

## American University Reel Journalism Film Festival

Co-sponsored by AFI, the Newseum and The Washington Post

Friday, March 26 through Sunday, March 28

The American University School of Communication, in partnership with the American Film Institute, the Newseum and The Washington Post, presents a weekend of exceptional films depicting the world of journalism—from the newsrooms to the battlefields—featuring special panel discussions by leading journalists and distinguished American University alumni. How accurately does Hollywood tell the reporter's tale? Panel topics include: "Hollywood's Portrayal of the Media: Fact or Fiction?" and "Journalists at War." Featured journalists include The New Republic former editor Charles Lane; CBS News' Susan Zirinsky; former New York Times war correspondent and Pulitzer Prize winner Sydney Schanberg; Joe Saltzman, director of the Norman Lear USC Annenberg School for Communication project, "The Image of the Journalist in Popular Culture"; author and Chicago Tribune columnist Nell Minow; and The Washington Post's Len Downie, Dession Thomson and Rita Kempley.

• TO ORDER TICKETS: WWW.AFI.COM/SILVER •

## OPENING EVENT!

**Special Event!**  
Susan Zirinsky—the inspiration for Holly Hunter's character—live on-stage with:

### BROADCAST NEWS

Friday, March 26, 7:00 p.m.

It's a classic triangle in a Washington TV network news bureau: hyper-driven producer Holly Hunter, good-looking but empty-headed budding anchor William Hurt, and Albert Brooks as the crack journalist who suffers from "flop sweat" when he gets a chance to anchor. But first Joan Cusack has to get a crucial tape from the editing room to the control room. *Seriously funny*, in the best James L. Brooks (AS GOOD AS IT GETS, TERMS OF ENDEARMENT, THE SIMPSONS, etc.) tradition. Based on real-life events in CBS News Executive Producer Susan Zirinsky's journey to the top. Seven Oscar nominations.

Directed/written/produced by James L. Brooks. US, 1987, color, 127 min..

#### AFTER THE SCREENING:

**9:00 p.m.** A special audience Q&A session with Susan Zirinsky—AU alumna, Executive Producer of CBS News' 48 HOURS INVESTIGATES and the inspiration for BROADCAST NEWS' leading character.

**9:30 p.m.** A reception co-sponsored by the AU School of Communication Graduate Student Council will follow in the AFI Silver Gallery.

No passes accepted.



## Hollywood's Portrayal Of The Media: Fact Or Fiction?

Saturday, March 27

### THE FRONT PAGE

Sat, March 27, 11:00 a.m.

The first, arguably the most cinematic, and closest-to-the-original adaptation of Ben Hecht and Charles MacArthur's newsroom stage classic. Lewis Milestone's camera relentlessly prowls the funkier of press rooms while editor Walter Burns (Adolphe Menjou) schemes to keep reporter Hildy Johnson (Pat O'Brien) from quitting to get married and focused on finding a bumbling prison escapee—who turns out to be right under the reporters' noses. Who gets the scoop? Will Hildy take the better paying job in advertising?

Directed/produced by Lewis Milestone; written by Bartlett Cormack and Charles Lederer. US, 1931, b&w, 101 min..

## ACE IN THE HOLE [aka THE BIG CARNIVAL]

Saturday, March 27, 1:00 p.m.

Ruthless reporter Kirk Douglas—and everybody else—exploit a doomed man trapped in a cave in Billy Wilder's most venomous attack on American greed. (Jan Sterling on why she isn't praying for her trapped husband: "Kneeling bags my nylons.") Noteworthy are belted and suspended Porter Hall as the Only Decent Man and arguably the most amazing focus-pull in screen history at the climax. Based on the 1925 Floyd Collins case—the real reporter won a Pulitzer Prize.

Directed/produced by Billy Wilder; written by Walter Newman, Lesser Samuels and Billy Wilder. USA, 1951, b&w, 111 min..



ACE IN THE HOLE

*"The most entertaining movie about journalism since ALL THE PRESIDENT'S MEN"*—GLENN KENNY, PREMIERE

## SHATTERED GLASS

Saturday, March 27, 3:15; Monday-Wednesday, March 29-31, 6:40 & 8:35

This fictionalized account chronicling the downfall of real-life wunderkind Stephen Glass, whose meteoric rise to the top as staff writer for *The New Republic* and contributor to *George*, *Rolling Stone* and *Harper's* is, in fact, adapted from a *Vanity Fair* article by Buzz Bissinger. Glass's celebrated stories covered topics ranging from the misdeeds of young Republican delegates at the National Convention to companies that hired superstar teenage cyber-hackers to shore-up their internet security. Not unlike the more recent case of Jayson Blair, it turns out that 27 of Glass's 41 published stories were either partially or completely fabricated. Hayden Christensen delivers a complex performance as the likable, albeit troubled Glass, and Peter Sarsgaard earned a Golden Globe nomination for his role as editor Charles Lane, Glass's curiously un-engaging nemesis who reluctantly cracks the case.

Directed/written by Billy Ray; produced by Craig Baumgarten, Marc Butan and Tove Christensen. US, 2003, color, 95 min.. Rated PG-13.

**No passes accepted.**



## SPECIAL EVENT!

Journalists discuss "Hollywood's Portrayal of the Media: Fact or Fiction?" after a special screening of:

## SHATTERED GLASS

Saturday, March 27, 3:15

Following the film, journalists Charles Lane (former editor of *The New Republic*), Desson Thomson and Rita Kempley (film critics for *The Washington Post*), Joe Saltzman, (award winning broadcast journalist and USC professor), and Nell Minow (author and *Chicago Tribune* columnist) will participate in a live panel discussion: "Hollywood's Portrayal of the Media: Fact or Fiction?" The panel will be moderated by Margaret Engel (Newseum).

## SPECIAL EVENT!



## Special Event!

A panel discussion following:

## ALL THE PRESIDENT'S MEN

Saturday, March 27, 7:15 p.m.

"Not until this riveting screen adaptation of the Watergate book has any film come remotely close to being an accurate picture of American journalism at its best. A spellbinding detective story about two *Washington Post* reporters who helped break the Watergate scandal, a breathless adventure, and a vivid footnote to contemporary American history."—Vincent Canby, *New York Times*.

Directed by Alan J. Pakula; written by William Goldman; produced by Walter Coblenz. US, 1976, color, 138 min..

## AFTER THE SCREENING:

**Leonard Garment, former special counsel to President Richard Nixon; Charles Lewis, founder and executive director of The Center for Public Integrity; and Len Downie, executive editor of *The Washington Post* will be joined by other invited journalists to participate in a live, on-stage audience Q&A. The panel will be moderated by Prof. John Watson (AU SOC).**

**No passes accepted.**

## Journalists At War Sunday, March 28

### THE YEAR OF LIVING DANGEROUSLY

Sun, March 28, 7:10 p.m.

1965, Indonesia: Australian journalist, Guy S. Hamilton (Mel Gibson) sees his routine assignment turn hot as conspiracy brews, complicated by his affair with British diplomat Jill Bryant (Sigourney Weaver), highlighted by a nighttime drive through the fringes of a political coup. Linda Hunt won the Best Supporting Actress Oscar for her convincing portrayal of Billy Swan, the man manipulating Hamilton for his own purposes.

Directed/written by Peter Weir; co-written by C.J. Koch and David Williamson; produced by Jim McElroy. Australia, 1982, color, scope, 127 min..



THE YEAR OF LIVING DANGEROUSLY

## SPECIAL EVENT!

### THE KILLING FIELDS

Sun, March 28, 12:00 noon

It's chaos in Phnom Penh as the Khmer Rouge take over Cambodia. While *New York Times* reporter Sydney Schanberg (Sam Waterston) gets out, his local assistant Dith Pran (the late Haing S. Ngor) does not. Based on the real-life saga, the film earned seven Oscar nominations, winning for Photography, Editing, and Ngor's Supporting Actor role—his first acting effort.

Directed by Roland Joffé; written by Bruce Robinson; produced by David Puttnam. UK, 1984, color, 141 min.. English, French, Khmer with English subtitles.

**Former *New York Times* correspondent Sydney Schanberg will participate in a live, on-stage discussion after the film.**

**No passes accepted.**

**Former *New York Times* Correspondent Sydney Schanberg Live On-Stage!**



## SPECIAL EVENT!

### UNDER FIRE

Sun, March 28, 3:30

Photographer Russell Price (Nick Nolte), a radio journalist (Joanna Cassidy), and a *TIME* reporter (Gene Hackman) all converge on the revolt in Nicaragua. As the bullets fly, sexual politics take second place to revolutionary ones, as Price must choose between journalistic ethics and his conscience.

Directed by Roger Spottiswoode; written by Clayton Frohman and Ron Shelton; produced by Jonathan T. Taplin. US, 1983, color, 123 min..

**Following the film, a panel of journalists featuring war photographers Molly Bingham, Joe Galloway (WE WERE SOLDIERS), chief photographer Lois Raimondo and AU Journalism Professor Emeritus Laird Anderson will discuss "Journalism, Ethics and War." The panel will be moderated by Murray Horwitz (AFI).**

**No passes accepted.**



**War photographers Molly Bingham, Joe Galloway, Lois Raimondo and AU's Laird Anderson Live, On-Stage!**