsev has other hopes. After discovering his mother is still alive, the abandoned boy teaches himself to read so as to learn her address from his personal files. Before a wealthy Italian couple can claim him for their own, Vanya sets off on a perilous orphanage staff and the police, the determined runaway must now face the most difficult challenges of his young life.

IVAN'S CHILDHOOD B&W. 1962 95min. (DVD)

Director: Andrei Tarkovsky

A twelve-year-old boy acts as a spy for the Russians during the Second World War to avenge his parents' deaths.

IVAN THE TERRIBLE (PART ONE) B&W. 1944 99 min. (DVD)

Director: Sergei Eisenstein

Music: Sergei Prokofiev

Cast: Nikolai Cherkasov, Ludmila Tselikovskaya, Serafima Birman, Pavel Kadochnikov, Mikhail Zharov, Ambrose Buchma

Eisenstein's monumental final work chronicles the life of Tsar Ivan IV. In part one of the epic, Ivan ruthlessly extends his empire by wresting power from a corrupt aristocracy and conquering neighboring enemies.

IVAN THE TERRIBLE (PART TWO) B&W. 1946 (released in 1989) 85 min. (DVD)

Director: Sergei Eisenstein

Music: Sergei Prokofiev

Cast: Nikolai Cherkasov, Serafima Birman, Pavel Kadochnikov, Andrei Abrikosov, Mikhail Zharov, Ambrose Buchma

Part two details Ivan's revenge on the friends and allies who had denounced him.

IVAN VASILEVICH CHANGES PROFESSIONS 1973 96 min. (VHS & DVD)

Director: Leonid Gaidai

Cast: Yakovlev, Kuravlev, Demianenko, Kramarov, Seleneva, Kushinskaia, Etush, Pugovkin

Loosely adapted from Bulgakov's comedy, Ivan the Terrible and the Time Machine. Lots of slapstick humor. Absent-minded inventor Shurik has built a time machine in his apartment. When it accidentally sends a thief and his apartment manager, a look-alike for Ivan the Terrible, to the tsar's palace during Ivan the Terrible's reign, and the Tsar finds himself in modern Moscow, complications arise and Shurik desperately tries to return things to normal.

JAZZMAN 1984 80 min. (VHS x3)

Director: Karen Shakhnazarov

Cast: I. Sklyar; A. Chorny; N. Averyuskin; P. Shcherbakov; E. Tsyplakova

In the 1920's a young musician is expelled from a conservatory for playing the decadent Western form known as ragtime. He puts together a real jazz group, recruiting two street musicians and a former saxophonist in the Tsarist marching band. A delightful film.

JOLLY FELLOWS 1934 89 min. (VHS)

Director: Grigori Alexandrov

Cast: Leonid Utyosov, Lyubov Orlova, Maria Strelkova, Yelena Tyapkina

The first musical comedy directed by Alexandrov, this film is a triumphant rags-to-fame story of a shepherd boy who reaches lofty heights as a jazz-orchestra conductor. It is a good example of Soviet cinema in the 1930s.

KIDNAPPING CAUCASSIAN STYLE OR SHURIK'S NEW ADVENTURES 1971 (DVD)

Director: Leonid Gaidai

Cast: Aleksandr Demyanenko; Natalya Varley; Yuri Nikulin

Shurik travels to Caucasus in search of native legends and folklore. But what he finds is a beautiful girl whom, due to intoxication and deceit of the local "gang", he ends up literally stealing for the local deceitful governor. All the time Shurik thinks that it is all just an old Caucasian custom. When he, finally, realizes what he did he goes out in search for the girl of his dreams.

KINO-EYE and THREE SONGS OF LENIN 1924 78 min. (DVD)

Director: Dziga Vertov

Documents the activities of the Young Pioneers. Videodisc release of two motion pictures originally produced in 1924 and 1934 respectively. Kino-eye: A collection of excerpts from newsreels and documentary films of Soviet life in the early 1920s made by Vertov and his 'Kino-Eye' group. The activities of Soviet children and youth of the Young Pioneers and Young Leninists are highlighted, interwoven with cinematic experiments (as when Vertov charts the evolution of hamburger and bread by following its trail back to the farms and wheat fields from whence it came. An honest documentary of a society fresh from revolution, buoyed by idealism. "The final reel no longer exists but has been approximated through the use of carefully selected outtake footage." Three songs about Lenin: Lenin as revealed through the eyes of the Russian people, represented by three songs. The first, "My face was in a dark prison," concerns the life of a young Muslim woman. "We loved him" deals with Lenin's life and death. The third song, "In a big city of stone," shows the accomplishments of his rule.

LET'S MAKE LOVE 2002 86 min. (DVD)

Director: Denis Evstigneev

Suited for courses on youth and western genre models in contemporary Russian cinema. Rusfilm: The most significant novelty of Denis Evstigneev's film *Let's Make Love* has nothing directly to do with the artistic quality of the film but rather with the nature of its intended audience. The film is the first deliberate attempt by a Russian director to make a film in the genre of the American teenager comic melodrama. The film is not only about teenagers but targeted directly at a teenage audience. Consequently, the film's themes have to do with concerns of the present moment (making money, finding love, getting sex) and of the future (finding a career, gaining financial security, getting married).

LITTLE VERA 1988 110 min. (VHS & DVD)

Director: Vasily Pichul

Cast: Natalya Negoda

Negoda plays Vera, a sullen, sultry teenager who is torn between her brooding lover and her bitter parents in a dead-end town.

LONELY WOMAN SEEKS LIFE COMPANION 1987 91 min. (VHS)

Director: Viacheslav Krishtofovich

Cast: Irina Kupchenko; Alexander Zbruev

In this tragicomedy, a lonely middle-aged woman posts five ads in search of a Prince Charming, but the response is far from ideal. The film addresses alcoholism, urban alienation, divorce and women's issues.

LUNA PARK 1991 105 min. (VHS)

Director: Pavel Lungin

Cast: Oleg Borisov, Andrei Goutine, Natalie Egorova

An intense tale of a man coming to terms with his past. Andrei is the leader of a gang of right-wing skinheads determined to "clean up" Russia by beating up Jews, foreigners, and others of whom they disapprove. When he learns his own father is actually a celebrated Jewish composer, he sets off on a frantic search through Moscow to find him.

MAMAY 2003 80 min. (VHS)

This Oscar-nominated historical adventure is based on 2 epics: a Ukrainian дума about the three Azov brothers and the Crimean-Tartar legend about the Doblesny Mamliuks. Three kozak brothers escape from Turkish captivity and three Tartar traitors set out to capture them. With only two horses, the brothers leave the youngest behind, hoping that he will evade capture. A Tartar girl finds him in the steppe. From this evolves the legend of Kozak Mamay.

MAN WITH A MOVIE CAMERA 1929 68 min. (DVD)

Director: Dziga Vertov

Described by Dziga Vertov as an "experiment in the language of pure cinema." In part a manifesto on the nature of socialist society, the film is actually a synthesis of shots taken in Moscow, Kiev, Odessa and elsewhere. An experimental film which uses numerous cinematic techniques (split screens, multiple superimpositions, variable speeds, et cetera) to present a dawn to dusk view of the Soviet Union to study the relation between cinema and reality.

THE MASTER AND MARGARITA 2006 450 min. (DVD)

Director: Vladimir Bortko

Cast: Anna Kovalchuk, Aleksandr Galibin, Oleg Basilashvili, Vladislav Galkin, Kirill Lavrov

An imaginary world where one's consciousness actually perceives and experiences sorcery... The Master and Margarita by Mikhail Bulgakov, the novel upon which this film is based, is a rare, mind-expanding pleasure, a journey available whenever one takes it and reads. The book is about the great, burning, perennial arenas of the human predicament: story of the Christ, seen by Matthew, Judas, and Pilate; the tale of Faust's pact with the devil; the confrontation between individual genius and the demands of an love of man and woman.

THE MIRROR 1975 106 min. (VHS & DVD)

Director: Andrei Tarkovsky

Cast: Oleg Yankovsky; Margarita Terekhova; I. Daniltsev

In this poetic autobiography images of childhood are mixed with fragments of his adult life. Tarkovsky's looking glass is not merely cracked but shattered and we see the jagged, jumbled reflections of its shards, images of Tarkovsky's childhood mixed with fragments of his adult life--a child's wartime exile, a mother's experience with political terror, the breakup of a marriage, life in a country home--all intermingled with slow-motion dream sequences and poetic chunks of stark newsreels.

MNE DVANADSAT' LET (I AM TWENTY YEARS OLD) 1962 164 min. (DVD)

Director: Marlen Khutsiev

A coming-of-age film focusing on three young men, Sergei, Kolka and Slavka, who were childhood friends. All three are individuals seeking internal freedom, independence and truth. The film explores the themes of the revolutionary ideal, national heritage and historical continuity in the 1960s.

MOSCOW DOES NOT BELIEVE IN TEARS 1981 150 min. (VHS & DVD)

Director: Vladimir Menshov

Cast: Vera Alentova, Irina Muravyova, Raisa Ryazanova

Winner of the Academy Award for Best Foreign Film, it is a drama of three women trying to establish themselves in Russia's huge and often impersonal capital city.

MOSCOW PARADE 1993 103 min. (VHS)

Director: Ivan Dykhovichny

Cast: Ute Lemper, Natalia Kalikanova, Ekaterina Rijikova

The first post-Soviet view of the Stalin era. Set in Moscow in 1939, the film tells the story of Anna, a former aristocrat married to one of the chiefs of the secret police. She hates these men who have exterminated her family and who are abusing her now. But she takes advantage of their luxurious life--all the things that are available only to the Soviet elite.

MOTHER Silent Film 1926 73 min. (VHS)

Director: Vsevolod Pudovkin

Cast: Vera Baranovskaya, Nikolai Batalov, Vsevolod Pudovkin

Depicts an aspect of the abortive 1905 revolt, dramatizing the injustices of Tsarist life.

MOTHER AND SON 1997 73 min. (DVD)

Director: Alexander Sokurov

Cast: Gudrin Geyer, Alexander Anishnov

A story about the deep affection that exists between a mother and her son. The film explores themes of life and death in a harsh world that offers little comfort.

MURDER AT ZHDANOVSKAYA 1992 (VHS)

Director: Sulambek Mamilov

Based on the murder of a KGB officer, the film attempts to show the conflict that existed between the KGB and the Ministry of Internal Affairs during the Brezhnev era.

MY BIG ARMENIAN WEDDING 2005 205 min. (DVD)

Director: Rodion Nakhapetov

Cast: Natal'ya Andrejchenko, Armen Dzhigarkhanyan, Rodion Nakhapetov, Marat Basharov, Mariya Shukshina, Karen Dzhanibekyan, El'vira Bolgova

There is lots of sparkle to this comedy about a love affair with a happy end. Young Armenian doctor named Tigran falls in love with Russian beauty Elena. The parents of the two are firm against the couple's intentions and decide to find better matches for their children.

MY NAME IS IVAN 1962 84 min. (VHS)

Director: Andrei Tarkovsky

Cast: Kolya Burlaev, Valentin Zubkov, Ye Zharikov

Based on the novel by Vladimir Bogomolov. Set during WWII, this new print is the story of a young boy deprived of his childhood and struggling with the brutal realities of war.

NIGHT WATCH 2006 114 min (DVD)

The forces of light and darkness have co-existed in a delicate balance for hundreds of years...until now. The Night Watch polices the Dark Others--vampires, witches--the usual suspects. Russia's version of the gritty, Matrix-esque horror action movie.

NINE DAYS OF ONE YEAR 2000 111min. (DVD)

Director: Mikhail Romm

The action of this intellectual drama takes place in the 1960s. Two young nuclear scientists- the possessed experimentator Gusev and the skeptical theoretician- physicist Kulikov-- are old friends, both in love with the same girl, Lyolia. In the course of his scientific experiments Gusev gets a possibly fatal dose of radiation. Despite the doctors warnings of life threatening danger the scientist wouldn't stop his quest for the truth, although his days may be numbered.

OBLOMOV 1981 145 min. (VHS & DVD)

Director: Nikita Mikhalkov

Cast: P. Lebeshev; A. Popov; Oleg Tabakov; Elena Solovei; Yu. Bogatyrev

A moving adaptation of Ivan Goncharov's great 19th century tragi-comedy novel about a gentle aristocrat who would rather sleep than compete in a modern world of expanding industrialization.

OCTOBER Silent Film: 1927 (2004 restoration) 103 min. (VHS & DVD)

Silent film with music score and spoken introduction ; English subtitles.

Director: Sergei Eisenstein

Cast: V. Nikandrov, N. Popov, E. Tisse, N. Podvoisky, B. Livanov

Eisenstein's masterful recreation of the events leading up to the Russian Revolution. The portrayal and recreation of the Bolshevik Revolution. Commissioned by the Soviet government, this film commemorates the ten year anniversary of the 1917 October revolution. The director Eisenstein uses his ground-breaking film techniques to pull the viewer into the movie. Although a silent film, the musical score and the cinematography combine to create a film strong in emotion.

OF FREAKS AND MEN 1998 89 min. (DVD)

Director: Alexei Balabanov

Cast: Sergei Makovetsky; Dinara Drukarova; Victor Sukhorukov; Lika Nevolina

The sinister Johann and his wicked assistant photograph the floggings of bare-bottomed women. They maneuver their way into two well-to-do families, involving them in their pornographic schemes. Darkly humorous and startlingly original, this compelling tale reveals the manipulation and revenge, hidden passions and sadomasochistic urges underlying the charm and propriety of Victorian society.

OLD WOMEN (STARUKHI) 2003 100 min. (DVD)

Director: Gennady Sidorov

Cast: Valentina Berezutskaya; Galina Smirnova; Zoya Norkina; Tamara Klimova

Old women live somewhere in an isolated and nearly forgotten village. Despite poverty surrounding them they still are alive and are not going to die. Prize for the Best film, best debut and Prize of the Guild of Film Critics of Russia at FF "Kinotavr", Sochi-2003, Russia

OPERATION "Y" AND OTHER SHURIK ADVENTURES 1965 96 min. (DVD)

Director: Leonid Gaidai

Cast: Aleksandr Demianenko, Alexei Smirnov, Mikhail Pugovkin

The lovable and bumbling Shurik finds himself in a host of incredible situations. In these three episodic sketches, Shurik tries to rehabilitate a bully, prepare for an exam and save a warehouse from burglary.

THE ORPHANS [Podrantsy] 1977 100 min. (VHS)

Director: Nikolai Gubenko

Cast: Yuozas Budraitis; Alyosha Tcherstvov, Nikolai Gubenko, Zhanna Bolotova

A successful novelist returns to the now abandoned orphanage, where he spent several years at the end of WWII. His life there is remembered, and he finds his brothers who had been adopted by different families.

OSTROV (THE ISLAND) 2006 112 min. (DVD)

Director: Pavel Lungin

Cast: Pyotr Mamonov, Viktor Sukhorukov, Dmitri Dyuzhev, Viktoriya Isakova

During World War II, the sailor Anatoly and his captain, Tikhon, are captured by the Nazis when they board their barge and tugboat which is carrying a shipment of coal. The Nazi officer leading the raid offers Anatoly the choice to shoot Tikhon and stay alive which Anatoly reluctantly takes, and Tikhon falls overboard. The Nazis blow up the ship but Anatoly is found by Russian Orthodox monks on the shore the next morning. He survives and becomes a stoker at the monastery but is perpetually overcome with guilt.

PAPA 2004 94 min. (DVD)

Director: Vladimir Mashkov

Cast: Vladimir Mashkov, Yegor Beroyev, Andrey Rozendent, Ksenja Lavrova-Glinka

Set in the thirties, a talented young violinist comes to Moscow where he meets love and enjoys success. But all the time he hides the fact that he is Jewish. He must choose to renounce his father or lose everything. Based on the play.

PASSIONS [UVLECHEN'IA] 1994 112 min. (DVD)

Director: Kira Muratova

Cast: Renata Litvinova, Svetlana Kolenda, Mikhail Demidov, Vasilii Rybakin, Aleksei Shevchenko

Liliia and Violetta are attracted to horse-racing. The young jockeys fall for the girls. Sports intrigues are interwoven with love affairs. The racehorses carry their riders to the finish line, where the winner takes all.

THE PATRIOTS 1934 82 min. (VHS)

Director: Boris Barnet

Cast: Yelena Kuzmina, Nikolai Bogolyubov, Nikolai Kryuchov

Blends comic, ironic, and tragic elements to evoke the divided loyalties of the inhabitants of a small Russian town during World War I.

PECULIARITIES OF NATIONAL FISHING [OSOBENNOSTI NATIONAL'NOI RYBALKI] 1998 94 min. (DVD)

Director: Aleksandr Rogozhkin

Cast: Aleksei Buldakov, Viktor Bychkov, Semen Strugachev, Sergei Russkin, Sergei Gusinskii, Vasilii Domrachev, Ville Khaapsalo

The sequel to the epic comedy *Peculiarities of the National Hunt*, this film also explores the peculiarities of the mysterious Russian soul. The inseparable friends General Ivolgin, the hunter Kuzmich, and Leva Soloveichik decide to go fishing. but their boat goes off course and carries the unfortunate fishermen straight to Finland.

PECULIARITIES OF NATIONAL POLITICS (OSOBENNOSTI NATSIONAL'NOI POLITIKI) 2003 83 min. (DVD)

Director: Dmitrii Meshkiev

Cast: Aleksandr Tutriumov, Aleksei Buldakov, Iurii Kuznetsov

General Ivolgin embarks into politics. The high rating of the previously unknown adversary attracts the attention of competition. Communists, bandits, businessmen, and even the FSO (Federal Security Office of Russia) try to find the secret of the General's popularity. Ivolgin's campaign organizers manage to cope with this to a certain extent... However, they finally realize that "politics is a dirty business".

PITER FM 2006 84 min. (DVD)

Director: Oksana Bychkova

Cast: Yekaterina Fedulova, Yevgeni Tsyganov, Aleksei Barabash

A lyrical comedy about young woman and her boyfriend as they try to make the right choice in their life.

PRISONER OF THE MOUNTAINS 1996 99 min. (VHS and DVD)

Director: Sergei Bodrov

Cast: Oleg Menshikov, Sergei Bodrov, Jr., Djemal Sikarulidze

Based on Leo Tolstoy's classic tale of hope, courage, and humanity, this film follows the spellbinding journey of two Russians held captive in the Caucasus mountains. Winner of the 1996 Cannes Critics Prize.

PRIVATE LIFE 1982 103 min. (VHS)

Director: Yuli Raizman

Cast: M. Ulyanov; Iya Savvina; I. Gubanova; T. Dogileva

Deals with the trial of retirement and old age with sensitivity.

PROMISED HEAVENS 1991 118 min. (VHS)

Director: Eldar Ryazanov

Cast: L. Akhedzhakova; O. Volkova; V. Gaft; L. Bronevoi

A group of Russians separate themselves from mainstream society in order to form their own system of rule. These outcasts treasure their freedom until tanks roll over their self-made village.

QUIET FLOWS THE DON (TIKHIY DON) 1957 360 min. (VHS)

Director: Sergei Gerasimov

Cast: Pyotr Glebov; Elina Bystritskaya

Six hour epic about the life of Don Cossacs in a village in southern Russia between 1912 and 1922. Winner of numerous awards.

RASPUTIN 1977 104 min. (VHS)

Director: Elem Klimov

Cast: Alexei Petrenko; Anatoli Romashin; Welta Leene

Petrenko delivers a ferociously over-the-top performance as Grigory Rasputin, the wandering Siberian monk whose messianic influence upon Russia's monarchy helped lead the country to World War I and the revolution. The film is an unrestrained assault on the ruling class.

THE ROAD TO LIFE 1931 100 min. (VHS)

Director: Nikolai Ekk

Cast: Nikolai Balatov, Mikhail Zharov

The Children's Commission attempts to reform orphaned youths after the Revolutionary and Civil wars. One of the first Russian sound films. Based on the book 'Pedagogical Poem' by Soviet educator Anton Makarenko.

RUSLAN AND LIUDMILA 154 min. (VHS)

Director: Aleksandr Ptushko

Cast: V. Kozinets; N. Petrova; A. Abrikosov; V. Nevinnyi

An adaptation of Pushkin's work. (Some problems with tape.)

RUSSIAN ARK 2002 96 min. (DVD)

Director: Alexander Sokurov

Cast: Sergei Dreiden; Maria Kuznetsova; Leonid Mozgovoy

A modern filmmaker who magically finds himself transported to the 18th century. There, he embarks on a time-traveling journey through 300 years of Russian history. Filmed with a cast of thousands, three live orchestras and an army of technicians, Russian Ark is the longest uninterrupted shot in film history, an the first feature film ever created in a single take.

THE SACRIFICE In Swedish: 1986 145 min. (VHS)

Director: Andrei Tarkovsky

Cast: Erland Josephson

A Swedish family, celebrating the birthday of their patriarch on a remote Baltic island, receives word of the outbreak of WWII.

SCARECROW 1983 127 min. (VHS)

Director: Rolan Bykov

Cast: Christina Orbakaite, Yuri Nikulin; A. Moukassey

A sixth grade class ostracizes a girl as a tattletale, when she has falsely confessed in order to protect a boy whom she idolizes. The film raises questions about the nature of the collective and was widely discussed in the Soviet press.

THE SEAGULL 1971 99 min. (VHS)

Director: Yuri Karasik

Cast: Alla Demidova, Lyudmila Savelyeva, Yuri Yakovlev.

A sensitive, exquisitely acted version of Chekhov's great play, set in provincial Russia, a penetrating study of the languid melancholia of the residents of an isolated country estate.

THE SECOND CIRCLE 1990 85 min. Restored Director's cut (DVD)

Director: Aleksandr Sokurov

Cast: Pyotr Aleksandrov, Nadezhda Rodnova, Tamara Timofeyeva, and Aleksandr Bystryakov.

In a remote Siberian village, A man tries to come to terms with his father's death and to deal with the mundane details of his burial in a society cut off from spirituality. From the director of "The Russian Ark."

THE SEVENTEEN MOMENTS OF SPRING 1973 60 min. per disk/360 min. total. DVD - 6 disks. Two episodes on each disk.

Director: Tatiana Lioznova

Cast: Vyacheslav Tikhonov; Leonid Bronevoy; Yevgeni Yevstigneyev

The series is based on a true story of a Russian spy Colonel Isaev (Stirlitz) in Fascist Germany during 17 days in very end of WWII.

SHADOWS OF FORGOTTEN ANCESTORS 1964 99 min. (VHS & DVD)

Director: Sergei Parajanov

Cast: Ivan Mikolaichuk; Larisa Kadochnikova; Tatiana Bestaeva

Visually rich panorama using song, dance, and ritual to tell the story of a Romeo and Juliet of the Carpathians.

SIBERIADE 1979 190 min. (VHS)

Director: Andrei Konchalovsky

Cast: Vladimir Samoilov, Vitaly Solomin, Nikita Mikhalkov, Lyudmilla Gurchenko

Russian history over six decades is revealed through the eyes of two opposing families in this epic film. One proletarian family, the Ustyuzhanins, yearns for change, while the aristocratic Solomins desperately cling to their privileged past. These opposing views finally climax in a battle over oil in Siberia. Winner of the 1979 Jury Prize at Cannes.

SIDEBURNS 1990 110 min. (VHS)

Director: Yuri Mamin

In this satire the young Russian rightists called "The Pushkin Club" are pitted against an anti-establishment rock group.

SLAVE OF LOVE 1976 94 min. (VHS, DVD)

Director: Nikita Mikhalkov

Cast: E. Solovei; R. Nakhapetov; A. Kaliagin Music: Eduard Artemiev

Depicts the pre-Revolutionary film industry and shows how a self-centered actress is drawn into the turmoil of the Revolution through her love for the cameraman, who is a Red.

SNOW MAIDEN (Snyegurochka) 1968 93 min. (DVD)

Director: Pavel Kadochnikov

Cast: Yevgeniya Filonova; Yevgeny Zharikov; Irina Gubanova

Snow Maiden is a daughter of Father Frost and Beauty Spring. Her ice heart had never known simple human feelings - joy, love. Not until she has met a man named Lel. His love and warmth give her the richness of the world around her and kindle her heart of cold beauty. Spiritual images of nature, cheerful dances, folk games, songs- all these components are included in this fairy tale.

SOLARIS 1972 169 min. (DVD x3 [Russian/English x2])

Director: Andrei Tarkovsky

Cast: Natalya Bondarchuk, Donatas Banionis, Yuri Yarvet

When cosmonaut and psychologist Kris Kelvin is sent to investigate the Solaris space station, he experiences strange phenomena sending him on a voyage into the darkest recesses of his own consciousness.

STALKER 1979 163 min. (DVD)

Director: Andrei Tarkovsky

Cast: Alexander Kaidanovsky; Alissa Freindlikh; Anatoly Solonitsyn; Nikolai Grinko

Stalker is the man who knows a lot about the system of obstacles and traps in the Zone. He knows the way to the coveted room where any wish may come true. To find this room is the goal of Writer and Professor. The writer hopes to find inspiration there, the professor dreams of making a discovery. Led by the Stalker, they finally reach the room... But will they be able to enter it? What will the path of self-knowledge lead to?

THE STAR 2002 93 min. (DVD)

Director: Nikolaj Lebedev

Cast: Aleksej Kravchenko, Aleksej Panin, Igor Petrenko, Artem Samokin, Amadu Mamadakov, Anatolij Gucshin

The Second World War in Russia. The year 1944. The "Star" is a radio call sign for a group of war scouts who went on an assignment behind the German front line. Having found the location of German tank concentration, they report to the headquarters, at the cost of their lives, about the impending attack. Intense and dramatic, the film makes one realize who had won in that war, and at what price.

The movie's superb directing, stunning cinematography and poignant, sensuous music immerse the viewer in the atmosphere of war, when just one erroneous step may lead to fatal consequences.

Based on the story by Emmanuil Kazakevich.

THE STEAMROLLER AND THE VIOLIN 1960 43 min. (DVD)

Director: Andrei Tarkovsky

Cast: Igor Fomchenko, V. Zamansky, N. Arhangelskaya

At the center of the film is the unlikely friendship between Sasha, a young boy who loves to play the violin, and Sergey, the macho driver of a steamroller. The film sidesteps sentimentally to give us a warm yet ironic look at two individuals who bridge differences in generations to form a powerful bond.

STORM OVER ASIA Silent Film: 1928 128 min. (VHS)

Director: Vsevolod Pudovkin ; Script by: Osip Brik

Cast: Valeri Inkizhinov, I. Inkizhinov, A. Chistiakov, Boris Barnet, Anel' Sudakevich, Alexander Chistiakov

Famous for its lyrical/psychological montage, this film tells an epic story of an exploited Mongolian fur trader who becomes involved in the Mongolian uprising against the British during the Civil War period.

STRIKE (STACHKA) Silent Film: 1925 94 min. (DVD)

Director: Sergei Eisenstein

Triggered by the suicide of a worker unjustly accused of theft, a strike is called by the laborers of a Moscow factory. The managers, owner and the Czarist government dispatch infiltrators in an attempt to break the workers' unity. Eisenstein experimented with the use of montage, parallel editing, expanded time, and the intercutting of symbolic images - the beginnings of the techniques that would change the look of cinema. This film is considered by many to be Eisenstein's masterpiece.

A SUMMER TO REMEMBER [Seriozha] 1960 78 min. (VHS)

Directors: Georgi Daniela and Igor Talankin

Cast: Sergey Bondarchuk, Irina Skobtseva

Based on short story by Soviet writer Vera Panova. A small, intimate portrait that recounts the adolescence of a young boy growing up in southern Russia.

TAXI BLUES 1990 110 min. (VHS)

Director: Pavel Lungin

Cast: Piotr Mamonov, Piotr Zaitchenko, Elena Saphonova

The story centers on a hard-working, patriotic taxi driver who starts to go over the edge when he meets a flaky, westernized, Jewish jazz musician who represents everything the taxi driver despises...and secretly desires.

TCHAIKOVSKY 1971 153 min. (VHS)

Director: Igor Talankin

Musical Adaptation: Dimitri Tiomkin

Cast: Innokenti Smoktunovsky, Antonina Shuranova

A film about the music and life of the celebrated composer. Nominated for an Academy Award for best foreign language film.

THAT'S VERY MUNCHAUSEN 1979 134 min. (DVD)

Director: Mark Zakharov

Cast: Oleg Yankovskiy, Inna Churikova, Yelena Koreneva, Igor Kvascha

The film relays the story of the baron's life after the adventures portrayed in the book, particularly his struggle to prove himself sane. In the movie, baron Munchausen is portrayed as multi-dimensional, colorful, non-conformist man living in a gray, plain, dull and conformist society that ultimately tries to destroy him.

THEY FOUGHT FOR THEIR MOTHERLAND 1975 131 min. (DVD)

Director: S. Bondarchuk

Based on the novel by M.A. Sholokhov. July 1942: The army is retreating. A group of exhausted soldiers, all that is left of their regiment, are defending a plot of land. At times they feel like there is no war. Wide tank tracks on the road, and all around are drooping, wilted grasses, dimly glistening salt marshes and a bluish flickering haze over distant mounds...In that absurd clash between the warmly breathing earth and the inhuman war machine lies a powerful Biblical generalization, the metaphor of confrontation of eternal life and dark, evil forces.

THE THIEF 1997 93 min. (VHS & DVD)

Director: Pavel Chukhrai

Cast: Vladimir Mashkov, Ekaterina Rednikova, Misha Philipchuk

A young boy and his homeless mother are "rescued" by a handsome, charismatic soldier. Winner of several international film prizes and nominee for an Academy Award for Best Foreign Language Film, this film is arresting as both an intense drama about a troubling family dynamic, and as an allegory about the tension that filled the Soviet Union in the early years of the Cold War.

THREE SONGS OF LENIN 1934 62 min. (VHS & DVD*)

Director: Dziga Vertov

Reveals the Russian leader as soon through the eyes of the Russian people -- represented by three songs. One concerns the life of a young Muslim woman, one with the life and death of Lenin, and one shows the accomplishments of his rules. The last feature film from a great visual artist. * For DVD please see Kino-Eye.

THROUGH FIRE, WATER AND... BRASS PIPES 1968 86 min. (DVD)

Director: Alexander Rou

Cast: Natalya Sedykh, Alexei Katyshev, Georgy Millyar

The saying "to go through fire, water and brass pipes" means to endure severe trials, to gain many impressions and to steel one's will. This film, based on a fairy tale, is a musical of a boy's search for his beloved, who is kidnapped by immortal beings.

THE TSAR'S BRIDE 1966 97 min. (VHS)

Director: Vladimir Gorikker

Cast: Raissa Nedashkovskaya, Natalya Rudnaya, Otar Koberidze, Pyotr Glebov

A cinematic production of Rimsky-Korsakov's opera using the actors and singers of the Bolshoi Opera and Theater. It tells the story of a beautiful young girl who is chosen against her will by Tsar Ivan the Terrible to be his wife.

TWENTY-SIX DAYS IN THE LIFE OF FEDOR DOSTOEVSKY 1980 80 min. (VHS)

Director: Alexander Zarkhi

Cast: Anatolii Solonitsyn; Evgenia Simonova; Ewa Shikulska

The late Anatoli Solonitsyn, plays Fedor Mikhailovich -- 45 years old, widowed, heavily in debt, deeply depressed, suffering writer's block. And stage actress Evgenia Simonova plays the 18-year-old fledgling stenographer, Ania Snitkina, seeking her first employment after secretarial school. Veteran writer-director Zarkhi weaves a very believable, touching "docu-drama" around the lives, personalities, and problems faced by these two real people at a critical moment in the writer's life, around the time he was trying to finish both "Gambler" and "Crime and Punishment."

TYCOON, A NEW RUSSIAN 2002 128 min. (DVD)

Director: Pavel Lungin

Cast: Vladimir Mashkov, Andrei Krasko, Maria Mironova, Sergei Oshkevich

A stylish, slick crime drama based on the life of notorious billionaire Boris Berezovsky, Tycoon follows the life of Plato Makovski, a renegade Russian entrepreneur whose seductive and brutal climb to the top in the post-Soviet era flourishes as the line between business, crime and politics breaks down.

UNFINISHED PIECE FOR PLAYER PIANO 1977 100 min. (VHS & DVD)

Director: Nikita Mikhalkov

Cast: A. Kaliagin; E. Solovej; A. Shuranova Music: Eduard Artemiev

Based on Chekhov's play "Platonov." Captures well the spirit of Chekhov.

VIVA CASTRO! 1993 82 min. (VHS)

Director: Boris Frumin

Cast: Pavel Zharkov, Julia Sobolevskaya, Sergei Dontsov

Set in a small Russian town in 1965, when Fidel Castro was a popular cultural figure, this film looks at Russia's disaffected youth.

VIY or SPIRIT OF EVIL 1967 78 min. (DVD)

Directors: Konstantin Yershov & Georgy Kropachyov

Cast: Leonid Kuralyov, Natalya Yarley, Alexei Glazyrin

Based on the story by Nikolai Gogol. Theology student, Thomas Brutus, meets Viy, the devil's emissary, one night under some mysterious circumstances and enters a world where reality is interspersed with fantasy.

VOLGA VOLGA 1937 90 min. (VHS & DVD)

Director: Grigori Alexandrov

Cast: Lyubov Orlova, Igor Ilinsky, V. Bolodin

This film is as popular and familiar to Russian audiences as 'Showboat' is to American audiences. Setting is a giant steamboat making its way up the Volga River. On board is a motley collection of amateur singers and dancers traveling to Moscow to participate in a musical contest.

VOVOCHKA 2002 95 min. (DVD)

Director: I. Muzhzhukhin

Cast: A. Guskov; V. Novikova; I. Ulyanova; M. Porechenkov

This light, hilarious story, sparkling with good-natured humour, will amuse both children and their parents. Our Vovochka is not the hero of popular anecdotes, but a real-life ten-year-old boy, spontaneous and indefatigable, an ever-inventive daredevil, who happens to be quite a handful for the grown-ups around him.

WAR (VOINA) 2002 120 min. (DVD)

Director: Alexei Balabanov

Cast: Alexei Chadov, Ian Kelli, Sergei Bodrov, Ingebora Dapkunaite

A British man and Russian soldier must rely on their own skills to save another British tourist from Chechen rebels.

WAR AND PEACE 1965-1967 403 min. (DVD)

Director: Sergei Bondarchuk

Cast: Liudmila Savelieva; Sergei Bondarchuk; Vyacheslav Tikhonov; Anastasiya Vertinskaya

Screen Adaptation of the novel by Leo Tolstoy

WHITE SUN OF THE DESERT 1969 80 min. (VHS & DVD)

Director: Vladimir Motyl

Cast: Anatoli Kuznetsov; Spartak Mishulin; Kakhi Kavsadze

"A soldier of the Red Army named Sukhov has been fighting in the Russian Civil War in Russian Asia for many years. Just as he is about to return home to his wife, Sukhov is chosen to guard and protect the harem of a guerilla leader." (description from IMDB.com)

WILD/SHY BOY 1988 85 min. (VHS)

Director: Kamara Kamalova

Cast: R. Safiulin; A. Smirdan; S. Atayeva; V. Shadiyev; Ye. Nikitishinina

Forrest S. Ciesol writes that the drama "gracefully captures the awkwardness of adolescence and the challenges of coming of age in the Stalin era of the 1940s. Kamalova is less concerned with constructing a traditional linear narrative than with carefully observing details and incidents which shape the lives of her characters."

WILD HUNT OF KING STAKH (VHS)

Director: Valeri Rubinchik

Cast: B. Plotnikov; E. Dimitrova

A "horror" film based on a story by V. Korotkevich. Images poor.

WINDOW TO PARIS 1995 92 min. (VHS & DVD)

Director: Yuri Mamin Cast: Agnes Soral, Serguei Dontsov

An inventive comedy that alternates romance with slapstick -- the story of a young musician who discovers a magic window that takes him from his rundown Russian apartment to the streets of Paris.

WINGS 1966 90 min. (VHS)

Director: Larisa Shepitko

Cast: Maya Bulgakova, Galina Yatskina

Character portrait of a female fighter pilot and ardent Stalinist who cannot adjust to peacetime life following the Second World War. Considered Shepitko's most controversial film.

ZVENIGORA Silent Film: 1927 73 min. (VHS)

Director: Alexander Dovzhenko

Cast: Semen Svashenko, Peter Masokha

Ukrainian director Dovzhenko's first major work captures the history of Ukraine through a series of folk myths stretching from the Viking invasion to the 1919 Civil War.

CENTRAL ASIAN:

ASHIK KERIB 1988 75 min. (VHS)

Director: Sergei Paradjanov

Cast: Yuri Goyan, Veronika Metonidze, Levan Natroshvili

Ashik Kerib is a wandering minstrel, forbidden to marry the daughter of a powerful merchant, who travels for one thousand days to finance his wedding. In Paradjanov's hands, it becomes a visual opera of costumes, movement and music, in which surreal framing, icons, pomegranates and other mystical symbols fill a living tableau with images that are simply miraculous.

BESHKEMPIR, THE ADOPTED SON Kyrgyz: 1998 81 min. (DVD)

Director: Aktan Abdykalykov

The first independent feature made in Kyrgyzstan, this film follows a boy who is living through a typical childhood ... until he discovers, one day, that he is adopted.

BLOCK MELODY (MELODIES OF THE VERI NEIGHBORHOOD) No subtitles, Georgian: 1973 (VHS)

Director: Georgii Shengelaia

Cast: Sofiko Chiaureli; Buba Kikabidze

A musical with weak dramatic structure, but a bright carnival-like setting. A colorful attempt to translate a Hollywood type musical to a Georgian period setting.

A CHEF IN LOVE In French, Georgian, and Russian: 1996 95 min. (VHS)

Director: Nana Djordjadze

Cast: Pierre Richard

A richly textured story of a free-spirited French chef whose restaurant and extraordinary love affair are both endangered by the Russian revolution. Academy Award nominee for Best Foreign Language Picture.

GEORGIAN NATIONAL DANCE COMPANY SUKHISHVILI 2007 100 min. (DVD)

Performances of the Georgian National Dance Company SUKHISHVILI which, in over 200 tours, has toured numerous times 5 continents, 88 countries, held over 10,000 performances.

KIEP'S LAST JOURNEY Uzbek: 1990 95 min. (VHS)

Director: Farid Davletshin

Cast: A. Kuttubaev, D. Kambarova, S. Moldakhanov, P. Saidkasimov, N. Khanturin

Forrest Ciesol writes that the film is "a startlingly modern, revisionist folk tale that is unsentimental and offers no easy or simple resolution. The structuring of many flashbacks and dream sequences is engagingly sophisticated. The film offers a rare and fascinating revelation of centuries-old Uzbek beliefs and customs."

RED POMEGRANATE Armenian: 1969 75 min. (VHS)

Director: Sergei Paradjanov

Cast: Sofiko Chiaureli, M. Aleksanian

Based on the writings of the 17th century Armenian poet, Arutiun Sayadian, also known as "Sayat Nova", this is both a stylized biography of the man and a tribute to his works.

REPENTANCE Georgian 1988 151 min. (VHS)

Director: Tengiz Abuladze

Cast: Avtandil Makharadze, Zeinab Botsvadze

In a small, somewhat surreal Russian village, a mysterious woman is put on trial for repeatedly digging up the body of Varlam, the town's recently deceased ruler. A searing expose of the brutal repressions and heroic sacrifices during the Stalinist era, this film was nominated for a Golden Globe award.

VODKA LEMON Armenian 2003 88 min. (DVD)

Director: Hiner Saleem

Cast: Romen Avinian, Layla Sarkissian, Ivan Franek, Zahal Karielachvili, Rouzanna-Vite Mesropian

Winner of the Best Film at the Venice Film Festival, "Vodka Lemon" is a bittersweet concoction with a kick. In the snowy badlands of post-Soviet Armenia, village life is nearing subsistence level...Forced to sell off possessions while awaiting money from his son, Hamo, a former Red Army officer, can only count on one thing: daily trips to the cemetery to commune with his late wife. There, Nina, a beautiful widow, tends her husband's grave. On the bus back to the village, a tender romance blossoms.

FILMS WITHOUT ENGLISH SUBTITLES

RUSSIAN:

THE ADVENTURES OF BURATINO 1975 134 min. (DVD)

Director: Leonid Nechaev

Cast: Yuriy Katin-Yartsev, Rolan Bykov, Nikolaj Grin'ko, Vladimir Etush, Valdimir Basov, Rina Zelenaya, Dmitriy Iosifov

"The Adventures of Buratino and the Golden Key" was A. Tolstoy's re-telling of the classic story of Pinocchio. A wooden boy Buratino tries to find his place in life. He befriends toys from a toy theater owned by evil Karabas-Barabas, gets tricked by Alice the Fox and Basilio the Cat and finally discovers the mystery of a golden key given to him by kind Tortila the Tortoise.

THE ARK 2004 84 min. (DVD) Director: Iuri Kuzin Suitable for courses on gender, nationality, post-Soviet Russia. Young Katya lives in a small town where she dreams of finding her prince charming. She falls in love with a stern skipper and goes to Moscow to learn about his secret past. One night changes both their lives as they grow to understand each other.

THE ASCENT (VOSKHOZHDEHIE) 1976 105 min. (VHS)

Director: Larisa Shepitko

Cast: Boris Plotnikov, Vladimir Gostyukhin, Sergei Yakovlev, Lyudmila Polyakova

Two partisans resisting German incursions into Belorussia during World War II, are captured and sentenced to die. One of them dies with such overwhelming dignity and grace, that no one present is unmoved. The Ascent, which won the Grand Prize at the Berlin Film Festival in 1977, was the last complete film by Shepitko.

CANCAN IN AN ENGLISH PARK (KANKAN V ANGLIISKOM PARKE) 1984 (VHS)

Director: V. Podpalogo

Cast: Timofei Spivak, G. Strizhenov, E. Kanaeva

Based on the novel, *Gor'kii dym*, by Rostislav Sambuk. A KGB agent, posing as an emigre Ukrainian poet, applies to work at Radio Liberty. Scathing attack on older generation of emigres as well as new emigres, who are presented as petty criminals.

DEJA VU (DEZHA VIU) In Polish and Russian: 1988 106 min. (VHS)

Director: Juliusz Machulski

Cast: Galina Petrova, Nikolai Karachentsov, Vladimir Golovin, Oleg Shlovskii, Jerzy Stuhr

A comedy that moves between Chicago and Odessa in 1925. A Windy-City hitman is sent to Odessa to kill a mob informant. The victim-to-be is an enterprising soul, taking full advantage of a newly opened shipping line serving Chicago, Odessa and Constantinople. He jealously guards his smuggling operation by hiring his own hitman. Hilarious!

DRAMA AT THE HUNT (DRAMA NA OKHOTE) (VHS)

Director: Emil Lotianu

Cast: Oleg Iankovski, Galina Beliaeva

Based on Chekhov's "Drama at the Hunt." Language is clear.

FAREWELL (PROSHCHANIE) Parts 1 & 2: 1983 (VHS)

Directors: Larisa Shepitko and Elem Klimov

Based on the novel, *Farewell to Matyora*, by Valentin Rasputin.

FIRST ON THE MOON (PERVYE NA LUNE) (DVD PAL only; PAL player available in REEEC office)

Director: Aleksey Fedortschenko

Russian mock documentary about landing on the moon. Spring 1938. The film details the main stages of an ambitious space programme launched in the 1930s, whose goal was... the Moon. The succession of archive footage and contemporary interviews reveals a forgotten chapter in history. *Pervye na lune* is more than just a delightful hoax; it is also an ironic tribute to Soviet montage films and a balanced look at the process of producing heroes.

THE FOUNTAIN (FONTAN) 1988 104 min. (VHS)

Director: Iurii Mamin

Cast: Asankul Kuttubaev, Sergei Dontsov, Zhanna Kermitaeva, Viktor Mikhailov, Aleksei Zalivalov, Nina Usatova, Anatolii Kalmykov

This film is a satirical comedy about the residents of an apartment building and its slow-witted, but kind, alcoholic housing officials.

GARAGE (GARAZH) 1980 (VHS)

Director: Eldar Riazanov

Cast: Iya Savvina, S. Nemelayeva, G. Burkov

Satirical comedy dealing with "meshchanstvo."

THE GOLDEN CALF (ZOLOTOI TELENOK) 1968 167 min. (VHS)

Director: S. Mil'kina

Cast: Sergei Iurskii, Leonid Kuravlev, Zinovii Gerdt, Evgenii Evstigneev, Svetlana Starikova, Nikolai Boiarskii

Based on the novel by Il'ia Il'f and Evgenii Petrov, with screenplay and production by Mikhail Shveitser. A crook named Ostap Bender schemes to extort money from an underground millionaire.

GROMOVI: THE HOUSE OF HOPE 2006 504 min. (TV series, DVD) Director: Alexander Barabanov

Suitable for courses on Soviet Union, everyday life, family, 1980s, post-Soviet cinema. This is a family saga that takes place in the 1970s in the Soviet Union. A country family with four children, an expectant mother, and a patriarchal miner live through the turbulent times, which starts when the oldest daughter is raped at a graduation ball.

THE HAT (SHAPKA) 1990/91 85 min. (VHS)

Director: V. Vengerov

Cast: Vladimir Il'in; Lidiia Fedoseeva-Shukshina; Evgenii Evstigneev; Oleg Efremov

A comedy based on *The Hat* by Vladimir Voinovich.

HEART OF A DOG (SOBACH'E SERDTSE) 1988 131 min. (VHS: 2 parts)

Director: V. Bortko

Cast: Evgeni Evstigneev, Roman Kartsev, Nina Ruslanova

A satire about a surgeon who implants a heart and brain of a human into a dog. The dog eventually transforms into a human, becomes associated with the local Party officialdom, and begins to terrorize the professor. The movie is based on the 1925 story by Mikhail Bulgakov which was very hard to find in Russia up until perestroika.

HOUND OF THE BASKERVILLES (SOBAKA BASKERVILEI) 1981 147 min. (Video Compact Disc)

Director: Igor Maslennikov

Cast: V. Livanov, V. Solomin, R. Zelenaiia, N. Mikhalkov

Russian version of Arthur Conan Doyle's "The Hound of the Baskervilles."

IAROSLAV THE WISE (IAROSLAV MUDRYI) 1982 (VHS)

Director: Grigori Kokhar

Cast: Iu. Mkhrovitskii, P. Vel'iaminov, L. Smorodina

Historical film of Kievan Rus'. Image is shrunk. With Arabic subtitles.

THE IDIOT 1958 116 min. (VHS)

Director: I. Piriev

Cast: Y. Yakovlev; Y. Borisova; N. Podgorny; P. Parkhomenko

A screen version of the first part of Dostoevsky's novel ("Nastasya Filippovna"). The actors' perfect performance, first of all that of Yulia Borisova and Yury Yakovlev, young theatre and cinema "stars" at the moment of the film shooting, reproduces the slightest nuances of the psychologically complicated literary work with an intense dramatic design.

IRONY OF FATE OR HAVE A GOOD SAUNA Parts 1 & 2: 1975 185 min. (VHS)

Director: Eldar Riazanov

Cast: Andrei Miagkov, Babara Brylska, Iurii Iakovlev

A staple of Russian New Year's Eve broadcasts, this made-for-television feature ranks as one of the most popular comedies made in the former Soviet Union. A drunken New Year's gathering leaves a man in the wrong apartment in the wrong city, although the nearly identical surroundings make him think otherwise for a while. A run-in with the apartment's true resident leads to comical confrontations and unexpected romance.

JULY RAIN (IIUL'SKII DOZHD') 1966 104 min. (VHS)

Director: Marlen Khutsiev

Cast: Evgeniia Uralova, Aleksandr Beliavskii, Zinovii Gerdt, Iurii Vizbor, Evgeniia Kozyreva, Aleksandr Mitta

A romantic New Wave affair in which a love story is flanked by documentary street sequences, Khutsiev creates an engaging portrait of mid-1960's Moscow youth. Popular singer-songwriter Yuri Vizbor plays one of the main parts - his sad and fanciful folk songs, as well as those by Bulat Okudzhava, provide the film's soundtrack.

KHRUSTALEV, MY CAR! (KHRUSTALEV, MASHINU!) 1998 140 min. (VHS)

Director: Aleksei German

Cast: Iurii Tsurilo, Nina Ruslanova, Iurii Iarvet, Aleksandr Bashirov, Misha Dement'ev

On the last winter night of 1953 in Moscow, Fedia Aramyshev is tempted on his way to work by the shiny hood ornament of an empty, snow-covered Opel parked on the roadside. Little did Fedia know that his thoughtless action would land him in the middle of an alleged "doctor's plot," the operations of the KGB, and high politics.

KOKTEBEL 2003 100 min. (DVD)

Director: Aleksej Popogrebskij, Boris Khlebnikov

Cast: Aleksandr Il'in, Igor Chernevich, Agrippina Steklova, Vladimir Kucherenko, Evginij Sytyj, Gleb Puskepalis

This film is a Drama, It is in PAL format. It needs a universal DVD player to play.

THE MUSLIM (MUSUL'MANIN) 1995 110 min. (VHS)

Director: Vladimir Khotinenko

Cast: Y. Mironov, N. Uzatova, A. Baluyev, Y. Germanova

A Russian soldier who spent ten years in Afghanistan, returns to his home village where he shocks all its inhabitants because of his conversion to Islam. The hero turns out to be the only sober and hard-working member of the community. However, his attachment to his new faith soon provokes the hatred and rejection of everyone in the village, including his own family.

MY NAME IS MITAR (VHS)

Director: Vida Ognjenovic

NIGHT PATROL (VHS)

This video has several programs on it: Concert of the Prague Orchestra; Good Night, Little Ones; The Lion Cub and the Turtle (cartoon); Night Patrol

OLD HAGS 2000 127 min. (DVD) Director: Eldar Ryazanov Four women, respected professionals before perestroika, now eke out a living on society's fringe. When one is cheated out of her apartment by a "new Russian" crook, the ladies band together and go for blood.

THE PASSPORT 1990 96 min. (VHS)

Director: Georgii Daneliia

Cast: Gerard Darmon, Armen Dzhigarkhanyan, Oleg Yankovskii, Leonid Iarmol'nik

In this picaresque comedy, a Georgian boy with a Jewish stepbrother gets involved in an emigration mixup. Things are rough in present-day U.S.S.R., and when Yasha (Gerard Darmon) decides to take advantage of an open emigration visa to Israel being offered by the Russian government, and though his father and family are at first upset at the prospect of losing him, they finally accept the good sense of his decision.

PECULIARITIES OF NATIONAL POLITICS [Osobennosti natsional'noj politiki] 1999 86 min. (DVD)

Directors: Dmitrij-ml. Meskhiev, Yurij Konopkin

Cast: Yurij Kuznetsov, Viktor Bychkov, Srgej Russkin, Aleksej Buldakov, Semen Strugachev, Sergej Gusinskij

PECULIARITIES OF THE NATIONAL HUNT [OSOBENNOSTI NATSIONAL'NOI OKHOTY] 1995 94 min.

(VHS)

Director: Aleksandr Rogozhkin

Cast: Ville Khaapassalo, Aleksei Buldakov, Viktor Bychkov

In this comedy, a young Finnish hunting specialist convinces his Russian friend to help him take part in a real Russian hunt.

PRISONER OF THE MOUNTAINS 1996 99 min. (VHS)

Director: Sergei Bodrov

Cast: Oleg Menshikov, Sergei Bodrov, Jr., Djemal Sikarulidze

Based on Leo Tolstoy's classic tale of hope, courage, and humanity, this film follows the spellbinding journey of two Russians held captive in the Caucasus mountains. Winner of the 1996 Cannes Critics Prize.

PRISHVEN'S PAPER EYES (BUMAZHNYE GLAZA PRISHVINA) 1990 146 min. (VHS)

Director: Valeri Ogorodnikov

Cast: Alexandr Romantsov, Pavel Rudakov, Irina Tsivina, Yevgeny Barkov

This extremely long and intricate puzzle film follows the efforts of a modern Russian television reporter to piece together what happened to a television director who died for some reason in 1949, just at the beginning of Soviet television.

THE ROMANOVS - CROWNED FAMILY 2000 140 min. (VHS)

Director: Gleb Panfilov

Cast: Aleksandr Galibin, Linda Bellinckhem, Vladimir Grachev, Olga Budina, Iulia Novikova, Kseniia Kachalina, Olga Vasil'eva

Set in February 1917-July 1918, the film deals with the personalities of Emperor Nicholas II, his wife Alexandra and their children, focusing not simply on what happened to the royal family but on what they were like as people.

72 METERS 2004 115 min. (DVD) Suited for courses on Soviet traditions in Russian films, post-Soviet patriotism, national identity. Kinokultura: Many viewers assumed that Vladimir Khotinenko would represent, at least in some small way, the reality of the circumstances surrounding the loss of the *Kursk*. But there is not a hint of the former Khotinenko in *72 Meters*. The film was commissioned by Channel One of Russian television and was adapted from a script by Valerii Zalotukha, who based his script on stories written by Aleksandr Pokrovskii, a former officer-submariner, long before the tragedy of the *Kursk*. The film contains direct references to the powerful Soviet tradition of the "revolutionary-military" film, as well as to the so-called patriotic fiction and publicistic writing of post-Soviet years.

TASS IS AUTHORIZED TO ANNOUNCE 1984 5 tapes (VHS)

Director: Vladimir Fokin

Cast: Vyacheslav Tikhonov, Iurii Solomin, Nikolai Zasukhin, Vakhtang Kikabidze, Aleksei Petrenko, Elvira Zubkova

A spy *Trianon* (Boris Klyuev) in Moscow is sending information to the CIA about the Soviet supplies to the fictional state of Nagonia. The KGB neutralizes him. At the same time in Nagonia, Soviet agent Slavin (Yuri Solomin) discredits Glabb thus preventing the coup d'etat in a capital of Luisburg by Ogano against George Grisso, the president of Nagonia.

TWELVE CHAIRS 1971 (VHS & DVD)

Director: Leonid Gaidai

Cast: A. Gomiashvili, S. Filippov, M. Pugovkin, N. Varley

Based on the novel by Ilf and Petrov. The film consists of one long humorous wild-geese chase.

TWO FIGHTERS 1943 76 min. (VHS)

Director: Leonid Lukov

Cast: Mark Bernes, Boris Andreev, Vera Shershneva

The movie portrays the friendship between a young soldier from Odessa named Arkady Dzubin and Sasha Svintsov. Bernes sings two masterpiece songs in this movie: *Tyomnaya noch* and *Shalandy polnye kefali* (Russian: Шаланды полные кефали, Scows Full of Mullet). "Dark Night" (*Tyomnaya noch*) is the most recognizable Soviet song from World War II.

VALENTINA 1981 (VHS)

Director: Gleb Panilov

Cast: I. Churikova, R. Nakhapetov, D. Mikhailova

Based on Vampilov's play, "Last Summer in Chulimsk."

VERTICAL (VERTIKAL') 1967 73 min. (VHS)

Directors: Stanislav Govorukhin and Boris Durov

Cast: Vladimir Vysotskii, Gennadii Voropaev, M. Kosheleva, A. Fadeev, Larisa Luzhina, G. Kul'bush, Bukhuti Zakariadze

A group of mountain-climbers scaling an unconquered Caucasian summit, the Or-Tau peak, are sent an alarm about a quickly approaching cyclone. The radio signaler conceals this warning from the group, and they end up in a critical situation. They succeed in avoiding tragedy thanks only to the courage of their rescuers and their own experience.

VILLAGE DETECTIVE 1968 (VHS)

Director: I. Pukinskii

Cast: M. Zharov, T. Peltser, R. Tkachuk

Based on work by Vil' Lipatov.

VOLGA VOLGA 1937 90 min. (VHS)

Director: Grigori Alexandrov

Cast: Lyubov Orlova, Igor Ilinsky, V. Bolodin

This film is as popular and familiar to Russian audiences as 'Showboat' is to American audiences. Setting is a giant steamboat making its way up the Volga River. On board is a motley collection of amateur singers and dancers traveling to Moscow to participate in a musical contest.

WHIT MONDAY 1990 110 min. (VHS)

Director: Sergei Selianov

Cast: Iurii Shevchuk, Boria Goliatkin, Iurii Demich, Sulev Luik, Anzhelika Nevolina

Ivan Khristoforov discovers that he has a strange ability to involuntarily blow up objects around him. Trying to understand the reason and meaning of this unusual talent, he turns to his family history. Meanwhile, the attention of a secret government service does not bode well for Khristoforov. The film presents the protagonist's thoughtful journey into his past and present.

WHITE SUN OF THE DESERT 1970 (VHS)

Cast: Anatoli Kunetsov

WINDOW TO PARIS (OKNO V PARIZH) 1992 92 min. (VHS)

Director: Yuri Mamin

Cast: Agnes Sorel, Sergei Dontsov, Victor Mikhailov

Comedy/adventure about a magical window through which the heroes are transported from St. Petersburg to Paris.

THE WOMAN WHO SINGS (ZHENSHCHINA, KOTORAIA POET) (VHS)

Director: A. Orlov

Cast: Alla Pugachyova

A semi-biography of Alla Pugacheva.

FILMS IN ENGLISH

ANNA KARENINA 2012 129 min. (DVD) Director: Joe Wright Suitable for courses on social change, 19th c. Russia, gender, family, class, Russian literature, Tolstoy adaptations.

ARARAT 2002 115 min. (DVD)

Director: Atom Egoyan

Cast: David Alpay; Charles Aznavour; Eric Bogosian; Brent Carver; Marie-Josée Croze, Christopher Plummer
Ararat is the acclaimed cinematic masterpiece about a tragic historical event, a country in denial and a people yearning for the truth! For the estranged members of a contemporary family, the tangled relationships of their present are only complicated by their catastrophic past. This stunning and passionate motion picture explores the pursuit of identity through the intimate moments shared by lovers, families, enemies and strangers.

CATHERINE THE GREAT 2000 100 min. (VHS)

Director: Marvin J. Chomsky

Cast: Catherine Zeta-Jones, Brian Blessed, Ian Richardson, Omar Sharif

Life of Tsarina Catherine II.

CHICO 2001 112 min. (DVD + booklet)

Director: Ibolya Fekete

Shot on location in Chile, Israel, Albania, Croatia, and Hungary, this film tells the story of Eduardo Rozsa Flores, a revolutionary who participates in several military conflicts around the world. The director Ibolya Fekete cast Flores as himself. Jury Prize and Best Director Award Karlovy Vary International Film Festival. Language: Croatian, English, Hungarian, Italian, Spanish.

COMING OUT OF THE ICE 1996 98 min. (VHS)

Cast: John Savage, Willie Nelson, Ben Cross

Victor's father, an emigrant and Ford Motor Company employee, returns to his Russian homeland with his son in 1931 to open and run an automobile plant. After Victor earns a medal for his athletic prowess, he refuses to sign a document falsely attesting that he is Russian. Thrown into prison and sent to a Siberian labor camp, he endures nearly 20 years in exile. Based on a true account in a book of the same title.

DOCTOR ZHIVAGO 1965 200 min. (DVD)

Director: David Lean

Cast: Geraldine Chaplin; Julie Christie; Tom Courtenay; Alec Guinness; Omar Sharif

Boris Pasternak's tumultuous tale of Russia divided by war and hearts torn by love. Epic images abound: revolution in the streets, an infantry charge into No Man's Land, the train ride to the Urals, an icebound dacha. Omar Sharif plays the title role, in love with Lara and caught up in the tidal wave of history.

DR. STRANGELOVE OR: HOW I LEARNED TO STOP WORRYING AND LOVE THE BOMB 1964 90 min. (DVD)

Director: Stanley Kubrick

Cast: Peter Sellers, George C. Scott, Sterling Hayden

Kubrick's celebrated comedy about an "accidental" nuclear attack was nominated for four Oscars. Convinced the commies are polluting America's "precious bodily fluids," a crazed General orders a surprise nuclear air strike on the USSR.

ENEMY AT THE GATES 2001 131 min. (DVD)

Director: Jean-Jacques Annaud

Cast: Jude Law, Rachel Weisz, Ed Harris, Joseph Feinnes

Opens with a pivotal event of World War II--the German invasion of Stalingrad--re-created in epic scale, as ill-trained Russian soldiers face German attack or punitive execution if they flee from the enemy's advance.

Director Jean-Jacques Annaud captures this madness with urgent authenticity, creating a massive context for a more intimate battle waged amid the city's ruins.

EUROTRIP 2004 91 min (DVD)

Director: Jeff Schaffer

Cast: Scott Mechlowicz, Jacob Pitts, Michelle Trachtenberg, Travis Wester, Jessica Böhrs

Dumped by his girlfriend, a high school grad decides to embark on an overseas adventure in Europe with his friends.

GOLDENEYE 1995 130 min. (DVD)

Director: Martin Campbell

Cast: Pierce Brosnan; Sean Bean; Izabella Scorupco; Famke Janssen

When a powerful satellite system falls into the hands of a former ally-turned-enemy, only 007 can save the world from an awesome space weapon that - in one short pulse - could destroy the earth.

THE INNER CIRCLE 1991 134 min. (VHS)

Director: Andrei Konchalovsky

Cast: Tom Hulce, Lolita Davidovich, Bob Hoskins

Konchalovsky recreates the terror of the Stalinist years through the eyes of Stalin's personal film projectionist. Ivan Sanshin (Hulce) and his young wife Anastasia (Davidovich) idolize their leader, but come to see first-hand the brutal truth behind the dictator's propaganda.

INSPECTOR GENERAL 1949 102 min. (VHS)

Director: Henry Koster

Cast: Danny Kaye, Walter Slezak, Barbara Bates

Musical adaptation of Gogol's play.

JACK FROST: THE MOVIE [MOROZKO] Overvoicing in English: 1964 85 min. (VHS)

Director: Alexander Rou

Cast: N. Sedykh, V. Altayskaya, I. Churikova, E. Izotov

In his search to be with his true love, Elisa, and become a real boy and not just a fairy, Jack must overcome many obstacles and challenges.

K19: THE WIDOWMAKER 2002 137 min. (DVD) - NEW!

Director: Kathryn Bigelow

"The story of USSR's first nuclear ballistic submarine, which suffered a malfunction in its nuclear reactor on its maiden voyage in the North Atlantic in 1961. The submarine's crew, led by the unyielding Captain Alexi Vostrikov, races against time to prevent a Chernobyl-like nuclear disaster which threatens not only the lives of his crew, but has the potential to ignite a world war between the super powers" (excerpt from Amazon.com).

MOONLIGHTING 1982 97 min. (VHS)

Director: Jerzy Skolimowski

Cast: Jeremy Irons, Eugene Lipinski, Jirí Stanislav, Eugeniusz Haczkiwicz

Jeremy Irons portrays Nowak, one of four Polish laborers, living in England. In exchange for a place to stay, Irons and his buddies -- none of whom have British work permits -- agree to renovate their landlord's flat within a limited time-frame.

ONEGIN 2000 100 min. (VHS)

Director: Martha Fiennes

Cast: Ralph Fiennes, Liv Tyler, Toby Stephens, Lena Headley

Adaptation of Pushkin's "Evgeny Onegin."

THE RED TENT 1969 121 min. (VHS)

Director: Mickail K. Kalatozov

Cast: Sean Connery; Claudia Cardinale; Hardy Kruger; Peter Finch

The survivors of the dirigible *Italia*, crashed in the Arctic, huddle within their makeshift red canvas dwelling and continue to hope. This lavishly scaled film tells the saga of the ill-fated 1928 expedition headed by Italian explorer Umberto Nobile and the bold attempts to rescue its survivors.

SAKHAROV 1984 118 min. (VHS)

Cast: Jason Robards, Glenda Jackson

Drama based on the story of Andrei Sakharov and Elena Bonner as they develop their positions advocating human rights.

SCARRED BY KANDAHAR Overvoicing in English: 1989 80 min. (VHS)

Director: Yuri Sabitov

According to Forrest Ciesol, this is "socially conscious popular entertainment: an engaging, fast-paced film (with plenty of fist fights!) that unabashedly borrows from grade B action adventure. The film's main theme is the plight of Afghan war veterans and society's indifference to them.

SUNSHINE 2000 180 min. (DVD)

Director: István Szabó

Cast: Ralph Fiennes, Rosemary Harris, Rachel Weisz, Jennifer Ehle, Deborah Kara Unger

An epic tale which spans three generations of the Sonnenschein family--a Jewish-Hungarian clan that dates back to the time when Hungary was ruled by the Austro-Hungarian empire. Like many other families during this time when Hungary was one of the most prosperous countries in Europe, the Sonnenscheins came into wealth as a result of their successful herbal tonic.

TARAS BULBA 1962 124 min. (DVD)

Director: J. Lee Thompson

Cast: Yul Brynner, Tony Curtis, Sam Wanamaker, Brad Dexter

A "Romeo and Juliet" story that takes place in the late 16c. Ukraine. Taras has settled into comfortable farm life after years of adventures and swashbuckling with his cossack companions. Though not wealthy, he is able to send his son Andrei away to a Polish school. At this time the Poles are overlords of Ukraine and the origin of the cossacks is struggle of the Ukrainian serfs to free themselves and their land of Polish domination.

THE TWELVE CHAIRS 1970 93 min. (DVD)

Director: Mel Brooks

Cast: Ron Moody, Frank Langella Dom DeLuise, and Mel Brooks

Set in Russia in 1927, this much-loved, hilarious Mel Brooks comedy classic is the tale of a former aristocrat (RON MOODY) who is now a Soviet clerk under the new regime. Based on the novel by Ilya Ilf and Yevgeni Petrov.