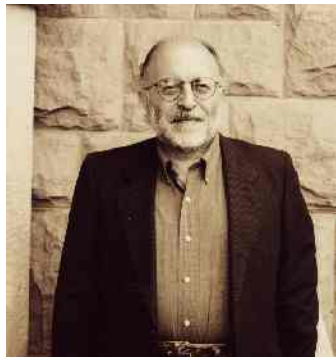


Jorge Ruffinelli
Stanford University

CELEBRANDO EL CINE DE FERNANDO BIRRI

(Celebrating Fernando Birri's films)



Jorge Ruffinelli



Fernando Birri

Monday, November 23, 2009

5-6 p.m.: Reception

6-8 p.m.: Lecture (in Spanish) and screening

Cabot Center, 7th floor

Organized by the Department of Romance Languages

Sponsored by the Office of the Provost, the Office of the Dean of Undergraduate Education, the Toupin Fund, the Latin American Studies Program, the International Relations Program, The Experimental College, the Latino Center, and the International Letters and Visual Studies Program

FERNANDO BIRRI (Argentina) is considered the founder of New Latin American Cinema. He produces and directs films, acts, paints and writes poetry. In 1950 he left for Italy and finished his studies at the Rome Centro Sperimentale di Cinematografia with Vittorio de Sica. He shot his first documentary film *Selinunte* in Sicily. On his return to Argentina he produced *Tire Dié*, the first Latin American socially engaged film of international standing (1958). Since then he has directed many films, such as *La primera fundación de Buenos Aires* (1959), *Los inundados* (1961, which won the Venice Film Festival award for Best First Film), *La pampa gringa* (1962), *Rafael Alberti, un retrato del poeta* (1983), *Mi hijo el Che* (1985), *Un señor muy viejo con unas alas enormes* (1988), *Che: ¿muerte de la utopía?* (1997), *El siglo del viento. Un noticiero latinoamericano* (1998), *ZA-05: lo Viejo y lo Nuevo* (2005), *Elegía friulana* (2007), and many others, some of which he has presented at Tufts. He is also known for having founded the Escuela Internacional de Cine y Televisión in Santiago de los Baños, Cuba, one of the leading film schools in the world today.

Fernando Birri is currently teaching two courses in the Department of Romance Languages: Spanish 191-E (Latin American Documentary Workshop) and Spanish 191-F (New Latin American Film).

JORGE RUFFINELLI (Uruguay) is a leading scholar in Latin American film and a Professor at Stanford University. He has published extensively on Latin American film and is currently completing an *Encyclopedia of Latin American Film*. Jorge Ruffinelli, a disciple of Angel Rama at the University of Uruguay, followed him as Director of the literary section of the seminal Uruguayan weekly MARCHA in 1968. In 1973 he was Adjunct Professor of the Latin American literature program (directed by Noé Jitrik) at the University of Buenos Aires. In 1974 he emigrated to México, where he was appointed Director of the Centro de Investigaciones Lingüístico-Literarias at the Universidad Veracruzana, a position he held for twelve years. At the Universidad Veracruzana he was also Professor in the school of Letters, and collaborated in all the major cultural journals and newspapers of the Latin American continent. In 1986 he was appointed Full Professor in the Department of Spanish and Portuguese at Stanford. In Mexico he founded and directed the literary journal TEXTO CRITICO for twelve years. A member of various international editorial boards, in the USA he has directed the journal NUEVO TEXTO CRITICO since 1987. He has published thirteen books of literary and cultural criticism and more than five hundred articles, critical notes and reviews in journals throughout the world. A recognized authority on Onetti, García Márquez, Juan Rulfo, and Latin American literary history, since the nineties his critical work has centered on Latin American cinema.