

The Baltimore Environmental Film Series at Loyola University Maryland

Presents: *WALL·E* (Stanton, 2008)

April 22, 2016 at 7:30 PM

Loyola University Maryland – Academic Quad

Rain Location – McGuire Hall

Event Synopsis

Celebrate Earth Day with a viewing of *WALL·E* under the stars on the quad. Bring blankets, lawn chairs and maybe even a picnic dinner. In the year future the Waste Allocation Loader Lifter Earth Class (aka WALL·E) faces the seemingly impossible task of cleaning up an abandoned Earth covered with waste. WALL·E spends his days tidying and collecting trinkets he has saved and repaired. In his many years doing so has developed compassion and personality and is very lonely until another robot appears which sets WALL·E off on an adventure.

Resources for Attendees

- The Economics of WALL·E - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=g9Og4qkn67o>
- Pixar Film Site - <http://pixar-animation.weebly.com/wall-e.html>
- Cinema & Globalization - WALL·E article - <http://www.globalcinema.eu/single.php?sl=apocalypse-consumerism-animation>
- Encyclical Letter – Laudato Si on Care for Our Common Home - http://w2.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/encyclicals/documents/papa-francesco_20150524_enciclica-laudato-si.html

Discussion Questions

- Should we be concerned about the current condition of the Earth? Why or why not?
- How has life and U.S. Society changed in the last 100 years? What has enabled this change to occur in such a short time? How might life and society change in the next 100 years?
- With the way in which our technology is ever increasing, could you envision a future in which robots and machines perform many of the activities currently done by man? Do you think life would be better or worse if we had robots and machines to perform everyday tasks?
- In Laudato Si, Pope Francis writes *“a sober look at our world shows that the degree of human intervention, often in the service of business interests and consumerism, is actually making our earth less rich and beautiful, ever more limited and grey, even as technological advances and consumer goods continue to abound limitlessly. We seem to think that we can substitute an irreplaceable and irretrievable beauty with something which we have created ourselves.”* Do you agree with Francis’ statement? Why or why not?
- What is BnL and how is this fictional corporation characteristic of some of today’s corporations? What does BnL indicate about today’s society?
- Do corporations have a responsibility to develop environmental friendly and sustainable policies?
- WALL·E repairs himself using parts that he collects and never disposes of what he can save and reuse. How can saving and reusing contribute to a healthier planet?
- Do we have a moral obligation to protect and preserve the Earth? Why or why not?
- An appealing part of the movie is the interaction between Wall-e and Eve. These robots interact more than the humans in the movie do. Have we become so dependent upon and linked to technology (cell phones, ipods, computers, etc.) that we have sacrificed the human contact and interaction that helps make us human?

Sponsors

[Messina](#); the departments of [Chemistry](#), [Physics](#), [Law & Social Responsibility](#), [Theology](#), & [Economics](#); [Film Studies](#), [Office of Student Engagement](#), [Natural and Applied Sciences](#), and Environmental & Sustainability Studies