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PS/21 To Screen Classic Musicals - Free, Outdoors and Under The Tent

[CHATHAM, NY] - PS/21: Performance Spaces for the 21st Century announces its fourth Free Tuesday Night Film Series. Enjoy twelve consecutive weeks of Oscar-winning and Oscar-nominated music and dance films. Kicking off this year's schedule on June 16 will be "Carefree," the 1938 Hollywood classic musical/comedy starring Fred Astaire and Ginger Rogers.

"PS/21 has become the overall #1 summer venue in our area with varied and excellent programs," said PS/21 regular Larry Salzman. "There is always more than enough parking and a warm, relaxing atmosphere. For starters, get something for nothing. Come out Tuesday evenings for classic movie night."

Prior to each screening Frank Farnham, adjunct professor of communications at FIT, NYC, will introduce the film, offering interesting anecdotes and stories relating to its production and cast.

Details of the 2009 Film Series include:

"Carefree" June 16, 8:30pm

1938. Astaire and Roger's eighth film together. Music by Irving Berlin. Possibly the first Hollywood film to spoof Freud and his theories of psychoanalysis. USA

"Amadeus" June 23, 8:30pm

1984. An absolutely glorious—although almost entirely fictitious—account of Salieri's obsessive envy of Mozart's divine genius. The musical score, however, is completely genuine. The film received eight Oscars, including Best Picture. USA

"An Evening of Dance Shorts" June 30, 8:30pm

Titles to be announced.

"Saturday Night Fever" July 7, 8:30pm

1977. John Travolta stars as Tony Manero, a troubled Brooklyn youth whose weekend visits to a local discothèque help him temporarily to forget the reality of his life. Credited with popularizing disco music around the world. USA

"The Turning Point" July 14, 8:30pm

1977. When her daughter joins a ballet company, a former dancer is forced to confront her long-ago decision to give up the stage to have a family. With Shirley MacLaine, Anne Bancroft and Mikhail Baryshnikov. Herbert Ross, dir. USA

"Tales of Hoffman" July 21, 8:30pm

1951. Film version of J. Offenbach's 1881 opera about a poet's doomed love affairs. A visually enthralling blend of opera, drama and ballet. With Robert Rounseville, Moira Shearer, Robert Helpmann, Pamela Brown and Léonide Massine. Dir. M. Powell and E. Pressburger. (The Red Shoes.) (U.K.)

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“Guys and Dolls” July 28, 8:30pm

1955. Marlon Brando, Jean Simmons, Frank Sinatra and Vivian Blaine star in the film version of Frank Loesser’s 1950 smash hit Broadway musical based on stories by Damon Runyon. USA

“Mad Hot Ballroom” August 4, 8:00pm

2005. Chronicles the experiences of 11-year-old students at three NYC schools (in Tribeca, Bensonhurst and Washington Heights) as they prepare to compete in the final, citywide, dance competition. USA

“Song of Love” August 11, 8:00pm

1947. Clara Schumann’s battle to save husband Robert’s health and resist the romantic overtures of Johannes Brahms (MGM version). Starring Katharine Hepburn, Paul Henreid and Robert Walker as Clara Wieck, Robert Schumann and Johannes Brahms, respectively. Directed by Clarence Brown. USA

“A Hard Day’s Night” August 18, 8:00pm

1964. A ‘typical’ day in the life of the Beatles. Watching The Beatles getting their first taste of audience frenzy, you understand why the ‘60s had to happen. Richard Lester, director. U.K.

“Carmen” August 25, 8:00pm

1983. Called one of the greatest dance movies ever made. A passionate mix of music, dance, fiction and reality. With Flamenco dancers Antonio Gades and Laura del Sol. Directed by Carlos Saura. Argentina

“Moulin Rouge” September 1, 8:00pm

1952. Academy award-winning fictional, musical account of artist Henri de Toulouse-Lautrec’s life in Paris. Starring José Ferrer (who spends quite a lot of time walking on his knees) with Zsa Zsa Gabor as Jane Avril. John Huston directed. USA

For information about the free films or about any of our other events, please visit ps21chatham.org or call 518.392.6121. PS/21 is located at 2890 Route 66 in Chatham, NY.

PS/21: Performance Spaces for the 21st Century is a not-for-profit organization in Chatham, New York, dedicated to the performing arts and serving a diverse community with concerts, programs and residencies by professional artists and ensembles, youth and children’s programming, and cultural education opportunities for all ages.

The tent at PS/21 is a Saddle Span concert tent, with approximate dimensions of 80-feet by 60-feet and a seating capacity of approximately 200. Its 24 foot height is screened from the road by the topography and the existing apple trees on the site.

“Our setting integrates the beautiful rural quality of the Town of Chatham with state of the art technology,” said Grunberg. “We are providing a unique opportunity for the community to have increased access to the arts.”

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