

The Blanka Rosenstiel Lecture Series on Poland

European and Eurasian Studies Program



European Film Series

Marie Curie: The Courage of Knowledge

Film Screening

Monday, Oct. 30, 2017 | 0:00 AM—12:00 PM | FIU—MMC | Graham Center— GC 314

"**Marie Curie: The Courage of Knowledge**," a fascinating story about the genius and perseverance of the legendary Polish physicist and chemist, the only woman to receive the Nobel Prize twice in two different disciplines.

Focusing on the most turbulent years of 1906 - 1911 in the life of Maria Sklodowska Curie, the film delivers an inside look of a truly remarkable woman. Marie and her husband, Pierre Curie, received the Nobel Prize in Physics in 1903 for their joint discovery of radium and radioactivity. In 1906, however, a tragic accident left Marie a widow - Pierre was run over by a horse-drawn carriage in Paris. By sheer will and determination, and because she was now raising two young daughters alone, she continued her chemical research and also became the first woman Professor at the Sorbonne. But science was considered a man's world and Marie's courage was not always well received. In addition to being viewed as impudent, in 1911 she began a passionate affair with friend, Paul Langevin, the French mathematician whose marriage had been troubled for years. Alarmed by the scandal and malevolent headlines, the Swedish Academy forbid her to personally receive her second Nobel Prize for discovering polonium. Throughout a months-long smear campaign Curie remained level-headed and focused, and in the end she was able to receive her much deserved recognition.

The film is in French with English subtitles and starring Polish actress, Karolina Gruszka, as Curie.

For more information, email Alex Alibrandi at aalib008@fiu.edu

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