

Our last Film Committee meeting was held
on Thursday, February 2nd, from 7 – 8pm
at the Circolo ARCI Arcobaleno.

Attendance: 20

Decisions

“Before the Flood” was eliminated as too conventional and déjà vu. Since there was no alternative film on the environment, Luke was tasked with finding one that has punch.

Rather than decide between “Occupation of the American Mind” and “Brainwashing of my Dad”, we chose both films, as the theme of media manipulation of the mind is so pertinent.

Instead of “The Killing of Tony Blair”, we opted for “The Kill Team”. It shows the toll that 16 years of occupation of Afghanistan is taking on our servicemen. The no. 1 cause of death among our troops in Afghanistan is, in fact, suicide.

As for themes not treated yet (or enough), it was suggested that we target the subject matter of Trump's infamous executive orders. Ilona proposes, for example, a film dealing with the border crossings between Mexico and the U.S., “Cartel Land”. A Sundance award-winning documentary, it describes why Americans along the Mexican frontier actually want The Wall. Instead of films mirroring our ideas, this one will show us what the other side thinks and feels.

Here, then, is our programming from February 16th to April 27th:

FORTHCOMING FILMS

We'll talk about other proposals at our

next meeting: Thursday, March 30, 7pm, Circolo Arcobaleno

Meanwhile, please look over the 10 films we have shortlisted so far
(they appear on the next page)
and send us your ideas of other films or themes to take into consideration.

To write us, click here → film-series@gmx.us

Here are the choices you can help us make on March 30th:

Dates to cover: May 11, May 25, June 08, June 22, July 06

Films shortlisted so far:

A holdover from our previous list (it was not selected but had several supporters):

THE KILLINGS OF TONY BLAIR – What Blair did that should have him indicted. Not just the lies used to justify the illegal invasion of Iraq, but also the dozens of torture camps he set up there, after shipping them over as “humanitarian aid”. Plus his criminal conduct today.

Here's a [review for it](#) and a [review against it](#).

Films researched but not yet voted on (because they hadn't been released at the time):

SHADOW WORLD – Theme: the international arms trade, or, War as Business (as usual)

for: <http://variety.com/2016/film/reviews/shadow-world-film-review-1201762486/>

against: <http://www.stageandcinema.com/2016/04/23/shadow-world-film/>

ALL GOVERNMENTS LIE – Courageous, honest investigative journalists do exist and this film documents now they have managed to uncover government lies, over the years and today.

For: <http://www.counterpunch.org/2016/11/01/all-governments-lie-the-movie/>

Against: <http://www.filmjournal.com/reviews/film-review-all-governments-lie-truth-deception-and-spirit-if-stone>

[Exposing Imperialism in Haiti](#) (Ed Augustin, 2014, 70 min., Mancha Productions, Havana) Absolutely sensational footage showing, minute by minute, the U.S. coup d'etat in Haiti to overturn the democratic Aristide government and install a police state obedient to Washington. At last, a camera has captured what happens – unreported – in so many other countries where Marines are sent in to “restore democracy”. Mind-boggling. A must see for any political activist. No reviews available.

Films not yet researched (but YOU can check them out and give us your opinion)

[Disobedience](#) (YouTube) Tells the story of civil disobedience and the climate crisis “like you've never seen before”: a pamphlet and in inspiration for political activism.

[Class Divide](#) (Trailer) bores into income disparity in an area of N.Y. where a multi-million-dollar high-rise condominiums has gone up adjacent to poverty-stricken public-housing: comparative interviews of the occupants illustrate the class divide.

[Do not Resist](#) (Trailer) (2016, 73 min, Tribeca Best Documentary) offers a stunning look at the current state of policing in America: from a ride-along with a

South Carolina SWAT team to a police training seminar that teaches the importance of "righteous violence."

[The Other Side of Immigration](#) ([Trailer](#)) explores why so many people leave the Mexican countryside to work in the U.S. and what happens to the families and communities they leave behind.

[Concerning Violence](#) ([Trailer](#)) the events of African nationalist and independence movements in the 1960s and 1970s which challenged colonial and white minority rule.

[I am not Your Negro](#) ([Trailer](#)) explores the history of racism in the United States through Baldwin's reminiscences of civil rights leaders [Medgar Evers](#), [Malcolm X](#) and [Martin Luther King, Jr.](#)

The Film Committee – Comments to: film-series@gmx.us

(Space for your suggestions of themes and films)

From Ilona, March 11:

This Changes Everything (Avi Lewis, 2015, USA, 89 min.). Based on Naomi Klein's best-seller of the same name, the film presents seven powerful portraits of communities on the front lines, from Montana's Powder River Basin to the Alberta Tar Sands, from the coast of South India to Beijing and beyond. Interwoven with these stories of struggle is Klein's narration, connecting the carbon in the air with the economic system that put it there.

From Anna, March 27

AWAKE, A Dream From Standing Rock (Josh Fox, 2017, USA) The film tells the dramatic story of the historic #NODAPL native-led peaceful resistance at the Standing Rock Sioux Reservation in North Dakota, which captured the world's attention as one of the biggest stories of 2016. Tens of thousands of activists traveled to North Dakota from all over the world to take a stand alongside the "water protectors"-- activists opposing construction of the 3.7 billion dollar Dakota Access Pipeline (DAPL). The pipeline is proposed to transport fracked oil from North Dakota's Bakken oil fields directly underneath the Missouri River on sovereign Lakota land, the only water source for the Standing Rock reservation and the drinking water source for 17 million Americans downstream.

