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SIFF.NET MAY 20 - JUNE 13, 2010



seattle international
film festival

CONTEMPORARY WORLD CINEMA

SIFF's largest program is *your* round-the-world ticket.

If SIFF were a journey (and it is!), then Contemporary World Cinema is the ultimate GPS—dissolving physical borders and transcending cultural boundaries to deliver us, visually, to the most remote corners of our planet and, emotionally, into the lives of the people who inhabit them. As always, we are honored to present an amazing selection of the world's latest and greatest films—nearly 100 this year—from both cinematic masters and first-time filmmakers. Collectively, their work covers the geographical map, offering the chance to "visit" more than 40 countries that span the continents. And within these locales, a visionary lens unravels the lives of characters who represent the fascinating spectrum of humanity: A Mongolian nomad's son who longs to define his own future... An American woman in Cairo tempted by forbidden passion... A family in Croatia who learns wisdom from a donkey... A young couple taking a road trip to the altar in South Africa... And the stories go on. The collection comprises dramatic family sagas that sprawl across generations and period pieces that spotlight political uprisings. There are tales of toiling villagers and greedy kings, of angst-ridden couples and ego-driven actresses. There are intimate portraits of wives and lovers, mothers and daughters, siblings and friends, enemies and partners in crime. And what they have to tell us about their own search for self-identity and validation, their quandaries and predicaments, their small hopes and outlandish dreams, are the stuff that define us as the human race. Ultimately, this year's Contemporary World Cinema films offer the grandest of all possible journeys—both into who we are and who we might be if....

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