

## **Syllabus 2013: Movies & Madness Big Problems 26400**

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Class meetings: Mondays, 3-9 PM in Cobb Hall Film Center. Screenings from 3-6; lecture, take-out meal, & discussion from 6-9.

### **Sept. 30: Introduction: Seeing Madness: Insanity, Media, and Visual Culture**

Screening, 3:00-6 PM: Teinosuke Kinugasa, *A Page of Madness*; *Cabinet of Dr. Caligari*; Brainwashing scene from *The Manchurian Candidate*; in class, 6-9 PM: Gabriel Mitchell, *Crazy Talk*

Readings: Sander Gilman, from *Seeing the Insane*; W. J. T. Mitchell, "Seeing Madness" from *documenta notebooks* (Kassel, 2012); taxonomy of mental illnesses--excerpts from DSM (thought vs feeling disorder); Ian Hacking, review of the DSM V in *London Review of Books* "A Page of Madness, Jasper Sharp, *Midnight Eye* 2002, pp. 1-14. "On The Cabinet of Doctor Caligari," Blaise Cendrars, *French Film Theory and Criticism, vol.1*, edited by Richard Abel, Princeton University Press, 1988, p. 271; "Caligari," Sigfried Kracauer, *From Caligari to Hitler: A Psychological History of the German Film*, Princeton University Press, 1947, pp. 61-76

French Film Theory and Criticism, vol.1, edited by Richard Abel, Princeton University Press, 1988. "Magnification," "The Senses 1(b)," Jean Epstein, pp.235-246, "On Certain Characteristics of *Photogénie*," Jean Epstein, pp.314-318 "Cinema and Reality," Antonin Artaud, pp.410-412

### **Oct. 7: Documenting the Asylum**

Screenings: *Titicut Follies*; *Asylum* (on R. D. Laing's "clinic"); *Psychiatry: An Industry of Death* (on YouTube); in class: Jean Rouch, clips from *Chronicle of a Summer*

Readings: R.D. Laing, from *The Politics of Experience*; Thomas Szasz, from "The Myth of Mental Illness"; Erving Goffman, from *Asylums*; Michel Foucault, from *The Birth of the Clinic*, "Ethnography in the First Person: Fredrick Wiseman's *Titicut Follies*, by Barry Keith Grant, Documenting the Documentary. Supplementary: *Madness as Civilization*; "The Domain of Documentary," Bill Nichols, Representing Reality, Indiana University Press, 1991, pp. 3-31. "The Documentary Film as Scientific Inscription," Brian Winston, Theorizing Documentary edited by Michael Renov, Routledge, 1993, pp. 37-57.

Francoise Meltzer: Guest Lecture on Foucault/Derrida debate on madness

### **Oct. 14: The Mad with the Movie Camera: Documenting the First Person**

Screenings: *Doc*, dir. Immy Humes; Philmworx.com (Gabriel Mitchell's Website); Gabriel's lecture on *Crazy Talk*; excerpts from *People Say I'm Crazy* and *Tarnation*.  
Note: we currently have *Manchurian Candidate* scheduled for this day, but it doesn't really fit with *Doc* very well, does it? Belongs with the more political material.

Readings: from Ellyn Saks, *The Center Cannot Hold*; Doestoevsky, from *Underground Man*; Ralph Ellison, from *Invisible Man*; from Erving Goffman, "The Moral Career of the Mental Patient";

### **Oct. 21: Melancholy and Medication: Your Mind-Brain on Drugs**

Screenings: *Prozac Nation*, Supplement on "minor depression". Anatole Litvak, *Snake Pit*; supplementary (if available): *Augustine* (d. Alice Winocour, 2012): Charcot and his favorite patient

Reading: "Annals of Psychology, Unreality Star" by Andrew Marantz, *The New Yorker*, 9-16-2013

Listening: CBC radio doc on the history of depression and pharmacology:  
<http://www.cbc.ca/player/Radio/Ideas/ID/2341175954/>

### **Oct. 28: Madness, Noir, and the Thriller**

Screenings: Alfred Hitchcock, *Spellbound*; Sam Fuller, *Shock Corridor*

Readings: Proposals for Final Paper or Creative Project: to be posted on course website no later than October 26.

### **Nov. 4: Religion and Collective Madness: Possession, Exorcism, and Mass Hysteria**

Screenings: Ken Russell, *The Devils*; Jean Rouch, *Les Maitres Fous*; excerpts from Jerzey Kawalerowicz's *Mother Joan of the Angels* (the Polish rendering of the Devils of Loudun); supplementary: *Rouch in Reverse* (Manthia Diawara, 1995)

Readings: Aldous Huxley, from *The Devils of Loudun* 99-114; 157-67; Michel de Certeau, from *The Possession at Loudun* 1-9; 102-109; 206-207; John Saward, *Holy Fools*, chapter one. "Les maîtres fous, The Lion Hunters, and Jaguar," Jean Rouch with John Marshall and John W. Adams, [Ciné-Ethnography Jean Rouch](#), edited by

Steven Feld, University of Minnesota, 2003, pp.188-195. "Les maîtres fous," The Cinematic Griot, Paul Stoller, University of Chicago Press, 1992, pp. 145-160.

### **Nov. 11: Filmmaking as Madness: Montage and Mania**

Screening: Les Blank, *Burden of Dreams* about Werner Herzog and the making of *Fitzcarraldo*. Making of *Apocalypse Now* (clips). Ingmar Bergman, *Persona*

Readings: Stan Brakhage; readings on experimental film. Susan Sontag, "Persona," in *Sight and Sound*, Autumn 1967, 11 pages; "Saying 'Nothing': Persona as an Allegory of Psychoanalysis," P. Adams Sitney, Modernist Montage: The Obscurity of Vision in Cinema and Literature, Columbia University Press, 1990, pp. 125-145

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### **Nov. 18: Paranoia and the National Security State**

Screening: *Shutter Island* including a teleconference with Ellen Lewis, Scorsese's Casting Director.

### **Nov. 25: The MAD Game: From Mutually Assured Destruction to Neoliberal Economics**

Screenings: Adam Curtis, *The Trap*; scenes from *A Beautiful Mind* and *The Corporation*

Readings: TBA

### **Dec. 2: Torture and Terror: From Brainwashing to Enhanced Interrogation**

Screening: John Frankenheimer, *Manchurian Candidate*; *Homeland*, Episodes and excerpts from seasons 1 and 2.

Readings: Bernard De Vos, "Depsychoologizing Torture"