



MASTER FILMMAKER COMES TO ABERDEEN

One of the world's most revered filmmakers has been appointed as a professor at the University of Aberdeen.

Master Chilean director Raoul Ruiz is now a Professor of Film and Modern Thought at the University, and will begin teaching this autumn. His appointment is aimed at helping to reshape the University's film programme by joining issues of film art, production and critical thought.

Ruiz's extensive filmography covers over one hundred titles, including *Días de campo* (2004), *Comedy of Innocence* (2000), with Isabelle Huppert, and *Le Temps Retrouvé* (1998), with screen diva Catherine Deneuve.

His latest film *Klímt* (2006) is based on the scandalous life of Austrian painter Gustav Klimt, with John Malkovich in the starring role. *Hypothèse du tableau volé, L'* (1979) was the first film Ruiz made in France after leaving Chile, where he had been head of the state film office. He was forced to flee when Salvador Allende's government fell to the Pinochet dictatorship in 1973.

His appointment is part of the University's ongoing Sixth Century Campaign, one strand

of which aims to build a community of the world's finest academics through Sixth Century Chairs.

"It's a tremendous reflection of the current strength of Film Studies at the University that we can attract someone of the calibre of Raoul," said Professor Chris Fynsk, Head of the School of Language and Literature at the University of Aberdeen.

"He is as prolific as he is acclaimed and continues to prove himself as one of the most exciting and innovative filmmakers of recent years. We are delighted to welcome him into the School."