



UPSTAIRS @THE RAI: 9th March-11th March

PEOPLE, PLANTS, FOOD AND FILM

Continuing the themes of exploration and discussions from the Royal Anthropological Institute's (RAI) major ESRC Festival events: *The Social Life of Plants* and *Exploring Food, Connecting Communities*, is a series of intimate *free* evening film screenings and Q & A sessions upstairs at the RAI at 50 Fitzroy St, London, W1T-5BT. Free snacks and drinks will be provided. To reserve a place in advance please email:

education@therai.org.uk or phone: 020 7387 0455. For a map on how to find us visit:

http://www.therai.org.uk/contact/contact_details.html



Monday 9th March: 6:30-8:30pm

Uncle Poison (1998) Ricardo Leizaola, 60 min



Filmed in the city of Caracas, capital of Venezuela, Uncle Poison is an intimate portrayal of a traditional faith healer, set against the backdrop of his community's Easter celebrations . Every day Benito Reyes receives people at his house looking for all sorts of cures. Through the personal testimony of the healer, this documentary looks at his role as a mediator between the social, natural and spiritual worlds.

The producer, *Ricardo Leizaola*, will join us for a Q &A session after the film.

Tuesday 10th March: 6:30- 8:30pm

Betelnut Bisnis (2004) Chris Owen, 52 min



Betelnut is one of the most widely used narcotics in the world. Many families living in coastal areas of Papua New Guinea, where it is grown, have come to depend on betel nut for their livelihood (trading small quantities of the nut up from the coast to sell in their local markets) as well as feeding their addiction to the drug itself. For many, the betel nut trade is the only source of cash income to pay for basic needs such as food, school fees and medicine. This is a

story of one such family -Lukas Kaima and his wife Kopu-as told by their friend and close neighbour, Chris Owen, an Australian expatriate.

Professor Eric Hirsch (Head of Department of Anthropology) at Brunel University will join us for a Q & A session after the film.

Wednesday 11th March: 6:30-8:30pm

Two short films will be shown

The Land on which we Stand (2007) Rebecca Payne, 31 min



This film gives us a glimpse into the life of the Landmatters Co-operative, a community of 11 adults and 4 children living in benders and yurts in rural Devon as they develop a permaculture project. Although the group own the 42 acres of land, it was originally bought for agricultural purposes and they do not have planning permission to use it for residential purposes. The film follows the group as they fight for permission to live on the land in order to create a self-reliant way of living that doesn't depend on fossil fuels.

No Such Thing as a Free Lunch (2008) Tate LeFevre, 18 min



How can a radical activist movement based on limited participation in the capitalist system use the mainstream media to further its goals? This film follows members of the Freegan movement in New York City as they dumpster dive, cook feasts with salvaged food and give interview to Oprah-all while managing their own difficult relationship with the media and each other.

IF YOU'D LIKE TO COME ALONG TO ANY OF THE EVENTS LISTED PLEASE BOOK YOURSELF A FREE PLACE. Phone: 020 7387 0455 or email: education@therai.org.uk