

A Different Evening
International Film Club at Ahmedabad University
(In Memory of Prof. Niranjana Bhagat)

Date: **May 13, 2022, Friday.**

Time: 8:30 p.m.

Venue: Ahmedabad University Auditorium,
GICT Building, Near M G Science College.



Name of the Film: **Lee Daniels' "The Butler"**

Date of Release: August 16, 2013.

Director: Lee Daniels (2 Oscars + Other 30 Awards + 28 Nominations)

Cinematography: Andrew Dunn (1 BAFTA Award + 5 Awards + 4 Nominations)

Music: Rodrigo Leão (3 Awards + 9 Nominations)

Genre: Biography, Drama

Duration: 2 Hours 12 Minutes

Awards: (2 BAFTA Nominations + Other 16 Awards + 55 Nominations)

Also known as: Le majordome

Actors:

Forest Whitaker (1 Oscar Award + 58 Other Awards + 70 Nominations)

Oprah Winfrey (2 Oscars + 54 Awards + 90 Nominations)

John Cusack (1 BAFTA Award + 8 Other Awards + 20 Nominations)

Jane Fonda (2 Oscars + 57 Other Awards + 65 Nominations)

Audio Language: **English** Subtitles: **English**

Colour: Colour

Aspect Ratio: 16:9 High Definition (720p)

About the film:

Cecil Gaines was a sharecropper's son who grew up in the 1920s as a domestic servant for a white family. Eventually striking out on his own, Cecil becomes a hotel valet of such efficiency in the 1950s that he becomes a butler in the White House itself. There, Cecil would serve numerous US Presidents over the decades as a passive witness of history with the American Civil Rights Movement gaining momentum even as his family has troubles of its own. As his wife, Gloria, struggles with her addictions and his defiant eldest son, Louis, strives for a just world, Cecil must decide whether he should take action in his own way.

Trivia about the Film:

The character of Cecil Gaines was based on Eugene Allen, who served as White House butler for over 30 years and 8 presidents: Harry S. Truman, Dwight D. Eisenhower, John F. Kennedy, Lyndon B. Johnson, Richard Nixon, Gerald Ford, Jimmy Carter, and Ronald Reagan. Much of the detail is fictionalized for this movie.

The film cast includes six Oscar winners: Forest Whitaker, Oprah Winfrey, Robin Williams, Jane Fonda, Vanessa Redgrave and Cuba Gooding Jr.; and an Oscar nominee Terrence Howard.

The film was first inspired by a feature article published November 7, 2008, in the Washington Post: "A Butler Well Served by This Election."

Warner Brothers Pictures, owners of a 1916 silent short film called *The Butler* (1916), filed a claim with the MPAA to rename this film. The MPAA allowed the Weinstein Company to add Lee Daniels' name in front of the title.

The film reunites Robin Williams and Forest Whitaker after 26 years. Their first appearance together was in "Good Morning, Vietnam" (1987).

Tagline:

"Darkness cannot drive out darkness. Only light can do that."

- Martin Luther King Jr.