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The DEFA Film Library Newsletter

The Cinema of East Germany and Beyond

1/26/2007

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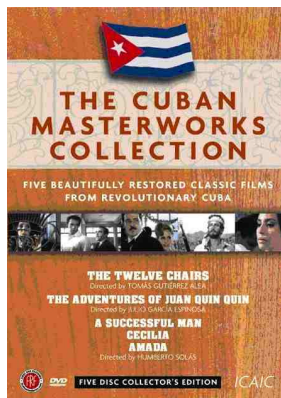
to a new monthly electronic newsletter put out by the DEFA Film Library at UMass Amherst. It will include brief updates on events, publications, new DVD releases and other items of interest to our customers and associates.

If you would like to share announcements or discuss newsletter-related topics with other readers, please sign up for the **DEFA-L listserv**, administered by Evan Torner at: DEFA-L-request@german.umass.edu

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- **In Memoriam, Frank Beyer (1932-2006), at MoMA**

FIVE CLASSIC CUBAN FILMS New on DVD



The DEFA Film Library is very pleased to announce its upcoming release of five Cuban films for the educational market. Now finally available in North America are five masterworks from revolutionary Cuba. Beautifully restored with new English subtitles and directed by three legendary filmmakers, each

Frank Beyer, known for having directed some of the most powerful and historically significant films in East Germany, died on October 1, 2006. The Museum of Modern Art will show *Jacob the Liar* and *Naked among Wolves*, two of his internationally renowned films during the month of February 2007, in honor of his life and work. Variety praised Frank Beyer as "one of the most famous and controversial filmmakers "



These memorial screenings were organized by the Department of Film and Media of The Museum of Modern Art, in collaboration with the Goethe-Institut New York and the DEFA Film Library at the University of Massachusetts Amherst.

For More Screening Info...

- **American press praises VERDICT ON AUSCHWITZ**

**Verdict on Auschwitz
The Frankfurt Auschwitz
Trial 1963-1965**

(Germany, Dirs. Rolf Bickel,



film is a worthy addition to the canon of great world cinema.

Slated to be released in February are:

Amada (1982)

Cecilia (1981)

A Man of Success (1986)
(Humberto Solás)

The Twelve Chairs

(1962)

(Tomás Gutiérrez Alea)

The Adventures of Juan Quin Quin (1967)
(Julio Garcia Espinosa)

These five Cuban films continue our efforts to explore and broaden connections that were of importance to East German filmmakers and culture. They join other DEFA Film Library projects that reach beyond the cinema of the GDR, such as the spring 2007 release of Andreas Dresen's Wende film, *Silent Country* (1992).

[Learn More...](#)

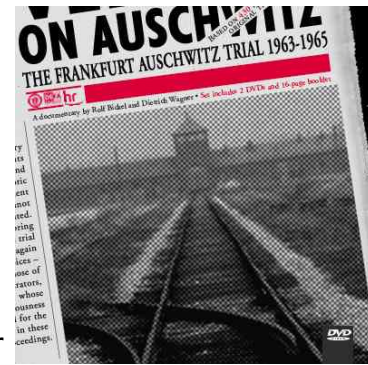
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Dietrich Wagner, 1993,
Hessischer Rundfunk)
NOW IN SELECT THEATERS!

This 3-hour documentary, which focuses on a largely forgotten historic trial, opened at the Quad Cinema in New York on January 12. The film was overwhelmingly well received by reviewers at major American magazines and newspapers. Writing for *The New Yorker*, David Denby describes the production as "the greatest German film on the subject [of the Holocaust]."



[To Learn More or to Purchase the Film...](#)

- **SOLIDARITY! DEFA and Latin America**

Fourth Biannual East German Summer Film Institute

The 2007 East German Summer Film Institute, to be held June 25-29, 2007 will look at the relationship between East Germany and Latin America in the domain of filmmaking. The Institute will be preceded by a weekend "Cuba-Film Festival" (June 23-24), featuring films about Cuba or by Cuban directors.

This year's Institute will cover themes including: Exploration and Romanticism; Colonialism, Race and Resistance; Cold War and Neo-Imperialism; GDR "Solidarity" documentary classics; and Exile, Longing, Globalization. The film screenings will focus on East German documentary and feature films having to do with the international solidarity movement and Latin America.

The DEFA Film Library's biannual Summer Film Institutes provide an opportunity for film, history, and cultural studies scholars based in North America and elsewhere to spend a week together in a relaxed setting, discussing East German film from a variety of perspectives.

Sound interesting? Applications are due April 1, 2007; for guidelines, please contact Sky Arndt-Briggs at: sky@german.umass.edu.

[Learn More...](#)

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