JULIA REICHERT: 50 YEARS IN FILM

During March the Museum participates in a nationally touring retrospective celebrating American independent filmmaker Julia Reichert.

"Taken as a whole, Julia Reichert’s documentaries serve as nothing short of a history of labor, the women’s movement, health care, and radical humanism in the U.S. over the past 100 years."
- David Filipi, Director of Film/Video Wexner Center for the Arts

The retrospective is organized by the Wexner Center for the Arts with the Museum of Modern Art, New York, and curated by David Filipi.

COMING SOON:

ARMCANTRAVEL TRAVEL

Here’s a travel offer you cannot refuse! Take a seat and we’ll give you an up-close look at classical musicians and museum exhibitions around the world. Filmed exclusively for cinema in stunning high definition, the Armchair Travel series will also screen in the summer with different films.

IN SEARCH OF BEETHOVEN

Directed by Phil Grabsky
(UK, 2009, 139 min.)

Fridays, January 3 & 10, 2:00 p.m.

Saturdays, January 4 & 11, 2:00 p.m.

In Search of Beethoven delves beyond the image of the tortured, bad-tempered, unhinged personality of the musician to reveal someone quite different and far more interesting. The documentary brings together the world’s leading performers and experts on Beethoven to reveal new insights into this legendary composer. The lineup of performers and interviewees includes Gianandrea Noseda, Sir Roger Norrington, Riccardo Chailly, Claudio Abbado, Fabio Luisi, Frans Brüggen, and Emanuel Ax, among others.

LEONARDO: THE WORKS

Directed by Phil Grabsky
(UK, 2019, 85 min.)

Fridays, January 17 & 24, 2:00 p.m.

Saturdays, January 18 & 25, 2:00 p.m.

Leonardo da Vinci is acclaimed as the world’s favorite artist; his peerless paintings and drawings are the focus of Leonardo: The Works, as Exhibition on Screen presents every single attributed painting, in ultra-HD quality, never seen before on the big screen. Key works include The Mona Lisa, The Last Supper, Lady with an Ermine, Ginevra de’ Benci, The Virgin of the Rocks, and more than a dozen others. The film looks afresh at Leonardo’s inventiveness, sculptural skills, military foresight, and ability to navigate the treacherous politics of the day through the prism of his art. Released on the 500th anniversary of his death, this is the first film to truly tell the whole story.
KID FLICKS ONE
Various directors
(Various countries, 2017–2019, 60 min.)
Thursday, December 26, 11:00 a.m. – Free admission
Saturday, December 28, 11:00 a.m. – Free with Museum admission
Recommended for ages 3–7
Kid Flicks One, the latest compilation from the New York International Children’s Film Festival (NYICFF), is brimming with fun and clever stories of growth and transformation from Australia, Colombia, France, Guatemala, Russia, and the United States, among other countries. Sympathize with the little tadpole who always falls a tad behind in the charming KUAP; catch up on penmanship if you want to graduate from pencils in the winning doc The Pen Licence. These shorts and so much more await you!

KID FLICKS TWO
Various directors
(Various countries, 2017–2018, 72 min.)
Thursday, December 26, 2:00 p.m. – Free admission
Saturday, December 28, 2:00 p.m. – Free with Museum admission
Recommended for ages 8 and up
NYICFF Kids Flicks Two bridges the gap between little and big for young audiences growing in experiences and ideas. Take a wild ride and harness the (cat) power of the cosmos with the quirky Russian film Catmos. If you are curious about more earthly matters, take a page out of Australia’s A Field Guide to Being a 12-Year-Old Girl. And whether your tastes lean to umami or sweet, the duo in Japan’s Mogu & Perol just might convince you there is simply nothing more delish than a warm friendship.

Fellini One Hundred
Fellini 100
NOW PLAYING
On the cover: British Arrows
GENERAL INFORMATION
Screenings are held in the Brown Auditorium Theater, designed by noted Bauhaus architect Ludwig Mies van der Rohe. Please enter the Caroline Wiess Law Building from Main Street (see map on back cover). Refreshments are not permitted in the theater. Audience members are kindly requested to silence all electronic devices once the film begins. Many films are unrated and may not be appropriate for younger viewers. Call 713-639-7531 with questions.
Brown Auditorium Theater is equipped for closed-captioning services when the film presented has such features enabled. CC is indicated on the website listing of films with this capability.

PLAN YOUR VISIT
Visit mfah.org for new parking options during the campus expansion.
Pick up a coupon when you purchase your movie ticket at the auditorium box office to receive 10% off your purchase at the MFA Café!

ADMISSION
Except where otherwise indicated, general admission is $9. Museum members, students with ID, and seniors 65+ receive a $2 discount. No other discounts apply. Children 5 and under are admitted free.
The MFAH Films box office accepts payment by cash, check, and credit card. Purchase tickets in advance at mfah.org; in the Museum lobbies, or at the auditorium box office.

FILM BUFFS
Film Buffs is the Museum’s membership group for movie lovers. Call 713-639-7550 for information or visit mfah.org/filmbuffs for more information. Must start at $85 and benefits include free passes to sneak preview screenings of new films, discounted admission to MFAH Films, and more. Museum members are eligible for a discount on the annual dues.

SUPPORT
Underwriting for the Film Department is provided by Tenaris and the Vaught Foundation. Generous funding is provided by The Consulate General of Israel Houston; Nina and Michael Zilkha; American Turkish Association – Houston; Franci Neely; ILEX Foundation; Dr. James Derrick; Mr. and Mrs. H. Bruce Sallee; Lynn S. Wyatt; Consolato Generale D’Italia Houston; L’Alliance Française de Houston; and The Foundation for Independent Media Arts.

General admission to the MFAH is free on Thursdays, courtesy of Shell Oil Company.

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PRESENTED BY DIRECTOR ROGER CORMAN

THE MASQUE OF THE RED DEATH

Award from the Society’s members.

Local film critics come together for the 13th annual

HOUSTON FILM CRITICS SOCIETY:

Friday, December 27, 7:00 p.m.

Friday, January 31, 7:00 p.m.

Friday, February 7, 5:00 p.m.

Friday, February 14, 7:00 p.m.

Friday, February 21, 7:00 p.m.

Friday, February 28, 7:00 p.m.

Saturday, January 4, 7:00 p.m.

Saturday, January 11, 7:00 p.m.

Saturday, January 18, 8:00 p.m.

Saturday, January 25, 7:00 p.m.

Saturday, February 1, 7:00 p.m.

Saturday, February 8, 7:00 p.m.

Saturday, February 15, 7:00 p.m.

Saturday, February 22, 7:00 p.m.

Saturday, February 29, 7:00 p.m.

Sunday, January 5, 5:00 p.m.

Sunday, January 12, 7:00 p.m.

Sunday, January 19, 7:00 p.m.

Sunday, January 26, 7:00 p.m.

Sunday, February 2, 7:00 p.m.

Sunday, February 9, 7:00 p.m.

Sunday, February 16, 7:00 p.m.

Sunday, February 23, 7:00 p.m.

Sunday, February 20, 5:00 p.m.

Sunday, March 1, 5:00 p.m.

Sunday, March 8, 5:00 p.m.

Sunday, March 15, 5:00 p.m.

Sunday, March 22, 5:00 p.m.

Sunday, March 29, 5:00 p.m.

Sunday, April 5, 5:00 p.m.

Sunday, April 12, 5:00 p.m.

Sunday, April 19, 5:00 p.m.

Sunday, April 26, 5:00 p.m.

Sunday, May 3, 5:00 p.m.

Sunday, May 10, 5:00 p.m.

Sunday, May 17, 5:00 p.m.

Sunday, May 24, 5:00 p.m.

Sunday, May 31, 5:00 p.m.

Monday, June 1, 5:00 p.m.

Monday, June 8, 5:00 p.m.

Monday, June 15, 5:00 p.m.

Monday, June 22, 5:00 p.m.

Monday, June 29, 5:00 p.m.

Monday, July 6, 5:00 p.m.

Monday, July 13, 5:00 p.m.
AMARCORD
Directed by Federico Fellini
(Italy, 1973, 123 min., in Italian with English subtitles)
Monday, January 20, 7:00 p.m.

In honor of the 100th birthday of Italian filmmaker Federico Fellini (1920–1993), MFAH Films presents one of his most beloved films as a precursor to the upcoming fall retrospective at the Museum and Rice Cinema honoring the maestro’s centennial. A book signing with Alessandra Carrera follows the screening, celebrating his award-winning 2018 book, Fellini’s Eternal Rome: Paganism and Christianity in the Films of Federico Fellini, available for sale at the screening and in the Museum’s shop.

A carnivalesque portrait of provincial Italy during the Fascist period, Federico Fellini’s most personal film satirizes his youth and turns daily life into a circus of social rituals, adolescent desires, male fantasies, and political subtext, all set to Nino Rota’s gorgeous, nostalgia-tinged score. This enduring classic is presented in a new restoration personally supervised by director of photography Giuseppe Rotunno.

COLD SWEAT (ARAGHE SARD)
Directed by Shabab Beragh
(Iran, 2018, 86 min., in Farsi with English subtitles)
Saturday, January 25, 8:30 p.m.

Afroz (Baran Kosari) is the captain of the Iran Futsal (women’s) National Team, who prepares to fly to Malaysia for the Asian Nations Cup. However, Afroz learns that her estranged TV-host husband has banned her from leaving the country. The inspiring contemporary drama showcases the fight for female civil rights while offering a message of self-preservation and optimism.

WHAT WE DO IN THE SHADOWS
Directed by Jemaine Clement and Taika Waititi
(New Zealand/USA, 2014, 86 min.)
Sunday, February 23, 6:00 p.m.

Presented by Two Star Symphony

An award-winning comic mockumentary about a group of vampire roommates in New Zealand uncovering hilarity in the mundane. Viago (Taika Waititi), Deacon (Jemaine Clement), and Vladislav (Jarmaine Clement) find that modern life has them struggling with everyday responsibilities—paying rent, keeping up with the chores, trying to get into nightclubs, and overcoming conflicts between housemates. Because they are centuries old, the trio remains out of touch with today’s society until they make some new, younger friends.

About the speakers: Two Star Symphony has been called “Houston’s most unusual music ensemble.” Composing and performing all-original music in quartet, quintet, and octet configurations, Two Star has developed an enthusiastic following for its inventive presentations of modern instrumental music. Performers include Chris Bakos, Debra Brown, Bonnie Doggs, John Dubois, Margaret Lejeune, Cathy Power, and Kirk Suddreath.

PUTNEY SWOPE
Directed by Robert Downey Sr.
(USA, 1969, 84 min.)
Saturday, February 22 & 29, 7:00 p.m.

An unforgettable late-1960s counterculture masterpiece, Robert Downey Sr.’s Putney Swope remains a vital provocation on race, pop culture, and America. Putney Swope, the only African American exec at his ad firm, is unexpectedly elected its president and turns the industry on its ear through a series of outrageous, taboobusting TV commercials (strewn throughout the film like comedic landmines.) As Swope becomes the generalissimo of Madison Avenue, Downey takes no prisoners and skewers the entire political spectrum.

The new 50th anniversary 4K digital restoration is by The Academy Film Archive and The Film Foundation, with funding provided by the George Lucas Family Foundation.

THE WARREN (SORKHOOST)
Directed by Nima Javidi
(Iran, 2019, 100 min., in Farsi with English subtitles)
Sunday, January 26, 6:00 p.m.

From the director of 2015’s festival entry Melbourne comes this mystery/thriller starring Navid Mohammadzadeh (No Date, No Signature). He plays a prison warden in charge of transferring inmates to another facility as the current penitentiary is being razed for an airport-expansion project. During the relocation, however, one prisoner escapes and the warden must find him before his superiors learn about it and his promotion is jeopardized. The riveting drama wastes no time before the cat-and-mouse games begin, and the appearance of a social worker (Parinaz Badayie) adds a possible romantic element to the story.

FINDING FARIDEH
Directed by Kourosh Ataei and Asadeh Moussavi
(Holland/Iran, 2019, 89 min., in English, Dutch, and Farsi with English subtitles)
Sunday, January 26, 7:00 p.m.

Iran’s entry to the Academy Awards for Best International Feature Film, Finding Farideh is a documentary about a woman whose parents left her behind in Iran Reza Shireh 40 years ago. She was adopted by a Dutch family and grew up in the Netherlands. Fear and her family’s concerns prevented her from travelling to Iran in the past, but in recent years she has searched for her biological family online. The filmmakers accompany Farideh when she goes to Iran on an emotional journey, meeting three extended families who take DNA tests hoping to be recognized as her relatives.

WHERE IS THE FRIEND’S HOUSE? (KHANE-YE DOOST KOODJAST)
Directed by Abbas Kiarostami
(Iran, 1987, 83 min., in Farsi with English subtitles)
Saturday, January 18, 6:00 p.m.

The first film in Abbas Kiarostami’s sublime trilogy of films set in the northern Iranian village of Koker takes a premise of fable-like simplicity—a boy searches for the home of his classmate whose school notebook he has accidentally taken—and transforms it into a miraculous, child’s-eye adventure of the everyday. The young hero’s quest becomes both a revealing portrait of Iranian society in all its richness and complexity and a touching parable about the meaning of personal responsibility. Where is the Friend’s House? established Kiarostami’s reputation as one of cinema’s most sensitive and profound humanists. The trilogy continues with screenings at the Asia Society Texas Center (January 19) and the Menil Collection (January 24).

REVIVALS & RESTORATIONS

UNTIMELY (BIGAH)
Directed by Pouya Estehardi
(Iran, 2019, 78 min., in Farsi and Urdu with English subtitles)
Saturday, January 18, 8:00 p.m.

In a watchtower on the border of Iran and Pakistan, soldier Hamin (Iran Albag) is angrily ruminating about why he was denied permission to attend his sister’s wedding back home. He has disobeyed orders in the past, but not being able to join the wedding celebration is unbearable. Over the course of this spellbinding, poetic tale, Hamin reminisces about the close relationship with his sister and their traumatic childhood through episodes going back and forth in time. Epic cinematography and a haunting soundtrack add to the gripping debut feature film from musician/novelist Pouya Estehardi.

ORANGE DAYS (ROOZ-HEY NARENI)
Directed by Arash Lahooti
(Iran, 2018, 102 min., in Farsi with English subtitles)
Sunday, January 19, 5:00 p.m.

Arash Lahooti’s female-empowering, award-winning feature-film debut stars Hediyeh Tehrani (Fireworks

Wednesday) as a tough-as-nails farm contractor proving she can compete, against unfair odds, with male competitors and lead her crew of female workers on northern Iran’s largest orange harvest. A story of self-sacrifice and a thrilling fight against patriarchy, Orange Days is an absorbing drama of determination and the drive to succeed.

WHAT TO SEE AT THE MUSEUM

Education (SIAWE) and the Iranian Cultural Foundation-Houston.

FEBRUARY

AMARCORD
Directed by Federico Fellini
(Italy, 1973, 123 min., in Italian with English subtitles)
Monday, January 20, 7:00 p.m.

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