



10/26/11

## LAist Film Calendar 10/27-10/31: Horrific Inclinations at Cinefamily, 'My Reincarnation' at Laemmle's

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We take a complete 180 from the depths of hell toward the heights of enlightenment with the documentary [My Reincarnation](#). It's a common conflict in immigrant families: an old world father wants to uphold cultural heritage, while his new world son wants little to do with it. *My Reincarnation* adds a unique spiritual layer to this story: the father, Tibetan Buddhist Master Chögyal Namkhai Norbu, is a Rinpoche, a celebrated teacher who travels the world and expects his family to fit neatly alongside his followers. His Italian-born son, Yeshi, feels particularly left behind. When he learns he's the reincarnation of another Rinpoche, he decides, to his father's chagrin, to devote his life to other pursuits.



*MY REINCARNATION* courtesy Long Shot Factory. Photo Credit: Luigi Ottaviani.

Shot over 20 years, *My Reincarnation* ponders a simple question: does our family ultimately drive our decisions, or can it be fate? The backdrop of Tibetan spiritual leadership transforms a familiar struggle into something truly fascinating. Those familiar with the faith will flock to the unprecedented access into the private life of a Rinpoche, including his teachings, seminars & meetings with His Holiness the Dalai Lama. The footage was all personally recorded by the film's producer & director, Jennifer Fox, which lends a welcome consistency & completeness to the story. Even as the story spans decades, it feels as though it unfolds in real time, before our eyes. As a non-believer, it's strangely reassuring to see that the regional wise men popularly portrayed as literally "above it all" encounter the same difficulties in their day-to-day lives that we do. *My Reincarnation* opens at Laemmle's Santa Monica, with Jennifer Fox appearing for Q&A's after the Sunday & Monday evening shows.