

# National Gallery of Art

## NEWS RELEASE

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**NATIONAL GALLERY 1995 SUMMER FILM SEASON BEGINS JUNE 10**  
**FEATURING FILMS BY MICHELANGELO ANTONIONI AND SUZUKI SEIJUN**  
**AND GREAT SILENT-ERA FILMS PRESENTED IN LIVE CONCERT**

Washington, D.C. -- The National Gallery of Art's 1995 summer season of weekend film programs will feature the films of eminent Italian film director Michelangelo Antonioni and the innovative Japanese director Suzuki Seijun, in addition to the Gallery's third series of classic silent films presented in live concert with their original music scores. Other films will relate to some of the current exhibitions at the National Gallery: Arshile Gorky: The Breakthrough Years, James McNeill Whistler, Piet Mondrian: 1872-1944, and Prints by James McNeill Whistler and His Contemporaries (opens June 18).

All film programs are open to the public on a first-come, first-served basis and take place in the Gallery's East Building auditorium at Fourth Street and Constitution Avenue, N.W. The entire summer film calendar listing may be obtained by calling (202) 842-6799.

The summer film season begins Saturday, June 10, at 2:30 p.m. with five rarely seen short films and the first feature film of the eminent Italian film director Michelangelo Antonioni: People of the Po (1943-1947), Street Cleaners (1948), Superstition (1948), The Amorous Lie (1948-1949), La Villa dei Mostri (1950), and Story of a Love Affair (1950). This is the inaugural event in a series of twelve programs that includes all of the films that

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Antonioni made during his long and distinguished career. Among the other works to be shown are the award-winning Red Desert (1964), L'avventura (1960), widely considered one of the greatest cinematic achievements of all time, La notte (1960) and L'eclisse (1962) which, together with L'avventura, constitute Antonioni's trilogy about Italian middle class life.

This program of Antonioni's work is made possible through the cooperation of Cinecittà International, Società dell'Ente Cinema Spa, operating with the support of Direzione Generale dello Spettacolo/Presidenza del Consiglio dei Ministri of Italy, and the Italian Cultural Institute.

*Grand Music Cinema III: 1921-1926* takes place on July 15, 22, and 29. This is the third summer that the Gallery is presenting silent films accompanied by the live orchestral music originally created for them. Music historian Gillian Anderson has researched and reconstructed each of the historical scores and will conduct the live performances by ten musicians. This year's program includes: The Black Pirate (1926, Albert Parker) with Douglas Fairbanks and Billie Dove, Orphans of the Storm (1921, D.W. Griffith) starring Lillian and Dorothy Gish, and Nosferatu (1922, F.W. Murnau) with Max Schreck as Count Dracula.

In August, the Gallery will present *Suzuki Seijun--Pop Auteur*. Despite the limitations of budget, short production schedules, and low position on double movie bills, Japanese director Seijun became one of the most innovative visual stylists of the 1960s. Largely unknown in the West, Seijun's gangster, young love, rebellious youth flicks are loaded with self-parody, gleefully exaggerated characterizations, cheesy sets, inexplicable narrative twists, and expressionistic use of color--prophetically post-modern takes on conventional cinema. The series has been organized in association with the Pacific Film Archive, University Art Museum, Berkeley.

## FILMS BY MICHELANGELO ANTONIONI

All of the films are in Italian with English subtitles, except as noted below.

- June 10 at 2:30:** Short Films by Michelangelo Antonioni (1943-1950, 50 minutes) and Story of a Love Affair (1950, 102 minutes).
- June 11 at 6:00:** Le amiche (1955, 105 minutes) with Suicide Attempt (short subject, 1953, 20 minutes).
- June 17 at 2:00:** The Lady without Camellias (1953, 106 minutes) and Il grido (1957, 115 minutes).
- June 18 at 1:00:** I vinti (1952, 110 minutes).
- June 18 at 6:00:** L'avventura (1960, 145 minutes) with Ritorno a lisca bianca (short subject, 1983, 9 minutes).
- June 24 at 2:00:** La notte (1960, 121 minutes) and L'eclisse (1962, 125 minutes).
- June 25 at 1:00:** Blow-Up (1966, English dialogue, 110 minutes) with Prefazione: Il Provino (1965, 25 minutes).
- June 25 at 6:00:** Chung Kuo (China) (1972, Chinese and Italian with subtitles, 240 minutes).
- July 1 at 3:00:** Zabriskie Point (1970, English dialogue, 112 minutes).
- July 2 at 6:00:** The Passenger (1975, English dialogue, 123 minutes).
- July 5 through 8 at 12:30, July 9 at 1:00:** Antonioni visto da Antonioni (interview with Antonioni, 1978-1989, 30 minutes) and Noto Mandorli Volcano Stromboli Carnivale (short subject, 1992, 8 minutes).
- July 8 at 2:00:** Red Desert (1964, 116 minutes) and Mystery of Oberwald (1980, 126 minutes).
- July 9 at 6:00:** Identification of a Woman (1982, 128 minutes).

## GRAND MUSIC CINEMA III: 1921-1926

- July 15 at 3:00:** The Black Pirate (1926, 94 minutes).
- July 22 at 3:00:** Orphans of the Storm (1921, 124 minutes).
- July 29 at 3:00:** Nosferatu (1922, 92 minutes).

## SUZUKI SEIJUN--POP AUTEUR

- August 5 at 2:30:** Harbor Toast: Victory is in Our Grasp (Minato no kanpai o wagate ni) (1956, 65 minutes) and Voice Without a Shadow (Kagenaki koe) (1958, 92 minutes).
- August 6 at 6:00:** Our Blood Will Not Forgive (Oretachi no chi ga yurusanai) (1964, 97 minutes).
- August 12 at 2:30:** Go to Hell, Hoodlums! (Kutabare gurentai) (1960, 80 minutes) and Detective bureau 2-3: (Tantei Jimusho 2-3: Kutabare Akutodomo) (1963, 89 minutes).
- August 13 at 6:00:** The Young Rebel (Akutaro) (1963, 95 minutes).
- August 19 at 2:30:** Tokyo Drifter (Tokyo nagaremono) (1966, 83 minutes).
- August 19 at 4:00:** Fighting Elegy (Kenka erejii) (1966, 86 minutes).
- August 20 at 6:00:** Branded to Kill (Koroshi no rakuin) (1967, 91 minutes).

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