

# LABOR FILM FESTIVAL

## 2005 DC Labor Filmfest

September 15 through September 21

Organized and presented by the Metropolitan Washington Council of the AFL-CIO, the Debs-Jones-Douglass Institute and the American Film Institute, DC Labor Filmfest 2005 boasts an array of new films and beloved classics about work and workers, from the American office place to the far-flung factories of the global economy. Special guest include Jane Fonda and Barbara Kopple. For more information, visit [www.dclaborfilmfest.org](http://www.dclaborfilmfest.org).

**M** AFI Member Passes will be accepted at all screenings in the DC Labor Filmfest except the special screening of *NINE TO FIVE*.

### OPENING NIGHT! Director David Redmon in Person with the Washington, DC Premiere of *MARDI GRAS: MADE IN CHINA*

Thursday, September 15, 8:00

Ever wonder where those colorful Mardi Gras beads come from? This fresh look at globalization documents the beads' journey from the battered fingers of young women in a factory in Fuzhou, China, to the necks of revelers at Mardi Gras in New Orleans. DIR/SCR/PROD David Redmon. US, 2005, 74 min. **UNRATED**

### Filmmaker Barbara Kopple in Person with *HARLAN COUNTY, USA*

Friday, September 16, 7:30;  
Monday, September 19, 8:45

Legendary documentarian Barbara Kopple won the first of her two Academy Awards for this film about a coal miners' strike in "bloody Harlan County," Kentucky. "The film's power comes from Kopple's intimate involvement with the people," says film writer Peter Biskind, "the risks she took, the places—jails, courtrooms, stockholders' meetings—into which she forced her camera." DIR/SCR/PROD Barbara Kopple. US, 1976, 103 min. **UNRATED**



MARDI GRAS: MADE IN CHINA

### OFFICE SPACE

Friday, September 16, 10:10;  
Saturday, September 17, 10:10

"Work sucks." This outrageous tale was ignored upon its theatrical release, then discovered by legions who have made it an all-time-great cult classic. Written and directed by Mike Judge (TV's *BEAVIS &*

*BUTTHEAD, KING OF THE HILL* and Fox's soon-to-be-released *IDIOCRACY*). DIR/SCR Mike Judge; PROD Daniel Rappaport and Michael Rotenberg. US, 1999, 89 min. **RATED R**

### AMERICAN DREAM

Saturday, September 17, 1:00

Barbara Kopple won her second Academy Award for Best Documentary for this film about the 1985 Hormel strike in Minnesota. In addition to the usual struggle, this strike reveals conflicts between the local union and national leaders of the United Food and Commercial Workers Union. Kopple sacrifices the easy drama of good and bad for a vastly more compelling portrait of the disintegration of the American Dream. DIR/SCR/PROD Barbara Kopple; PROD Arthur Cohn. US, 1991, 98 min. **RATED PG-13**

Director Filmmaker Barbara Kopple has been invited to attend this screening of *AMERICAN DREAM*. Check [www.AFI.com/Silver](http://www.AFI.com/Silver) for updates.

### Washington, DC Premiere!

### THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERATOR

[Le fantôme de l'opératrice]

Saturday, September 17, 3:10

"This wry film reveals a little-known chapter in labor history: female telephone operators' central place in the development of global communications. With an eye for the quirky and humorous, Caroline Martel assembles clips from more than 100 industrial, advertising and scientific management films produced in North America between 1903 and 1989 by Bell and Western Electric—and transforms them into a dreamlike montage documentary."—*Women Make Movies*. DIR/SCR/PROD Caroline Martel. Canada, 2004, color and b&w, 65 min. In French and English with English subtitles. **UNRATED**

### PLUS

### LIVING TO WORK

"This visual poem explores the relationship between the upper class obsession with success and the working class struggle to make ends meet, asking whether living to work is living at all."—*SILVERDOCS 2005*. DIR/SCR/PROD Leah Wolchok. US, 2004, color, 9 min. **UNRATED**



IL POSTO

### IL POSTO [The job]

Sunday, September 18, 1:00;  
Tuesday, September 20, 8:30;  
Wednesday, September 21, 5:30 (Montgomery College Series Showing, see p. 16 for details)

Sandro Panseri ventures from a small village to Milan in search of employment.

But he finds himself on the bottom rung of the bureaucratic ladder, with daunting prospects, then finds reason for hope. A tender coming-of-age story laced with sharp observations on the dehumanizing aspects of corporate enterprise. DIR/SCR Ermanno Olmi; SCR Ettore Lombardo; PROD Alberto Soffientini. Italy, 1961, b&w, 90 min. In Italian with English subtitles. **UNRATED**

### OFF TO WAR

Sunday, September 18, 3:00

Brothers and native Arkansan documentarians Brent and Craig Renaud track the soldiers of an Arkansas National Guard unit as they leave home to undergo a forced transformation to soldiering full-time in Iraq. DIR/SCR/PROD Brent Renaud and Craig Renaud. US, 2004, 80 min. **UNRATED**

### Co-presented by Cinema Tropical MAIDS [Domésticas]

Sunday, September 18, 4:50

See page 15 for program note.



### Director Alexandra Lescaze in person with

### WHERE DO YOU STAND? STORIES FROM AN AMERICAN MILL

Sunday, September 18, 6:50

In 1999, after a quarter century of struggle, textile workers in North Carolina won the single largest industrial union victory in the history of the South, a region long known as a bastion of anti-union sentiment. *WHERE DO YOU STAND?* documents that epic and often bitter struggle. DIR/SCR/PROD Alexandra Lescaze. US, 2003, color, 60 min. **UNRATED**

Director Alexandra Lescaze will appear live onstage. The Hon. David Bonior, Chair, American Rights at Work, has been invited to join her. For more information, visit [www.wheredoyoustand.info](http://www.wheredoyoustand.info).

## 25TH ANNIVERSARY!

### Jane Fonda in Person with *NINE TO FIVE*

Saturday, September 17, 7:30

The hilarious caper in which Jane Fonda, Lily Tomlin and Dolly Parton take on their "sexist, egotistical, lying, hypocritical bigot" boss. Undervalued and underpaid, the secretaries take over the office and implement flex time, day care, equal pay and more. DIR Colin Higgins; SCR Patricia Resnick & Colin Higgins; PROD Bruce Gilbert. US, 1980, 110 min. **RATED PG**



Tickets are \$15. Proceeds from this special 25th anniversary screening will benefit the organization Working America.

Jane Fonda will appear live onstage along with Working America Executive Director Karen Nussbaum, co-founder of 9to5, the organization for women office workers that inspired the film.