



FLIM

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18th to 20th of April
in Aero cinema

Festival of Tibetan films and
films about Tibet



The Search, the best Tibetan road movie ever made
Summer Pasture, true story from true Tibet
Silent Holly Stones, debut of the most famous Tibetan director Pema Tsenden and
Old Dog, his latest film
Kokonor and **Tantric yogi**, documents by poet, filmmaker and environmentalist
Jangbu
Mirror of Emptiness, Chinese director Ma Li's film about Tibetan Buddhism

plus a photo exhibition: Jaroslav Poncar's **Panoramic Tibet**

<http://flim.potala.cz/>

18 th of April	18:00	Silent Holly Stones
	20:30	Summer Pastures
19 th of April	18:00	Mirror of Emptiness
	20:30	The Search
20 th of April	18:00	Kokonor. Tantric Yogi
	20:30	Old Dog

Summer Pastures

USA 2010, a film by Lynn True, Nelson Walker and Tsering Perlo, 85 minutes
In Tibetan with English and Czech subtitles

In recent years, growing pressures from the outside world have posed unprecedented challenges for Tibetan nomads. Rigid government policies, rangeland degradation, and the allure of modern life have prompted many nomadic families to leave the pastures for permanent settlement in towns and cities. According to nomads, the world has entered duegnan – dark times.

Silent Holly Stones

2005 China, a film by Pema Tseden, 102 minutes
In Tibetan with English and Czech subtitles

“The place where the story took place is none other than my home village, where the mountains and waters have always haunted my dreams. I long to tell the true stories that have come up in my home village, to disclose the real looks of her, and to reveal the genuine conditions of life of the people there. What the film endeavours to depict is the unconscious change that has been going on under the surface of the seeming silence in the relatively secluded land, a reciprocal infiltration between tradition and modernism...” *Writer/Director Pema Tseden*

The Search

2009 China, a film by Pema Tseden, 112 minutes
In Tibetan with English and Czech subtitles

A Tibetan film director travels from village to village looking for actors to star in a film based on the Tibetan opera *Prince Drimé Kundun*, a quintessentially Buddhist legend about compassion and self-sacrifice. Travelling by car, the director holds auditions in the unlikely but all-pervasive contexts of contemporary Tibetan life – in building sites, streets, bars, night clubs, and monasteries. Exercising formalistic restraint with a contemplative pace and unique camera placement, Pema Tseden has made a road movie that takes the viewer straight into the heart of a changing Tibet.

Bangkok International Film Festival: Special Jury Prize
Shanghai International Film Festival: Jury Grand Prix
Vancouver International Film Festival

Kokonor

2005 China, a film by Jangbu, 51 minutes / In Tibetan with English and Czech subtitles

Kokonor is a documentary about the effects tourism is having on a small Tibetan community around the famous Lake Kokonor. By following a group of children that pose for tourists' pictures, the filmmaker documents how the influx of money, Chinese entrepreneurs and tourists is impacting the ecosystem, the lives of the local Tibetan population, and the preservation of Tibetan culture and religious practices in this area.

Chenaktsang Dorje Tsering, best known under the penname Jangbu, is one of the most prominent of contemporary Tibetan writers. He is mostly known for his innovative free verse poetry and for short stories that have been labeled by some as magic realism.

Tantric Yogi

2005 China/France, a film by Jangbu, 50 minutes / In Tibetan with English and Czech subtitles

Jim Broadbent narrates this eventful and comic road trip, a kind of Tibetan *Canterbury Tales* – by bus, tractor and boat. A village in eastern Tibet sets out on a cross-country pilgrimage led by its Chief Tantric Yogi (Wangdrak) to the One Hundred Thousand Gathering, which takes place only once every 60 years. Struggling with their huge bread offering across mountain and vale, the pilgrims encounter all kinds of obstacles and arrive at the Namdzong Gathering late, where they find panic in the monastery.

Old Dog

2010 China, a film by Pema Tsenden, 93 minutes / In Tibetan with English, Chinese and Czech subtitles

Pema Tsenden's quest to create a new Tibetan cinema takes another leap forward with this droll/tragic tale of conflicts between a shepherd and his heavy-drinking son, particularly over their pet Nomad Mastiff. If Pema Tsenden's last film *The Search* was inspired by Kiarostami, this new film takes its cue from Bresson. Pema Tsenden finesses a completely convincing blend of naturalistic detail and bigger-picture metaphors for the strains of life in a changing Tibet. *Tony Rayns*

Mirror of Emptiness

2010 China, a film by Ma Li, 120 minutes / In Mandarin and Tibetan with Chinese, English and Czech subtitles

In Shiqu, the highest northwest county seat in Sichuan Province – stands Se Xu Monastery. Filmed over a year, five lamas and a sky burial master speak of their belief and ways of spiritual living, among others who have been conducting retreat for years on this plateau of extreme climates. Ten thousand people gathering at the annual prayer festival and the mystical Tibetan sky-burial practices are among the most unforgettable scenes.

Born in 1975 in Zhejiang, Ma Li has worked as a documentary filmmaker for more than 10 years. She has directed many of documentary programmes for television. *Mirror of Emptiness* is her first feature-length documentary. Her latest film *Born in Beijing* is almost completed.



Jaroslav Poncar: Tibet Panoramic
16th of April to 15th of May

Jaroslav Poncar's panoramic photographs take the viewer to the very heart of the remote and wild landscape of western Tibet, to places around the sacred mountain of Kailash, an area inhabited by nomadic shepherds and their herds as well as wild animals and invisible beings from the parallel worlds of gods, spirits and demons.