

UPDATE on the AMERICAS

A bi-monthly publication of the Rochester Committee on Latin America

A Taskforce of Metro Justice

Summer 2008

FIDEL: The Untold Story Wednesday, September 3, 7 PM

A sympathetic, convincing and even moving portrait of the charismatic Cuban leader, guaranteed to be highly controversial.

—*New York Daily News*

A thorough examination of the most controversial figure in Latin American history. Estela Bravo's film opens a window allowing us a personal glimpse of Fidel Castro, the man.

—*El Diario*

Infuriating & fascinating! Required viewing.

—*Miami Herald*

What will your review be? Come to ROCLA's first meeting of the fall at the Downtown Presbyterian Church on Wednesday, September 3, at 7 PM, to watch this 91-minute film and express your opinion.

From the CD cover:

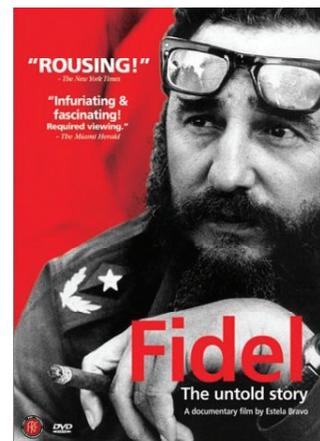
Whether dismissed as a relic or revered as a savior, all agree that Fidel Castro, nearing 44 years as the leader of Cuba, is one of the most influential and controversial figures of our time.

Rarely are Americans given a chance to see inside the world of this socialist leader. The new documentary film FIDEL by Estela Bravo offers a unique opportunity to view the man through exclusive interviews with Castro himself, historians, public figures and close friends, with rare footage from the Cuban State

archives.

Alice Walker, Harry Belafonte, and Sydney Pollack discuss Fidel as a person, while former and current US government figures including Arthur Schlesinger, Ramsey Clark, Wayne Smith, Congressman Charles Rangel and a former CIA agent offer political and historical perspectives on Castro and the long-standing US embargo against Cuba. Family members and close friends, including Nobel Prize-winning author Gabriel Garcia Marquez, offer a window into the rarely seen personal life of Fidel.

Bravo's camera captures Fidel Castro swimming with bodyguards, visiting his childhood home and school, joking with Nelson Mandela, Ted Turner and Muhammad Ali, meeting Elian Gonzalez, and celebrating his birthday with members of the Buena Vista Social Club. Juxtaposing the personal anecdotal with history of the Cuban revolution and the fight to survive the post-Soviet period, FIDEL tells a previously untold story and presents a new view of this compelling figure.



INSIDE

- SOIL's Work in Haiti
- El Sauce Liberation Celebration Speech
- Support Documentation of Conditions in Rural Mexico
- Haitian Food Crisis
- Barack Obama and US-Latin America Policy

ROCLA Programs and Actions every First Wednesday 7:00 PM Downtown Presbyterian Church 121 N. Fitzhugh St. Free and open to the public. Wheelchair accessible Free parking across the street in City Hall Parking Lot

Metro Justice Education Fund
THE ROCHESTER COMMITTEE
ON LATIN AMERICA
167 Flanders St.
Rochester, NY 14619

Return Service Requested

NON-PROFIT
ORGANIZATION
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT #1812

Update on SOIL's Work in Haiti – by Sarah Brownell

[Editors' note: Sarah Brownell's articles on Haiti make such important contributions to our understanding of that country we feel it is imperative to print them in full. This food crisis makes their work there all the more important. Kevin and Sarah will be returning to Haiti later this month.]

We at Sustainable Organic Integrated Livelihoods (SOIL) are grateful for the support, advice, and encouragement ROCLA has given to us and our work over the years. We are still a small organization but are doing our best to develop projects that will provide sustainable antidotes to the growing world food crisis and other long term problems—at least on a local scale in the communities where we work.



In our first two years we have already installed more than 56 public ecological toilets for schools and community groups in five of Haiti's 10 departments. Our Haitian partner organization SOL is currently awaiting a contract with the Organization of International Migration (OIM) to build 20 more in a slum of Cap Haitien. Ecological sanitation is a low-cost approach to sanitation where human wastes are collected, composted, and recycled for use in agriculture and reforestation. It simultaneously addresses many of Haiti's most pressing issues: improving public health, increasing household income and agricultural productivity, mitigating environmental degradation, and providing low-cost sanitation for rural communities. In response to the global food crisis, ecological sanitation is a resource for reestablishing the local food economy because the compost it provides will increase soil fertility and agricultural output for much less cost—in terms of both money and the environment—than chemical fertilizers.



In addition to our large public toilets, we are designing a household-scale indoor model. The indoor model will require a municipal waste collection system and composting site, because there is not room in a house to store and compost wastes. We have been granted 15 acres of land by the Mayor's office of Milot to establish the compost site for Milot and Cap Haitien, Haiti's second largest city. The site will transform ecological toilet waste and organic materials into compost and will also

transform latrine and septic system wastes into methane gas for cooking and compost, thus providing fertilizer to farmers and cooking gas to nearby households. The site will include an education center to promote household composting, urban gardening, and raised bed gardening, and a tree nursery which will provide seedlings for reforestation efforts.

Because the children today are the leaders that will transform Haiti tomorrow, SOIL is scaling up our children's empowerment projects. Kevin's "Looking Through Their Eye's" Project, where youth use digital cameras to capture what they like and do not like in their community and brainstorm ways that youth

can make change, has expanded into a media project that will give them a voice internationally. Three Haitian musicians, one a 17-year old himself, have donated songs that will provide the music for a DVD featuring the photographs and comments from youth in 10 villages/communities. These same

youth groups are now busy finding ways to transform garbage into beautiful or useful things—including sandals made from discarded water bags, cardboard, and cloth, jewelry made from chicken feathers and wire, and fully operational tractor trailer toys with barrel ties for shocks and juice container caps for wheels—to enter in our "Garbage Doesn't Exist" contest. The contest final will be held at a back-to-school celebration and concert honoring

children on August 31st in Cap Haitien. The goal of the contest is to promote creativity and innovation and to select products made from garbage that could be small business opportunities for the youth.

We believe that the path to sustainability is through transformation of both disempowered people and discarded materials, turning apathy into empowerment and pollution into valuable resources. Here's an example of how our transformative projects work together. The youth of Teenagers Together for Shada were one of the first groups to participate in our empowerment projects. Following the completion of the photo project, they

Continued on last page

From top to bottom: photo 1: taken by Roselor Bonenfant, age 13, Bwa Pini; photo 2: One of our toilets in Petit Anse; photo 3: also by Roselor Bonenfant, 13, Bwa Pini; Photo 4: Petit anse Women's group helping to build the toilet; photo 5: contest entry for the Garbage doesn't exist contest, Petit Anse.

July 11 El Sauce Liberation Celebration Speech

— by *Arnie Matlin*

[I gave the speech in English. Sally Matlin translated it into Spanish.]

Mayor Evertz, distinguished colleagues, compañeras y compañeros. It seems strange giving this speech today because I am not a Sauceño. However, in 2005, the city of El Sauce was gracious enough to declare me a Hijo Delecto, so I think that it's appropriate for me to speak to you at this revolutionary event.

Today is the day in which Sauceños celebrate the triumph of a revolution in their city, and, on July 19th, everyone will celebrate the triumph of the Nicaraguan revolution. We in the United States had a revolution, but it began over 200 years ago, and we North Americans have forgotten it. Not only do we no longer remember our revolution, but our government actively tries to suppress revolutions all over the world. However, as the U.S. has learned, the Nicaraguan revolution is not so easy to suppress!

In many ways, life in Nicaragua is more difficult than life in the United States. However, in one important way, life here is much better. In the United States, we cannot find a true revolutionary party. We have to vote for the party that is less bad, but we cannot vote for a party that really cares about working people and poor people. Nicaraguans have a revolutionary party for which they can vote in every election. If you want to find a progressive, revolutionary party in Nicaragua, all you have to do is follow the Red and Black flag!

Recently, my wife, who is a professor, received a union magazine called *American Educator*. [Summer 2008] In the magazine there was an article entitled, "Freedom in Retreat." According to this article, democracy was strong in the U.S., but other countries were only partly free, and getting worse. It will not surprise you that the countries said to be "partly free" included Venezuela, Bolivia, and Nicaragua! My wife wrote a letter to the editor of the magazine. She told the editor that the article left out one important country where freedom is truly in retreat. In the United States, we live under a President who leads an illegitimate government that gained and retained power only through fraudulent elections. We have a President who wages

illegal war, ignores world law, tortures prisoners, and violates the U.S. Constitution. Freedom is really in retreat in the United States!

Many people come to El Sauce to work in solidarity with Sauceños. You all know about the Rochester Ciudad Hermana, the students from Geneseo College, the Peace Corps volunteers, and the medical students from the University of Rochester. I think you can trust these people to help you and to work shoulder-to-shoulder with you. However, I hope you will not trust anyone who comes here to teach you about democracy.

When the United States talks about exporting democracy, what they really mean is exporting "The American Way of Life." And what that means is government by the rich and for the rich. That attitude has no place in a revolutionary country like Nicaragua!

I will give you a good example of what it means to have a revolutionary president and a revolutionary government. As you know, the World Bank demanded that the former Nicaraguan government spend less money on education, and the former government agreed. That program, the so-called "School Autonomy," was a sickening example of human greed and government weakness. What that program meant is that Nicaraguan parents had to pay money in order for their children to go to school. Naturally, some poor people were unable to pay the fees, and their children stayed home and did not receive an education. On the day of his inauguration, President Ortega told the nation that school was free for every child. In the same situation, the new President of the United States might have called for a committee to study the issue. Maybe fees would be gradually reduced over a period of five years, or maybe they would be cut in half, but not eliminated. That is not what President Ortega said. President Ortega said that school was free in Nicaragua starting the next day. That is real democracy in action!

In closing, I bring you revolutionary greetings in the name of the 100,000 U.S. citizens who traveled to Nicaragua in solidarity in the 1980's, in the name of Benjamin Linder, the U.S.

engineer who was killed while helping to bring electricity to rural Nicaragua, and in the name of all people in the United States who cherish democracy and freedom!



Sally Matlin translating her father's talk into Spanish

An Opportunity to Support Documentation of Conditions in Rural Mexico

—by Joseph Sorrentino

Mexican subsistence farmers (usually called campesinos) are abandoning the countryside in ever increasing numbers, leaving for larger cities in Mexico, like Mexico City and Puebla, and the US. The numbers are so large that's it being referred to as a campesino diaspora.

For the last several years, Mexicans who farm a few acres of land have been increasingly unable to sell their produce because they cannot match the lower price of produce from the US. In addition to subsistence farmers, many coffee growers (especially those only have 3-5 acres of land) are also finding it difficult to survive as the price of coffee remains low. Fair Trade cooperatives have helped many of these growers, yet Fair Trade accounts for only a small percentage of coffee sold in the US.



I traveled to the coffee growing regions in Oaxaca and Puebla in 2003 to document daily life there. What I found was people who worked incredibly hard while living in dire poverty. Approximately 85% of all campesinos are considered extremely impoverished - which is defined as earning less than \$2 a day. Even in rural areas, that's not enough to live.

In November I'll be returning to Mexico to further document conditions in rural areas and in the coffee growing regions. I have the support of Instituto Maya, a campesino advocacy group that's based in Mexico City. They were an immense help in 2003 and will be providing help again. When I told them I wanted to return to the mountains to further document what's happening to coffee growers, they asked that I also document subsistence farmers in other areas. I'm told that the situation in the countryside is rapidly deteriorating.

I have a small grant to pay for airfare to Mexico and am asking for donations to help offset the cost of rest of the project. Anyone interested in supporting the project financially may contact me. I hope to have a fiscal sponsor in place soon so that all contributions are tax deductible, but the paperwork hasn't been completed yet.

You are invited to come to my exhibits: July 31-August 30 at Muddy Waters Coffee Shop and October 6-20 at Casa Hispana, Nazareth College. I'll give a slide presentation at Casa Hispana on October 13 at 7:00pm. Money from print and card sales will go toward the project. If you'd like to know about other events, please send me an email at: joso1444@usa.net and I'll put you on my email contact list.

For more information, contact me at (585)261-7066 or joso1444@usa.net. Images from my previous project are at www.sorrentinophotography.com

From Randall Shea in Santa María Tzejá, Guatemala:

Juana and I and our children - Phoebe (7), Aida (2) and Kristina (9) are all fine. Our new baby is due in August. We have close to 120 students enrolled in our middle school this year, and there was such a large turnout for 7th grade that we ended up dividing the class into two sections. The new full-time principal we hired last year continues to make his impact felt. At his initiative, we added a new course entitled Mayan Language and Culture to our curriculum. At the same time, 24 of our students signed up for another new course and are receiving after-hours music lessons, learning to play the marimba, the traditional Mayan instrument. In addition, during the recent celebration of the 38th anniversary of the founding of our village, 12 of our middle school students participated in a traditional Mayan costume dance called the convite. The dance lasted over three hours; there was a segment devoted to the Supreme Being and creator of the universe, one to the memory of the village war victims, another to the village founders, etc. The end of the dance was very interesting because each dancer took off her or his mask and revealed her or his identity to the public.

At the same time that our students deepen their connections with their Mayan heritage, they continue to strengthen their skills in areas that will be crucial for their future success in advanced studies and in the workplace.

For example, all of our middle school students continue to receive computer skills training in our beautiful computer center.



Haitian Food Crisis Requires New Policies and Local Production not Traditional Food Aid

- by Sarah Brownell

There is more than enough food in the world (more than 1.5 times enough, according to the Food and Agricultural Organization) but the poor have been priced out of the market.

In April 2008, newspapers across the US reported that Haitians were eating dirt—actually dirt cookies made of clay, shortening, and salt. These cookies are generally used as a homeopathic remedy for diarrhea and as a source of micro-nutrients for pregnant women. The clay they are made from contains the same ingredient as Kaopectate and some minerals. They were not created to be food, but have become food, because they fill the stomach at a lower price than rice or bread. People in Haiti are not yet dying of starvation. But all the “normal” diseases like typhoid, malaria, mysterious fevers, and old age, are killing them faster than ever. They don’t have the strength to fight against illness because of lack of food. Children are stunted and unable to learn in school. Farmers do not have the energy to till and plant their fields.

The World Bank reports that food prices have risen 83% in the last three years and prices of rice, grain, and corn have increased 50-100% in the last 3 months. The New York Times cited the following reasons for price increases:

- Increased fuel prices. Any product that must be shipped by air or ground will have increased transportation costs associated with its price. Also, chemical fertilizers require large amounts of fossil fuels to produce.
- Rising demand for meat, especially from growing affluent populations in China and India. Meat based diets require about 7 times more land for food production than plant based diets.
- Droughts related to global warming reducing overall global production.
- Competition for grains and fertilizer to make ethanol for fuel. About 1/3 of last year’s US corn production was turned into ethanol and farmers have set aside land specifically for planting crops for fuel.
- Investment in fuel and food futures is driving up market prices. Even many pension funds have moved out of the volatile stock market and are investing in the futures market.

President Bush has publicly blamed the increases on growing populations in China and India, but a recent unpublished World Bank Report leaked to the Guardian Newspaper indicated that the push for bio-fuels is responsible for 75% of the price hike. Fuel costs only account for 15%.

Rising food prices are a worldwide phenomenon, yet the effects are more pronounced in a country like Haiti where people spend up to 75% of their income on food. Many families are already barely surviving on one meal a day. Ironically, food aid from wealthier countries further exacerbates the cycle of dependency and the inability of poor countries like Haiti to sustain themselves. Food provided by international donors in times of crisis is not typically purchased from local farmers but is imported

from wealthier countries that want to support their own farmers. Since the food is donated, it can be given away or sold cheaper than the products of Haitian farmers.

In general, international policies toward Haiti and other developing countries have undermined local food production. During the 1980’s and 90’s the International Monetary Fund forced Haiti to open its ports to subsidized rice produced on mechanized farms in the US. Local farmers using machetes and picks could not compete and went out of business, many moving to the cities to become slum dwellers. Structural adjustment programs tied to loans for infrastructure development also encouraged farmers to plant cash crops like coffee and sugarcane rather than food crops and required governments to support manufacturing and assembly over farming. Haitian national production has dropped 20% in the last decade and now over 60% of their food is imported. Increasing reliance on imported food makes the country extremely vulnerable to shifts in the global market.

In the political arena, the food crisis appears to have been used by opponents of President Preval’s Espwa party to try to destabilize the government. It is rumored that during the April 2008 demonstrations, people were paid to turn the protests into riots by burning down gas stations, shooting, and destroying public buildings. A small group of elite Senators had attempted to remove the Prime Minister a few weeks prior to the riots, but could not get enough votes. The violence of the riots gave them the opportunity they needed to secure a vote of “no confidence”. Without a Prime Minister, funds could not be dispersed for development projects and elections for vacant Senate seats could not be held. Additionally, Haiti missed an important meeting of international donors. Two potential Prime Ministers proposed by Preval were then rejected by sitting members of the Senate, possibly an attempt to make the Preval government appear ineffective in the eyes of the international community and the Haitian People. A new prime minister, Michèle Pierre Louis was approved on July 31, which hopefully will allow funding for projects to proceed.

Sustainable solutions to the food crisis in Haiti must be targeted at enhancing local agricultural production and improving rural livelihoods. In the US we must reconsider policies that pit the desire for people to drive and make money on investing in commodities against the need for the poor to live.

**FOR YOUR FREE TICKETS TO
THE LABOR FILM SERIES
BECOME A ROCLA MEMBER NOW!**

(individual \$20 and family \$30)

Send a check to: Marilyn Kaiser

150 Attridge Rd. Rochester, NY 14428

Barack Obama and US-Latin America Policy

— by Peter Mott

We know that many intelligent Americans need a lot of educating about what really goes on in Latin America, as does the Congress – and even Barack Obama.

Senator Obama's approach to US foreign policy in many ways is enlightened. And his July 24 speech in Berlin to 200,000 German citizens was spectacular. But, unfortunately, his May 23 talk to Cuban Americans in Miami was no better than a State Department-written speech by George W Bush. It was inflexible regarding both the US embargo of Cuba and hostility toward Venezuela's President Chavez:

Σ No wonder, then, that demagogues like Hugo Chavez have stepped into this vacuum... anti-American rhetoric, authoritarian government, and checkbook diplomacy...

Σ Throughout my entire life, there has been injustice in Cuba. Never, in my lifetime, have the people of Cuba known freedom... This is the terrible and tragic status quo that we have known for half a century...I will maintain the embargo. It provides us with the leverage to present the regime with a clear choice: if you take significant steps toward democracy, beginning with the freeing of all political prisoners, we will take steps to begin normalizing relations.

Σ In Venezuela, Hugo Chavez is a democratically elected leader. But we also know that he does not govern democratically. He talks of the people, but his actions just serve his own power.

The LASC (Latin America Solidarity Coalition) Coordinating Committee meets monthly by conference call, and has had four national conferences. We get our information through INTERCONNECT.

Here are excerpts from the letter the LASC CC is sending to the Obama campaign:

“We are writing as the Coordinating Committee for the US-based Latin America Solidarity Coalition... Thousands of US citizens have been visiting and working closely with different parts of the Region. We have combined their rich experiences at four national LASC conferences and developed analyses and plans for many crisis areas, past, present and future. (see our website at www.lasolidarity.org).

“We have studied Senator Obama's wide-ranging speech to the Cuban American National Foundation, Miami, May 23, on US-Latin American relations. We were disappointed in many of the positions he expressed as well as the fact that he chose to make them before an extreme right-wing group whose influence on US policy toward that region is responsible for much of the deterioration in the US image in Latin America. We would like to request a meeting with Sen. Obama to provide him with our ideas for a more positive US policy toward our neighbors to the South. Our hope would be to (1) help him to keep his discussions accurate, and (2) help him develop a moral and sustainable US foreign policy in the region if he becomes President. As you well know, the nations, their cultures, their political-economic situations are complex. As you also know, over the years the US has made mistakes, many of which have threatened our own goals of helping to develop good feelings about our coun-

try among the people themselves, helping true democracies to develop, eliminating human rights abuses by the militaries that the US supports and trains, and encouraging strong economies and trade.

“The positions of the LASC are:

- Close the Western Hemisphere Institute for Security Cooperation also known as the School of the Americas.
- Close the International Law Enforcement Academy in San Salvador.
- Stop funding Plan Colombia and cut off all military aid to that country.
- Stop funding the Merida Initiative and the militarization of the US/Mexico border. Close the National Endowment for Democracy and return USAID to its original foreign aid mission.
- Return the elected government of Haiti to power and remove the UN occupation troops.
- End belligerency toward Venezuela and other Latin American countries whose citizens have elected left leaning governments over the past decade.
- End the embargo against Cuba and normalize relations with our island neighbor.
- Stop initiating “Free Trade” agreements that benefit only corporations while destroying local agriculture and exacerbating immigration to the US.”

Friendshipment Thank You!

- by Vic Vinkey

Thanks to you, we did it again! We participated with a broad coalition of people from six countries and 125 cities in demonstrating to the US government that we oppose the 42 year old illegal, immoral and mean spirited embargo against the Cuban people. Here in Rochester, we used your donations to purchase medicines and dug deep into ROCLA's budget to pay transportation and other costs to send 55 boxes of donated and purchased humanitarian aid to the Cuban people.

On July 3rd the Pastors for Peace caravan assembled in Texas with approximately 100 tons of humanitarian aid. Unexpectedly, in a display of open harassment and violation of previous agreements, U.S. Customs officials seized 32 personal computers. Still, the Caravan continued, and the more than 100 participants witnessed delivery of the aid to institutions and people in Cuba. Fortunately, when the delegation returned on July 14th, in response to our protests, the computers were released and participants (aged 8 to 86) responded by personally carrying them across the border, released, to continue on their way to Cuba.

Perhaps we are too optimistic, but we fondly hope that our efforts and the efforts thousands of others will convince the next US administration to adopt a more reasoned and humane policy toward our neighbor in the Americas and to allow us to freely travel there to share our hopes with the Cuban people.

Update on SOIL's Work in Haiti

(Continued)

organized a youth group, elected a board, and held their first actions: school sit-ins. None of the youth group members attended school due to financial hardship, but after three sit-ins, their efforts were noticed by a Canadian journalist who raised enough money to send them to school for two years. In their photos, they also identified having "no place to go to the bathroom" as a problem in their community, so they volunteered with SOIL/SOL and a team of interns from the University of Miami carrying blocks and sand to build the first ecological toilet in Shada. They are now responsible for cleaning and maintaining it for their neighbors. After participating in the Garbage Doesn't Exist contest, the youth approached SOIL about establishing a community center where they could manufacture their best sandal designs from the garbage contest and provide water treatment and educational services for the community. We have rented a building and are waiting for it to be repaired for our entry. A team of University of Minnesota engineering students are currently working to make the sandal soles more durable. We hope to be able to support ideas from each of the communities where we offer projects in the same manner.

You can contact us at soil_info@yahoo.com or follow our work on-line at www.oursoil.org. Once again, we thank all of our supporters for making these projects possible! Men anpil, chaj pa lou. Many hands make light work.

ROCHESTER COMMITTEE ON LATIN AMERICA (ROCLA)

ROCLA for many years has sought to be a bridge between the Rochester community and the people of Latin America. Monthly meetings on the 1st Wednesday of each month at the Downtown United Presbyterian Church provide an opportunity

to learn more about what is going on in that part of the world. In addition to providing information, ROCLA is committed to working for systemic justice and supports numerous organizations that are on the front line of this endeavor. School of the Americas Watch, the Mexico Solidarity Network, Rights Action and the Rochester Labor Film

Festival are among the many groups that receive assistance and encouragement.

ROCLA Steering Committee

Marilyn Anderson, David Eisenberg, Hernan Escalante, Marilyn and Bob Kaiser (convener), John Locke, Gail and Peter Mott, Vic Vinkey, Mike Wahl, Tom Ward.

Update on the Americas Publishing Team

Editors: Gail and Peter Mott; Designer: John Locke

POWERFUL NEW LABOR FILM SERIES - FREE TO ROCLA MEMBERS!

- by Marilyn Anderson

Each fall ROCLA is proud to contribute to helping the George Eastman House and the Rochester Labor Council bring some of the best movies to the Dryden Theatre. This year's film with a Latin American theme is *The Women of Brukman*, a Rochester Premiere that will screen on Friday, October 3, 8:00 PM. Viewers will be moved at the courage and creativity of *The Women of Brukman (Les Femmes de la Brukman)*, made in 2008 and directed by Canadian Isaac Isitan. Ninety minutes long and in Spanish with subtitles, it tells the story of Argentina's "fabrica ocupanda" phenomenon, where workers run abandoned factories where they previously had been employed. This rousing documentary explores what happened at one specific suit manufacturer. The group of women who took over the Brukman factory became international symbols for workers - an inspiring solution to global economic challenges.

Mark your calendar and come to all nine films at the Eastman House's Dryden Theater, 500 East Avenue, on Friday evenings at 8 PM - unless noted below. For free tickets for the whole series (for ROCLA members), look for Marilyn Anderson near the box office or call her at 271-4374.

9/5 - Rochester Premiere. *Pete Seeger: The Power of Song.*

9/12 - Rochester Premiere. John Gianvito in person! *Profit Motive and the Whispering Wind* (2007), using Howard Zinn's *A People's History of the United States* as a basis. Preceded by *The Internationale*. In this 30-minute film Pete Seeger and Billy Bragg help tell the story of the legendary song that became the anthem for international socialism.

9/19 - *Christ in Concrete* (a.k.a. *Salt to the Devil and Give Us This Day*, (Edward Dmytryk, UK 1949). A compelling working class drama and the only film made by Dmytryk after he refused to testify before the House Un-American Activities Committee and before he became a "friendly" witness.

9/26, 8 PM and Sunday, 9/28 4:30 p.m. - New 35mm print! *Monsieur Verdoux* (Charles Chaplin, US 1947).

10/10 - Rochester Premiere of *Strike* (104 min.), Poland 2006.

10/17 - *Pitfall Otoshiana* (97 min., Hiroshi Teshigahara, Japan 1962).

10/24 - Pre-Code* Double Feature! 7:00 PM. *Heroes for Sale* (William Wellman, US 1933, 8:30 p.m. *Taxi!* (Roy Del Ruth, USA 1932, 69 min.).

10/31 - Halloween Special *Land of the Dead* (George A. Romero, US 2005).

* The "pre-Code era" refers to a roughly five-year period in film history, beginning with the widespread adoption of sound in 1929 and ending on July 1, 1934, with the inauguration of the Production Code Administration and a policy of rigid censorship.