

Community Film Workshop Series

Tonight's Session: Neptune Frost

Liberation, Technology, and the Body as Resistance




Part of Sentient Meat's monthly educational workshop series exploring the art of film, all attendees tonight are participating as **Student Members** under our nonprofit's educational program. We're glad you're here!

Workshop Overview

We'll watch *Neptune Frost* and reflect together on:

- How communities resist extraction and authoritarian power
 - The relationship between technology, the body, and liberation
 - What Afrofuturism imagines beyond the limits of the present
- #### Session Goals
- Explore themes of collective resistance, identity, and self-determination
 - Discuss how art, music, and imagination function as tools of survival and revolt
 - Consider what futurist thinking looks like from the margins — and what it offers all of us

Session Schedule

Time	Activity
6:00–6:50 PM	 Doors open, Student Member sign-in, tea/snack break
7:00–8:30 PM	 Film screening
8:30–9:30 PM	 Group discussion + reflection

About the Film

Neptune Frost is an Afrofuturist sci-fi punk musical co-directed by poet and musician Saul Williams and Rwandan-born artist and cinematographer Anisia Uzeyman, shot in the hilltops of Burundi. It follows Neptune, an intersex runaway played by two actors, and Matalusa, a coltan miner fleeing after the killing of his brother, whose paths converge through something like cosmic fate. Together they fall in with a community of escaped miners who have formed an anti-colonialist hacker collective, staging a digital uprising against the authoritarian regime extracting the land — and the people — around them.

The film exists between states: past and present, dream and waking, colonized and free. Its politics and its music are inseparable — the singing is the resistance, the costuming is the argument, the poetry is the analysis. If you find it disorienting, that's intentional. Williams and Uzeyman aren't making a film about revolution so much as trying to make a revolutionary film.

Guided Discussion Prompts

Opening Reflection

- What images, sounds, or moments are still with you?
- Did you find the film disorienting? Exhilarating? Both? What do you think that feeling is doing?

Extraction and Exploitation

- The film connects the minerals inside our phones to labor exploitation and colonial violence. Did that connection land differently after seeing it dramatized?
- Where do you see extraction — of land, labor, creativity, or culture — in your own community?

Technology as Weapon and Tool

- The hacker collective turns the infrastructure of surveillance and capitalism against itself. What does that suggest about who technology serves — and who it can serve?
- How do you relate to technology as something that liberates, controls, or both?

Optional Reflection Prompt

If you'd like to share your thoughts with our community:

- Write or sketch a short vision of an alternative world — one built around what your community actually values and needs.
- Or reflect on a time when creativity felt like an act of resistance or reclamation.

Identity Beyond Binary

- Neptune is intersex and played by two actors — the film refuses to stabilize their identity into a single form. How did that shape your experience of the character?
- What does it mean to exist "between states" — of gender, memory, waking and dream?

Art, Music, and Revolution

- *Neptune Frost* is a sci-fi punk musical — the singing and performance aren't separate from the politics, they *are* the politics. How does that work?
- How do you use art, music, or storytelling as resistance or survival in your own life?



Futurism from the Margins

- Afrofuturism imagines futures that center communities usually erased from visions of "progress." Who gets to imagine the future — and whose futures get imagined?
- What would a futurist vision rooted in *your* community look like

Student Agreement

All student members must sign in before the screening. Your participation is your acknowledgment of the Safer Spaces Policy and Student Membership terms.

You may indicate agreement via:

- Checking the box on the sign-in form
-  Adding a signature or initials
-  Typing your name on a digital or printed form

Safer Spaces Policy

By participating in this event, you agree to:

- Respect everyone's identity and lived experience
- Listen actively and avoid speaking over others
- Engage with openness, not judgment
- Use content warnings for potentially triggering topics
- Ask for consent before physical contact or intense conversation

If someone makes a request for space, change of topic, or support, we ask you to honor it.

Facilitators are here to support a safe and inclusive environment. You can speak with us at any time if something feels off.

Student Membership Terms

By attending as a Student Member, you agree to:

- Participate in the discussion as part of your educational session
- Sign in and confirm your participation
- Uphold our Safer Spaces Policy during the event
- Consent to your signature being recorded via checkbox, signature line, or typed acknowledgment

This event qualifies as **in-person, instructor-led education** under Ohio Revised Code § 5739.01(B)(3)(q). Your attendance is part of a **nonprofit educational program**, not a ticketed performance.