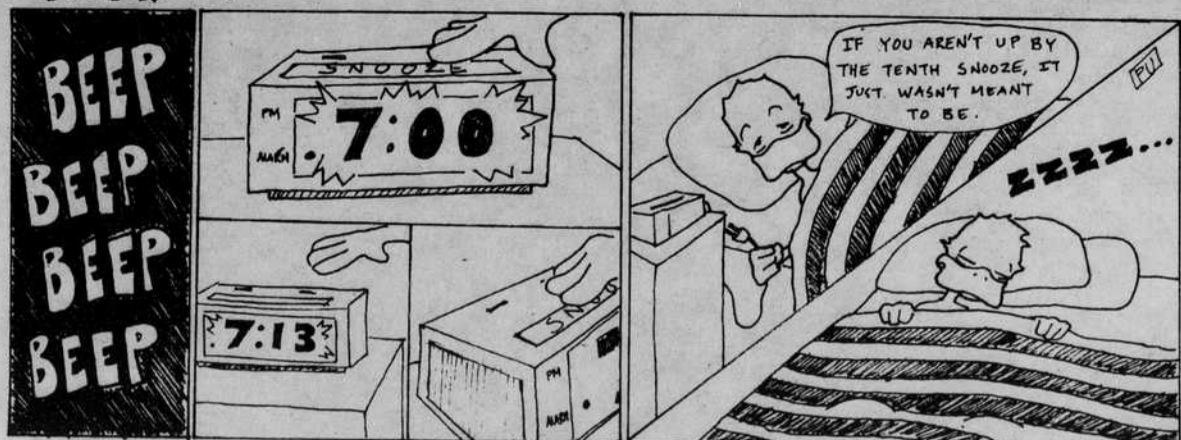


DUCK THIS!



Peter Utsey Emerald

Foreign movies showcase different languages of love

International students host a seven-week film festival celebrating romantic diversity

By Jen West
Oregon Daily Emerald

In France it's called "amour," in Germany it's "liebe," and in China it's "fa sheng luan ai." During winter term, the Foreign Romance Film Festival offers a wide variety of movies focusing on the language of love.

The International Resource Center will show a film during the festival every Friday night at 6:30 p.m. following the International Student Association's Coffee Hour. The festival will continue through mid-March.

All films are shown with English subtitles. There is no charge for viewing the films, and the festival is open to the public. The IRC is located above the post office in the EMU.

"We wanted to show films in their (original) languages," said Misty Green, the IRC Web master and organizer of the film festival.

She said the IRC has chosen romance as the theme for the film lineup in order to work in conjunction with Valentine's Day.

"Valentine's Day, love and romance — it all goes together," said Jennifer Witt, a volunteer at the IRC.

Witt said the IRC offers a wide variety of languages in their selection of foreign love films including Chinese, German and Hindi. The films were chosen based on

Foreign Romance Film Festival

Feb. 1 — Raise the Red Lantern (Chinese): This film explores the relationships of a polygamous marriage set at the turn of the 19th century.

Feb. 8 — La Belle Epoque (Spanish): Fernando is a civil war deserter from Spain in the 1930s. He finds refuge with a farmer and his four daughters — with hilarious consequences — in this comedy.

Feb. 15 — Romeo and Juliet (British): Director Franco Zeffirelli offers his adaptation of this Shakespearean classic.

Feb. 22 — Black Cat, White Cat (Serbo-Croatian): A comedy that follows Emir Kusturica's adventure dealing with unpaid debts, gangsters, family loyalty and love in Balkan Romany culture.

Mar. 1 — Wings of Desire (German): An angel falls in love with a woman and chooses to become mortal. Basis for 1998's American version, "City of Angels."

Mar. 8 — Vertical Ray of the Sun (Vietnamese): On the anniversary of their parents' death, three sisters re-evaluate their ideas about love.

Mar. 15 — Dilwale Dulhania Le Jayenge (Hindi): Traditional love clashes with modern love in this popular Hindi musical.

suggestions by other students at the University, she said.

"We're here to celebrate diversity," Witt said.

She said the IRC features a wide-screen, high-definition television with both a VCR and a DVD player, and the audience can enjoy the films while sitting in cushioned chairs and couches. They also offer free popcorn and candy, she said.

Witt said she highly recommends the German film "Wings of Desire," a movie about an angel falling in love with a mortal woman. The 1998 American movie "City of Angels," was based on the German film, she said.

Green said the past two films that have been shown were well-received and brought a sizable

crowd to the IRC, about 30 people for the first movie and 24 people for the second.

Sarah Johnson, a post-doctorate researcher at the University, said last Friday was her second time attending the film festival. She said she enjoyed the films, and there was a large variety of languages.

"The free popcorn is a big plus," she said.

She added that she enjoyed the "homey" atmosphere of the IRC lounge and liked the "cushy" chairs.

"I like that you get a variety of people coming — American(s) and people from the country the film is from," she said. "It's a nice mix."

E-mail reporter Jen West at jenwest@dailyemerald.com.

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