INTERNATIONAL VIDEO SALES LIST

SELECTED TITLES: ANTHROPOLOGY OF HEALTH AND ILLNESS

DVDs are available as PAL/all region format. The video cassettes are available in PAL and NTSC. Titles are distributed world-wide except where otherwise indicated. Please note: We are currently in process of transferring our films on DVD.

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For a full list over around 400 VHS/ DVD titles please see www.therai.org.uk/films
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ALPHABETICAL LIST

ADHIAMBO – BORN IN THE EVENING
Colour, 66 minutes, 2001
Filmmakers and Anthropologists: Ruth Prince, Wenzel Geissler, Ruth Tuchtenhagen
The film follows NyaSeme, a married mother and grandmother in her late 30s, during the last month of her pregnancy and through the first weeks of her newborn daughter’s life, when also the anthropologists son falls ill. NyaSeme employs the herbal resources of the bush surrounding the home as well as those of the government dispensary. The film creates a personal account of a woman’s life, motherhood, children and the maintenance of bodily health in rural western Kenya, as well as insights into the reflexive and relational nature of ethnographic fieldwork.
(Winner of the 2003 JVC Student Video Prize)

A HOSPICE IN AMSTERDAM
Colour, 62 minutes, 2005,
Filmmaker: Steef Meyknecht
At the end of Van Goghstraat in Amsterdam is the Veerhuis. A normal residential house in a normal urban area, where children play outside in front of the door. But people come to the Veerhuis to die. For his research, Steef Meyknecht worked for three years as a volunteer in The Veerhuis.

DOCTORS OF TWO WORLDS
Colour, 55 minutes, 1989
Filmmaker: Natasha Solomons
In the Bolivian highlands an English doctor is setting up a network of health care for remote mountain villages. While teaching the inhabitants the essentials of Western medicine the doctor is confronted with and tries to learn the methods of the local curandero’s methods of healing.

DOCTORS OF TWO WORLDS
Colour, 103 minutes total, 1980-83
Filmmaker/anthropologists: Timothy Asch, Linda Connor and Patsy Asch

A Balinese Trance Séance (46 min)
Jero Tapakan is ‘entered’ by deities and spirits who converse with her clients. Unbeknown to her, they wish to contact the spirit of their dead son to learn the cause of his death and his wishes for his cremation ceremony.

Jero on Jero: A Balinese Trance Séance Observed (16 min)
For the first time Jero sees herself on film as she watches A Balinese Trance Séance. Her spontaneous comments provide insights into her feelings while possessed, her understanding of her practices and her humility in the presence of the supernatural world.

The Medium is the Masseuse: a Balinese Massage (31 min)
Jero uses massage and traditional medicines to treat Ida Bagus, who suffers from sterility and seizures. Through her treatment and her words, Jero reveals her conceptions of the human body, the nature of illness, the contrast between Western and traditional Balinese medicine, and the relationship between human beings and the cosmos.

Four Films on a Healer in Central Bali

Jero Tapakan: Stories from the life of a Balinese Healer (26 min)
Jero beings with an account of her family’s extreme poverty that culminated in her desire to leave her home and travel as a pedlar. She describes mystical experiences that led her to recognise her own ‘blessed madness’ and to return home. Jero’s account is unique but themes of poverty, mysticism, madness and humility are common elements in the autobiographical accounts of many Balinese healers.

GODS AND SATANS (Dieux et Satans)
Colour, 87 minutes, 2005
Filmmaker and anthropologists: Martine Jounet, Gerard Nougarol
Among the Wana people, semi nomads from the Indonesian Sulawesi forest, Indo Pino is a shaman recognized by everybody. Her Nephew, who is also a shaman’s son, converted to Christianity some months ago and is now preaching his visions. And for him, if they come from God, the visions of the shamans inevitably must come from Satan. A fight between two worlds of religious conceptions is taking place.

INDO PINO
Colour, 84 minutes, 2002
Filmmaker: Martine Journet, Gérard Nougarol,
Gabriel Chabamier
The small ethnic group of the Wana Wewaju live in Indonesia in the eastern part of Sulawesi (Celebes Island) among the dense equatorial rain forest of the Tockkala Mountains. The film documents the traditional healing practices of the Wana shamans. This film is the result of fifteen years of research and constitution of ethnocinématographic archives about the shamanism of Wana People from Sulawesi (Indonesia)
See as well the companion film GODS AND SATANS, 87 minutes, 2005.
KUSUM
Colour, 69 minutes, 2000, Filmmakers: Jouko Aaltonen, Antti Pakalaxhti
Kusum is a 14-year-old Indian girl that lives and attends school in Delhi. Her family is poor, but their life isn’t too bad, until Kusum falls ill. Her family takes her to see a doctor, but no physical illness can be found. It’s an evil spirit, say the neighbours. Kusum, Kausaal and Aunt Suman journey to the neighbouring town of Harpur, where Bhagat the famous healer lives. His methods include conversation, rituals and herbal treatments. Joint trance sessions in which spirits talk constitute the core of his methodology.

LIVING WITH THE INVISIBLES / Vivre les Invisibles
Colour, 52 minutes, 2003, Filmmaker: Dirk Dumont Anthropologist: Philip Hermans
When they emigrated to Europe in the 60’s and 70’s, Moroccans brought with them their culture and their “diseases” ( caused by the jinn that inhabit some of them). In Europe, most North African families will include someone who is undergoing this kind of disorder, with diverse manifestations (asthma, paralysis, epilepsy, “crises”, sterility etc.) which, if left untreated, may be extremely serious and destructive, causing suffering and delinquent behaviour. In the film we follow two Moroccan women: Hind and Fatima who are looking to solve their problems caused by invisibles. They are visiting healers in Europe and Morocco. The healers “negotiate” with invisible forces and are using therapeutic rituals.

THE DAY I WILL NEVER FORGET
Colour, 92 minutes, 2002, Filmmaker: Kim Longinotto
Consultants: Fardhose Ali Mohamed, Eunice Munanie N’Daisi Kwinga
The documentary examines the practice of female genital mutilation in Kenya, focussing on women and girls who have started to question this tradition. In a region of Kenya that is home to Muslims, Massai and Somali and crosscut by Christian evangelical missionaries, “negotiation” with invisible forces and is using therapeutic rituals.

TIGERS APPRENTICE
Colour, 57 minutes, 1998, English & Vietnamese w/subtitles, Filmmaker: M. Trinh Nguyen
Tiger’s Apprentice is the story of Trinh Nguyen’s journey to her native Vietnam. She observes and documents her great-uncle’s folk medicine practices treating many patients and making his medicines for tumors, leprosy, and infections. She also seeks out people cured by her great-uncle, talks to local doctors and herbalists, battle Vietnamese government censors fearful her footage might be used to promote the cult of her great-uncle. She ultimately realises that through her investigations she has unwittingly begun to apprentice.

UNCLE POISON
Colour, 60 minutes, 1998, Ricardo Leizaola
Filmed in the city of Caracas, capital of Venezuela, Uncle Poison is an intimate portrait of a traditional faith healer, set against the backdrop of his community’s Easter celebrations. Every day, Benito Reyes receives people at his house looking for all sorts of cures. Through the personal testimony of the healer, this documentary looks at his role as mediator between the social, natural and spiritual worlds. Before curing someone, or even before harvesting medicinal leaves, he must first seek permission from the plant he uses as well as from a variety of saints. He then uses these plants to extract the sickness and spells from his patients. A conjunction of sacred and profane, celebration and mourning, Easter provides a rare opportunity to look at traditional faith-healing in a wider social and religious context.

STUDENT FILMS

A NEW KIND OF LIFE
DVD/PAL, Colour | 28 min | 1997, Emma Farrell
How is someone’s life affected when faced with cancer? This film is a portrait of three people from Manchester, England, who have chosen to include complementary therapies as part of their daily coping strategies.

BREEDING CELLS
DVD/PAL, Colour | 39 min | 2009, Anna Straube
Recorded in the ward of reproductive medicine at Charité Hospital Berlin, the documentary approaches a scientific environment with an ethnographic gaze. The filmmakers meet an open and quite unexcited “fertility team”, who consider themselves simply “assistants of nature”. But what is nature in a hospital environment that is highly regulated by procedural methods, doctors’ conventions and conservative laws?

CAI DAI - A HOME FROM HOME
DVD/PAL, Colour | 30 min | 1997, Will Grove-White
After the closure of the North Wales psychiatric hospital in the late 1980s, Sparrow Harrison opened his family home to local people suffering from mental illness. This film explores the humour, bravery and unique family atmosphere of Cai Dai.

HEALER ON THE STREET
DVD/PAL, Colour | 28 minutes | 2003, Joceny Pinheiro
During the day, Isnar is a community paramedic who works in the local clinic and runs an arts and drugs rehabilitation centre for young people in Fortaleza on the coast of Northeast Brazil. But by night, he is a priest of the Umbanda Afro-Brazilian religious cult. Then he comes flying over the trees and the streets, down to the beach.

THE MOST ADMIRED MAN
DVD/PAL, Colour | 29 min | 2002, Julia Berg
‘Wise’? ‘Serene’? ‘A Sage’? Mythologized as the Daoist physician from the Jade Dragon Mountain of Lijiang in South, Dr Ho receives hundreds of visitors in search of the ‘Real China’ every year. But what lies behind the doctor and his fame?

THE SECOND RED LINE
DVD/PAL, Colour | 25 min | 2004, Veera Lehto
In HIV testing, the second red line is the indication of a positive result. This film follows two volunteers working with HIV & AIDS sufferers in the Buduburam Refugee Camp in Ghana. In the absence of medication, the only thing the volunteers can offer is care, compassion and religious faith.