

THE CLEVELAND INSTITUTE OF ART CINEMATHEQUE

THE CLEVELAND INSTITUTE OF ART
CINEMATHEQUE
11610 EUCLID AVENUE, CLEVELAND, OH 44106



NOVEMBER / DECEMBER 2017

FEMALE CONVICT SCORPION: JAILHOUSE 41

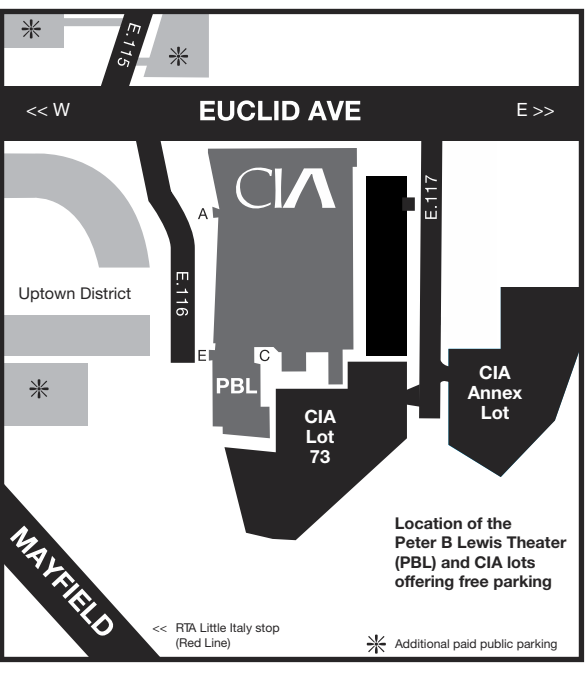
GRAND PASSIONS: FIVE FILMS BY LUCINO VISCONTI



NOV 11 - DEC 16, 2017

THE CLEVELAND INSTITUTE OF ART CINEMATHEQUE 11610 EUCLID AVENUE, UNIVERSITY CIRCLE, CLEVELAND OHIO 44106

The Cleveland Institute of Art Cinematheque is Cleveland's alternative film theater. Founded in 1986, the Cinematheque presents movies in CIA's Peter B. Lewis Theater at 11610 Euclid Avenue in the Uptown district of University Circle. This new, 300-seat theater is equipped with a 4K digital cinema projector, two 35mm film projectors, and 7.1 Dolby Digital sound. Free, lighted parking for filmgoers is available in two CIA lots located off E. 117th Street: Lot 73 and the Annex Lot. (Those requiring disability parking should use Lot 73.) Enter the building through Entrance C (which faces Lot 73) or Entrance A (which faces E.116th). Unless noted, admission to each screening is \$10; Cinematheque members, CIA and Cleveland State University I.D. holders, and those age 25 & under \$7. A second film on the same day generally costs \$7. For further information, call (216) 421-7450, visit cia.edu/cinematheque, or send an email to cinema@cia.edu. Smoking is not permitted in the Institute.



EACH FILM \$10 • MEMBERS, CIA, AGE 25 & UNDER \$7 • ADDITIONAL FILM ON SAME DAY \$7
FREE LIGHTED PARKING • TEL 216.421.7450 • CIA.EDU/CINEMATHEQUE

EXCEPTIONAL CLASSIC AND CONTEMPORARY FILMS

CINEMA TALK

BY JOHN EWING, CINEMATHEQUE DIRECTOR

The familiar world in which I grew up continues to empty out. The latest departure was Jerry Lewis, who died on August 20 at age 91.

I was never really a Jerry Lewis fan. I saw a few of his movies over the years, and occasionally found myself laughing at his stupid antics. But I think I liked and respected the *idea* of Jerry Lewis more than the man himself. Here was an all-out performer who would torpedo his dignity and good looks to do anything—pratfalls, funny faces, annoying voices—for a laugh. But Lewis was such a cultural fixture for so many years that one didn't even need to follow his career to know him. He was just *around*—if not making movies then opening a chain of automated twin movie theaters or haranguing viewers, working up a sweat, and shedding tears on his annual Muscular Dystrophy Association Labor Day telethon.

Lewis was a clown, an egotist, an innovator, and a philanthropist who raised billions of dollars in his lifetime. During the counterculture era of the late 1960s and early 1970s, he was a total square—so "out" that he became the butt of jokes that also disparaged the French for regarding him as a genius. (When I was named a Chevalier—knight—in France's Order of Arts and Letters in 2010, friends brought me down to earth by reminding me that France also loved Lewis, recipient of the Order's highest rank of Commander.) However, his reputation among hipsters was rehabilitated somewhat when he played, perfectly, the beleaguered straight man (TV talk show host Jerry Langford) to Robert De Niro's certifiable Rupert Pupkin in Martin Scorsese's 1982 film *The King of Comedy*.

But all this is prelude to the real point of this column—my memorable brush with Jerry Lewis two decades ago. In January of 1997, Lewis spent almost two weeks in Cleveland as part of the touring production of a Broadway revival of the musical *Damn Yankees*. (Lewis played the devil.) Because of his visit, I programmed a series of four of his comedies that January at the Cleveland Museum of Art. (I have run the art museum's film series for the past 31 years, in addition to directing the Cinematheque.) Since Lewis was going to be in town, I wrote him a letter inviting him to appear in person at any screening he might be able to attend.

Well, one weekday morning during that January, the office phone rang. When I picked it up, the voice on the other end asked for John Ewing. After identifying myself, the voice said, "This is Jerry Lewis," adding, "Do you have a minute?" ("Do I have a minute?" I thought to myself. "Of course I do. The question is: do you have a minute? After all, you're Jerry Lewis.") I said I did have a minute.

Lewis continued, "Let me read you my schedule for today." He proceeded to rattle off a litany of commitments, stopping mid-list. "Do you get the idea?" he asked. "Every day is like that. I have no spare time. I have dear friends in Cleveland whom I won't be able to see the whole time I am here."

He told me that he would have loved to have attended one of the films in my series, but just couldn't. But he said he was honored by the tribute, and wanted to express his regrets personally. "Otherwise it's just a message from one of my people, and you assume I never even saw your letter. But I want you to know I did see it and I wish I could attend. I just can't."

Jerry Lewis had a reputation for being a prickly and arrogant person. And, as I wrote my letter to him, the thought of actually hosting him at the art museum was an intimidating one. But on that weekday morning in January of 1997, he was the soul of graciousness and generosity.

We pay tribute to Lewis as an actor and director on November 18 with a rare 35mm screening of his 1961 comedy *The Errand Boy*. Mark Rozzano of Jerry Lewis Films, a native of Warren, will attend the screening, if his schedule allows.



PREMIERE SHOWCASE

November 4 - December 15 (13 different programs)

The first Cleveland theatrical showings of new films by Bong Joon Ho, *Del (Sordid Lives) Shores*, Michael Almercyda, and others, plus the all-new *19th Animation Show of Shows*.

FRI	11/3	7:00 PM	OKJA
SAT	11/4	7:00 PM	A VERY SORDID WEDDING
SAT	11/4	9:10 PM	OKJA
SUN	11/5	8:30 PM	A VERY SORDID WEDDING
THU	11/9	8:45 PM	GOOK
SUN	11/12	4:30 PM	THE CHALLENGE
SUN	11/12	8:50 PM	GOOK
THU	11/16	6:45 PM	BAD LUCKY GOAT
THU	11/16	8:20 PM	MARJORIE PRIME
FRI	11/17	8:15 PM	BAD LUCKY GOAT
FRI	11/17	9:55 PM	19TH ANIMATION SHOW OF SHOWS
SAT	11/18	7:25 PM	19TH ANIMATION SHOW OF SHOWS
SUN	11/19	4:15 PM	MARJORIE PRIME
SUN	11/19	8:35 PM	19TH ANIMATION SHOW OF SHOWS
SAT	11/25	6:45 PM	WHITE SUN
SUN	11/26	8:15 PM	WHITE SUN
MON	11/27	6:45 PM	4 DAYS IN FRANCE
THU	11/30	8:30 PM	INDIVISIBLE
FRI	12/1	7:30 PM	INDIVISIBLE
THU	12/7	8:40 PM	RAT FILM
FRI	12/8	7:30 PM	RAT FILM
SAT	12/9	5:00 PM	WINDOW HORSES
SUN	12/10	4:30 PM	WINDOW HORSES
THU	12/14	8:45 PM	FÉLICITE
FRI	12/15	7:00 PM	FÉLICITE



GRAND PASSIONS: FIVE FILMS BY LUCINO VISCONTI

November 11 - December 16 (5 films)

Lush, long, and operatic—welcome to the film world of Luchino Visconti. This Italian master, who lived from 1906 to 1976, was a study in contradictions. A wealthy aristocrat who became a Marxist, Visconti began his filmmaking career as perhaps the first neo-realist (making such black-and-white masterpieces as *Ossessione* and *La Terra Trema* in the 1940s) but soon transitioned to opulent, color historical spectacles possessing a fanatical attention to period detail. His movies from both periods tended to be of epic length, and bulged with emotion and melodrama. (He had a second career as a theater and opera director.) Visconti's films had two major themes: homosexuality (he was openly gay) and the moral disintegration of large families (his own broke apart when he was 11).

Probably best known in the U.S. for *The Leopard* and *Death in Venice*, Visconti will be represented in this short series by five significant works that are infrequently shown. Four of them have recently been restored.

SAT	11/11	7:00 PM	ROCCO AND HIS BROTHERS
SAT	11/18	9:15 PM	SANDRA
SUN	11/19	6:30 PM	SANDRA
SAT	12/2	6:45 PM	THE DAMNED
SAT	12/9	6:45 PM	LUDWIG (uncut)
SAT	12/16	6:45 PM	CONVERSATION PIECE



MEIKO KAJI x 3

November 30 - December 15 (3 films)

In America, we had Pam Grier. In Japan, Meiko Kaji was the kickass female action movie star of the 1970s. Kaji, who was also a singer, starred in three popular movie series during that decade: the five-film "Stray Cat Rock" series of sexy outlaw biker flicks; the four-film "Female Convict Scorpion" series of women-in-prison movies; and the two-part period revenge saga *Lady Snowblood*. We show the best film from each of these three series in this short salute to an enduring cult icon, now 70.

THU	11/30	6:45 PM	STRAY CAT ROCK: SEX HUNTER
FRI	12/1	9:30 PM	STRAY CAT ROCK: SEX HUNTER
THU	12/7	6:45 PM	FEMALE CONVICT SCORPION: JAILHOUSE 41
FRI	12/8	9:15 PM	FEMALE CONVICT SCORPION: JAILHOUSE 41
THU	12/14	6:45 PM	LADY SNOWBLOOD
FRI	12/15	9:25 PM	LADY SNOWBLOOD



A SECOND LOOK

October 28 - December 17 (14 films)

Thirty-five millimeter prints and new digital restorations of some great classic films, and two special holiday attractions.

SAT	10/28	9:50 PM	SUSPIRIA
THU	11/2	8:15 PM	BROKEN FLOWERS
FRI	11/3	9:20 PM	BROKEN FLOWERS
SAT	11/4	5:00 PM	KING OF JAZZ
SUN	11/5	4:00 PM	COLUMBUS
SUN	11/5	6:30 PM	KING OF JAZZ
THU	11/9	8:45 PM	OUT OF THE PAST
SAT	11/11	5:00 PM	OUT OF THE PAST
SUN	11/12	6:30 PM	OCTOBER: TEN DAYS THAT SHOOK THE WORLD
SAT	11/18	5:00 PM	THE ERRAND BOY
SAT	11/25	5:00 PM	HALLELUJAH THE HILLS
SAT	11/25	8:35 PM	THE BAND'S VISIT
SUN	11/26	4:15 PM	THE BAND'S VISIT
SUN	11/26	6:30 PM	HALLELUJAH THE HILLS
SAT	12/2	5:00 PM	THE PASSION OF JOAN OF ARC
SUN	12/3	4:15 PM	THE PASSION OF JOAN OF ARC
SUN	12/3	6:30 PM	THE SACRIFICE
SUN	12/10	6:30 PM	THERE WILL BE BLOOD
SAT	12/16	9:10 PM	JOYEUX NOËL (MERRY CHRISTMAS)
SUN	12/17	3:45 PM	JOYEUX NOËL (MERRY CHRISTMAS)
SUN	12/17	6:30 PM	IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE presented by Joe Fortunato

BECOME A CINEMATHEQUE MEMBER OR A DONOR OR BOTH!

I want (check one or more):

to become a Cinematheque member and save at least \$2 off regular admission prices (and receive the Cinematheque calendar in the mail) for one full year. Memberships cost \$35 and are issued to individuals only. They are not transferable. Fill out the form below and mail it, along with a check to the Cinematheque. A membership card good for a full year from the date of purchase, will be mailed to you. \$20 student and senior (65 and over) memberships are also available, but only at the boxoffice, after presentation of proper I.D.

to become a Cinematheque donor and support the Cinematheque with a cash gift over and above the cost of my membership—or in lieu of membership in order to receive the Cinematheque calendar in the mail. Fill out the form below and mail it to the Cinematheque along with your check. Those who donate at least \$5 will receive the Cinematheque calendar in the mail for one year.

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Email _____ Phone _____

Membership amount enclosed _____ Donation Enclosed _____

Make checks out and mail to: The Cleveland Institute of Art Cinematheque, 11610 Euclid Avenue, Cleveland, OH, 44106. Thank you for your support!

