DENISON’S 2009 FOURTH
HUMAN RIGHTS FILM FESTIVAL

EVERY TUESDAY
in Slayter Auditorium

FEBRUARY 3RD, 7:00 PM
THE GREATEST SILENCE:
Rape in the Congo
Lisa Jackson, USA, 2007, 76m, video, doc
In English, French, Swahili, Lingala and Mashi, with English subtitles

Shot in the war zones of the Democratic Republic of Congo, this film brings to light the plight of women and girls caught in that country’s intractable conflicts. A survivor of rape herself, Emmy Award-winning filmmaker Lisa Jackson, travels through the DRC to understand what is happening and why. The film features interviews with activists, peacekeepers, physicians, and even the indifferent rapists. But the most remarkable moments of the film come as survivors recount their personal stories—inspiring examples of resilience, resistance, courage and grace. Special Jury Prize, Sundance Film Festival 2008.

FEBRUARY 10TH, 7:00 PM
LETTER TO ANNA
Eric Bergkraut, Switzerland, 2008, 84m, video, doc
In Russian and English with English subtitles

Anna Politkovskaya was a brave and tenacious journalist for one of Russia’s only independent journals, Novaya Gazeta. Anna used her journalist platform to strongly criticize Russian military actions in Chechnya. On October 7, 2006, she was shot dead in the stairwell of her Moscow apartment building. A few years before her untimely death, filmmaker Eric Bergkraut met Politkovskaya and filmed some powerful, frank interviews with the late reporter. In Letter to Anna these are interwoven with a tantalizing search for her likely killers and insightful contributions from colleagues and loved ones. Narrated by Susan Sarandon.

FEBRUARY 17TH, 7:00 PM
UP THE YANGTZE
Yung Chang, Canada, 2006, 93m, video, doc
In Mandarin with English subtitles

A symbol of China’s economic prowess, the Three Gorges Dam on the Yangtze River is the world’s largest, and China’s biggest engineering feat since the Great Wall. It also represents the end to a way of life and livelihood for two million people along the Yangtze. Among those being forced to relocate are the Yu family who decide to send their oldest daughter Yu Shui to work on a cruise ship. Working for the same cruise line is Chen Bo Yu, the only son from a middle class family. Both struggle with the demands of a changing China, their jobs and the need to operate in a Western social environment.

FEBRUARY 24TH, 7:00 PM
TO SEE IF I AM SMILING
Tamar Yarom, Israel, 2007, 59m, video, doc
In Hebrew with English subtitles

Israel is the only country in the world to draft 18-year-old girls for compulsory military service. The women in the film, veterans who have tried to bury the past for years, finally speak openly about their experiences. Deeply personal interviews are dramatically interwoven with both archival footage and details of the women’s daily lives. At a time when women in the military are increasingly on the frontlines, this powerful film explores the ways that gender, ethics, and moral responsibility intersect during war.

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