



NUCLEAR INFORMATION AND RESOURCE SERVICE

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THREE-PART CHERNOBYL+20 FILM FESTIVAL

IN WASHINGTON DC

PART 2: Wednesday, April 5, 6:30 PM

4/26 and Europe-How Chernobyl Changed a World Over Night

On April 26, 1986, the world and ideas of nature suddenly changed for Europeans. The nuclear catastrophe at Chernobyl became a watershed moment that everyone remembers, for in that moment the natural world of forest, wind and open air became synonymous with a continuous threat--something like the ongoing threat that Americans felt after 9/11. For Europe in particular, this man-made disaster had clear and immediate repercussions.

In cooperation with the Heinrich Böll Foundation and the Nuclear Information and Resource Service (NIRS), the Goethe-Institut brings a series of events that put the world-altering significance of Chernobyl and its aftermath into perspective.

The Oasis, Belarus/Germany, 1996, 58 minutes, German and Russian with English subtitles. Director: Yuri Khaschevatsky

Ten years after the disaster in Chernobyl, a Russian filmmaker discovers inhabitants, refugees and victims of the atomic catastrophe in the contaminated areas of Belarus. The result is a visually stunning artistic film essay.

The film will be introduced by **Michael Mariotte**, executive director and chief spokesperson of the Washington, DC-based Nuclear Information and Resource Service. Mariotte visited the contaminated Chernobyl exclusion zone in 1996, around the time the film was shot.

Yuri Khaschevatsky was born in Odessa, Ukraine in 1947. He studied film in Leningrad, and worked for Belarus Television, Telefilm Minsk, and the film studio Belarus Film. Now an independent director and journalist, he has won numerous prizes for his films.

RSVP to 202-289-1200, ext 167.

PART 3: Wednesday, April 19, 6:30 PM

Atomic Lies, Russia/Germany, 2004, 42 minutes, German with English subtitles. Director: Vladimir Chertkov

This documentary reveals the existence of a conflict of interest between two United National agencies, the World Health Organization (WHO) and the International Agency for Atomic Energy (IAEA), each directly responsible for the alleviation of the health consequences of the Chernobyl catastrophe.

UN Secretary Kofi Annan has declared that the Chernobyl tragedy is really only beginning and that deaths related to the incident could reach the millions. Such staggering figures underscore the need to know the truth about the serious health consequences of atomic radiation.

Vladimir Chertkov is a journalist and documentary filmmaker for Swiss TV.

A discussion entitled Chernobyl: A Watershed Moment for Europe with special guests from Germany and the United States will follow the screening.

RSVP to 202-289-1200, ext 168.

Both films will be shown at:

Goethe-Institut Washington

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Both screenings are free.