

MUSEUM OF THE MOVING IMAGE

FILM PROGRAM SCHEDULE

Presented in conjunction with the exhibition *Envisioning 2001: Stanley Kubrick's Space Odyssey*, on view January 18–July 19, 2020.

SCREENING SERIES

Influencing the Odyssey: Films that Inspired Stanley Kubrick and Arthur C. Clarke

JANUARY 17–FEBRUARY 2, 2020

Stanley Kubrick was an omnivorous cinephile. While conceiving *2001: A Space Odyssey*, he and co-writer Arthur C. Clarke watched science-fiction films from around the world, Cinerama westerns, documentaries, and avant-garde movies, looking for artistic, technical, and narrative inspiration. This series features some of the films that clearly had an influence on Kubrick's masterpiece.

Organized by Curator-at-Large David Schwartz

The Earrings of Madame De...

FRIDAY, JANUARY 17, 7:30 P.M.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 19, 4:30 P.M.

Dir. Max Ophüls. 1953, 105 mins. 35mm. With Charles Boyer, Danielle Darrieux, Vittorio De Sica. Max Ophüls, the German-born director who fled to France in 1933, was Stanley Kubrick's favorite filmmaker, and *The Earrings of Madame De...*, a fin de siècle love triangle whose plot revolves around a pair of earrings sold by an aristocratic woman who received them from her husband, was reportedly his favorite film. Kubrick admired the elegance and the fluid, nonstop camera movements of Ophüls's films.

Documentaries and avant-garde shorts

SATURDAY, JANUARY 18, 3:30 P.M.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 19, 7:00 P.M.

Total running time: Approx. 75 mins.

Universe. Dirs. Colin Low, Roman Kroitor. 1961, 26 mins. 16mm. This National Film Board of Canada black-and-white short visualizes a journey through space with stunning animation. Kubrick studied the film closely, and for *2001*, hired its effects artist Wally Gentleman to build models and its narrator, Douglas Rain, to provide the voice of HAL.

Very Nice Very Nice. Dir. Arthur Lipsett. 1961, 7 mins. 16mm. Kubrick wrote to Canadian avant-gardist Arthur Lipsett that his collage film is "one of the most imaginative and brilliant uses of the movie screen and soundtrack that I have ever seen."

Allures. Jordan Belson. 1961, 8 mins. 16mm. Belson, whose geometric and abstract

films have long been seen as an inspiration for 2001's Star Gate sequence, described his film *Allures* as "probably the space-iest film that had been done until then. It creates a feeling of moving into the void."

Momentum. Jordan Belson. 1968, 6 mins. 16mm. "Momentum is Belson's most serene and gentle film since *Allures*. This treatment of the sun as an almost dreamlike hallucinatory experience is both surprising and curiously realistic." (Gene Youngblood)

To the Moon and Beyond (excerpt). Con Pederson (Douglas Trumbull). 1964, [excerpt, approx 6 mins.]. Digital projection. Made for the 1964 World's Fair, the panoramic and immersive short film *To the Moon and Beyond* led directly to Kubrick's hiring of two of its key creators: Con Pederson and Douglas Trumbull, who left the Los Angeles company Graphic Films to work with Kubrick in England.

OffOn. Scott Bartlett. 1968, 9 mins. 16mm. Psychedelic imagery made from a pioneering mix of film and video technology, close-ups of an eye, and a soundtrack mixing organic and electronic sounds, are all seen in Scott Bartlett's avant-garde short, a film with eerie similarities to the Star Gate sequence in *2001*.

How the West Was Won

SATURDAY, JANUARY 18, 6:00 P.M.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 19, 1:00 P.M.

Dir. John Ford, Henry Hathaway, George Marshall. 1962, 164 mins. DCP. With James Stewart, Karl Malden, Carroll Baker, Walter Brennan, Debbie Reynolds, Gregory Peck, George Peppard, John Wayne, Richard Widmark, Henry Fonda, Lee J. Cobb, Spencer Tracy. This triptych about the settling of the American West was an ambitious and sprawling Cinerama epic whose scale and episodic narrative structure served as a kind of template for Kubrick. During the conception of *2001: A Space Odyssey*, Kubrick and Clarke privately called their project "How the Solar System Was Won."

The Day the Earth Stood Still

SATURDAY, JANUARY 25, 3:30 P.M.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 5:00 P.M.

Dir. Robert Wise. 1951, 92 mins. DCP. With Michael Rennie, Patricia Neal, Hugh Marlowe. Atomic anxiety was given eloquent expression in this prescient film about an alien visitor to Earth who makes an impassioned plea to the world's leaders to stop nuclear proliferation and warfare. With a theremin-heavy score by the great Bernard Herrmann, *The Day the Earth Stood Still* is a high-water mark of 1950s sci-fi, considered by Kubrick and Clarke to be one of the few "really good" examples of the genre.

Forbidden Planet

SUNDAY, JANUARY 26, 2:00 P.M.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 3:00 P.M.

Dir. Fred M. Wilcox. 1956, 98 mins. 35mm. With Walter Pidgeon, Anne Francis, Leslie Nielsen. Nielsen plays Commander J.J. Adams, sent with his crew to investigate the silence from a planet inhabited by scientists. He discovers that only two, Dr. Morbius

and his daughter Altaira, have survived the hideous monster that roams the planet—and one of them carries a deadly secret. The film features a number of spectacular special effects and the groundbreaking use of an all-electronic music score. It was also the first screen appearance of the iconic Robby the Robot, who can be seen as a precursor for *2001*'s HAL.

Wild Strawberries

SUNDAY, JANUARY 26, 4:00 P.M.

Dir. Ingmar Bergman. 1957, 91 mins. 35mm. In Swedish with English subtitles. With Victor Sjöström, Bibi Andersson, Ingrid Thulin, Gunnar Björnstrand. On a road trip to accept an honorary degree, an aging professor revisits his past in memories and dream sequences. Ingmar Bergman's 1957 masterpiece was one of Kubrick's favorite films. In 1960, Kubrick wrote a fan letter to the Swedish director, praising him for his "creation of mood and atmosphere" and "avoidance of the obvious," and calling him "the greatest filmmaker at work today."

The Virgin Spring

SUNDAY, JANUARY 26, 6:00 P.M.

Dir. Ingmar Bergman. 1960, 89 mins. 35mm. In Swedish and German with English subtitles. With Max von Sydow, Birgitta Valberg, Gunnel Lindblom, Birgitta Pettersson. A powerful medieval drama about a father seeking revenge for the rape and murder of his daughter, *The Virgin Spring* was an unlikely source of inspiration for Kubrick, who watched and studied the film in 1967, and was impressed by the artful blend of symmetric and asymmetric compositions by the great cinematographer Sven Nykvist.

Metropolis

FRIDAY, JANUARY 31, 7:00 P.M.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 4:00 P.M.

Dir. Fritz Lang. 1927, 148 mins. DCP. With Brigitte Helm. Restored in 2010 to its full length after 25 minutes of previously lost footage was rediscovered in Argentina, Fritz Lang's futuristic masterpiece (set in the year 2000) will be shown in its complete form, with Gottfried Huppertz's original orchestral score. The eponymous city is divided in two—the wealthy live in towering luxurious skyscrapers, and slave laborers toil below ground to keep the machinery going. Though Kubrick reportedly found it a bit "silly," he also put it on a list of his favorite movies.

Ikarie XB-1

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 7:00 P.M.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 7:00 P.M.

Dir. Jindřich Polák. 1963, 88 mins. DCP. With Zdeněk Štěpánek, František Smolík, Dana Medřická. In Czech with English subtitles. Kubrick was impressed by this eerie and singular film, a depiction of a 22nd-century voyage beyond the solar system which was called a "Space Marienbad." The self-contained world of the film, on a spaceship intended to be a model of socialist civilization, clearly gave Kubrick ideas about visual

style, sets, and costumes. The film is also notable for its psychological acuity and its depiction of the monotony of space travel. Also known as *Voyage to the End of the Universe* in the film's English-dubbed release.

Tickets:

Unless noted, tickets (required for each program) are \$15 (\$11 seniors and students / \$9 youth ages 3–17 / free or discounted for Museum members).

Combination exhibition +screening tickets: A combination ticket that includes timed entry access to the exhibition *Envisioning 2001: Stanley Kubrick's Space Odyssey* and a screening are available for \$25 (excludes 70mm screenings; discounted for seniors, students, youth / free or discounted for Museum members). This includes general Museum admission.

Tickets for the exhibition alone are \$20 adults (\$16 seniors and students / \$14 youth ages 3–17 / Free or discounted (\$5) for Museum members). This includes general Museum admission.

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All screenings and events take place at Museum of the Moving Image, 36-01 35 Ave, Astoria, New York, 11106. Advance tickets are available online at movingimage.us.