

Le Mépris

By Jean-Luc Godard

Cast: Brigitte Bardot, Michel Piccoli, Jack Palance

French writer Paul Javal is hired to rewrite the screenplay for a new movie based on Homer's Odyssey. The film's director is Fritz Lang (who plays himself) and the producer is a loudmouthed and self-indulgent American named Prokosch. When Javal and Prokosch meet, the American makes it more or less clear that he is interested in Javal's beautiful wife Camille. Soon Javal seems to be trying to find opportunities for Prokosch and Camille to be alone. Or is it just Camille's imagination? Her confusion slowly changes into contempt for her husband and their relationship winds up in a downward spiral of unspoken intentions and complex emotions. Meanwhile, in an interesting parallel, Fritz Lang struggles to keep the movie production afloat.

Little Senegal

By Rachid Bouchareb

Old man Alloume works as a tourist guide at one of Senegal's historical sites. Every day he tells stories about how the slaves were shipped to America, and one day he decides to go there himself in search of his roots. It doesn't take long before he tracks down some of his relatives in New York, but things don't turn out quite like he planned. Internal racism between Africans and African-Americans, strained relationships and unexpected love are some of the things that he suddenly has to deal with. This sincere story tells us about the hardships of an ethnic minority that's often overlooked, but also about non-ethnic issues like the difference in moral values between the young and the old and between big city and small town people.

Flat 'n' Fluffy

A spaced out hippie and a gun-crazy Russian kill one of the neighbourhood dogs with a machine gun. Then, to "make it look like an accident", they decide to mow it down in the street with their van. Fans of the kind of blood-shed and psychedelic trips that made 1981's cult hit Heavy Metal enjoyable won't be disappointed with this animated short.

Swimming Out To Holly

A young lifeguard who works at the local beach can't forget his nerdy past, especially since he is now working with the bullies. One day on the beach he sees a woman named Holly who is reputedly suicidal. He feels strangely drawn to her, but can't work up the confidence to talk to her. Teenagers' identity crises are one of the focal points in this quaint little drama.

The Snowman

In this well-animated Christmas story, a newly made snowman is abducted by alien invaders who aren't too well equipped in the intellectual department. Will our planet be saved by a pile of snow with a carrot nose? Director Nakamura shows us that he has a good sense for comedic timing and graphic detail, bringing us five entertaining minutes.