

MUSEUM OF THE MOVING IMAGE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE (MAY 25, 2017)

OVERVIEW OF PROGRAMS AND EXHIBITIONS, JUNE 2017

MAJOR FILM PROGRAMS

Indelible Portraits: Polish Hybrid Nonfiction

June 2–4, 2017

Polish documentary came into its own in the late 1950s and early '60s, when the first political thaw after Stalin's death made it possible to speak openly about social and political ills. A "black series" of documentaries spoke out about dire conditions in post-war Poland. But by the 1970s and '80s, filmmakers realized that social commentary was not enough. They craved a new approach to form. The resulting films were bold and inventive. They were also metaphorical and clever, to outwit the censors. In this program, guest curator Ela Bittencourt gathers key works made in this tradition of Polish hybrid documentaries, including work by Bogdan Dziworski, Marcel, Łoziński Zofia Kowalewska, Michał Szcześniak, Marcin Koszałka and Michał Marczak. Made possible with support from the Polish Cultural Institute New York. [More info](#)

See It Big! Spielberg Summer

June 3–July 16, 2017

Steven Spielberg is the ultimate "See It Big" director. The idea that a movie should be larger than life, visceral and kinetic in its impact, and able to transport an audience defines Spielberg's approach to filmmaking, whether he is making us experience wonderment or fear, and whether he is making a sheerly entertaining thriller or an absorbing historical drama. Spielberg has now been making films for more than 45 years, and has been Hollywood's dominant creative force ever since his blockbuster hit *Jaws* devoured the summer of 1975. The seventeen films in this series include ***Duel, Jaws, Jurassic Park, E.T. the Extra-Terrestrial, Poltergeist, A.I. Artificial Intelligence, Minority Report, The Color Purple, Empire of the Sun, Always, 1941, Raiders of the Lost Ark, Schindler's List, Saving Private Ryan, Lincoln, Bridge of Spies, and Munich***. On the occasion of this series, the Museum of the Moving Image and *Reverse Shot* will publish their second book: *Steven Spielberg: Nostalgia and the Light*. [More info](#)

Film Movement: A 15th Anniversary Celebration

June 8–July 2, 2017

Film Movement is a New York-based distributor of outstanding independent and international films that has released more than 250 feature films and shorts. With an innovative distribution strategy including theatrical runs and a film-of-the-month club, and a library including new films from the international festival circuit and classics by

established directors, Film Movement plays a vital cultural role in introducing the best in global cinema to American audiences. This retrospective includes a selection of fifteen feature films and a number of shorts, to celebrate the vitality and vision of the company. The series opens on Thursday, June 8, with ***In Between***, an energetic and distinctly modern dramedy by the Palestinian director Maysaloun Hamoud, who will receive the Young Talents award at Cannes this year from Isabelle Huppert. *In Between's* producer Shlomi Elkabetz (*Gett: The Trial of Viviane Amsalem*) will introduce the screening in person and the film is scheduled to open theatrically at the end of the year. The series continues with Takeshi Kitano's second feature ***Boiling Point***, Naji Abu Nowar's Academy Award®-nominated "Bedouin Western" ***Theeb***, Pedro González-Rubio's narrative documentary hybrid ***Alamar***, Eric Rohmer's '80s classic ***Full Moon in Paris***, Alice Rohrwacher's gritty exploration of Italian Catholicism, ***Corpo Celeste***, ***Papirosen***, Gastón Solnicki's intimate portrait of multiple generations of his own family in Argentina; Wolf Gremm's ***Kamikaze '89***, featuring the legendary director Rainer Werner Fassbinder in his final acting role; ***Human Capital***, Paolo Virzi's adaptation of Stephen Amidon's acclaimed novel; Mexican director Fernando Eimbcke's dreamy, mesmerizing ***Lake Tahoe***; *Toni Erdmann* director Maren Ade's debut feature, ***The Forest for the Trees***; Argentine director Lucia Puenzo's ***XXY***, a delicate tale of sexuality and identity; Marleen Gorris's Academy Award® Foreign Language Film winner ***Antonia's Line***; Shane Meadow's English coming-of-age tale ***Somers Town***, and a closing film, to be announced. [Press release](#) | [More info](#)

The King of Zing, from Queens: A Don Rickles Tribute

SUNDAY, JUNE 11

A Queens kid, the late Don Rickles (1926–2017) was a comedy titan. Raised by Jewish parents in Jackson Heights—"my father was born in Russia and came here when he was three with a gun, a grenade, and a picture of Stalin in his pants" and "my mother was a very strong woman—a Jew Patton"—young Donald J. went to Newport High School in Elmhurst where he was president of both his class and the drama society, enlisted in the Navy during WWII and was stationed in the Philippines. After the war he enrolled at the American Academy of Dramatic Arts and studied alongside Jason Robards, Anne Bancroft, and Grace Kelly, and moved to comedy when a mentor told him to stop chewing up the scenery but "never lose that energy." In honor of the late comedian, the Museum presents a day-long tribute kicking off with John Landis's ***Mr. Warmth, The Don Rickles Project***, featuring interviews with Martin Scorsese, Clint Eastwood, Chris Rock, Bob Newhart, Sarah Silverman, and many others and rare footage of Rickles doing stand-up and home movies. This will be followed by a screening of ***Kelly's Heroes***. Organized by Gabriele Caroti, with Chief Curator David Schwartz and Associate Film Curator Eric Hynes. *Special thanks to John Landis, Gary Binkow, Niloo Badie (Salient Media), and Matt Roberts.* [More info](#)

NEW RELEASE

bwoy

June 23–July 2, 2017

Museum of the Moving Image presents the exclusive New York theatrical engagement of *bwoy*, a suspenseful, deeply affecting, and sharply observed drama about erotic longing and emotional connection from John G. Young. *Bwoy* stars Anthony Rapp as a suburban man who becomes entangled in a chaotic, passionate online affair with Yenny, a young Jamaican man. “Control and emotional intensity are perfectly balanced in John G. Young’s *bwoy*, a minimalist indie in which action is largely mediated by phones and screens,” wrote Amy Taubin in *Film Comment*. “Young’s measured direction and editing and Rapp’s performance are extraordinary for showing how easily repression and guilt can create a dissociated fugue state where virtual and actual become indistinguishable.” [More info](#)

In addition, the Museum continues to present programs in its monthly series ***Changing the Picture***, sponsored by Time Warner Inc.; ***Jim Henson’s World, Fist and Sword***, and ***New Adventures in Nonfiction***.

EVENT HIGHLIGHTS

The GIF Elevator Artist Discussion and Opening Reception

THURSDAY, JUNE 1, 7:00 P.M.

To mark the opening of *The GIF Elevator*, a series of installations featuring animated GIFs commissioned by the Museum, the Museum and GIPHY Arts present a discussion (7:00 to 8:00 p.m.) with participating artists **Matt DiVito**, **Lorna Mills**, and **Rafia Santana** about their practices and the brief but rich history of the GIF, moderated by the Museum’s Curator of Digital Media Jason Eppink and GIPHY’s Community Curator Ari Spool. A reception follows with DJ Marty McSorley and GIF Dance Party, a collaborative real-time installation that turns dancing guests into animated GIFs. Free admission. [Press release](#) | [More info](#)

The Gambler with James Toback in person

SUNDAY, JUNE 4, 7:00 P.M.

The culminating event in the Museum’s James Caan series, ***The Caan Film Festival***, is a special screening of *The Gambler* with writer James Toback in person. [More info](#)

Austrian American Short Film Festival 2

SUNDAY, JUNE 4, 2:00 P.M.

Award-winning films from the second annual festival focused on emerging filmmakers and artist from Austria and the United States, which took place in March in New York City. Some Filmmakers present. Presented in collaboration with the Austrian Cultural Forum. [More info](#)

Snake Brothers (Kobry a užovky)

With screenwriter Jaroslav Žvábek in person

SUNDAY, JUNE 11, 6:30 P.M.

Czech That Film, a nationwide festival presented by Czech Center New York opens with this screening of the winner of the prestigious Czech Lion awards for best film, best director (for Jan Prušinovský), and best cinematography. [More info](#)

Has Hip Hop Lost Its Political Voice?

Town hall discussion with Claude “Paradise” Gray, Dan Charnas, Juhanna Rogers, Thembisa Mshaka, and Young Dirty Bastard in person. Moderated by Bill Stephney

THURSDAY, JUNE 15, 7:00 P.M.

In celebration of June as Black Music Month, the Universal Hip Hop Museum (UHHM) is hosting a town hall forum on the role of hip hop as a channel of political commentary and action. The UHHM is bringing together a group of dynamic thought leaders from various sectors of the hip hop community, to discuss the role of hip hop in shaping the future of communities of color. [More info](#)

The Pride of the Yankees

With Gary Cooper’s daughter, Maria Cooper Janis; Richard Sandomir, author of *The Pride of the Yankees: Lou Gehrig, Gary Cooper, and the Making of a Classic*, and James Andrew Miller in person

SATURDAY, JUNE 17, 2:00 P.M.

Lou Gehrig’s speech at a packed Yankee Stadium on July 4, 1939 (two years before his death), when he said “I consider myself the luckiest man on the face of the earth” was one of the most emotional moments in sports history, and the Samuel Goldwyn film *The Pride of the Yankees* is one of the most enduring of sports movies. Published on the 75th anniversary of the film’s release, *New York Times* sports writer Richard Sandomir’s book *The Pride of the Yankees: Lou Gehrig, Gary Cooper, and the Making of a Classic* (2017, Hachette Books) uses scripts, letters, memos, and rare documents to tell a riveting behind-the-scenes story. The film will be followed by a conversation with Sandomir and Maria Cooper Janis, moderated by the writer James Andrew Miller, and by a book signing in the Museum store. [More info](#)

FATHER’S DAY FAMILY PROGRAM

Virtual Reality Bike Ride with E.T.

SATURDAY, JUNE 18 (TWO SESSIONS: 10:30 A.M. AND 3:00 P.M.)

This Father’s Day special family program pairs a big-screen showing of the Spielberg classic *E.T. the Extra-Terrestrial* with a workshop combining hands-on art making with the digital wonder of virtual reality. In the workshop, families will use clay and drawing materials to create their own three-dimensional version of outer space and space creatures. Participants will take turns pedaling through their collective outer space world using a stationary bike and Google Cardboard virtual reality viewers.

Recommended for ages 6–14 years, all children must be accompanied by an adult.

Admission to the 12:30 p.m. screening of *E.T.* on the same day is included in the

admission fee. [More info](#)

Tyrus

With director Pamela Tom in person

SATURDAY, JUNE 24, 4:00 P.M.

As part of *Changing the Picture*, sponsored by Time Warner Inc., the Museum screens Pamela Tom's 2015 documentary about the renowned painter Tyrus Wong who once exhibited with Picasso and Matisse. Lesser known to the wider world was his work on such classic films as Disney's *Bambi* and *Rebel Without a Cause*. [More info](#)

***Thelma & Louise* introduced by Becky Aikman**

SUNDAY, JUNE 25, 3:00 P.M.

Introduced by Becky Aikman, author of *Off the Cliff: How the Making of Thelma & Louise Drove Hollywood to the Edge*, presented in collaboration with the Astoria Bookshop. Followed by a book signing in the Museum store. [More info](#)

Tatsuya Nakadai in person with *Age of Assassins*

SUNDAY, JUNE 25, 6:00 P.M.

For the venerable Japanese actor's fifth visit to the Museum, he will participate in a discussion following a screening of Kihachi Okamoto's *Age of Assassins*, presented in a 35mm print courtesy of the Japan Foundation with permission from Toho. [More info](#)

EXHIBITIONS AND INSTALLATIONS

Video Arcade

ON VIEW THROUGH JANUARY 15, 2018 IN THE CHANGING EXHIBITIONS GALLERY
A playable showcase of 23 classic video arcade games drawn from the Museum's collection, including some of the era's most beloved games, such as *Donkey Kong*, *Frogger*, *Galaxy Force II*, *Gauntlet*, *Ms. Pac-Man*. [Press release](#) | [More info](#)

The GIF Elevator

First installation: *Yellowwhirlaway* by Lorna Mills on view June 1–July 30, 2017

JUNE 1, 2017–JULY 3, 2018 IN THE VISITOR ELEVATOR

The GIF Elevator features newly commissioned GIFs by six artists, animators, and illustrators who represent some of the most important and influential GIF makers working today: Mr. Div (Matt DiVito), Dain Fagerholm, Render Fruit (Clara Luzian), Lorna Mills, Paul Robertson, and Rafia Santana. Their practices represent a sample of the extraordinary breadth and diversity of the contemporary GIF. Each artist will create four original GIFs that will be presented on the walls and ceiling of the Museum's elevator, an exhibition environment that offers a unique and intimate encounter with the work. Each installation will be on view for two months; the GIFs will also be published on Giphy.com to coincide with the opening of each installation. [Press release](#) | [More info](#)

Jim Henson's *Time Piece*

ONGOING IN THE VIDEO SCREENING AMPHITHEATER

In 1965, Jim Henson made *Time Piece*, an experimental nine-minute short film that tells what he called “the story of Everyman, frustrated by the typical tasks of a typical day. The film was nominated for an Academy Award for Best Short Film. It remains fresh today as both a time capsule of 1960s experimental filmmaking, and as a brilliantly conceived and edited example of Henson’s creativity.

Behind the Screen

ONGOING ON THE SECOND AND THIRD FLOORS

The Museum’s core exhibition features interactive experiences, audiovisual material, and more than 1,000 artifacts that tell the story of how moving images are made, marketed, and shown. [More info](#)

The Jim Henson Exhibition

OPENING SATURDAY, JULY 22, 2017

A new permanent exhibition on the Museum’s second floor explores Jim Henson’s groundbreaking work for film and television and his transformative impact on popular culture. It features a broad range of artifacts from throughout Jim Henson’s remarkable television and film career, and reveals how Henson and his team of builders, performers, and writers brought to life the enduringly popular worlds of *The Muppet Show*, *Sesame Street*, *Fraggle Rock*, *The Dark Crystal*, and *Labyrinth*. It also includes material from Henson’s lesser known and experimental film projects, presenting Henson as a restlessly creative performer, filmmaker, and technical innovator. [Press release](#) | [More info](#)

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MUSEUM INFORMATION

Museum of the Moving Image (movingimage.us) advances the understanding, enjoyment, and appreciation of the art, history, technique, and technology of film, television, and digital media. In its stunning facilities—acclaimed for both its accessibility and bold design—the Museum presents exhibitions; screenings of significant works; discussion programs featuring actors, directors, craftspeople, and business leaders; and education programs which serve more than 50,000 students each year. The Museum also houses a significant collection of moving-image artifacts.

Hours: Wednesday-Thursday, 10:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Friday, 10:30 to 8:00 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, 11:30 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Museum Admission: \$15 adults (18+); \$11 senior citizens (65+) and students (18+) with ID; \$7 youth (ages 3–17). Children under 3 and Museum members are admitted free. Admission to the galleries is free on Fridays, 4:00 to 8:00 p.m.

Film Screenings: Friday evenings, Saturdays and Sundays, and as scheduled. Unless otherwise

noted, ticket are \$15 adults / \$11 seniors and students / \$7 youth 3–17 / Free for members at the Film Lover and Kids Premium levels and above. Advance purchase is available online. Ticket purchase may be applied toward same-day admission to the Museum's galleries.

Location: 36-01 35 Avenue (at 37 Street) in Astoria.

Subway: M (weekdays only) or R to Steinway Street. W (weekdays only) or N to 36 Avenue.

Program Information: Telephone: 718 777 6888; Website: movingimage.us

Membership: movingimage.us/support/membership or 718 777 6877

Museum of the Moving Image is housed in a building owned by the City of New York and has received significant support from the following public agencies: New York City Department of Cultural Affairs; New York City Economic Development Corporation; New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Andrew M. Cuomo and the New York State Legislature; Institute of Museum and Library Services; National Endowment for the Humanities; National Endowment for the Arts; and Natural Heritage Trust (administered by the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation). For more information, please visit movingimage.us.