

MUSEUM OF THE MOVING IMAGE

CALENDAR ADVISORY

MARCH 2019: SERIES DEVOTED TO BEN HECHT, JONAS MEKAS, EDITH HEAD, AND MIKE LEIGH, PLUS THEATRICAL RELEASE OF 'ISLAND OF THE HUNGRY GHOSTS'

Additional programs to be announced as they are confirmed.

FILM PROGRAMS

Ben Hecht: Fighting Words, Moving Pictures

MARCH 1–3, 2019

This six-film series dedicated to screenwriter Ben Hecht celebrates the publication of Adina Hoffman's absorbing new biography *Ben Hecht: Fighting Words, Moving Pictures* (2019, Yale University Press), which also reckons with Hecht in his many other modes: as big city reporter, celebrated playwright, taboo-busting novelist, political firebrand, and all-around wit. Besides showcasing some of Hecht's best-loved films, it also offers a rare chance to see two movies that Hecht and his frequent writing partner Charles MacArthur wrote, directed, and produced at the old Paramount Eastern Service Studios in Astoria—the site of today's Museum of the Moving Image and Kaufman Astoria Studios. MoMI will screen *Underworld* (1927), *Notorious* (1946), *Twentieth Century* (1934), *Where the Sidewalk Ends* (1950), and a double feature of the Astoria films *Crime Without Passion* (1934) and *The Scoundrel* (1935)—all in 35mm. Hoffman will introduce *Underworld* on March 2 and sign copies of her book after the screening. [Info & Tickets](#)

Tribute to Jonas Mekas

MARCH 2–17, 2019 (AND ONGOING)

Throughout the year, the Museum will be honoring the work of Jonas Mekas (1922–2019), the late great artist, filmmaker, poet, critic, exhibitor, and consummate New Yorker. In addition to championing films via Anthology Film Archives and his trailblazing column at *The Village Voice*, Mekas was an inexhaustible filmmaker in his own right, producing over 40 features, shorts, narrative and documentary works in over 50 years—some of which will be showcased in this series. In March, MoMI will screen *The Brig* (1964) and *Guns of the Trees* (1962). [Info & Tickets](#)

New Release: Island of the Hungry Ghosts

MARCH 8–17, 2019: EXCLUSIVE NEW YORK THEATRICAL ENGAGEMENT

The Museum presents the U.S. theatrical premiere engagement of Gabrielle Brady's visually ravishing and emotionally gripping debut feature—winner Best Documentary,

2018 Tribeca Film Festival. On the isolated Christmas Island in the Indian Ocean, land crabs migrate in their millions from the jungle to the sea. The same jungle hides a high-security Australian detention center where thousands of asylum seekers have been locked away indefinitely. Their only connection to the outside world is trauma counsellor Poh Lin Lee. *Hungry Ghosts* mines the terrain between raw observation and collaborative performance, resulting in an utterly unique artistic exploration of a singular place. [Press Release](#) | [Info & Tickets](#)

See It Big! Costumes by Edith Head

THROUGH MARCH 10, 2019

American film history is unthinkable without Edith Head, the diminutive powerhouse costume designer who won eight Academy Awards, the most competitive Oscars ever won by a single person. (In total, she was nominated a staggering 35 times.) The Museum's *See It Big!* Edition devoted to Head, programmed with *Reverse Shot* editors, continues with *I Married a Witch* (1942), *The Heiress* (1949), *Funny Face* (1957), *Marnie* (1964), *To Catch a Thief* (1955), and *The Birds* (1963). [Info & Tickets](#)

Past Presence: Mike Leigh's Period Pictures

Mike Leigh in person with preview screening of *Peterloo*

MARCH 30–APRIL 3, 2019

On the occasion of Mike Leigh's ambitious new film *Peterloo*, MoMI presents all four of the director's historical dramas—each made within the past two decades after previously working exclusively in the present tense. Starting with his Gilbert & Sullivan backstage musical *Topsy-Turvy* (1999), through the 1950s-set portrait *Vera Drake* (2004) (both films were nominated for Academy Awards), and *Mr. Turner* (2014), his unconventional historical biography of master painter J.M.W. Turner, the series concludes with an advance screening of *Peterloo* (2018), with Leigh in person for a discussion on Apr. 3.

In addition, the Museum continues to present programs in its ongoing series ***Changing the Picture***, sponsored by Time Warner Inc.; ***Fist and Sword (Brotherhood of Blades II)*** on Mar. 1); ***Always on Sunday: Greek Film Series*** (Feb. 24: ***The Other Me***; Mar. 31: Jules Dassin's ***Never on Sunday***); ***Family Matinees, New Adventures in Nonfiction*** (Mar. 17: ***Distant Constellation*** with Shevaun Mizrahi in person); and ***Science on Screen*** (Mar. 24: ***The Best Years of Our Lives***). Programs in the ongoing ***Jim Henson's World*** series will resume soon.

HIGHLIGHTED EVENTS

AND iDANCED

Work-in-progress screening of new hip hop dance documentary, followed by discussion with Christopher 'Play' Martin and dance party in the Museum

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 7:30 P.M.

Christopher "Play" Martin travels from city to city to talk with the dancers who helped make a lot of 1980s and '90s rappers' and singers' performance presentations exciting and unforgettable. In interviews, recording artists such as Salt (Salt 'n Pepa), Kid (Kid 'n Play), Bell, Biv, Devoe, MC Lyte, Sisqo, Big Daddy Kane, Omarion, and more talk about the dancers' value and priceless influence. Followed by a discussion and dance party in the Museum featuring DJ Wiz. Part of the Museum's Black History Month Celebration. [Info & Tickets](#)

Creature from the Black Lagoon

Introduced by Mallory O'Meara, author of *The Lady from the Black Lagoon*, followed by a book signing

SATURDAY, MARCH 16, 2:00 P.M.

Beloved for its brilliantly designed monster, as well as for its trailblazing use of 3-D (the Museum presentation will be in 3-D DCP), *Creature from the Black Lagoon* (1954, directed by Jack Arnold) remains a touchstone of Hollywood horror, influencing the likes of Guillermo del Toro's recent *The Shape of Water*. The screening will be introduced by Mallory O'Meara, author of ***The Lady from the Black Lagoon: Hollywood Monsters and the Lost Legacy of Milicent Patrick*** (2019, Hanover Square Press/HarperCollins), with a book signing after the film. [Info & Tickets](#)

Distant Constellation

With director Shevaun Mizrahi in person

SUNDAY, MARCH 17, 6:30 P.M.

A beautifully composed and magical documentary, Shevaun Mizrahi's *Distant Constellation* introduces us to the colorful residents of a Turkish retirement home, a community made up of pranksters, historians, artists and would-be Casanovas. Serving as her own cinematographer and sound recordist—she won Best Cinematography at the 2018 IDA Awards—Mizrahi, in her directorial debut, captures this hidden community with a remarkable degree of intimacy, offering a group portrait redolent of affection, patience, and respect. Part of the ongoing series *New Adventures in Nonfiction*. [Info & Tickets](#)

Science on Screen: *The Best Years of Our Lives*

With historian David Serlin and assistive technology expert Anita Perr in conversation

SUNDAY, MARCH 24, 2:00 P.M.

In William Wyler's Oscar-winning film *The Best Years of Our Lives* (1946), three veterans (Frederic March, Dana Andrews, and Harold Russell) struggle to readjust to their daily lives after World War II. The biggest struggle comes for Homer (played by real-life veteran Harold Russell), who has lost both hands in combat and must learn to adapt to prosthetic hooks. The screening will be followed by a conversation about engineering prosthetics and the power and limitations of non-normative bodies with historian David Serlin and assistive technology expert Anita Perr. This program is part

of the Museum's ongoing series *Science on Screen*, pairing screenings with conversations between filmmakers and scientists. [Info & Tickets](#)

Queens World Film Festival Indie Collect restorations:

***A Thousand Pieces of Gold* with Nancy Kelly and Kenji Yamamoto in person**

TUESDAY, MARCH 26, 7:00 P.M.

***In the Soup*, presented by David Schwartz, with director Alexandre Rockwell in person**

THURSDAY, MARCH 28, 7:00 P.M.

In conjunction with the 9th annual Queens World Film Festival, MoMI will co-present two special evenings featuring under-appreciated American independent films ripe for rediscovery, and recently restored by IndieCollect. *Thousand Pieces of Gold* (1991), based on the true story of a young Chinese woman sold into slavery in Idaho's gold country, and featuring Rosalind Chao and Chris Cooper, will be shown with director Nancy Kelly and producer Kenji Yamamoto in person. *In the Soup* (1992), Alexandre Rockwell's endearing, grungy indie comedy about the misadventures of a hapless would-be filmmaker, starring Steve Buscemi, Seymour Cassel, and Jennifer Beals, will be presented by David Schwartz who will moderate a conversation with Rockwell after the film. Kelly, Yamamoto, and Schwartz are all being recognized by QWFF this year as "Spirit of Queens" honorees. QWFF runs March 21–31 with screenings at Kaufman Astoria Studios's Zukor Theater and at MoMI. For a full schedule, visit www.queensworldfilmfestival.com.

EXHIBITIONS

Don't Forget the Pictures: Glass Slides from the Collection

THROUGH OCTOBER 20, 2019

Projected images from glass slides were an integral feature of the early cinema experience. This new exhibition presents projections and installations of more than one hundred glass slides from 1914-1948, drawn from the more than 1,500 examples in the Museum's collection. These colorful 3 1/4-by-4-inch slides were used to illustrate popular songs during audience sing-alongs, advertise local businesses, instruct audiences about appropriate behavior, and promote upcoming films. [Press release](#) | [Exhibition Info](#)

Ahmed El Shaer: *Crossover (The Scene)*

THROUGH JUNE 16, 2019

Multi-disciplinary artist Ahmed El Shaer (b. 1981, Cairo, Egypt. Lives and works in Cairo, Egypt) creates work in diverse mediums, including installation, photography, sound, and video, with an emphasis on digital technologies. *Crossover (The Scene)* (2017. Video projection. 7 mins.) is inspired by the lives of migrants in a refugee camp in Calais, France. It presents a hybrid virtual and physical world, where it seems possible to transcend limits of time and space. To create this fantastical landscape, El

Shaer combined live-action footage, still images, and machinima, resulting in a stirring meditation on cultural dislocation, longing, and loss. [Installation info](#)

It's a Whole Different Ball Game: Playing through 60 Years of Sports Video Games

THROUGH MARCH 10, 2019

Ever since the first video game, *Tennis for Two*, debuted at the Brookhaven National Laboratory's public exhibition in 1958, video games have sought to recreate, adapt, and build upon the games Americans most regularly encounter: sports. *A Whole Different Ball Game* presents a selection of more than 40 playable sports video games spanning the last six decades, examining the complex relationships between game, sport, media, and culture. The exhibition considers what it means for full-body sports to be transposed to screens and controllers in the service of realism, who is or is not represented in sports video games, the ways broadcast sports and video games reflect one another, and the primacy of statistics in professional sports and sports simulators. Organized by guest curator John Sharp and Curator of Digital Media Jason Eppink. Presenting Sponsor: Psyonix, Inc. [Press release](#) | [Exhibition Info](#)

The Jim Henson Exhibition

ONGOING

An exciting destination for visitors of all ages, *The Jim Henson Exhibition* features historic puppets, original artwork, rare film and television footage, and interactive experiences. It reveals how Jim Henson and his team of builders, performers, and writers brought to life the enduringly popular worlds of *The Muppet Show*, *Sesame Street*, *Fraggle Rock*, *The Dark Crystal*, *Labyrinth*, and much more. Educator-led tours are offered every Saturday at 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. [Exhibition info](#)

Behind the Screen

ONGOING

The Museum's core exhibition features more than 1,400 historical objects, art works, video clips, and interactive experiences that show how moving images are made, marketed, and exhibited. [Exhibition info](#)

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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 facility—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: 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. **New Release screenings are \$15** (discounted for Museum members, seniors, students, and youth)

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.