

CINEMAROSA

queens only queer film series

PRESS RELEASE
IMMEDIATE ATTENTION

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CINEMAROSA CELEBRATES 2nd YEAR of FREE MONTHLY LGBT SCREENINGS WITH A SPECIAL PRESENTATION OF *WORLD GAY CINEMA* followed by a *COCKTAIL RECEPTION PARTY* on SUNDAY, MAY 21 at THE QUEENS MUSEUM OF ART.

(Queens, NY – May 2006) – NYC's First and Queens' Only Monthly Independent Film-Video Series dedicated to present local, national, and international works of fiction, documentary, and experimental focusing on the lives and experiences of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transsexual (LGBT) peoples and communities, celebrates its **Second Anniversary** of Free Monthly Screenings with a special presentation of films from England, Canada and Turkey followed by a Cocktail Reception Party with filmmakers, LGBT groups, arts and media organizations, community leaders, and audience members.

On Sunday, May 21, 2006, 3:00 PM, CINEMAROSA will present the special screening: **Traditions and Revisions of Gay Cinema** featuring the award winning British documentary *Derek Jarman, Life as Art* about the vibrant life and work of well known Queer Cinema pioneer and director of such classics as *Caravaggio*, *Sebastiane* and *Edward II*. Based on intimate interviews with key figures in Jarman's life, director Andy Kimpton-Nye delves into all aspects of the controversial artist's life. Diagnosed with AIDS in 1987, Jarman succumbed to the disease in early 1994, but time has only served to enhance his achievements. Illustrated with clips from across Jarman's career, including unseen footage of him directing *Wittgenstein*, this is a tribute to an artist whose career will not be forgotten. The screening also includes Canadian filmmaker Paul Lee's *The Offering*, a beautifully photographed short film inspired by *The Young Man and His Death*, a ballet directed by Jean Cocteau, and based on the director's personal grief over the premature passing of beloved friends Paul Lee; and from Turkish director Hüseyin Karagöz, *Makbul, His Favoured One*, a queerly reinterpretation of a short paragraph from the 19th Century book, *The Ottoman Records*, exploring the power dynamics and potential eroticism of the relationship between sultan and slave.

After the screenings there will be a Cocktail Reception Party unveiling the 2 year CINEMAROSA reel in the Unisphere Gallery of the museum.

For more information and detailed schedules of events as well as press materials visit www.cinemarosa.org

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As **Queens Only Queer Film Series**, CINEMAROSA's mission is to create a cultural hub in Queens, screening a diverse range of Queer Independent Films, presenting media events, and spreading news of interest and in relation to the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender communities of this borough. The project fosters the integration of diverse LGBT communities through the creation of cultural film media programs where Queer Artists can present their works and speak about their experiences with the audience. Though CINEMAROSA encourages Queer Media Creators to become active in the artistic movement of the NYC area, it does not exclude any other person working on issues and themes that relate to the LGBT experiences.

CINEMAROSA was created and is under the direction of film-video-media maker, Hector Canonge who declares that the film series "is an independent, non for profit initiative whose objective is to bring to the borough of Queens queer cinema to educate and create, in the near future, a film center where LGBT artists can create their projects and screen them." Since its inception in 2004, CINEMAROSA has prompted dialogues, debates, and Q&A sessions with participant directors and the audience. Canonge ads that "as events get organized, the goal is to reach the disperse LGBT communities of Queens and beyond and also to educate the general public with material that best reflect a positive attitude towards lesbians, gays, bisexuals and transgenders."

Since its second season, all screenings and presentations are Free of Charge to the public and take place at the Queens Museum of Art, NYC Building, Flushing Meadows Corona Park. As part of its mission, CINEMAROSA co-produces events like **Queerin' Queens**, an annual LGBT cultural celebration organized by the Queens Museum of Art, and it publishes **PiNK** an online e-newsletter, dedicated to review cinema, music, books, and performing arts catered to LGBT audiences.

DIRECTIONS:

Subway: E, F, V, R to 74 Street and Roosevelt Ave. Transfer for #7 Train to Flushing. Exit at Willest Point Avenue/Shea Stadium. Descend the platform on the park side and walk through the park. The museum is located next to the Unisphere fountain.

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