

MUSEUM OF THE MOVING IMAGE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

JERRY STILLER AND ANNE MEARA TO SPEAK AT EVENT PRESENTED BY MUSEUM OF THE MOVING IMAGE AND THE COMEDY HALL OF FAME

Thursday, March 10, 2011, 7:00 p.m.

Legendary comedians Jerry Stiller and Anne Meara will discuss their career in a special program presented by Museum of the Moving Image and the Comedy Hall of Fame. The conversation will launch a series of three evenings devoted to what the Comedy Hall of Fame has dubbed “The New York School (1955–1965).” “An Evening with Stiller and Meara” on Thursday, March 10, at 7:00 p.m. will be moderated by Ben Greenman, editor for *The New Yorker* and author of several acclaimed books on comedy. The evening’s live music will be provided by Loungetronica.

Jerry Stiller and Anne Meara are native New Yorkers who made frequent television appearances throughout the 1960s and 1970s on such shows as *The Ed Sullivan Show*. They are now making a weekly web series, *Stiller and Meara: A Show About Everything* (www.stillerandmeara.com). The duo were part of “The New York School (1955–1965),” a comedic movement that occurred when the City spawned a number of distinctly New York comedians known for their sophisticated approach to comedy rooted in sharp verbal humor and social satire. In the 1960s, these comedians performed their stand-up routines on network television, and made a huge cultural impact with a style that was innovative, and politically and socially engaged.

“New York City has been at the epicenter of comedy since the days of vaudeville,” said the Museum’s Chief Curator David Schwartz. “We are excited to be partnering with the Comedy Hall of Fame on this unprecedented Museum program focused on building the history of New York comedy and defining its influence on our national culture. We are especially pleased to welcome Jerry Stiller and Anne Meara as our first guests in “The New York School (1955–1965)” series.”

Additional dates for upcoming events in “The New York School (1955-1965)” will be announced soon.

Tickets for “An Evening with Stiller and Meara” are \$20 public / \$10 Museum members / Free for Silver Screen members and above. Tickets may be either purchased or reserved (for Silver Screen members) by calling 718 777 6800.

The Comedy Hall of Fame (CHF), based in New York, is comedy's first and only institution promoting, preserving and celebrating comedy. CHF maintains the most comprehensive archive of oral histories featuring interviews with comedy's most defining artists and professionals in the field. The Comedy Hall of Fame is also home to the American Academy of Comedic Arts & Sciences (AACAS) the first and only professional organization for the field of comedy. The Comedy Hall of Fame Foundation offers critical educational and communication programs in New York City Public schools. For more information, visit <http://comedyhalloffame.com/>.

Contact:

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MUSEUM INFORMATION

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 on Monday except for holiday openings).

Film Screenings and other programs: See above for schedule.

Museum Admission: \$10.00 for adults; \$7.50 for persons over 65 and for students with ID; \$5.00 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. Paid admission includes film screenings (except for special ticketed events and Friday evenings) Tickets for special screenings and events may be purchased in advance by phone at 718 777 6800.

Location: 36-01 35 Avenue (at 37 Street) in Astoria, 11106

Subway: R or M trains (R on weekends) to Steinway Street. N or Q trains to 36 Avenue.

Program Information: Telephone: 718 777 6888; Website: <http://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 <http://movingimage.us>.