



THE GRAVEL ROAD CHEMMAN CHAALAI

FILM SCREENING:
THE GRAVEL ROAD / CHEMMAN CHAALAI

The Gravel Road / Chamman Chaalai (2005, Malaysia)
Director: Deepak Kumaran Menon

Widely regarded as one of the pioneering works of Malaysian independent cinema, the film follows Shantha, a teenage girl in a plantation Malaysian Indian family, as she strives to pursue her education despite financial hardship and her parents' traditional expectations.

Shot in a raw, naturalistic style, Chemman Chaalai offers an intimate window into Indian Malaysian life, moving audiences through its authenticity and emotional richness. Beyond Shantha's personal journey, the film explores wider questions of racial marginalization, the plantationocene, and the after lives of colonialism.

Pizza will be served!
RSVP

EVENT DETAILS

DATE: Wednesday, April 15, 2026

TIME: 5:30 PM – 8:00 PM (US/Central)

LOCATION: The Honors Commons

PRESENTER: Dr. Mohan Ambikaipaker



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