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V.I.P. GUESTS TO INTRODUCE FEATURES AT PS/21's MAIN STREET AT THE TENT FILM FESTIVAL

Nine classic, independent, and foreign films will be screened free of charge

[CHATHAM, NY] - PS/21: Performance Spaces for the 21st Century presents The Main Street at the Tent Film Festival August 8-16. The nine films, each which exemplify qualities found in small towns, will be introduced by someone connected to the film.

“Our fifth season’s focus has been on the special qualities of small-town life,” said PS/21 founder Judy Grunberg. “The films in this series explore these qualities from many perspectives: from the triumph of a village community pitted against outside ‘experts’ to the raw humanity of a small town dying. Our inclusion of area guests to introduce the films provides further connections to the films’ subjects and their audiences.”

Prior to the screening of Music Man on August 10, vaudeville song and dance man Rod Ferrone will perform a half-hour show. “Movie theaters often had live acts before and between showings of films in the early years of cinema,” said Ferrone. “As a warm-up to Music Man, I will do some of my own vaudeville-style material as well as impressions of some of my favorite Hollywood vaudevillians.”

Introducing Groundhog Day on August 11 will be local comedians Pat Ferri and Dave Cox. “I know Dave Pasquesi, the actor who plays the psychologist in the film, from my improv days in Chicago,” said Ferri. “And while Dave isn’t a big fan of groundhogs, I love them.”

August 12 Chatham science teacher Jason Kahn will introduce October Sky. “This is one of my favorite films. The teacher inspires the “Rocket Boys” to believe in themselves and helps connect the dots between hobby and career path,” said Kahn. “The boys go through all of the steps of the scientific process and we barely notice amid all the fun.”

- more -

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Kahn has a second connection to the film. “The character of Roy Lee is played by local William Lee, now William Lee Scott, who played a summer of soccer for me,” said Kahn. “Like the characters in the film, William followed his dream to “take a crack at acting.” A year later I saw him in a television commercial and in this film a year or so after that. Like anything else knowing more about the film and its background enhances the experience.”

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When Madeline Miller-Delosh, owner of Mado Patisserie in Chatham, introduces Chocolat on August 13, attendees will have the opportunity to purchase some of her delectable chocolate treats.

The August 14 screening of Cinema Paradiso will be dedicated to the late Tony Quirino. There will be a special guest introducing this Academy Award-winning Italian classic.

Award-winning journalist, novelist, screenwriter, and producer David Black will introduce the award-winning comedy/drama written and directed by David Mamet State and Main. This 2000 film stars Charles Durning, Philip Seymour Hoffman, William H Macy, Sarah Jessica Parker and Alec Baldwin. Black and Baldwin are good friends. “We’re buds,” said Black. “The role Alec plays is nothing like him. Alec is the smartest, funniest man I’ve ever met. I’ll be seeing his later this week and ask him if there is anything he’d like me to mention when I introduce the film.”

Main Street at the Tent Film Festival Schedule

August 8, 8pm The Trouble With Harry (1955)
Harry Newton, Spencertown

August 9, 8pm The Englishman Who Went Up A Hill But Came Down A Mountain (1995)
Robert Trevellyan, Chatham

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August 10, 8pm The Music Man (1962)
Rod Ferrone, Old Chatham

August 11, 8pm Groundhog Day (1993)
Pat Ferri and Dave Cox

August 12, 8pm October Sky (1999)
Jason Kahn, Spencertown

August 13, 8pm Chocolat (2000)
Madeline Miller-Delosh, Owner of Mado Patisserie in Chatham

August 14, 8pm Cinema Paradiso (1988)

August 15, 8pm State and Main (2000)
David Black, Ghent

August 16, 8pm The Last Picture Show (1971)
Courtney Hunt, East Chatham

For more information about free movie screenings at PS/21, or for information or tickets to any other event, visit the website at <http://www.ps21chatham.org>, email ps21@taconic.net, or call 518.392.6121.

PS/21 is located at 2980 Route 66 in the town of 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.

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