

Cape Breton Island  
Film Series

Fall 2009

13 Thursdays  
13 Great Films

Sept. 10 - The Hurt Locker  
Sept. 17 - Food, Inc.  
Sept. 24 - Sugar

Oct. 1 - O'Horten  
Oct. 8 - Tulpan  
Oct. 15 - Cold Souls  
Oct. 22 - Lemon Tree - *Etz Limon*  
Oct. 29 - Adoration

Nov. 5 - Beaches of Agnes  
(*Les plages d'Agnes*)  
Nov. 12 - Goodbye Solo\*  
(Our annual L'Arche benefit)  
Nov. 19 - The Cove  
Nov. 26 - Tetro

Dec. 3 - In The Loop

All films screen at  
**Empire Theatre Studio 10**  
325 Prince St., Sydney  
Showtime 7 p.m. sharp

Single seat: \$9; Students: \$6  
Season pass: \$80  
(Seating guaranteed only until 6:45.)  
\*Special pricing for Goodbye Solo

[www.cbfilms.ca](http://www.cbfilms.ca)

**Sep. 10 The Hurt Locker** (USA 2008) 131 min.

Directed by Kathryn Bigelow. Cast: Jeremy Renner, Jeremy Mackie, Brian Geraghty, Guy Pearce, & Ralph Fiennes.

Amidst the chaos of urban warfare in Iraq, an elite US Army bomb squad must work together in a country where every man, woman, and child could be an enemy, every object a lethal bomb. Bigelow lets the tension build masterfully, but keeps her focus on the toll this takes on the soldiers themselves.

**Sept. 17 Food Inc.** Documentary (USA 2008) 94 min.

Directed by Robert Kenner

An eye-opening exposé of the modern food industry, *Food, Inc.* lifts the veil on industrial food production, revealing the mechanized underbelly that's hidden from consumers with the acquiescence of regulatory agencies. Featuring Michael Pollan, author of *The Omnivore's Dilemma*.

**Sept. 24 Sugar** (USA 2008) 120 min.

Directed by Anna Boden & Ryan Fleck. Cast: Algenis Perez Soto, Rayniel Rufino, Andre Holland, Ann Whitney, & Ellary Porterfield

You could call this our first baseball movie, but in reality, *béisbol* serves as unobtrusive background to a more familiar film series theme: the immigrant's single-minded but risky quest for a better life. As Dominican pitcher Miguel 'Sugar' Santos claws his way from a training camp in San Pedro de Marcos to a tryout with the single-A team, *The Swing*, in Bridgetown, Iowa, most of the curveballs are off the field.

**Oct. 1 O'Horten** (Norway 2007 subtitled) 90 min.

Directed by Bent Hamer. Cast: Baard Owe, Espen Skjønberg, Ghita Nørby, Henny Moan, Bjørn Floberg.

In this droll, deadpan comedy, an improbably named train engineer, Odd Horten, adjusts with difficulty to retirement. Horton is a loner who has had all the familiarity stripped from his world. He flounders as he looks for meaning in a life shorn of routine. At night in Oslo, he finds eccentric characters who accelerate his slide into nonconformity. Hamer fills the movie with strange touches and melancholy charm. Tomatometer: 100%.

**Oct. 8 Tulpan** (Kazakhstan 2008 subtitled) 100 min.

Directed by Sergei Dvortsevov. Cast: Tolepbergen Baisakalov, Ondas Besikbasov, Samal Esljamova, Askhat Kuchencherekov, & Bereke Turganbayev

Asa returns from military service to live with his sister's family in a barren Kazakh steppe. He dreams of marrying Tulpan and life tending sheep, but mysterious Tulpan is not so smitten. Still, Asa persists. Dvortsevov, a much praised documentary director, makes his dramatic debut with *Tulpan*, which combines understated comedy with a documentarian's keen-eyed depiction of rural Kazakh life. Tomatometer: 100%.

**Oct. 15 Cold Souls** (USA 2009) 101 min.

Directed by Sophie Barthes. Cast: Paul Giamatti, Dina Korzun, Emily Watson, David Strathairn, & Katheryn Winnick.

As Paul Giamatti agonizes over his role in a Chekhov play, he stumbles upon a New Yorker article about a company that eases suffering by extracting souls. He enlists their service, intending to restore his soul after the play. Instead, a mysterious, soul-trafficking mule transfers his soul to an ambitious but talentless Russian soap-opera star.

**Oct. 22 Lemon Tree (*Etz Limon*)** (Israel 2008 subtitled) 106 min.

Directed by Eran Riklis. Cast: Hiam Abbass, Doron Tavory, Ali Suliman, Rona Lipaz-Michael, & Tarik Kopty

When Israel's defense minister moves in across the street from Salma, a Palestinian widow, authorities deem the lemon grove her family has tended for decades a threat to his security, and orders it uprooted. She goes to court to save the trees, and finds an unlikely ally: the defense minister's wife. A dark, sometimes funny look at the irrational struggles of the Middle East.

**Oct. 29 Adoration**

(Canada 2008) 100 min.

Directed by Atom Egoyan . Cast: Scott Speedman, Rachel Blanchard, Kenneth Welsh, Devon Bostick, &amp; Aaron Poole

Following the death of his parents, Simon, a bright high-school student, learns from his dying grandfather that his parents' deaths may have been a murder-suicide. When Simon's drama teacher reads a story about a terrorist who planted a bomb in his girlfriend's luggage, Simon claims the story is about his parents. This claim lights up the school, and the Internet chat rooms where Simon hangs out. "The director's best film in a decade." -- The Globe and Mail

**Nov. 5 The Beaches of Agnes (*Les plages d'Agnès*)**

Documentary (France 2008 subtitled) 110 min.

Directed by Agnès Varda.

The celebrated octogenarian French filmmaker Agnes Varda (*The Gleaners and I*) turns the camera on herself for an enchanting self-portrait that is equal parts playful and profound. "A lovely, quirky and poignant film from Agnès Varda, at 81 the still spry grande dame of the Nouvelle Vague that revolutionized French and world cinema in the late 1950s and early 60s." - *The Globe and Mail*. Tomatometer: 100%.

**Nov. 12 Goodbye Solo - Our Annual L'Arche Benefit**

(USA 2008) 91 min.

Directed by Ramin Bahrani. Cast: Souleymane Sy Savane, Red West, Diana Franco Galindo, Lane 'Roc' Williams, Mamadou Lam, &amp; Carmen Leyva

Last fall, Sydney enjoyed one of the few Canadian screenings of Bahrani's second feature, *Chop Shop*. We've chosen his third, *Goodbye Solo*, for our annual L'Arche benefit. Over lonely roads in Winston-Salem, North Carolina, two men forge an improbable friendship that will change both of their lives forever. Solo is a Senegalese cab driver working to provide a better life for his young family. William is a tough, Southern, good ol' boy, with a lifetime of regrets. One man's American dream is just beginning, while the other's is winding down. Despite their differences, both men realize they need each other more than either is willing to admit. Through their unlikely but unforgettable friendship, *Goodbye Solo* explores the passing of a generation and the rapidly changing face of North America. Tomatometer 100%. Watch the film series website, [cbfilms.ca](http://cbfilms.ca), for details about the L'Arche Party.

**Nov. 19 The Cove**

Documentary (USA 2009) 92 min.

Directed by Louie Psihoyos.

The Cove combines investigative journalism with an environmentalist action thriller. Dolphin expert Richard O'Barry now regrets his work capturing and training dolphins used on the 1960's TV show, *Flipper*. He teams up with Louie Psihoyos of the Ocean Preservation Society to expose a sinister dolphin capture and slaughter ring in Taji, Japan. Driven by a multi-billion dollar dolphin entertainment industry, and a black market for mercury-tainted dolphin meat, a small seaside village engages in a horrifying illicit hunt. Using hidden microphones and cameras, the filmmakers expose a horrifying microcosm of crimes against the world's oceans.

**Nov. 26 Tetro**

(Italy &amp; Spain 2009 subtitled) 127 min.

Directed and written by Francis Ford Coppola. Cast: Vincent Gallo, Maribel Verdú, Alden Ehrenreich, Klaus Maria Brandauer, &amp; Carmen Maura.

In the first shot of *Tetro*—the first of many gorgeous monochrome images to come—a moth struggles toward a light bulb's blazing filament. That's the metaphor that drives Coppola's extravagant tale of a tortured family. Bennie, 17, a cruise ship waiter, comes to Buenos Aires in search of his beloved older brother, whom he hasn't seen in more than 10 years. He finds an angry Tetro, who has cut all family ties and tries to push Bennie away. If Tetro is the shining light to which Bennie has been drawn, their father, Carlo, a world-class conductor, is the flame that has all but consumed Tetro. - Wall Street Journal. "Coppola's richest, most enrapturing film since *Apocalypse Now*." - Village Voice

**Dec. 3 In The Loop**

(UK 2009) 106 min.

Directed by Armando Iannucci. Cast: Peter Capaldi, Tom Hollander, Gina McKee, James Gandolfini, Chris Addison, Anna Chlumsky, Enzo Cilenti, &amp; Paul Higgins.

A political satire reminiscent of *Dr. Strangelove*. "[It's] as if flaming chunks of *The Office* crash-landed simultaneously onto the sets of *Yes, Minister* and *The West Wing*." - Chicago Tribune. "War is a deadly and consequential business. That goes without saying, but when the motley technocrats and would-be statesmen who populate this film say it, their words sound either embarrassingly tinny or patently self-serving. And that's the point: Grave matters involving global power cannot be separated from the pettiness of democratic governance, which is impelled by careerism, vanity, moral compromise and, in London more than prim Washington, by ear-singeing profanity."

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**Single seat: \$9** 🎧 **Students: \$6** 🎧 **Season pass: \$80***(Passholder seating guaranteed only until 6:45.)*This is our 14th series since 2003, a total of 190 films. Get the full list at [cbfilms.ca](http://cbfilms.ca).

To keep in touch with the Cape Breton Island Film Series, join our e-mail list by sending an e-mail to [add@cbfilms.ca](mailto:add@cbfilms.ca). Join the Cape Breton Island Film Series Facebook group. Follow us on Twitter at [www.twitter.com/cbifs](http://www.twitter.com/cbifs). Visit the film series website for trailers, photos, reviews, cast lists, and official websites of all films, and to post your own comments.