



**Wednesday, March 4**  
**Rue Auditorium (Sweigart Hall 115)**

10:00-11:30 a.m.

**Screening of a Cult Classic Directed by Hal Ashby**

*(Featured speaker Nick Dawson will analyze Ashby's work Wednesday at 6:30 p.m.)*

11:45 a.m.-12:45 p.m.

Student-Faculty Panel

**Hauntings — in Melodrama, Mansions, Love and War**

Dr. Charles Frantz, Moderator, Department of Music, Composition, History, and Theory; Film & Media Studies faculty

- *Jacob's Ladder* (1990): Kyle VanLaningham, Filmmaking, TV & Radio major; Film & Media Studies minor
- *Women on the Verge of a Nervous Breakdown* (1988, Spain): Jordan Wilson, Marine Science major, Biology minor
- *The Haunting* (1963): Dr. Charles Frantz

1:10-2:40 p.m.

Student Screenplays and Papers

**Classic Cult, American Style**

Dr. Cynthia Lucia, Moderator, Department of English; Film & Media Studies Program Director

- "Scooter Squad," written by Collin Cortright, Filmmaking, TV & Radio major
- *Lost Highway* (1997), Emily Fraschilla, Biology major
- *The Rocky Horror Picture Show* (1975), Annie Challice, Theatre major; Film & Media Studies minor

- *Iron Giant* (1999), Frank Gigliotti, Filmmaking, TV & Radio major; Film & Media Studies minor
- *Heathers* (1989), Elliot Schwartz, Psychology and Spanish double major; Gender and Sexuality Studies minor
- *The Blues Brothers* (1980), Gabe Kennis, Arts & Entertainment Industry Management major
- *Twilight* (2008), Belle McNamara, Musical Theatre and Arts & Entertainment Industry Management double major

2:50-4:20

Student film and Papers

## **So Superbad, It's Good**

Dr. Cynthia Lucia, Moderator, Department of English; Film & Media Studies Program Director

- "I Am My Own": written by Kristen Wisneski, Musical Theatre and Filmmaking, TV & Radio double major
- *Cowboy Up*, directed by Roland Benavides, Filmmaking, TV & Radio major; and Brittany Toledo, Graphic Design major
- *Superbad* (2007), Brendan McMullen, Filmmaking, TV & Radio major; Film & Media Studies minor
- *The Room* (2003), Steve Merunka, Accounting major; Film & Media Studies minor
- Rudy Ray Moore's *Dolemite Films* (1975, 1976) and *Dolemite Is My Name* (2019), Jerome Manning, Theatre major

4:30-6:00 p.m.

## **Student Film Festival and Screenwriting Competition**

(To be continued on Thursday, throughout the day, with awards Thursday, 4:30-6:00)

Dr. Jay Stern, Moderator, Department of Communication & Journalism; Film & Media Studies Steering Committee

- "Polaroid," written by Bryce Parks, Filmmaking, TV & Radio major
- "All Purpose Soundtrack," written by Victoria Grisanzio, Filmmaking, TV & Radio major
- *Music Video*, directed by Lena Vandam, Philosophy major; and Francesca DeSantis, Filmmaking, TV & Radio major; Film & Media Studies Minor
- *Inconsequential Consequences*, directed by Gerard Blandia, Filmmaking, TV & Radio major; and Madeline Motyczka, Filmmaking, TV & Radio major
- *Remember*, directed by Tiara Goldberg, Filmmaking, TV & Radio major; and Sophia Lopez, Filmmaking, TV & Radio major

- *And That's What Happened*, directed by Mikayla Goldberg, Filmmaking, TV & Radio major
- *Haley*, directed by Hao Ho, Filmmaking, TV & Radio major; and Madeline Motyczka, Filmmaking, TV & Radio major

6:30-8:30 p.m.

### **Featured Speaker: Author Nick Dawson**

#### **Harold and Maude as a Cult Classic**

Nick Dawson is the author of the 2009 book, *Being Hal Ashby: Life of a Hollywood Rebel*, the first biography of filmmaker Hal Ashby. He also edited *Hal Ashby: Interviews* and *Dennis Hopper: Interviews* (University Press of Mississippi). His audio commentary can be heard on the Criterion Collection's disc of Ashby's *Harold and Maude*. He is currently the Editor-in-Chief at *Talkhouse Film* and was formerly the Managing Editor at *Filmmaker* magazine.

8:30-9:30 p.m.

### **Opening Reception in Sweigart Atrium**

All are welcome!

## **Thursday, March 5**

**Rue Auditorium (Sweigart Hall 115),  
except featured filmmaker Lloyd Kaufman  
will appear 6:30-8:45 p.m. in Science 102**

10:00-11:15 a.m.

Student-Faculty Panel

### **American Cult Icons—John Waters and Hal Ashby**

Dr. Erica Rubine, Moderator, Department of English; Film & Media Studies faculty

- *Multiple Maniacs* (John Waters, 1970), Terren Mueller, Musical Theatre major, Film & Media Studies minor; and Rose Conroy-Voza, Dance major, Film & Media Studies minor
- *Being There* (Hal Ashby, 1969), Garrett Loper, Theatre major; Film & Media Studies minor
- *Harold and Maude* (Hal Ashby, 1971), Dr. Erica Rubine

11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

Profs. Share Their Guilty Pleasures

### **Cult Film Faculty Favorites (as you eat pizza!)**

Introduction: What Is Cult and What Are We Doing Here, Anyway? Dr. Cynthia Lucia  
Department of English; Film & Media Studies Program Director

- *Showgirls* (1995), Dr. Laurel Harris, Department of English; Film & Media Studies Steering Committee
- *Valley of the Dolls* (1967), Dr. Erica Rubine, Department of English; Film & Media Studies faculty
- *The Invasion of the Body Snatchers* (1956), Dr. Jerry Rife, Professor Emeritus of Music; Film & Media Studies faculty

1:10-2:40

Spain's Classic Cult Favorite

### ***Women on the Verge of a Nervous Breakdown***

Dr. Cynthia Lucia, Moderator, Department of English; Film & Media Studies Program Director

- *Women on the Verge* as Melodrama, Jennifer Beaulieu, Business Administration major
- The Women of *Women on the Verge*, Athena Geer, Filmmaking, TV & Radio major; and Makayla Raabe, History major
- The Visual Impact and Style of *Women on the Verge*, Moe Mahmoud, English and Elementary Education major; and Nicolle Vidal, Criminal Justice major
- Symbolism and Themes in *Women on the Verge*, Jamiera Jacobs, Psychology major; and Luis Ovando, Biology major

2:50-4:30

### **Rudy Ray Moore Screening**

Dolomite is his name! Rudy Ray More and His Blaxpotation Classics

Introduction by Jerome Manning, Theatre major

4:30-6:00

### **Student Film Festival and Screenwriting Competition Awards**

Best Student Presentation; Best Student Film; Best Student Screenplay

Dr. Shawn Kildea, Moderator, Chair of Department of Communication & Journalism;  
Film & Media Studies Steering Committee

Dr. Cynthia Lucia, Awards Presenter, Department of English; Film & Media Studies Program Director

- “Deal with the Devil,” written by Maria Camey, Filmmaking, TV & Radio major
- “Destined Joy,” written by Patrice Hrabowskie, Musical Theatre and Film, TV & Radio double major
- *Papa*, directed by Junior Almonte and Qiarah Booker, both Filmmaking, TV & Radio majors
- *Tea Time*, directed by Rebecca Gialanella, Theatre and Arts & Entertainment Industry Management double major
- *The Accident*, directed by Victoria Grisanzio, Filmmaking, TV & Radio major
- *Cowboy Up*, directed by Roland Benavides, Filmmaking, TV & Radio major; and Brittany Toledo, Graphic Design major

6:30 to 8:45 in Science 102

**Featured Cult Classic Filmmaker Lloyd Kaufman screens and discusses his cult classic *The Toxic Avenger***

Introduction and Movie—6:30-8:00

Onstage Interview and Q/A—8:00-8:45

As a Yale student, Lloyd Kaufman started out wanting to work on Broadway, but then fell in love with movies. He worked in various behind-the-scenes roles on such '70s classics as *Rocky* (1976) and *Saturday Night Fever* (1977), among many others. He also worked for AIP producer Roger Corman, who supported the early filmmaking careers of such directors as Martin Scorsese and Francis Ford Coppola. But then Lloyd did his own thing—he formed Troma Studios with his partner Michael Herz in the late '70s, and the rest is history. Troma made intriguing low-budget classics, but *The Toxic Avenger* (1984) — formerly titled *Health Club Horror* — put Kaufman and Troma Studios on the cult classics map. This and the Troma series of films to follow are undeniably entertaining, edgy, politically resonant (and incorrect!) — totally over the top, they are, nonetheless, thought-provoking cult classics.

8:45-9:30

**Closing Reception in Science Lobby**

All are welcome!

***Special Thank You:***

- *Faculty and students of the Film & Media Studies Program, English Cinema Studies Concentration, and Filmmaking, TV & Radio major*
- *Dr. Thomas Simonet, Professor Emeritus, Department of Communication and Journalism*

- *Dr. E. Graham McKinley, Professor Emeritus, Department of Communication and Journalism*
- *Matthew Wade, Dayne Lewis and Jon Jones, Rider University Media Services*
- *Dr. Jay Stern, Department of Communication and Journalism*
- *Adam Grybowski, Rider University Communications*
- *Alison Neu, Department of English Administrative Associate*