

# FORTISSIMO FILMS IN TORONTO 2009

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## OFFICIAL SELECTIONS

### Special Presentation

#### World Premiere



#### THE WARRIOR AND THE WOLF by Tian Zhuangzhuang

China, 2009, 104', Mandarin, Epic/Action/Romance

**Cast:** Maggie Q, Joe Odagiri, Tou Chung-hua

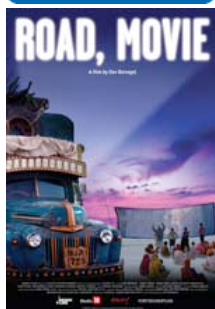
**Synopsis:** More than two thousand years ago the Han Emperor sent his army to the far western border of China, way beyond the Gobi Desert in order to subdue rebellious tribes. It was a treacherous and inhospitable zone, where when winter comes, the land belongs to the wolves. After much war and bloodshed, Commander Lu and his men have given up the battle and begun their retreat. Trapped by a blizzard, they take refuge in a village of the 'cursed' Harran tribe where Lu commandeers a shack and where, initially to his distaste, he finds a beautiful but mysterious Harran widow hiding in a pit beneath it. Passion quickly overcomes their mutual distrust and suspicion, and they become lovers... but Lu does not comprehend the great price that he will end up paying for their illicit passion...

#### Screenings

13 Sep (Sun)	6:30 PM	VARSITY 8	Public 1
14 Sep (Mon)	2:45 PM	CUMBERLAND 1	Press & Industry 1
15 Sep (Tue)	1:00 PM	SCOTIABANK THEATRE 3	Public 2
16 Sep (Wed)	2:00 PM	VARSITY 4	Press & Industry 2
18 Sep (Fri)	9:00 AM	SCOTIABANK THEATRE 1	Public 3



#### World Premiere



#### ROAD, MOVIE by Dev Benegal

India & USA, 2009, 95', Hindi, Romantic Drama

**Cast:** Abhay Deol, Satish Kaushik, Tannishtha Chatterjee, Mohammed Faizal

**Synopsis:** Vishnu, a restless young man, rejects his father's faltering hair oil business and hits the road with a traveling cinema. Along the way, he reluctantly picks up a young runaway, a wandering old entertainer and a striking gypsy woman. Together they roam the barren land, searching for water and an elusive fair. The journey turns dire when they are waylaid by corrupt cops and a notorious waterlord. Now, the key to their freedom is the eccentric collection of films and the forty-year-old film projector in the back of the truck...

#### Screenings

16 Sep (Wed)	1:45 PM	VARSITY 3	Press & Industry 1
18 Sep (Fri)	8:30 PM	WINTER GARDEN THEATRE	Public 1
19 Sep (Sat)	3:15 PM	SCOTIABANK THEATRE 1	Public 2



#### North American Premiere



#### LIFE DURING WARTIME by Todd Solondz

USA, 2009, 96', English, Drama

**Cast:** Shirley Henderson, Ciarán Hinds, Allison Janney, Charlotte Rampling, Paul Reubens, Ally Sheedy, Michael Lerner

**Synopsis:** Solondz revisits the extended Jordan family in LIFE DURING WARTIME, a part sequel/ part variation on his acclaimed film HAPPINESS. Ten years have passed since a series of shocking and catastrophic revelations shattered the world of the Jordans. Now, ghosts circle and loom, trouble and console, as the family members are each embroiled in their own dilemmas.

#### Screenings

14 Sep (Mon)	8:15 PM	SCOTIABANK THEATRE 1	Public 1
15 Sep (Tue)	9:00 AM	VARSITY 8	Press & Industry 1
16 Sep (Wed)	3:00 PM	SCOTIABANK THEATRE 1	Public 2
17 Sep (Thu)	11:30 AM	VARSITY 8	Press & Industry 2
19 Sep (Sat)	12:45 PM	AMC 9	Public 3



### Contemporary World Cinema

#### North American Premiere



#### PRINCE OF TEARS by Yonfan

Taiwan/ Hong Kong, 2009, 123', Mandarin, Epic/Romance

**Cast:** Fan Chih-Wei, Joseph Chang, Terri Kwan, Zhu Xuan

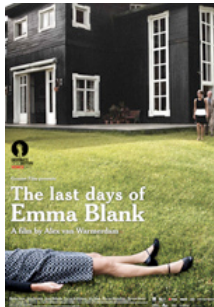
**Synopsis:** It happened in 1950s Taiwan, during the period known as the "White Terror," when an anti-Communist campaign swept up the island in hysteria. One autumn afternoon, two sisters returned from school to find their once-happy home ransacked by the military police and their parents arrested and accused of being Communist spies. The film follows a quartet of characters - the dashing air force officer father, his beautiful devoted wife, a mysterious scar-faced bureaucrat and a general's glamorous wife. Their lives and loves intertwine until everything erupts. Visually stunning and beautiful, director Yonfan portrays a period that has never been touched upon in international cinema.

#### Screenings

13 Sep (Sun)	3:15 PM	CUMBERLAND 1	Press & Industry 1
14 Sep (Mon)	5:45 PM	VARSITY 6	Press & Industry 2
16 Sep (Wed)	8:30 PM	WINTER GARDEN THEATRE	Public 1
17 Sep (Thu)	6:00 PM	SCOTIABANK THEATRE 1	Public 2
18 Sep (Fri)	4:00 PM	VARSITY 6	Public 3



North American Premiere



**THE LAST DAYS OF EMMA BLANK**

by Alex van Warmerdam

The Netherlands/ Belgium, 2009, 90', Dutch, Comedy  
**Cast:** Marlies Heuer, Gene Bervoets, Annet Malherbe  
**Synopsis:** In a large country home, the owner Emma Blank is very ill and is cared for by her household staff: Haneveld the head housekeeper, Bella the cook, Gonnie the maid and Meier the man-servant. Despite her desperate need for loving care, Emma is a steely, avaricious dictator whose demands become ever more absurd, to the extent that her staff are driven to madness. That is, until the day they discover that they stand to inherit nothing whereupon they drop their charade of caring and concern and instead plot their revenge...

**Screenings**

11 Sep (Fri)	2:00 PM	VARSIITY 3	Press & Industry 1
13 Sep (Sun)	8:15 PM	VARSIITY 3	Public 1
15 Sep (Tue)	12:15 PM	SCOTIABANK THEATRE 4	Public 2
17 Sep (Thu)	2:00 PM	CUMBERLAND 1	Press & Industry 2
18 Sep (Fri)	1:30 PM	CUMBERLAND 1	Public 3



Masters

North American Premiere



**AIR DOLL** by KORE-EDA Hirokazu

Japan, 2009, 116', Japanese, Romantic Fantasy (**NEW DIRECTOR'S CUT**)  
**Cast:** BAE Doona, ARATA, ITAO Itsuji, ODAGIRI Joe  
**Synopsis:** A life-size Air Doll "lives" in a shabby apartment in Tokyo. Her middle-aged master talks to her, puts her in a bath and makes love with her every day after he returns from work. This routine life is disrupted when fantasy turns into reality. One morning, the Air Doll suddenly comes to life, filled with a soul. Exploring the world around her, she soon falls in love with Junichi, a video store clerk. She discovers what it means to live, to love, to be lonely. Everything is going perfectly until one day when her hand is accidentally cut and she begins to deflate in front of Junichi...

**Screenings**

12 Sep (Sat)	2:30 PM	VARSIITY 4	Press & Industry 1
13 Sep (Sun)	9:00 PM	SCOTIABANK THEATRE 2	Public 1
17 Sep (Thu)	8:15 PM	AMC 3	Public 2
19 Sep (Sat)	12:30 PM	SCOTIABANK THEATRE 4	Public 3



Visions

North American Premiere



**FACE** by Tsai Ming-Liang

France/Taiwan/Belgium/Netherlands, 2009, 141', French & Chinese, Drama  
**Cast:** Fanny Ardant, Laetitia Casta, Jean-Pierre Léaud, Lee Kang-Sheng  
**Synopsis:** A Taiwanese filmmaker, speaking neither French nor English, comes to Paris to shoot a film based on the myth of Salomé at the Louvre. Despite clear signs of the actor's insanity, he insists on giving the part of King Herod to Antoine (Jean-Pierre Léaud). To give the film a chance at the box-office, the production company gives the role of Salomé to a world famous model. But problems arise as soon as filming begins...

**Screenings**

11 Sep (Fri)	12:30 PM	SCOTIABANK THEATRE 1	Public 1
12 Sep (Sat)	7:00 PM	VARSIITY 5	Press & Industry 1
17 Sep (Thu)	8:45 PM	SCOTIABANK THEATRE 4	Public 2
19 Sep (Sat)	2:45 PM	CUMBERLAND 2	Public 3



North American Premiere



**NYMPH** by Pen-ek Ratanaruang

Thailand, 2009, 94', Thai, Supernatural Love Story (**NEW DIRECTOR'S CUT**)  
**Cast:** Wanida Termthanaporn, Nopachai Jayanama, Chamanun Wanwinwasara, Phornthip Papanai  
**Synopsis:** A long time ago in a forest, a beautiful young woman fell prey to two men. Shortly thereafter, the lifeless bodies of the two attackers were found in the nearby stream. No one knew what happened to the men or where the woman was. Flash forward to today. Career woman May has it all in life. Her husband, Nop, showers her with love but May has started an affair with another married man. One day, May accompanies Nop to the forest to take photographs of the wildlife. Deep in the forest, Nop stumbles onto a sad looking tree and all of a sudden he vanishes from the forest without a trace. When May thinks she had lost him forever, Nop returns, but with a new personality...

**Screenings**

10 Sep (Thu)	6:30 PM	VARSIITY 3	Press & Industry 1
10 Sep (Thu)	8:45 PM	VARSIITY 3	Public 1
12 Sep (Sat)	10:00 AM	SCOTIABANK THEATRE 4	Public 2
18 Sep (Fri)	8:45 PM	AMC 4	Public 3



Yonge Dundas Square Programme



**NEIL YOUNG TRUNK SHOW** by Jonathan Demme

USA, 2009, English, Concert Film  
**Synopsis:** Jonathan Demme's display of Neil Young's musical and spiritual soul. Young on a stage full of personal icons; alone in the center of a circle of his beloved acoustic guitars; in the midst of stellar musicians Ben Keith, Ralph Molina, Rick Rosas, Pegi Young and Anthony "Sweet Pea" Crawford, plus an onstage painter portrayed by Eric Johnson. There are delicately offered acoustic numbers like "Sad Movies" and "Mexico"; mesmerizing electric travelogues into the artist's psyche ("No Hidden Path"); searing, chaotic anthems including "Like a Hurricane" and "Cinammon Girl"; and rarely performed pieces like "Kansas" and "Ambulance Blues" that provide glimpses of Young's less public persona.

**Screenings**

14 Sep (Mon)	9:00 PM	DUNDAS SQUARE	Public 1
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## UPCOMING TITLES



### DREAM HOME

Hong Kong, 2009/2010, Cantonese, Slasher  
**Director:** Pang Ho-Cheung (ISABELLA; TRIVIAL MATTERS)  
**Cast:** Josie Ho (EXILED; STREET FIGHTER – THE LEGEND OF CHUN LI), Eason Chan (LADY COP & PAPA CROOK, TRIVIAL MATTERS), Michelle Ye (VENGEANCE, ACCIDENT), Lawrence Chou (FOREST OF DEATH, RE-CYCLE), Derek Tsang (OCEAN FLAME, AV), Juno Mak (TRIVIAL MATTERS)

**Synopsis:** In order to get her dream home, a woman must take matters into her own hands... even if it means getting her hands seriously bloody.



### MAGIC BUS

USA, 2010, English, Documentary  
**Director:** Alex Gibney (ENRON : THE SMARTEST GUYS IN THE ROOM; TAXI TO THE DARK SIDE)  
**Producer:** Will Clarke (THIS IS ENGLAND; DEAD MAN'S SHOES)

**Synopsis:** Packed with well-known music from the 60's, MAGIC BUS charts the infamous, LSD-fueled 1964 bus journey by avant-garde author Ken Kesey (ONE FLEW OVER THE CUCKOO'S NEST) and his pals across a changing and politically charged America.



### MARLEY

USA, 2010, English, Documentary  
**Director:** Jonathan Demme (RACHEL GETTING MARRIED; PHILADELPHIA; THE SILENCE OF THE LAMBS)

**Synopsis:** Jonathan Demme's homage, in the ultimate look at the life, times and music of one of the greatest musical and social icons and of the 20th Century.



### NORWEGIAN WOOD

Japan, Japanese, Romance/Drama  
**Director:** Tran Anh Hung (THE SCENT OF GREEN PAPAYA: CYCLO)  
**Cast:** Kenichi Matsuyama (DEATH NOTE), Rinko Kikuchi (BABEL – Oscar nominated Best Supporting Actress), Kiko Mizuhara

**Synopsis:** Adapted from the best selling masterpiece, "Norwegian Wood," by Haruki Murakami, the film is set in Tokyo 1969, when a young man, Watanabe, was torn between two very different women — the beautiful yet emotionally troubled Naoko, and the outgoing, lively Midori, in a world of uneasy friendships, casual sex, passion, loss and desire.



### THE SHOCK LABYRINTH 3D

Japan, 2009, Japanese, Thriller/Horror  
**Director:** Takashi Shimizu  
**Cast:** Yuya Yagira (Best Actor, Cannes 2004 for NOBODY KNOWS), Ai Maeda (BATTLE ROYALE 2; DEATH NOTE: THE LAST NAME), Misako Renbutsu, Ryo Katsujii

**Synopsis:** The horror-thriller follows a group of teenagers dealing with the disappearance of one of them, Yuki, at an amusement park's ghost house. On a rainy day 10 years later, Yuki inexplicably returns, and the group soon sinks deeper and deeper into the events from a decade ago that led to Yuki's disappearance.

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