Killing Bill
a Tarantino inspired film series

March 2 - April 13
Wednesdays at 8pm
721 Broadway, Michelesa Theater
About the series

_When people ask me if I went to film school I tell them, “No, I went to films.”_  
—Quentin Tarantino

This film series is dedicated to exploring the films and genres that made one of Tarantino’s greatest films, and my personal favorite, *Kill Bill*.

Like most of Tarantino’s films, *Kill Bill* is an homage to various film genres that Tarantino admires and loves. Six films were chosen to represent each genre. The film series culminates with a double feature of *Kill Bill Vol. 1* and *Vol. 2*.

This has been an Intro to MIAP project brought to you by:

Bel Destefani  
First year MA in Cinema Studies  
December 7, 2010
Lady Snowblood
1973, 35mm, 97 min
March 2, 2010. 8 p.m.
Directed by: Toshiya Fujita
Starring: Meiko Kaji

Lady Snowblood is a 1973 Japanese film based on the manga of the same name. Meiko Kaji plays the titular character, Yuki, whose mother, Sayo, was brutally raped after watching her husband and son get murdered, before Yuki was born. Sayo vows to take revenge on the men that killed her husband and son and after some time she manages to kill one of them. She is then sent to prison and seduces any prison guard she can in order to impregnate herself so that she may pass on her quest for revenge. She finally bears a daughter, Yuki, but dies in childbirth. Yuki is then trained to fight so she can continue on with her mother’s quest for revenge. Yuki is the main inspiration for the character of O-Ren in Vol. 1.

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Co–sponsored by
NYU’s Department of Cinema Studies
Thriller: A Cruel Picture (Or They Called Her One Eye)
1974, 35mm, 82 min
March 9, 2010. 8 p.m.

Directed by: Bo Arne Vibenius
Starring: Christina Lindberg

This 1974 stars Christina Lindberg as the mute female protagonist, Frigga, exacting revenge on the men who raped her. When she was a little girl, Frigga was physically assaulted, an act that left her so traumatized that she is no longer able to talk. On her way to speech therapy one day, she accepts a ride from a handsome stranger, Tony, who then drugs her with heroine and tells her she is now dependent on heroin, forcing her to prostitute for him. She injures her first client, so Tony punishes her by removing one of her eyes and sending a vicious letter to her parents that causes them to kill themselves. Having lost everything, she decides to exact her revenge. Frigga is the primary source for the character Elle portrayed by Darryl Hannah.

Kill Bill –
Double Feature!
2003 & 2004, 35mm, 111 min & 136 min
April 13, 2010. 8 p.m.

Directed by: Quentin Tarantino
Starring: Uma Thurman, David Carradine, Lucy Liu, Daryl Hannah, Michael Madsen, Sonny Chiba

The Bride was a ruthless trained killer working for a man named Bill. But all that changed when she found out she was pregnant and quit the biz. This did not sit well with her boss and lover Bill who ordered her murder after he found out she was marrying another man. This Tarantino classic follows the Bride as she goes on a “roaring rampage of revenge” on Bill and the five assassins that were instrumental in her attempted murder. Exquisitely filmed, Kill Bill Vol. 1 and Vol. 2 feature amazing martial arts skills, excellent sword wielding, mountains of blood shed and a soundtrack that is begging to be purchased on iTunes.
Come Drink With Me
1966, 35mm, 95 min
March 30, 2010. 8 p.m.

Directed by: King Hu
Starring: Cheng Pei-Pei, Elliot Ngok

Widely considered as one of the greatest films of its genre, this film was directed by King Hu and stars Cheng Pei-Pei as Golden Swallow, a woman who is sent to rescue her brother after a bandit gang kidnaps him and hold a him for ransom in exchange for their leader’s freedom. Guided by a kung fu master-in-disguise, Fan Da-Pei (Elliot Ngok) who is only known as “Drunken Cat,” Golden Swallow tracks down the men who took her brother to a Buddhist temple. There she is nearly killed by a poisonous dart, but is rescued by Fan and he reveals to her that he is a great martial arts leader and is the leader of a Kung Fu society. Fan manages to negotiate the exchange of Golden Swallow’s brother for the bandit leader, but both he and Golden Swallow must fight off, using their proficient Kung Fu skills, the bandits and an evil abbot, once Fan refuses to hand over the bandit leader.

Shogun Assassin
1980, 35mm, 85 min
March 16, 2010. 8 p.m.

Directed by: Robert Houston
Starring: Tomisaburo Wakayama

In this 1980 Japanese film composite of the six-part Lone Wolf series, Ogami is a great samurai who serves as the Shogun’s decapitator during sometime in the Edo period (1603-1868). As the Shogun grows older he becomes more senile and paranoid and begins to suspect that his samurai Ogami might kill him and sends his ninjas to dispose of him. They are unsuccessful in their attempt, but do manage to kill his wife, leaving him to raise his son alone and vowing to avenge her death. He travels as a mercenary until he can face the Shogun’s three Masters of Death and the finally the Shogun himself.
Battles Without Honor and Humanity
1973, 35mm, 99 min
March 23, 2010. 8 p.m.

Directed by: Kinji Fukasaku
Starring: Bunta Sugawara, Hiroki Matsukata

Battles Without Honor and Humanity is the first of what would later be called The Yakuza Papers and centers around Shozo Hirono (Bunta Sugawara) spanning a ten-year period. It’s based on actual events of real-life gangsters. The story begins in the streets of Japan just after Hirono kills a rival punk in a street fight and is sent to jail where he becomes friends with Wakasugi (Tatsuo Umemiya), a lieutenant for a Yakuza gang. Once he’s released he’s recruited into a rivaling Yakuza gang. Both gangs maintain a semblance of peace until a city council election causes war to erupt between them with Hirono torn in the middle.

A Fistful of Dollars
1964, 35mm, 99 min
April 6, 2010. 8 p.m.

Directed by: Sergio Leone
Starring: Clint Eastwood

One of the first films of the Spaghetti western and launched the genre’s popularity. It’s the first of the “Dollars Trilogy.” Largely influenced by Akira Kurosawa’s samurai film Yojimbo, this film stars the legendary Clint Eastwood as a stranger that arrives in a Mexican town and is told that there is a bitter feud between two families, the bandit Rojo brothers and Sheriff Baxter’s family, vying for control of the town. The stranger uses this opportunity to gain money from the situation by playing both families against each other when he learns that a shipment of gold is coming through. He witnesses the Rojo brothers murder the soldiers that accompanied the gold and then taking that gold. The stranger tells both sides that there were two “survivors” and while the Rojo brothers race to silence them, the Baxter family races to question them, leaving the gold unattended and ready for the Stranger to steal.