CALL FOR PAPERS

Patriots, Traitors, and National Culture
An area of multiple panels for the 2016 Film & History Conference: “Gods and Heretics”
October 26-30, 2016
The Hilton Milwaukee
Milwaukee, WI (USA)

DEADLINE for abstracts: June 1, 2016

Patriotism functions, particularly in the modern world, as a kind of secular religion. Love of country, or of nation, can be as fierce, and as complex in its expression, as love of god. Self-proclaimed patriots confronted by those they see as traitors—who may, themselves, see the roles as precisely reversed—reserve for them a wrath matched only by that which believers visit upon heretics.

This area invites papers that explore the diverse ways in which patriotism has been promoted, expressed, redefined, and challenged in moving-image media. Proposals may deal with works from any region or time period; from drama, documentary, propaganda, journalism or advertising; and from internet video as well as traditional film and television.

Possible themes and topics include, but are not limited to:

- "The King Is Dead:" Political treachery on screen from Macbeth to Game of Thrones
- Presenting national identity through film at EPCOT and World's Fairs
- The traitor as (anti-)hero (Cromwell, Valkyrie, and House of Cards)
- Patriotism and political fantasy (Gabriel Over the White House, Wag the Dog)
- Film and nation-building (Triumph of the Will, The Battle of Algiers, The Russian Ark)
- "This Is How Liberty Dies:" Patriotism Gone Awry (The Siege, Starship Troopers)
- Traitors Among Us (The Manchurian Candidate, The Americans, 24)
- Patriotism and political advertising ("Daisy Girl," "Morning in America")
- Nationalism as tragedy (Earth [1998], Hotel Rwanda, Welcome to Sarajevo)
- Patriotism as comedy (Rally 'Round the Flag, Boys!, Passport to Pimlico)

Proposals for complete panels (three related presentations) are also welcome, but they must include an abstract and contact information, including an e-mail address, for each presenter. For updates and registration information about the upcoming meeting, see the Film & History website (www.filmandhistory.org).

Please e-mail your 200-word proposal by June 1, 2016, to the area chair:

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