## Media Arts Department Film and Media Studies/Film and Television Symposium

# Some Like it Funny: Film Comedy, Past and Present



Wednesday March 1, 2023
11:30 a.m.-4:20 p.m. Rue Auditorium
4:30 p.m.- 9:00 p.m. Science 102

Thursday, March 2, 2023
11:30 a.m. - 9:00 p.m. Rue Auditorium

Student and Faculty Presentations
Student Film and Screenplay competition



## Some Like It Funny: Film Comedy, Past and Present Media Arts Department:

Film and Media Studies/Film and Television Film Symposium Wednesday March 1 and Thursday March 2

### Wednesday March 1—Playing with Genre and Gender

11:30 a.m.-4:20 p.m. events in Rue Auditorium (Norm Brodsky Business Center—formerly Sweigart Hall) Room 115

4:30 p.m.-9:00 p.m. events in Mike and Patti Hennessy Science & Technology Center, Room 102

11:30 a.m.- Faculty Presentation: Dr. Erica Rubine, Department of English

12:30 p.m. "The Red Scare Diaries: Satire and Xenophobia in The Russians Are Coming the Russians Are Coming (1966) and Dr. Strangelove: How Learned I to Stop Worrying and Love the Bomb (1964)

1:40 p.m.- Student/Faculty Panel: Apocalypse, Crime and Quirky Comedy

2:40 p.m. Dr. Cynthia Lucia, Moderator, Department of Media Arts (FMS/FTV)

This is the End (2013): Sal Camuto, Game & Interactive Media Design major; Film & Television minor

Bullet Train (2022): Andrew Xon, Film & Television major; Film & Media Studies minor

2:50 p.m.- Student/Faculty Panel: Ticklish Takes on Gender and Romance

4:20 p.m. Dr. Cynthia Lucia, Moderator, Department of Media Arts (FMS/FTV)

Miss Congeniality (2000): Kaitlyn McCormick, English major; Journalism minor

What's Up Doc? (1972): Erik Olsson, Acting major; Film & Television minor

When Harry Met Sally (1989): Alicia Bartosik, Musical Theatre major; Film & Television minor

Diary of a Mad Black Woman (2005): Bianca Bracey, Radio & Podcasting major; Film & Television minor 4:30 p.m.- Student/Faculty Panel: Hilarious Upendings of Genre Dr. Laurel Harris, Moderator, Department of English

Dr. Laurel Harris, Moderator, Department of English Coming to America (1988): Talon Smith, Film & Television major

Everything Everywhere All At Once (2022): Lindsey Co, Popular Music Studies major; Film & Media Studies minor

Who Framed Roger Rabbit? (1988): Christine Ruggieri, English major; Psychology minor Scary Movie (2000): Nick Bryant, Film & Television major

6:30 p.m.- **Keynote Address: Dr. Mary Poteau-Tralie**, 8:00 p.m. Department of Languages, Literatures and Cultures

"Blockbuster French 'Buddy' Comedies: A Look at *Bienvenue chez les Ch'tis* and *Intouchables*"

In the two highest grossing films of all time in France, *Bienvenue chez les Ch'tis* (*Welcome to the Sticks*, 2008) and *Intouchables* (*The Untouchables*, 2011), directors had to navigate stereotypes regarding social class, education, employment, and more recently ethnic/racial differences, that are meant to be the sources of humor in "superior/inferior" comic duo pairings.

Dr. Poteau-Tralie, Professor of French, teaches French language, literature, film, business and culture. She has also taught in the Baccalaureate Honors Program. She was a member of the Steering Committee of the Film and Media Studies Program, and for the last three years, she helped library colleagues Melissa Hofmann and Sharon Whitfield secure a grant to host the Albertine French Film Festival on Rider's campus through the French Ministry of Culture. She served as Chair of the Department of Languages, Literatures and Cultures, and also served a term as a Delegate of the Mid-Atlantic Region for the Modern Language Association.

Dr. Poteau-Tralie's research publications and presenta tions focus on francophone postcolonial "rewritings" of canonical French texts, including those of Maupassant, Voltaire, and Camus, by such authors as Maryse Condé, Assia Djebar and Kamel Daoud, as well as French urban rap poets, including Abd Al Mlik.

7:45 p.m.- **Appreciating and Thanking Dr. Mary Poteau Tralie** 

8:00 p.m. and Dr. Daria Cohen

8:00 p.m. **Opening Reception**--All are Welcome!

## Thursday March 2—Is it Funny? Is it Serious? Comedy in Likely (and Unlikely) Settings and Situations

All events in Rue Auditorium (Norm Brodsky Business Center—formerly Sweigart Hall) Room 115

11:30 a.m.- Faculty Forays into Film and TV Comedy (pizza, first come, first served)!

1:00 p.m. Welcome and Symposium Introduction:

Dr. Cynthia Lucia, Department of Media Arts
"Comedy at Work in *Modern Times* (1936) and *I*Love Lucy (1952)": Dr. Laurel Harris, Department of English

"The Comedies of. . . Ingmar Bergman?": Dr. Jay Stern, Department of Media Arts (FTV)

"Sex Can be (Embarrassingly) Funny": *Bob & Carol & Ted & Alice* (1969): Dr. Cynthia Lucia

1:10 p.m.- Student/Faculty Panel: Comically Bungling Anti-Heroes

2:40 p.m. Dr. Charles Frantz, Moderator, Department of Music Composition, History & Theory

Scott Pilgrim vs. The World (2010): Austin Latanzio, Journalism major; Film &Television minor

The Graduate (1967): David Kessler, Game & Interactive Media Design major

The Party (1968): Dr. Charles Frantz

2:50-p.m.- Student/Faculty Panel: Courtroom Calamities and Law Enforcement Mishaps

4:20 p.m. Dr. Cynthia Lucia, Moderator, Department of Media Arts (FTV)

My Cousin Vinny (1992): Alex Junge, Music Production major; Film & Media Studies minor

- Adam's Rib (1949): Ashley Enabosi, Film & Television major (via Zoom from L.A.)
- Pineapple Express (2008): Aidan Edwards, former Film & Television major
- The Comedies of Mexican Actor Cantinflas:
  Ashley Morales, Film & Television and English double major

## 4:30-p.m.- Student Film Festival and Screenwriting Competition 6:00 p.m. Dr. Jay Stern, Moderator, Department of Media Arts (FTV)

Awards—Best Student Presentation; Best Student Film; Best Student Screenplay

#### Student Screenplays:

- 3 Bugs by Eddie Gaugler, Film & Television major; Popular Music Studies minor
- Of Tacos and Nemos by Doug Lesko, Film & Television and Business Administration double major

#### Student films:

- Masking Your Fear: Greg Silagy, co-writer/director (Film & Television major); Alicia Bartosik, co-writer/director (Musical Theatre major; Film & Television minor); Javier Santos Benito, co-writer (Film & Television major)
- Love Language: Carter Zajac, producer (Film & Television major); Sam Wilkinson, writer (Film & Television major; Film & Media Studies minor; Sociology minor), Dylan Nowinski, director (Film & Television major; Film & Media Studies minor)
- No Talking Narrative: Denise King, co-director/writer (Film & Television, Contemporary Theatre Practice, double major); Nicole Hall, co-director/writer (Game & Interactive Media Design major)
- Some Days: Riley Dunn, writer/ director (Film & Televi sion major)
- Virtual Reality Showdown: Jacob Serrano, co-director/ writer (Film & Television major); Beau Cheney, co-director/writer (Film & Television major); Riley Dunn, co-director/writer (Film & Television major)

6:30 p.m.- Featured Speaker—Dr. Jerry Rife, Professor of Music, Emeritus

8:00 p.m. "The Comedic Soundtrack: Music and Humor in the Classic Cartoon"

Can music enhance and amplify humor in film? DUH!!!

Dr. Jerry Rife is Professor Emeritus of Music at Rider, where he taught for 37 years, serving as department chair and director of Rider University bands. He holds a Ph.D. in musicology from Michigan State University and, from Kansas State University, a Masters of Music in Clarinet Performance and an undergraduate degree in Music Education. In 1990, he received the Lindback Award for Excellence in Teaching. Dr. Rife has been the conductor and musical director of the Blawenburg Band since 1985. a group that performs over 30 concerts each year, including past performances at the Sousa Centennial Ceremony and at the White House. He has published work in Saxophone Journal, Jazz Player Magazine, and New Groves Dictionary of Music and Musicians and was Associate Producer of the documentary, "If You Knew Sousa," funded by Boston's WGBH and aired as the flagship show on The American Experience. Dr. Rife is active as a performer of solo, recital, and orchestral music on the East Coast. His traditional jazz band, The Rhythm Kings, has performed regularly for 25 years, and he plays clarinet in the Virginia Grand Military Band. Additionally, Dr. Rife has been invited to be a Lifetime Fellow in the John Bell Institute for the Foundations of Physics and, in 2019, performed at the inaugural meeting of the Institute in Zagreb, Croatia. He has been involved in the Institute's activities over the last four years.

7:45 p.m.- **Appreciating and Thanking Dr. Miriam Mills** 8:00 p.m. "Our Most Memorable Moments with Mir"

8:00 p.m. Closing Reception—All Are Welcome!

### Special Thank You:

Dean Kelly Bidle, College of Arts and Sciences
Dr. Shawn Kildea, Chair, Department of Media Arts
All Film & Media Studies/Film & Television Students and Faculty
Jorge Abreu, Ellucian Support
Saadiya Alidina, Department of Media Arts Administrative Associate
Alison Neu, Department of English Administrative Associate
Dr. Ray Lucia, Performing Arts Department, Horace Greeley High
School, Chappaqua, NY
Leandra Acosta, Performance Management

Leandra Acosta, Performance Management
Pamela Pruitt, Center for Diversity and Inclusion
Susan Makowski, Undergraduate and Transfer Admission

