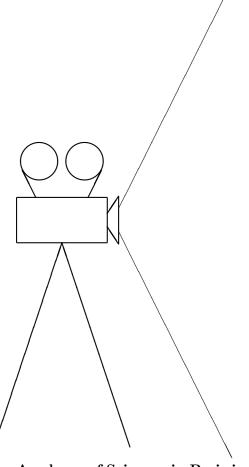
University of Kentucky

Math Movie of the Month presents:



Wolfgang Doeblin
a Mathematician
Rediscovered

The conflict of war and genius

"At the Academy of Sciences in Paris in May 2000 a sealed letter with the number 11668 is opened. The letter, sent 60 years before by the mathematician Wolfgang Doeblin, contains the manuscript, "On Kolmogorov's equation". It causes a sensation. It proves that as early as 1940 Doeblin developed a theory to calculate the role of chance in continuous random processes. His work was twenty-five years ahead of its time.

Wolfgang Doeblin was born in Berlin in 1915. In 1933 he and his family fled to Paris. Doeblin starts to study mathematics and proves to be a brilliant probabilist. In the winter of 1939/40 he is stationed as a soldier in the Vosges near the French and German border. During this time he writes his manuscript and sends it as a sealed letter to the Academy of Sciences. A few months later, threatened to be captured by the German Wehrmacht, he burns his mathematical notes and commits suicide." – 80 min.

Thursday March 11th, 2010 7:30pm in Classroom Building 242

For more information see: www.math.uky.edu/~movies