

MUSEUM OF THE MOVING IMAGE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

INDIE TO EPIC, THE FILMS OF DARREN ARONOFSKY

All of Aronofsky's feature films to be shown, including a special preview screening of his latest film, *Noah*

March 21–27, 2014

Astoria, NY, March 6, 2014—Whether they are small-scale like *Pi* or major epics like the eagerly awaited new film *Noah*, Darren Aronofsky's films are always brimming with ideas, cinematic vitality, and emotional depth. On the occasion of the release of *Noah*, Museum of the Moving Image will present a retrospective of all of the American director's feature films to date.

Except for the *Noah* preview screening on March 27, the films will screen on the weekend of March 21 through 23. The films include *Pi* (1998), *Requiem for a Dream* (2000), *The Fountain* (2006), *The Wrestler* (2006), and *Black Swan* (2010). See below for full schedule and ticket information.

"For a director who was first thought of as being primarily cerebral, Aronofsky has shown himself to be one of the finest directors of actors," said Chief Curator David Schwartz. "Aronofsky is also one of the most unpredictable of directors; each film has been very different from the one before, yet all of them are powerful cinematic experiences that demand to be seen on the big screen."

Actors Ellen Burstyn, Hugh Jackman, Rachel Weisz, Mickey Rourke, Marisa Tomei, Mila Kunis, Natalie Portman, and now Russell Crowe have given some of their best performances in Aronofsky's movies. A number of them have been nominated for Academy Awards for their performances, including Burstyn for Best Actress for her role as a diet pill-addicted mother in *Requiem for a Dream*, Mickey Rourke for his comeback role in *The Wrestler*, and Natalie Portman, who won an Oscar for Best Actress, as an ambitious ballerina in *Black Swan*.

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SCHEDULE FOR 'DARREN ARONOFSKY,' MARCH 21–27, 2014

Screenings will take place in the Sumner M. Redstone Theater or the Celeste and Armand Bartos Screening Room at Museum of the Moving Image, 36-01 35 Avenue in Astoria, and are included with Museum admission and free for Museum members unless otherwise noted.

Requiem for a Dream

FRIDAY, MARCH 21, 7:00 P.M.

Dir. Darren Aronofsky. 2000, 102 mins. 35mm. With Ellen Burstyn, Jared Leto, Jennifer Connelly, Marlon Wayans. Based on the eponymous novel by Hubert Selby, Jr., Aronofsky's astonishing and hallucinatory second film follows a young couple in their downward spiral into heroin abuse in the midst of a search for the key to their dreams. *Requiem* featured stunning performances by Jared Leto, Jennifer Connelly, and Ellen Burstyn, who earned a Supporting Actress Oscar nomination for her lacerating portrayal of a diet pill-addicted mother.

Pi

SATURDAY, MARCH 22, 4:30 P.M.

Dir. Darren Aronofsky. 1998, 84 mins. 35mm. With Sean Gullette, Mark Margolis, Ben Shenkman. Aronofsky's debut, filmed originally on 16mm, is a gritty noir sci-fi thriller, exploring tenets of number theory and spirituality from the perspective of an obsessive and nihilistic mathematical genius. Made on a shoestring budget, *Pi* became a landmark American indie film after winning the Best Director award at Sundance. In hallucinatory high-contrast black-and-white—the first of an enduring collaboration with cinematographer Matthew Libatique, who went on to shoot *Requiem for a Dream*, *The Fountain*, *Black Swan*, and the forthcoming *Noah*—*Pi* brilliantly fuses haunting imagery with its characters' subjectivity.

The Fountain

SATURDAY, MARCH 22, 7:00 P.M.

Dir. Darren Aronofsky. 2006, 96 mins. 35mm. With Hugh Jackman, Rachel Weisz, Ellen Burstyn. Blending elements of fantasy, romance, and science fiction, the ambitious and dazzling *The Fountain* forms an intersection between three stories—from the past, the present, and the future—about men on their tumultuous quest for eternal love. A conquistador in Mayan country searches for the tree of life to free his captive queen; a medical researcher looks for a botanical cure that will save his dying wife; a space traveler, traveling with an aged tree encapsulated within a bubble, moves toward a dying star that is wrapped in a nebula.

The Wrestler

SUNDAY, MARCH 23, 4:30 P.M.

Dir. Darren Aronofsky. 2008, 109 mins. 35mm. With Mickey Rourke, Marisa Tomei, Evan Rachel Wood. One of the most acclaimed films of 2008, *The Wrestler* was a breathtaking comeback for Mickey Rourke, who earned an Oscar nomination for Best Actor. In a role that loosely parallels his career trajectory, Rourke plays Randy "The Ram" Robinson, a washed up 1980s wrestling star. (Rourke trained under former WWE wrestler star the Wild Samoan for the part.) When a sudden heart attack forces him to retire, Randy reconnects with his estranged family, love life, and his own personal identity. The film was shot in a gritty neorealist style by Maryse Alberti.

Black Swan

SUNDAY, MARCH 23, 7:00 P.M.

Dir. Darren Aronofsky. 2010, 108 mins. 35mm. With Natalie Portman, Mila Kunis, Vincent Cassel. A harrowing psycho-thriller portraying the rise and fall of Nina, a ballerina in a New York City ballet company, *Black Swan* received five Academy Award nominations; Natalie Portman won for Best Actress. Centered on a demanding production of Tchaikovsky's *Swan Lake*, Portman plays a dancer who must overcome the physical and emotional strains of her role onstage and off, eventually caving to the pressures from her retired ballerina mother, demanding artistic director, and the jealousy and deceit from her competition in the company.

EXCLUSIVE MEMBERS-ONLY PREVIEW SCREENING

Noah

THURSDAY, MARCH 27, 7:00 P.M.

Dir. Darren Aronofsky. 2014, 137 mins. With Russell Crowe, Jennifer Connelly, Ray Winstone, Emma Watson, Anthony Hopkins, Logan Lerman. Inspired by the epic story of courage, sacrifice, and hope, Darren Aronofsky brings to the screen his personal vision of "Noah." Academy Award winner Russell Crowe portrays the man chosen to undertake a momentous mission of rescue before an apocalyptic flood destroys the world. The film offers a mesmerizing visual adventure through everlasting themes of good and evil, destruction and mercy, hope, family, and second chances.

This special preview screening is free and for Museum members only. SOLD OUT.

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 stunning facilities—acclaimed for both its accessibility and bold design—the Museum presents exhibitions; screenings of significant works; discussion programs featuring actors, directors, craftspeople, and business leaders; and education programs which serve more than 50,000 students each year. The Museum also houses a significant collection of moving-image artifacts.

Hours: Wednesday-Thursday, 10:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Friday, 10:30 to 8:00 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, 11:30 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Film Screenings: Friday evenings, Saturdays and Sundays, and as scheduled. Tickets for regular film screenings are included with paid Museum admission and free for members.

Museum Admission: \$12.00 for adults; \$9.00 for persons over 65 and for students with ID; \$6.00 for children ages 3-12. 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: <http://movingimage.us/support/membership> or 718 777 6877

The Museum is housed in a building owned by the City of New York and located on the campus of Kaufman Astoria Studios. 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.

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