

THE CENTER FOR
SOUTHEAST ASIAN STUDIES
FALL 2009 FILM SERIES

hawaii.edu/cseas/film



andrea hirata
laskar
pelangi

Wednesday, 18 November 2009

2008, 125 minutes



Laskar Pelangi, is a film adaptation of Andrea Hirata's best-selling literary work based on his childhood memories that first appeared on shelves in 2004. Set on the Sumatran island of Belitong, the film opens with the adult Ikal returning to his birthplace after a number of years away. From there it flashes back his first day at school, with two teachers -- Muslimah and Harfan -- who have been eagerly waiting for students to enroll at their decrepit Islamic primary school. Since the district school board has already declared that their little school must close if it doesn't meet the ten-student minimum, this particular day is obviously a nervous affair for both teachers. Fortunately, ten students (mostly children of poor laborers) do sign up, forming a small enclave of first-graders christened by Muslimah as "The Rainbow Troops." Besides Ikal, the eclectic group comprises an assortment of characters -- mainly Lintang, a fisherman's son who turns out to be a genius and Mahar, a musically obsessed dreamer who is never without a radio by his side.

A fave at the Asian Film Awards and the Berlin International Film Festival, 2009. -Miles Films



WEDNESDAY
11/18/09

KOREAN STUDIES
AUDITORIUM

6:30 PM
FREE!!!



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