

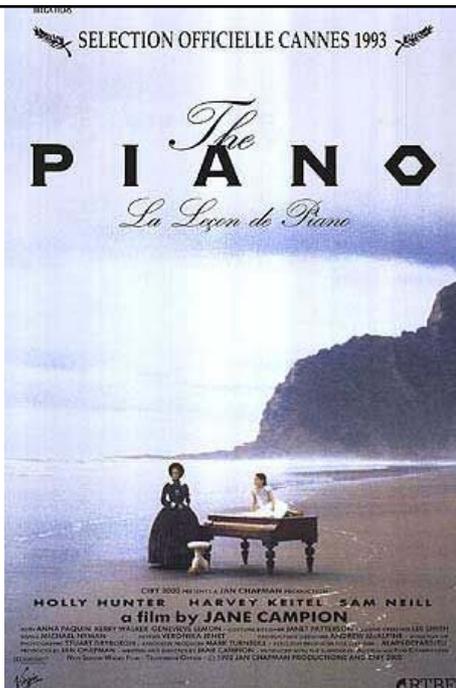
# Gender and Body Politics

Speaker: Peter  
Date:2014/10/28

# The Piano

# Overview

- ▶ Director: Jane Campion
- ▶ Release Date : 1993
- ▶ Cast : Holly Hunter; Harvey Keitel; Sam Neill; Anna Paquin
- ▶ Running Time : 109 mins
- ▶ Rated : NC17



# Forte

- ▶ Feminine Perspective on Love & Sex;
- ▶ an Unconventional Storyline
- ▶ Three Academy Awards Won

# Aphasia

- ▶ Ada McGrath lost her ability of language
- ▶ Six years old, the critical age of Oedipus Complex
- ▶ Trinity: Ada, Flora, and the Piano
- ▶ Affection to the piano, a symbol for the mother
- ▶ Re-presentation of the pre-Oedipus stage
- ▶ Flora, an advocate of women-trading system

# Distrust in Language

- ▶ Falsity of Language
- ▶ Redundancy of Language
- ▶ Secularization of Language

# Questions

- ▶ Why is Ada so different from other female characters?
- ▶ How does Jane Campion create the singularity of Ada?
- ▶ Do you get attracted by any imagery of the film?
- ▶ How can you interpret the piano as a metaphorical symbol?
- ▶ What does George Baines and Alistair Stewart represent as a pair of male actors?
- ▶ Why does Ada start to speak? What does it mean?
- ▶ Why does Ada put the piano into the sea and die with it?

# Farewell My Concubine

M. Butterfly V.S. 程蝶衣



# Castrated Body



## Castrated Body



## Body in Disguise



## Transformative Body



## Guy or Gay



## Dominated Body



## Eyebrow Painting



## Eyebrow Painting & Revolution



## conclusion

- ▶ Body can be docile.
- ▶ Body can be productive.
- ▶ Body can transform.
- ▶ Body can fool people.
- ▶ Body can give pleasure.
- ▶ Body can be revolutionary.