

press release

REEL 13 film descriptions

Saturday, June 21: *Go For Broke!* and *Spider*

9 p.m. Reel 13 Classic: *Go For Broke!* (1951) 92 min.

Van Johnson stars in this dramatization of the real-life story of the 442nd Regimental Combat Team, which was composed of second-generation Americans born of Japanese parents. Fighting in the European theater during World War II, this unit became the most heavily decorated unit for its size and length of service – and bore one of the highest casualty rates – in the history of the U.S. Army. A Hollywood rarity, the film features Asian-Americans (including several veterans of the 442nd) in a positive light, highlighting the irony of Japanese-Americans who fought bravely for their country while that same country interned their families in camps.

10:40 p.m. Reel 13 Indie: *Spider* (2002) 94 min.

Directed by David Cronenberg, this dramatic thriller stars Ralph Fiennes, Miranda Richardson, Gabriel Byrne, and Lynn Redgrave. A paranoid-schizophrenic man in his 30s (Fiennes) is released after 20 years in a halfway house for the mentally ill in London. He has never truly recovered. Struggling to cope with his illness, he tries to unravel a mysterious and tormented past, discovering secrets that threaten to shatter his already fragile mental state.