

# MUSEUM OF THE MOVING IMAGE

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **PROGRAM AND EXHIBITION OVERVIEW: NOVEMBER 2014–JANUARY 2015**

Astoria, New York, October 27, 2014—Museum of the Moving Image announces its major film series and exhibitions for the winter. Among the highlights is a major retrospective of **Jean Grémillon**, the underappreciated titan of pre-New Wave French cinema, with 20 shorts and features presented in 35mm (and some 16mm) prints imported from the Institut Français (November 21–December 21). Other programs include a weekend celebration of Hollywood director **Rouben Mamoulian** (November 7–9); ***Ways to Freedom***, a film series to mark the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the first free elections in Poland, including works by Krzysztof Kieslowski and Andrzej Wajda (November 14–23); ***O Brazil***, a new ongoing series offering a birds-eye view of the thriving Brazilian film scene (November 22–December 20); ***See It Big! Animation***, the Museum's popular big-screen series, with a focus on contemporary animation (November 29–December 28); and the **fourth annual First Look Festival**, featuring premieres of inventive, groundbreaking international films (January 9–18). An overview of all programs is included below.

The Museum's current exhibitions are united by a focus on animation, anchored by the acclaimed Smithsonian exhibition ***What's Up, Doc? The Animation Art of Chuck Jones***, which is on view through January 19, 2015, before embarking on a nationwide tour. In the amphitheater gallery, the Museum is currently presenting ***Plymptoons: Short Films and Drawings by Bill Plympton*** (through January 4), and will host a preview screening of the Plympton's new film ***Cheatin'*** (December 12). In the lobby, the commissioned work, ***A Memory of Astoria***, a panoramic stop-motion animation by artist Ezra Wube inspired by his walks around the Museum's neighborhood, is on view through January 8. These exhibitions are supported by programs that include the ***See It Big! Animation*** series, matinees of **Chuck Jones cartoons** on weekends through November and during the Christmas holiday period, and holiday family programs that will use these cartoons as a jumping-off point to explore topics in animation.

Additional programs and exhibitions will be announced as they are confirmed.

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## FILM PROGRAMS

### **[Rouben Mamoulian Weekend](#)**

November 7–9, 2014

Hollywood director Rouben Mamoulian was a pioneering technical innovator, revolutionizing mobile camerawork in early talkies and directing the first Technicolor feature film. Yet his mastery is more than technical. This weekend of five great Mamoulian films showcases how spectacle and style are deeply integrated into the storytelling. Titles include *Applause* (filmed in Astoria), *Love Me Tonight*, *Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde*, *Queen Christina*, and *Silk Stockings*. Presented in partnership with the Anthropology Museum of the People of New York and the Armenian Cultural Resource Center at Queens College.

### **[Ways to Freedom: Polish Films and the Rise to Democracy](#)**

November 13–23, 2014

To commemorate the 25th anniversary of the first free parliamentary elections in Poland, and the events leading up to the democratic changes that swept the country throughout the 1980s, this film series looks at this vital period in Polish history through a selection of fiction films, documentaries, and shorts. In addition to key works by such prominent directors as Krzysztof Kieslowski and Andrzej Wajda, the thirteen-title series includes such great films as *Mother of Kings* and *Interrogation*, and introductions by noted scholars and historians. Presented in collaboration with the KINO POLSKA Foundation, with support from the Polish Cultural Institute New York.

### **[Jean Grémillon](#)**

November 21–December 21, 2014

The lyrical, musical films of Jean Grémillon (1901–1959), including *Dainah le métisse* (1932), *Lady Killer* (1937), and *Remorques* (1941), both predicted and transcended 1930s French “poetic realism,” for Grémillon was too much an iconoclast to belong to any movement. Combining a dedication to real-life detail with a passion for flamboyant artifice—only one of the many contradictions that defined his personality—Grémillon is slowly emerging as one of the titans of pre-New Wave French cinema. This retrospective includes 12 features and 8 short films—many very rarely seen in the United States. Films will be shown in 35mm (and some 16mm) prints imported from the Institut Française; presented with support from the Cultural Services of the French Embassy.

### **[O Brazil: Contemporary Brazilian Cinema](#)**

November 22–December 20, 2014

Featuring works by established directors and emerging filmmakers, this showcase will present a bird's eye view of the thriving Brazilian film scene. The first installment will include three films: *My Mother Is a Character* (*Minha mãe é uma peça*), starring the popular theater and TV comedian Paulo Gustavo in Brazil's biggest box-office hit of

2013; *Casa Grande*, Fellipe Barbosa 's coming-of-age drama that has been a hit at several international film festivals; and *The Music According to Antonio Carlos Jobim* (*A música segundo Tom Jobim*), a musical tribute to the artist who popularized bossa nova, by Cinema Novo pioneer Nelson Pereira dos Santos. Guest curator: Marcela Goglio.

### ***See It Big!: Animation***

November 28–December 28, 2014

In animated films, anything can happen, and the worlds can combine elements of fantasy, dream, and reality. These worlds can only truly come to life when the films are seen big! The ongoing series See It Big! co-programmed by the online film magazine Reverse Shot and Museum curators, will focus on contemporary films (not necessarily for children). Among the sixteen films in the series are Miyazaki's *My Neighbor Totoro* and *Princess Mononoke*, Isao Takahata's *Pom Poko*, John Lasseter's *Toy Story 2*, Richard Linklater's *Waking Life*, Wes Anderson's *Fox and His Friends*, Signe Bauman's *Rocks in Your Pockets* (with director in person), Rene Laloux's *The Fantastic Planet*, and more.

### ***Curators' Choice***

January 2–4, 2015

The Museum's curators select films (and possibly other moving-image works) released in the past year that reflect their "Best of 2014."

### ***First Look Festival***

January 9–18, 2015

The Museum's showcase for new and inventive international cinema returns for a fourth year. Positioned in early January, before the Sundance, Rotterdam, and Berlin film festivals, *First Look* is a great way for New York filmgoers to start the year and catch thoughtful and provocative filmmaking amid the hype and noise of the awards season. David Hudson, on *Keyframe Daily*, called it "one of the most noteworthy curatorial efforts anywhere." The 2015 lineup will be announced in early November.

### ***Julianne Moore Weekend***

January 23–25, 2015

The Museum will honor Julianne Moore at a gala Salute on January 20, 2015 in New York City. Following this event, this weekend tribute will feature a selection of films starring the versatile and accomplished actress.

### **ONGOING FILM SERIES**

#### **[Changing the Picture, sponsored by Time Warner Inc.](#)**

This monthly series celebrates the work of film and television artists of color who are bringing diverse voices to the screen. In November, the Museum will present *Butterfly*

*Rising* with writer/director/actor Tanya Wright in person.

### **[Jim Henson's World](#)**

The imaginative, playful, creative, and prolific film and television work of Jim Henson is celebrated in this monthly screening series, organized by Craig Shemin, President of The Jim Henson Legacy. This winter, the Museum will show a compilation of music, movie, and TV show parodies from *Sesame Street* (November 28 & 30) and the beloved TV special *A Muppet Family Christmas* (December 27 & 28). In 2015, the Museum will open a new permanent exhibition devoted to the work of Jim Henson.

### **[Fist and Sword](#)**

The Museum's popular monthly series of contemporary and classic martial arts and action movies, organized by co-curators Warrington Hudlin and Aliza Ma, will feature *14 Blades* (November 21) and David Mamet's *Redbelt* (December 12).

## **EXHIBITIONS**

### **[What's Up, Doc? The Animation Art of Chuck Jones](#)**

Through January 19, 2015, third-floor changing exhibitions gallery  
This Smithsonian traveling exhibition explores the work of the legendary animation director who made some of the most enduringly popular cartoons of all time, featuring characters including Bugs Bunny, Daffy Duck, Wile E. Coyote, and the Road Runner. The Museum's presentation, accompanied by a screening series and education programs, kicks off a thirteen-city tour. The exhibition is a partnership between the Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibition Service, The Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences, the Chuck Jones Center for Creativity, and Museum of the Moving Image.

### **[Plymptoons: Short Films and Drawings by Bill Plympton](#)**

Through January 4, 2015 in the Video Screening Amphitheater  
The unique creations of New York-based animator Bill Plympton will be shown continuously, alongside an exhibit of drawings. The hour-long selection will include some of Plympton's best short films, from 1987 to 2010, including *Your Face*, *25 Ways to Quit Smoking*, *How to Kiss*, *Santa: The Fascist Years*, and more.

### **[Ezra Wube: A Memory of Astoria](#)**

Through January 8, 2015, lobby installation  
This panoramic video work by artist Ezra Wube (b. 1980, Ethiopia) offers an impressionistic portrait of the blocks surrounding the Museum. The production of *A Memory of Astoria* was an intensive, months-long process, with each frame painted in sequence on top of the last.

### **[Lights, Camera, Astoria!](#)**

Through January 4, 2015 in the Amphitheater Gallery

Using film stills, behind-the-scenes photographs, production materials, and film clips, the exhibition explores the rich legacy and renaissance of the Astoria studio, which has been at the heart of filmmaking in New York City since 1920.

### **[Behind the Screen](#)**

Ongoing

The Museum's core exhibition features more than 1,400 historical objects, art works, video clips, and interactive experiences that show how moving images are made, marketed, and exhibited.

### **MUSEUM INFORMATION**

**Museum of the Moving Image** ([movingimage.us](http://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 5:00 p.m. Friday, 10:30 to 8:00 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, 11:30 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. **Holiday hours:** The Museum will be open 10:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, November 11 (Veterans' Day); Monday, December 29; and Tuesday, December 30. The Museum will be closed on Thursday, November 27 (Thanksgiving); Wednesday, December 24; and Thursday, December 25.

Film Screenings: Friday evenings, Saturdays and Sundays, and as scheduled. Tickets for regular film screenings are included with paid Museum admission and are free for members at the Film Lover level and above.

Museum Admission: \$12.00 for adults; \$9.00 for persons over 65 and for students with ID; \$6.00 for children ages 3–12. Children under 3 and Museum members are admitted free. Admission to the galleries is free on Fridays, 4:00 to 8:00 p.m. Tickets for special screenings and events may be purchased in advance online at [movingimage.us](http://movingimage.us).

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

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

Program Information: Telephone: 718 777 6888; Website: [movingimage.us](http://movingimage.us)

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

The Museum is housed in a building owned by the City of New York and located on the campus of Kaufman Astoria Studios. Its operations are made possible in part by public funds provided through the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs, the New York City Economic Development Corporation, the New York State Council on the Arts, the National Endowment for the Arts, the National Endowment for the Humanities, the Institute of Museum and Library Services, and the Natural Heritage Trust (administered by the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation, and Historic Preservation). The Museum also receives generous support from numerous corporations, foundations, and individuals. For more information, please visit [movingimage.us](http://movingimage.us).

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