

Centre for Ethics 2020-2021 Reading/Screening Group: Ethics, (Im)migration, and Cinema

Immigration and migration are two of the most discussed topics in contemporary global politics, inciting debates surrounding the European refugee crisis, the Trump administration's handling of the Mexico-United States border, and rising Islamophobic sentiments across the globe. These, and other issues of immigration and migration, raise important ethical questions—it is imperative that spaces be opened where immigration and migration can be discussed safely. This reading/screening group will create a space for critical conversations by exploring the topic of (im)migration through the medium of cinema. Cinema is itself a form and industry rooted in a history of (im)migration and has often engaged with different societies' ethical and unethical responses to (im)migration across history. In this reading/screening group, members will watch films from around the world and across time that engage with (im)migration; possible films include Ai Weiwei's *Human Flow* (2017), Charlie Chaplin's *The Immigrant* (1917), Jacques Audiard's *Dheepan* (2015), Julie Dash's *Daughters of the Dust* (1991), Wong Kar-wai's *Happy Together* (1997), Andrew Dosunmu's *Mother of George* (2013), Aki Kaurismäki's *The Other Side of Hope*, and Waad Al-Kateab and Edward Watts's *For Sama* (2019). These films will be read alongside works on (im)migration and cinema from the theoretical humanities, such as Rey Chow's *Not Like a Native Speaker* and *The Protestant Ethnic*; Hamid Naficy's edited collection *Home, Exile, Homeland*; Sabine Haenni's *The Immigrant Scene*; and Ella Shohat and Robert Stam's *Unthinking Eurocentrism*. This reading/screening group aims to bring together scholars and graduate students from across disciplines at the University of Toronto to engage in critical discussions about this important topic.

This reading/screening group will meet **once per month, on Monday evenings from 6:30pm-8:30pm**. At each meeting, one film or media object will be discussed alongside 1-2 companion pieces from the theoretical humanities and philosophy. Members can volunteer to curate and/or lead a session, if desired.

If interested in joining this group, please email Amanda Greer at amanda.greer@mail.utoronto.ca