



# The Films of BYUN YOUNG-JOO

Byun Young-joo is a South Korean film director whose films explore issues of women's rights and human rights. She is best known for her trilogy documenting the present and past lives of the Korean women who were forced into sexual slavery by the Japanese Imperial Army during World War II, and known as "comfort women." Her films helped advance the women's demands for a formal apology and compensation from the Japanese government.



## 낮은 목소리 2 (Habitual Sadness)

Tuesday, October 10, 6:00 – 8:30 pm  
Theater of the Davis Marksbury Building  
(329 Rose Street)

**Screening followed by a reception  
featuring a Q&A with director Byun Young-joo**

*Habitual Sadness* (1997), the second film in Byun's trilogy about "comfort women," was initiated at the request of the women, who asked Byun to film the last days of a survivor. *Habitual Sadness* uses contemporary footage of the women bearing witness to a horrific period of their own lives, and is a testament to their strength as they replace their painful memories with the warmth of communal life.



## 화차 (Helpless)

Tuesday, October 17, 6:00 – 8:30 pm  
Theater of the Davis Marksbury Building  
(329 Rose Street)

Director Byun's highly acclaimed commercial film, *Helpless* (2012), addresses important social issues, through the vehicle of a psychological mystery/thriller that revolves around a man gradually learning about his fiancée's dark past after she mysteriously disappears.

At the University of Kentucky, these events are sponsored by Department of Modern and Classical Languages, Literatures, and Cultures, with support from Department of Gender and Women's Studies, Department of Geography, Department of Anthropology, and the International Studies Program.

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