

# Philosophy and Philosophers

## THE ISTER

A Film by David Barison & Daniel Ross

SEE A PREVIEW!

Visit [www.frif.com](http://www.frif.com)

**NEW release** At the height of WWII, the most influential philosopher of the 20th century delivered a series of lectures on a poem about the Danube River, by one of Germany's greatest poets.

The philosopher was Martin Heidegger, who in 1927 achieved worldwide fame with his magnum opus, *Being and Time*. Heidegger embraced the National Socialist 'revolution' in 1933, becoming rector of Freiburg University. His inaugural address culminated in "Heil Hitler!"

After clashing with the Nazi bureaucracy, he resigned the rectorate in 1934. Nine years later, as the tide of war was turning against Germany, Heidegger spent a semester lecturing on the poetry of Friedrich Hölderlin. He focused on a poem about the Danube, "The Ister."

Rather than an esoteric retreat into the world of poetry, Heidegger's lectures confronted the political, cultural and military chaos facing Germany and the world in 1942, a time he characterized as "the stellar hour of our commencement."

The poem in question begins:

*Now come fire!  
Eager are we  
To see the day*

The film THE ISTER takes up some of the most challenging paths in Heidegger's thought, as we journey from the mouth of the Danube in Romania to its source in the Black Forest. However controversial Heidegger remains, his thought is alive in the work of some of the most remarkable thinkers working today. Four of these conduct our voyage upstream – Philippe Lacoue-Labarthe, Jean-Luc Nancy, Bernard Stiegler, and, the filmmaker Hans-Jürgen Syberberg.

Winding through the shattered remains of the former Yugoslavia, a Hungary busily restoring its national mythology, and through a Germany that is both the heart of the new Europe and the ghost of the old one, the Danube itself is the question of the film.

By drawing the places and times of the river into a constellation with Heidegger's thought, THE ISTER invites the viewer to participate in some of the most provocative questions facing Europe and the world today. These questions-of home and place, culture and memory, of technology and ecology, of politics and war-beckon us now, as they did Heidegger in 1942.



*continued on pages 2-3*

## Key Personalities in THE ISTER

### MARTIN HEIDEGGER (1889-1976)

After an apprenticeship with Edmund Husserl, Heidegger in 1927 published his magnum opus, *Being and Time*, which sought to retrieve the 'question of being,' forgotten since before the time of Plato. In 1933 he succeeded Husserl as professor of philosophy at Freiburg University. After



the war, Heidegger was banned from teaching by the occupying forces because of his Nazi affiliation. His work has influenced such later thinkers as Jean-Paul Sartre, Herbert Marcuse, and Jacques Derrida.

### FRIEDRICH HÖLDERLIN (1770-1843)

Friedrich Hölderlin is regarded as one of the greatest poets in the German language.



His poetry reflects a preoccupation with philosophical themes, as well as a profound consideration of the meaning of ancient Greek culture and its significance in modern times.

### BERNARD STIEGLER

Born in France in 1952, Bernard Stiegler became a philosopher while spending five years



in prison for armed robbery. In 1994 he published the first volume of his magnum opus, *Technics and Time*, an examination of the essence of humanity in its relation to technology.

### JEAN-LUC NANCY

Born in 1940, Jean-Luc Nancy has written extensively on philosophy, literature and art. In the 1970s he was a frequent collaborator with



Philippe Lacoue-Labarthe, and in 1980 they jointly opened the 'Centre for Philosophical Research on the Political' in Paris to encourage philosophical work on politics.

### PHILIPPE LACOUÉ-LABARTHE

Born in 1940, Philippe Lacoue-Labarthe was a close associate of the late Jacques Derrida.



In 1987 Lacoue-Labarthe published *Heidegger, Art and Politics*, widely regarded as the most thoughtful and innovative work on the theme of Heidegger and Nazism.

### HANS-JÜRGEN SYBERBERG

Hans-Jürgen Syberberg was born in Pomerania in 1935. After the collapse of the Nazi regime he found himself in East Germany, where he



began making films as a teenager. He migrated to West Germany in 1953. Syberberg's best-known film is the seven-hour epic, *Hitler: A Film From Germany* (1977).

## The Ister

*"Reinvigorating a conversation among philosophers and historians of ideas as well...*

*THE ISTER plays a valuable role... in retrieving the Heidegger debates from biographical attacks and putting them back on a more reasoned and nuanced philosophical plane."*

**—Chronicle of Higher Education**

*"By demonstrating the historical context and metaphysical subtlety of the philosopher's thought [this is] a substantial contribution to Heidegger studies. Helps to remind us that we are still far from successfully working through Heidegger's traumatic legacy for philosophy: How could perhaps the greatest philosopher of the 20th century support its most despicable political regime?"*

**—Iain Thomson,  
Associate Professor of Philosophy,  
University of New Mexico**



*"A probing, evasive meditation on time, culture and change, images and actions, and the necessity for both."* **—Film Comment**

*"Exposes some of the most powerful transformative currents and possibilities at play in the philosopher's reading of the Western tradition. Visually articulate... A unique contribution to the critical articulation of Heidegger's thinking."*

**—Alejandro A. Vallega, Author of Heidegger and the Issue of Space: Thinking on Exilic Grounds**

*"Very moving! Vivid, nuanced and properly balanced on the complex questions of Heidegger's thought, his political engagements, and the general spirit attaching to these issues."*

**—Lawrence J. Hatab, Professor of Philosophy,  
Old Dominion University**

*"A stimulating three-hour journey in time, space and the mind."* **—The Observer**



**2005 Heidegger Symposium,  
University of Dallas**



**2005 WaterWays Conference  
on the Confluence of Art, Science,  
Policy, & Philosophy**



**Best Film, Quebec Film Critics,  
2004 Montreal Festival of New Cinema**



**National Cinema Research Group Prize,  
2004 Marseille Documentary Festival**

189 minutes | color | 2004 | **Order # PH05-15**  
Sale/VHS or DVD: \$490 | Rental/VHS: \$150



# DERRIDA'S ELSEWHERE

A Film by Safaa Fathy

An exploration of the man and his ideas, DERRIDA'S ELSEWHERE investigates the parallels between the personal life and the life work of one of the most important philosophers of the 20th century, Jacques Derrida.

The film is woven around readings from Derrida's book *Circumfession*, evoking a number of seemingly disparate themes including hospitality, religion, sexuality and the place of the subject in philosophy. Derrida shows us the common thread he perceives running through them: responsibility. Incorporating related imagery, DERRIDA'S ELSEWHERE uses footage of the places Derrida knew in his childhood and adolescence in Algeria, photos of his life there, super-8 footage from the 1960's and 70's, and images from Spain.

Filmmaker Safaa Fathy's stated goal is to show the links between Derrida's life and his work. In discussions, he describes his mother and childhood in the same manner as he does ideas, somewhere between affect and concept, at a boundary where a work becomes biography and biography gives birth to a work. DERRIDA'S ELSEWHERE takes us into his worlds—that of his work in Paris and that of his familial and spiritual roots in Algeria and the Spain of Lorca and

El Greco. We begin to see how places allow words to appear, producing images that let us catch a glimpse of what's beyond.

*"Highly Recommended! A unique and intensely personal examination."* —**Educational Media Reviews Online**

*"Gathers shards of ideas and orchestrates them in a coherent monologue... Many of the leading scholars and translators of Derrida's work were collaborators on the film, and it shows. With translations that are excellent and complete, this film would be well used in a classroom to introduce the French philosopher to students."* —**French Review**

*"Enthralling!"* —**Leonardo: Journal of the International Society of Arts, Sciences and Technology**

 **2001 Vancouver International Film Festival**

 **2001 Arab Film Festival (San Francisco)**

68 minutes | color | 2000 | **Order # PH05-1**  
Sale/VHS: \$298 | Rental/VHS: \$100

52 minutes | color | 2000 | **Order # PH05-2**  
Sale/VHS: \$248 | Rental/VHS: \$75



# JEAN-PAUL SARTRE and SIMONE DE BEAUVOIR

Directed by Max Cacopardo  
Cinematography by Michel Brault  
Interviews by Madeleine Gobeil & Claude Lanzmann

**NEW release** In this rare documentary from 1967, never before available on video, Jean-Paul Sartre (1905-1980) and Simone de Beauvoir (1908-1986), discuss their work, their lives, and the role of public intellectuals in modern society.

They agreed to appear together for the first time in this film, and to talk to their friend Canadian journalist Madeleine Gobeil, and to their colleague and *Les Temps Modernes* editor Claude Lanzmann (who later produced *Shoah*, the epic documentary on the Holocaust).

In his Montparnasse apartment, Sartre discusses his reasons for refusing the Nobel Prize in Literature, his response to public criticism, his opposition to the Vietnam War, his role as Chairman of the Bertrand Russell War Crimes Tribunal, and the seeming contradiction between such political involvements and his then-current literary project on Flaubert.

Simone de Beauvoir, displays travel souvenirs that line her museum-like apartment, then takes us onto the Paris streets to show us her birthplace, childhood school, previous apartments and the cafés where she and Sartre met with friends and colleagues. She discusses her three volumes of memoirs as well as such influential books as *The Second Sex*, and her ongoing commitment to women's liberation.

Sartre and de Beauvoir, lifelong companions, are jointly questioned about their work habits and the nature of their relationship. But this is not a fawning interview session, however, as both Gobeil and Lanzmann are not shy about posing provocative questions. Sartre is confronted with charges that he is "the greatest thinker of the 19th century," while de Beauvoir is asked whether she feels "incomplete" as a woman because she never had a child.



JEAN-PAUL SARTRE AND SIMONE DE BEAUVOIR also includes a discussion with Sartre's 85-year-old mother, and his adopted daughter.

Asked why they have finally agreed to such an intimate discussion and glimpse into their lives, de Beauvoir explains that they are doing so "out of our affection for you, and our friendship for our readers. Our gift to them. This is a time capsule."

Now available for the first time in almost forty years, this charming and revealing "time capsule" can at last be opened.

60 minutes | b&w | 1967 | **Order # PH05-3**  
Purchase/VHS or DVD: \$390 | Rental/VHS: \$100

# MILLE GILLES – A Thousand Gilles

A Film by Ijsbrand van Veelen



Gilles Deleuze (1925-1995) was one of the foremost philosophers of the 20th century. A popular university lecturer and prolific writer, his two most well-known books, each written with Felix Guattari, were *The Anti-Oedipus* (1972) and *A Thousand Plateaus* (1980). His theories in the interconnected areas of art, literature, philosophy and psychoanalysis reverberated far beyond academia.

From “nomadism” and “deterritorialization” to “Rhizomes,” MILLE GILLES explores some of the main areas of Deleuze’s post-structural, anti-hierarchical writings. But going beyond that specific discussion, and maybe more significantly, the film also examines how Deleuze and his ideas inspired people around the world, in many different disciplines and fields of endeavor.

Including a rare (short) sequence with Deleuze himself, MILLE GILLES includes interviews and encounters with eight creative people who draw

on Deleuze and his work. They discuss not just “what did Deleuze mean,” but what impact his ideas have had on them, and their different fields.

While it may not yet be possible to say what people remember of Deleuze’s work, MILLE GILLES reveals what has been made of it.

*“An interesting glimpse of Deleuze as he is being taken up outside of the world of academic philosophy.”* —**Janus Head Online**

*“Informed, clear and intellectually generous... More than the confident repetitions of familiar phrases, the fragility of the film image, as a picture without support, explains the key concepts against the grain of the text. A valiant attempt to break habitual ways of thinking.”*

—**Leonardo: Journal of the International Society of Arts, Sciences and Technology**

44 minutes | color | 1997 | **Order # PH05-4**  
Sale/VHS: \$375 | Rental/VHS: \$75



# ANTONIO NEGRI – A Revolt that Never Ends

A Film by Alexandra Weltz & Andreas Pichler

## NEW release

Antonio Negri – political and moral philosopher, professor, militant – has also been a prisoner, an exile, and castigated as an ‘enemy of the state.’ Indeed, in recent years few intellectuals have experienced as much admiration and hatred, or as much praise and rejection, as Negri. His book *Empire*, coauthored with Michael Hardt, was an international bestseller. A critical analysis of the new global economy, it was hailed as a bold new manifesto for the 21st century, and it turned Negri into a leading spokesperson for the international anti-globalization movement.

ANTONIO NEGRI – A REVOLT THAT NEVER ENDS profiles his controversial life and times. It traces Negri’s roots in the history of radical left-wing movements in Italy during the Sixties and Seventies, documented with archival footage of

workers’ strikes, factory occupations, terrorist actions, violent street confrontations, political repression, and government trials of dissidents.

During these tumultuous decades, finding himself branded as an evil ideologue with alleged ties to Red Brigade terrorists, Negri spent ten years in prison and fourteen years in exile in Paris, where he contributed to philosophical debates with authors such as Deleuze and Guattari. The film features interviews with Negri, scenes of him both in Paris and in Italy, speaking at seminars and protest demonstrations, plus commentary from Michael Hardt, as well as Italian and French colleagues.

ANTONIO NEGRI explores this visionary theoretician’s lifelong engagements, now being expressed in works of contemporary relevance such as *Empire* and its sequel, *Multitude*:

*War and Democracy in the Age of Empire*, a powerful intellectual project in protest of the new global order, which further explores their philosophical notions of social hierarchy, network power structures, violence and the politics of identity.

*“Negri relates his story without rancor or regret. Today an indisputable figure in the anti-globalization movement, he observes with humility that only his thirst for knowledge has saved him. A fair and impartial portrait, this documentary gathers archival footage and passionate testimonies to constitute a magnificent and much needed illumination of those ‘years of lead’ which remain obscure.” –Télérama*

*“Negri relates his story without rancor or regret. Today an indisputable figure in the anti-globalization movement, he observes with humility that only his thirst for knowledge has saved him. A fair and impartial portrait, this documentary gathers archival footage and passionate testimonies to constitute a magnificent and much needed illumination of those ‘years of lead’ which remain obscure.” –Télérama*



**2004 Amsterdam International  
Documentary Festival**

52 minutes | color | 2004 | Order # PH05-5  
Sale/VHS or DVD: \$390 | Rental/VHS: \$75



# PROTEUS – A Nineteenth Century Vision

A Film by David Lebrun

**NEW release** PROTEUS uses the 19th century's fascination with the undersea world as the locus for a meditation on that era's philosophy of science, and the troubled intersection of scientific and artistic vision.

The film's central figure is biologist and artist Ernst Haeckel (1834-1919), who, as a young man, found himself torn between science and art, materialism and religion, rationality and passion, outer and inner worlds. Through his discoveries beneath the sea, Haeckel would eventually reconcile these dualities, bringing science and art together in a unitary vision.

The key to Haeckel's vision was a tiny undersea organism called the radiolarian. Haeckel discovered, classified and painted four thousand species of these one-celled creatures, which are among the earliest forms of life. Based almost entirely on the images of 19th-century artists and scientific illustrators, photographed from rare materials in European and American collections, PROTEUS explores the metamorphoses of their intricate geometric skeletons and celebrates their beauty in breathtaking animated sequences.

Around Haeckel's story, PROTEUS weaves a tapestry of philosophy and myth, biology and oceanography, scientific history and spiritual biography. Ultimately the film is a parable of both the difficulty and the possibility of unitary vision.

*"Truly stunning!"* —**Science**

*"A remarkable movie that continually urges the mind to reach beyond what is examined on the screen.... An indescribable viewing experience [and] a stimulating and stunning experience in the form of a poetic statement."*

—**Leonardo: Journal of the International Society of Arts, Sciences and Technology**

*"Elegant and brainy."* —**Cleveland Free Times**



*"Highly Recommended! Captivating! An exceptional resource in a variety of subject areas including biology, history, theology, and philosophy."*

—**Educational Media Reviews Online**

*"Dazzling! A broad... free-associative consideration of mankind's epic aspiration to reconcile art and science, terra and technology, evolution and religious dogma."* —**LA Weekly**

 **World Premiere,  
2004 Sundance Film Festival**

 **Outstanding Creative Achievement Award,  
2004 Santa Barbara Film Festival**

 **Best Documentary,  
2004 Philadelphia Film Festival**

59 minutes | color | 2004 | **Order # PH05-6**  
Sale/VHS or DVD: \$390 | Rental/VHS: \$125



# OPTIMUM – The Crusade For Efficiency

A Film by Henry Colomer

OPTIMUM explores the legacies of three 19th century visionaries who helped shape modern industrial society. Influenced by the maxim, “Everything should be useful, all human resources should be optimized and made profitable”, each man played an integral role in the formation of a universal philosophy that would allow humanity to become more efficient, more productive, and more powerful. One discovered the principle, the second a tool, and the third, the ideal field for its application.

Jeremy Bentham, a jurist by trade, held the first key in the formula. One of the founders of Utilitarianism, Bentham laid the foundations of liberalism and constituted a universal system for increasing the potential usefulness of all individuals.

Charles Babbage, a mathematician, invented a litany of common gadgets and tools, from the speedometer to the standardized postal rate, but his most important contribution, came with the design for the Analytical Engine. A device capable of calculating any mathematical operation, it is the genuine forerunner of the computer.

Francis Galton, the son of a baker, devoted his life to the study of genetically transmitted traits and characteristics, in the hope of identifying and eliminating ‘undesirable’ or criminal tendencies. His findings, though flawed, outlined the ultimate phase in the Utilitarian crusade: the creation of a customized biologically programmed human being.

Meticulously researched and sardonically witty, OPTIMUM draws upon a treasure trove of archival photos, scientific diagrams, blueprints and drawings to illustrate how three eccentric European

intellectuals, at the dawn of the industrial age, envisioned, from genetics to computers, the current technological revolution.

*“Informative and entertaining... As the film makes clear, with a dry and perpetual humor, all three of these men were examples of genius-gone-batty.”*

—**Leonardo: Journal of the International Society of Arts, Sciences and Technology**

*“Absorbing and thought provoking... this quirky and, at some times, sinister film co-joins three 19th century visionaries.”*

—**Educational Media Reviews Online**



**2001 Vancouver International Film Festival**

55 minutes | b&w | 2000 | [Order # PH05-7](#)  
Sale/VHS: \$390 | Rental/VHS: \$75

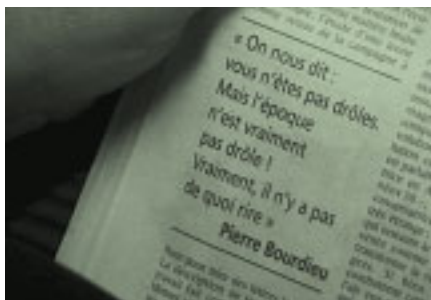


# PIERRE BOURDIEU – Sociology is a Martial Art

Directed by Pierre Carles

Produced by Annie Gonzalez & Véronique Frégosi

The forty books and countless articles written by Pierre Bourdieu (1930-2002) represent probably the most brilliant and fruitful renovation and application of social science in our era. Longtime Sociology Professor at the College de France and a “committed” thinker in the vein of Foucault, Bourdieu was concerned with elucidating the processes of symbolic violence and cultural domination in various areas of social life.



Bourdieu, who in the late Nineties had become something of an intellectual celebrity, argued that scholars and writers should bring their specialized knowledge to bear on social and political issues. His powerful critiques of the neoliberal revolution were the natural outgrowth of a lifetime of research into economic, social and cultural class domination.

Filed over three years, **SOCIOLOGY IS A MARTIAL ART** follows Bourdieu as he lectures, attends political rallies, travels, meets with his students, staff, and research team in Paris, and converses with author Günter Grass.

The film's title stresses the degree of Bourdieu's political engagement. He took on the mantle of Emile Zola and Jean-Paul Sartre in French public life, slugging it out with politicians because he considered those lucky enough to have spent their lives studying the social world could not be indifferent to the struggle for justice.

**“A seminal work.” —Leonardo: The Journal of the International Society for the Arts, Sciences and Technology**

*“Compelling... It is truly moving to see [Bourdieu] discussing his radical brand of sociology – in an empathetic and unpatronizing fashion – with callers to a radio talk show, admirers at a book signing, and angry unemployed workers.”*

**—Cineaste**

**“Extremely valuable.” —Teaching Sociology**

146 minutes | color | 2001 | [Order # PH05-8](#)  
Sale/VHS: \$490 | Rental/VHS: \$125

# AMARTYA SEN – A Life Reexamined

A Film by Suman Ghosh

AMARTYA SEN – A LIFE REEXAMINED is a documentary about the life and work of Amartya Sen, Professor of Philosophy and Economics at Harvard University, and the 1998 Nobel Laureate in Economics. Not an adulatory exposition, the film is a trenchant examination of the assumptions behind Sen's Social Choice Theory, which won him the Nobel.

Sen's research has ranged over a number of fields in economics and philosophy. A prolific writer of influential books such as *Collective Choice and Social Welfare* (1970) and *Development as Freedom* (1999), Sen is a fellow of both the British Academy and the American Academy of Arts and Sciences.

Framed by a conversation between Sen and Kaushik Basu, a former student and fellow economist, the film is interspersed with commentary from renowned philosophers, economists, historians and others who have a close understanding of Amartya Sen's work, including Kenneth J. Arrow (Nobel Prize in Economics, 1972), Sugata Bose (Professor of History, Harvard University), Paul Samuelson (Nobel Prize in Economics, 1970), and Timothy Scanlon (Professor of Philosophy, Harvard University).

Not merely informative, AMARTYA SEN is an impetus for thought and reflection, and a profound document of historical and interdisciplinary merit.

*"A remarkable documentary that provides a comprehensive account of one of the greatest thinkers of our times."*

—**Leonardo: Journal of the International Society for the Arts, Sciences & Technology**

*"Superb, well-edited, and thoughtful."*

—**Professor Pranab Bardhan, University of California at Berkeley, Editor of The Journal of Development Economics**

*"Compelling...An important film!"*

—**Professor Arvind Rajagopal, Department of Media Studies, New York University**

*"Highly Recommended! This carefully organized, well-edited film is exceptionally good, and the interviews clearly convey and contribute to the film's objectives."* —**Educational Media Reviews Online**



**2005 Midwest Conference  
on Asian Affairs**



**2004 Association for  
Asian Studies Film Festival**

56 minutes | color | 2003 | **Order # PH05-9**  
Sale/VHS or DVD: \$390 | Rental/VHS: \$75



# THE FUTURE IS NOT WHAT IT USED TO BE

A Film by Mika Taanila

## NEW release

Erkki Kurenniemi is one of the great unsung pioneers of the electronic age, a man whose lifelong work explores the interrelationships between art, nature and technology. **THE FUTURE IS NOT WHAT IT USED TO BE** shows many of Kurenniemi's innovative creations, including the first commercially manufactured and marketed microcomputer and the first digital synthesizer.

Today Kurenniemi is devoted to the obsessive, even manic, effort to record his own life, preserving all his thoughts and observations, trivial objects, and a constant stream of images, continually recording an audio diary, making videotapes,



and shooting 20,000 photographs a year. This mass of documentation is then regularly fed into a computer, storing the record of his existence, his mind and consciousness in digital bytes, thus creating a reconstruction of his life, a "virtual persona," to be premiered in July 2048.

Perhaps fulfilling some sort of quest for immortality, Kurenniemi's project can be seen as the logical extension of the notion of merging man and machine, of technologically reconstructing the human soul.

*"Recommended!"*

—**Educational Media Reviews Online**

*"A highly intellectual film... engrossing..."*

*Fascinating!"* —**The Miami Herald**

 **2003 DocFest  
(Germany)**

 **2003 Karlovy Vary International  
Film Festival**

52 minutes | color | 2002 | **Order # PH05-10**  
Sale/VHS or DVD: \$390 | Rental/VHS: \$100

## KILLING TIME

A Film by Ijsbrand van Veelen

Does time exist? Is our perception of the world different from its true reality? Is our concept of time fundamentally flawed? These are the central questions raised by **KILLING TIME**, a provocative documentary that explores the nature of time.

The film centers on the work of Julian Barbour, a prominent Theoretical Physicist, who gained



notoriety with the publication of his landmark book, *The End of Time* (1999). In it, Barbour presents the concept of time as a human construct, not as a separately existing dimension.

Fascinating and thought-provoking, **KILLING TIME** is an elucidation of Barbour's controversial theories on time, a challenging rethinking of our accepted notion of the world in which we live.

*"Fascinating and provocative... HIGHLY RECOMMENDED for academic studies of Physics and Philosophy."* —**Educational Media Reviews Online**

 **Premio Arte, 2000 Teleciencia-Scientific  
Film Festival (Portugal)**

 **Bronze Dragon, 2000 Beijing International  
Scientific Film Festival (China)**

30 minutes | color | 2000 | **Order # PH05-14**  
Sale/VHS: \$225 | Rental/VHS: \$65

# MONTE GRANDE – What is Life?

A Film by Franz Reichle

Featuring Francisco Varela & H.H. Tenzin Gyatso, XIV Dalai Lama

**NEW release** How is it possible for body and mind to exist as an integrated whole? Chilean neurobiologist Francisco Varela (1946-2001) devoted his entire life to this question. Months before Varela's death, filmmaker Franz Reichle recorded several intense conversations with Varela on themes central to his life and work.

The structure of MONTE GRANDE is based on Varela's non-linear thinking and focuses on his concepts of autopoiesis, ethics, consciousness, meditation and dying. The film also includes interviews with Varela's family (former partners and children), leading scientists, friends and thinkers, including His Holiness the 14th Dalai Lama, Heinz von Foerster (the father of cybernetics), Jean-Pierre Dupuy (philosopher and founder of Center for Research in Applied Epistemology at the Ecole Polytechnique, Paris), Harvard professor Anne Harrington (Co-Director of Harvard's Mind, Brain, and Behavior Initiative), and Humberto Maturana (biologist, joint developer of the autopoiesis idea), among others.

Three key concepts shape the film—the relationship between body and mind (embodiment), the meaning of self-responsibility (autonomy), and spirituality. Binding these concepts is Varela's strong humanistic commitment, his clear and realistic way of thinking, his warm-heartedness and the candor he brought to his relationships.

*"A powerful and beautiful achievement."*

**—Evelyn Fox Keller, Ph.D., Professor of History and Philosophy of Science, MIT**

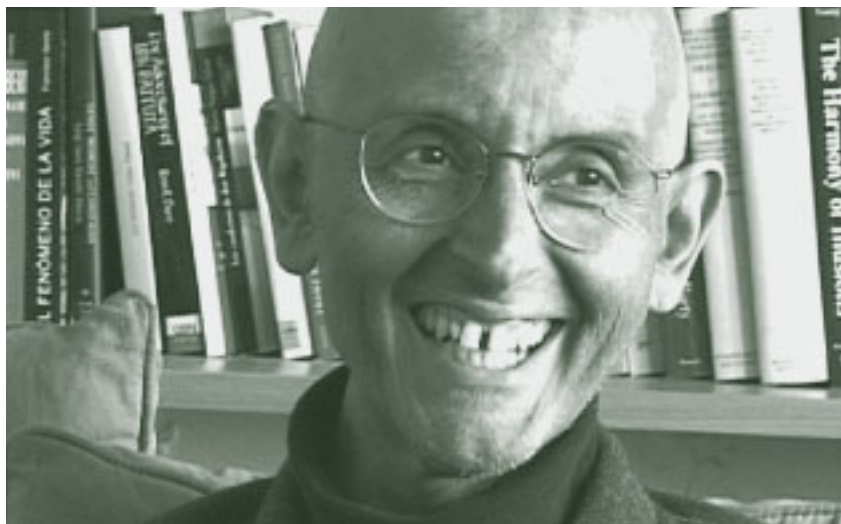
*"A beautiful, moving, subtle and heartfelt movie on the life of a remarkable being."*

**—Matthieu Ricard, Ph.D., French interpreter for His Holiness the Dalai Lama and Buddhist Monk at Shechen Monastery in Kathmandu**

*"Varela was a master of synthesis... admired, controversial, and endowed with the intoxicating passion of an exceptionally gifted researcher."*

**—Bernhard Pörksen, Professor of Journalism and Communications Science, University of Hamburg**

80 minutes | color | 2004 | **Order # PH05-12**  
Sale/VHS or DVD: \$398 | Rental/VHS: \$125



# MARX FOR BEGINNERS

A Film by Bob Godfrey & Cucumber Studios



Based on the book by the Mexican cartoonist Rius, MARX FOR BEGINNERS is a hilarious animated film that

highlights Marx's most influential ideas,

and places

them into the

context of

Western civilization by

introducing

Pythagoras,

Plato, Aristotle,

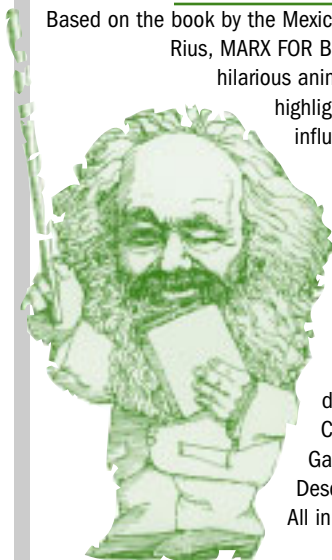
da Vinci,

Copernicus,

Galileo, and

Descartes.

All in seven minutes!



Scholars and students will find the film an amusing introduction and discussion starter on Marx's work, while non-academic audiences of all ages will be entertained by the lively and irreverent treatment of one of the world's most important thinkers.

*"This stylistically animated condensation of rambunctious and irreverent quotation and paraphrasing of important historical thinkers will be a stimulating and amusing treat..."*

*An engaging treat." —Booklist*



**Blue Ribbon Winner,  
1983 American Film Festival**

7 minutes | color | 1978 | **Order # PH05-13**

Sale/VHS or DVD: \$125 | Rental/VHS: \$35

# KEEPING IT REAL

A Film by Sunny Bergman

**NEW  
release**

This offbeat documentary examines the growing malaise of many Western societies, where more and more of our daily lives and personal relationships are experienced through technology and media representations, giving us the impression of being surrounded by artificiality, generating among many a vague sense of dissatisfaction with life and a desire for a greater sense of authenticity.



One result has been the development of an "experience economy," in which companies offer "authentic" experiences, a chance to witness or even participate in meaningful, real-life adventures. Filmmaker Sunny Bergman examines this increasing demand for "authenticity," while at the same time trying to fathom the meaning of the concept itself, both in her own life and that of so many others.

*"Fascinating! Recommended!"*

**—Educational Media Reviews Online**



**2004 Dutch Women's Film Festival,  
Amsterdam**



**2004 Encounters South African  
International Documentary Film Festival**

51 minutes | color | 2004 | **Order # PH05-11**

Sale/VHS or DVD: \$348 | Rental/VHS: \$75





## New Releases Now on DVD!

Most new releases are now available as DVDs, with scene selections! For a listing of titles currently available on DVD, and technical details on DVD formats, visit the new DVD page on our website at <http://www.frif.com/subjects/dvd.html>

## Ordering Information

Please refer to Order Numbers on all Orders.

### PUBLIC PERFORMANCE RIGHTS:

All videos purchased through this offering are licensed with Public Performance Rights for non-commercial and educational exhibition when no admission fee is charged.

**CLOSED CIRCUIT RIGHTS:** All videos purchased through this offering are licensed for closed-circuit educational use in classrooms on your campus, at no additional cost.

**FREE PREVIEWS:** Videos may be previewed for purchase consideration by established video libraries.

**SALES:** Videos are "leased for the life of the tape." A rental fee may be deducted from the sale price if the video is purchased within 60 days of the rental.

**RENTALS:** Prices shown are classroom rates. Inquire for open or public showings. Order at least three weeks ahead of your screening date.

**SHIPPING:** An additional fee for shipping and handling is added to sales and rentals. Videos must be returned via UPS or PRIORITY MAIL.

**ORDERING:** Submit all orders by purchase order, on official institutional letterhead stationery, or pay in advance of shipping. Please refer to Order Numbers on all orders.

**FIRST  
RUN  
ICARUS  
FILMS**

First Run / Icarus Films  
32 Court Street, 21st Floor  
Brooklyn, NY 11201

Telephone: (718) 488-8900  
(800) 876-1710

Fax: (718) 488-8642

Email: [mailroom@frif.com](mailto:mailroom@frif.com)  
Website: [www.frif.com](http://www.frif.com)

**FIRST  
RUN**   
**ICARUS  
FILMS**

First Run / Icarus Films  
32 Court Street, 21st Floor  
Brooklyn, NY 11201

Toll-Free: 1-800-876-1710  
[www.frif.com](http://www.frif.com)

**Existence, Thought, Engagement**

**14** Videos & DVDs on  
**Philosophy and Philosophers**  
including **7** New Releases!

PRSR STD  
U.S. Postage  
**PAID**  
RIPON  
COMMUNITY  
PRINTERS