



**AMERICAN STORIES:
8 Documentaries Presented by Film Streams in
Collaboration with the State Humanities Councils**

Special film series to coincide with 2009 National Humanities Conference in Omaha;

Director Screenings to take place November 5 and 6

Omaha, Nebraska (Thursday, October 8, 2009)—An understanding of where we come from, an acknowledgment of where we are, and an awareness for where we're headed—this is what the humanities offers us, and perhaps never so resoundingly as through cinema. From October 30 to November 12, Film Streams' Ruth Sokolof Theater will show eight extraordinary documentaries — all supported by one or more state humanities councils throughout the United States — that create a captivating portrait of America over the past century.

Presented in collaboration with the Nebraska Humanities Council and Federation of State Humanities Councils, the **American Stories** series will coincide with the 2009 National Humanities Conference held in Omaha from November 5 – 8. All eight documentaries will show at Film Streams' Ruth Sokolof Theater (1340 Webster Street, Omaha), a nonprofit cinema dedicated to enhancing the cultural environment of the Omaha-Council Bluffs region through the presentation and discussion of film as an art form.

Films in the series include: **American Dream** (Dir. Barbara Kopple, 1990); **The Real Dirt on Farmer John** (Dir. Taggart Siegel, 2005); **After Innocence** (Dir. Jessica Sanders, 2005); **Hollywood Chinese** (Dir. Arthur Dong, 2007); **Revolution '67** (Dir. Marylou Tibaldo-Bongiorno & Jerome Bongiorno, 2007); **Stranger with a Camera** (Dir. Elizabeth Barret, 2000); **Ralph Ellison: An American Journey** (Dir. Avon Kirkland, 2002); and **Chiefs** (Dir. Daniel Junge, 2002).

The series will also feature two special director screenings. On Thursday, November 5, director Arthur Dong will be in person at the Ruth Sokolof Theater for a Q&A following the 7pm screening of his film **Hollywood Chinese**, which looks at American cinema through the lens of the Chinese-American experience. On Friday, November 6, co-directors Marylou Tibaldo-Bongiorno and Jerome Bongiorno will be in person for a Q&A following their film **Revolution '67**, which explores the 1967 race riots in Newark, New Jersey, one of the deadliest racial disturbances in U.S. history.

More information on all films in the American Stories series can be found on the following pages and at www.filmstreams.org. For questions, please contact Casey Logan by phone at (402) 933-0259 x 11 or email at casey@filmstreams.org.

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American Stories

8 Documentaries Presented with the State Humanities Councils

October 30 – November 12, 2009

October 30 & November 4 (7pm)

American Dream 1990

Directed by Barbara Kopple.

An Oscar-winning documentary about a meatpackers strike against the profit-turning corporation cutting their wages that pits the local union against its national leaders. USA; 98 min. **Submitted by the Nebraska Humanities Council.**

October 31 & November 3 (7pm)

The Real Dirt on Farmer John 2005

Directed by Taggart Siegel.

An epic tale about an unconventional Midwesterner who transforms his farm into a revolutionary new form of agriculture. USA; 82 min. **Submitted by the Illinois Humanities Council.**

November 5 & 8 (7pm)

Hollywood Chinese 2007

Directed by Arthur Dong.

A look at American cinema through the lens of the Chinese-American experience, from the first Chinese-American film in 1916 to Ang Lee's triumphant BROKEBACK MOUNTAIN ninety years later. USA; 90 min. **Submitted by the California Council for the Humanities.**

***Director Screening:** Join us Thursday, November 5 for a special screening and post-show Q&A with director Arthur Dong in person.*

November 6 (7pm)

Revolution '67 2007

Directed by Marylou Tibaldo-Bongiorno & Jerome Bongiorno.

With chilling archival footage, REVOLUTION '67 explores one of the deadliest racial disturbances in recent U.S. history. USA; 90 min. **Submitted by the New Jersey Council for the Humanities.**

***Director Screening:** Join us Friday, November 6 for a special screening and post-show Q&A with directors Marylou Tibaldo-Bongiorno & Jerome Bongiorno in person.*

November 7 & 10 (7pm)

Stranger with a Camera 2000

Directed by Elizabeth Barret.

A provocative examination of the relationship between those who make documentaries and those who lead the lives and inhabit the locales they portray. USA; 58 min. **Submitted by the Southern Humanities Media Fund.**

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AMERICAN STORIES Series (continued)

November 9 (7pm)

Ralph Ellison: An American Journey 2002

Directed by Avon Kirkland.

A documentary on the literary and intellectual legacy of Ralph Ellison, one of the past century's most important American writers on the subject of race and individual identity. USA; 87 min. **Submitted by the Oklahoma Humanities Council.**

November 12 (7pm)

Chiefs 2002

Directed by Daniel Junge.

The trials and triumphs of Wyoming Indian High School's championship-seeking basketball team provides the context for this profile of life on the reservation. USA; 87 min. **Submitted by the Wyoming Humanities Council.**



Nebraska
Humanities
Council

When we ask who we are and what our lives ought to mean, we are using the humanities. The Nebraska Humanities Council enhances the quality of life in communities across our state through programs that study the human race, its achievements, its creations, its dreams and aspirations, its failures and triumphs. The NHC promotes a better understanding of Nebraska—who we are and where we have been—to build a better future.

The NHC was established as a state-based affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities in 1973, primarily to award grants. By the 1980s, the NHC realized that in Nebraska, grants alone were not enough to reach the entire state, and subsequently started a Humanities Resource Center with traveling exhibits, videos and films, and a Speakers Bureau that now includes nearly 300 humanities programs.

Other NHC programs now include Chautauqua and its scholars portraying historical characters, Capitol Forum on America's Future for high school students, the Prime Time Family Reading Time reading and discussion program, Museum on Main Street exhibitions from the Smithsonian, the Nebraska Book Festival, and the annual Governor's Lecture in the Humanities. For more information, visit www.nebraskahumanities.org.

FILM STREAMS™
AT THE RUTH SOKOLOF THEATER

Film Streams is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization dedicated to enhancing the cultural environment of the Omaha-Council Bluffs area through the presentation and discussion of film as an art form. In July 2007, we opened the Ruth Sokolof Theater, our two-screen cinema located within the Saddle Creek Records complex north of downtown Omaha. For more information, visit us online at www.filmstreams.org.

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www.nebraskaartscouncil.org


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