# MUSEUM OF THE MOVING IMAGE

#### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

# HIP-HOP FILM SERIES 'MADE YOU LOOK' FEATURES FOUR POWERFUL NEW DOCUMENTARIES

Series opens with free community screening of *Fresh Dressed*, co-presented with CNN Films; each show accompanied by a discussion

#### August 27-November 13, 2015

Astoria, New York (August 24, 2015)—Museum of the Moving Image is partnering with the Hip-Hop Education Center to present the film series *Made You Look: Documenting the Art, History, Power, and Politics of Hip-Hop Culture*, featuring screenings of four powerful new documentaries that examine hip-hop's evolution from the streets of 1970s New York to present day. The series, which runs from August 27 through November 13, 2015, features one screening a month.

Made You Look kicks off on Thursday, August 27, with **Fresh Dressed** (2015), Sacha Jenkins's exploration of urban hip-hop style and its evolution from the plantations of the American South to its status as a global cultural phenomenon. Co-presented by MOMI; CNN Films, which co-produced the documentary; and the Jacob A. Riis Neighborhood Settlement House in Long Island City, the screening will feature special appearances by Jenkins, style legend Dapper Dan, and author Elena Romero (*Free Stylin': How Hip Hop Changed the Fashion Industry*). This free community screening will take place at Riis Settlement (see details below for reserving a ticket) in advance of the film's national broadcast on CNN on September 3 (more information at cnn.com/fresh\_dressed).

Other films in the series include *In My Father's House* (2015), which follows Grammy award-winning rapper Che "Rhymefest" Smith as he reconnects with his long-lost father in Chicago's turbulent South Side; *Shake the Dust* (2014), a chronicle of the influence and impact of breakdancing around the world; and *Rubble Kings* (2015), a look at hip-hop's birthplace in the Bronx and the foundations of hip-hop culture. Each film will be followed by a discussion led by Martha Diaz that will highlight the issues each film explores.

The series was organized by Martha Diaz, founder and director of the Hip-Hop Education Center, and Geoffrey Jackson Scott, the Museum's Director of Community Engagement.

"We are very pleased to partner with the Hip-Hop Education Center on this new screening series," said Geoffrey Jackson Scott. "*Made You Look* is the latest program in the Museum's ongoing community engagement initiative, supported by the Ford Foundation, to expand our audiences and to create programs that reflect the cultural diversity of Queens and New York City."

"From its genesis as a response to the epidemics of gang violence, drugs, and a poor education system in 1970s New York, to its emergence as a global juggernaut, hip-hop is a uniquely American art form that has captivated the eyes and ears of the world," said Diaz. "The Hip-Hop Education Center is very pleased to partner with Museum of the Moving Image on this vital new screening series."

The full schedule is included below. Except for *Fresh Dressed* (which is a free community screening), tickets are \$12 (\$9 for senior citizens and students / \$6 for children 6-12 / free for members at the Film Lover level and above). Order tickets online at movingimage.us.

Major support for *Made You Look: Documenting the Art, History, Power, and Politics of Hip-Hop Culture* has been provided by the Ford Foundation. Additional support is provided by Con Edison.

# SCHEDULE FOR 'MADE YOU LOOK: DOCUMENTING THE ART, HISTORY, POWER, AND POLITICS OF HIP-HOP CULTURE,' AUGUST 27–NOVEMBER 13, 2015

Unless otherwise noted, screenings take place in the Celeste and Armand Bartos Screening Room at Museum of the Moving Image, 36-0135 Avenue in Astoria, New York. Tickets for MOMI screenings are \$12 adults (\$9 seniors and students / \$6 children 3–12) and free for Museum members at the Film Lover level and above. Advance tickets are available online at <a href="http://movingimage.us">http://movingimage.us</a>. Ticket purchase includes same-day admission to the Museum's galleries.

#### OFF-SITE SCREENING & LIVE EVENT

#### Fresh Dressed

With director Sacha Jenkins, style legend Dapper Dan and author Elena Romero (*Free Stylin': How Hip Hop Changed the Fashion Industry*) in person; moderated by Martha Diaz

THURSDAY, AUGUST 27, 7:00 p.m.

# At the Jacob A. Riis Neighborhood Settlement House, 10-25 41 Ave, Long Island City, NY 11101

Dir. Sacha Jenkins. 2015, 90 mins. Digital projection. With Damon Dash, Daymond John, Karl Kani, Nasir Jones. *Fresh Dressed* is a fascinating chronicle of hip-hop, urban fashion, and the hustle that brought oversized pants and graffiti-drenched jackets from Orchard Street to high fashion catwalks and shopping malls in Middle America. Director Sacha Jenkins's music-drenched history draws from a rich mix of archival materials and in-depth interviews with

rappers, designers, and other industry insiders, including Kanye West, Pharrell Williams, Sean "Puffy" Combs, Nasir Jones, Pusha T, Swizz Beatz, Damon Dash, André Leon Talley, A\$AP Rocky, Marc Eckō, Big Daddy Kane, Kid 'N Play, Russell Simmons, and many others. *Presented in partnership with CNN Films and the Jacob A. Riis Neighborhood Settlement House.* **Tickets: Free.** Reserve your seat online at <a href="movingimage.us/FreshDressed">movingimage.us/FreshDressed</a>. Please note: This screening will take place at Riis Settlement in Long Island City.

#### In My Father's House

# Followed by a discussion with Martha Diaz of the Hip-Hop Education Center FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 7:00 P.M.

Dirs. Ricki Stern, Annie Sundberg. 2015, 93 mins. Digital projection. With Che "Rhymefest" Smith, Brian Tillman, Donnie Smith. Set against the crumbling landscape of Chicago's battered south side, Ricki Stern and Annie Sundberg's documentary chronicles the year-long journey of Grammy-winning rapper Che "Rhymefest" Smith, from homelessness and alcoholism to self-discovery and redemption, as he reunites with his homeless father in a quest to reclaim his neighborhood and discover his true self as a father and son.

#### Shake the Dust

### Followed by a discussion with Martha Diaz of the Hip-Hop Education Center FRIDAY, OCTOBER 23, 7:00 P.M.

Dir. Adam Sjöberg. 2014, 83 mins. Digital projection. From executive producer and rapper Nasir "Nas" Jones and journalist-turned-filmmaker Adam Sjöberg, *Shake the Dust* chronicles the influence of breakdancing, exploring how it strikes a resonant chord in the slums, favelas, and ghettos of the world and far beyond. Showcasing some of the most jaw-dropping breakdancing moves ever committed to film, *Shake the Dust* is an inspiring tribute to the uplifting power of music and movement.

#### Rubble Kings

### With director Shan Nicholson in conversation with Martha Diaz of the Hip-Hop Education Center

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 7:00 P.M.

Dir. Shan Nicholson. 2015, 68 mins. Digital projection. With Benji Melendez, Lloyd Murphy, Jee Sanchez, D.S.R., Rolly Rodriguez. From 1968 to 1975, gangs ruled New York City. Beyond the idealistic hopes of the civil rights movement lay an unfocused rage. Neither law enforcement nor social agency could end the escalating bloodshed. Peace came only through the most unlikely and courageous of events that would change the world for generations to come by giving birth to hip-hop culture. Shan Nicholson, filmmaker, DJ, music producer, and counter/pop culture storyteller, chronicles life during this era of gang rule, telling the story of how a few extraordinary, forgotten people did the impossible, and how their actions impacted New York City and the world over.

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Press contact: Tomoko Kawamoto: <a href="mailto:tkawamoto@movingimage.us">tkawamoto@movingimage.us</a> / 718 777 6830

#### **MUSEUM INFORMATION**

Museum of the Moving Image (<u>movingimage.us</u>) advances the understanding, enjoyment, and appreciation of the art, history, technique, and technology of film, television, and digital media. In its stunning facilities—acclaimed for both its accessibility and bold design—the Museum presents exhibitions; screenings of significant works; discussion programs featuring actors, directors, craftspeople, and business leaders; and education programs which serve more than 50,000 students each year. The Museum also houses a significant collection of moving-image artifacts.

<u>Hours</u>: Wednesday-Thursday, 10:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Friday, 10:30 to 8:00 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, 11:30 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

<u>Film Screenings</u>: Friday evenings, Saturdays and Sundays, and as scheduled. Unless otherwise noted, tickets for screenings are \$12 (\$9 students and seniors / free for Museum members at the Film Lover level and above) will be available for advance purchase online at movingimage.us. Screening tickets include same-day admission to the Museum's galleries. <u>Museum Admission</u>: \$12.00 for adults; \$9.00 for persons over 65 and for students with ID; \$6.00 for children ages 3–12. Children under 3 and Museum members are admitted free. Admission to the galleries is free on Fridays, 4:00 to 8:00 p.m.

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.

<u>Program Information</u>: Telephone: 718 777 6888; Website: <u>movingimage.us</u>
Membership: http://movingimage.us/support/membership or 718 777 6877

The Museum is housed in a building owned by the City of New York and located on the campus of Kaufman Astoria Studios. 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 <a href="mailto:movingimage.us">movingimage.us</a>.