

SET CALL NUMBER: PL2.006 VC

POLISH FILMS ON VIDEO (Various distributors)

TYPE OF PROGRAM: Polish culture and civilization; films

DESCRIPTION: Series of films produced in Poland. Most are in Polish and subtitled in English. **VIDEOCASSETTES ARE FOR RESERVE USE IN THE MEDIA LIBRARY ONLY** -- Instructors may check them out for up to 24 hours for preview purposes or to show them in class. See the Media Catalog for film series in other languages.

AUDIENCE: Any; Polish is needed for films not subtitled

FORMAT: VHS; NTSC; DVD

CONTENTS

CALL NUMBER

Austeria

PL2.006.011

Poland. 1988. Color. 110 min. Polish with English subtitles. Directed by Jerzy Kawalerowicz. Early in WWI, a group of Orthodox Jews flee from the Cossack army in Polish Galicia. A secluded country inn becomes their temporary refuge, where emotional attachments, brief love affairs and even a renewed faith in humankind inspire these desperate individuals.

The Birch Wood (Brzezina)

PL2.006.033

Poland. 1971. 100 min. Polish w/English subtitles. Directed by Andrzej Wajda. The story of two brothers—one seriously ill but full of life, the other a grieving widower, envious of his brother's high spirits in the face of death.

Calls Controlled see Rozmowy kontrolowane PL2.006.069

Ciako

PL2.006.055

Poland. 2003. Color. DVD—requires region free player. In Polish w/English subtitles. 94 min.

Colonel Wolodyjowski

PL2.006.024

Poland. 1969. Color. 160 min. Polish with English subtitles. Directed by Jerzy Hoffman. A landmark epic, based on the historical trilogy by Nobel Prize winner, Henryk Sienkiewicz. Set in the year 1668, at the time of the Turkish invasion of Poland's Eastern frontier.

The Crown Witness

PL2.006.066

2007. Poland. DVD. 97 min. Color. Directed by Jaroslaw Sypniewski, Jacek Filipiak. A powerful, true story depicting the potency of love in an unfavorable environment. A gangster testifies in trial as a state witness against his former mafia contacts. He does this as a display of love for a certain woman. In addition, the gangster and an investigative journalist cross paths. The journalist maintains an eerie secret and seeking justice meets the gangster for an interview.

Cud purymowy

PL2.006.053

Poland. 2003. DVD, requires region free player. Color. 57 min. In Polish. Directed by Izabella Cywinska.

Człowiek z marmuru (Man of Marble)

PL2.006.001

Poland. 1977. 160 min. Color. In Polish with English subtitles. Directed by Andrzej Wajda. The story of a young filmmaker trying to reconstruct a truthful picture of the Stalinist past, as past obscured by twenty years of shifting propaganda.

Cudzoziemka (The Stranger)

PL2.006.016

Poland. 1986. In Polish with NO subtitles. 105 min. Color. Directed by Ryszard Ber. Based on Maria Kuncewiczowa's novel "The Stranger" (1036). The heroine cannot find her place in life. Crossed in love in her youth, artistic dreams that never came true, these influence her whole future causing her own misery and even the need to torture others. She is surrounded by loving people but cannot appreciate this. Finally, when old, she'll understand how important are a smile and cheerfulness.

Cześć, Tereska

PL2.007.054

Poland. 2002. DVD, requires region free player. Color. In Polish. Directed by Robert Gliński.

The Decalogue

PL2.006.026

2000. In Polish w/English subtitles. Color. 560 mins. Directed by Krzysztof Kieslowski. This collection of 10 films uses each of the Ten Commandments as a thematic springboard.

The Departure (Odjazd)

PL2.006.028

1992. Color 115 min. Polish w/English subtitles. First movie that shows ethnic differences in Mazurian Lakes region. Members of an old age home show animosity towards two women with German ancestry.

Dług

PL2.006.027

1999. Color. 107 min. In Polish w/NO subtitles.(VHS) or DVD has English subtitles. Directed by Krzysztof Krauze. Thriller tells the story of two entrepreneurs who become enmeshed in the criminal web of a Russian thug.

Dreszcze (Shivers)**PL2.006.017**

Poland. 1981. Polish with NO subtitles. 108 min. Color. Directed by Wojciech Marczewski. 1956 in Poland was a year of big changes, workers' protests, and the release of political prisoners. With this as a background, the tragic story of a 13 yr.old boy, a participant of a school camp, is told. Under the influence of a fanatical girl guide, the hero undergoes a psychical metamorphosis. He believes in her assurances about the immortality of Stalin's idea, the infallibility of the Party, he forgets the principles he was taught at home, loses his spiritual contact with his father--a freshly released political prisoner. News about the workers' strike in Pozmana, and about unjust trials reach the youth camp. The world of the girl guide's ideals falls apart.

Dzień świra (Day of Wacko)**PL2.006.040**

Poland 2002. Polish with NO subtitles (video format). Polish, German, English subtitles (DVD format.) 90 min. Color. Directed by Marek Koterski. A black comedy. A day in the life of a 49 yr. Old teacher who is completely disillusioned with his reality. As he looks for the causes of his unhappiness, he blames his neighbors, his former wife and his own mother. However, any attempts to improve his life will be unsuccessful until he first begins to change himself.

E=mc2**PL2.006.042****Edi****PL2.006.047**

Poland. 2002. DVD. In Polish with English subtitles. Directed by Piotr Trzaskalski. A touching and highly inghly involved portrait of marginal characters who manage to confront their misery and at least briefly somehow triumph over it. The film tells a story of two scrap metal pickers, Edi and his friend Jureczek. A dreamer and a lover of books, Edi is falsely accused by some local thugs of raping their sister. This leads to both tragedy and joy for Edi who is made to take care of her little baby.

Emigranci**PL2.006.036**

Poland. 2000. In Polish w/NO subtitles. Color. 128 min. Directed by Kazimierz Kutz. One of the most popular Mrozek's plays. This plays is a study of two different forms of exclusion, juxtaposing idealistic patterns of thinking of a political emigrant with the sane sense of a simple emigrant, who left his country for money. AA is an intellectual who has left the country being dissatisfied with the regime. XX is a common man, a peasant uneducated hardworking economic emigrant.

Eroica**PL2.006.025**

Poland. 1959. B&W. 80 min. Polish with English subtitles. Directed by Andrzej Munk. A bitter comedy about war heroism.

The Faithful River**PL2.006.015**

Poland. 1987. 137 min. Color. In Polish with English subtitles. Directed by Tadeusz Chmielewski. The adaptation of the well-known novel by Stefan Żeromski. The picture shows in an impressive way the tragedy of the Polsih January 1863 uprising and heroism of the young people: struggle love and death.

Ferdynand**PL2.006.049**

Poland.1991. DVD format. Color. 89 min. In Polish w/English subtitles. Directed by Jerzy Skolimowski.

Forecast for Tomorrow see Pogoda Na Jutro**Fuks****PL2.006.043**

Poland, 2003, 86 min. Directed by Maciej Dutkiewicz .A young man named Alex (Maciej Stuhr) has a clever plan to steal a large sum of money from a very influential businessman/gangster. With the help of his girlfriend Sonia (Agnieszka Krukowna), Alex gets hold of some confidential information and in no time at all he has a policeman on his trail. When the policeman discovers the real motives of the young man's plan, he doesn't stand in his way. Alex, in fact, is not after the money, but wants to punish the businessman for a certain sin from his past.

Guys Don't Cry (Chłopaki nie płaczą)**PL2.006.063**

Poland.1999. DVD. 92 min. color. In Polish w/English subtitles. Directed by Olaf Lubaszenko. Comedy. Satirical look at the gangsters of Poland and some teens who accidentally get involved with them. The humor is black, sometimes vulgar, and always hilarious. The cast comes from the new generation of Polish actors.

Historie miłosne (Love stories)**PL2.006.020**

Poland. 1998. 90 min. Color. In Polish with NO subtitles. Directed by Jerzy Stuhr. A story of four people who don't know what to do with the most precious gift that life can offer--love.

Kanał (Canal)**PL2.006.002**

Poland. 1957. 96 min. B&W. In Polish with English subtitles. Directed by Andrzej Wajda. The almost hallucinatory portrait of a group of Polish citizens and patriots who attempt to flee the Nazis through the sewer system of a war-devastated Warsaw.

Karol: A Man Who Became Pope**PL2.006.070**

Poland. 2005. DVD. In Color. In Polish w/English subtitles. Directed by Giacomo Battiato. The story of the man who would become Pope. 1930's Poland. 10 year old Karol Wojtyła has dreams, may dreams. One by one they are shattered. First by the loss of his beloved mother and brother. Then, by the outbreak of the war and death-fleeing human exodus which ensued. And finally, but the first signs of the Jewish persecution. These events will mark the start of Karol's long journey from worker, to poet and teacher. A journey full of encounters that eventually leads him to become a priest and finally, in 1978, to become the man we all know, a man who has marked an era, a man who has made history as Pope John Paul II.

Kiler (Killer)**PL2.006.021**

Poland. 1997. 104 min. Color. In Polish with NO subtitles. Directed by Juliusz Machulski. A Warsaw taxi driver, Mr. Kiler is wrongly accused of being the serial murderer that all of Europe has been chasing. A comedy that was the biggest hit in Poland in 1997.

Kiler-ów 2-óch**PL2.006.041**

Poland. 1998. 117 min. In Polish w/NO subtitles. Color. Directed by Juliusz Machulski.

Komornik**PL2.006.056**

Poland. DVD--requires region free player. In Polish w/English subtitles. Color.

Korczak**PL2.006.007**

Poland. 1989. B&W. 113 min. In Polish. Directed by Andrzej Wajda. Korczak, a Jewish pedagogue and doctor, remains in the Warsaw ghetto with Jewish orphans. Korczak is presented with an opportunity to escape, however, he refuses to leave the children.

Kornblumenblau**PL2.006.034**

Poland. 1990. Color. 93 min. Polish with English subtitles. Directed by Leszek Wosiewicz. Story of a musician's life in a German death camp and his ability to adjust after liberation by Soviet soldiers.

Kroniki Powstania Warszawskiego (Warsaw Uprising Chronicle)**PL2.006.003**

Poland. 1944. B&W. 45 min. In Polish. Unique documentary from 1944 Warsaw Uprising against Nazi occupation. Footage from bloody fighting in August and September has been confiscated and badly damaged by communist censors.

Krótki film o zabijaniu (Short film about killing)**PL2.006.009**

Poland. 1987. 84 min. Color. In Polish with English subtitles. Directed by Krzysztof Kieslowski. A young man kills a taxi driver. He is arrested and condemned to death. His lawyer struggles to save him.

Ławeczka (The Bench)**PL2.006.068**

Poland. DVD. Color. In Polish w/English subtitles. 86 min. Directed by Maciej Żmijewski. A story of love searching. Based on the famous play by Aleksander Gelman, the movie shows the inner fights between the need for love and the worry about the responsibilities it brings, between the need for closeness and the lack of understanding, the fight between the want to settle and the being loved and adored...

The Maids of Wilko (Panny z Wilka)**PL2.006.022**

Poland. 1979. 111 min. Polish with English subtitles. Color. Directed by Andrzej Wajda. Adaptation of Jaroslav Iwaszkiewicz's memoirs is set in the late 1920s. Victor Ruben, a WWI vet and operator of a small factory, reexamines his life following the death of his friend. Returning to the home of his aunt and uncle, he is drawn into a mysterious web of sexual and romantic longing for the 5 women he was friends with years before.

Man of Iron**PL2.006.012**

Poland. 1981. 152 min. Color. Polish with English subtitles. Directed by Andrzej Wajda. Sequel to **Man of Marble**. The film merges documentary footage of the Solidarity strike into a fictionalized drama of a disillusioned radio producer who is ordered to Gdansk to undermine the reputation of one of the leaders of the worker revolt.

Mój Nikifor**PL2.006.057**

Poland. 2005. DVD—requires region free player. Color. In Polish w/English subtitles. Directed by Krystyna Feldman.

The Mother of Kings**PL2.006.013**

Poland. 1982. 126 min. B&W. Polish with English subtitles. Directed by Janusz Zaorski. The dramatic story about a poor widow charwoman and mother, shown across the span of the worst moments of Poland's history: WWII and the Stalinist times. Filmed in black-and-white to incorporate newsreel footage from Stalinist times, the film won the Grand Prix at the Gdansk Festival.

Nadzór (Parole)**PL2.006.008**

Poland. 1984. Color. 119 min. In Polish. Directed by Wieslaw Saniewski. Story of women in prison and their struggle to maintain a sense of dignity.

No End**PL2.006.023**

Poland. 1984. 104 min. Color. In Polish with English subtitles. Directed by Krzysztof Kieslowski. The "helor" of NO END is Antek, a young liberal lawyer who dies four days before the film begins. He leaves behind his beautiful young widow Ulla, their son, and the unresolved trial of a Solidarity organizer. Reluctantly caught up in the trial, Ulla finds herself unable to get Antek out of her mind, literally haunted by his memory.

Ogniem i mieczem (With Fire and Sword)**PL2.006.046**

Poland. 1999. DVD format. Color. In Polish with subtitles in Polish, English, French Russian, Ukrainian or Spanish. Directed by Jerzy Hoffman. Based on the work by Henryka Sienkiewicza. A film about great passions: love, hate, envy and lust for power shown against the backdrop of momentous historical events. In mid-17th century, at the start of the film's action. Poland was the largest, most democratic, and most tolerant country in Europe. However, the tragic civil war brought about the gradual decline of the once glorious republic.

Pan Tadeusz**PL2.006.030**

Poland. 2000. 157 min. color. In Polish with English subtitles. Directed by Andrzej Wajda. Based on Mickiewicz's epic poem written in 1834 while living in exile in Paris. Set in Lithuania, the evokes the faded traces of a lost world during the Napoleonic era. The plot revolves around a feud between two Polish gentry families living under Russian rule.

Pestka**PL2.006.031**

Poland. 1996. Color. In Polish w/NO subtitles. 90 min. Directed by Krystyna Janda. A 40 yr. Old unmarried woman meets a man who is a faithful husband and a good father. Their relationship changes their lives completely.

Pieniądze to nie wszystko**PL2.006.039**

Poland. 2001. 102 min. In Polish w/NO subtitles. Color. DVD (requires region free player.) Directed by Juliusz Machulski.

Pogoda Na Jutro (Forecast for Tomorrow)**PL2.006.067**

Poland. 2003. DVD. Color. In Polish w/English subtitles. Director: Jerzy Stuhr. Comedy. He did not fall from the sky, he did not come from a different continent. When he walked out on the streets though, he did not recognize the world, which he thought he knew.

Popiol i Diament (Ashes and Diamonds)**PL2.006.004**

Poland. 1958. B&W. 105 min. In Polish with English subtitles. Directed by Andrzej Wajda. Illustrates the conflict of idealism and instinct in this story of a young resistance fighter who assassinates the wrong man at the close of WWII.

Pornografi**PL2.006.071**

Poland. 2003. DVD. In Polish w/English subtitles. Color. Directed by Jan Jakub Kolski. A profound look at one of life's basic perverse themes, and man's search for power and control; in a peaceful, Polish estate is a quiet, strange world, where our anti-heroes explore their twisted dreams; just outside the gate, the horrors and destruction of WWII rages on. Based on the famous novel by W. Gombrowicz.

Prezesłuchanie (Interrogation)**PL2.006.005**

Poland. 1981. Color. 117 min. In Polish with English subtitles. Directed by Ryszard Bugajski. After a one-night stand with a military officer, a cabaret singer is imprisoned by the secret police, without ever being informed of her alleged crime. For the next five years, she is subjected to harrowing torture and harassment, which she doggedly withstands in a struggle to maintain her dignity and sanity.

Przedwiosknie**PL2.006.050**

Poland. 2001. Color. Directed by Filip Bajon. 145 min. In Polish w/no subtitles. Based on Zeromski's novel. A story of love and rebellion.

Rozmowy kontrolowane (Calls Controlled)**PL2.006.069**

Poland. DVD. Color. 93 min. In Polish w/English subtitles. Directed by Sylwester Chęciński. Martial law in Poland 1981. Comedy on subjects hardly laughable. The main character, played by known Polish comedian Stanislaw Tym, finds himself in a funny situations trying to please both Solidarity members and Government officials.

The Saragossa Manuscript**PL2.006.029**

1965. 174 min. Polish w/English subtitles. Directed by Wojciech J. Has. A cult classic based on the novel *The Manuscript Found in Saragossa* by John Potocki, this romantic, fantastic and witty tale chronicles the adventures of a Walloon guard under the King of Spain. Something of a Don Juan, this colorful 19th century character must pass numerous tests to prove his courage, honesty and honor in order to become a member of the powerful Mauretanian family.

Spis cudzołożnic**PL2.006.048**

1994. Poland. DVD. In Polish. A employee of the University of Krakow has received an unusual task. He has to provide the company of a female for a foreign guest. He begins to think about the women that have passed through his life. He relives past memories.

Szabla od komendanta**PL2.006.037**

Poland. 1995. 102 min. Color. In Polish w/NO subtitles. Directed by Jan Jakub Kolaski. Comedy-fantasy about an ex-soldier stopped at the pearly gates for not passing his battle sword on to a grandson, as tradition requires. Now the old man must convince his son to give him a grandson so he can be reunited with his long lost love in heaven.

Tato**PL2.006.032**

Poland. 1995. 121 min. Color. In Polish w/NO subtitles. Directed by Maciej Slesicki. After his divorce with a mentally ill woman, the father of a 7 yr. Old girl fights for custody of his daughter.

Train to Hollywood (Pociąg do Hollywood)**PL2.006.038**

Poland. 1989. Polish w/English subtitles. 96 min. Color. Directed and written by Radoslaw Piwowarski. A beautiful girl in a small Polish town dreams of becoming a movie star. For the time being, her dream brings her all kinds of problems and humiliations, but it also adds some color to the monotony of her daily life.

U Pana Boga za piecem**PL2.006.044**

Poland, 1998, 96 min. Directed by Jacek Bromski. Life moves slowly in the quiet town on the eastern border of Poland, where everyone knows everyone and the very strict priest rules over all the citizens - even the mayor. But when a lovely, lonely Russian girl arrives, nothing will ever be the same again

Vinci**PL2.006.064**

Poland. DVD. 108 min. In Polish w/English subtitles. Directed by Julius Machulski.

Weekend**PL2.006.036**

Poland. 1996. In Polish w/English subtitles. 434 min total (each of the 8 films runs 60 min.) Color. Written, directed, and coproduced by Krzysztof Zanussi. Composed in the tradition of The Decalogue. All the episodes of the Weekend Stories deal incisively with moral issues.

Wesele (The Wedding)**PL2.006.006**

Poland. 1973. 103 min. Color. In Polish. Directed by Andrzej Wajda. Based on the drama by Stanislaw Wyspianski. Shows a wedding of a peasant's daughter with a poet.

Wesele (The Wedding)**PL2.006.065**

2004. Poland. DVD. In Polish w/English subtitles. 109 min. Color. Directed by Wojtek Smarzowski. A wealthy man from a small town throws a big wedding party for his daughter. As is the Polish custom, the party is flamboyant. While it evolves, among the guests the bride recognizes her ex-boyfriend with whom she is still in love, and who is a cameraman at the wedding. A carefully planned wedding gets out of father's control. His intentions to impress his guests ends in catastrophe.

When the Sun Was God**PL2.006.051**

Poland. 2003. 107 min. DVD format. In Polish w/English, Spanish, Polish subtitles. Color. Directed by Jerzy Hoffman. Based on the book by J.I. Kraszewski. Story happens one hundred years before the christening of Poland in the world of magic and pagan witchcraft, where the gods take active parts in the lives of ordinary men.

Wielki bieg (Great Race)**PL2.006.014**

Poland. 1982. 100 min. Polish with NO subtitles. Color. Directed by Jerzy Domaradzki. The subject is a Peace Race, a mass event organized in the spring of 1952. Radek, who runs in the race, wants to win a first prize, and the second wants to win in order to hand a letter to President Bierut, asking for help for his father--a defendant in a political trial.

Wielki tydzień**PL2.006.019**

Poland. 1996. In Polish with NO subtitles. Color. 100 min. Directed by Andrzej Wajda.

Yesterday**PL2.006.018**

Poland. 1984. 88 min. Polish with NO subtitles. Color. Directed by Radoslaw Piwowarski. The year is 1964. Far away from Liverpool, in a Polish little town four boys set up a band which is a replica of "The Beatles." At that time Poland "The Beatles" music and fashions were unwelcome, especially in provincial towns. So the parents from the church and school unite to prevent the young heroes from music.

Zemsta**PL2.006.045**

Poland, 2003. 1h40min. Polish with subtitles. Directed by Andrzej Wajda. Andrzej Wajda's latest - a costume comedy. After forty-three years of his absence as an actor, Polanski returned to Wajda as an actor in the production of Zemsta. The hilarious tale of two 17th century families divided by love, greed ... and a crumbling stone wall that runs through the middle of their castle. The feuding noblemen try to outwit one another in a bid for romance and control over their humble realm. Based on Aleksander Fredro's epic poem.

Ziemia obiecana (The Promised Land)**PL2.006.010**

Poland. 1974. 178 min. Color. In Polish with English subtitles (copy 1.) In Polish w/NO subtitles (copy 2.) Directed by Andrzej Wajda. Based on the novel by Wladyslaw Remong. The scene is 19th century Lodz, the center of the Polish textile industry. In the world of illusions, ambition, passion and violence, is the destiny of three friends who dream of beginning their own factory.

Zurek (The White Soup)**PL2.006.052**

Poland. 2003. DVD format. Color. 72 min. In Polish w/English subtitles. Directed by Ryszard Brylski. The dramatic story of a woman's struggle to discover the identity of her grandchild's father. The mother is forced to face and overcome her own dark secrets and deepest fears, and her struggles provide her daughter with a new sense of hope and understanding of her own life.