

December 22, 2011

Popcorn & Candy: Why is My Body Changing for the Holidays Edition

. . .

My Reincarnation

What it is: Not your father's Tibetan master.

Why you want to see it: A Buddhist temple gathering dryly cuts to a credit sequence set to Paolo Conte's whimsical "Via con me." This kind of culture clash and connection is at the heart of Jennifer Fox's documentary My Reincarnation. The film covers 20 years as it follows Buddhist teacher Chögyal Namkhai Norbu and his Italian-born son, Yeshi, who from an early age was recognized as the reincarnation of another Buddhist teacher. Will the son, who we see grow from pizzafaced skeptic to successful businessman, continue to resist his father's footsteps? Will the father, distracted by his demands as a teacher, learn to communicate with his son? Even those who have never assumed the lotus position may find wisdom in this Oedipal story of growth and contemplation, and those who recognize the distraction of Samsara will be even more intrigued by the subject's—and thus the filmmaker's—close access to the Dalai Lama.



View the trailer.

Opens tomorrow at West End Cinema, 2301 M Street NW. Tickets \$11.