

MUSEUM OF THE MOVING IMAGE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NEWLY RESTORED SCI-FI CLASSIC 'INVENTION FOR DESTRUCTION' PREMIERES SIMULTANEOUSLY IN THE CZECH REPUBLIC, ITALY, AND THE UNITED STATES

Friday, July 10, 2:00 p.m. in New York at Museum of the Moving Image, with simultaneous screenings at the Karlovy Vary Film Festival (Czech Republic) and the National Museum of Cinema (Turin, Italy)



New York, New York (July 6, 2015)— A new digital restoration of the famed Czech animator Karel Zeman's *Invention for Destruction* (1958) (which was released in the United States in 1961 as *The Fabulous World of Jules Verne*) will premiere simultaneously in three countries on Friday, July 10. In the United States, the film will be shown at Museum of the Moving Image at 2:00 p.m. (with an encore screening on Sunday, July 12, at 2:00 p.m.), presented in collaboration with the Czech Center New York. The film will also screen at the Karlovy Vary Film Festival in the Czech Republic and at the National Museum of Cinema in Turin, Italy.

Invention for Destruction (*Vynález zkázy*) is based on Jules Verne's nineteenth-century tale of a professor kidnapped by a band of pirates who want to use his invention to take over the world. A dazzling blend of live action and animation, with an eye-popping style based on engravings by Édouard Riou and Léon Bennett—

illustrators of Verne's novels—the film became a global phenomenon, playing in 96 cinemas in New York alone. Pauline Kael called it a “wonderful giddy science fantasy,” and noted that Zeman “sustains the Victorian tone, with its delight in the magic of science, that makes Verne seem so playfully archaic.” For more information about the *Invention for Destruction* and its restoration, view the [Karel Zeman Museum press kit](#).

Tickets for Museum of the Moving Image's screening are \$12 (\$9 senior citizens and students / \$6 children 3–12) and free for Museum members at the Film Lover level and above. Advance tickets are available online at [movingimage.us](#).

Invention for Destruction

FRIDAY, JULY 10, 2:00 P.M. AND SUNDAY, JULY 12, 2:00 P.M.

Dir. Karel Zeman, 1958, 78 mins. In Czech with English subtitles. World premiere of a new DCP restoration. Written by František Hrubín, based on the book by Jules Verne. With Lubor Tokoš, Arnošt Navrátil, František Šlégr.

The digital restoration of the film *Invention for Destruction* is a part of the project Restoring The World of Fantasy, a partnership of the Karel Zeman Museum, The Czech Film Foundation, and Czech Television. The aim of the project is within three years to digitally restore selected films produced by Karel Zeman to the finest quality, so it is possible to screen them in cinemas again and their reputation will be revived. The project also aims to inform the public about the importance of digital restoration.

American expert James Mockoski (American Zoetrope) is supervisor of the digital restoration of the Karel Zeman films. The restoration is being led by main restorer Ivo Marák at Universal Production Partners (UPP), the reconstruction of the audio portion of the films is taking place in Soundsquare.

Top photo: Still from *Invention for Destruction* (detail), courtesy of the Karel Zeman Museum.

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Press contact: Tomoko Kawamoto, tkawamoto@movingimage.us / 718 777 6830
Film stills are available in the [online press gallery](#). Members of the press are welcome to attend either screening. Contact Tomoko.

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. Unless otherwise noted, tickets for screenings are \$12 (\$9 students and seniors / free for Museum members at the Film Lover level and above) will be available for advance purchase online at movingimage.us. Screening tickets include same-day admission to the Museum's galleries.

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.

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.