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
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.
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, Loyala-LA
   Zola Mashariki, Director of Productions for Fox Searchlight Pictures
   Moderator/Commentator: Professor Sherrilyn Ifill, Maryland
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 lmarshal@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

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Name (please print)

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Email

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

__________ $75

UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND
SCHOOL OF LAW

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