

## CROCEVIA DI SGUARDI XII edition

### *The everyday superdiversity* Focus on USA as Guest Country

Thursday 27 October 2016, 21.00, Piccolo Cinema



#### **IN JACKSON HEIGHTS** **by Frederick Wiseman, US 2015, 190'**

Jackson Heights is a neighborhood in New York, Queens, where immigrants of various nationalities live side by side in some kind of harmony. This area is a real multicultural pot, with Hare Krishna, transgender people, children who study the Qur'an with the hijab, and elderly Jews who commemorate the Holocaust. Jackson Heights is just a twenty minute-subway-ride from Manhattan, and local merchants are concerned about the future of the neighborhood; they fear that it will suffer the same fate of neighboring Brooklyn, where hipsters have taken over and the threat of the invasion of large chain stores has driven rents skyrocketing. After the previous films on large organizations such as hospitals, prisons and a ballet company, the award-winning filmmaker, Frederick Wiseman, turns his gaze to the large variety of sub-cultures concentrated in a small corner of New York.

Lecturer: Giovanni Semi (University of Turin)

**Frederick Wiseman** was born in Boston in 1930 and graduated in law. Between 1954 and 1956 he entered U.S. Army. Wiseman spent a few years in Paris before coming back and started teaching law at the Boston University. After the forensic contest he started documentary filmmaking. In 1969, Wiseman produced the full-length film *Titicut Follies*, recorded inside a mental hospital in Massachusetts. The style of Wiseman's films is referred to the observational mode of the direct cinema. Wiseman's films are an elaboration of a personal experience and not an ideologically objective portrait of his subjects. Through a great elaboration in the final cut of his films, it is present a narrative structure, not necessary coherent and conclusive. In 2014, alongside with the editor Thelma Schoonmaker, he was awarded the Golden Lion for Lifetime Achievement at the 71st Venice International Film Festival.

**Giovanni Semi** is a Sociologist and teaches at the Department of Culture, Politics and Society of the University of Turin. He is interested in cultural, urban and social change. Alongside with E. Colombo he edited *Multiculturalismo quotidiano: le pratiche della differenza* (Angeli, 2007). His last book is *Gentrification. Tutte le città come Disneyland?* (Il Mulino, 2015).

**Under the auspices of the American Embassy**

**Edited by Pietro Cingolani e Francesco Gai Via**

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