

JUNE/JULY 2005 Calendar

American Cinematheque Presents...

EGYPTIAN THEATRE

6712 Hollywood Blvd.

323.466.3456 | www.americancinematheque.com

HOT HOT SUMMER: THE EROTIC FILM SERIES

Presented in association with The Erotic Museum, Hollywood

June 15 – 19, 2005 at the Egyptian Theatre only

Since the earliest days of moviemaking, Sex and Cinema have gone together like, well, ... you supply the suitably saucy metaphor! The infamously restrictive Hays Code (1930 – 1968) obliged American filmmakers to avoid most of the juicier topics on film, insisting (and we quote) "Excessive and lustful kissing, lustful embraces, suggestive postures and gestures are not to be shown." and "In general, passion should so be treated that these scenes do not stimulate the lower and baser element." But the sexual, cultural and economic revolutions in America and overseas in the late 50's and 60's inevitably opened up a whole new range of subject matter to filmmakers and audiences – and ushered in what might be called The Golden Age of Eroticism, one that was politically liberal, sexually explicit, and most often just downright kinky!!

It is in this context that most of the films for this series were selected. We're thrilled to kick off with **SEX IN THE 70's: BLUE MOVIE BRITAIN**, a deliriously-entertaining new documentary produced by Fenton Bailey and Randy Barbato (INSIDE DEEP THROAT), double-billed with a brand-new print of director Val Guest's slapstick sex comedy **CONFESSIONS OF A WINDOW CLEANER**. We've picked from a broad selection of American and international filmmakers, from Italian softcore maestro Tinto Brass (**THE KEY**) to the landmark underground trilogy of Paul Morrissey (**FLESH, TRASH** and **HEAT**). From France, we've included musician & director Serge Gainsbourg's notorious arthouse sleaze classic **JE T'AIME MOI NON PLUS**. We'll also be premiering a superb new documentary, **THE WRITER OF O**, that unravels the nearly fifty-years old mystery surrounding the identity of the author behind the scandalous erotic novel The Story Of O – and much more!

(Note: Due to graphic sexual situations, no one under 17 will be admitted to these screenings.)

Series Compiled by Dennis Bartok, Martina Palaskov-Begov, Chris D. and Gwen Deglise

Special Thanks to: CONNAISSANCE DU CINEMA; Fenton Bailey, Randy Barbato and Mona Card/WORLD OF WONDER; Mike Schlesinger and Grover Crisp/COLUMBIA PICTURES REPERTORY; Paul Morrissey; John Kirk and Irene Ramos/MGM-UA; Emily Woodburne/ZEITGEIST FILMS; Nico B./CULT EPICS.

Wednesday, June 15 – 7:30 PM

Outfest Wednesdays:

JE T'AI ME MOI NON PLUS (I LOVE YOU NO MORE), 1976, Connaissance Du Cinema, 90 min. Director/singer/actor **Serge Gainsbourg** and his wife, actress **Jane Birkin** were the prime proponents of a bohemian, hedonistic lifestyle in Europe during the seventies, extolling the virtues of everything from free love and bi-sexuality to bacchanalian drinking and drugging. Here Gainsbourg helms one of his most infamous pictures, relating the funny, irreverent, sometimes tender, sometimes brutal tale of two freewheeling gay garbagemen in the French countryside and what happens when one of them falls for a boyish-looking truck stop waitress. Krassky (**Joe Dallesandro**) finding himself suddenly obsessed with the androgynous waif, Johnny (Jane Birkin), alienates his lover/co-worker, Padovan (Hugues Quester) and love triangle pyrotechnics as well as scorching eroticism follows. Be sure to keep your eyes peeled for Gerard Depardieu in a cameo as a very odd country bumpkin with a thing for his horse. One of the legendary touchstones of transgressive seventies Euro-cinema! [Note: the film was released in both French- and English-language versions; we'll be screening the English one tonight, imported from France just for this show!!]

Discussion Following with Actor Joe Dallesandro

Join us after the film (9. 30 PM to midnight) at the Erotic Museum (6741 Hollywood Blvd.) for a tour with Curator Eric Singley, wine, music and mingling.
www.theeroticmuseum.com Bring your ticket stub

Thursday, June 16 – 7:30 PM

Double Feature:

U.S. Premiere! **SEX IN THE 70's: BLUE MOVIE BRITAIN**, 2005, World of Wonder, 45 min. Dir. **Jacques Peretti**. The latest from the *enfants terribles* of documentaries, **Fenton Bailey** and **Randy Barbato's** (INSIDE DEEP THROAT) **SEX IN THE 70's** is a deliciously wicked and sinfully entertaining trip back to the good old days of British softcore, when sex was, well, not particularly sexy, and Robin Askwith's bare bum was everywhere! By the late 1960's, the British film industry was in the pits – and the only thing that saved it was a series of low-budget, high-grossing comedies with workaday titles like **CONFESSIONS OF A WINDOW CLEANER** and **ADVENTURES OF A TAXI DRIVER**, that featured Benny Hill-type slapstick spiced with liberal amounts of T&A. **BLUE MOVIE BRITAIN** looks at the strange, wonderfully tacky and short-lived glory days of the British sex films, featuring interviews with many of the key writers, directors and producers including future James Bond/007 director Martin (GOLDENEYE) Campbell, whose surreal **ESKIMO NELL** is revealed to be the **RASHOMON** of its day! *"The most tragic episode in British cinema, but also, weirdly, the most memorable. In a world saturated in high-street sex, these strange little films look oddly fresh. Not just a bizarre historical capsule from the 1970's, but a missive from a land where casual sexism, racism, pathetic humor and fumbled sex were turned into an unwitting art-form."* – The Guardian, U.K.

New 35 mm. Print!! **CONFESSIONS OF A WINDOW CLEANER**, 1974, Columbia, 90 min. The movie that turned **Robin Askwith** into the most unlikely sex symbol of the 1970's, **CONFESSIONS** was based on a series of pseudo-autobiographical novels recounting the exploits of a virginal young lad, Timmy, who goes to work for his philandering brother-in-law Sid, whose window cleaning business has the memorable tagline *"We rub it better for you."* Helmed with surefire comic timing by legendary director **Val Guest** (**EXPRESSO BONGO**, **THE DAY THE EARTH CAUGHT FIRE**), **CONFESSIONS** became the top-grossing British film of 1974 and launched a series of sequels (**CONFESSIONS OF A POP PERFORMER**, **CONFESSIONS OF A**

DRIVING INSTRUCTOR et al.) It also features Askwith's immortal quip, after finally losing his virginity in a soap suds-filled romp: "*Jacqui had certainly taught me how to come clean!*"
Discussion following with legendary British director Val Guest and SEX IN THE 70's producers Fenton Bailey and Randy Barbato. Val Guest will also appear from 6:30 – 7:30 prior to the screening in the Lobby to sign copies of his acclaimed autobiography So You Want To Be In Pictures.
An Egyptian Exclusive!

Friday, June 17 – 7:30 PM

FLESH, 1968, Paul Morrissey Films, 105 min. Director **Paul Morrissey** emerges from the New York independent film scene with the first of his hypnotic, often misunderstood trilogy featuring the charismatic **Joe Dallesandro**. Morrissey's script and direction are so unobtrusive that we feel, at times, we're a fly on the wall in a deliciously funny, often poignant cinema verité documentary. Joe, to support his child and lesbian wife, goes out to turn tricks in the asphalt jungle and encounters a rogues gallery of urban denizens that could exist only in the Big Apple – each one connecting in some way to his "flesh." The continually surprising, charming supporting cast includes Geraldine Smith, Patti D'Arbanville, Louis Waldron, Geri Miller and, last but not least, transgender legends, **Candy Darling** and **Jackie Curtis**.
Actor Joe Dallessandro will introduce the film
An Egyptian Exclusive!

Friday, June 17 – 9:45 PM

Uncut NC-17 Version!!

SHOWGIRLS, 1995, MGM/UA, 131 min. "*I'm getting a little too old for that whorey look,*" moans lead showgirl Cristal Connors (**Gina Gershon**), as she tries to protect her turf from up-and-coming dancer Nomi Malone (**Elizabeth Berkley**) in director **Paul Verhoeven** (ROBOCOP) and writer Joe Eszterhas's (FATAL ATTRACTION) unforgettable ode to the glitz and glamour of the Vegas Strip, and quite possibly the sleaziest movie ever made in Hollywood. Lambasted by critics on its initial release (people who obviously had no sense of humor, or appreciation for Truly Bad Taste), SHOWGIRLS has only grown in stature over the years – lines like "*I'm erect, why aren't you erect?*" and "*I used to love Doggy Chow, too!*" must be seen and heard on the big screen for full effect, especially in this uncensored, uncut NC-17 print!!
An Egyptian Exclusive!

Saturday, June 18 10: 30 AM

HISTORIC TOUR Egyptian Theatre Historic Tours & FOREVER HOLLYWOOD
10:30 AM Behind the Scenes Tour
11:30 AM, 2:00 PM & 3:30 PM FOREVER HOLLYWOOD

Saturday, June 18 – 6:00 PM

Los Angeles Premiere!!

THE WRITER OF O, 2004, Zeitgeist, 80 min. The Story Of O, the S&M novel that shocked France in the 1950's had been written by a mysterious lady known only as "Pauline Reage," a pseudonym for an author who remained in the shadows for more than four decades. In this brilliant documentary, director **Pola Rapaport** reveals the search for the real identity of the

Legendary Underground Japanese S&M Action!!

THE KEY (LA CHIAVE), 1983, Cult Epics, 116 min. Inspired by the novel by Japanese writer Junichirô Tanizaki, Italian softcore maestro **Tinto Brass** recast his story in Venice during the period of Fascism just before WWII. A husband and a wife communicate their sexual desires and intentions through a secret diary. The man (**Frank Finlay**), much older than his young, beautiful wife (**Stefania Sandrelli** from THE CONFORMIST), allows her to enjoy the advances of Lasko (**Franco Branciaroli**) in a game of seduction and extreme and elegant eroticism. One of director Brass's major achievements, THE KEY captures the essence of lust and surrounds it with socio-cultural awareness, setting the events in a time and place where political repression ruled. Also starring Barbara Cupisti, Armando Marra and Maria Grazia Bon. Original music by **Ennio Morricone**. [In Italian with English subtitles]

THE SCHOOL OF THE HOLY BEASTS (SEI JU GAKUEN), 1974, Cult Epics, 91 min. Sexploitation guru **Norifumi Suzuki** plunges us into a maelstrom of secret masochistic desires and blasphemous rites as **Yumi Takigawa** takes religious vows to find out what terrible things happened to her mother inside the Sacred Heart Convent. She finds out – with the help of lecherous archbishops, a lesbian mother superior and a line-up of fellow nuns ready to whip her (in the film's most deliriously over-the-top scene) with a gauntlet of rose-thorns. A shocking, subversive masterpiece – Dario Argento meets the Marquis de Sade. [In Japanese with English subtitles]

An Egyptian Exclusive!

Wednesday, June 22 – 7:30 PM

OutFest Wednesdays

STR8 TALK. From a young man's sexual awakening to chance meetings and fleeting encounters, these winning shorts expose the loads of romantic trouble a str8 boy can get you into! Sidney Karger's "**Between 9 & 12**" (USA, 6 min.) Phone sex while on-call gets out of hand for one harried, married man. Lori Munz & Andreas Munz's "**Eddie & Bert**" (Germany, subtitled, 9 min.) A gay man pulls out all the stops in order to persuade the straight man he adores to give him just one dance; Larry Kenner's "**Spokane**" (USA, 28 min.) Two men's chance encounter at a straight wedding reception brings about an unforgettably hot evening; Jonathan Wald's "**What Grown-Up's Know**" (Australia, 30 min.) Traveling with his clingy mother, a young man pursues the manager of an RV camp.

An Egyptian Exclusive!

THE JAPANESE GIANT MONSTERS FESTIVAL!!

June 24 – July 3, 2005 at the Egyptian Theatre

July 1- 3, 2005 at the Aero Theatre

What is it about watching actors in rubber monster suits kick the living daylight out of a plaster-and-paint model of Tokyo and each other, that seems so, well, *satisfying*? We can't say for sure ... WE JUST KNOW WE LOVE IT!! For those of you who didn't get enough city-stomping, radioactive-fire-breathing action at last year's 50th Birthday Tribute to Godzilla, we're back with more classics and rarities of the Japanese *kaiju* ("giant monster") genre – including the Los Angeles Theatrical Premieres of the latest Ultraman adventure, the spectacular **ULTRAMAN THE NEXT**, and the newest installment in the Godzilla series, the highly acclaimed **GODZILLA FINAL WARS - !!** Other highlights include a special program of

material from the secret vaults of Tsuburaya Productions in Japan, including episodes of the never-before-seen-in-America TV series "**MIRROR MAN**" and "**FIREMAN**" from the early 1970's; the rarely-screened Rankin/Bass collaboration with Toho, **KING KONG ESCAPES (1968)** featuring two giant Kongs (!); and arguably the most sought-after of all Japanese monster movies, the long-lost **MATANGO (ATTACK OF THE MUSHROOM PEOPLE)**, and much more!!

Series Compiled by Dennis Bartok and Chris D., with the special assistance of Brad Warner at Tsuburaya Productions and Keith Aiken.

Special Thanks to: Shozo Watanabe and Kenji Sato/TOHO CO. LTD.; Mike Schlesinger/COLUMBIA PICTURES REPERTORY; Paul Ginsburg/UNIVERSAL DISTRIBUTION; Carl Morano/MEDIA BLASTERS; Keith Aiken; Steve Ryfle; Raven White.

Friday, June 24 – 7:30 PM

Double Feature:

GODZILLA VS. MECHAGODZILLA (a.k.a. GODZILLA VS. THE COSMIC MONSTER), 1974, Toho, 80 min. Dir. **Jun Fukuda**. An ancient prophecy predicting destruction by monsters ... the discovery of space titanium ... Godzilla thrashing Angilas and a gigantic ancient temple dog named King Seesar re-awakened on Okinawa – what does it all mean? Why, fiendishly intelligent ape aliens from the Black Hole Galaxy have arrived with their secret weapon to destroy Godzilla and conquer the Earth! And what, you may ask, is their dreaded super secret weapon? A counterfeit, mechanized Godzilla (Mechagodzilla for short) that will prove to be one of the big G's most formidable foes. Originally advertised as Godzilla's 20th Anniversary film, there's plenty of great city-stomping fun to be had by all. With **Akihiro Hirata**, Shin Kishida, Masaaki Daimon.

TERROR OF MECHAGODZILLA, 1975, Toho, 83 min. This was the fifteenth (and for a long time, final) film in the original Godzilla series until 1984's GODZILLA. It was not only maestro **Ishiro Honda's** final Godzilla film, it was also Honda's last credited picture as director. The great **Akihiro Hirata** (eyepatch-wearing Dr. Serizawa in the first 1954 film) is a mad scientist with a cyborg daughter who not only controls mega-destructive amphibious dinosaur, Titanosaurus, he's also helping aliens refurbish Mechagodzilla to destroy the big G! One of the darkest, most fast-moving entries in the original series, with more great effects from **Teruyoshi Nakano** and one of **Akira Ifukube's** most beautiful Godzilla scores.

Features preceded by an ultra-rare episode of the Japanese TV series "**SPECTREMAN**" (1971, 25 min.), where a super-cyborg from outer space defends earth against pollution monsters!

[This program is presented in English dubbed versions]

An Egyptian Exclusive!

Saturday, June 25 – 5:00 PM

"ULTRAMAN and More: Rarities from Tsuburaya Productions!" (approx. 2 hours total)

Founded in 1966 by Eiji Tsuburaya, the visual F/X genius behind the original Godzilla and practically all of the best Japanese giant monster films of the late 50's and early 60's, Tsuburaya Productions quickly established itself as a force to be reckoned with through the success of its TV series "**Ultra Q**" and the classic "**Ultraman**," which featured a giant, silver-

and-red "space policeman" who bonds with a member of the Science Patrol, Haiyata, to combat evil monsters. Since then, "ULTRAMAN" has spawned countless sequels, spin-offs and theatrical features, including the latest feature **ULTRAMAN THE NEXT** (screening later this same night.) In this program, we'll be screening a selection of these, rescued from deep within the secret vaults of Tsuburaya Productions in Tokyo (and elsewhere), including episodes of the very Ultraman-esque "**Mirror Man**" (1971, 25 min.) and "**Fireman**" (1973, 25 min.), both in Japanese with English subtitles and shown for the very first time ever in the U.S. at this show!! Plus, more rarities from the Tsuburaya Archives (we can't tell you what, you'll have to come and find out for yourself ...)

An Egyptian Exclusive!

Saturday, June 25 – 8:00 PM

Los Angeles Premiere!!

ULTRAMAN THE NEXT, 2004, Tsuburaya Prod., 97 min. Dir. **Kazuya Konaka**. Ultraman fans rejoice!! The latest feature-length installment in the series is arguably the best ever: an adrenaline-fueled, F/X-filled action-fest that's easily on par with the recent Godzilla and Gamera features! Just as he is about to turn in his uniform to devote more time to his hospitalized young son, Maki, a jet pilot with the Japan Self Defense Forces, is ordered to identify or destroy a strange UFO that has been sighted on course for Tokyo. The two collide mid-air, and, incredibly, Maki survives with no memory of the crash. But he soon learns that a week earlier, another pilot who had had a similar experience with a UFO, had mutated into a huge monster that is now on the loose. Once the two finally meet, Maki, also, is transformed into a bizarre creature, but very different from the reptilian beast. Will Maki prevail or will the reptilian monster destroy him? And even if Maki does win, can he retain his humanity and avoid ending up becoming a dangerous monster just like the reptilian creature? With Tetsuya Bessho, Kenya Osumi, Kyoko Toyama. [In Japanese with English subtitles]

Preceded by a Live Ultraman Stage Show with your favorite characters in person!!

>> Also screening at The Aero on July 2.

Sunday, June 26 – 5:00 PM

Double Feature:

KING KONG ESCAPES, 1967, Universal, 96 min. Dir. **Ishiro Honda**. A delightfully entertaining guilty pleasure as wicked, caped Dr. Who (everyone's-fave-Toho-villain, **Eisei Amamoto**) uses his especially constructed Mechani-Kong to mine plutonium at the North Pole. When his giant robot can't quite cut the mustard, the madman, with the help of Madame X (**Mie Hama** of YOU ONLY LIVE TWICE), kidnaps the real King Kong, hypnotizing him to assist! Good guys **Rhodes Reason**, **Akira Takarada** and **Linda Miller** (on whom the real Kong develops a mean crush), do their best to put a stop to the evil-doing, culminating in a battle between Kong and Mechani-Kong on the Tokyo Tower. [Original English language version]

GODZILLA VS. MEGALON, 1976, Toho, 80 min. Dir. **Jun Fukuda**. Katsuhiko Sasaki plays the inventor of robot superhero, Jet Jaguar (showing some Ultraman influence) who, aided by good-guy Godzilla, must go up against titanic roach, Megalon, and mechanized bird monster, Gigan (he with the buzzsaw in his belly), creatures manipulated by the underwater kingdom of Seatopia to attack land-based civilization. Probably the most-maligned Godzilla film of the original series, this still has a splendidly goofy charm all its own. More kids-oriented than most of the Godzilla films and loads of fun. [English dubbed version.]

Features preceded by another thrilling and monster-packed episode of the Japanese TV series **"SPECTREMAN"** (1971, 25 min.) [English dubbed version]

**American Cinematheque Members Only FilmMingler Sponsored by Lickity Split
Frozen Custard**

With Japanese Giant Monsters Experts: Keith Aiken, Steve Ryfle, Oki Miyano, and Brad Warner of Tsuburaya Productions (producers of "Ultraman")! All members who purchase tickets to tonight's program (6/26) are invited to attend this free reception with one guest (if you're bringing more than one child, let us know!) Reception at 3:30 PM. RSVP to members@americancinematheque.com

Sponsored by Lickity Split
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Wednesday, June 29 – 7:30 PM

Double Feature:

New 35 mm. Print!! **MATANGO (ATTACK OF THE MUSHROOM PEOPLE)**, 1963, Toho Co. Ltd., 89 min. Long unavailable in the U.S., MATANGO recently resurfaced on DVD here courtesy of Media Blasters, and proves to be one of the most original sci-fi pictures Toho produced in the 1960s. Director **Ishiro Honda** spins a surprisingly adult yarn about a shipload of supposedly happy-go-lucky friends (Akira Kubo, Kumi Mizuno, Kenji Sahara, et. al.) who are in reality anything but. When they're shipwrecked on a mist-shrouded, fungi-encrusted island, they soon turn on each other when the food runs out. To make matters worse, they find that they're not alone: a previous ship wreck's survivors didn't die – they slowly changed into walking fungi after eating the isle's delicious, addictive mushrooms! Atmospheric and creepy, the last half hour especially achieves an eerie, dreamlike quality that will send shivers up your spine. [English dubbed version]

THE H-MAN, 1958, Columbia, 79 min. Special Effects by **Eiji Tsuburaya**. After her gangster boyfriend mysteriously disappears, a beautiful nightclub singer draws the attention of police, mobsters, a young scientist and the Liquid People – strange, radioactive creatures dwelling in Tokyo's sewer system!! Director **Ishiro Honda**, working from a screenplay by Takeshi Kimura (RODAN, DESTROY ALL MONSTERS), creates a more adult (by 1950's standards) film than the usual Toho monster movie. A great combination of the popular sci-fi, horror and crime genres, THE H-MAN features a bit of everything sure to please moviegoers – monsters, cops, gangsters, the stars of RODAN, a haunted ship and musical numbers – topped off by an amazing score by composer **Masaru Sato** (Akira Kurosawa's HIGH AND LOW and YOJIMBO). With Yumi Shirakawa, Kenji Sahara and Akihiko Hirata. [English dubbed version]

An Egyptian Exclusive!

Wednesday, June 29 – 7:30 PM

Outfest Wednesdays

[Spielberg Theatre] **JUCHITÁN QUEER PARADISE**, 2003, 64 min. In this remarkable town in Oaxaca, Mexico, gays are accepted as simply a third sex. If a boy appears to be gay, his family considers it a joyful blessing; a man wanting to be a woman need only dress like a woman to be treated as such. This is not a modern social achievement, but an acceptance that has existed for generations. According to local legend, God gave Juchitán's patron saint a bag full of homosexuals so he could leave one in each Latin American town. However, when the saint arrived there, all the homosexuals spilled out, creating this unique queer paradise.

Director **Patricio Henriquez's** extraordinary documentary presents a vivid portrait of a society where diversity is accepted and integrated into the community.

Plus Short: Director Alejandra Novoa's **'Mexican Lesbian March 2003'** (Mexico, 2003, 33 min.) Women march on Mexico City to speak out about lesbian visibility and rights.

Presented in collaboration with: GLAAD'S People Of Color Media Program & Bienestar

An Egyptian Exclusive!

Thursday, June 30 - 7:30 PM ALTERNATIVE SCREEN

Sneak Preview!!! THE TALENT GIVEN US, 2004, USA, 98 min. The 70-year old parents (Allen & Judy Wagner) of three adult children impulsively embark on a road trip from New York to Los Angeles to visit their uncommunicative son -- with their two unmarried daughters (Emily Wagner, "E.R." & Maggie Wagner) in tow. Will the journey finally unite the family and force them to heal old wounds - or is it 30-some years too late? In this comic, bittersweet portrait, Andrew Wagner directs his real life family in "One of the most original, daring, intriguing and seemingly honest films of the year." -- Roger Ebert. With Billy Wirth (THE LOST BOYS) & Judy Dixon. An official selection of the Sundance Film Festival. ***Discussion following with cast & crew.*** Preceded by the short "Our Time Is Up" (12 min., 2004, USA) starring Kevin Pollack (HOSTAGE, THE USUAL SUSPECTS) as an arrogant psychiatrist who changes his methods when he finds out he only has a short time to live. Directed by Rob Pearlstein.

July 1 -3 2005

Exclusive Los Angeles Theatrical Engagement!!

GODZILLA FINAL WARS, 2004, Toho Co. Ltd., 124 min. Dir. **Ryuhei Kitamura**. Starring Masahiro Matsuoka, Rei Kikukawa, Done Frye, Kazuki Kitamura, Kane Kosugi and Miki Mizuno. We're happy to report that the latest -- and possibly the last (!) -- in the 50-year old saga of the Big G is also one of the very best in the series, courtesy of bad boy director **Ryuhei Kitamura** (VERSUS, ALIVE), a bevy of astounding monsters from past Godzilla epics, and some astounding, state-of-the-art F/X -- but most of all, *because it's GODZILLA!!!* Sometime in the future, more than 10 terrible monsters appear all over the world at once. The United Nations wages a "final war" against the creatures combining the power of all of the Earth Defense Forces to save mankind. While the intense fighting continues, suddenly an enormous UFO appears and extinguishes the monsters with a beam in a matter of seconds. And then, the aliens, who call themselves "Xiliens," propose a peace treaty with the Earth. Meanwhile, deep beneath the Antarctic ice, Godzilla begins to awaken from his slumber ...

Friday, July 1 - 7:00 PM and 9:30 PM

Saturday, July 2 - 6:00 PM and 8:45 PM

Sunday, July 3 - 4:00 PM and 6:45 PM

An Egyptian Exclusive!

Thursday, July 7 - 7:30 PM ALTERNATIVE SCREEN

Sneak Preview!!! THE LOSS OF NAMELESS THINGS, 2003, USA, 103 min. At 28, enfant terrible playwright Oakley Hall III (son of novelist Oakley Hall, Warlock, Downhill Racer) was on the brink of national recognition -- his work just optioned by New York's famed Public Theatre. Then one night in 1978 this charismatic leader of the Lexington Conservatory

Theatre mysteriously fell from a bridge and sustained a serious brain injury. Bill Rose's unbelievably moving and insightful documentary on the immortality of youth, the artistic impulse and love, also fittingly poses a classic literary question, 'What happens to the hero who discovers his tragic flaw and lives?' Preceded by the short animated film "Andy" (2004, 5 min., USA) directed by Terrence Healy. An animated profile of short, bald character actor who has found his niche in the appearance conscience world of show business. **Discussion following with director Bill Rose.**

MODS & ROCKERS: THE RETURN OF GROOVY MOVIES FROM THE SHAGADELIC SIXTIES!!

July 8 – 17, 2005 at the Egyptian Theatre

July 8 – 10, 2005 at the Aero Theatre

"Are you a Mod or a Rocker?" a female reporter quizzed Beatle Ringo Starr in A HARD DAY'S NIGHT. His famous response – "I'm a Mocker" – neatly summed up the cocky, carefree spirit of the 1960's, when every teenager with pegged pants and a shag (haircut, that is) started his weekend with "Ready, Steady, Go!" and droves of dollybirds in Twiggy/Suzy Kendall gear roamed the swinging streets of London. After a one-year hiatus – which gave us time to dig up even MORE swinging classics and rarities -- our Annual Mods & Rockers Film Festival is back in all its day-glo glory for its 6th edition!! This year's Fest features a three-film mini-tribute to one of the mod-est actors of the 60's, **John Phillip Law**, kicking off with Mario Bava's irresistible **DANGER: DIABOLIK** in an ultra-rare 35 mm. print, and continuing with screenings of the sci-fi classic **BARBARELLA** and **THE LOVE MACHINE** (which also shows as part of our tribute to author **Jacqueline Susann**, along with a brand-new print of **THE VALLEY OF THE DOLLS**.) Other highlights include a special "Ringo's 65th Birthday" screening of perhaps the single greatest Mods & Rockers movie, **A HARD DAY'S NIGHT starring The Beatles**, plus the James Bond/007 classic **GOLDFINGER**, the Director's Cut of the landmark concert doc **WOODSTOCK**, and a bevy of groovy 60's nuggets that haven't seen a projector in many years, including **THE MILLION EYES OF SUMURU**, **ANGEL ANGEL DOWN WE GO** and the wonderfully-titled Anthony Newley *magnum opus* **CAN HIERONYMUS MERKIN EVER FORGET MERCY HUMPPE AND FIND TRUE HAPPINESS?**

For more information on the Festival go to our website at:

www.modsandrockers.com

Festival Produced by Dennis Bartok, Chris D. and Martin Lewis.

Special Thanks to: Amy Lewin and Barry Allen/PARAMOUNT REPERTORY; John Kirk, Irene Ramos and Latanya Taylor/MGM-UA; Nanine Funicello/MIRAMAX FILMS; Marilee Womack/WARNER BROS. CLASSICS; Schawn Belston/20th CENTURY FOX; Mike Schlesinger and Grover Crisp/COLUMBIA PICTURES REPERTORY; Paul Ginsburg/UNIVERSAL DISTRIBUTION; Micki Sackler/FOX MOVIE CHANNEL; Julie Pearce/NATIONAL FILM THEATRE, London.

Tuesday July 5 - 8:00 PM - EGYPTIAN THEATRE, HOLLYWOOD

FESTIVAL OPENING NIGHT!

*A SALUTE TO THE PIONEERS OF ROCK 'N' ROLL MOVIES
SPECIAL DOUBLE-FEATURE!!
TWO CLASSIC BILL HALEY & THE COMETS FILMS
IN-PERSON APPEARANCE BY THE COMETS!*

ROCK AROUND THE CLOCK, 1956, Columbia, 77 min. Dir. **Fred Sears**. This was the first-ever rock 'n' roll feature film. It was a true quickie! It was shot in January 1956 – and premiered six weeks later in March 1956! – preceding "The Girl Can't Help It" by 9 months. The film was very loosely inspired by the story of **Bill Haley & The Comets** – who starred as themselves. Also featuring **The Platters**. The soundtrack featured full or partial renditions of 10 songs by Haley & the original Comets. Teenage audiences throughout the world – and especially in Britain – RIOTED when watching this movie! Firstly out of excitement at hearing the raucous rock 'n' roll. And then again at the end of the movie when the Haley & The Comets musical finale was interrupted by a cheesy love scene!

Legendary B-Movie producer **Sam Katzman** produced no less than 239 movies in his 40-year career from 1934-1974. An average of 6 films per year! By the time he produced "Rock Around The Clock" he already had 190 of them under his belt. So movie #191 rolled off the assembly line with ease – and unwittingly invented an entire genre. Made for a paltry \$300,000 - the film grossed an astonishing (for 1956) \$4 million in the US and another \$3 million overseas where the film was a virtual phenomenon.

Incidentally - this was just one of NINE films that director Fred Sears helmed in 1956 alone! He also cranked out 2 movies in 1949, 3 in 1950, 5 in 1951, 6 in 1952, 7 in 1953, 5 in 1954, a mere 4 in 1955 and 5 more in 1957 before for some strange reason dropping dead in November 1957 of a heart attack at the age of just 44! Even that didn't stop the prolific Sears - as no less than 5 more films he directed just before his death were released in 1958! His career total as a director was 51 films shot in just 9 years. If only he'd lived as long as Billy Wilder...

DON'T KNOCK THE ROCK, 1956, Columbia, 84 min. Dir. **Fred Sears**. The first-ever rock 'n' roll movie sequel! After the runaway success of the first **Haley & The Comets** film – veteran B-movie producer Sam Katzman sensed he was onto a good thing and less than 9 months later had rushed out a second movie starring Bill Haley & The Comets. It co-starred **Little Richard** and respected R&B group **The Treniers** who in 1953 had recorded Bill Haley's composition "Rock-A-Beatin' Boogie." Katzman even felt confident enough to make this film 7 minutes longer than its predecessor – an entire 84 minutes! The soundtrack features full or partial renditions of 6 songs by Haley & the Comets.

The film was very nearly the second-ever rock 'n' roll movie to be released – but 20th Century Fox rushed out "The Girl Can't Help It" starring Fats Domino just 2 weeks earlier. Interestingly both films featured the same supporting cast – Little Richard and The Treniers. And for good measure "The Girl Can't Help It" also included The Platters who had just been seen in "Rock Around The Clock"! Clearly neither the producer nor the studios expected the craze for rock 'n' roll to last – so duplicating casts was not seen as particularly worrying.

It was very early days in the rock 'n' roll movie world and this is one of the movies that inspired all the hundreds of look-alike, sound-alike, plot-alike jukebox musicals that followed. All the "That-evil-rock-and-roll-will-corrupt-our-kids-we-have-to-stamp-it-out" clichés started here!

Interestingly the working titles for the film included "Hi Fi" and "Rhythm and Blues." The studio marketing department wasted no time in exploiting the controversy generated by the new teenage rage. The campaign promised movie-goers "The Real Story Behind The World-Wide Rock 'N Roll Headlines!"

The evening will feature a Q&A with all 5 surviving members of The Comets – and Mrs. Bill "Cuppy" Haley (married to Bill Haley 1952-1960)

Friday, July 8 – 7:30 PM

John Phillip Law Double-Feature -- Ultra-Rare 35 mm. Print!!

DANGER: DIABOLIK, 1967, Paramount, 100 min. Dir. **Mario Bava**. "*Diabolik – out for all he can take, seduce or get away with ...!*" Is there a groovier 60's flick than this??! From sexy, cat-suited super-thief **John Phillip Law** to gorgeous gal-pal Marisa Mell, to **Ennio Morricone's** psychedelic paradise of a score (including "Deep Deep Down," one of the greatest spy-themes ever) ... this is as Mod as it gets, baby!! It's been nearly 10 years since a 35 mm. print of this was screened in L.A. (we know – we showed it last time!), so don't miss this rarer-than-rare showing!!

BARBARELLA, 1968, Paramount, 98 min. **Jane Fonda**, the final word in comic-strip space heroines, trips the light fantastic in director **Roger Vadim's** delightfully whacked-out romp in the 41st century, an acid-trip lightshow of a universe populated by blind birdman **John Phillip Law**, one-eyed dominatrix **Anita Pallenberg** (Keith Richards' one-time girlfriend!) and galaxy dictator Duran Duran (Milo O'Shea) and his orgasm machine. Ultra-groovy soft-psych soundtrack by Bob Crewe and the Glitterhouse. With **David Hemmings**, Marcel Marceau – to be confirmed.

An Egyptian Exclusive!

Saturday, July 9 – 4:30 PM

To celebrate the glorious 60's-themed movies in the "Mods & Rockers Film Festival" there will be a free concert in the courtyard of the Egyptian Theater open to all the public - by one of Hollywood's top 60's revival bands - The Gear. The fourpiece band specializes in playing the best songs by top British Invasion artists of the 60's including songs by The Beatles, Stones, Animals, Dave Clark Five, Herman's Hermits and many more. The concert is free, but only members may attend the mixer listed below.

Members May Join Us For An American Cinematheque Members Only "FilmMingler" In Honor of Ringo Starr's 65th Birthday with Beatles scholar Martin Lewis!

All members who purchase tickets to tonight's program (7/9) are invited to attend this free reception with one guest. Mix and mingle with fellow members, chat up Martin about your fave Beatles movie, or just enjoy drinks before the movies!!

Reception begins at 4:30 PM.

RSVP to members@americancinematheque.com

Saturday, July 9 – 6:00 PM

Special Screening – Celebrating Ringo Starr's 65th Birthday!!

A HARD DAY'S NIGHT, 1964, Miramax, 85 min. Director **Richard Lester's** brilliant, carefree comedy set the tone for the rest of the 1960's and captured **The Beatles** at their best, clowning (as one respected reviewer said) like the new Marx Bros. From Lester's restless, handheld camerawork to writer Alun Owen's surreal day-in-the-life script and George Martin's sprightly score (both Oscar-nominated) to the Beatles themselves - exuberantly singing "Can't Buy Me Love," "She Loves You" and ten other Beatles classics -- this is the essence of the Sixties.

Preceded by the short: "**Things They Said Today...**" 2002, Miramax, 35 min. A documentary on the making of the classic film. Directed by Beatles scholar (and Mods & Rockers Fest producer!) Martin Lewis, who also produced the film's DVD edition.

>> Also screening at the Aero on July 8.

Saturday, July 9 – 8:45 PM

"Golden Girl" Shirley Eaton Double Feature:

GOLDFINGER, 1964, MGM/UA, 111 min. Dir. **Guy Hamilton**. *"Do you expect me to talk, Goldfinger?" "No, Mr. Bond, I expect you to die ..."* cackles homicidal villain Auric Goldfinger (Gert Frobe), as he prepares to re-arrange 007's secret equipment with a laser beam, in what is widely considered to be the best of the classic **Sean Connery** Bond pictures and high point in 60's pop culture (dig the Aston Martin! the Shirley Bassey-sung theme song!) Co-starring the saucy **Honor Blackman** as Bond's nemesis-turned-partner Pussy Galore, with **Shirley Eaton** as the gold-painted girl, Harold Sakata as mute assassin Oddjob, and the venerable home office team of Bernard Lee, Lois Maxwell and Desmond Llewelyn. Terrific production design by series veteran Ken Adam. The film's mod zeitgeist credentials are underscored by Bond's priceless observation: *"Drinking Dom Perignon '53 above a temperature of 38 degrees Fahrenheit? That's as bad as listening to the Beatles without earmuffs ..."*

>> Also screening at the Aero on July 10.

THE MILLION EYES OF SUMURU, 1967, MGM/UA, 95 min. Dir. **Lindsay Shonteff**. In answer to the ultimate trivia question – What movie stars both **Frankie Avalon** and **Klaus Kinski**? – it's THE MILLION EYES OF SUMURU!! Golden girl **Shirley Eaton** plays the diabolical leader of a worldwide Amazon sect intent on ending the world's male domination. Loosely based on Fu Manchu-creator Sax Rohmer's Sumuru character, this is an amusing example of 1960's pulpy pop culture at its most bizarre. Beehive hairdos, beautiful wicked women in skintight costumes, clueless secret agents and exotic locales (it was filmed largely at the Shaw Bros. Hong Kong studio) punctuate this campy, Saturday matinee-style thriller.

An Egyptian Exclusive!

Sunday, July 10 – 5:00 PM

Double Feature:

THE LOVED ONE, 1965, MGM (Warners), 121 min. Judged unfilmable for over a decade (Luis Buñuel was trying to set it up for years), writer Evelyn Waugh's spot-on satire of Southern California - specifically the funeral business – was finally brought to the screen in the mid-Sixties by director **Tony Richardson** (TOM JONES) with a screenplay by **Terry Southern** (CANDY, EASY RIDER) and Christopher Isherwood (!). **Robert Morse**, a British youth visiting his uncle (**John Gielgud**) in Los Angeles encounters the weird world of tinseltown's mortuary subculture, embodied by twins Henry and Reverend Wilbur Glenworthy (**Jonathan Winters** in a dual role), embalmer Mr. Joyboy (**Rod Steiger**) and his beautiful apprentice, Aimee Thanatogenous (**Anjanette Comer**). Marketed as *"the motion picture with something to offend everyone!"*, this is an achingly funny pitch black comedy that could only have been released in the anything-goes era of the 1960s. With **Liberace**, **Paul Williams**, **Dana Andrews**.

LORD LOVE A DUCK, 1966, MGM/UA, 104 min. Dir. **George Axelrod**. **Roddy McDowall**, an overgrown teenage outcast, becomes fast friends and protector of cheerleader **Tuesday Weld** in one of the funniest and most underrated sixties black comedies. Lola Albright is Weld's alcoholic cocktail-waitress mom, Harvey Korman the puffed-up high school principal, Martin Gabel the Sam Arkoff-inspired exploitation auteur -- and Ruth Gordon the poisonously-sarcastic mother-in-law addicted to yogurt and Stingers. Belly-laughs galore, and so many bizarre touches one wonders how director Axelrod ever convinced a major studio to let him

get away with this much on-target brilliance!! Be sure to listen for legendary "Batman" composer **Neil Hefti's** super-swinging score, with an astounding theme song by The Wild Ones - !

An Egyptian Exclusive!

Thursday, July 14 – 7:30 PM

Mondo-A-Go-Go 60's Rarities!!

New 35 mm. Print! **ANGEL, ANGEL, DOWN WE GO (a.k.a. CULT OF THE DAMNED)**, 1969, MGM/UA, 103 min. **Robert Thom** (writer of WILD IN THE STREETS) scripted and directed this jawdropping hymn to purple prose and psychedelic nihilism. Washed-up star Astrid (**Jennifer Jones**), her jaded millionaire spouse (Charles Aidman) and their searching-for-meaning daughter (**Holly Near**) all have the misfortune to meet Machiavellian popstar, Bogart Peter Stuyvesant (**Jordan Christopher**) who worms his way into the household with his band, The Rabbit Habit (!) in tow. While occasionally belting out catchy songs by Barry Mann/Cynthia Weil (more WILD IN THE STREETS alumni), and with the help of plenty of LSD, he alternately charms and intimidates everyone in this dysfunctional family. Imagine a remake of Pasolini's TEOREMA done in the American International, drive-in mindset, and you'll get some idea of what to expect. An absurdly tasteless vision of the evil flipside of the late 1960's counterculture. Be sure to look for **Roddy McDowall** and **Lou Rawls** in Jordan Christopher's spaced-out entourage!

MARYJANE, 1968, MGM/UA, 104 min. Director **Maury Dexter** (THE MINI-SKIRT MOB) takes on the pot problem with **Fabian** (can you dig it??) as a hip high school teacher trying to investigate campus marijuana use. Caught between uptight faculty and distrustful kids, he's framed for possession and is soon jumping through hoops to not only clear his name but also help troubled youth Jerry (Michael Margotta) before the ruthless teen drug dealers can get the upper hand. Although a little dated, a surprisingly credible B picture looking at the mushrooming use of grass in 1960's Southern California high schools. With Diane McBain, Kevin Coughlin and a teenage **Patty McCormack** (THE BAD SEED). [Please note that this, the only surviving print of MARYJANE, is faded.]

An Egyptian Exclusive!

Friday, July 15 – 7:30 PM

WOODSTOCK (The Director's Cut), 1970, Warner Bros., 228 min. Dir. Michael Wadleigh. In THE OMEGA MAN, it's no wonder that Charlton Heston, sole survivor of the human race, spends his days endlessly watching WOODSTOCK, the ultimate time capsule of the Love Generation. If any film captured the heady idealism, the free-form partying, drug-taking and love-making, and above all, the great music of the late 1960's, this is it. The Who, Crosby Stills & Nash, Sly & The Family Stone, Richie Havens, Joan Baez, Joe Cocker, Carlos Santana – need we say more? We'll be screening the much-extended Director's Cut of the film, featuring many songs and performers not included in the original release version.

An Egyptian Exclusive!

Saturday, July 16 – 7:30 PM

Jacqueline Susann Night – New 35 mm. Prints!!

VALLEY OF THE DOLLS, 1967, 20th Century Fox, 123 min. Dir. **Mark Robson**. "You know it's bad to take liquor with those pills," warns small-town-girl turned super-model Anne (**Barbara Parkins**) to Broadway diva/train wreck Neely (**Patty Duke**). Neely's answer:

"*They work faster.*" If you want to see the great, bitchy, booze/angst/sex/drugs-fueled godmother to "Desperate Housewives" – you've come to the right place!! Based on author **Jacqueline Susann's** runaway best-seller – which practically created a cottage industry in glossy, sex-drenched soap operas on page and screen – VALLEY also co-stars the tragically beautiful **Sharon Tate** as B-movie queen Jennifer. Our enormous thanks to our friends at 20th Century Fox for striking a new print of this 60's classic!!

>>**Also screening at the Aero on July 9.**

THE LOVE MACHINE, 1971, Columbia, 108 min. Dir. **Jack Haley Jr.** Mind-numbingly entertaining, guilty-pleasure fun and another unapologetically trashy ride from the pen of author **Jacqueline Susann**. **John Phillip Law** is Robin Stone, an unscrupulous TV executive who will figuratively *and* literally screw anyone he has to in order to rise to the top. He becomes entangled in liaisons with various beauties, and has to contend with **Dyan Cannon**, Jody Wexler and petulant gay photographer, Jerry Nelson (a memorable performance by **David Hemmings**), as he realizes his ambitions. But the precarious balancing act soon causes his ego-driven empire to begin to crumble. With a supporting cast that includes **Robert Ryan**, **Jackie Cooper**. **Dionne Warwick** sings the opening theme "He's Moving On."

THE LOVE MACHINE is an Egyptian Exclusive!

Sunday, July 17 – 5:00 PM

Double Feature:

PETULIA, 1968, Warner Bros., 105 min. Dir. **Richard Lester**. Truly one of the great overlooked films of the late 60's, PETULIA stars **George C. Scott** as a middle-aged physician who finds himself drawn into the mad, idealistic and desperately sad whirlwind life of unhappily married **Julie Christie** at the height of San Francisco's Summer of Love. Beautifully photographed by the great **Nicolas Roeg**, and featuring brief, ultra-rare appearances in their prime by **Janis Joplin** (with Big Brother & The Holding Company) and **The Grateful Dead**, PETULIA captures both the sunshine optimism of the 60's and the melancholy afterglow soon to come when the Summer of Love faded away ...

Uncut Full-Length Version!! **CAN HIERONYMUS MERKIN EVER FORGET MERCY HUMPPE AND FIND TRUE HAPPINESS?**, 1969, Universal, 107 min. It's hard to believe, but this movie actually *exists!* In the late-1960's, **Anthony Newley** was on a seemingly unstoppable roll as an actor (SWEET NOVEMBER, DR. DOLITTLE) and composer (WILLY WONKA & THE CHOCOLATE FACTORY, STOP THE WORLD I WANT TO GET OFF) – and HIERONYMUS MERKIN was meant to be his *magnum opus*, his answer to Fellini's 8-1/2. And it is – sort of. Newley (who also directed and wrote the script) stars as a man watching a film of his own life unspool before his eyes. **Joan Collins** (who was Newley's wife at the time) co-stars as a temptress named (are you ready for this?) "Polyester Poontang," with comic great **Milton Berle** as the Mephistopheles-like "Goodtime Eddie Filth" who leads poor Hieronymus astray time after time. Will he ever recapture the bliss of his lost love, Mercy Humppe? Come and find out for yourself ...!! [Note: we'll be screening the uncut version of the film, which was Rated "X" on original release. No One Under 17 Will Be Admitted to this Screening.]

An Egyptian Exclusive!

Historic Tours

Saturday, July 16 & Sunday, July 17

10 :30 AM (Meet at Box Office)

11:35 AM FOREVER HOLLYWOOD

AERO THEATRE

1328 Montana Avenue

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HONG KONG HERO: A TRIBUTE TO DIRECTOR JOHNNIE TO

June 17 - 19, 2005 at the Aero Theatre

Hong Kong's contemporary cinema is graced by a number of filmmakers who are gradually becoming better known and appreciated by an international circle of critics and fans, including Stephen Chow, Ringo Lam, and particularly **Johnnie To**. Also credited as To Kei-fung or Du Qi Feng (and his first name is alternately spelled "Johnny" or "Johnnie"!), To is best known for his tough, violent cop and gangster movies such as the phenomenal **RUNNING OUT OF TIME** and **THE MISSION**. But he's also directed an impressive range of films in other genres including martial arts fantasies, melodramas, and ironic, anti-sentimental dramas. To began his career in television in the 1970s; he directed his first film in 1980 and eventually created his own production company, Milky Way Image, in 1994 with screenwriter, director and producer Wai Ka-fai.

The American Cinematheque is thrilled to present the first-ever Los Angeles Tribute to this versatile and gifted director showing some of his best films (**THE MISSION** and **RUNNING OUT OF TIME I** and **II**) along with juicy novelties (**HELP!** and **RUNNING ON KARMA**). Especially now that his last movie **ELECTION** has competed in the official selection at the Cannes Film Festival.. The series also includes a terrific documentary on contemporary Hong Kong cinema directed by *Positif* journalists Hubert Niogret and Lorenzo Codelli.

Series Compiled by Martina Palaskov-Begov and Chris D.

Special Thanks to: Lorenzo Codelli, Hubert Niogret; Tai Seng (in particular Jon Soo), David Chute, Milky way Images Co. (in particular Johnnie To and Shan Ding), Palm Pictures; and our friends (Sabrina Baracetti and Thomas Bertacche) at the FEF (Far East Film Festival) in Udine, Italy

Friday, June 17 – 7:30 PM

Double Feature:

Los Angeles Premiere!! **HONG KONG CINEMA**, 2001, 59 min. An illuminating documentary on recent HK cinema from *Positif* journalists **Hubert Niogret** and **Lorenzo Codelli**, who compile a fascinating diary of interviews with the island's most influential filmmakers and producers including **Johnnie To, Peter Chan, Wong Kar Wai, Tsui Hark, Bay Logan, Riley Ip** and **Tony Leung**.

THE MISSION (CHEONG FENG), 1999, Milky Way Image Co., 81 min. Dir. **Johnnie To**. Probably To's best action film, **THE MISSION** brings together an all-star HK cast, including **Francis Ng, Anthony Wong Chau-Sang, Jackie Lui Chung-yin, Roy Cheung, Suet Lam, Simon Yam, Tin Lam Wong** and **Eddy Ko**. Five professional killers are hired to

protect a Triad boss who has just escaped an assassination attempt. One of the bodyguards ends up having an affair with the boss's wife, and the plot becomes breathtakingly intense when the ganglord asks his companions to eliminate him. The movie includes many remarkable sequences, in particular a long, kinetic shoot-out in a shopping mall.

Saturday, June 18 - 7:30 PM

Double Feature!!

RUNNING OUT OF TIME (AAU CHIN), 1999, Tai Seng, 93 min, Dir. **Johnnie To**. Realizing he has only a few weeks left to live, professional killer Cheung (**Andy Lau** from HOUSE OF FLYING DAGGERS) seeks revenge for his father, and in the process, challenges a masterful cop (Lau Ching Wan) to capture him. A typically violent Johnnie To cop vs. gangster action movie that is also sometimes a comedy. Hero and anti-hero are pictured as two faces of the same coin, and, in the never-ending chase, the two men form the typical To portrait of what is good and bad in human beings. A 1999 Hong Kong film award nominee that was presented at the Berlin Film Festival the same year and established Johnnie To's international reputation. A must see!! With Shiu Hung Hui and Yo Yo Mung.

RUNNING OUT OF TIME 2 (AAU CHIN 2), 2001, Tai Seng, 95 min, Dir. **Johnnie To**. This sequel once again stars the great Lau Ching Wan as Inspector Ho Shong Sang, this time opposed by Ekin Cheng (HELP!) as a criminal who steals a precious art object for ransom and challenges the police department to capture him. Although some argue the merits of the original vs. the sequel, this contains some of To's most astonishing sequences, including the crazy and hilarious bike ride through the dark, narrow streets of Hong Kong. Also starring Kelly Lin and Shiu Hung Hui

Sunday, June 19 – 2:00 PM

Family Matinee – Bring The Children!!

CHITTY CHITTY BANG BANG, 1968, MGM/UA, 142 min. Dir. **Ken Hughes**. In honor of Father's Day take in this fantastical musical adventure story, about widowed father and eccentric inventor Caractus Potts (Dick Van Dyke) who transforms a broken-down old car into a flying machine - to the delight of his children (Heather Ripley & Adrian Hall), and the envy of the tantrum-prone Vulgarian king (Gert Frobe, who played "Goldfinger" in the 007 film), who has outlawed children in his kingdom. The Potts family with candy factory heiress Truly Scrumptious (Sally Ann Howes) along, head to the kingdom to save the day. Adapted from the book by James Bond author Ian Fleming, with a lovely score by the MARY POPPINS team of Richard and Robert Sherman! **A short puppet show by puppeteer Steve Meltzer of the Santa Monica Puppetry Center (www.puppetmagic.com) will precede the screening followed by an introduction by legendary composer Richard Sherman.**

[This film does have some sequences that might be unsettling to very young children.]

Sunday, June 19 - 6: 00 PM

HELP! (LAT SAU WUI CHEUN), 2000, Tai Seng, 92 min. Dirs. **Johnnie To, Ka- Fai Wai**. Ekin Cheng, Jordon Chan and Cecilia Cheung are three dedicated young doctors trying to cope with the apathy and opportunism of their colleagues in this hilarious and sarcastic comedy on the conditions in Hong Kong hospitals. Director To touches peaks of Buñuelian surrealism as he tackles a serious social problem, and, in the process, shows how brilliantly he is able to jump from genre to genre.

Visual Effect Society Festival

June 24 – 26

This is not an American Cinematheque presentation.

For more information visit <http://www.vesfestival.org/>

Ph: 310/822-9181

Thursday, June 30 – 7:30 PM

Sneak Preview Of Ingmar Bergman's Newest Film!

SARABAND, 2004, Sony Pictures Classics, 107 min. The latest acclaimed film from three-time Academy Award-winning director, **Ingmar Bergman**. Bergman film veterans, Liv Ullmann and **Erland Josephson**, reprise their roles from the director's 1973 television mini-series, SCENES FROM A MARRIAGE (which was also released internationally as a motion picture). Lawyer, **Marianne (Liv Ullmann)** feels a sudden need to make contact with her ex-husband, Professor Johann (Erland Josephson) whom she has not seen in thirty years. But Marianne finds an atmosphere of tension in the household, with Johann in conflict with his widower son, Henrik (Börje Ahlstedt). Both are protective of Henrik's daughter, Karin (Julia Dufvenius). *"SARABAND can be seen as a concerto grosso, a concert for full orchestra – only, here, with four soloists," says Ingmar Bergman. "The drama consists of ten dialogues that follow a particular pattern, and it's an attempt at analysis of a difficult situation."* **SARABAND opens July 8th in Los Angeles.**

THE JAPANESE GIANT MONSTERS FESTIVAL!!

July 1 – July 3, 2005 at the Aero Theatre

June 24 – July 3, 2005 at the Egyptian Theatre

What is it about watching actors in rubber monster suits kick the living daylight out of a plaster-and-paint model of Tokyo and each other, that seems so, well, *satisfying*? We can't say for sure ... WE JUST KNOW WE LOVE IT!! For those of you who didn't get enough city-stomping, radioactive-fire-breathing action at last year's 50th Birthday Tribute to Godzilla, we're back with more classics and rarities of the Japanese *kaiju* ("giant monster") genre – including the Los Angeles Theatrical Premieres of the latest Ultraman adventure, the spectacular **ULTRAMAN THE NEXT**, and the newest installment in the Godzilla series, the highly acclaimed **GODZILLA FINAL WARS - !!** Other highlights include a special program of material from the secret vaults of Tsuburaya Productions in Japan, including episodes of the never-before-seen-in-America TV series "**MIRROR MAN**" and "**FIREMAN**" from the early 1970's; the rarely-screened Rankin/Bass collaboration with Toho, **KING KONG ESCAPES (1968)** featuring two giant Kongs (!); and arguably the most sought-after of all Japanese monster movies, the long-lost **MATANGO (ATTACK OF THE MUSHROOM PEOPLE)**, and much more!!

Series Compiled by Dennis Bartok and Chris D., with the special assistance of Brad Warner at Tsuburaya Productions and Keith Aiken.

Special Thanks to: Shozo Watanabe and Kenji Sato/TOHO CO. LTD.; Mike Schlesinger/COLUMBIA PICTURES REPERTORY; Paul Ginsburg/UNIVERSAL DISTRIBUTION; Carl Morano/MEDIA BLASTERS; Keith Aiken; Steve Ryfle; Raven White.

Friday, July 1– 7:30 PM

Double Feature!!

New, Uncut, Subtitled Print! **EBIRAH, HORROR OF THE DEEP (GODZILLA VS. THE SEA MONSTER), 1966**, Columbia, 83 min. Directed by **Jun Fukuda**. A bank robber and several young men wash ashore on tropical Letchi Island – where they find the secret base of a terrorist organization called "The Red Bamboo" that uses natives kidnapped from Mothra's island home as slave labor. With Mothra in hibernation on Infant Island and the giant crustacean Ebirah prowling the nearby ocean depths, escape seems impossible – until the castaways discover Godzilla asleep in one of Letchi's caves! Originally written as OPERATION ROBINSON CRUSOE: KING KONG VS. EBIRAH, a live-action adaptation of the 1966 Rankin-Bass "King Kong" cartoon show, the story was reworked and Godzilla became a last-minute substitute for the famous ape. As with INVASION OF THE ASTRO-MONSTERS, the human cast (led by INVASION co-stars Akira Takarada and Kumi Mizuno) carry the story, and once again deliver an entertaining adventure that would have been enjoyable even without the presence of giant monsters. EBIRAH: HORROR OF THE DEEP was released directly to television in the U.S. as the English dubbed GODZILLA VS. THE SEA MONSTER, so this is a rare opportunity to see the original Japanese version on the big screen. With Akira Takarada, Kumi Mizuno, Toru Watanabe and Akihiko Hirata. Special Effects by Eiji Tsuburaya. [In Japanese with English subtitles.]

KING KONG VS. GODZILLA, 1962, Universal, 91 min. Directed by **Ishiro Honda**. Special Effects by Eiji Tsuburaya. In 1960, legendary stop-motion artist Willis O'Brien approached producer John Beck about doing a sequel to the original KING KONG entitled "King Kong vs. Frankenstein." Beck promptly removed O'Brien from the project and pitched the idea to studios in the U.S. and Italy before approaching Toho Studios in Japan. Recognizing that a battle with the Eighth Wonder of the World would be the perfect comeback vehicle for Godzilla, Toho replaced Kong's opponent with their own King of the Monsters. Released as part of Toho's 30th Anniversary Celebration, KING KONG VS. GODZILLA was a massive hit, selling more than 11 million tickets in Japan and establishing Godzilla as a franchise character. Director Honda and screenwriter Shinichi Sekizawa crafted a light-hearted satiric romp that poked fun at the commercialism running rampant in the wake of television. The cast includes an eclectic mix of genre stars, comedy actors and Toho starlets – including actress Mie Hama, who holds the unique honor of playing love interests for both King Kong and James Bond (she co-starred with Sean Connery in YOU ONLY LIVE TWICE). Before selling U.S. rights to Universal, Beck jettisoned most of the comedy and Akira Ifukube's incredible score in favor of newly-shot scenes featuring Michael Keith, James Yagi, and Harry Halcombe explaining the onscreen events, with music lifted from CREATURE FROM THE BLACK LAGOON. Despite constant rumors to the contrary, one thing not changed for the U.S. release was the film's ending – it is the same as in the Japanese version. With Tadao Takashima, Kenji Sahara, Ichiro Arashima, Mie Hama and Yu Fujiki. **Note: we will be screening an English-dubbed print of the American version of the film.**

Saturday, July 2 – 6:30 PM

GODZILLA TOKYO S.O.S., 2003, Toho, 91 min. Directed by **Masaaki Tezuka**. Special Effects by Eiichi Asada. Professor Shinichi Chujo is visited by some old friends: Mothra's twin priestesses, the Shobijin. The pair announce that Mechagodzilla is an affront to nature and the remains of the 1954 Godzilla must be returned to the sea. If this is done, Mothra will protect Japan from Godzilla; if not, she will become an enemy of mankind. The Japanese government

is reluctant to put their trust in a creature that attacked them 40 years ago – but before a decision can be reached, Godzilla returns to take matters into his own hands. A direct sequel to both MOTHRA (1961) and GODZILLA AGAINST MECHAGODZILLA (2002), GODZILLA: TOKYO S.O.S. brings an action-packed conclusion to the "Kiryu Saga." Godzilla is animalistic and violent in this film as it attacks naval forces and battles Mechagodzilla, Mothra and twin Mothra larvae; the giant turtle Kamoebas (from the 1970 Toho film YOG: MONSTER FROM SPACE) also makes a brief appearance as an early victim of the monster. After more than four decades, actor Hiroshi Koizumi reprises his role of Professor Chujo from in the original MOTHRA, while Yumiko Shaku has a cameo as Akane from GODZILLA AGAINST MECHAGODZILLA. With Noboru Kaneko, Miho Yoshioka, Katsuya Inozuka and Hiroshi Koizumi. [In Japanese with English subtitles]

An Aero Exclusive!

Saturday, July 2 – 9:00 PM

Los Angeles Premiere!!

ULTRAMAN THE NEXT, 2004, Tsuburaya Prod., 97 min. Dir. **Kazuya Konaka**. Ultraman fans rejoice!! The latest feature-length installment in the series is arguably the best ever: an adrenaline-fueled, F/X-filled action-fest that's easily on par with the recent Godzilla and Gamera features! Just as he is about to turn in his uniform to devote more time to his hospitalized young son, Maki, a jet pilot with the Japan Self Defense Forces, is ordered to identify or destroy a strange UFO that has been sighted on course for Tokyo. The two collide mid-air, and, incredibly, Maki survives with no memory of the crash. But he soon learns that a week earlier, another pilot who had had a similar experience with a UFO, had mutated into a huge monster that is now on the loose. Once the two finally meet, Maki, also, is transformed into a bizarre creature, but very different from the reptilian beast. Will Maki prevail or will the reptilian monster destroy him? And even if Maki does win, can he retain his humanity and avoid ending up becoming a dangerous monster just like the reptilian creature? With Tetsuya Bessho, Kenya Osumi, Kyoko Toyama. [In Japanese with English subtitles]

>> Also showing at the Egyptian on June 25.

Sunday, July 3 – 5:00 PM

New, Uncut, Subtitled Print! **SON OF GODZILLA**, 1967, Columbia, 86 min. Dir. **Jun Fukuda**. Dismissed by some as just a "kiddy movie," SON OF GODZILLA is actually one of the best of the mid-60's Godzilla films. Weather experiments on a remote island cause plants and animals to grow to massive size – including Minya, the smoke ring-blowing, fun-loving offspring of Godzilla. Together, father and son battle the giant spider Spigon, and bond in their own special, radioactive lizard way.

An Aero Exclusive!

Thursday, July 7 – 7:30 PM

Ingmar Bergman - Classic Cinema - New 35 mm print!

CRIES AND WHISPERS, (VISKNIGAR OCH ROP), 1972 Janus/Criterion, 106 min. Dir. Ingmar Bergman. Amid the blood-red backgrounds of a turn of the century mansion and the atmosphere of a dream, **Liv Ullmann** and **Ingrid Thulin** keep a death watch over spinster sister, Harriet Andersson; while flashbacks depict the disappointed lives, meaningless marriages, and sisterly conflicts, with a final moving image suggesting what has been lost.

"Reduces almost everything else you're likely to see this season to the size of a small cinder."
– Vincent Canby, NY Times. Notes courtesy of Film Forum, New York.

An Aero Exclusive!

MODS & ROCKERS: THE RETURN OF GROOVY MOVIES FROM THE SHAGADELIC SIXTIES!!

July 7 – 10, 2005 at the Aero Theatre

June 24 – July 3, 2005 at the Egyptian Theatre

"Are you a Mod or a Rocker?" a female reporter quizzed Beatle Ringo Starr in *A HARD DAY'S NIGHT*. His famous response – "*I'm a Mocker*" – neatly summed up the cocky, carefree spirit of the 1960's, when every teenager with pegged pants and a shag (haircut, that is) started his weekend with "Ready, Steady, Go!" and droves of dollybirds in Twiggy/Suzy Kendall gear roamed the swinging streets of London. After a one-year hiatus – which gave us time to dig up even MORE swinging classics and rarities -- our Annual Mods & Rockers Film Festival is back in all its day-glo glory for its 6th edition!! This year's Fest features a three-film mini-tribute to one of the mod-est actors of the 60's, **John Phillip Law**, kicking off with Mario Bava's irresistible **DANGER: DIABOLIK** in an ultra-rare 35 mm. print, and continuing with screenings of the sci-fi classic **BARBARELLA** and **THE LOVE MACHINE** (which also shows as part of our tribute to author **Jacqueline Susann**, along with a brand-new print of **THE VALLEY OF THE DOLLS**.) Other highlights include a special "Ringo's 65th Birthday" screening of perhaps the single greatest Mods & Rockers movie, **A HARD DAY'S NIGHT starring The Beatles**, plus the James Bond/007 classic **GOLDFINGER**, the Director's Cut of the landmark concert doc **WOODSTOCK**, and a bevy of groovy 60's nuggets that haven't seen a projector in many years, including **THE MILLION EYES OF SUMURU**, **ANGEL ANGEL DOWN WE GO** and the wonderfully-titled Anthony Newley *magnum opus* **CAN HIERONYMUS MERKIN EVER FORGET MERCY HUMPPE AND FIND TRUE HAPPINESS?**

Festival Produced by Dennis Bartok, Chris D. and Martin Lewis.

Special Thanks to: Amy Lewin and Barry Allen/PARAMOUNT REPERTORY; John Kirk, Irene Ramos and Latanya Taylor/MGM-UA; Nanine Funicello/MIRAMAX FILMS; Marilee Womack/WARNER BROS. CLASSICS; Schawn Belston/20th CENTURY FOX; Mike Schlesinger and Grover Crisp/COLUMBIA PICTURES REPERTORY; Paul Ginsburg/UNIVERSAL DISTRIBUTION; Micki Sackler/FOX MOVIE CHANNEL; Julie Pearce/NATIONAL FILM THEATRE, London.

Friday, July 8 – 7:30 PM

Special Screening – Celebrating Ringo Starr's 65th Birthday!!

A HARD DAY'S NIGHT, 1964, Miramax, 85 min. Director **Richard Lester's** brilliant, carefree comedy set the tone for the rest of the 1960's and captured **The Beatles** at their best, clowning (as one respected reviewer said) like the new Marx Bros. From Lester's restless, handheld camerawork to writer Alun Owen's surreal day-in-the-life script and George Martin's sprightly score (both Oscar-nominated) to the Beatles themselves - exuberantly singing "Can't Buy Me Love," "She Loves You" and ten other Beatles classics -- this is the essence of the Sixties.

>> Also screening at the Egyptian on July 9.

Saturday, July 9 - 2:00 PM

FAMILY MATINEE

Bring the kids! **OLIVER!** 1968, Columbia, 153 min. Carol Reed (THE THIRD MAN) directs this larger-than-life musical based on Charles Dickens' classic Victorian era tale (Oliver Twist) of an orphan boy (Mark Lester) who runs away to London where he is taken in by elderly mentor Fagin (Ron Moody), head of a pick-pocket ring of ragamuffin boys (including the charismatic Artful Dodger, played by Jack Wild, who went on to star in Sid & Marty Krofft's "H.R. Pufnstuf"). The late, great Oliver Reed is terrifying as ruthless criminal Bill Sykes. Winner of 6 Oscars, including Best Picture and Director. Songs from Lionel Bart's original stage production include "Food, Glorious Food," "You've Got to Pick A Pocket Or Two," and many others. [This film does have some sequences that might be unsettling to very young children.]

An Aero Exclusive!

Saturday, July 9 – 6:00 PM

Double Feature:

New 35 mm. Print! **VALLEY OF THE DOLLS**, 1967, 20th Century Fox, 123 min. Dir. **Mark Robson**. "You know it's bad to take liquor with those pills," warns small-town-girl turned super-model Anne (**Barbara Parkins**) to Broadway diva/train wreck Neely (**Patty Duke**). Neely's answer: "They work faster." If you want to see the great, bitchy, booze/angst/sex/drugs-fueled godmother to "Desperate Housewives" – you've come to the right place!! Based on author **Jacqueline Susann's** runaway best-seller – which practically created a cottage industry in glossy, sex-drenched soap operas on page and screen – VALLEY also co-stars the tragically beautiful **Sharon Tate** as B-movie queen Jennifer. Our enormous thanks to our friends at 20th Century Fox for striking a new print of this 60's classic!!

>> Also screening at the Egyptian on July 16.

BLOW UP, 1966, MGM (Warners), 111 min. Dir. **Michelangelo Antonioni**. In-demand fashion photographer **David Hemmings** shags half the models in London – before running into enigmatic beauty **Vanessa Redgrave**, who only wants a certain roll of film from him. A riddle within a riddle, Antonioni's most famous film has often been imitated (De Palma's BLOW-OUT, Greenaway's THE DRAUGHTSMAN'S CONTRACT) – but never equaled. Look for a young **Jane Birkin** in one of her first film appearances – and for **The Yardbirds** mimicking the Who's penchant for auto-destruction in the film's frenzied nightclub scene!!

An Aero Exclusive!

Sunday, July 10 – 2:00 PM

Sneak Preview of CHARLIE AND THE CHOCOLATE FACTORY

Contact: Ron Chan 818 954-6125 – LOOKING VERY GOOD!

Sunday, July 10 – 6:00 PM

GOLDFINGER, 1964, MGM/UA, 111 min. Dir. Guy Hamilton. "Do you expect me to talk, Goldfinger?" "No, Mr. Bond, I expect you to die ..." cackles homicidal villain Auric Goldfinger (Gert Frobe), as he prepares to re-arrange 007's secret equipment with a laser beam, in what is widely considered to be the best of the classic **Sean Connery** Bond pictures and high point in 60's pop culture (dig the Aston Martin! the Shirley Bassey-sung theme song!) Co-starring the saucy **Honor Blackman** as Bond's nemesis-turned-partner Pussy Galore, with Shirley Eaton as the gold-painted girl, Harold Sakata as mute assassin Oddjob, and the venerable

home office team of Bernard Lee, Lois Maxwell and Desmond Llewelyn. Terrific production design by series veteran Ken Adam. The film's mod zeitgeist credentials are underscored by Bond's priceless observation: *"Drinking Dom Perignon '53 above a temperature of 38 degrees Fahrenheit? That's as bad as listening to the Beatles without earmuffs ..."*

>> **Also showing at the Egyptian on July 8.**

Thursday, July 14 – 7:30 PM

BASTILLE DAY CELEBRATION!

L'ATALANTE, 1934, New Yorker Films, 89 min. Director **Jean Vigo's** luminous, heartbreakingly poetic masterpiece surely belongs on any short list of the greatest films ever made. An innocent country girl (Dita Parlo) leaves her home and family behind when she marries the captain (Jean Dasté) of a barge plying the inland canals of France. Vigo's tender portrait of the joys and uncertainties of young married life has never been equaled. The superb cinematography by Boris Kaufman and Louis Berger remains a high watermark of 1930's French cinema.

An Aero Exclusive!

HARRY POTTER MADNESS!

July 15 – 17 at the Aero only

To help celebrate the release of the new book **Harry Potter And The Half Blood Prince** this month, please join us for all three of the Harry Potter movies together over one special weekend! These incredibly entertaining films have remained faithful to author J K. Rowling's vision, and are great fun for adults as well as kids!

Friday, July 15 - 8:00 PM

Harry Potter Celebration & Pajama Party!

Bring the Kids! **HARRY POTTER AND THE SORCERER'S STONE**, 2001, Warner Bros. 152 min. Dir. **Chris Columbus**. The first of the Harry Potter series begins on our hero's 11th birthday, the day Harry (**Daniel Radcliffe**) discovers that he is a wizard and then leaves the dreary world of his aunt and uncle for the magical world of Hogwarts. In his initial year at the school, he meets his two best friends, the well-meaning but often-clumsy Ron Weasley (**Rupert Grint**) and charming know-it-all Hermione Granger (**Emma Watson**). He also encounters a three-headed dog, learns how to play Quidditch, meets the wonderful Professor Dumbledore (**Richard Harris**) and the lovable giant Hagrid (**Robbie Coltrane**) – and comes face to face with his deepest, darkest fear, in the form of "He Who Must Not Be Named" - !!

Party following at Every Picture Tells A Story (1311 Montana Avenue). The new HARRY POTTER book, Harry Potter & The Half Blood Prince, will be available at Midnight at the bookstore!!

An Aero Exclusive!

Saturday, July 16 - 7:30 PM

Bring the Kids! **HARRY POTTER AND THE CHAMBER OF SECRETS**, 2002, Warner Bros. 161 min. Dir. **Chris Columbus**. The adventures of Harry Potter continue! Harry (**Daniel Radcliffe**) begins his second year at Hogwarts School of Wizardry with Ron (**Rupert Grint**) and Hermione (**Emma Watson**), despite an ominous warning by an elf named Dobby that an

imminent threat awaits him at the school. Mysterious voices whisper from within the walls, and soon various students end up frozen like stone. What terrible monster could be responsible? The answer lies within the long-lost Chamber of Secrets. **Kenneth Branagh** joins the cast as the delightfully pompous Gilderoy Lockhart. With **Robbie Coltrane, Richard Harris, Maggie Smith, Alan Rickman.**
An Aero Exclusive!

Sunday, July 16 -- 5:00 PM

Bring the Kids! **HARRY POTTER AND THE PRISONER OF AZKABAN**, 2004, Warner Bros., 141 min. Dir. **Alfonso Cuaron**. In their third year at Hogwarts, Harry (Daniel Radcliffe), Ron and Hermione not only have the usual teen struggles with the transition into adolescence, but they are threatened by the sinister Sirius Black (Gary Oldman), who has just escaped from Azkaban Prison. Wonderful performances by Robbie Coltrane, Alan Rickman, Maggie Smith, plus newcomers David Thewlis, Emma Thompson and Michael Gambon. Zachary Koretz, member of the Magic Castle, Hollywood, will mystify, amaze and astonish you before the screening. Don't miss his dazzling display of magic.

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