

THE PEMA GROUP / SHIELD SANGHA PRESENTS

AUGUST MOVIE NIGHTS 2017

ST. ANDREW'S UNITED CHURCH, 399 CASSELLS STREET (USE MCINTYRE STREET ENTRANCE)
GATHERING AT 6:45 P.M.—MOVIE STARTS AT 7 P.M.—FREE ADMISSION!—ALL ARE WELCOME!

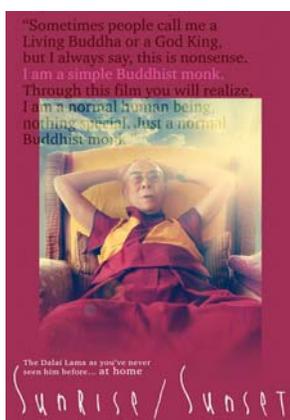


Friday, August 4, 2017

Monk with a Camera

Directed by Tina Mascara and Guido Santi
Documentary (2014) 90 minutes

Nicholas Vreeland walked away from a worldly life of privilege to become a Tibetan Buddhist monk. Grandson of legendary Vogue editor, Diana Vreeland, and trained by Irving Penn to become a photographer, Nicholas' life changed drastically upon meeting a Tibetan master, one of the teachers of the Dalai Lama. Soon thereafter, he gave up his glamorous life to live in a monastery in India, where he studied Buddhism for fourteen years. In an ironic twist of fate, Nicholas went back to photography to help his fellow monks rebuild their monastery. Recently, the Dalai Lama appointed Nicholas as Abbot of the monastery, making him the first Westerner in Tibetan Buddhist history to attain such a highly regarded position.

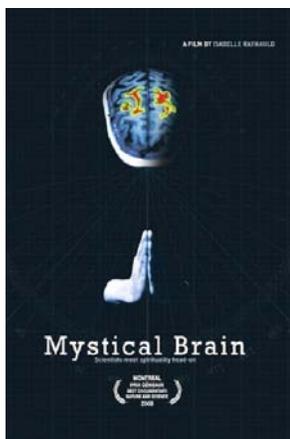


Friday, August 11, 2017

Sunrise/Sunset: Dalai Lama XIV

Directed by Vitay Manski
Documentary, Russian (2008) 73 minutes

SUNRISE/SUNSET depicts a nominal 24 hour day spent by the film crew inside the residence of His Holiness the Dalai Lama, from the beginning of his day, which starts at 3 am, till sunset when the Buddhist leader goes to bed. Here, inside the residence, the documentary filmmaker, Vitali Manski, also got a chance to enjoy a totally informal conversation about the essence of the Universe and the role an individual has to play in religion in general, and Buddhism in particular, within the framework of contemporary society.



Friday, August 18, 2017

******* Two Short Movies*******

Mystical Brain

Directed by Isabelle Raynauld
Documentary, NFB (2006) 52 minutes

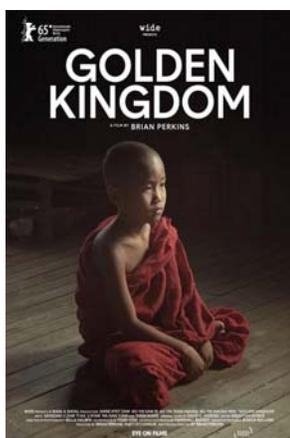
This documentary reveals the exploratory work of a team from the University of Montreal who seek to understand the states of grace experienced by mystics and those who meditate. Filmmaker Isabelle Raynauld offers up scientific research that suggests that mystical ecstasy is a transformative experience and could contribute to people's psychic and physical health, treat depression and speed up the healing process when combined with conventional medicine. In French with English subtitles.



Reactor

Shot & Directed by Ian MacKenzie, Produced by Michael Stone
Documentary (2013) 35 minutes

On March 11th, 2011 a 9.0 earthquake triggered a massive tsunami off the coast of Japan. This disaster resulted in an estimated 15,878 deaths and trillions of dollars in damage, including a partial meltdown at three reactors in the Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant. In April 2012, Yogi, Buddhist teacher and activist Michael Stone arrives on a pilgrimage to Japan in the wake of the tsunami and Fukushima meltdown to learn how the Japanese are responding to the crisis. Michael speaks with local residents, artists, activists, and researchers about life in the aftermath and reflects on the old Zen traditions and cities of beautiful temples. How can we embody the Bodhisattva vow in this time? REACTOR is a short film that aims to uncover how and why we can let go of old stories, and move towards personal and social awakening.



Friday, August 25, 2017

The Golden Kingdom

Directed and Written by Brian Perkins
Drama, Bengali (2014) 103 minutes

GOLDEN KINGDOM is a narrative feature film about four orphan boys, all novice monks, living in a Buddhist monastery in a remote part of Northeast Burma. The head monk departs on a long journey from which he may never return, leaving the boys alone in the middle of the forest. Once the boys are on their own, strange, magical events begin to occur. Orphan Witazara realizes he must protect the three other boys throughout this series of bizarre events, which threaten to unravel the fabric of the young monks' reality.