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# The Sixties from an International Perspective

## Film Series and Discussions Depict Revolution in the Streets

**(Washington, DC, April 24, 2008)** –Political unrest and radical upheaval swept through many countries in the Sixties. The film and discussion series “Revolution is in the Streets: The Sixties from an International Perspective,” May 5-21, 2008 at the Goethe-Institut and the German Historical Institute, highlights some of these events through the eyes of contemporary films, and discusses their legacies with former participants and scholars of this turbulent time.

The “Sixties,” especially the pivotal year of 1968, were a global phenomenon, witnessing protest movements in places as far apart as Chicago, Berlin, Mexico City, Prague, Paris and Rome. In the public memory of numerous countries, images of generational revolt, countercultural liberation and confrontations with the authorities are closely tied with those years.



### Films

**Monday, May 5, 6:30 pm**

#### **Viva Maria!**

*France/Italy, 1965, 119 min., 35mm, French with English subtitles, Director: Louis Malle Screenplay: Louis Malle and Jean-Claude Carrière Cast: Brigitte Bardot, Jeanne Moreau, George Hamilton*

Introduced by **Martin Klimke**, research fellow, German Historical Institute

Anarchist Maria I is wanted by the police when she meets Maria II, an actress and bar singer. The two women share their experiences – about revolution and about love. A Western comedy that had a significant impact on leading figures of the West German student movement.

**Louis Malle's** films *Atlantic City* and *Au revoir, les enfants* were each nominated for an Academy Award in the Eighties.

**Monday, May 19, 6:30 pm**

#### **Blow-Up**

*UK/Italy/USA, 1966, 111 min., DVD, English, Director: Michelangelo Antonioni Screenplay: Michelangelo Antonioni and Julio Cortázar Cast: Vanessa Redgrave, Sarah Miles, David Hemmings, John Castle*

Introduced by **Anke Ortlepp**, research fellow, German Historical Institute

A fashion photographer tires of working with “pretty dolls” and heads out at night in the hope of finding gripping scenes. His life becomes an adventure when he accidentally takes a gripping photo of a murder.

**Michelangelo Antonioni** achieved international renown and awards with films such as *The Zabriskie Point*, *The Red Desert*, *The Night and Eclipse*.

**Wednesday, May 21, 6:30 pm**

### **The Battle of Algiers** (La Battaglia di Algeri)

*Algeria/Italy, 1966, 121 min., 35 mm, English, b/w, Director: Gillo Pontecorvo Screenplay: Gillo Pontecorvo and Franco Solinas Cast: Brahim Hagiag, Jean Martin, Saadi Yacef*

Introduced by **Philipp Gassert**, deputy director, German Historical Institute

This documentary-style film focuses on Algeria's violent war of independence from French rule at the end of the fifties, a pivotal event in the formation of a European New Left.

**Gillo Pontecorvo's** film copies the styles of Italian neorealism, French cinema vérité and Soviet socialist realism. It was nominated for three Academy Awards.



#### Discussions

**Tuesday, May 13, 6:30 pm**

### **Students in Revolt**

*BBC, 1968, 51 min., DVD, documentary, English*

Introduction by and discussion with **Martin Klimke**, research fellow, German Historical Institute, accompanied by film clips from *Students in Revolt*.

No charge. RSVP to 202-289-1200 ext. 164 or [rsvp@washington.goethe.org](mailto:rsvp@washington.goethe.org)

**Wednesday, May 14, 6 – 8 pm**

German Historical Institute

### **“One, Two, Three, Many 1968s? – Lessons and Legacies of the 1960s”**

Panelists:

**Tom Hayden**, social and political activist and politician

**Norman Birnbaum**, professor emeritus, Georgetown University

**Patty Lee Parmalee**, independent scholar and writer

For more information and reservations: 202-387-3355 or [events@ghi-dc.org](mailto:events@ghi-dc.org)

#### **About the Goethe-Institut:**

On behalf of the Federal Republic of Germany, cultural institutes around the world provide cultural programs, language courses, support to educators, and up-to-date information on Germany in the context of Europe.

Founded in 1990, Goethe-Institut Washington, DC is a center for German culture and language, and for the coordination of media projects for all of North America. From its location in the revitalized Downtown, the Goethe-Institut Washington reaches out to both individuals and organizations in the community, bridging the past, present, and future with high-quality events.

**Tickets:** General admission \$6; students, members, and seniors \$4.

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