Press release / Invitation

Press screening and press conference

Friday May 30, 12.30 until 17.00, Filmmuseum Vondelpark 3, Amsterdam

Accreditation form Screeners of all films available for press

Festival DOKU.ARTS

3rd International Festival for Films on Art

New creative documentaries about art and artists will be shown, including portraits of artists, cinematic essays, inventive compilations and tributes

Wednesday June 4 until Sunday June 8, 2008 at Filmmuseum in Amsterdam

Complete programme including full descriptions and screening dates, an accreditation form and a list of guests attending Doku.Arts can be found on the website www.doku-arts.de

Press screening and press conference - Friday May 30, 12.30 until 17.00 All press and other media are welcome to attend the press screening of two films that have a prominent place in the Doku.Arts programme.

The first film, Edgard Varèse: A Visionary in Sound, by Frank Scheffer, will officially open Doku.Arts on June 4 at 20.00. Scheffer's latest film on the famous composer whose influence can even be noticed in popular DJ's uses archive footage from the collection of the Filmmuseum.

At 15.15, after the screening of the film Maurice Pialat - l'Amour Existe, festival director Andreas Lewin, Sandra den Hamer, director of the Filmmuseum, and Hans Maarten van den Brink, director of the Dutch Cultural Broadcasting Fund, will speak about Doku.Arts. This year's programme will feature creative documentaries on art and artists, in the form of artists' portraits, filmic essays, inventive compilations and tributes. New in this year's line-up are films from the Filmmuseum archive, and new productions that are 'IN PROGRESS'.

The programme on Friday May 30 reads as follows:

12.30-13.30: Edgard Varèse: A Visionary in Sound (Frank Scheffer, The Netherlands, 2008, 60', Engels spoken, Dutch subtitles)

Described by Henry Miller as "the stratospheric colossus of sound", the French composer Edgard Varèse (1883-1965) emancipated percussion and sound in music. His rhythmic adventures inspired composers like John Cage, Elliot Carter and Pierre Boulez. Even today, 40 years after his death, he is immensely popular in the DJ scene. Scheffer masterfully integrates music and images to create a poetic journey through Varèse compositions and catches the pulse of this beautiful, muscular music.

13.30-13.45: short break

13.45 - 15.15: Maurice Pialat - Love Exists

(Jean-Pierre Devillers, Anne-Marie Faux, France, 2007, 90', French spoken, English subtitles) "La Nouvelle Vague missed everything, because they didn't show real life. Those were hard times! What they showed was false." A veteran outsider in French Cinema, Maurice Pialat looks back on his difficult development within the French film industry. In film history, he is one of the few filmmakers (like John Cassavetes), who managed to make films and work with actors as close as one can get to the truth of life in the moment: intense, contradicting and disturbing. While receiving the "Palm d'Or" at the Cannes Film Festival, Maurice Pialat (1925-2003) responded to the shouts of a protesting crowd with: "I don't like you as well". This film sketches a 'self-portrait' of this great director using his own words. Pialat never forgot how it was to be a child, remaining uncompromising, vulnerable, even ruthless; knowing that love exists.

15.15: Press conference

With festival director Andreas Lewin, Sandra den Hamer, director of the Filmmuseum, and Hans Maarten van den Brink, director of the Dutch Cultural Broadcasting Fund.

16.15: drinks

Beginning with this third edition, the former Berlin DOKU.ARTS festival has a new home in Amsterdam's Filmmuseum. During the festival, which runs from June 4 until June 8, new creative documentaries about art and artists will be shown, including portraits of artists, cinematic essays, inventive compilations and tributes. DOKU.ARTS Amsterdam is an initiative taken by Sandra den Hamer, the new director of the Filmmuseum. By organizing this European film festival, in collaboration with the Stimuleringsfonds Nederlandse Culturele Omroepproducties (Dutch Broadcasting Fund), she is presenting an opportunity to reach an even wider audience, as well as creating an opportunity for future growth.

Filmmaker and festival director Andreas Lewin founded DOKU.ARTS in 2006 to show the variety, creative power and experimental drive in this genre. The 'art documentaries' in the festival do not represent traditional 'biopics' about famous artists. DOKU.ARTS focuses specifically on films that are either ignored or given limited attention at the major international documentary film festivals, and on cultural productions that are gradually disappearing from the public broadcasting and foreign networks.

DOKU.ARTS is made possible with the generous support of the Dutch Cultural Broadcasting Fund, the Goethe Institute, Allianz Kulturstiftung, Arte and the International Media and Music Centre, Vienna.

DOKU.ARTS-festival Wednesday June 4 20.00 - 22.00 Thursday June 5 17.00 - 24.00 Friday, Saturday & Sunday June 6 - 8 12.00 - 24.00

For more information:

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Images

It is possible to download (high-resolution) images of all Doku. Arts films and directors from the Filmmuseum-website; www.filmmuseum.nl/beeldbank

The online image collection is only available for certified press. It's possible to ask for login and password at perssupport@filmmuseum.nl.

Full programme and schedule can be found at www.doku-arts.com/2008/schedule.html Tickets can be reserved on +31 (0)20 5891400

Information for foreign film professionals, please contact: Jan van den Brink tel. +31 (0) 20 5891.469 - fax +31 (0) 20 6833.401

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