

# creative REALITIES

'All the world is a stage' has never seemed so relevant to cinema as it is now. Fiction films are mining real life for story material; following 'Dogme', filmmakers are turning to the conventions of reality cinema with hand-held cameras and natural lighting giving authenticity to their films; and the popularity of documentary is at an all-time high, surely a side effect of the public's insatiable appetite for reality TV 'true' stories. **Creative Realities** explores the ever-expanding spaces where film fantasy and reality overlap.



sophie fiennes



open hearts

## Thursday 14 November – 1.30pm Documentary notes:

Sophie Fiennes on the language of cinema & *Hoover Street Revival*

*Hoover Street Revival* has a style at odds with conventional doc filmmaking: vivid imagery, no 'talking heads', and no narrator. Set in LA, the film explores the inspirational effect of a charismatic preacher on an urban community under pressure. Layering filmed fragments of the daily lives of the congregation, majestic sermons, and gospel music sweet enough to move the most resolute agnostic, a narrative gradually emerges. For SCENE, debut feature director **Sophie Fiennes** takes the stage to explore her own creative process and tell how the 'visual languages' of both doc and fiction filmmaking inform her ability to tell a story. Using extracts from *Hoover Street Revival*, and of some of the other films that have influenced her, this is an exclusive insight into cinema storytelling.

RLFF screening: *Hoover Street Revival* is at the Ritzy on Fri 15 Nov at 9pm and at Odeon WE on Sun 17 at 1.30pm - call 020 7928 3232 for tickets.

### WANT MORE?

Then dip into **TRANSCULTURAL CINEMA** by David MacDougall (Princeton), and **NARRATION IN THE FICTION FILM** by David Bordwell (Routledge)

## Friday 15 November – 5pm Open Heart Surgery:

Susanne Bier finds the cure for films about love

Accomplished Danish filmmaker **Susanne Bier** has turned to the Dogme rules for her latest feature *Open Hearts*. As with its predecessors (*Festen*, *The Idiots*, and others), hand-held camera, and natural light and sound, lends *Open Hearts* a naturalistic quality that blurs the boundaries between factual and fictional filmmaking. But, these conventions also have the effect of spotlighting both an impressive quality in the screenplay, and a real subtlety in Bier's direction. What might have been a routine love triangle becomes something more complex, compelling, and true to adult experience. Hot from a world tour as a festival favourite, Bier joins us to discuss her approach to cinema, give her take on the vows of Dogme, and talk about tackling 'difficult' subjects with ease.

RLFF screening: *Open Hearts* is at Odeon WE on Thurs 14 at 9pm and Fri 15 Nov at 1.30pm - call 020 7928 3232 for tickets.

### WANT MORE?

Then view the **DOGME95** vows on [www.zentropa.dk](http://www.zentropa.dk)

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