

John Bush's **Yatra Trilogy**  
 April 14 - May 6

Immerse yourself in the breathtaking Yatra Trilogy — the first time all three films are screened in Boston. “Images of the landscape, temples, and art dazzle with their gemlike luminosity and vaulting immensity.” (Peter Keogh, Boston Phoenix).



*Dharma River*

***Dharma River: Journey of a Thousand Buddhas***

Sat, Apr 14, 3:45 pm    Wed, May 2, 6 pm  
 Thu, Apr 26, 6:20 pm    Sun, May 6, 10:15 am  
 Sat, Apr 28, 10:30 pm

*Dharma River: Journey of a Thousand Buddhas* (2004, 81 min.). Dharma is the Sanskrit word for universal law. Essential to Buddhist understanding, dharma is the natural order, a living truth, and a force for awakening. *Dharma River* is a lyrical and exquisite sensory journey through Southeast Asia's great spiritual and cultural treasures. Visiting the legendary lost civilizations and living wisdom traditions of Laos, Thailand, and Burma, *Dharma River* powerfully conveys their continuing relevance for contemporary audiences. Ancient temples, mystical landscapes, and wondrous shrines—many of them UNESCO world heritage sites—provide a rich visual tapestry. With a score of rare classical Southeast Asian music, this visual voyage masterfully illuminates artistic and devotional traditions. From the canals of Bangkok to the mountains of Laos, from the golden pagodas of Burma to the Mekong River, the film is a unique experience of sacred space.



*Prajna Earth*

***Prajna Earth: Journey into Sacred Nature***

Sat, Apr 14, 5:30 pm    Thu, May 3, 6:15 pm  
 Thu, Apr 26, 8 pm    Sun, May 6, 11:45 am  
 Sat, Apr 28, 12:15 pm

*Prajna Earth: Journey into Sacred Nature* (2004, 85 min.). Filmed entirely on location in Southeast Asia, the second film of the Yatra Trilogy is a stunning cinematic journey to the legendary temples of Angkor in Cambodia, the spiritual sites of Bali, and finally the marvel of Buddhist Borobudur in Java. *Prajna Earth* is a pilgrimage to sacred intersections where Buddhist and Hindu wisdom traditions merge with the animist worship of nature. Monks and nuns travel on foot for days to reach a full moon gathering near Angkor Wat, the largest temple in the world. The dance of the Devatas celebrates the rebirth of this classic art form within the cultural healing of wartorn Cambodia. As the journey moves to Bali, gamelan music, Ramayana dance, and lively street processions echo through the hill town of Ubud. In Java, a night of animist trance dance and spirit possession is followed by a golden dawn and ascent of the startling seven-level stupa of Borobudur.



*Vajra Sky Over Tibet*

***Vajra Sky over Tibet***

Sat, Apr 14, 7:15 pm    Thu, May 3, 8 pm  
 Fri, Apr 27, 6:15 pm    Sun, May 6, 1:30 pm  
 Sat, Apr 28, 2 pm

*Vajra Sky Over Tibet* (2006, 89 min.). *Vajra* is the thunderbolt of awakening that cuts through delusion. It is the indestructible power of truth at the heart of Vajrayana Buddhism in Tibet. Filmed in Central Tibet, *Vajra Sky* is a cinematic pilgrimage offering a direct experience of some of the most revered temples, monasteries, and festivals still surviving. The vastness of snow mountains, rushing rivers, and turquoise lakes leads the journey westward to the holy sites of Shigatse and Gyantse. Returning to Lhasa, the luminous faces of pilgrims in front of the legendary Jokhang Temple glow in the flicker of butter lamp offerings. The empty windows and doors of the traditional homes of His Holiness The Dalai Lama, the Potala and Norbulinka, signal his painful absence. Yet the exuberant blossoms of the Summer Palace hold the promise of natural cycles of return. During the colorful Drepung Monastery festival, a giant scroll painting of the Buddha covers a mountain as spiritually famished Chinese join with the multitude of Tibetan pilgrims. Director present April 14.