

MUSEUM OF THE MOVING IMAGE

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MUSEUM OF THE MOVING IMAGE ANNOUNCES DATES AND NEW FORMAT FOR THE 9TH ANNUAL FIRST LOOK FESTIVAL

March 11–15, 2020

Astoria, New York, January 29, 2020—Museum of the Moving Image will present **First Look 2020**, the ninth annual edition of its acclaimed festival of new, innovative international cinema, from March 11 through 15, 2020. Nearly all films will be New York premieres. The festival will feature appearances by artists and filmmakers whose works seek to redefine the art form while engaging in a wide range of subjects and styles. The lineup includes both nonfiction and fiction, features and shorts, live performances and artist talks, and forms that fall outside the boundaries of traditional theatrical distribution.

First Look 2020 is organized by Eric Hynes, Curator of Film; Edo Choi, Assistant Curator of Film; David Schwartz, Curator-at-Large; Becca Keating, Director of Development and curator of Persistent Visions program; and Sonia Epstein, Associate Curator of Science & Film.

Eric Hynes stated, "Since its inception eight years ago as a showcase for international films overlooked by other New York festivals, First Look has always marched to its own beat. While we are proud to present premieres of films from a myriad of regions and of infinite shapes and lengths, we are especially eager to foster an environment of exploration, learning, and fellowship among both visiting artists and audience members."

First Look has long focused on discovery, but this year, the program will expand to foreground the creative process. In addition to appearing in person at screenings, filmmakers will participate in a range of master classes, workshops, and performances throughout the Museum.

The lineup and schedule for First Look 2020 will be announced in early February. The new dates, consecutive days from March 11 through 15, reflect a change from past years (when it took place over two weekends in January).

First Look was where Chantal Akerman's *Almayer's Folly* had its New York premiere as the very first film in the inaugural festival in 2012, with the director in person. Since then, First Look has premiered Philippe Garrel's *A Burning Hot Summer*, Valerie

Massadian's *Nana*; Sergei Loznitza's *Donbass* and *The Trial*; Andrei Zvyagintsev's *Elena*; Raya Martin's *Buenas Noches, España*; Hirokazu Kore-eda's *After the Storm*; Thom Andersen's *Reconversão*; Jessica Hausner's *Amour Fou*; Johnnie To's *Life Without Principle*; Mohammed Ali Atassi and Ziad Homsí's *Our Terrible Country*; Claire Simon's *Young Solitude*; Aleksei German's *Hard To Be a God*; Blake Williams's *Prototype*; multiple works by Ken Jacobs and James Benning; Margaret Honda's *Color Correction*; and many more.

First Look Sponsors:

The Jonathan B. Murray Center for Documentary Journalism at the Missouri School of Journalism; The Harriman Institute at Columbia University; The BFA Film Department, School of Visual Arts; The Polish Cultural Institute New York; Captain Lawrence Brewery; Bridge Lane Wine; Sundance Institute Documentary Film Program; The Collective Paper Factory.

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PRESS REGISTRATION: Museum of the Moving Image invites press to preview and/or attend and cover the festival. [Please click here to register](#) for access to screenings, talks, and other events. Confirmation will be sent in mid-February.

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MUSEUM INFORMATION

Museum of the Moving Image (movingimage.us) advances the understanding, enjoyment, and appreciation of the art, history, technique, and technology of film, television, and digital media. In its acclaimed facility in Astoria, New York, the Museum presents exhibitions; screenings; discussion programs featuring actors, directors, and industry leaders; and education programs which serve more than 70,000 students each year. The Museum also houses a significant collection of moving-image artifacts.

Hours: Wed–Thurs, 10:30 a.m.–5:00 p.m. Fri, 10:30 a.m.–8:00 p.m. Sat–Sun, 10:30 a.m.–6:00 p.m.

Museum Admission: \$15 adults; \$11 senior citizens (ages 65+) and students (ages 18+) with ID; \$9 youth (ages 3–17). Children under 3 and Museum members are admitted free.

Free Friday Nights: free gallery admission every Friday, 4:00 to 8:00 p.m. presented by the Richmond Country Savings Foundation. Additionally, this program is supported, in part, by public funds from the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs.

Film Screenings: Unless otherwise noted, tickets: \$15 adults, \$11 students and seniors, \$9 youth (ages 3–17), free or discounted for Museum members (depending on level of membership). Advance purchase is available online. Ticket purchase includes same-day admission to the Museum's galleries.

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

Subway: M or R to Steinway Street. N or W to 36 Ave or Broadway.

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

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