RED CENTURY:
The Russian Revolution on Film

Semester II
All screenings, 7pm at the WHITNEY HUMANITIES CENTER AUDITORIUM
55 Wall St, New Haven
Free and open to the public

January 24

COMMISSAR  
dir. Aleksandr Askoldov, 1967
A Red Army commissar on the front lines of the civil war must step down from her post and stay with a Jewish family as she waits to give birth. Shelved for twenty years, the film represents the humanizing effect of motherhood, while also devastatingly rendering the violence suffered by Russian Jews in the wake of 1917.

Introduction by Chloe Papadopoulos, Slavic Languages and Literatures, Yale

February 7

SEVENTH SATELLITE  
dir. Aleksei German & Grigori Aronov, 1967
German’s directorial debut, The Seventh Satellite, tells the story of Adamov, a Tsarist army general who is arrested during the Red Terror. The film traces the effects of the Revolution through its protagonist, showing how just like the satellite of the title, Adamov’s life is inexorably pulled into the orbit of something greater than himself.

Introduction by Sergei Antonov, History, Yale and Valeria Mutc, Slavic Languages and Literatures, Yale

March 7

NO PATH THROUGH FIRE  
dir. Gleb Panfilov, 1968
Juxtaposing fine arts with bleak realism, Panfilov’s first feature film follows Tanya, an aspiring artist and orderly serving on a Red Army medical train, as she searches for her own place in the Revolution.

Introduction by Spencer Small, Slavic Languages and Literatures, Yale

February 21

TALE OF THE DON  
dir. Vladimir Fetin, 1964
Set during the Russian Civil War, the film follows the exploits of machine-gunner Yakov Shibalov, whose loyalty to the Soviet cause is challenged by a beautiful Cossack woman. Vladimir Fetin’s cinematic adaptation brilliantly captures the ideological dilemmas and unique oral qualities of Mikhail Sholokhov’s original literary material.

Introduction by Ana Berdinskikh, Slavic Languages and Literatures, Yale

April 4

ANGELS OF REVOLUTION  
dir. Alexei Fedorchenko, 2014
Four young revolutionaries — a poet, an actor, a painter, and a filmmaker — are sent to spread the ideals of Communism and the avant-garde to the indigenous populations of Siberia. A spell-binding clash of art, utopia, and violence. Based on real events.

Introduction by Dasha Ezerova, Slavic Languages and Literatures, Yale

April 18

FOR MARX  
dir. Svetlana Baskova, 2014
The New Left announces its presence forcefully in this darkly comical and violent tale of class struggle in post-Soviet Russia. What was old is new again: Malevich’s Black Square and clandestine labor union meetings mix with meta-commentary on French New Wave and Hollywood.

Introduction by Marijeta Bozovic, Slavic Languages and Literatures; Film and Media Studies, Yale

Sponsored by Carnegie Corporation; European Studies Council;
MacMillan Center; Films at the Whitney;
and Edward J. and Dorothy Clarke Kempf Memorial Fund