Italian Film Club
Spring 2014

Tuesday, February 18, 2014, 6 PM @ International Lounge (THH 309)
IL SEGRETO DI RAHIL (RAHIL’S SECRET)
Directed by Cinzia Bomoll, 2006 (86 min)
A twelve-year-old Iraqi refugee living in Rome recounts her remarkable journey through the bars of a remote prison. Yet regardless of her dire circumstances, optimistic Rahil never lost hope that a better future was just around the corner. When authorities eventually catch up to Rahil, her story is revealed, though she is still left a stranger in a strange land.

Tuesday, March 11, 2014, 6 PM @ Montgomery Ross Fisher Bldg (MRF) 340
18 IUS SOLI
Directed by Fred Kuwornu, 2012 (60 min)
Discussion and Q & A with Fred Kuwornu to follow
A grassroots Italian documentary that tells the stories of 18 young people born and raised in Italy whose parents are originally from African, Asian, and Latin American countries. They are children of immigrants, they go to school in Italy, they speak the language and dialects, they have never visited the countries that their parents are from, nor do they speak their parents’ language. Yet, they are not recognized as Italian citizens. To obtain Italian citizenship, they have to go through a lengthy and complicated application process and can only do so after they’ve turned 18 years old—a process that doesn’t always end positively for the applicant, and raises issues of social inclusion and national identity.

Tuesday, March 25, 2014, 6 PM @ International Lounge (THH 309)
OSPITI (GUESTS)
Directed by Matteo Garrone, 1998 (78 min)
Gheri and Ghien are Albanian immigrants in Italy, who live and work in their uncle’s restaurant. They try to find more challenging jobs, and meet Lino, a Sardinian man searching for his missing wife. She has gone crazy and run off, though not before costing Lino his job of 30 years. Ghien quits his job, tired of Gheri’s bossiness, and while he wanders aimlessly, Gheri becomes increasingly close to Corrado, the young artist whose house the boys live in.

Tuesday, April 8, 2014, 2008, 6 PM @ International Lounge (THH 309)
TERRAERMA
Directed by Emanuele Crialese, 2011 (88 min)
Ernesto, an elderly fisherman who lives on the Sicilian island of Linosa, is put in jeopardy when he’s forced to help a family with nowhere to turn. When he sees a young man and his pregnant mother drowning after fleeing a small boat, his conscience forces him to rescue them, and when the woman gives birth not long after they reach shore, the old man and his family become unwitting criminals as they give the immigrant family a place to stay.

Tuesday, April 22, 2014, 2008, 6 PM @ International Lounge (THH 309)
SAIMIR
Directed by Francesco Munzi, 2004 (88 min)
The Albanian teenager Saimir has known only the harsh life of poverty and illegality. His father makes a dangerous living transporting illegal immigrants from the beach to farms in the surrounding countryside. Yet, when even this fails to earn a subsistence living, the two are drawn into even more serious criminal human trafficking. A prostitution ring approaches Saimir’s father who accepts to transport girls from Eastern Europe into virtual slavery and the boy is forced to help his father. Refusing to accept the injustice of the corrupt life that has been forced upon him and other young victims, Saimir makes a courageous decision that will change their lives and future forever.

The Italian Film Club offers an opportunity for students to discover a selection of Italian movies and to explore Italian culture and language. Movies are shown in Italian with English subtitles free of charge and all students enriched in Italian language are welcome.