

MUSEUM OF THE MOVING IMAGE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NEW MOVING IMAGE MASTER CLASS SERIES OPENS WITH PRODUCTION DESIGNER MARK FRIEDBERG

Sunday, March 25, 2012

Designer of films by Wes Anderson, Todd Haynes, Jim Jarmusch, Julie Taymor, Ang Lee, Ed Harris, Charlie Kaufman, and more to discuss his work, and introduce screening of *Synecdoche, New York*

To inaugurate a new quarterly series of in-depth conversations with top behind-the-scenes talent from film, television, and video-game production, Museum of the Moving Image will present an afternoon with celebrated production designer Mark Friedberg. In coming months, the *Moving Image Master Class* series will feature leading cinematographers, editors, special-effects artists, game designers, and more. "The *Master Class* series is in keeping with the Museum's mission to not only show the best moving image works, but also to explore the creative and collaborative process," said Executive Director Carl Goodman.

On Sunday, March 25, 2012, at 3:00 p.m. Friedberg will discuss and show how he created the physical environments of films as wide-ranging as *The Darjeeling Limited* (2007), *The Ice Storm* (1997), and *Pollock* (2000). Following the program, at 6:00 p.m., he will introduce a screening of *Synecdoche, New York* (2008), the dreamlike film written and directed by Charlie Kaufman for which Friedberg designed an elaborate facsimile of New York City within a warehouse.

Tickets for the conversation are \$20 public / \$12 Museum members (free for Silver Screen members and above) and include Museum admission. Advance tickets are available online at movingimage.us or by calling 718 777 6800. Tickets for *Synecdoche, New York* are free with Museum admission and must be picked up at the admissions desk.

Mark Friedberg has collaborated with directors including Todd Haynes, Wes Anderson, Ang Lee, Julie Taymor, Jim Jarmusch, Mira Nair, Ed Harris, and Jodie Foster. Trained as an artist, Friedberg has brought his inventive sensibility to a wide range of independent films. In this two-hour program, presented with clips, he will discuss how he created the elaborate sets on a moving train in *The Darjeeling Limited*, represented Depression-era California while filming *Mildred Pierce* in New York, oversaw the creation of hundreds of paintings for *Pollock*, and transformed a flood-ruined town for

Ride with the Devil.

Synecdoche, New York (124 mins.) features Philip Seymour Hoffman as a theater director who attempts to create an alternate-reality New York City within a warehouse, giving Friedberg one of his most challenging projects. For the design of this astonishingly imaginative film, Friedberg created sets of vast scale as well as intimate spaces that reflect the emotional truth of the film's characters. Samantha Morton and Michelle Williams also star.

Moving Image Master Class offers media professionals and general audiences alike an insider's view of working in film, television, and video-game production. The series is organized by Collection Curator Barbara Miller and moderated by Chief Curator David Schwartz.

Museum of the Moving Image advances the understanding, enjoyment, and appreciation of the art, history, technique, and technology of film, television, and digital media. In January 2011, the Museum reopened after a major expansion and renovation that nearly doubled its size. Accessible, innovative, and forward-looking, the Museum presents exhibitions, education programs, significant moving-image works, and interpretive programs, and maintains a collection of moving-image related artifacts. More information at movingimage.us.

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MUSEUM INFORMATION

Hours: Tuesday-Thursday, 10:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Friday, 10:30 to 8:00 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, 10:30 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. Closed Monday.

Film Screenings: Friday evenings, Saturdays and Sundays, and as scheduled. Unless otherwise noted, screenings are included with Museum admission.

Museum Admission: \$12.00 for adults; \$9.00 for persons over 65 and for students with ID; \$6.00 for children ages 3-18. Children under 3 and Museum members are admitted free. Admission to the galleries is free on Fridays, 4:00 to 8:00 p.m. Tickets for special screenings and events may be purchased in advance by phone at 718 777 6800 or online.

Location: 36-01 35 Avenue (at 37 Street) in Astoria.

Subway: M (weekdays only) or R to Steinway Street. Q (weekdays only) or N to 36 Avenue.

Program Information: Telephone: 718 777 6888; Website: movingimage.us

The Museum is housed in a building owned by the City of New York and its operations are made possible in part by public funds provided through the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs, the New York City Economic Development Corporation, the New York State Council on the Arts, the National Endowment for the Arts, the National Endowment for the Humanities, the Institute of Museum and Library Services, and the Natural Heritage Trust (administered by the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation, and Historic Preservation). The Museum also receives generous support from numerous corporations, foundations, and individuals. For more information, please visit movingimage.us.

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