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ArtsEmerson: The World On Stage Announces POLISH FILM FESTIVAL

Featuring Ten Films Celebrating Polish Arts and Culture Including Selections from Martin Scorsese's Masterpieces of Polish Cinema and the U.S. Premiere of The Possessed Years Later; Plus Screening/Discussion of In The Name Of

Emerson/Paramount Center's Bright Family Screening Room October 31 through November 15, 2014

Email for images and other information.

[BOSTON, MA – October 3, 2014] ArtsEmerson: The World On Stage announces a three-week **Polish Film Festival** featuring ten films celebrating Polish arts and culture. The screenings take place October 31 through November 15, 2014 at the Emerson/Paramount Center's Bright Family Screening Room (559 Washington Street in Boston's historic Theatre District). Tickets are \$10; \$15 for a double feature; \$75 for all 10 films in the festival, and may be purchased by calling 617-824-8400 or at <u>artsemerson.org</u>.



Still from Ashes and Diamonds

The festival features selections from renowned filmmaker Martin Scorsese's series *Masterpieces of Polish Cinema* and the U.S. premiere of Andrzej Wadja's *The Possessed Years Later*, a documentary recalling the creation of his seminal theatrical adaptation of Dostoyevsky's *The Devils*. The festival will also include a special screening and discussion of *In the Name Of* (2013) with lead actor Andrzej Chyra on Saturday, November 1, 2014. "We're proud to present this rich and diverse collection of Polish films," says ArtsEmerson Director of Artistic Programs David Dower. "Like our stage programming philosophy of 'the world on stage,' ArtsEmerson is also committed to inviting and sharing important works on film and the cultures they depict."

Friday, October 31, 7pm Saturday, November 1, 4pm Ashes and Diamonds

Directed by Andrzej Wajda, 1958, 103 minutes, Polish with English subtitles

Presented as part of ArtsEmerson's Polish Film Festival, Andrzej Wajda's classic film **Ashes and Diamonds** is a complex story of morality in shifting political climates. At the end of WWII, a young Polish resistance soldier reaches a crossroads when Nazi rule is replaced by a communist regime that is not what he and his compatriots have been fighting for. This digitally remastered version reinvigorates Wajda's signature stunning visuals. <u>Click here to view the trailer</u>.

Saturday, November 1, 1pm

In the Name Of

Directed by Malgoska Szumowska, 2013, 102 minutes, Polish with English subtitles

Film star Andrezj Chyra portrays Father Adam as a Catholic priest who lives in a village in rural Poland where he works with teenagers with behavioral problems. The locals want to be close to him, feeding off of his vitality and power, but no one knows he harbors his own secret. **Immediately following the screening there will be a Q&A with the film's leading actor Andrezj Chyra**. <u>Click here to view the trailer</u>.

Saturday, November 1, 7pm

Innocent Sorcerers

Directed by Andrzej Wajda, 1960, 88 minutes, Polish with English subtitles

Innocent Sorcerers is the story of a young doctor who has become exhausted with dead-end dating until he meets a young lady different from the rest. When she disappears in the middle of the night, a search ensues across the city for the woman who may just be the love of his life. This film is noted for its contrast to Wajda's other work and features a young Roman Polanski. Click here to view the trailer.

Sunday, November 2, 2pm

Saturday, November 8, 4pm

The Wedding

Directed by Andrzej Wajda, 1974, 102 minutes, Polish with English subtitles

The Wedding features characters from all walks of life coming together at a 19th century wedding party in Krakow. As the guests celebrate the union of a leader of the intelligentsia and a peasant girl, things take a turn for the bizarre when ghosts from their pasts join the wild party. <u>Click here to view the trailer</u>.

Friday, November 7, 7pm

The Promised Land

Directed by Andrzej Wajda, 1974, 170 minutes, Polish with English subtitles

Director Andrzej Wajda sets his strong critique of capitalism during the 19th century industrial revolution in Łodz, Poland. In **The Promised Land**, three men from different backgrounds come together to take advantage of the bourgeoning textile industry by starting a business. When the money is raised and the factory is open, the men learn that riches come at the price of lost morals, ruined marriages and ongoing struggle. Praised for its sharp message and beautiful accuracy, the film is the recipient of many awards and much acclaim. <u>Click here to view the trailer</u>.

Saturday, November 8, 1pm The Illumination Directed by Krzysztof Zanussi, 1972, 93 minutes, Polish with English subtitles

Celebrated Polish director Krzysztof Zanussi blends documentary and narrative film styles in **The Illumination**. A young provincial man comes to the capital to study as a physicist. The film follows his life as he tackles the questions of the universe of his personal life. <u>Click here to view the trailer</u>.

Saturday, November 8, 7pm

The Constant Factor

Directed by Krzysztof Zanussi, 1980, 91 minutes, Polish with English subtitles

Zanussi's **The Constant Factor** was the Cannes Film Festival Jury Prize of 1980. After the death of his mother, a young man dreams of climbing the Himalayas in the footsteps of his father. His biggest obstacle is not the mountains but the ways his job at an international trade company compromises his ideals. <u>Click here to view the trailer</u>.



Still, The Constant Factor

Sunday, November 8, 2pm Man of Iron

Directed by Andrzej Wajda, 1981, 91 minutes, Polish with English subtitles

Director Andrzej Wajda takes advantage of a thaw in Soviet censorship to tell the story of an anti-communist workers' strike in his Oscar nominated film, **Man of Iron**. An alcoholic journalist for a communist controlled radio station is a sent to slander Maciej Tomczyk – the man responsible for organizing the Gdansk shipyard strike of 1980. **Man of Iron** received the 1981 Jury Prize at the Cannes Film Festival and is the continuation of Wajda's earlier film *Man of Marble*. <u>Click here to view the trailer</u>.

Friday, November 14, 7pm Sunday, November 16, 2pm

The Possessed Years Later

Directed by Andrzej Wajda, 2013, 91 minutes, Polish with English subtitles

The U.S. premiere of **The Possessed Years Later** is a documentary recalling the creation of Wajda's longrunning seminal piece of theatre. Adapted from Dostoyevsky's *The Devils*, **The Possessed** earned international acclaim including a run at Yale Repertory Theatre starring Meryl Streep and Christopher Lloyd.

Saturday, November 15, 1pm

The Hourglass Sanatorium

Directed by Wojciech Has, 1973, 124 minutes, Polish with English subtitles

Jan Nowicki plays a man on his way to visit his dying father in **The Hourglass Sanatorium**. He finds his father and the other patients living in squalor in a facility where time and reality seem to bend. Holocaust themes augment this Cannes Film Festival award-winning adaptation of Jewish author Bruno Schulz's visionary and poetic reflection on the nature of time and death.

About ArtsEmerson: The World On Stage

ArtsEmerson was established by Emerson College to program the beautifully restored 590-seat Emerson/Paramount Center Mainstage; the versatile, intimate Jackie Liebergott Black Box Theatre ("The Jackie"), which can seat up to 150 people; the state-of-the-art 170-seat Bright Family Screening Room (all located within the Emerson/Paramount Center, a cornerstone in the revitalization of downtown Boston); and the beloved, historic 1,186-seat Emerson/Cutler Majestic Theatre in the heart of the Theatre District, fully restored by Emerson in 2003. Under the leadership of Rob Orchard, ArtsEmerson gives Boston audiences a new level of cultural choice, bringing live professional American and international stage work to its four distinct venues as well as films and music. For more information, visit <u>www.artsemerson.org</u>.

About Emerson College

Located in Boston, Massachusetts, opposite the historic Boston Common and in the heart of the city's Theatre District, Emerson College educates individuals who will solve problems and change the world through engaged leadership in communication and the arts, a mission informed by liberal learning. The College has 3,660 undergraduates and 829 graduate students from across the United States and 50 countries. Supported by state-of-the-art facilities and a renowned faculty, students participate in more than 80 student organizations and performance groups. Emerson is known for its study and internship programs in Los Angeles, Washington, D.C., the Netherlands, London, China, and the Czech Republic. A new, permanent facility on Sunset Boulevard for its L.A.-based program opened in February, 2014. For more information, visit <u>www.emerson.edu</u>.

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