

The Food and Drink Issue

FILM



5 Best Local Indie Screening Series

Brooklyn Independent Cinema Series Curated by filmmaker Joe Pacheco (*As Smart as They Are*), this free screening series is held the first and third Monday of each month in the romantic, velvet-draped comfort of Park Slope hangout Barbès.

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Rooftop Films Not just on rooftops anymore, this ever-expanding summer series fuses the beauty of New York's environment with the pleasures of film viewing.

New Filmmakers Series Wednesdays at Anthology the best work from the city's countless young auteurs is showcased, after a boozy, meet-and-greet reception.

Woodstock in the City The East Coast's most

spirited, celebrated festival does not stop working during its off-season. Instead, it brings Woodstock-caliber cinema to us high-strung urbanites every month, complete with post-screening Q & A's and free wine and snacks.

Speakeasy Cinema On the third Monday of each month, at LES's Collective Unconscious, energetic filmmaker Matt Kohn (*Call It Democracy*) invites a seasoned director (past guests have included Jem Cohen) to pick a surprise film of their choice. A lively discussion ensues, no doubt fueled by the lax attitude toward boozing while viewing.

5 Worst New York Movie Critics

Stephen Holden, *New York Times* Politicians, public buildings, whores, and boring, out-of-touch movie critics all get respectable if they last long enough.

Ed Koch, *The Villager* Not really a movie critic in any sense of the word, but *The Villager* apparently thinks people would rather read the semicoherent ramblings of a senile public figure than actual movie reviews. Couldn't he just get a blog?

Rex Reed, *New York Observer* Star-fucking, name-dropping, recycled cocktail-party bitchery, and a miraculously total ignorance of film art and history.

Armond White, *New York Press* Hopelessly muddled reactionary politics, insufferably accusatory moralizing, taste transparently forged in opposition to the anticipated position of his ideological counterparts. Used the phrase "alleged torture" in his review of *Road to Guantanamo*. And he writes in such ugly, brutish sentences.

New Times Syndicated Critics, *Village Voice* Aside from the general blandness (or worse) of the *New Times* critics the *Voice* has been forced to use at the back end since the takeover budget slash, what smarts is the choking-off of one of the best opportunities available to the city's wide pool of up-and-coming freelancers.

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