

New Regents Lecturer to be award-winning Polish videographer, Piotr Bikont, from April 21-26

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AWARD-WINNING POLISH VIDEOGRAPHER OF GDANSK STRIKE TO BE REGENTS LECTURER APRIL 21-26

Underground video documentarian Piotr Bikont, who spent countless hours hoisting a videocam around Gdansk, Poland, in 1988 and 1989 during the Solidarity movement's strike efforts and bargaining sessions, will appear as a University of California Regents Lecturer, from April 21-26.

The first screening will take place at 7:30 p.m. on April 23, in the UCSD Mandeville Recital Hall, featuring videos made in 1988 and 1989 during the Gdansk strikes and negotiations, under the title "Transformation: Documentaries 1988-89."

The second screening, under the heading "Deformation: Video Art and Documentary 1990-91," will include three videos on post-Solidarity life, April 25, at 7:30 p.m. in the UCSD Center for Music Experiment. The screenings are free and open to the public.

A communications colloquium titled "On Documenting Solidarity" will be held 12:30-2 p.m., April 24, in Room 201 of the Media Center/Communications Building. Admission is free; limited seating is available.

A panel discussion will be held at 4 p.m., April 26, in the Center for Music Experiment, titled "Art and the State," and sponsored by the UCSD Interarts Consortium. This event is free and open to the public.

Bikont has won several Polish film awards for his work, including the Art-Film Award at Film Days in L6di (1979), and Best Documentary at Students' Film Festival, Sosnowiac (1984). He is currently collaborating on a series of four one-hour documentary videos for the BBC, titled "A Year in Poland."

During the latter part of 1981 until October of 1982, Bikont was imprisoned for "political and cultural" activity in Poland. Prior to this, he was a student of film at the L6di Film School (1978-82).

An active musician and vocalist, Bikont has collaborated in Poland in the jazz, rock and experimental music genres. He has taken part in a number of performance art works, and is a founder of a theatre performance workshop. Fluent in English, he has translated the work of American "beat" poets Allen Ginsberg and Lawrence Ferlinghetti, as well as that of Charles Bukowski, Jerome Rothenberg and others, into Polish.

In 1988, Bikont was awarded the annual Award of Independent Journalists (from the delegalized Polish Journalists' Association) for his collaboration with fellow videographer Leszek Dziunowicz on "Ballad of a Strike," 1988.

For more information call 534-2860. Parking permits are required on the UCSD campus. They may be purchased at the Gilman Drive and the Northview Drive information pavilions.

Editors note: Piotr Bikont will be available for interviews.

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