

MUSEUM OF THE MOVING IMAGE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MOVING IMAGE PRESENTS FIRST MAJOR NEW YORK RETROSPECTIVE OF THE FILMS OF IRA SACHS

**Sachs to appear in person at all Museum screenings including a preview
of his latest film *Keep the Lights On***

August 25–September 4, 2012

With a distinctly personal voice in independent cinema, filmmaker Ira Sachs explores the universal themes of love and desire, beginning with his touching debut *The Delta* to his forthcoming feature *Keep the Lights On*. From August 25 through September 4, 2012, Museum of the Moving Image will present ***Looking for Love: The Films of Ira Sachs***, the first comprehensive New York retrospective of Sachs's work that includes all of his feature films and a selection of short films, each followed by a Pinewood Dialogue with Sachs in person. The series culminates on Tuesday, September 4, with a preview screening of his latest feature *Keep the Lights On*.

"Ira Sachs has quietly become a significant American filmmaker, with a body of work marked by intelligence, intimacy, and emotional authenticity," said David Schwartz, the Museum's Chief Curator. "*Looking for Love* will mark the first major retrospective of Sachs's films in New York."

Having moved to New York from his hometown of Memphis in the 1980s, Sachs became a driving force in the New York film world, as the founder and co-curator of the monthly series Queer/Art/Film and as a teacher at New York University. With his feature debut *The Delta* being accepted to the 1996 Sundance Film Festival, Sachs immediately broke in to the independent cinema scene. Though he would not make his second feature for another nine years, Sachs returned to the Sundance Film Festival in 2005 with *Forty Shades of Blue*, this time winning the Grand Jury prize. Both of Sachs's early romantic dramas capture the physical intimacy and emotional distance between lovers struggling to accept their quietly tragic circumstances.

In his third feature, Sachs collaborated with Oren Moverman to adapt John Bingham's 1953 novel *Five Roundabouts to Heaven* into a major motion picture. With an all-star cast including Pierce Brosnan, Patricia Clarkson, Chris Cooper, and Rachel McAdams, Sachs's *Married Life* is rich in artifice and dark humor reminiscent of Hitchcock's wry comedic mysteries.

Keep the Lights On is Sachs's most revealing personal film yet. His fourth feature chronicles a decade-long relationship among the changing landscape of New York City around the turn of the 21st century. This special preview screening is courtesy of Music Box Films, and will open theatrically on September 7.

A complete schedule for *Looking for Love: The Films of Ira Sachs* is included below. With the exception of the preview screening of *Keep the Lights On*, tickets for screenings are free with Museum admission (\$12 adults, \$9 senior citizens and college students, \$6 children 3–17) and free for Museum members. For information about becoming a member, visit <http://movingimage.us/support/membership/>.

Press Contact: Tomoko Kawamoto, tkawamoto@movingimage.us / 718 777 6830

SCHEDULE FOR 'LOOKING FOR LOVE: THE FILMS OF IRA SACHS,'

AUGUST 25–SEPTEMBER 4

Unless otherwise noted, screenings are included with Museum admission and take place at Museum of the Moving Image, 36-01 35 Avenue, in Astoria.

Conversation with Ira Sachs will follow each screening. All films are directed by Ira Sachs.

The Delta

SATURDAY, AUGUST 25, 5:00 P.M.

1996, 85 mins. With Shayne Gray, Thang Chan. Deep in Memphis, an unlikely romance emerges between an affluent white teenager and the immigrant son of a poor Vietnamese woman and black G.I.

Short Films by Ira Sachs

SUNDAY, AUGUST 26, 5:00 P.M.

Last Address

2009, 8 mins. With exterior images of the various houses, apartment buildings, and lofts where an entire generation of New York artists died of AIDS, Sachs' pay tribute to the talent and lives lost over the last thirty years, and to their continuing influence on American culture.

Lady

1994, 28 mins. Starring Dominique Dibbell of *The Five Lesbian Brothers*, *Lady* plays with gender ambiguity, never specifying whether the central character is a woman playing a man or a lesbian playing a gay man playing a heterosexual woman.

Vaudeville

1992, 55 mins. Using primarily gay and lesbian performers, *Vaudeville* examines political and social issues of a community through a traveling theatrical troupe.

Forty Shades of Blue

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 1, 5:00 P.M.

2005, 107 mins. With Dina Korzun, Rip Torn. Living a comfortable yet empty life with her older alcoholic boyfriend Alan, Laura experiences an emotional awakening when Alan's son from a previous marriage comes to visit.

Married Life

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 2, 5:00 P.M.

Dir. Ira Sachs. 2007, 90 mins. With Pierce Brosnan, Patricia Clarkson, Chris Cooper, and Rachel McAdams. When he falls in love with a younger woman, Harry decides he must murder his wife to avoid making her suffer through a divorce, in a story narrated by Harry's best friend Richard.

PREVIEW SCREENING:

Keep the Lights On

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 4, 7:00 P.M.

Dir. Ira Sachs. 2012, 96 mins. With Thure Lindhardt, Zachary Booth. Following a decade-long relationship between a documentary filmmaker and a young, up-and-coming lawyer, *Keep the Lights On* is a strikingly honest portrait of love and addiction in New York City. Sachs's quietly observant film offers a nonjudgmental and deeply moving romantic drama that is beautifully photographed in Super 16mm by cinematographer Thimios Bakatakis (*Dogtooth*). Like last year's hits *Weekend* and *Pariah*, it is a gay-themed film that is universally resonant.

TICKETS: \$15 public / \$9 Museum members / Free for Silver Screen and above.

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 January 2011, the Museum reopened after a major expansion and renovation that nearly doubled its size. Accessible, innovative, and forward-looking, the Museum presents exhibitions, education programs, significant moving-image works, and interpretive programs, and maintains a collection of moving-image related artifacts.

Hours: Tuesday-Thursday, 10:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Friday, 10:30 to 8:00 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, 10:30 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. Closed Monday except for holiday openings

Film Screenings: Friday evenings, Saturdays and Sundays, and as scheduled. Unless otherwise noted, screenings are included with Museum admission.

Museum Admission: \$12.00 for adults; \$9.00 for persons over 65 and for students with ID; \$6.00 for children ages 3-18. 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 by phone at 718 777 6800 or online.

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

Membership: 718 777 6877, members@movingimage.us

The Museum is housed in a building owned by the City of New York and 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.

###