

MUSEUM OF THE MOVING IMAGE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

FIVE-FILM RETROSPECTIVE OF KOREAN DIRECTOR HONG SANG-SOO AT MUSEUM OF THE MOVING IMAGE

Film series, co-presented with The Korea Society, features preview screening of *Oki's Movie* and four earlier works

March 17–23, 2012

Best known for his formal inventiveness, dry wit, and anti-heroic male characters—often artists who are unlucky in love and prone to long nights of drinking and talking—the South Korean director Hong Sang-soo is one of the most exciting and accomplished filmmakers now working. Underlying the complexity of his work is a profound sense of humor and a fondness for deeply flawed protagonists who muddle through despite their hapless attempts at romantic intimacy. Hong has been compared to such French New Wave directors as Eric Rohmer and Jean-Luc Godard; but he stands alone as a true original.

From March 17 through 23, 2012, Museum of the Moving Image will present a five-film retrospective of Hong Sang-soo featuring a preview screening of his latest film, *Oki's Movie*, a triumph from the 2010 New York Film Festival; his rarely screened first feature *The Day a Pig Fell Into the Well* (1996); and three recent films *Woman on the Beach* (2006), *Night and Day* (2008), and *Like You Know It All* (2009). Both *The Day a Pig Fell Into the Well* and *Like You Know It All* have not been distributed theatrically in the United States. Many of these films will be presented as imported 35mm prints.

Chief Curator David Schwartz said, “Hong Sang-soo deftly balances two different artistic impulses: one towards playful modernist formalism that makes us aware not just of the film medium itself, but of the filmmaking process and of the mechanics of narrative; and the other towards sheer realism, an approximation of the sprawling, disorderly nature of life itself.”

The Hong Sang-soo retrospective is presented in collaboration with The Korea Society, which also co-presents a monthly Korean cinema series at the Museum.

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Press screeners and images are available.

SCHEDULE FOR 'HONG SANG-SOO,' MARCH 17–23, 2012

All screenings take place at Museum of the Moving Image, 36-01 35 Avenue in Astoria. Screenings are included with Museum admission unless otherwise noted. Tickets for Friday evening screenings (when the Museum offers free gallery admission) are \$12 adults / \$9 students and senior citizens.

The Day a Pig Fell Into the Well (Dajjiga umule pajinna)

SATURDAY, MARCH 17, 2:00 P.M.

Dir. Hong Sang-soo. 1996, 115 mins. With Bang Eun-hee, Cho Eun-sook, Park Jin-seong. A success on the international film circuit that launched Hong's career, his debut feature is comprised of intertwining stories of four young people looking for love in all the wrong places. A study of infidelity and unrequited love in the city, the film has a slowly unfurling narrative that rewards with power and emotional depth.

Woman on the Beach (Haebyeonui yeoin)

SATURDAY, MARCH 17, 5:00 P.M.

Dir. Hong Sang-soo. 2006, 100 mins. With Kim Seung-woo, Go Hyun-jung, Song Seon-mi. This gradually unfolding love triangle, with a film director as the main character, is both accessible and effortlessly complex. Critic Noel Murray called this tale of youthful longing and indiscretion a "witty explication of how we all get stymied by the impulses and options inherent in the simple act of living."

Night and Day (Bam gua nat)

SUNDAY, MARCH 18, 2:00 P.M.

Dir. Hong Sang-soo. 2008, 145 mins. With Sabine Crossen, Jérémie Elkhaïm, Gi Ju-bong, Kim Yeong-ho. For strange and seemingly dubious reasons, middle-aged painter Sung-nam flees South Korea and finds himself in a Parisian hostel. The resulting story unfolds as an episodic exploration of emotional and spiritual dislocation in unfamiliar places, and a humorous examination of the troubling timelessness of flight and return.

Like You Know It All (Jal aljido mothamyeonseo)

SUNDAY, MARCH 18, 5:30 P.M.

Dir. Hong Sang-soo. 2009, 126 mins. With Kim Tae-woon, Uhm Ji-won, Go Hyun-jung. With biting reflexivity, *Like You Know It All* centers on the insecurities and indiscretions of an acclaimed art house director through his interactions with friends, potential lovers, and successful ex-students. This critical favorite, which premiered at Cannes Film Festival, is a frank look at the often pathetic truths of life as an artist.

Ok's Movie (Ok-hui-ui yeonghwa)

FRIDAY, MARCH 23, 7:00 P.M.

Dir. Hong Sang-soo. 2010, 80 mins. With Jeong Yu-mi, Lee Seon-gyun. The non-chronological four-episode structure of this bittersweet romance, set in the backdrop of a Korean university's film department, lends a novelistic freshness to a simple story

of courtship and indecision. Sparse, relaxed, and jarringly real, *Oki's Movie* rejects easy classification. It is the work of a self-assured artist tuned in to the inner worlds of his characters in all their flawed humanity.

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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