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ArtsEmerson: The World On Stage PRESENTS SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER FILM PROGRAMMING

High resolution photos available at http://flic.kr/p/cSjpmL

(BOSTON – August 16, 2012) **ArtsEmerson: The World On Stage** continues its third season of independent and repertory films with works that explore Paris Commune and Shakespeare. Films are screened at Emerson College's Paramount Center (559 Washington St., Boston), in the Bright Family Screening Room. Tickets are \$10, or \$7.50 for members, and are available in advance at www.ArtsEmerson.org, or by calling 617-824-8400. Discounted tickets for seniors are \$7.50, and \$5 for all students with valid ID and children under 18. Discounted tickets are available in person at the Box Office only. For more information visit www.ArtsEmerson.org.

This season, ArtsEmerson film programming centers around enhancing community arts and culture events and expanding the dialogue around what's on stage. This begins with films that complement two productions on the Paramount Mainstage this fall: The Civilians' *Paris Commune* and the Globe Theatre of London's *Hamlet*. ArtsEmerson is also working with community partners to enhance and connect Boston's arts and cultural life. These include screenings planned in conjunction with the Boston Book Festival, Boston Asian American Film Festival and the French Cultural Center. Details will be announced in the coming weeks.

Paris Commune On Film

In 1871, working-class Parisians took to the streets and overthrew the French government, declaring their city autonomous and launching an effort to radically reinvent society. They governed the city for a short time, attempting to institute socialist policies, before falling to the Army of Versailles, in battles that killed tens of thousands. In addition, thousands more were arrested or deported. In celebration of ArtsEmerson's presentation of The Civilians' musical play *Paris Commune* on the Paramount Center Mainstage Sept. 20-23, here is a cinematic look at the short-lived revolution and its influence, as well as an iconic American director's take on utopias.

Friday, Sept. 14, 6 p.m.

The New Babylon—2009 Restoration
Directed by Grigori Kozintsev, Leonid Trauberg
With Special Introduction by Marek Pytel
1929, SD on DV Cam, B&W, 93 minutes

Considered today to be the culminating achievement of the Soviet silent film era, historical epic *The New Babylon* was filmmakers' Grigori Kozintsev and Leonid Trauberg's final silent work. Set during the 1871 Paris Commune, the New Babylon luxury store clerk Louise joins the Communards to fight for the cause, highlighting the clash and contrast between Parisian workers and the bourgeoisie, capitalist functionaries and soldiers manning barricades. Kozintsev and Trauberg depict this revolutionary time with impressionistic cutting and metaphorical compositions in this dazzling work. The original score by Dimitri Shostakovich uses period French music and features an arrangement of "La Marseillaise."

Friday, Sept. 14, 9 p.m. Sunday, Sept. 16, 1 p.m.

Babette's Feast - 2003 Archival Print

Directed by Gabriel Axel

1987, 35mm, color, 102 minutes

Winner of the Academy Award for Best Foreign Film, this jewel is based on a short story by Isak Dinesen, who wrote *Out of Africa*. In late 19th century Denmark, two pious sisters are given a chance to leave and experience the world, but both decide to stay with their father, a revered local pastor in their tiny village. After his death, Babette, a refugee from the post-Paris Commune massacre, arrives on their doorstep with a letter from the past and they take her in as a housekeeper where she works diligently for many years. When Babette wins the lottery, the sisters assume she will return to Paris, but instead she pleads with them to let her cook a real French meal for once. Despite their fears, Babette cooks them a most remarkable feast that changes all of their lives.

Saturday, Sept. 15, 1 p.m.

Lost Horizon

Directed by Frank Capra

1937, DVD, B&W, 132 minutes

Fleeing a Chinese revolution, four civilians crash-land their hijacked plane in the Himalayas and are rescued by the people of Shangri-la. Shrouded in mystery, they discover a hidden world of peace and harmony in this enchanted paradise where time stands still. Based on the best-selling novel by James Hilton, director Frank Capra's masterpiece stars Ronald Colman and Jane Wyatt, and was a box office hit at the time of its release. *Lost Horizon* won Academy Awards for Art Direction (Set Design) and Film Editing, and was widely circulated among the armed services during World War II.

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Saturday, Sept. 15, 5 p.m.

La Commune: Paris, 1871

Directed by Peter Watkins

2000, BetaSP, B&W, 345 minutes

Director Peter Watkins crafted this docudrama as a historical re-enactment in the style of a documentary, shot in a mere 13 days in an abandoned factory on the outskirts of Paris. Using a mainly non-professional cast, many of whom knew nothing about the Commune, the actors did much of their own research for the massive project — which runs over five hours in its uncut version. In the spirit of the Commune, Watkins has said he wanted the actors "to reflect on the links between the events of the Commune and society today. In this way, we were asking the cast to contribute directly to the manner of telling their own history."

Shakespeare on Film

To celebrate Globe Theatre of London's production of *Hamlet* on the Paramount Mainstage Oct. 9 – 21, we take a look at film representations of Shakespeare, from traditional to contemporary interpretations of his work, as well as stories inspired by the world's most famous playwright and his work.

Friday, Sept. 21, 9 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 29, 9 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 7, 1 p.m.

Romeo & Juliet

Directed by Franco Zeffirelli

1968, 35mm, color, 138 minutes

Co-written and directed by Franco Zeffirelli, this lush, evocative version of Shakespeare's tragedy was the first film adaptation to cast actual teenagers in the title roles; as Juliet, the exquisite Olivia Hussey (who was only 15 at the time) and Leonard Whiting, her fresh faced Romeo (a mere 17). Though they may have lacked acting experience, their love scenes have all the unbridled passion of youth, which makes their untimely deaths all the more touching. Gorgeously filmed on location in Italy, the film not surprisingly won two Academy Awards for Best Cinematography and Best Costume Design while Nina Rota's melancholy score captures the heartbreak of lost love.

Saturday, Sept. 22, 1 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 6, 1 p.m.

The Lion King

Directed by Roger Allers, Bob Minkoff

1994, DVD, color, 87 minutes

Winner of the Academy Awards for Best Original Score and Best Song ("Can You Feel the Love Tonight"), this breathtaking animated adventure, inspired by *Hamlet*, follows the lion cub Simba, son of the Pride Lands' king. When his evil Uncle Scar sabotages Simba's father and gains the throne, Simba goes into exile. In the jungle, he meets his new companions the meerkat Timon and warthog Pumbaa. After enjoying escapades with this unlikely pair, Simba eventually realizes his destiny and returns to the Pride Lands to reclaim his rightful title. Featuring voices from such acclaimed actors as Matthew Broderick, Jeremy Irons, Nathan Lane and Whoopi Goldberg, this classic Disney tale is cherished by young and old alike.

Saturday, Sept. 22, 6 p.m. Friday, Sept. 28, 6 p.m.

Stage Beauty

Directed by Richard Eyre

2004, DVD, color, 110 minutes

Based loosely on the diaries of Samuel Pepys, this Restoration Era drama follows the real historical figure of Edward Kynaston (Billy Crudrup), an actor known for his celebrated portrayals of Shakespeare's heroines. But Edward's dresser, Maria (Claire Danes), longs to go on stage herself even though female actors are forbidden by law. Through a change of fortunes, Maria becomes a star under the new, more lenient rule of Charles II and it is Edward who finds he no longer knows how to play a man. When Maria turns to Edward for help in a production of

Othello, each discovers what they are truly capable of as artists.

Saturday, Sept. 22, 9 p.m.

Friday, Sept. 28, 9 p.m.

Friday, Oct. 5, 6 p.m.

Shakespeare in Love

Directed by John Madden

1998, 35mm, color, 122 minutes

While Shakespeare suffers a severe bout of writer's block, Viola de Lesseps, the daughter of a wealthy merchant, is determined to go on the stage despite women being strictly forbidden to act. She disguises herself as a boy and so impresses Shakespeare with her performance that he casts her in the role of Juliet – only to discover her true identity and fall madly in love. The witty, sparkling screenplay was written by Tom Stoppard and Marc Norman, and the film picked up Academy Awards for both Best Film and Best Actress for Gwyneth Paltrow, who gave a beautifully nuanced performance as the object of Shakespeare's desire.

Sunday, Sept. 23, 1 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 6, 6 p.m.

Hamlet

Directed by Sir Laurence Olivier

1948, 35mm, B&W, 156 minutes

Winner of four Academy Awards, including Best Actor and Best Picture, Sir Laurence Olivier adapted, directed and starred in this black-and-white Hamlet. Featuring beautiful scenery shot on location in Elsinore, this shortened version of Shakespeare's classic follows the prince of Denmark as he avenges his father's murder by killing his Uncle Claudius, now the king. Through faked madness and true sorrow, Olivier's remarkable performance unveils the many layers of Hamlet's burdened mind.

Friday, Sept. 21, 6 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 29, 6 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 6, 9 p.m.

Rosencratz & Guildenstern Are Dead

Directed by Tom Stoppard

1993, DVD, color, 117 minutes

Written and directed by Tom Stoppard and based in his absurdist play of the same name, the film follows two rather minor characters from *Hamlet*: the prince's childhood friends Rosencrantz (played by the superb Gary Oldman) and Guildenstern (Tim Roth). As they attempt to find out what troubles Hamlet, the pair take up with a band of traveling players and follow the King's orders, all the while contemplating the meaning of life. This brilliant, utterly original tragicomedy took home the Golden Lion at the Venice Film Festival and Oldman was nominated for Best Male Lead at the Independent Spirit Awards.

Sunday, Sept. 30, 1 p.m.

10 Things I Hate About You

Directed by Gil Junger

1999, DVD, color, 97 minutes

Shakespeare's *The Taming of the Shrew* moves to modern-day Padua High School and gets a humorous update. When Cameron (Joseph Gordon-Levitt) falls for Bianca (Larisa Oleynik) on his

first day at school, he has more than her popularity to contend with—Bianca cannot date anyone until her surly older sister Kat (Julia Stiles) does. He enlists bad-boy Patrick (Heath Ledger) to help him in this matter, but what begins as a business matter gets complicated as Patrick finds himself falling in love with Kat...who soon learns the truth behind Patrick's initial motives. A teen hit when it first came out in the 1990s, the film holds up with its Shakespearean references, clever dialogue and talented cast (including Allison Janney as the guidance counselor secretly writing steamy romance novels).

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About ArtsEmerson

ArtsEmerson is the organization established by Emerson College to program the beautifully restored 590-seat 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 new Paramount Center, a cornerstone in the revitalization of downtown Boston); and the beloved, historic 1,186-seat 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 professional American and international work to its four distinct venues. In addition to its acclaimed theatre works, ArtsEmerson presents adventurous, independent and repertory films on weekends, and offers a diverse music program including cutting edge indie rock and world music. For more information, visit artsemerson.org.

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 3,453 undergraduates and 837 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. The College has an active network of 32,000 alumni who hold leadership positions in communication and the arts. For more information, visit www.emerson.edu.

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On sale now at ArtsEmerson:

September 20—23, 2012, PARIS COMMUNE – The Civilians – World Premiere, Paramount Center Mainstage

September 27—October 7, 2012, **SEQUENCE 8 – Les 7 doigts de la main,** Cutler Majestic Theatre October 9—21, 2012, **HAMLET – Globe Theatre,** Paramount Center Mainstage

November 8—18, 2012, **TED HUGHES' TALES FROM OVID – Whistler in the Dark,** Jackie Liebergott Black Box, Paramount Center

November 23—December 16, 2012, **Mona Golabek in THE PIANIST OF WILLESDEN LANE,** Jackie Liebergott Black Box, Paramount Center

December 5—8, 2012, LA BELLE ET LA BÊTE – Lemieux Pilon 4D Art, Cutler Majestic Theatre January 26—27, 2013, FAMILY HAPPINESS – Fomenko Theatre, Cutler Majestic Theatre

January 29—February 10, 2013, **THE SERVANT OF TWO MASTERS**, Paramount Center Mainstage February 27—March 3, 2013, **METAMORPHOSIS – Vesturport Theatre**, Paramount Center Mainstage

March 22—24, 2013, **EMERGENCY, Daniel Beaty,** Cutler Majestic Theatre
April 3—7, 2013, **NEVA, Guillermo Calderón,** Jackie Liebergott Black Box, Paramount Center
April 17—21, 2013, **TROJAN WOMEN – SITI Company,** Paramount Center Mainstage

For a complete list of film programming in the Bright Family Screening Room, visit http://bit.ly/aecinema.