

MUSEUM OF THE MOVING IMAGE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MUSEUM OF THE MOVING IMAGE RECEIVES \$440,000 GRANT TO EXPAND SLOAN SCIENCE & FILM INITIATIVE

The Alfred P. Sloan Foundation awards a three-year grant to expand the unique web publication and to support outreach, events, and educational materials focused on the intersection of science and film

Astoria, New York, December 28, 2018—Museum of the Moving Image (MoMI) has received a three-year, \$440,000 grant from the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation to support and develop **Sloan Science & Film**, an initiative which examines science as presented in film as well as the science of film, online at **scienceandfilm.org** and on-site through live events at the Museum.

The grant will enable Sloan Science & Film to produce exclusive, highly differentiated articles for the web at scienceandfilm.org—an online publication that has become a go-to resource for all things science and film. In addition to publishing interviews with filmmakers and scientists, and covering festivals and other goings on, the website publishes an ongoing series—“Peer Review”—which commissions research scientists to write about how scientific topics are presented in mainstream cinema.

(Commissioned writers include linguist Jessica Coon who worked with Amy Adams for her role on Denis Villeneuve’s *Arrival* and environmental scientist Kim Knowlton writing about Paul Schrader’s *First Reformed*). In addition, with the renewed support, Sloan Science & Film’s website will catalogue all film projects that have received support from the Sloan Foundation’s nationwide film program—over 600 to date—and build out a freely accessible streaming library of Sloan-supported short, science-based, narrative films. Sloan Science & Film will create educational guides to these films for grades K-12. Sloan Science & Film frequently collaborates with mission-aligned organizations such as the World Science Festival, Massive Science, the Imagine Science Film Festival, and the Wildlife Conservation Society.

The grant also enables Sloan Science & Film’s Executive Editor Sonia Epstein to continue organizing the popular *Science on Screen* film series. The series pairs rarely screened films with conversations between researchers and filmmakers, offering audiences at MoMI a broad vocabulary of thought through which to enter scientific subject matter. (Past programs have included films about sea creatures by Jean Painlevé and Isabella Rossellini with Rossellini and marine chemical biologist Mandë Holford in conversation, and Lynn Hershman Leeson’s cult science fiction film *Teknolust* with Leeson and biologist Stuart Firestein in conversation. Upcoming in

2019 is an advance screening of the new film *To Dust* starring Géza Röhrig and Matthew Broderick, and a presentation of a never-before-screened film from the American Museum of Natural History archives.)

“We are grateful to the Sloan Foundation for the culture-changing work that they are doing across all media platforms,” said Carl Goodman. “Their support provides the Museum with the unique privilege and opportunity to bring the Science & Film initiative to the public, led by Executive Editor Sonia Epstein and in collaboration with other Museum education, curatorial, and technical staff, and featuring the work of many filmmakers, journalists, and scientists.”

“Sloan Science & Film brings visibility to cinema that integrates science, and introduces scientists to a range of audiences. Film is one of the most accessible of all media, a powerful form of storytelling, and with science contested in new ways in today’s climate, we are thrilled to continue this important work. We are extremely grateful for the support of the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation, recognized for its pioneering grant-making connecting the public with science,” said Sonia Epstein, Executive Editor of Sloan Science & Film at Museum of the Moving Image.

This funding is provided through the Sloan Foundation’s Public Understanding of Science & Technology program, directed by Doron Weber. The program aims to “give people a keener appreciation for the increasingly scientific and technological world in which we live and to convey some of the challenges and rewards of the scientific and technological enterprise.”

Sloan Science & Film’s website is **scienceandfilm.org**

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About the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation

The New York-based Alfred P. Sloan Foundation, founded in 1934, is a non-profit philanthropy that makes grants for original research and education in science, technology, and economic performance. Sloan’s program in Public Understanding of Science and Technology, directed by Doron Weber, supports books, radio, film, television, theater and new media to reach a wide, non-specialized audience and to bridge the two cultures of science and the humanities. For more information about the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation, visit sloan.org

About Museum of the Moving Image

Museum of the Moving Image 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 50,000 students each year. The Museum also houses a significant collection of moving-image artifacts.

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MUSEUM INFORMATION

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. Admission to the galleries is free on Fridays, 4:00 to 8:00 p.m.

Film Screenings: Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays, and as scheduled. 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 may be applied toward 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: <http://movingimage.us/support/membership> or 718 777 6877

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.