

Screening Schedule:

All screenings at Anthology Film Archives unless specified otherwise
32 2nd Ave at 2nd St, New York
(212) 505-5181, anthologyfilmarchives.org

Tuesday, May 2

Opening Night Gala with Tribute to Andrzej Wajda

7pm AFTERIMAGE (POWIDOKI) Directed by Andrzej Wajda

**Introduction by Martin Scorsese*

Venue: The Directors Guild of America 110 W. 57th St, New York

AFTERIMAGE (POWIDOKI) 2016. 98 minutes. Directed by Andrzej Wajda
For more than half a century, Wajda crafted a filmography that encapsulated the essence of postwar Poland and constitutes, quite simply, one of the great legacies of world cinema. His last film is a biopic about avant-garde artist Władysław Strzemiński, who battled Stalinist orthodoxy and his own physical impairments to advance his progressive ideas about art. For more than half a century, Wajda crafted a filmography that encapsulated the essence of postwar Poland and constitutes, quite simply, one of the great legacies of world cinema. His last film is a biopic about avant-garde artist Władysław Strzemiński, who battled Stalinist orthodoxy and his own physical impairments to advance his progressive ideas about art. Set in post-war Poland, AFTERIMAGE looks at the life of renowned painter Władysław Strzemiński (brilliantly played by Polish superstar Boguslaw Linda). Strzemiński, who worked as a professor at the National School of Fine Arts in Łódź was a great artist and co-creator of the theory of Unism. Famous before the Second World War, his students treated him like the “messiah of modern painting,” but university authorities and the Ministry of Culture had a very different opinion. Unlike artists loyal to the doctrines of socialist realism and fulfilling Party tasks, Strzemiński did not compromise his art. He refused to comply with Party regulations, and he was eventually expelled from the university and the artists’ union. Strzemiński’s students continued to support him, visiting him for private lectures, penning his Theory of Vision, and listening to his critique of their work. But jobless Strzemiński, impaired due to a missing arm and leg, soon fell into poverty and poor health as the Communist authorities remain persistent in their actions to ruin him.

Wednesday, May 3

6:30pm HOW TO BE LOVED (JAK BYĆ KOCHANĄ)

Directed by Wojciech Jerzy Has

**Introduction by Professor Annette Insdorf, preceded by book signing at*

6:00pm

Venue: Museum of Modern Art Titus 2, 11 W. 53rd St, New York

Celebrating the publication of Annette Insdorf’s *Intimations: The Cinema of Wojciech Has* (Northwestern University Press, 2017), MoMA presents the New York premiere theatrical of HOW TO BE LOVED, a chamber piece involving a famous radio actress haunted by her wartime past. Insdorf, a professor of film at Columbia University’s

School of the Arts, and moderator of the "Reel Pieces" series at Manhattan's 92nd Street Y, will sign copies of her new book May 3 at 6:00pm preceding her 6:30pm introduction to HOW TO BE LOVED.

JAK BYĆ KOCHANĄ (HOW TO BE LOVED). 1963. Poland. Directed by Wojciech Jerzy Has. Screenplay by Kazimierz Brandys, based on his novel. With Barbara Krafftówna, Zbigniew Cybulski, Artur Miodnicki. "*How to Be Loved*, a fascinating drama of 1963, won the San Francisco Film Festival's prize for Best Actress (Barbara Krafftówna) as well as Best Screenplay. It is told from the perspective of a popular actress: during a trip from Warsaw to Paris, she remembers her World War II experiences hiding a vain actor (Zbigniew Cybulski) from the Gestapo. Locked in her apartment, he is not the romantic partner she anticipated" (Annette Insdorf, *Intimations: The Cinema of Wojciech Has*). 35mm. In Polish; English subtitles. 97 min.

Thursday, April 27, 6:30 (introduced by Annette Insdorf); Friday, April 28, 4:00; Saturday, April 29, 5:00; Sunday, April 30, 2:30; Monday, May 1, 6:30; Tuesday, May 2, 8:15; Wednesday, May 3, 6:30 (introduced by Annette Insdorf, preceded by book signing at 6:00). T2

PEŁTLA (THE NOOSE). 1958. Poland. Directed by Wojciech Jerzy Has. Screenplay by Marek Hłasko, based on his short story. With Gustav Holoubek, Aleksandra Slaska, Teresa Szmigielówna. "*The Noose* is a remarkable first feature, for both its formal mastery and uncompromisingly dark vision of postwar Poland. Over a 24-hour period, we follow Kuba (Gustav Holoubek), a wry and lucid alcoholic who plans to begin treatment to overcome his addiction. Wojciech Has transforms Marek Hłasko's short story into a richly textured cinematic experience" (Annette Insdorf, *Intimations: The Cinema of Wojciech Has*). DCP. In Polish; English subtitles. 96 min.

Thursday, April 27, 4:00 (introduced by Annette Insdorf); Friday, April 28, 6:30; Saturday, April 29, 2:30; Sunday, April 30, 5:00; Monday, May 1, 4:00; Tuesday, May 2, 6:00; Wednesday, May 3, 4:00. T2

Thursday, May 4

5:30pm THE LAST FAMILY (OSTATNIA RODZINA)

Directed by Jan P. Matuszyński

Screens with **ARIA DIVA**, Directed by Agnieszka Smoczyńska

THE LAST FAMILY (OSTATNIA RODZINA) 2016. 124 minutes. Directed by Jan P. Matuszyński

This sort-of biopic of Polish surrealist artist Zdzisław Beksiński, renowned for his stark, unsettling, postapocalyptic paintings, focuses as much on the rest of the funny and reclusive Beksiński family: his religious wife Zofia, a perennially steadying presence; and his son Tomasz, a DJ/translator always on the verge of spiraling out

of control. Jan P. Matuszynski's fiction feature debut renders Beksiński's home life as a vivid and affecting succession of near-death experiences and psychodramatic blowouts, and shows the brilliant artworks that emerged from all the *sturm und drang*.

ARIA DIVA. 2007. 30 minutes. Directed by Agnieszka Smoczyńska
Basia has already settled down in her life. She is a housewife and has a loving family. It seems as though she does not miss anything to be happy. Until a moment when an opera diva moves into an apartment upstairs. Basia is enchanted and seduced with her voice. A peculiar relationship is born between them. It develops into a feeling which is not particularly comfortable for either of the two women.
The film was produced within the frame of "30 minutes" Program – held by Andrzej Wajda Master School of Film Directing, The Association of Polish Filmmakers, TVP Kultura and Polish Film Institute.

8:30pm STRANGE HEAVEN (OBCE NIEBO)

Directed by Dariusz Gajewski

Screens with **THREE FOR THE TAKING (TRÓJKA DO WZIĘCIA)**

Directed by Bartosz Konopka

STRANGE HEAVEN (OBCE NIEBO) 2015. 108 minutes. Directed by Dariusz Gajewski
Basia and Marek have been on the run their whole lives. Along with their nine-year-old daughter Ula, they experience what it's like to be an immigrant in Sweden. When a Swedish social worker visits their home, she witnesses Ula's everyday reality, as seen from the perspective of the local culture. Ula is then taken away from her parents and placed in foster care. Will Basia and Marek stick together and fight for Ula? Will they succeed in rebuilding their bond and their family?

THREE FOR THE TAKING (TRÓJKA DO WZIĘCIA) 2006. 37 minutes. Directed by Bartosz Konopka

A story about a sixteen year-old girl and the new challenges in life she has to face. With her mother terminally ill she now has to take care of her younger siblings. The film portrays the children as they make their way through life desperately trying to escape being taken to an orphanage.

Friday, May 5

5:30pm BLINDNESS (ZACMA) directed by Ryszard Bugajski.

Screens with **ANDRZEJ WAJDA: LET'S SHOOT!**

Directed by Thierry Paladino, Maciej Cuske, Marcin Sauter, Piotr Stasik

BLINDNESS (ZACMA) 2016. 114 minutes. Directed by Ryszard Bugajski.
The latest film by Ryszard Bugajski, the creator behind multi-award-winning productions: INTERROGATION and THE CLOSED CIRCUIT. BLINDNESS (ZACMA

tells the story of the real person behind Colonel Julia Brystygier, known as “Bloody Luna” – a sadistic functionary of the Office of Public Security, one of the most infamous people in post-war Poland.

ANDRZEJ WAJDA: LET'S SHOOT! 2008. 54 minutes. Directed by Thierry Paladino, Maciej Cuske, Marcin Sauter, Piotr Stasik.

ANDRZEJ WAJDA: LET'S SHOOT! This documentary portrait of the most famous founder of the Polish cinema was made by four students of the Andrzej Wajda Master School of Film Directing. Their observations, captured on the filming location of Katyn at the turn of 2006 and 2007, combined with the fragments of the director's monologue make an original picture, different from the familiar and popular image of Andrzej Wajda promoted by the media.

9:00pm THE LURE (CORKI DANCINGU) directed by Agnieszka Smoczyńska
Screens with **BEHIND THE FENCE (ZA PLOTEM)**
Directed by Marcin Sauter

THE LURE (CORKI DANCINGU) 2015. 92 minutes. Directed by Agnieszka Smoczyńska

In this bold, genre-defying horror-musical mashup — the playful and confident debut of Polish director Agnieszka Smoczynska — a pair of carnivorous mermaid sisters are drawn ashore in an alternate '80s Poland to explore the wonders and temptations of life on land. Their tantalizing siren songs and otherworldly aura make them overnight sensations as nightclub singers in the half-glam, half-decrepit fantasy world of Smoczynska's imagining. In a visceral twist on Hans Christian Andersen's original Little Mermaid tale, one sister falls for a human, and as the bonds of sisterhood are tested, the lines between love and survival get blurred. A savage coming-of-age fairytale with a catchy new-wave soundtrack, lavishly grimy sets, and outrageous musical numbers, The Lure explores its themes of sexuality, exploitation, and the compromises of adulthood with energy and originality.

Saturday, May 6

4pm KAMPER directed by Łukasz Grzegorzek
Screens with **GAMES (GRY)** Directed by Maciej Marczewski

KAMPER. 2016. 89 minutes. Directed by Łukasz Grzegorzek

Kamper's life is an easy one. He earns his living testing computer games. He's got a beautiful and talented wife Mania who's learning to cook from a famous chef. When Mania gets too close to her tutor Kamper will try to take revenge by... starting an affair with a Spanish teacher. Once madly in love, Kamper and Mania have to decide whether the next step in their life will be one they take together.

GAMES (GRY) 2013. 30 minutes. Directed by Maciej Marczewski

The elevator is stuck, a man and a woman are trapped inside. They make up stories to pass the time, but end up playing mind games, setting free strong emotions in a confined space.

6:30pm ASHES AND DIAMONDS (POPIÓŁ i DIAMENT) Directed by Andrzej Wajda

ASHES AND DIAMONDS (POPIÓŁ i DIAMENT) 1958. B&W 103 minutes. Directed by Andrzej Wajda

On the last day of World War II in a small town somewhere in Poland, Polish exiles of war and the occupying Soviet forces confront the beginning of a new day and a new Poland. In this incendiary environment we find Home Army soldier Maciek Chelmicki, who has been ordered to assassinate an incoming commissar. But a mistake stalls his progress and leads him to Krystyna, a beautiful barmaid who gives him a glimpse of what his life could be. Gorgeously photographed and brilliantly performed, *Ashes and Diamonds* masterfully interweaves the fate of a nation with that of one man, resulting in one of the most important Polish films of all time.

8:45pm UNITED STATES OF LOVE (ZJEDNOCZONE STANY MIŁOŚCI)
Directed by Tomasz Wasilewski
MILKY BROTHER (MLECZNY BRAT) Directed by Vahram Mkhitarian

UNITED STATES OF LOVE (ZJEDNOCZONE STANY MIŁOŚCI) 2016. 104 minutes. Directed by Tomasz Wasilewski

It is the beginning of the 1990s and Polish society is trying to redefine itself after years of stagnation. Schools are being named 'Solidarność', the first West German spa visitors are bringing hard currency into the country, porn videos are doing the rounds and TV constantly repeats images of the trial of Romanian dictator Ceaușescu. But private emotions remain untouched by these external changes: all the hopes and longings, caught between work, family and religion, desire and abstinence. Tomasz Wasilewski portrays four women in a small provincial town. Agata is attracted to a priest and secretly observes him. Iza is a head teacher who has been having a long-standing affair with a married doctor. Russian language teacher Renata seeks a closer relationship with her young neighbor Marzena who teaches sports and dance, while Marzena herself dreams of an international career as a model. Shot in desaturated colors and with a muted production design, this drama reflects upon the attempts to escape an anti-pleasure, body-hating environment. Wasilewski's subject is the death throes of a society – and the emotional impoverishment of the individual.

MILKY BROTHER (MLECZNY BRAT) 2014. 30 minutes. Directed by Vahram Mkhitarian

A story of a little boy named Seto who lives in a small Armenian village. Soon, a new member of his family is to be born. Seto is hoping for a brother, yet the infant dies and instead a lamb enters Seto's life.

Sunday, May 7

4pm Special Screening TBA

7:00pm Closing Night

PLANET SINGLE (PLANETA SINGLI) Directed by Mitja Okron
Screens with TELEFONO directed by Marcin Wrona and
PAPARAZZI directed by Piotr Bernaś

PLANET SINGLE (PLANETA SINGLI) 2016. 136 minutes. Directed by Mitja Okron
He is one of the top celebrities in the country: a fast-talking TV host, who can joke his way out of any situation. Women want to be with him, men want to be like him. He is looking for a new topic to discuss in his popular talk-show. She is a teacher at a musical school - a timid girl looking for Mr. Perfect on an internet dating site. He will help her realise her potential and teach her how to recognise various types of men for what they are, she will teach him what real life is about. The show will become a huge hit. It seems they are destined to fall in love and be together, but one day she actually does meet Mr. Perfect on the net.

PAPARAZZI. 2011. 33 minutes. Directed by Piotr Bernaś
Paparazzi is the first Polish film to explore this topic. Bernaś looks at some of the most significant media incidents in Poland in 2010 from the point of view of the paparazzi, Przemysław Stoppa – from the hunt for Roman Polanski to the Smoleńsk Disaster. However, in the foreground we see the dramatic story of a man who makes controversial choices on a daily basis, and who consequently pays a heavy emotional, personal and ethical price.

Tickets:

Advance ticketing at: nypff.com and at venue before screenings

Opening night: \$50 | Individual tickets: \$16-20 | Festival pass (for Anthology Film Archives screenings only) \$90

For more info please visit: nypff.com

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