2005 EUROPEAN UNION film showcase

NOVEMBER 8–22

Plus: LOUIS MALLE: RISKS AND REINVENTIONS ERNEST LEHMAN TRIBUTE THE LUBITSCH TOUCH, PART 2 WASHINGTON JEWISH FILM FESTIVAL THE TWO OF US CHRISTMAS CLASSICS 50 YEARS OF JIM HENSON
2005 European Union Film Showcase

Tuesday, November 8 through Tuesday, November 22

AFI presents the 18th annual European Union Film Showcase, featuring a first-class selection of films from EU member states that includes US premieres, film festival award winners and box-office hits. With the EU having expanded its membership last year to 25 countries, this year’s lineup is the biggest and best yet, with some of Europe’s leading filmmakers—and all 25 countries—represented!

AFI thanks the cultural counselors of the EU member states and the European Commission Delegation in Washington, DC, for their invaluable assistance. AFI expresses its deep gratitude to Sir David Manning KCMG, British Ambassador to the United States; and to the Embassy of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Washington, DC.

Special thanks to the following for their invaluable help: Andy MacKay, Sarah Frankland and Kathy Culpin, British Council, USA, Stella Zervoudaki and Sandi Auman, European Commission Delegation. Thank you also to 2005 EU Showcase Sponsors:

AFI Member Passes will be accepted at all screenings in the EU Showcase EXCEPT Opening Night and Closing Night.

OPENING NIGHT

UNITED KINGDOM

TRISTRAM SHANDY: A COCK AND BULL STORY

Tuesday, November 8, 8:30

Knowing that Laurence Sterne’s wildly discursive 18th century novel Tristram Shandy could never be filmed, maverick director Michael Winterbottom filmed it anyway—or rather, filmed a film about filming a film of it. For a book described by star Steve Coogan as “the postmodern classic which was written before there was any modernism to be post about,” there’s a certain cockeyed logic to such an approach. And it’s hard to quibble with the results: hilariously inventive, witty and anarchic, the film works as a THIS IS SPINAL TAP-style mockumentary, a TOM JONES-flavored literary adaptation, and a behind-the-scenes moviemaking romp à la Truffaut’s DAY FOR NIGHT. Coogan is brilliant in multiple roles as Tristram, Tristram’s father, and vain star “Steve Coogan”—who has many of the real star’s problems, and a few new ones, too. His comedic counterparts include scene-stealer Rob Brydon; Jeremy Northam as a Winterbottom-like director; Kelly McDonald as Coogan’s girlfriend, Jenny; and Naomie Harris as a brainy assistant who may be the only one on set who’s actually read the novel. Memorable turns by Gillian Anderson and the incomparable Steven Fry round out what’s sure to be one of the most talked-about comedies of the year.

Special thanks to Picturehouse Films and the British Embassy, Washington, DC, for making this screening possible. DIR Michael Winterbottom; SCR Martin Hardy; PROD Andrew Eaton. UK, 2005, color, 94 min. RATED R

NOW PLAYING

1. THE LUBITSCHE TOUCH, PART 2
2. 2005 European Union Film Showcase
3. THE TWO OF US
4. MRS. HENDERSON PRESENTS
5. RISKS AND REINVENTION: THE CINEMA OF LOUIS MALLE
6. TAP
7. MONTGOMERY COLLEGE FILM SERIES
8. SONG OF TIBET
9. THE LUBITSCHE TOUCH, PART 3
10. THE JIM HENSON COMPANY: 50 YEARS OF MYTH AND MAGIC

Special thanks to Picturehouse Films and the British Embassy, Washington, DC, for making this screening possible. DIR Michael Winterbottom; SCR Martin Hardy; PROD Andrew Eaton. UK, 2005, color, 94 min. RATED R

LOOK FOR THE M!* Member passes accepted for designated screenings. To find out how to become a member of AFI, see page 10.

Talk Cinema moves to AFI Silver!

AFI Silver is proud to host Washington’s must-see Sunday morning film series, Harlan Jacobson’s Talk Cinema. Each week, Talk Cinema presents a sneak preview of a new independent film followed by an audience discussion with a special guest speaker. The fall 2005 series has begun, but pro-rated subscriptions are available. Details and subscriptions are available at www.talkcinema.com or 800.551.9221.

*Subscriptions are sold exclusively through Talk Cinema and are not available at the AFI Silver Box Office or Web site. Day-of-show tickets are available at the AFI Silver Box Office for each screening.
BELGIUM

GILLES’ WIFE [La Femme de Gilles]
Thursday, November 10, 8:30; Sunday, November 13, 5:00

In a 1930s mining town, Emmanuelle Devos takes care of her two children and adores her husband, Clovis Cornillac, whose return from work in the blast furnaces is the highlight of each day. Younger sister Laura Smet often visits the household to lend a hand, as the very pregnant Devos awaits the birth of her third child. But something about the way her husband looks at her sister isn’t right. Gorgeously lit and lensed, with a powerful performance by Devos—conveying emotions both raw and subtle—this is a distinguished film by the director of A PORNOGRAPHIC AFFAIR. Prizewinner at recent Venice, Istanbul and Mar del Plata Film Festivals; Best Director and Screenplay, Belgium’s Joseph Plateau Awards. DIR Frédéric Fonteyne; SCR Philippe Blasband, Marion Hansel and Frédéric Fonteyne, from the novel by Madeleine Bourdouxe; PROD Patrick Quinet and Claude Waringo. Belgium/France/Luxembourg/Italy/Switzerland, 2004, color, 108 min. In French with English subtitles. NOT RATED

DENMARK

AFTERMATH [Lad de Små Born]
Saturday, November 12, 12:05; Thursday, November 17, 6:20

Therapy? Not for everyone. Claes and Britt storm out of their grief counseling session, sneering at their fellow mourners’ losses. How could anything compare with the pain of losing their teenage daughter in a car crash? But then the rage-fueled Claes is suspended from his architect job for picking a fight with a client, and social worker Britt becomes dangerously attached to a drug-addicted mother’s baby girl. The couple deflect their pain with acerbic banter, until Claes begins stalking the driver responsible for his daughter’s death. DIR Paprika Steen; SCR Kim Fupz Aakeson; PROD Thomas Heinesen and Kim Magnusson. Denmark, 2004, color, 104 min. In Danish with English subtitles. NOT RATED

ESTONIA

REVOLUTION OF PIGS
[Sigade Revolutsioon]
Saturday, November 19, 9:45; Sunday, November 20, 9:40

“WET HOT ESTONIAN SUMMER” maybe? How about MEATBALLS Duran tunes than in the party-line teachings of their counselors. When the skit competition becomes politicized, a new kind of revolution breaks out. DIR Jaak Kilmi and René Reunumägi; PROD Jaak Kilmi, René Reunumägi and Anu Veermäe. Estonia, 2004, color, 100 min. In Estonian with English subtitles. NOT RATED

FINLAND

DOG NAIL CLIPPER
[Koirankynnen Leikkaja]
Sunday, November 13, 12:20; Wednesday, November 16, 6:30

In this acclaimed adaptation of the beloved Finnish novel, Peter Franzén returns crippled from WWII—with undeterred idealism. A friend’s off-hand comment about a neglected dog that needs its nails trimmed sets him off on an obsessive quest across the wintry countryside, determined to locate the animal and take care of him. As strangers shelter him along the way, the basic warmth and goodness of his neighbors keep his hope alive. Best Film, Director, Actor and Cinematography, Finland’s Jussi awards. DIR/SCR Markku Polonen, from the novel by Veliko Huovisen; PROD Kari Sara. Finland, 2004, color, 103 min. In Finnish with English subtitles. NOT RATED

CZECH REPUBLIC

WRONG SIDE UP
[Pribehy Obycejněho Silenví]
Sunday, November 20, 12:20; Monday, November 21, 6:30

This highly entertaining comedy tells the story of Petr, a put-upon everyman stuck in a dead-end job as a freight worker in the Prague airport. Outside of the doldrums of work, Petr copes with his father’s strange “artistic” performances, his mother’s obsessive collection of second-hand clothes and his boss’s sexual proclivity for mannequins. Struggling to make sense of his increasingly bizarre life, Petr learns that the workaday world isn’t such a bad thing. DIR/SCR Petr Zelenka, from his play Tales of Common Insanity; PROD Pavel Strnad and Milan Kuchynka. Czech Republic/Germany/Slovakia, 2005, color, 107 min. In Czech with English subtitles. NOT RATED
FRANCE

INNOCENCE
Wednesday, November 9, 8:30; Saturday, November 12, 9:05

The lid is off the coffin and out pops Iris, the new kid in a strange girls’ school where obedience is paramount. The girls wear hair ribbons color-coded by age, ballet is the most important class and the 12-year-olds disappear each night, under strict orders not to reveal their whereabouts to the younger girls. A visionary film by the frequent collaborator of Gaspar Noé (IRREVERSIBLE), INNOCENCE taps into the angst of adolescence with a chilling beauty and a fairy-tale sense of allegory. Best New Director, 2004 San Sebastian and FIPRESCI Prize. 2005 Istanbul Film Festivals. DIR/SCR Lucile Hadzihalilovic, from the novella Mine-Haha by Frank Wedekind; PROD Patrick Sobelman. France, 2004, color, scope, 115 min. In French with English subtitles. NOT RATED

GERMANY

FOREST FOR THE TREES
[Der Wald vor Lauter Baümen]
Saturday, November 19, 10:00; Monday, November 21, 9:30

Idealistic and bursting with enthusiasm, Melanie says goodbye to her small-town home, loving parents and long-term boyfriend for her first teaching job in the big city. There she finds herself contending with bratty students, jaded staffers and loneliness. She seeks out the friendship of her pretty neighbor Tina, and at first the two enjoy each other’s company. But soon it’s alarmingly apparent that Melanie doesn’t know what to draw the line. Special Jury Award, 2005 Sundance Film Festival; Best Feature, Best Actress, 2005 Newport Film Festival. DIR/SCR Maren Ade; PROD Janine Jackowski. Germany, 2004, color, 81 min. In German with English subtitles. NOT RATED

SOPHIE SCHOLL: THE LAST DAYS
[Sophie Scholl: Die Letzten Tage]
Saturday, November 12, 6:15; Monday, November 14, 9:35

Germany’s most famous anti-Nazi heroine is brought to thrilling life in this award-winning drama based on a true story. Acclaimed young actress Julia Jentsch (THE EDUKATORS) stars as Sophie Scholl, a young German woman who fiercely opposed the Nazi government as part of the underground student resistance movement the White Rose. The film focuses on her last six days, a gripping journey from her arrest to her interrogation, trial and sentence. Silver Bear, Best Director and Actress, 2005 Berlin Film Festival. DIR/PROD Marc Rothemund; SCR Fred Breinersdorfer; PROD Sven Burgemeister, Christoph Müller and Fred Breinersdorfer. Germany, 2005, color, 117 min. In German with English subtitles. NOT RATED

ITALY

CONSEQUENCES OF LOVE
[Le Conseguenze dell’Amore]
Friday, November 11, 9:00; Saturday, November 12, 9:45

Stuck with a lonely assignment laundering money in a nondescript Swiss town after a disastrous investment years ago, Mafia accountant Toni Servillo wiles away his days in quiet desperation at the hotel bar, speaking to no one. But then a barmaid, played by Olivia Magnani (granddaughter of great Italian actress Anna Magnani), arouses a long-forgotten passion in him. An unforgettable performance by stage actor Servillo; Adriano Giannini (son of Giancarlo) adds another familiar name to the cast. Winner of five Donatello Awards, including Best Film, Director, Actor, Screenplay and Cinematography, out of 10 nominations. DIR/SCR Paolo Sorrentino; PROD Domenico Procacci, Nicola Giuliano, Francesca Cima and Angelo Curti. Italy, 2004, color, 104 min. In Italian with English subtitles. NOT RATED

GREECE

HOSTAGE (Omiros)
Monday, November 21, 9:15; Tuesday, November 22, 9:35

The true story of a bus hijacking in northern Greece provides the inspiration for this intense drama, which centers on the heated issue of contemporary Greek-Albanian relations. Through a series of flashbacks and heated interactions between the hijacker and his hostages, the director takes the audience on a harrowing trip—not only through the Greek countryside, but also through the complicated reasoning behind the hijacker’s desperate, extreme actions. DIR/SCR/PROD Constantine Giannaris; PROD George Lykiardopoulos, Baran Seyhan and Jale Onanc. Greece/Turkey, 2005, color, 102 min. In Greek with English subtitles. NOT RATED

HUNGARY

JOHANNA
Saturday, November 12, 4:25; Tuesday, November 15, 9:40

This experimental opera film was written directly for the screen by composer Zsófia Tállér. Orsi Tóth plays the title character, a young drug addict brought to a Budapest hospital after a horrific road accident. She recovers and with nowhere to go, stays on at the hospital as a nurse-in-training. Tóth soon discovers that after her near-death experience, she has gained the power of healing—sexual healing. Her unorthodox but effective techniques run afoul of the hospital bureaucracy, culminating in her persecution by the doctors and defense by the afflicted. A visionary and moving film, seemingly as inspired by the cinema of Lars von Trier as by the story of Joan of Arc, which the director claims as his touchstone. Un Certain Regard Award, 2005 Cannes Film Festival. DIR Kornél Mundruczó; SCR Yvette Biro and Kornél Mundruczó. Hungary, 2005, color, 83 min. In Hungarian with English subtitles. NOT RATED, CONTAINS MATURE CONTENT
COME INTO THE LIGHT
[Alla Luce del Sole]
Friday, November 18, 7:30; Saturday, November 19, 4:30
During the 1990s, Padre Pino Puglisi returned to Palermo, Sicily, and found his former hometown in shambles. In this true-life story, the Padre refuses to give in to pressure from the Mafia. He struggles to repair his community and help its young people improve their lives. Ultimately shot and killed by a Mafia hit man for preaching against local bosses, Padre Puglisi—and his courageous legacy—live on in this powerful Italian biopic. Starring Luca Zingaretti as Puglisi. Best Actor, 2005 Karlovy Vary Film Festival. DIR/SCR Roberto Faenza; PROD Elda Ferri. Italy, 2005, color, 90 min. In Italian with English subtitles. NOT RATED

LATVIA
FALLEN [Krisana]
Thursday, November 10, 6:30; Sunday, November 13, 9:15
When a man witnesses a woman's suicide, he becomes obsessed with discovering her identity. An archivist by profession, he roams the streets of Riga searching for clues, each adding a piece to the puzzle of this stranger's life and motivations. But what does he really hope to find? German director Fred Keleman, a collaborator of Béla Tarr, shares the Hungarian master's affinity for b&w, long takes and atmospheric sound design. Shot by Keleman himself, FALLEN presents a visionary nightscape of the Latvian capital, using the tropes of detective fiction to an existential and ironic end. DIR/SCR/PROD Fred Keleman. Latvia/Germany, 2005, b&w, 90 min. In Latvian and Russian with English subtitles. NOT RATED

LITHUANIA
A LAND OF GLASS [Stiklo Salis]
Friday, November 18, 6:00; Saturday, November 19, 12:20
A mother, her seven-year-old daughter and infant son spend long days and nights in their home in the forest, while father is away on business. Mother takes long walks in the woods to allay her restlessness, but her anxiety becomes unbearable. She sees a doctor at her husband's urging, but instead of helping, this only adds to her instability. In a chilling climax, her unexplained uneasiness finds a surprising release—and perhaps points to an unsuspected, even otherworldly source. An archivist by profession, he roams the streets of Riga searching for clues, each adding a piece to the puzzle of this stranger's life and motivations. But what does he really hope to find? German director Fred Keleman, a collaborator of Béla Tarr, shares the Hungarian master's affinity for b&w, long takes and atmospheric sound design. Shot by Keleman himself, FALLEN presents a visionary nightscape of the Latvian capital, using the tropes of detective fiction to an existential and ironic end. DIR/SCR/PROD Fred Keleman. Latvia/Germany, 2005, b&w, 90 min. In Latvian and Russian with English subtitles. NOT RATED

NETHERLANDS
Presented by SILVERDOCS: AFI/Discovery Channel Documentary Film Festival
EL PERRO NEGRO: STORIES FROM THE SPANISH CIVIL WAR
Sunday, November 13, 1:00; Monday, November 14, 6:45
Director Péter Forgács creates an illuminating account of 1930s Spain and the Spanish Civil War, using amateur and archival footage from the period. Scenes of military action and the mundane activities of daily life are given equal weight here, an evenhandedness that Forgács extends to his consideration of the left and right sides of the conflict. Lending added poignancy, much of this film was shot by those who would soon lose their lives. Best Documentary Feature, 2005 Tribeca Film Festival. DIR/SCR Péter Forgács; PROD Cesar Messemaker. Netherlands/Hungary, 2004, color/b&w, 84 min. In English. NOT RATED

SLOVENIA
BENEATH HER WINDOW
[Pod Njenim Okном]
Wednesday, November 9, 6:30; Sunday, November 13, 7:30
In this crowd-pleasing romantic comedy full of wit and warmly rendered characters, someone breaks into Dusha's apartment—not to rob her, but to tidy up. Christmas is approaching, and her 30th birthday. Duscha can't help but feel she's in a pre-middle-age crisis. Her job as a dance instructor doesn't leave enough time for working on her own choreography. She's involved with a married man. She spends way too much time on her astrologer. And now, just what she needs: a secret admirer. DIR/SCR Metod Pevec; PROD Danijel Hocivar. Slovenia, 2005, color, 87 min. In Slovenian with English subtitles. NOT RATED

POLAND
MY NIKIFOR
[Mój Nikifor]
Sunday, November 13, 2:50; Tuesday, November 15, 7:00
In 1960s Poland, state-employed painter Marian hopes to parlay his artistic talent into a good position with the Party. Into his studio wanders Nikifor, an odd, possibly autistic ragamuffin who promptly begins touching up Marian's canvases. At first Marian finds Nikifor a minor nuisance, but in time he realizes that when it comes to painting, the funny little man is a towering genius. This acclaimed biopic of real-life outsider artist Nikifor Krynicki won Best Film and Director awards at the 2005 Karlovy Vary Film Festival, and Best Actress for Krystyna Feldman as Nikifor, in a triumphant cross-dressing performance à la Linda Hunt in THE YEAR OF LIVING DANGEROUSLY. DIR/SCR Krzysztof Krauze; SCR Joanna Kos; PROD Juliusz Machulski. Poland, 2004, color, 100 min. In Polish with English subtitles. NOT RATED

PORTUGAL
THE FATALIST
[O Fatalista]
Sunday, November 20, 3:30; Tuesday, November 22, 7:00
This picaresque comedy is adapted from Diderot's Jacques le Fataliste et son Maître and reset in modern-day Portugal. Tiago and his master carry on a debate about free will—Tiago denies its existence, even as he engages in ever more unpredictable and provocative behavior. Rogue and master career across the countryside, from car wreck to bordello to their next adventure, in this entertaining and illuminating meta-fictional lark. A kind of missing cinematic link between 1960s classic THE SARAGOSSA MANUSCRIPT (Jan Potocki's novel was heavily inspired by Diderot) and Robert Bresson's LES DAMES DU BOIS DE BOULOGNE (whose plot was based on one of the storylines here). DIR/SCR João Botelho; PROD Paulo Branco. Portugal/France, 2005, color, 99 min. In Portuguese with English subtitles. NOT RATED
2005 EUROPEAN UNION film showcase

SPAIN

UNCONSCIOUS [Inconscienties]
Thursday, November 17, 8:30; Saturday, November 19, 7:00

In 1913 Barcelona, pregnant and penniless Leonor Watling informs her sister's husband, doctor Luis Tosar, that her psychiatrist husband has suddenly disappeared, and enlists his reluctant help in her detective work. The two hope to find a clue by snooping in her husband's case histories, including those of a porn actress, a murderer—and Tosar's sexually frustrated wife, Núria Príns. Both an over-the-top Freudian farce and a sharp-witted detective spoof, UNCONSCIOUS boasts meticulous period detail and satire relevant to today. Nominated for five Goyas. DIR Joaquín Oristrell; SCR Joaquín Oristrell, Dominic Harari and Teresa Pelegri; PROD Mariela Besuevski, Marta Esteban and Gerardo Herrero. Spain, 2004, color, 100 min. In Spanish with English subtitles. Print courtesy of Regent Releasing and hereTV. NOT RATED, CONTAINS MATURE CONTENT

SWEDEN

ZOZO
Friday, November 11, 6:30; November 12, 2:10

Director Josef Fares delves deep into his Lebanese family background to tell the story of a young boy in the 1980s, whose life is thrown into turmoil when war forces him to relocate to Sweden. A sensitive portrait of youthful idealism and imagination in the face of hardship, with a heartwarming, heroic performance by young lead Imad Creidi. Sweden's submission for Best Foreign Language Film Oscar. DIR/SCR Josef Fares; PROD Anna Anthony. Sweden, 2005, color, 103 min. In Swedish and Arabic with English subtitles. NOT RATED

KIM NOVAK NEVER SWAM IN GENESARET’S LAKE

[Kim Novak Badade Aldrig I Genesarets Sjö]
Wednesday, November 16, 8:35; Saturday, November 19, 7:00

In 1960s small-town Sweden, 14-year-old Erik is just beginning to discover the wider world around him. W hen a Henne substitute teacher comes to school—nicknamed Kim Novak by the boys—Erik's world brightens considerably. He and his friends look forward to what could be the best summer ever... and then a horrible murder occurs. Adapted from the novel by Håkan Nesser. DIR/SCR Martin Asphaug, after the novel by Håkan Nesser; PROD Waldemar Bergendahl. Sweden, 2005, color, 95 min. In Swedish with English subtitles. NOT RATED

SPECIAL PRESENTATION

VISIONS OF EUROPE
Sunday, November 20, 1:00; Tuesday, November 22, 9:20

Twenty-five short films helmed by such established European directors as Bela Tarr, Peter Greenaway and Aki Kaurismäki, as well as many promising up-and-comers, constitute this omnibus that represents filmmaking from every country in the European Union. Commissioned by Lars von Trier's Zentropa Entertainment, the filmmakers were asked to contribute “a personal vision of current or future life” in the EU in a film not longer than five minutes. The resulting works convey both a unique vision of life in each country and an overall mosaic of the present-day European Union. NOT RATED

MARS
Directed, written by Barbara Albert, Austria

SELF PORTRAIT
Directed, written by Stijn Coninx, Belgium

MY HOUSE ON TAPE
Directed by Christos Georgiou, screenplay by Christos Georgiou and Giorgos Koumouros, Cyprus

UNISONO
Directed, written by Sasa Gedeon, Czech Republic

EUROPE
Directed, written by Christoffer Boe, Denmark

EUROFLOT
Directed by Arvo Iho, screenplay by Prtit Parn and Arvo Iho, Estonia

BICO
Directed, written by Aki Kaurismäki, Finland

PARIS BY NIGHT
Directed, written by Tony Galifli, France

THE EVIL OLD SONGS [Die Boesen Alten Lieder]
Directed, written by Fatih Akin, Germany

ROOM FOR ALL
Directed, written by Constantine Giannaris, Greece

PROLOGUE
Directed by Bela Tarr and Agnes Hranitzky, camera by Robby Müller. Hungary

INVISIBLE STATE
Directed by Aisling Walsh, screenplay by Gerard Mannix Flynn. Ireland

ANNA LIVES IN MARGHERA, ITALY
[Anna Vive a Marghera, Italia]
Directed by Francesca Comencini, Italy

CLOSING NIGHT

UNITED KINGDOM

MRS. HENDERSON PRESENTS
Sunday, November 20, 7:30

Dame Judi Dench stars as the remarkable Laura Henderson, the true-life eccentric widow who reinvigorated London's West End during World War II. After a series of flops, the redoubtable Mrs. Henderson causes a sensation when she introduces "Nude Revues" to her Windmill Theatre, and finds eager and appreciative audiences among the soliderly. Co-star Bob Hoskins is her irascible impresario Vivian van Damm, whose head-buttng with boss Dench makes for high comedy. Stunning stage numbers and a sober depiction of London during the Blitz round out this lively and perceptive film from director Stephen Frears (HIGH FIDELITY, DANGEROUS LIASONS). Print courtesy of The Weinstein Company. DIR Stephen Frears; SCR Martin Sherman; PROD Norma Heyman and Lauri Borg. UK, 2005, color, 103 min. NOT RATED

IT'LL BE FINE
Directed, written by Laila Pakalnina, Latvia

CHILDREN LOSE NOTHING
Directed, written by Sharunas Bartas, Lithuania

THE LANGUAGE SCHOOL
Directed, written by Andy Bausch, Luxembourg

THE ISLE
Directed by Kenneth Scliluna, screenplay by Kenneth Scliluna and Jean Pierre Magro, Malta

EUROQUIZ
Directed by Theo van Gogh, screenplay by Hans Teeuwen, Netherlands

COLD WATER
Directed, written by Malgorzata Szumowska, Poland

THE MIRACLE
Directed, Martin Sulik, screenplay by Marek Lascak and Martin Sulik, Slovakia

EUROPA
Directed, written by Damjan Kozole, Slovenia

OUR KIDS
Directed, idea by Miguel Hermoso, Spain

THE YELLOW TAG
Directed, written by Jan Troell, Sweden

THE EUROPEAN SHOWERBATH
Directed, written by Peter Greenaway, UK
Risks and Reinvention: The Cinema of Louis Malle
November 23 through January 10

“When people say, “You’ve made all those films in so many different directions, what do they have in common?” all I can answer is “Me.”” Louis Malle was describing a career often at odds with the film community and critical opinion, and yet one that, time after time, reinvented itself and found new successes. He relished his “outsider” status and took risks that made him hard to pigeonhole. This retrospective, sponsored jointly in Washington by AFI, the National Gallery of Art and La Maison Française, revives virtually all of Malle’s oeuvre. Born in Thumeries, France, in 1932, Malle died exactly a decade ago, on November 23, 1995, in Beverly Hills.

The series has been organized by the Film Society of Lincoln Center in collaboration with Nouvelles Editions de Films, The Criterion Collection and Janus Films.

Special thanks to Marie Bonnel of the French Consulate in New York, the National Gallery’s Peggy Parsons, and Roland Celette and Estelle Carpentier of the French Embassy in Washington, DC. Very special thanks to Richard Pena, Film Society of Lincoln Center, Manuel Malle and Sarah Finklea of Janus Films.

For program information on the Louis Malle films shown at the National Gallery, please visit www.nga.gov. UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED, FILMS ARE NOT RATED.

AFI Member Passes will be accepted at all screenings in the Louis Malle series.

ELEVATOR TO THE GALLOWS
[Ascenseur pour l'Echafaud]
Wednesday, Nov. 23, 6:00; Friday, Nov. 25, 5:00; Tuesday, Nov. 29, 6:40

Ex-paratrooper Maurice Ronet and his boss’s wife, Jeanne Moreau, hatch the perfect plan to kill the old man and live happily ever after on his cash. But between a forgotten grappling hook, a stalled elevator, a stolen car and a foolish misunderstanding, things don’t exactly go according to plan. Malle’s noirish, smart debut was an international success, a stolen car and a foolish misadventure.

THE LOVERS
[Les Amants]
Wednesday, Nov. 23, 8:00; Thursday, Nov. 24, 5:10; Saturday, Nov. 26, 4:20

The film that propelled Jeanne Moreau to international stardom. Rich and bored, Moreau leaves both her furtive husband and her pollo-playing lover for a young student she only just met. A succès-de-scandale for the casualness with which the film depicted adultery, and for its rejection of “old” moralities for new ones, as well as for its rather frank love scenes, lyrically photographed by New Wave great Henri Decaë. DIR Louis Malle; SCR Louise de Vilmorin, from the novella Point de Lendemain by Dominique Vivant Denon; France, 1957, b&w, 90 min.

ZAZIE DANS LE METRO
Wednesday, Nov. 23, 9:50; Friday, Nov. 25, 7:20; Sunday, Nov. 27, 9:20

Foul-mouthed 12-year-old Zazie swears and shouts her way through Paris, obsessed to ride its famed Métro on her first visit to the city.

THE FIRE WITHIN
[Le Feu Follet]
Thursday, Nov. 24, 9:25; Friday, Nov. 25, 9:20; Saturday, Nov. 26, 9:10; Tuesday, Nov. 29, 8:35

Brilliant, measured social observation by Malle, its dark mood reflective of a larger malaise in France at the time, with a tour-de-force performance by Maurice Ronet. Discharged from his alcoholic rehab clinic, Ronet attempts to return to normal life. But his wife is abroad, his former mistress now uninterested in him and his friends too immersed in their own affairs to see him. Ronet’s rational response: suicide. Special Jury Prize, 1963 Venice Film Festival. DIR/SCR Louis Malle, from novel by Pierre Drieu La Rochelle; PROD none credited. Italy/France, 1963, b&w, 108 min.

THE LOVERS
New 35mm Print!
Thursday, November 29, 7:10; Monday, November 28, 8:45

Brigitte Bardot was at her best in the three films she made with Malle. Here she plays Jill, spoiled daughter of a wealthy family, who becomes an overnight sensation in the movies, more for her tabloid exploits than for her talent. Marcello Mastroianni plays a theater designer whose dalliance with the starlet drags him into the media spotlight, too. An ambitious critique of star culture, arguably more relevant today than when it was first released. DIR Louis Malle; SCR Jean Ferry, Louis Malle and Jean-Paul Rappeneau; PROD Christine Gozze-Renal and Jacques Bar. France/Italy, 1962, color, 103 min.

MURMUR OF THE HEART
[Vie Privée]
Saturday, November 26, 7:10; Monday, November 28, 8:45

“...in today’s movie scene, it registers more like a roar than a murmure.”—Michael Sragow. DIR/SCR Louis Malle; PROD Vincent Malle and Claude Nedjar. France/Italy/West Germany, 1971, color, 118 min.

LACOMBE, LUCIEN
Friday, December 2, 9:00; Saturday, December 3, 4:30; Sunday, December 4, 7:00

Rejected by the Resistance, bored Provencal Lucien falls in with a group of French collaborators, including a former cycling champ, a fading movie star and a small-time aristocrat. The group’s company and perks boost his self-esteem, even as his German masters face increasingly bold resistance in 1944. At the same time, Lucien falls for the daughter of a Jewish tailor in hiding, later moving in with the whole family. Malle never tries to explain the character’s contradictory behavior, but realizes brilliantly on screen...
the flawed world that makes such behavior possible. “The first real film—the true first film—about the Occupation.” Jean-Louis Bory, Le Nouvel Observateur. DIR Louis Malle; SCR Louis Malle and Patrick Modiano; PROD Louis Malle and Claude Nédéjar. France/West Germany/Italy, 1974, color, 137 min. RATED R

**New 35mm Print!**

**BLACK MOON**

Sunday, Dec. 18, 3:00; Monday, Dec. 19, 8:45

At the peak of his critical and commercial success, Malle made a radical departure with this dream-like fantasy, replete with sexual anxiety, talking animals…and Joe Dallesandro. Stylistically, the film is unlike anything else in Malle’s oeuvre, but thematically it’s consistent with his various explorations of adolescence and self-realization. The film was inspired by dreams Malle had in English, by dreams Malle had in English, but then he meets art dealer Juliette Binoche. The attraction is mutual, but he spirals into deep obsession after she reveals she’s also involved with Irons’ son Rupert Graves. Playwright David Hare adapted the controversial novel by Josephine Hart, and Irons delivers a heartbreaking portrayal of a man painfully aware that he has descended into sexual madness. DIR PROD Louis Malle; SCR David Hare, from the novel by Josephine Hart. UK/ France, 1992, color, 111 min. RATED R

**PRETTY BABY**

Tuesday, Dec. 20, 8:35; Thursday, Dec. 22, 8:35

Malle set his first US film in the red-light district of New Orleans, just after WWI. Keith Carradine visits the cathouses, but only to photograph the ladies. Child prostitute Brooke Shields finds it curious but fascinating, and after her hooker mom Susan Sarandon skips town, she come to depend upon Carradine’s patronage and, eventually, love. Gorgeously photographed by the great Sven Nykvist to a Scott Joplin/Jelly Roll Morton score. DIR Louis Malle; SCR PROD Polly Platt and Louis Malle. US, 1978, color, 109 min. RATED R

**ATLANTIC CITY**

Saturday, December 17, 8:10; Thursday, December 22, 6:35

What began as a Canadian tax-shelter quickie became one of Malle’s best-loved pictures. Atlantic City never lost its glory for aging gangster Burt Lancaster, despite his seedy surroundings. He can’t help but take a shine to his pretty neighbor Susan Sarandon, but when her dirt-bag estranged husband turns up, all three become embroiled in some modern-day mayhem. Golden Lion, 1980 Venice Film Festival, and five Oscar nominations. (How could Lancaster lose? To Henry Fonda, for ON GOLDEN POND.) DIR Louis Malle; SCR John Guare; PROD Joseph Beaubien, Gabriel Boustiani, Denis Heroux and John Kemeny. US/ Canada/ France, 1980, color, 104 min. RATED R

**DAMAGE**

Sunday, Dec. 18, 7:45; Wednesday, Dec. 21, 8:45

London doctor-turned- MP Jeremy Irons seems to have it all—social status, wealth, a beautiful wife—but then he meets art dealer Juliette Binoche. The attraction is mutual, but he spirals into deep obsession after she reveals she’s also involved with Irons’ son Rupert Graves. Playwright David Hare adapted the controversial novel by Josephine Hart, and Irons delivers a heartbreaking portrayal of a man painfully aware that he has descended into sexual madness. DIR PROD Louis Malle; SCR David Hare, from the novel by Josephine Hart. UK/ France, 1992, color, 111 min. RATED R

**VIVA MARIA!**

Saturday, Jan. 7, 6:15; Sunday, Jan. 8, 3:25; Monday, Jan. 9, 6:45; Tuesday, Jan. 10, 8:45

After the darkness of THE FIRE WITHIN, Malle desired a very different kind of production, and found himself in Mexico helming a Franco-Italian superproduction that audaciously paired France’s biggest stars, Brigitte Bardot and Jeanne Moreau. Set in a British colony in Central America, c. 1900, this musical romp has Bardot’s Irish anarchist joining Moreau’s showgirl in a traveling circus, eventually leading to a successful revolution and, by the way, inventing the striptease. Brilliantly shot by Henri Decaë with tunes by Georges Delerue, and Malle’s first collaboration with screenwriter Jean-Claude Carrière, this good-natured spoof was not only a box-office smash, but nabbed the Grand Prix du Cinéma Français. DIR Louis Malle; SCR Louis Malle and Jean-Claude Carrière; PROD Oscar Dancigers. France/Italy, 1965, color, 119 min.

**THE THIEF OF PARIS**

Friday, Jan. 6, 6:45; Saturday, Jan. 7, 7:45; Sunday, Jan. 8, 1:00; Monday, Jan. 9, 9:05

A personal favorite of Malle, who said it was “a film about a disenchanted character directed by a disenchanted filmmaker,” and arguably his most underrated film. Back from military service, Jean-Paul Belmondo discovers that his uncle has pillared his trust fund, and his beautiful cousin Geneviève Bujold is engaged to marry someone else. At her engagement party, he’s suddenly compelled to steal his own family’s jewels, realizing he has a taste for robbery that will lead him to reject bourgeois life for the Paris demi-monde. DIR Louis Malle; SCR Jean-Claude Carrière, Louis Malle and Daniel Boulanger, from the novel by Georges Darlan; PROD Norbert Auerbach. France/ Italy, 1967, color, 120 min.

**New 35mm Print!**

**AU REVOIR LES ENFANTS**

Sunday Dec. 4, 3:00; Monday, Dec. 5, 9:50; Wednesday, Dec. 7, 5:30 (see page 13); Thursday, Dec. 8, 9:00

As he returns from Christmas break to his Catholic boarding school in the winter of 1944, Julien learns that he has a new roommate, Jean. At first wary of each other, the two become close friends. But the new kid has a secret. “Few films have ever more effectively revealed the day-to-day atmosphere of the Nazi occupation of France, the suspicions and fears and misplaced glances that can suddenly bring on disaster.”—Richard Pena, Film Society of Lincoln Center. Golden Lion, 1987 Venice Film Festival; and winner of seven Césars. DIR/SCR/PROD Louis Malle. France/ West Germany, 1987, color, 104 min. RATED PG
The Lubitsch Touch, Part 2
November 25 through December 8

Many tried but none equaled the Lubitsch touch. At the director’s funeral in December 1947, a glum Billy Wilder said, “No more Lubitsch,” to which fellow filmmaker William Wyler cracked, “Worse than that. No more Lubitsch pictures.” AFI’s conclusion of its Lubitsch retrospective includes silent spectacles, early sound operettas, one of the screen’s greatest comedies and one of its sweetest romances. Enjoy these very special presentations of the films of a true Hollywood original, Ernst Lubitsch. ALL FILMS NOT RATED.

AFI Member Passes will be accepted at all screenings in the Lubitsch series.

The Merry Widow
Saturday, Nov. 26, 3:00; Wednesday, Nov. 30, 5:30 (see page 15)
With Maurice Chevalier as the rake Danilo and beautiful Jeanette MacDonald as the merry widow, Lubitsch sneaked sexual satire into the operetta’s frothy romance. “The combination of disenchanted dialogue and the lush Franz Lehár music gives this film a formal tension lacking in [Lubitsch’s] earlier efforts…[MacDonald’s] songs are imaginatively directed, and her appearance in the film is, on balance, probably the peak of her career.”—John Baxter. DIR/PROD Ernst Lubitsch; SCR Ernest Vajda and Samson Raphaelson, from the operetta by Franz Lehár; PROD Irving Thalberg. US, 1934, b&w, 110 min.

To Be or Not to Be
Saturday, December 3, 12:20; Sunday, December 4, 9:40; Thursday, December 8, 6:45
Carole Lombard’s last film (completed less than two weeks before her death) is much more highly regarded today than at the time of its release. Cast as the wife of Jack Benny, a hammy Hamlet in an acting troupe stranded in wartime Poland, she was never more alluring. Look for the young Myrna Loy, here biding time in a maid’s role. DIR Ernst Lubitsch; SCR Julian Josephson, from the play by Oscar Wilde; PROD Darryl F. Zanuck. US, 1942, b&w, silent, 89 min.

The Shop Around the Corner
Saturday, Dec. 3, 2:30; Sunday, Dec. 4, 1:00
“Close to perfection—one of the most beautifully acted and paced romantic comedies ever made in this country.”—Pauline Kael. In Frank Morgan’s Budapest emporium, clerks James Stewart and Margaret Sullivan battle in person without realizing they’ve been carrying on a lonely hearts romance by mail. And legendary ditherer Morgan takes a rare serious turn as a cuckolded husband. “Exhilarating…marvelously delicate romantic comedy, finally very moving.”—Geoff Andrew. DIR/PROD Ernst Lubitsch; SCR Samson Raphaelson, from the play Parfumerie by Mildós Liszló. US, 1940, b&w, 97 min.

Restored 35mm Print!
THE WIDOW
Sunday, Nov. 27, 3:00; Monday, Nov. 28, 8:45
Maurice Chevalier and Jeanette MacDonald star as the happily married Parisian couple whose infidelities are forced upon them by the rapacious flirtations of Genevieve Tobin. Chevalier’s frequent asides to the audience make the film more direct in its leering innuendo than any other Lubitsch comedy of the ’30s—a procession of double entendres, hidden meanings, mistaken assumptions and off-camera assignations. The final scene, with its relay of looks and pantomimed promptings, is one of the most delightful in the Lubitsch oeuvre. DIR/PROD Ernst Lubitsch (assisted by George Cukor); SCR Ernst Lubitsch and Samson Raphaelson, after the play Only a Dream by Lothar Schmidt. US, 1932, tinted b&w, 84 min.

So This is Paris
Sunday, December 5, 5:10; Sunday, December 12, 6:30; Thursday, December 29, 7:15
Based on a true story, a gripping expose on the debasing and dangerous treatment to which widows in Africa are subjected under ancient, primitive customs. THE WIDOW tells a difficult story but remains hopeful for a better tomorrow. Stella Damasus Aboderin, Yemi Solade. DIR/SCR/PROD: Kingsley Ogoro. Nigeria, 2005, color, 100 min. NOT RATED

World Premiere!
THE WIDOW
Saturday, November 26, 5:10; Sunday, November 27, 7:15

World Premiere!
CLAWS OF THE LION
Sunday, December 4, 5:30; Wednesday, December 7, 8:15
A general must face the consequences of a sexual lifestyle fueled by a misguided belief that prowess in one area equals power in another. Cast includes Kepky Bassey Ekpenyong, Ashley Nwosu and Empress Njamah. DIR/SCR/PROD: Francis Onwochei. Nigeria, 2005, color, 83 min. NOT RATED

Monte Carlo
Friday, Nov. 25, 3:00; Thursday, Dec. 1, 8:25
Countess Jeanette MacDonald, wearing only a negligee, flies on her wedding day to the world’s most glamorous watering hole, there courted by dashing noblemen Jack Buchanan—disguised for his own reasons as a lowly barber. Brit Buchanan’s first American film; and only other was Vincente Minelli’s The Band Wagon. DIR/PROD Ernst Lubitsch; SCR Ernest Vajda and Vincent Lawrence, from the play Die Blaue Käste by Hans Müller. US, 1930, b&w, 90 min.

With LIVE Organ Accompaniment by Ray Brubacher!
LADY WINDERMERE’S FAN
Saturday, November 26, 1:00
The marriage of an upper-class couple is nearly destroyed by the suspicion of adultery. “It seems incredible that Lubitsch’s silent LADY WINDERMERE’S FAN was an improvement on Oscar Wilde’s original. Everyone remembers Wildde’s epigrams, which were largely irrelevant to the plot, but Lubitsch redeemed Wilde’s sly melodramatics through the sardonic wit of his images and players.”—Andrew Sarris. DIR Ernst Lubitsch; SCR Julien Josephson, from the play by Oscar Wilde; PROD Darryl F. Zanuck. US, 1923, b&w, silent, 89 min.

With LIVE Organ Accompaniment by Ray Brubacher!
SO THIS IS PARIS
Saturday, November 27, 1:00
Two couples flirt with each other’s mates merely because they are bored with marriage, and the action culminates in a justifiably celebrated set piece at a Charleston ball. This great pre-Code sex farce seems as fresh today as it was nearly 80 years ago. Look for the young Myrna Loy, here biding time in a maid’s role. DIR Ernst Lubitsch; SCR Hans Kraly; PROD Darryl F. Zanuck. US, 1926, b&w, silent, 80 min.
American Film Institute (AFI)

Offering the finest in film exhibition, innovative screen education programs and the ongoing celebration of excellence in film, television and digital media, AFI connects audiences to the best the art form has to offer. AFI is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization, and AFI and AFI Silver rely on support from individuals, corporations, government and foundations.

About AFI On Screen

AFI currently presents thousands of individual screenings a year, some through partnerships with other organizations and some in dedicated theatres, making it the largest nonprofit presenter of film in the United States. Providing the communal experience of watching a film on the big screen, in the best possible screening environment, is an integral part of the AFI mission.

AFI Silver Theatre

AFI Silver Theatre and Cultural Center is an internationally recognized exhibition center anchored by the rehabilitation of the historic 1938 “Art Moderne” Silver Theatre. With its three state-of-the-art theatres, public spaces, exhibits and guest amenities, including production and broadcast facilities, AFI Silver sets the standard for a film exhibition showcase. Learn more about the wide range of all of AFI’s events and programs at AFI.com.

Information

Complete program information, including updates and changes, is available at www.AFI.com/Silver. Members receive AFI PREVIEW program guide by mail. For general information call 301.495.6720. For pre-recorded program information, call 301.495.6700.

Tickets & Member Passes

Tickets are $9.25 general admission and $7.50 for AFI Members, students with valid I.D., children (12 and under) and seniors (65 and over), unless otherwise noted. Matinee tickets for weekdays before 6:00 p.m. are $6.75 (holidays excluded). Member passes ($40) are valid for regular screenings but are subject to restrictions for first-run engagements and special events. Check the “Member Information” page on the AFI Silver Web site or daily newspaper listings for pass restriction information. Please present your member card to the box office cashier for all member transactions. Tickets for all shows may be purchased in person at the AFI Silver Box Office, online (no Fee!) at www.AFI.com/Silver (see Online Schedules & Tickets for information) or at the ticket kiosk in the historic lobby.

Concession & Café

AFI Silver’s concession & café offers domestic and imported beer and wine, delicious espresso drinks, a wide range of gourmet fare as well as a full range of traditional theatre treats. Enjoy candy and popcorn, as well as a variety of pizzas and gourmet stuffed pretzels. Menu changes daily.

Location and Directions

AFI Silver is located at 8633 Colesville Road—the intersection of Colesville Road & Georgia Avenue—in the heart of the new downtown Silver Spring.

Driving: AFI Silver is less than two miles south of Beltway exit 31 (Georgia Avenue) and is also convenient to Bethesda via East-West Highway. It’s a short drive from downtown Washington, DC, via 16th Street, NW.

Online Schedules & Tiickets

Visit www.AFI.com/Silver for detailed, up-to-the-minute AFI Silver programming and special events information. The Web site features:

- Tickets reserved and purchased online must be retrieved in person at the AFI Silver Box Office. The same credit card used online must be presented to the cashier (or swiped at the ticket kiosk) to redeem your tickets.
- Sign-up for AFI Silver’s FREE weekly e-Newsletter (with weekly announcements of upcoming films, events and program changes not listed in AFI PREVIEW)
- Special Announcements & Programming
- Comprehensive weekly calendar with all showtimes!
- “Member Info” page with Member Event listings and Member Pass information

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Mass Transportation:

AFI Silver is located on Colesville Road, just two blocks north of Metro’s Red Line station in Silver Spring. The station is served by Ride–On Bus routes 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 8, 9, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 22, 28, and Metrobus routes 70, 71, 75, F4, F6, J6, J7, J8, J9, Q2, S2, S4, Y8, Z5.

Parking

The Wayne Avenue parking garage is located behind the AFI Silver Theatre, in the center of the vibrant new shopping and entertainment center. The Wayne Avenue Garage offers FREE PARKING after 6:00 p.m. on weekdays and all day on weekends. VALET PARKING is also available evenings at Gateway Plaza (in front of the historic shopping center at the corner of Georgia and Colesville).

AFI Silver Box Office accepts American Express, Visa, MasterCard and Discover.

AFI Silver Box Office opens one-half hour before the first show of the day.

Membership RSVP

YES! I want to join as a Member and support AFI Silver Theatre and Cultural Center

☐ FRIEND $50 Four free screening passes ($37 value), $1.75 each discount for a pair of tickets to all regular screenings, members-only screenings, AFI Preview calendar mailings, American Film members magazine, access to the online AFI Catalog of Feature Films, voting for the annual AFI’s 100 Years... series and much more.

☐ CONTRIBUTOR $100 All above benefits, plus: sneak preview screenings, priority ticketing for select screenings, $1.75 discount on up to four tickets, four more screening passes for a total of eight ($74 value) and more.

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## Repertory Program

**November 8—January 12 at AFI Silver**

Go to www.AFI.com/Silver for current showtimes.

Calendar lists all repertory dates and Special Events/Programs as of press time. Always check local listings for daily show times. Visit www.AFI.com/Silver for additional openings and register for AFI Silver’s weekly e-blast to receive up to the minute program information.

### November

#### Sun

- **Dog Nail Clipper** 12:20

#### Mon

- **El Perro Negro** 1:00
  - My Nikifor 2:50
  - Beneath Her Window 7:30
  - Fallen 9:15

#### Tues

- **El Perro Negro** 6:45
  - Sophie Scholl 8:35

#### Wed

- **Beneath Her Window** 6:30
  - Innocence 8:30

#### Thurs

- **Fallen** 6:30
  - Gilles’ Wife 8:30

#### Fri

- **The Consequences of Love** 9:00
  - Special Event: AFI Conservatory Symposium 5:00

#### Sat

- **Aftermath** 12:05
  - Zazie 6:00

### December

#### Sun

- **The Sound of Music** 1:00
  - West Side Story 6:30
  - Family Plot 9:25

#### Mon

- **The Two of Us** One Week Only
  - The Thief of Paris 9:05

#### Tues

- **The King and I** One Week Only
  - The Sound of Music 8:45

#### Wed

- **El Perro Negro** 6:45
  - Sophie Scholl 8:35

#### Thurs

- **The Consequences of Love** 9:00
  - Special Event: AFI Conservatory Symposium 5:00

#### Fri

- **The Sound of Music** 1:00
  - North by Northwest 7:00

#### Sat

- **The King and I** One Week Only
  - The Thief of Paris 3:45

### January

#### Sun

- **The Sound of Music** 1:00

#### Mon

- **The King and I** One Week Only
  - The Thief of Paris 3:45

#### Tues

- **The Sound of Music** 1:00

#### Wed

- **The Sound of Music** 1:00

#### Thurs

- **The Sound of Music** 1:00

#### Fri

- **The Sound of Music** 1:00

#### Sat

- **The Sound of Music** 1:00

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The Ernest Lehman Series continues into January with Hello, Dolly! and Who’s Afraid of Virginia Woolf? See page 15 for dates and times.
It’s Christmas time again! Come and see some of the best-loved Christmas classics on the big screen at AFI Silver.

AFI Member Passes will be accepted at all screenings in the Holiday Classics series.

**IT’S A WONDERFUL LIFE**
Daily shows from Saturday, December 17 through Sunday, December 25
After a lifetime of good deeds with little or no remuneration, Bedford Falls resident George Bailey (James Stewart) attempts a Christmas Eve suicide but is saved by guardian angel Clarence Goodbody (Henry Travers), who shows George how dismal life would have been for his family and friends had he never been born. Perhaps Frank Capra’s finest work, certainly the all-time Christmas classic, and #11 on AFI’s 100 Years...100 Movies. DIR/PROD Frank Capra; SCR Frances Goodrich, Albert Hackett, Jo Swerling and Frank Capra. US, 1946, b&w, 134 min. RATED PG

**A CHRISTMAS STORY**
Daily shows from Saturday, December 17 through Sunday, December 25
Growing up in writer Jean Shepherd’s Gary, Indiana, in the 1940s, young Peter Billingsley desires nothing more for Christmas than a Daisy Brand Red Ryder repeating BB carbine with a compass mounted in the stock. Director Bob Clark’s holiday classic is actually his second Christmas-themed movie. The other: 1974 slasher pic BLACK CHRISTMAS, a.k.a. SILENT NIGHT, EVIL NIGHT. DIR Bob Clark; SCR Jean Shepherd, Leigh Brown and Bob Clark; PROD René Dupont and Bob Clark. US, 1983, color, 94 min. RATED PG

**A MUPPET CHRISTMAS CAROL**
Daily shows from Monday, December 12 through Saturday, December 17
In the Muppets’ incarnation of this Dickens classic, Michael Caine is Scrooge, the unyielding employer of Kermit the Frog’s Bob Cratchit. Everybody’s favorite frog is joined by Miss Piggy as Mrs. Cratchit and Robin the Frog as Tiny Tim. A Christmas Carol and the Muppets: we’ve grown up on both of them. A film everyone can enjoy. DIR Brian Henson; SCR Jerry Juhl, after the novel by Charles Dickens; PROD Brian Henson and Martin G. Baker. US, 1992, color, 85 min. RATED G

It’s Christmas time again! Come and see some of the best-loved Christmas classics on the big screen at AFI Silver.

**A TROPICAL CHRISTMAS STORY!**
FELICIDADES [Merry Christmas]
Saturday, December 24, 3:40; Monday, December 26, 5:30; Wednesday, December 28, 6:30
It’s a hot and muggy Christmas Eve in Buenos Aires, and everyone is hectically preparing for the holidays. Wry coincidences conspire to unite a standup comic working the bar mitzvah circuit and a frustrated novelist; the novelist’s estranged girlfriend and an amorous young doctor; the doctor and a lonely wheelchair-bound man; a father out looking for a last-minute present and some corrupt police officers. Fast-paced and downbeat, blackly comic and strangely uplifting, FELICIDADES is a holiday movie true to the real spirit of the season, one that knows both loneliness and generosity. Argentina’s official selection, 2000 Oscars, Best Foreign Language Film. DIR Lucho Bender; SCR Lucho Bender, Pablo Cedrón and Pedro Loeb; PROD Emilio Bender and Juan Bucich. Argentina, 2000, color, 100 min. In Spanish and Hebrew with English subtitles. NOT RATED

Cinema Tropical is a non-profit organization that promotes, programs and distributes Latin American cinema in the United States. For more information, visit www.cinematropical.com.

**FREE SHOWS!**
AFI Silver and 97.1 WASH FM present Holiday Classics
Join us Saturday mornings at 10 a.m. throughout December and enjoy these FREE holiday film screenings. Tickets available through 97.1 WASH FM ONLY. No tickets will be available through the AFI Silver Box Office.

Dec. 3   THE POLAR EXPRESS (G)
Dec. 10  ELF (PG)
Dec. 17  A MUPPET CHRISTMAS CAROL (G)
Dec. 24  A CHRISTMAS STORY (PG)
LA PETITE JÉRUSALEM
Saturday, December 3, 7:20
In the working-class suburbs of Paris, 18-year-old Laura is torn between her Tunisian-Jewish family's traditional religious life and the study of philosophy that keeps her reading Kant late into the night. Her intellectual and spiritual ideals are further challenged when she finds herself irresistibly attracted to Djamel, an Algerian Muslim who works with her. Meanwhile her older sister, played by Elsa Zylberstein (MODIGLIANI, WJFF 2004), struggles to revive the sagging intimacy of her marriage. Set against the rising tide of anti-Semitism in France, LA PETITE JÉRUSALEM builds to an emotional standoff between the head, heart and soul. An impressive first feature film from director Karin Albou; DIR/SCR Karin Albou; PROD Laurent Lavolé and Isabelle Pragner. France, 2005, color, 94 min. In French, Arabic and Hebrew with English subtitles.

THE LAST MITTERAND
[Le Promeneur du Champ de Mars]
Saturday, December 3, 9:20
An intense encounter, in the waning months of François Mitterrand’s tenure, between the President of France and Antoine, the young Jewish journalist charged with writing his biography. While the ailing Mitterand seeks to secure his legacy as the “last great president,” Antoine antagonizes the charismatic leader with unresolved questions about his actions during the Vichy Period of World War II. Michel Bouquet gives a bravura performance as le président. DIR Robert Guédiguijan; SCR Gilles Taurand and Georges-Marc Benamou, after the book by Benamou; PROD Robert Guédiguijan, Frank Le Wita and Marc de Bayser. France, 2005, color, 116 min. In French with English subtitles.

METALLIC BLUES
Saturday, December 10, 9:00
Two of Israel's finest comic actors, Moshe Iggy and Avi Koushni, star as small-time used-car salesmen in this road movie. They buy a 1985 Lincoln Continental limousine from a Palestinian, planning to resell the best protection from the Sunday stewpot. But for safety's sake sends young Claude (impish Alain Cohen) to live in the country with a friend's elderly parents. Given a new name, quickly taught the Lord's Prayer, and instructed to keep his (circumcised) “little birdie” out of sight, Claude is at first guarded in his behavior. Lovingly gruff Grandpa Michel Simon soon pulls Claude out of his shell, and the two become fast friends. But Grandpa has some strong opinions about Jews. The first feature by Claude Berri, based on his own wartime childhood, is a triumph of tactful sentiment over mawkish sentimentality. And for 72-year-old Michel Simon, who won the Berlin Film Festival’s Best Actor award for his performance, one last triumph in a brilliant 50-year career in film. “For twenty years I have been waiting for a film about the real France during the Occupation... one of those emotional stories that are truer and stronger than any love story.”—Director François Truffaut DIR Claude Berri; SCR Claude Berri, Gérard Brach and Michel Rivelin; PROD Paul Cadec. France, 1967, b&w, 90 min. In French with English subtitles. UNRATED

NEW 35MM PRINT!
THE TWO OF US [Le Vieil Homme et L’Enfant]
Opens Friday, December 9—One Week Only!
“I was eight years old and already a Jew.” In Occupied France, 1944, the Langmann family disguises its Jewishness, but for safety's sake sends young Claude (impish Alain Cohen) to live in the country with a friend's elderly parents. Given a new name, quickly taught the Lord's Prayer, and instructed to keep his (circumcised) “little birdie” out of sight, Claude is at first guarded in his behavior. Lovingly gruff Grandpa Michel Simon soon pulls Claude out of his shell, and the two become fast friends. But Grandpa has some strong opinions about Jews. The first feature by Claude Berri, based on his own wartime childhood, is a triumph of tactful sentiment over mawkish sentimentality. And for 72-year-old Michel Simon, who won the Berlin Film Festival’s Best Actor award for his performance, one last triumph in a brilliant 50-year career in film. “For twenty years I have been waiting for a film about the real France during the Occupation... one of those emotional stories that are truer and stronger than any love story.”—Director François Truffaut DIR Claude Berri; SCR Claude Berri, Gérard Brach and Michel Rivelin; PROD Paul Cadec. France, 1967, b&w, 90 min. In French with English subtitles. UNRATED
Shown with Berri's Oscar-winning short film LE POULET (1982, 15 min.), in which a little boy finds that for his beloved rooster, an egg is the best protection from the Sunday stewpot.
Co-presented with the Washington Jewish Film Festival.
ERNEST LEHMAN

Written for the Screen: Ernest Lehman Remembered
Opens Monday, December 26

Hollywood lost one of its most accomplished screenwriting talents when Ernest Lehman died in July of this year. He was a master of the big screen adaptation, whether working with musicals, plays or novels. Many of the best-loved movies of the 1950s and ‘60s bear his hand, including NORTH BY NORTHWEST, SABRINA, THE SWEET SMELL OF SUCCESS and THE SOUND OF MUSIC. Nominated for the Oscar four times as a screenwriter, and twice as a producer for Best Picture, Lehman was awarded the Honorary Oscar in 2001, the only person primarily known as a screenwriter to receive this honor. AFI remembers Lehman with nine of the great films in his legacy. FILMS ARE UNRATED UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED.

AFI Member Passes will be accepted at all screenings in the Lehman tribute.

40th Anniversary! THE SOUND OF MUSIC
Monday, Dec. 26, 2:00, 8:20; Tuesday, Dec. 27, 8:20; Wednesday, Dec. 28, 8:20; Thursday, Dec. 29, 8:20; Saturday, Dec. 31, 1:00; Sunday, Jan. 1, 1:00

Quite simply one of the most successful and best-loved movies in motion picture history. Lehman’s screenplay made crucial changes to Rodgers and Hammerstein’s Broadway production, including having Julie Andrews’ Maria sing My Favorite Things to the von Trapp kids (instead of the Mother Abbess singing it to Maria), while director Robert Wise and associate producer Saul Chaplin thrillingly transplanted the performance of Do-Re-Mi from indoors to all over Salzburg. Five wins among 10 Oscar nominations, including Best Picture and Director for Wise. DIR/PROD Robert Wise; SCR Ernest Lehman, after the musical by Howard Lindsay, Russell Crouse, Oscar Hammerstein and Richard Rodgers. US, 1965, color, 70mm, 174 min. RATED G

NORTH BY NORTHWEST
Friday, Dec. 30, 8:50; Saturday, Dec. 31, 7:00; Sunday, Jan. 1, 4:30; Monday, Jan. 2, 9:00; Wednesday, Jan. 4, 6:00

Lehman’s only all-original script, arguably his greatest work—and, for many, Hitchcock’s. Crackling dialogue and one memorable set piece after another—including a murder at the UN, the crop-duster attempt on Cary Grant’s life, and the climactic duel upon Mount Rushmore—make this mistaken-identity thriller a classic that shows no signs of age. With James Mason as the uncanny villain, Martin Landau as his creepy henchman and the luminous Eva Marie Saint as a double (maybe triple) agent. DIR/PROD Alfred Hitchcock; SCR Ernest Lehman. US, 1959, color, 136 min.

SABRINA
Saturday, January 8, 5:45; Tuesday, January 10, 6:30; Thursday, January 12, 6:30

Audrey Hepburn sparkles in the title role as the chauffeur’s daughter who pines in anonymity for wealthy playboy William Holden. She’s packed off to Paris to forget her heartbreak and returns a fashionable woman of the world—and Holden takes notice. So too does responsive brother Humphrey Bogart, who intends for his kid brother to make a good marriage with a wealthy heiress. Running interference, Bogie steps out with Sabrina himself—and into a comic love triangle. This fairy-tale romance was Lehman’s first triumph as a screenwriter, earning him his first Oscar nomination and Golden Globe and WGA Award honors. DIR/PROD Billy Wilder; SCR Ernest Lehman, Samuel A. Taylor and Billy Wilder after the play by Taylor. US, 1954, b&w, 113 min.

50th Anniversary! THE KING AND I
Saturday, Jan. 1, 1:00; Wednesday, Jan. 11, 6:30; Thursday, Jan. 12, 8:45

Ernest Lehman ably adapted the Rodgers and Hammerstein smash for the screen, the first in what would prove to be a hugely successful career working with musicals. Deborah Kerr’s Anna and Yul Brynner’s King of Siam remain the iconic incarnations of the two headstrong, mismatched and made-for-each other lovers. In gorgeous Technicolor and Cinemascope, a delight on the big screen. Best Actor for Brynner, out of five Oscar wins, among nine nominations. DIR Walter Lang; SCR Ernest Lehman, after the musical by Oscar Hammerstein and Richard Rodgers and the novel by Margaret Landon; PROD Charles Brackett. US, 1956, color, scope, 133 min. RATED G
ERNEST LEHMAN

In 70mm!
HELLO, DOLLY!
Saturday, January 14, 1:00; Sunday, January 15, 1:00; Monday, January 16, 8:30
Ernest Lehman’s adaptation of the hit stage musical boasts the combined talents of director Gene Kelly, FUNNY GIRL Oscar-winner Barbra Streisand, and choreographer Michael Kidd; it nabbed three Oscars out of seven nominations. Featuring a beloved guest appearance by Louis Armstrong in the title song, as well as a performance by Louis Armstrong and Ernest Lehman is now legendary, as are Elmer Bernstein’s all-jazz score (featuring drumming great Chico Hamilton) and James Wong Howe’s lustrous all-location black-and-white cinematography, with midtown late-1950s New York in the minutest detail. “Extraordinary for its depiction of a now-vanished New York, for the spiraling viciousness of Burt Lancaster and Tony Curtis, and for the plot, which hinges on a smear campaign.”—Stuart Klawans, New York Times.

THE SWEET SMELL OF SUCCESS
Friday, Jan. 6, 9:10; Saturday, Jan. 7, 8:40; Sunday, Jan. 8, 8:25; Wednesday, Jan. 11, 8:30
“Match me, Sidney,” barks sanctimonious columnist J. H. Hunsecker (Burt Lancaster in a role based on Walter Winchell) at yesteryear publicist Sidney Falco (Tony Curtis) in the quintessential portrait of the rascid underside of Great White Way New York. The ultra-styled dialogue by Clifford Odets and Ernest Lehman is now legendary, as are Elmer Bernstein’s all-jazz score (featuring drumming great Chico Hamilton) and James Wong Howe’s lustrous all-location black-and-white cinematography, with midtown late-1950s New York in the minutest detail. “Extraordinary for its depiction of a now-vanished New York, for the spiraling viciousness of Burt Lancaster and Tony Curtis, and for the plot, which hinges on a smear campaign.”—Stuart Klawans, New York Times.

SANCTUARY
Wednesday, Jan. 11, 4:00; Thursday, Jan. 20, 8:30
With some of the best dialogue ever to hit the Hollywood screen, retained with great finesse by adaptor Ernest Lehman from Ernest Lehman; PROD Tony Curtis, Harold Hecht, James Hill and Burt Lancaster. US, 1957, bw, 96 min.

40th Anniversary! WHO’S AFRAID OF VIRGINIA WOOLF?
Friday, Jan. 13, 8:30; Saturday, Jan. 14, 7:30; Sunday, Jan. 15, 4:00; Thursday, Jan. 20, 8:30
With some of the best dialogue ever to hit the Hollywood screen, retained with great finesse by adaptor Ernest Lehman from Edward Albee’s award-winning play, this was a sensational acting coup for Elizabeth Taylor—at turns seductive, vitriolic, wounded and cruel, she stirs lust and loathing into a potent mix. This witty, caustic and sometimes tender drama exposes an academic marriage that has become a verbal battleground. Winner of five Oscars, out of 13 nominations. DIR Mike Nichols; SCR/PROD Ernest Lehman, from the play by Edward Albee. US, 1966, b&w, 131 min.
The Jim Henson Company: 50 Years of Myth and Magic
December 27 through January 5
The year 2005 marks the 50th anniversary of the Jim Henson Company. Come and see two of the trailblazing puppeteer’s best-loved fantasy films. Featuring the rare opportunity to see some of his early experimental short films, including the Oscar-nominated TIME PIECE.

AFI Member Passes will be accepted at all screenings in the Henson series.

LABYRINTH
Tuesday December 27, 6:00; Friday, December 30, 6:30; Tuesday, January 3, 6:45
Featuring young Jennifer Connelly, fresh from her impressive acting debut in Sergio Leone’s ONCE UPON A TIME IN AMERICA. Resentful of having to babysit her baby brother, she inadvertently casts him into the hands of Jareth the Goblin King, played with wicked abandon by chameleon-like glam rocker David Bowie. An imaginative fusion of fantasy, fairytale and meta-fiction. Connelly must navigate the obstacles of the menacing Labyrinth to rescue her brother before he is forever transformed into a goblin. DIR Jim Henson; SCR Terry Jones; PROD Eric Rattray. UK/US, 1986, color, 101 min. RATED PG

THE DARK CRYSTAL
Thursday, Dec. 29, 6:00; Sunday, Jan. 1, 7:10; Monday, Jan. 2, 1:30; Thursday, Jan. 5, 6:30
Written by Jim Henson and co-directed by fellow Muppeteer Frank Oz, this sci-fi fantasy adventure is set in an imaginative, albeit dark, puppet world that is a decided departure from the light-hearted land of the Muppets. The story concerns two young Gelflings—the last of their kind—on their quest to thwart the dark rule of the evil, selfish Skeksis by mending the mythic Dark Crystal. With characters based on designs by fantasy artist Brian Froud, THE DARK CRYSTAL features puppet mastery that will both delight children and impress adults. DIR Jim Henson and Frank Oz; SCR Jim Henson and David Odell; PROD Jim Henson and Gary Kurtz. US/UK, 1982, color, 93 min. RATED PG

PLUS
JIM HENSON EXPERIMENTAL SHORTS
CAT AND MOUSE (early 1960s, music by Raymond Scott); RIPPLES and WHEELS THAT GO (1967); IDEA MAN (mid-1960s); THE KING OF 8 and THE QUEEN OF 6 (late 1960s). NOT RATED

PLUS
TIME PIECE
Dislocation in time, time signatures, time as a philosophical concept and slavery to time are some of the themes touched upon in this nine-minute experimental film, which was written, directed and produced by Jim Henson, starring Jim Henson. Screened for the first time at the Museum of Modern Art in May 1965, TIME PIECE enjoyed an 18-month run at one Manhattan movie theater and was nominated for an Academy Award for Outstanding Short Subject. NOT RATED

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