



***The artist* (France, 2011)**

About the film:

Best Actor at 2011 Cannes Film Festival; 5 Oscars, including Best Picture, 3 Golden Globes, including Best Picture, +117 others + 88 nominations! This is the most awarded French film in history and it has received universal acclaim. The story takes place in Hollywood, between 1927 and 1932, and focuses on the relationship of an older silent movie superstar George Valentin (Jean Dujardin) and a rising young actress Peppy Miller (Berenice Bejo), as silent cinema falls out of fashion and is replaced by the talkies. This will bring the death of his career for Valentin. *The Artist* tells the story of their interlinked destinies: their career may go in opposite directions when he falls into oblivion and she becomes a major movie star, but romance ties them together.

Biography of the director: Michel Hazanavicius: Internationally renowned French filmmaker Michel Hazanavicius began learning the ropes of being a director in the late '80s, working for the French TV channel Canal+. He directed a multitude of projects for television before making his first movie for the big screen: the 2006 espionage spoof OSS... For a review: <http://entertainment.time.com/2011/05/21/the-artist-cannes-beauty-spot/>

Date: Thursday April 17th

Grace Allen Room (LIB)

Time: 1:00- 3:00pm.

Director: Michel Hazanavicius

PG 13 - 100 min

Questions for discussion:

-What is the role of the simple beauty spot in the film?

-What is beauty for you? Inner beauty? Elegance and grace? Artistic beauty? Aesthetic of some kind? Is there any connection between romance and beauty?