

# BRATTLE THEATRE

Fall 2009:  
Friday, August 28 –  
Thurs, October 29,  
2009

## SPECIAL ENGAGEMENTS & PREMIERES

Friday, August 28 – Thursday, September 3

### Area Premiere! I SELL THE DEAD!

at 5:30, 7:30, 9:30 (t: 3:30 on Sat & Sun); Please note: no 5:30 show on Aug 31  
(2009) dir Glenn McQuaid w/Dominic Monaghan, Ron Perlman, Larry Fessenden,  
Angus Scrimm (83 min)

Yes, we know there's another, "bigger" horror film opening this week, but we're betting that if you liked Sam Raimi's DRAG ME TO HELL [who didn't?], or are any kind of gothic horror fan, you'll enjoy watching this grand-guignol horror-comedy a lot more than any blockbuster slasher sequel. I SELL THE DEAD opens with Arthur (Monaghan), a soon-to-be-headed graveborer, describing the gruesome, and increasingly bizarre, details of his sordid life of crime to a visiting monk (Perlman). Reluctantly taken under the wing of freelance ghoul Willie Grimes (Fessenden), Arthur's professional career quickly moves from your average corpse-peddling to encounters with vampires, zombies, and even stronger creatures. But the resurrection trade isn't free of competition, and the pair eventually run afoul of a ruthless rival gang. And the results of the encounter threaten to put all involved straight into the very graves they are trying to pilfer.

Inspired by classic ghost stories, galleys horror, and murder ballads, I SELL THE DEAD is a highly entertaining and deftly crafted film. Shot on a shoestring budget, the film's 18th century European settings are creatively evoked in forgotten nooks and oddball locations around New York City. We are thrilled to host the Boston-area premiere of this scrappy, beautifully rendered film.

Friday, September 4 – Tuesday, September 15

### Area Premiere! \*Director Ondi Timoner presents! WE LIVE IN PUBLIC

Fri 9/4 & Sat 9/5 at 5:15, 7:30, 9:45\* (t: Sat at 3:00);  
Sun 9/6 – Tue 9/15: showtimes vary daily, please see calendar on reverse  
(2009) dir Ondi Timoner w/Josh Harris (90 min)

In her follow-up to the widely acclaimed *Digi* director Ondi Timoner tracks the rise and fall of Josh Harris, the most important internet entrepreneur that you've never heard of. Terminally ahead of the curve, Harris struck it rich during the tech-crazed '90s, channeled his money, talent and energy into innovative (and sometimes self-indulgent) art projects, went bust when the dot-com bubble burst, and subsequently dropped out of sight. His art projects culminated in "We Live In Public," a website that broadcast every nook-and-canny of his and his girlfriend's apartment 24/7 – and exposed their lives from the messily dramatic to the storky mundane. Timoner again leverages unprecedented access to expose a fascinating character that many have never heard of and, at the same time, provides insight into our own futures as our lives become increasingly exposed online.

"Bone-chilling... Darkly funny... Astonishing." – Variety

"A fascinating tangle of dot-com boom, bust and bizarreness." – Wired

Grand Jury Documentary Prize winner - Sundance Film Festival

A 2009 IFFB Premiere!

Friday, September 11 & Saturday, September 12

### HOOKED ON WHO

Following the success of our first three installments, we continue our celebration of the world's favorite time-traveling doctor. Now that he has experienced a full-on renaissance thanks to a well-handled series re-boot, few have not heard of Doctor Who. But, for those who haven't, this legendary British TV series features an alien timefold known mostly as "The Doctor" who travels through time and space in an idiosyncratic vehicle – a blue police box. The Doctor has travelled for millennia, usually accompanied by a human companion (most frequently a pretty, capable woman), saving the universe from destruction many times.

For this edition of HOOKED ON WHO, we feature two episodes from the newest incarnation of the series on Friday night (including the most recently aired special PLANET OF THE DEAD). And, on Saturday, we feature two stories starring the most popular incarnation of The Doctor, Tom Baker along with his trusty robotic dog, K-9!

Fri, Sept 11 at 9:30pm: Sat, Sept 12 at 2:30pm: Sat, Sept 12 at 9:30pm:  
**PLANET OF THE DEAD** AND **THE INVASION OF TIME**  
Audience Choice  
Starring David Tennant  
Starring Tom Baker  
Starring Tom Baker

## RECENT RAVES

Fri, September 18 & Sat, September 19

### DRAG ME TO HELL

at 9:30pm  
(2009) dir Sam Raimi w/Alison Lohman, Justin Long, Lorna Ravera, Dileep Rao, David Paymer (99 min)

A return to form for Sam Raimi, DRAG ME TO HELL reminds us of the halcyon days of the director: pretty scary, kinda gory, peppered with humor, undeniably gross, and utterly enjoyable from start to finish. DRAG ME TO HELL is, essentially, about an ancient curse placed on an impossibly blonde banker Christine by an old woman who has been denied a loan. Christine is haunted by demons who, as the title states, want to drag her to hell. *Evil Dead* fans rejoice as Raimi proves that he's still got it!

Also Friday, September 18

### O'HORTON

at 3:30, 5:30, 7:30  
(2007) dir Bert Haan w/Boaz Owen (90 min)

This subdued, quirky film about a subdued, quirky character follows sixty-something Norwegian train conductor Odd Horton on the evening of his retirement. The film finds a more strange turn for Horton that if the film weren't so taciturn, we'd call it a screwball comedy. A warm, inviting, and humorous film that, while at times surreal, is always as elegantly engaging as its lead-character himself.

Also Saturday, September 19

### THE LIMITS OF CONTROL

at 2:45, 7:00  
(2009) dir Jim Jarmusch w/Isaach de Bankolé, Paz De La Huerta, Tilda Swinton, John Hurt, Gael Garcia Bernal, Bill Murray (115 min)

Purposefully inscrutable and undeniably idiosyncratic, Jim Jarmusch's newest film features a mysterious loner (De Bankolé) on a mission outside the low – although his goals are not initially revealed, his techniques are elegantly unique and precise. Unfairly maligned by many critics, THE LIMITS OF CONTROL teams Jarmusch with legendary cinematographer Christopher Doyle (in *The Mood for Love*), and the two create a painterly vision of the power of imagination in the face of repression.

EXAMINED LIFE

at 12:45, 5:00  
(2008) dir Astra Taylor w/Kwame Anthony Appiah, Judith Butler, Peter Singer, Cornel West, Slovak Zizek (87 min)

Some of the most prominent intellectuals in the world come together before director Astra Taylor's camera to discuss a mélange of heavy topics. All the while, Taylor makes the subjects more engaging than mere talking heads by presenting them with different opportunities to move through space – whether down a city block, in a boat across a pond, or across an airplane terminal.

Sunday, September 20

### STAR TREK

at 2:30, 7:00  
(2009) dir J.J. Abrams w/Chris Pine, Zachary Quinto, Simon Pegg, Eric Bano, Leonard Nimoy (122 min)

This 'reboot' of one of history's most beloved science fiction franchises succeeds so wildly that it's almost unbelievable. Director J.J. Abrams, aided by a terrific script and impeccably cast actors brings Kirk, Spock, Bones and all the rest of the crew of the legendary Starship Enterprise to new and dazzling life. STAR TREK neatly balances between expert characterizations and breathtaking action turning itself into one of the biggest success stories of the year.

MOON

at 5:00, 9:30  
(2009) dir Duncan Jones w/Sam Rockwell (97 min)

At the opposite end of the sci-fi spectrum from STAR TREK comes Duncan Jones' MOON. Featuring the always-charismatic Sam Rockwell as a lonely astronaut struggling to maintain his sanity and his humanity while on a seemingly endless solo mission with only a computer as a companion. Near the end of his three-year sojourn, unexpected events raise questions about just what is real and what is imagined in his own little corner of reality.

Monday, September 21

### THE COVE

at 8:00, 10:00  
(2009) dir Lou Psihoyos (92 min)

Environmental documentary as adventure film, THE COVE is at once exhilarating and agonizing as it uncovers the chilling truth about a Japanese town's seemingly innocent dedication to the wonders of ocean life. THE COVE is an edge-of-your-seat documentary like you have never seen before.

Friday, September 18 – Tuesday, September 22

### Repertory Series! Presented by the Harvard Coop

#### RECENT RAVES aka What We Did On Your Summer vacation

Our periodic RECENT RAVES series offers up some of the most interesting and exciting films to come through theaters in recent weeks. For this edition, we look back at a couple of late spring blockbusters (DRAG ME TO HELL and STAR TREK), take a trip with David Bowie's son (MOON), check out some disturbing behavior in Japan (THE COVE), and spend a few SUMMER HOURS with Juliette Binoche. Plus get inside the head of Jim Jarmusch (LIMITS OF CONTROL) and more!

Please see below for full line-up and schedule

Friday, September 25 – Thursday, October 1

### Repertory Series!

#### ARTISTS ON FILM

As a prelude to our annual silent art auction fundraiser, ART HOUSE (Oct 4), we present this series of films made about artists. But these aren't just any bio-pics, the films here range from poetic documentary (ANTONIO GAUDI), to heartrenching character study (BASQUILA), to grand Hollywood classics (MOULIN ROUGE), to baroque art films (THE DRAUGHTSMAN'S CONTRACT), and beyond. And that's not all, to further focus our series, all of these films were made by directors who trained as painters or visual artists before becoming filmmakers – making them uniquely qualified to reveal the pride and pathos of the artist.

Please see below for full line-up and schedule

Also Friday, Sept 25 & Saturday, Sept 26

### Rare Technical Print!

#### SUSPIRIA

at 9:30pm  
(1977) dir Dario Argento w/Jessica Harper, Aldo Velli, Udo Kier, Jean Benoit (98 min)  
2004 dir Raul Ruiz w/John Malkovich, Saffron Burrows (131 min)  
This fictionalized account of the life of 119th century artist Henri de Toulouse-Lautrec is swathed in Hollywoodized romance and sensationalism, but the sensitive performance by the great Jose Ferrer and deft direction by John Huston (himself a trained painter) elevate it to classic status. Despite a deformity that left him a bitter dwarf, Toulouse-Lautrec's paintings evoke the vitality of Paris at the dawn of the 20th century – and the sets, costumes, and gorgeous color of the film echo those qualities deftly.

Friday, October 2 – Tuesday, October 13

### Repertory Series

#### FILMS OF MYSTERY & MADNESS: EDGAR ALLAN POE ON SCREEN

Many people may know that 2009 marks the 200th birthday of Edgar Allan Poe but, it seems, very few know that the world's most famous purveyor of the macabre was born right here in Boston! Few can blame us for not knowing, the city downplays its connection to this famous son (although there is a plaque near his birthplace) and the author himself talked trash about Boston during his lifetime, but, according to some, it seemed as though Poe was trying to return to the Hub during his mysterious final days. In any case, the Brattle hopes to spread the word about Beantown's creepiest native son with this collection of films adapted from and inspired by his amazing stories and poems. Of course, the line-up is dominated by the Roger Corman/Vincent Price films of the 1960s, including the stupendous MASQUE OF THE RED DEATH, but we've also delved as far back as 1914 for D.W. Griffith's THE AVENGING CONSCIENCE and as far afield as Mexican surrealism and Czech animation. We'll also be including readings, introductions and special surprises, so stay tuned for more info! Please see below for full line-up and schedule

Tuesday, September 22

### SUMMER HOURS

at 8:00, 10:00  
(2008) dir Olivier Assayas w/Juliette Binoche, Charles Berling, Jeremie Renier (103 min)

The divergent paths of three forty-something siblings collide when their mother, heiress to her uncle's exceptional art collection, dies suddenly. Left to come to terms with themselves and their differences, the siblings confront the end of childhood, their shared memories, and unique vision of the future. Incisively written, Assayas' new film moves effortlessly through its narrative with all the grace of Renoir at the height of his powers.

Thursday, September 24

### ANVIL THE STORY OF ANVIL

at 8:00, 10:00  
(2009) dir Sacha Gervasi w/Steve "Lips" Kudlow, Robb Reiner (80 min)

At 14, Toronto school friends Steve "Lips" Kudlow and Robb Reiner made a pact to rock together forever. They meant it. Their band, Anvil, went on to become the 'demigods of Canadian metal,' releasing the 1982 classic Metal On Metal. The album influenced a musical generation that went on to sell millions of records but Anvil's career took a different path – straight to obscurity. 25 years later, filmmaker Sacha Gervasi has gone in search of the band and found them still rocking after all these years. The resulting film is a funny, touching, and sometimes tragic look at a band that's following their dream – despite all the odds. \*\*\*★☆☆ – Ty Burr, Boston Globe

## ARTISTS ON FILM

Friday, September 25

### BASQUIAT

at 4:45, 7:00  
(1996) dir Julian Schnabel w/Jeffrey Wright, Michael Winick, Benecia Del Toro, David Bowie, Gary Oldman (108 min)

This biopic tells the story of Jean-Michel Basquiat, a Haitian-American street artist who was discovered while residing in a cardboard box. Basquiat rose to fame in a 1980s New York art scene ruled by Andy Warhol (played adroitly by Bowie). An exceptional cast and the beauty and complexity of the artist's life and work make this film engaging, inspiring, and tragic.

Saturday, September 26

### ANTONIO GAUDI

at 4:30  
(1984) dir Hiroshi Teshigahara (72 min)

Renowned Japanese filmmaker Hiroshi Teshigahara (*Woman In The Dunes*) trained as a painter and here he investigates the work of another artist, Antonio Gaudi, one of the most sculptural architects of the modern period. Teshigahara takes us on a visual tour of Gaudi's buildings with only minimal voice-over, crafting a visual poem of remarkable beauty.

Screening with

### MICHELANGELO EYE TO EYE

(2004) dir Michelangelo Antonioni (15 min)

Chronicles the final 67 days of Van Gogh's life before his death from a self-inflicted gunshot wound. VAN GOGH shows us the artist painting, visiting with family, and joyfully engaging in flirtations with women. However Van Gogh's mood quickly takes a darker turn as his inner demons show themselves and move him closer and closer to his breaking point.

Van Gogh

at 1:30, 4:30  
(1991) dir Jean-Claude Pierrat w/Jacques Dutronc (158 min)

Chronicles the final 67 days of Van Gogh's life before his death from a self-inflicted gunshot wound. VAN GOGH shows us the artist painting, visiting with family, and joyfully engaging in flirtations with women. However Van Gogh's mood quickly takes a darker turn as his inner demons show themselves and move him closer and closer to his breaking point.

Sunday, September 27

### ORPHEUS

at 3:45, 7:30  
(1949) dir Jean Cocteau w/Jean Marais, Marie Déa (95 min)

Jean Cocteau was the consummate renaissance man – painter, poet, playwright, filmmaker and more. In ORPHEUS, a tour-de-force film, he creates an intricate examination of the life of the artist (represented here by the titular poet) and brings a classic Greek myth into the modern vernacular of 1940s France. Cocteau's painterly vision never fails to delight and fascinate in this stunning fantasy.

THE TESTAMENT OF ORPHEUS

at 2:00, 5:45, 9:30  
(1959) dir Jean Cocteau w/Cocteau, Jean Marais, Pablo Picasso (80 min)

An even more intimate vision of the inner life of the artist, this time Cocteau places himself at the center of the action, searching for meaning and new direction in the later part of his life and reflecting it through the myth of Orpheus's voyage to the underworld.

Friday, October 16 & Saturday, October 17 +

Sunday, October 25 – Thursday, October 29

### Repertory Series!

#### BOSTON NOIR

In joint celebration of the Boston Book Festival (Oct 24 in Copley Square) and "Boston Noir", a new collection of short stories edited by Dennis Lehane, we present some of our favorite Beantown crime films. Robert Mitchum stars in the immortal FRIENDS OF EDDIE COYLE, named by many as the #1 film ever made in Boston. The crooks are as crazy as the crime in THE BRINK'S JOB. The usually Big-Apple-bound Martin Scorsese takes on the myth of Whitey Bulger in THE DEPARTED. And there's more, more including an appearance by Mr. Lehane himself as well as the two films adapted from his novels – MYSTIC RIVER and GONE, BABY, GONE.

Please see below for full line-up and schedule

Sunday, October 18

### A Tribute to Victor Fleming!

#### \*Author Michael Sragow will discuss BOMBHELL

at 3:30, 7:45\*  
(1933) dir Victor Fleming w/Jean Harlow, Lee Tracy, Franchot Tone (83 min)  
2009 marks the 100th birthday of one of the least-known, most versatile directors of Hollywood's golden age, Victor Fleming. Fleming is the director ultimately responsible for two of 1939's biggest sensations, *Gone With The Wind* and *The Wizard Of Oz*. Both fantastic, legendary films that Fleming was brought in on as a pitch-hitter – completing them when the initial director proved incapable. BOMBHELL and RED DUST are, arguably, more his own films. In BOMBHELL, sexpot movie star Jean Harlow plays sexpot movie star Iola Burns who is desperate to escape the salacious playmate that her jealous publicist has built for her. A terrific pre-code comedy with the hot-ter than hot Harlow in one of her signature roles.

RED DUST

at 5:15\*, 9:45\*  
(1932) dir Victor Fleming w/Clark Gable, Jean Harlow, Mary Astor (96 min)

Two of the thirties' steamiest stars ignite the screen in this classic pre-code drama. Gable stars as the owner of a Southeast Asian rubber plantation and Harlow is a floozy on the run from the authorities who crashes his austere existence. The sparks really begin to fly with the arrival of beautiful, refined Astor, her husband, and the monsoon rains. A love triangle is, of course, inevitable.

Also Wednesday, September 16

### CINEMENTAL PRESENTS

at 9:30pm

Thursday, September 17

### World Music/CRRSHorts Presents

#### JOLIE HOLLAND

Two Shows at 7:00 & 9:30pm

Tickets are \$20; Available now at worldmusic.org and the Brattle box office

Friday, October 23 & Saturday, October 24

### BOSTON BIKE FILM FESTIVAL

at 7:00pm  
Organizers of the Fifth Annual Boston Bike Film Festival have asked filmmakers with a cycling habit to submit their work to be shown October 16 & 17, 2009, at the historic Brattle Theatre in Cambridge. The event is a fundraiser for local cycling advocacy groups, including MassBike. Films from last year's festival ranged from an exciting chase on bikes with a twist ending, to the ultimate speed machine, to the story of a young woman's coming of age. Types of films shown at the BFFF include animated shorts, digitally enhanced clips, and feature length documentaries. Festival information and details for submissions can be found at www.bostonbikefilmfest.org, which will soon include clips from last year's festival.

Saturday, October 24

### Celebrate the Boston Bike Film Festival!

#### THE TRIPLETS OF BELLEVILLE

at 3:30, 7:30  
(2004) dir Sylvain Chomet (78 min)

This delightful animated film features the adventures of Madame Souza and her faithful dog Bruno. The pair must face off against the French mania to gain the freedom of Souza's grandson, Champion, the oddson favorite to win the Tour De France. Madame Souza and Bruno set off for the city of Belleville where, aided by a trio of elderly jazz singers, the Belleville Triplets, the pair hunts for the missing bicycle wonderkid.

Monday, October 5

### MURDERS IN THE RUE MORGUE

at 8:00, 10:00  
(1932) dir Robert Florey w/Bela Lugosi, Leon Ames (61 min)

Featuring Poe's prototypical detective Pierre Dupin, MURDERS IN THE RUE MORGUE involves the deranged Dr. Mirakle, whose dubious scientific work includes kidnapping young ladies and injecting them with ape blood. Dupin discovers Mirakle's plot too late to save his girlfriend from abduction, and must make use of his superior detecting skills to try to get her back.

Screening with

### THE TELL-TALE HEART

(1941) dir Jules Dassin w/Joseph Schildkraut, Roman Bohnen (20 min)

Tuesday, October 6

### THE FALL OF THE HOUSE OF USHER

at 5:30, 7:30, 9:30  
(1928) dir Jean Epstein & Luis Bunuel (55 min)

A surreal retelling of the short story by Poe, this film is wonderfully haunting with its looming shadows that seem to replace and transmute solid objects. Roderick Usher points the portrait of his young wife, Madeline, as she drifts toward the grave, seemingly sapped of strength by being captured in art. Fragments of Poe's poetic prose serve as a launching point for a meandering narrative of the descent into death and madness.

Screening with

### THE FALL OF THE HOUSE OF USHER

(1928) dir James Sibley Watson, Melville Weber (13 min)

and

### THE TELL TALE HEART

(1928) dir Charles F. Klein, Leon Shamroy w/Otto Matieson (24 min)

Wednesday, October 7

### Live accompaniment by Martin Marks!

#### THE AVENGING CONSCIENCE

at 7:00  
(1914) dir D.W. Griffith (60 min)

Legendary filmmaker D.W. Griffith was a fan of Poe and this film is a rampant amalgam of several of the author's works including *The Tell-Tale Heart* and *Lorena*. A man is ruthlessly controlled by his despotic uncle and, haunted by visions, he eventually murders the old man. THE AVENGING CONSCIENCE is one of the earliest adaptations of Poe's works on film.

AN EVENING OF EDGAR ALLAN POE

at 9:30  
(1972) dir Kenneth Johnson w/Vincent Price (53 min)

Vincent Price reads four classic Poe works, "The Telltale Heart", "The Sphinx", "The Cask of Amontillado", and "The Pit and the Pendulum". Price brings these horrifying stories to life with only his voice and the musical accompaniment of Les Baxter, and creates tales as powerful as any adaptation would hope to be.

Thursday, October 8 & Friday, October 9

### HOUSE OF USHER

Thu at 8:00; Fri at 7:30  
(1960) dir Roger Corman w/Vincent Price (79 min)

The first of Roger Corman's seven Poe adaptations, HOUSE OF USHER hews relatively close to Poe's tale of two troubled siblings and the visitor who arrives at their mysterious mansion and becomes enmeshed in their insanity. Vincent Price plays the doomed Usher with gravity and Corman's deft direction shines.

Screening with

### THE TELL-TALE HEART

(1953) dir Ted Parmelee w/James Mason (Narrator) (8 min)

THE TOMB OF LIGERIA

Thu at 10:00; Fri at 5:30, 9:30  
(1964) dir Roger Corman w/Vincent Price (81 min)

Vincent Price continues his reign as the King of Poe in this tale of a reclusive widower who is haunted by the memory of his late wife – convinced she will return to him from beyond the grave. Though remarried, he still cannot escape her, and his new life is tainted by a memory that will simply not remain buried. Less fast paced than the rest of Corman's Poe adaptations, THE TOMB OF LIGERIA uses creepy visuals and almost psychedelic sequences to create a truly macabre atmosphere.

Saturday, October 10 & Sunday, October 11

### TALES OF TERROR

Sat at 3:30, 7:30; Sun at 9:30  
(1952) dir Roger Corman w/Vincent Price, Peter Lorre, Basil Rathbone (89 min)

The fourth in the Corman Poe series, this film features adaptations of three short stories: "Morella", "The Black Cat" (combined with "The Cask of Amontillado"), and "The Facts in the Case of M. Valdemar." Corman spices up the terror with a large dollop of humor and brings together a powerhouse trio of macabre film stars – the ubiquitous Vincent Price, the fabulous Peter Lorre, and Sherlock Holmes himself, Basil Rathbone.

## SPECIAL EVENTS

(Visit Brattlefilm.org for ticket prices and availability on all Special Events)

Friday, September 11

### The Improv Boston Festival presents

#### Director Alex Karposky in person

#### TRUST US, THIS IS ALL MADE UP

at 3:00pm  
(2009) dir Alex Karposky w/TJ Jagodowski, Dave Pasquesi (83 min)

If you think improvisation is all sketch comedy and drunken audience suggestions, you obviously haven't seen a performance by TJ Jagodowski and Dave Pasquesi. This masterful duo takes the art of improv to radical new levels by crafting an entirely original, hour-long play each time they perform... TRUST US... documents a hilarious one-time comedy performance by TJ and Dave. – Independent Film Festival Boston 2009

Saturday, September 12

### Free Screening! Elements Of Cinema

#### TBD

at 11:00am

Wednesday, September 16

### Premiere Screening!

#### THE ARISTOCRAT

at 7:00pm

