



THE UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND SCHOOL OF LAW

INVITES YOU TO ATTEND

**THE IMPACT OF FILM ON LAW,
LAWYERS, AND THE LEGAL SYSTEM**

FRIDAY, MARCH 31

AND

SATURDAY, APRIL 1, 2006

UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND
SCHOOL OF LAW
500 WEST BALTIMORE STREET
BALTIMORE, MD 21201

THE IMPACT OF FILM ON LAW, LAWYERS, AND THE LEGAL SYSTEM

Over the past ten years there has been an explosion in the number of books published that explore the connection between law and film. During the same period the advent of relatively inexpensive emerging media technologies impacted on the production of new work, especially new documentary work. The relative ease with which films can be made and even marketed today raises interesting questions about the relationship of law to film and filmmaking. The legal academy's increasing fascination with film is reflected in the growing number of courses dedicated to exploring law in film or making wide-spread use of film in teaching students about law.

Films have always reflected prevailing attitudes about law, lawyers and the legal system. But some legal scholars, like Richard Sherwin, argue that contemporary films, whether feature films, documentaries or docudramas, unduly influence legal culture as well. "Real legal issues and controversies give rise to popular legal representations just as popular legal representations help to inform and shape real legal issues and case outcomes" (Sherwin, 2000). This is particularly true of documentary or nonfiction films. The prominence and availability of documentary films on political issues during the 2004 presidential election raises interesting questions about the impact of film on democratic institutions and democracy in general.

During this day and a half symposium law professors, filmmakers, film critics and film industry officials will discuss some of these questions and explore other issues related to the impact of film on law, lawyers and the legal system.

AGENDA

Friday, March 31

11:00–12:45 Pre-Symposium Film Short Series:
*Maryland Law Students Making Movies about
the Environment*

Documentary shorts by students from Professor
Robert Percival's Environmental Law Class

1:00–2:15 Keynote Address: *Impact of Film on
Law, Lawyering and Legal Institutions*

Professor Richard Sherwin, New York Law School
(author of *WHEN LAW GOES POP: THE VANISHING
LINE BETWEEN LAW AND POPULAR CULTURE*)

2:30–4:00 *Law Professors Making Movies*

Professor Marilyn J. Berger, Seattle
Professor Robert Percival, Maryland
Professor Madeleine Plasencia, Tulsa
Moderator/Commentator: Bret McCabe, Arts
Editor, City Paper

4:00–5:00 Book Display and Signing

5:00–9:00 Film Event (documentary: *The Trials of
Law School*) followed by Dinner

Saturday, April 1

8:30–10:30 *Law, Film and Emerging Technology*

Sonia Katyal, Fordham
Jed Dietz, Director, Maryland Film Festival
Sherri Burr, New Mexico
Moderator/Commentator: Robert Suggs,
Maryland

10:45–12:30 *Law and Documentary
Filmmaking: the Search for Truth?*

Regina Austin, Penn
Jessica Silbey, Suffolk
Porter Morgan, Documentary Filmmaker
Moderator/Commentator: Taunya Banks,
Maryland

12:30–1:45 Lunch at the Movies

*Film Poster Slide Show and Talk: The American
Indian in Film*

Professor Rennard Strickland, Oregon

2:00–3:45 *Teaching and Writing about
Law in/and Film*

Margaret Russell, Santa Clara
Orit Kamir, Hebrew University, visiting at
Michigan
Hon. Dennis Davis, High Court Judge,
Capetown, South Africa and Professor of Law,
University of Capetown
Moderator/Commentator: Morad Eghbal,
Baltimore

4:00–5:45 Panel: *Race, Gender and Sexuality
in Film*

Professor Cynthia Lucia, Rider College (author of
FRAMING FEMALE LAWYERS)
Professor Robert Chang, Loyola-LA
Zola Mashariki, Director of Productions for Fox
Searchlight Pictures
Moderator/Commentator: Professor Sherrilyn
Ifill, Maryland

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

DIRECTIONS AND PARKING

From I-95 take route 395 (downtown Baltimore) and exit on Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd. Turn right at fourth traffic light onto Baltimore St. Turn left at second traffic light onto Paca St. Go 1/4 block and turn right into the Baltimore Grand Garage at 5 N. Paca St. The law school is directly across the street from the garage, at the corner of Paca and Baltimore Streets. Parking fees are the responsibility of the participants.

FOOD SERVICE

Registration includes dinner, continental breakfast, lunch and light refreshments.

SPECIAL ACCOMMODATIONS

If you require special accommodations to attend or participate, please provide information about your

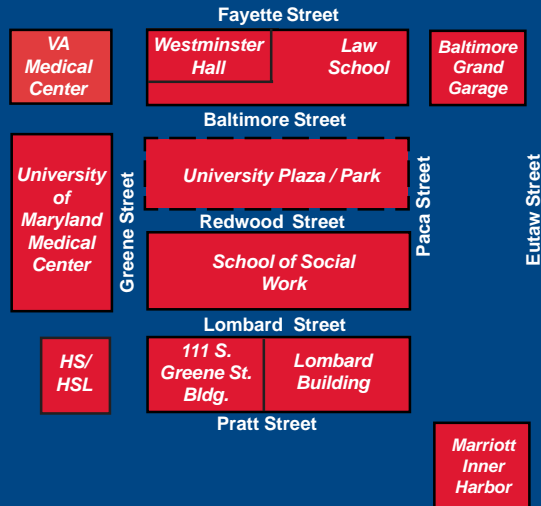
requirements to Lu Ann Marshall at 410-706-4128 (1-800-735-2258 TTY/Voice) at least five business days in advance.

HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS

We have reserved a block of rooms at the Baltimore Marriott Inner Harbor Hotel, located at 110 S. Eutaw Street (mention "University of Maryland" when making your reservation). **Reservations must be made by February 9, 2006 to receive this special rate.** To reserve a room, please call 1-888-236-2427 (or 410-962-0202), or visit <http://marriott.com/property/propertypage.mi?marshaCode=BWIIH>.

QUESTIONS

Please contact Lu Ann Marshall at 410-706-4128 or lmarshall@law.umaryland.edu.



REGISTRATION FORM

PLEASE COMPLETE AND RETURN REGISTRATION FORM AND CHECK TO:
LU ANN MARSHALL, UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND SCHOOL OF LAW,
500 WEST BALTIMORE STREET, BALTIMORE, MD 21201-1786

OR **REGISTER ONLINE** AT: WWW.LAW.UMARYLAND.EDU/CONFERENCES.ASP

Name (please print)

Affiliation or Employer

Address

City, State, Zip Code

Daytime Telephone Number / FAX

Email

REGISTRATION FEE
(PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO "UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND")

_____ \$75



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