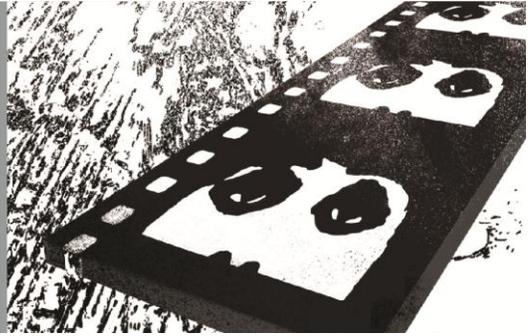


48th Chicago International Film Festival

October 11–25, 2012



Cinema/Chicago and the 48th Chicago International Film Festival
Education Outreach Program Screening: *Day of the Crows*
Director: Jean-Christophe Dessaint
94 minutes, not rated
In French with English subtitles

Please use the below synopsis, study ideas/questions and helpful websites to lead your students in preparation and post-screening discussion. Following the film, students are required to respond to the screening with a one-page essay. Essays (either all or select) must be sent to Cinema/Chicago.*

Synopsis: The gruff, ogre-like Pumpkin and his young son live by themselves in the forest, but their comfortable isolation is disturbed when Pumpkin takes a near-fatal fall from a great height. His son, with the help of the benevolent spirits that inhabit the forest, must venture out into civilization for the first time in search for help.

Recommended for: French language studies, animation studies, humanities, film and video students

Appropriate for: all students 6-12 grade

1. How would you describe the different animation in *Day of the Crows*? How do the different styles of animation reflect the different characters in the film?
2. How is the film similar or different from other animated films you have seen?
3. How does the film create connections between death and nature? What do these connections signify and what do they mean to you?
4. How is love expressed in the film?
5. In what way do the different characters in the film understand and communicate love?
6. What does the film say about the benefits and disadvantages of isolation and what are the different ways the characters of the film isolate themselves from one another?
7. Talk about the way relationships between parents and children are represented in the film. How are mothers and fathers depicted?
8. Who was your favorite character in the film and why?
9. When Junior heads out into the "World Beyond," what does he discover? Why do you think he had been kept from that world for so long?
10. Look at images of paintings by Manet and Monet. Do you see similarities between the animation and landscapes in *Day of the Crows* and these paintings?

Useful Links and Resources:

Review of *Day of the Crows*: <http://www.hollywoodreporter.com/review/day-crows-le-jour-des-corneilles-san-sebastian-jean-reno-claude-chabrol-373090>

Official website: <http://www.le-pacte.com/international/new-films/single/day-of-the-crows/>

Information about Cinema/Chicago's Education Outreach Program:

<http://cinemachicago.org/education/>

***Schools who do not send in essay requirement will not be allowed to attend future Education Outreach Screenings.**