

NEW ENGLAND FILM ARTISTS PRESENT

Touching Lives: Portraits of Deaf-Blind People

Thurs., Jan. 9, at 8 pm
(Snow date Sat., Jan. 11, at 7 pm)
Sat., Jan. 11, at 1 pm

Touching Lives: Portraits of Deaf-Blind People by Myles Gordon and Susan Hajjar (2002, 56 min.). Taking viewers into the worlds of individuals who cannot see or hear, narrator Susan Hajjar, a woman with three deaf-blind siblings, introduces us to five deaf-blind individuals and their families, communities, jobs, recreational activities, worship, hopes, dreams, and frustrations. The film reveals the fullness and richness in these lives of people who are not able to hear or see, as well as the almost insurmountable obstacles they face. Co-sponsored by VSA Arts of Massachusetts and the Deaf-Blind Contact Center.

A discussion will follow the January 9 screening. For questions regarding access call 617-369-3189, TTY 617-267-9703, or e-mail access@mfa.org.



Touching Lives: Portraits of Deaf-Blind People

Pre-Release Screening Touched

Thurs., Feb. 20, at 8 pm

Touched by Laurel Chiten (2002, 58 min., video). What happens when the unexplained intrudes into our lives, and what do we do when credulity is strained to a breaking point? *Touched* follows four people on their quest to solve a mystery: Karin, who believes she has a dual alien-human identity, and has actually mothered hybrid alien-human children in that other realm; Peter and Jamy, who were happily married until Peter had his first conscious abduction experience and started thinking he had an alien lover; and John E. Mack, M.D., a Pulitzer Prize-winning author and professor of psychiatry at Harvard Medical School, who believes them.

John E. Mack and Laurel Chiten will be present at the screening.



Photo by Stuart Conway, © 2000

John E. Mack in *Touched*

Pre-Release Screening Made-Up

Thurs., Jan. 16, at 8 pm

Made-Up by Tony Shalhoub (2002, 95 min.). Actor Tony Shalhoub (*Big Night*, *Monk*) teams with his wife Brooke Adams and her sister, Boston-based writer/producer/actress Lynne Adams, for his directorial debut, a "coming of middle-age comedy" about a forty-something divorcée confronting the aging process, dating woes, and her teenage daughter's newfound independence. For a video project, Kate (Lynne Adams) decides to tape her niece, aspiring beautician Sara, giving Kate's sister, Elizabeth (Brooke Adams), a thorough makeover. When the made-up Elizabeth meets Max (Shalhoub), she wonders whether he is attracted to the real or the cosmetically enhanced version of herself. "*Made-Up* is a bittersweet comedic frolic for a talented four-some: it has the right stuff . . . a playfully irreverent approach to middle-age rites of passage" (*Hollywood Reporter*). Most of the film was shot in Jamaica Plain, with a Boston crew.

Lynne Adams, producer Mark Donadio, and cinematographer Gary Henoch, along with other cast and crew members, will be present.



Brooke Adams and Eva Amurri in *Made-Up*



Untitled work by Lalla A. Essaydi

Museum School Master of Fine Arts Graduate Video and Film

Fri., Jan. 17, at 6 pm

Museum School Master of Fine Arts Graduate Video and Film (2002, 90 min.). This program offers an opportunity to experience the newest work of Master of Fine Arts candidates from the Museum School. Exploring a broad spectrum of the human condition and challenging traditional values, the program showcases individual works such as Sarina Khan Reddy's *The Great New Game*, Adaledta Maslo-Krkovic's *To Cede*, John Corso's *Untitled (after Delaroché)*, and John Ellis's *The Buttery*. Also included is work from Michelle Barczykowsky, Lalla A. Essaydi, Dillon Paul, Leigh Cattran, Henry Samuelson, Zeynep Zeren Goktan, Thomas Gustainis, and Su-Jung Lee. This will be the Boston premiere screening for many of the pieces and is shown in conjunction with exhibitions at the Tufts Gallery in Medford. FREE



Become the Sky

Laura Dunn with Ecological Essays Green and Become the Sky

Sat., Jan. 18, at 1 pm

Green by Laura Dunn (2000, 47 min.). In the one hundred miles between Baton Rouge and New Orleans, there are more than 150 petrochemical plants producing 25 percent of the nation's petrochemicals. This area reports the highest concentration of toxic emissions, and the residents, who are mainly African-American and poor, suffer from astronomical rates of medical ailments. Winner of the 2001 student academy award for best documentary, *Green* reveals how one group of people may be bearing the burden for our nation's consumerism.

Become the Sky by Laura Dunn (2002, 53 min.). Nominated for the 2002 Student Documentary Academy Award, the film maps an ecology of power spanning four thousand miles across Texas. From off-shore oil-rigs to the mouth of the Rio Grande, *Become the Sky* weaves a web of energy and politics in the context of war and capitalism.