

# MUSEUM OF THE MOVING IMAGE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**MUSEUM OF THE MOVING IMAGE AND THE EUROPEAN UNION NATIONAL INSTITUTES FOR CULTURE PRESENT THE FIRST ANNUAL EDITION OF *PANORAMA EUROPE* IN NEW YORK CITY TO RUN FROM FRIDAY, APRIL 4– SUNDAY, APRIL 13, 2014**

***Festival formerly known as Disappearing Act will present 17 contemporary European feature films and a program of shorts, with four directors in person***

***Albert Rodríguez's Unit 7 is the Opening Night Presentation***

New York, NY, March 14, 2014— Museum of the Moving Image and The European Union National Institutes for Culture (EUNIC) will present ***Panorama Europe***, from Friday, April 4 through Sunday, April 13, a showcase of 17 contemporary European feature films and one program of short films. Known as *Disappearing Act* for its first five years, the newly re-named festival continues the mission of showcasing vital European filmmaking as distribution remains challenging for foreign language films in the United States. *Panorama Europe* gives New York audiences access to what may be their only chance to see these acclaimed films from the festival circuit on the big screen or at all. This year's festival will take place at Museum of the Moving Image in Astoria and at the Bohemian National Hall in Manhattan. It was programmed by David Schwartz, Chief Curator at Museum of the Moving Image.

The opening night film ***Unit 7***, a riveting Spanish thriller, will be shown on Friday, April 4 at Museum of the Moving Image. Director Alberto Rodríguez will appear in person at the screening of his gripping cop thriller set on the mean streets of late-1980s Seville. The film earned 16 Goya nominations.

“European cinema was once viewed by American audiences as the center of film culture,” said Schwartz. “But today, it has become harder for foreign-language films to open theatrically in New York. *Panorama Europe* shows that European cinema is vibrant and varied. If there is a central theme underlying many of the films, it is a fascination with secrets and revelations, on many levels—personal, social, and political.”

The full line-up for *Panorama Europe* is:

- Opening Night: ***Unit 7 (Grupo 7)***, Spain, 2012, directed by Alberto Rodríguez
- ***Balancing Act (Gli Equilibristi)***, Italy, 2012, directed by Ivano De Matteo - U.S. Premiere
- ***Blood Type***, Estonia, 2013, directed by Leeni Linna
- ***The Bucuresti Experiment***, Romania, 2013, screening with *Before the Fall*, Romania, 2011, directed by Tom Wilson
- ***Cinematic Inclusions***, Lithuania, (seven shorts directed by Robertas Verba, Almantas Grikevičius, Henrika Sablevičius, Arūnas Matelis, Audrius Stonys, Algimantas Maceina)
- ***Domestic Life (La Vie Domestique)***, France, 2013, directed by Isabella Czajka - U.S. Premiere
- ***Dream Team 1935***, Latvia, 2012, directed by Aigars Grauba
- ***Fish n' Chips***, Cyprus, 2011, directed by Elias Demetriou - New York Premiere
- ***Honeymoon (Libanky)***, Czech Republic/Slovakia, 2013, directed by Jan Hřebejk - New York Premiere
- ***I Feel Like Disco (Ich fuhl mich Disco)***, Germany, 2012, directed by Axel Ranisch – New York Premiere
- ***Just the Wind (Csak A Szél)***, Hungary, 2012, directed by Bence Fliegauf - New York Premiere
- ***Life Feels Good (Chce Sie Zyc)***, Poland, 2013, directed by Maciej Pieprzyca
- ***Miss Violence***, Greece, 2013, directed by Alexandros Avranas - U.S. Premiere
- ***My Dog Killer (Môj Pes Killer)***, Slovak Republic, 2013, directed by Mira Fornay - New York Premiere
- ***Paradise: Love (Paradies: Liebe)***, Austria, 2012, directed by Ulrich Seidl
- ***Rosie***, Switzerland, 2013, directed by Marcel Gísler - New York Premiere
- ***Seduce Me (Zapelji Me)***, Slovenia, 2013, directed by Marko Santic - U.S. Premiere
- ***Sonja and the Bull (Sonja I Bik)***, Republic of Croatia, 2012, directed by Vlatka Vorkapic - New York Premiere

The complete *Panorama Europe* schedule with descriptions is included below.

The *Panorama Europe* Festival Board includes: Austrian Cultural Forum, Cultural Services of the French Embassy, Czech Center, Goethe-Institut, Greek Consulate and the Onassis Foundation (USA), Hungarian Cultural Center, and Polish Cultural Institute New York. The festival is put on in partnership with: Consulate General of Cyprus, Consulate General of Estonia, Consulate General of the Republic of Croatia and Croatian Audiovisual Centre, Consulate General of the Slovak Republic and Slovak Film Institute, Consulate General of Spain, Consulate General of Switzerland, Consulate of Latvia in New York, Embassy of the Republic of Lithuania, Embassy of the Republic of Slovenia and Slovenian Film Centre, Italian Cultural Institute, Romanian Film Initiative.

### **About European Union National Institutes for Culture**

European Union National Institutes for Culture (EUNIC) in New York present cutting-

edge and thought provoking artistic and intellectual European achievements to New York and U.S. audiences. EUNIC partners with eminent American and European institutions to provide programs in the arts, languages, education, and academia. They are part of a global coalition of national cultural institutes and cultural diplomatic services from the European Union that works in more than 80 cities on all continents. EUNIC New York was founded in 2007, and has full 13 members and 31 associate members and observers.

### **About Museum of the Moving Image**

Museum of the Moving Image ([movingimage.us](http://movingimage.us)) 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.

### **Press contacts:**

Ryan Werner, [ryan@cineticmedia.com](mailto:ryan@cineticmedia.com) / 917 254 7653

(Please send requests for previews, images, interviews, and festival passes to Ryan.)

Tomoko Kawamoto, [tkawamoto@movingimage.us](mailto:tkawamoto@movingimage.us) / 718 777 6830

### **VENUES AND TICKETS**

FRIDAY, APRIL 4–SUNDAY, APRIL 6; FRIDAY, APRIL 11–SUNDAY, APRIL 13:

#### **Museum of the Moving Image**

36-01 35 Avenue, Astoria, New York. Subway: M, R to Steinway Street or N, Q to 36th Avenue. Tickets for *Panorama Europe* films are \$12 each (free for Museum members). Advance purchase available online at [movingimage.us](http://movingimage.us) or by phone at 718 777 6800 (during regular Museum hours). Complimentary industry and press passes are available.

TUESDAY, APRIL 8–THURSDAY, APRIL 10:

#### **Bohemian National Hall**

321 East 73rd Street, between 1st and 2nd Avenues, New York. Subway: 6 to 68th Street Hunter College or 77th Street. Visit [new-york.czechcentres.cz](http://new-york.czechcentres.cz) for more information. Tickets for *Panorama Europe* at the Bohemian National Hall are free. Seating is on a first-come, first-served basis.

### **SCHEDULE AND DESCRIPTIONS FOR 'PANORAMA EUROPE,' APRIL 4–13, 2014**

OPENING NIGHT

#### ***Unit 7 (Grupo 7)***

**With Alberto Rodríguez in person**

FRIDAY, APRIL 4, 7:00 P.M. AT MUSEUM OF THE MOVING IMAGE

**Presented by the Consulate General of Spain**

Spain. Dir. Alberto Rodríguez. 2012, 96 mins. Digital Projection. With Antonio de la Torre, Mario Casas. Narcotics squad Unit 7 tries to clean up the mean streets of late-1980s Seville in this gritty, gripping thriller. In the tradition of 1970s policiers like *The French Connection* and *Serpico*, *Unit 7* balances its high-octane action with engrossing character development, as the four-man squad succumbs to the lure of corruption. Anchored by a bravura turn by Mario Casas as a rookie who goes from wet-behind-the-ears recruit to sadistic rogue operative, this gut-punching crime saga raises probing moral questions while delivering slick genre thrills.

***Domestic Life (La vie domestique)***

SATURDAY, APRIL 5, 2:00 P.M. AT MUSEUM OF THE MOVING IMAGE

**Presented by the Cultural Services of the French Embassy**

France. Dir. Isabelle Czajka. 2013, 93 mins. Digital Projection. **US premiere.** With Emmanuelle Devos, Julie Ferrier. This subtle, sophisticated satire trains an alternately sympathetic and sarcastic eye on a group of women leading lives of quiet desperation in the Parisian suburbs. At its center is Juliette (Emmanuelle Devos, *Kings & Queen*), a housewife with a boorish husband who's struggling to balance banal domestic responsibilities with career ambitions. Meanwhile, real tragedy hovers in the margins, throwing this tale of petty bourgeois problems into sharp relief. Based on the best-selling novel *Arlington Park* by Rachel Cusk, *La vie domestique* offers a sly, trenchant commentary on modern motherhood.

***Balancing Act (Gli equilibristi)***

SATURDAY, APRIL 5, 4:30 P.M. AT MUSEUM OF THE MOVING IMAGE

**Presented by the Italian Cultural Institute**

Italy. Dir. Ivano De Matteo. 2012, 107 mins. Digital Projection. **U.S. premiere.** With Valerio Mastandrea, Barbora Bobulova, Rosabell Laurenti Sellers. Following an impulsive extra-marital affair, Roman husband and father Giulio (comedian Valerio Mastandrea, in what *Variety* dubbed "a superlative, arguably career-best performance") is unceremoniously thrown out of the house by his wife. So begins his humiliating free-fall into the societal gutter, rendered with unsparing, nigh-documentary realism. This keenly observed, sometimes painfully authentic portrait of tough times amid economic collapse is laced with brash Italianate humor.

***Paradise: Love (Paradies: Liebe)***

SATURDAY, APRIL 5, 7:00 P.M. AT MUSEUM OF THE MOVING IMAGE

**Presented by the Austrian Cultural Forum**

Austria. Dir. Ulrich Seidl. 2012, 120 mins. Digital Projection. With Margarethe Tiesel, Peter Kazungu. Gloom, doom, and hanky-panky in the tropics: looking for a little tenderness, middle-aged divorcee Teresa jets off to Kenya on holiday, where sex with the buff African "beach boys" is plentiful—and ultimately ruinous. The first film in Austrian provocateur Seidl's (*Dog Days*, *Import/Export*) rich and ambitious *Paradise* trilogy is an unflinching look at love, loneliness, and sexual tourism in a post-colonialist "paradise" that's at once harrowing and darkly comic, its spectacle of human folly made strangely moving by the director's peculiar, but deeply felt sense of humanism.

***Dream Team 1935***

SUNDAY, APRIL 6, 12:00 P.M. AT MUSEUM OF THE MOVING IMAGE

**Presented by the Consulate of Latvia in New York**

Latvia. Dir. Aigars Grauba. 2012, 120 mins. Digital Projection. With Jānis Āmanis, Inga Alsiņa.

Based on the true story of the little Latvian basketball team that could, this triumphant sports drama meticulously evokes the uneasy era between the two world wars, when Europe's nations came together for the very first European Basketball Championships. The unlikely heroes: a team of scrappy Latvian underdogs who succeed against all odds, including their country's own bureaucratic interference. Lavishly mounted and excitingly shot to convey the visceral thrill of the sport, this uplifting tale of hoop dreams is a mighty effort from the burgeoning Latvian film industry.

***Rosie***

SUNDAY, APRIL 6, 2:30 P.M. AT MUSEUM OF THE MOVING IMAGE

**Presented by the Consulate General of Switzerland**

Switzerland. Dir. Marcel Gisler. 2013, 106 mins. Digital Projection. **New York premiere.** With Sibylle Brunner, Fabian Krüger, Judith Hoffmann. A sad-sack, 40-something gay novelist moves back to his rural Swiss hometown to care for his ailing, alcoholic mother, dredging up their complicated emotional history in this bittersweet, dryly humorous family drama. Nominated for six Swiss Film Awards and boasting a rollicking performance by Sibylle Brunner as the saucy, strong-willed matriarch, *Rosie* offers penetrating observations on messy family dynamics, as well as contemporary gay relationships.

***Life Feels Good (Chce sie żyć)***

SUNDAY, APRIL 6, 5:00 P.M. AT MUSEUM OF THE MOVING IMAGE

**Presented by the Polish Cultural Institute New York**

Poland. Dir. Maciej Pieprzyca. 2013, 107 mins. Digital Projection. With Dawid Ogrodnik, Dorota Kolak. This uplifting drama, which swept the audience and jury awards at the Montreal World Film Festival, chronicles the life of Mateusz (Dawid Ogrodnik) who was born with cerebral palsy and diagnosed at a young age as mentally disabled with no ability to communicate. Viewers meet the protagonist when he is 30 and institutionalized, faced by a committee of physicians who are about to decide his future. The story, shown in flashback, highlights Mateusz's struggle to prove to everyone that despite his physical handicap, he is in fact highly intelligent and capable.

***Seduce Me (Zapelji me)***

SUNDAY, APRIL 6, 7:30 P.M. AT MUSEUM OF THE MOVING IMAGE

**Presented by the Embassy of the Republic of Slovenia and the Slovenian Film Centre**

Slovenia. Dir. Marko Šantić. 2013, 83 mins. Digital Projection. **U.S. premiere.** With Janko Mandić, Nina Rakovec. Leaving behind the orphanage he has called home for the past nine years, 19-year-old Luka prepares to strike out on his own for the first time, starting with a visit to his father's grave. But a bombshell revelation throws everything he thought he knew about his family into question. Finding solace only in a budding romance with Ajda, a colleague at the meatpacking plant he works at, Luka soon sees that relationship threatened by a secret within her own family. This hard-hitting Slovenian drama is a bold, emotionally charged portrait of young love under siege.

***Blood Type***

TUESDAY, APRIL 8, 7:00 P.M. AT BOHEMIAN NATIONAL HALL

SUNDAY, APRIL 13, 12:00 P.M. AT MUSEUM OF THE MOVING IMAGE

**Presented by the Consulate General of Estonia**

Estonia. Dir. Leeni Linna. 2013. 67min. *Blood Type* is a powerful documentary showing the personal struggles, daily dangers, and haunting fears of Estonian soldiers fighting in the war in Afghanistan. The symbol of blood—a spiritual element that gives provenance to the bond of ‘blood brothers’—embodies both the cost of war and the soldiers’ ties to their peers, family, and the locals. Penetratingly, *Blood Type* captures two years in the lives of these soldiers, while contemplating the irreparable imprints that will be left on the land, and the hearts and bodies of the men once international forces withdraw from the war.

### ***Cinematic Inclusions***

**Introduced by Introduced by Lina Kaminskaite-Jancoriene, Vilnius University, Lithuania**

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 9, 7:00 P.M. AT BOHEMIAN NATIONAL HALL

SATURDAY, APRIL 12, 12:00 P.M. AT MUSEUM OF THE MOVING IMAGE

**Presented by the Embassy of the Republic of Lithuania**

Lithuania. 142 mins. Digital Projection. **New York premiere.** This shorts program brings together seven of the most important Lithuanian documentaries from the 1960s to the 1990s, from lyrical, defiantly nationalistic works that broke free of Soviet propaganda, to post-USSR *cinéma vérité* portraits of Lithuanian life. Steeped in poetry, these vital films create a fascinating mosaic of a country’s people and history. Program features: ***The Old Man and the Land.*** Dir. Robertas Verba. 1965, 20 mins. ***The Dreams of the Centenarian.*** Dir. Robertas Verba. 1969, 20 mins. ***Time Passes through the City.*** Dir. Almantas Grikevičius. 1966, 20 mins. ***A Trip Across the Misty Meadows.*** Dir. Henrikas Šablevičius. 1973, 10 mins. ***Ten Minutes before the Flight of Icarus.*** Dir. Arūnas Matelis. 1990, 10 mins. ***Earth of the Blind.*** Dir. Audrius Stonys. 1992, 24 mins. ***The Black Box.*** Dir. Algimantas Maceina. 1994, 38 mins.

### ***My Dog Killer (Môj pes Killer)***

THURSDAY, APRIL 10, 7:00 P.M. AT BOHEMIAN NATIONAL HALL

**Presented by the Consulate General of the Slovak Republic and Slovak Film Institute**

Slovakia/Czech Republic. Dir. Mira Fornay. 2013, 90 mins. Digital Projection. **New York premiere.** With Adam Mihál, Marián Kuruc, Irena Bendová. In a desolate corner of rural Slovakia, vacant-eyed skinhead Marek spends most of his time training his dog, Killer, and hanging out with the local neo-Nazis. But when he discovers he has a half-Gypsy brother—a serious taboo in this racist region—Marek is driven to drastic extremes. A Tiger Award winner at the Rotterdam Film Festival, this riveting, naturalistic drama conveys quiet intensity via hushed and hypnotic long takes.

### ***Honeymoon (Libanky)***

**With Jan Hřebejk in person**

FRIDAY, APRIL 11, 7:00 P.M. AT MUSEUM OF THE MOVING IMAGE

**Presented by the Czech Center**

Czech Republic/Slovakia. Dir. Jan Hřebejk. 2013, 92 mins. Digital Projection. **New York premiere.** With Ana Geislerova, Stanislav Majer, Jiri Cerny. Tereza and Radim’s sun-dappled country wedding takes a dark turn when an uninvited stranger shows up bearing an ominous gift: a funeral urn full of ashes. From there, the revelations begin to pour forth in this edgy, elegantly constructed drama of long-buried secrets and lies. Czech maestro Jan Hřebejk assembles a powerhouse ensemble cast headed by his frequent leading lady, Ana Geislerova, “one of the best actresses of her generation.” (*The Hollywood Reporter*)

***Just the Wind (Csak a szél)***

**With Bence Fliegauf in person**

SATURDAY, APRIL 12, 2:00 P.M. AT MUSEUM OF THE MOVING IMAGE

**Presented by the Hungarian Cultural Center**

Hungary. Dir. Bence Fliegauf. 2012, 86 mins. Digital Projection. **New York premiere.** With Katalin Toldi, Gyöngyi Lendvai, Lajos Sárkány. A Romany community struggles to scrape by after a series of racially motivated murders in this haunting drama from one of Hungary's most esteemed auteurs. Zeroing in on 24 anxious hours in the life of one family, the film gathers in intensity as ethnic tensions simmer and threaten to explode, the sense of unease masterfully heightened by the uncanny sound design. Winner of the Jury Grand Prix at the Berlin Film Festival, this alternately lyrical and *vérité*-gritty work offers an unforgettable, eye-opening look at the plight of the Gypsy people.

***Fish n' Chips***

SATURDAY, APRIL 12, 5:00 P.M. AT MUSEUM OF THE MOVING IMAGE

**Presented by the Consulate General of Cyprus**

Cyprus. Dir. Elias Demetriou. 2011, 102 mins. Digital Projection. **New York premiere.** With Marios Ioannou, Marlene Kaminsky. London ex-pats Karin and Andy re-locate to his home country of Cyprus so he can reconnect with his roots and open a fish and chips shop—but is their venture doomed from the start? Cypriot/Greek/British director Elias Demetriou investigates the complex nature of multinational ethnic identity in this bittersweet drama of the immigrant experience, which poignantly wonders: Can you really go home again?

***Miss Violence***

**With Alexandros Avranas and Eleni Roussinou in person**

SATURDAY, APRIL 12, 7:30 P.M. AT MUSEUM OF THE MOVING IMAGE

**Presented by the Greek Consulate and the Onassis Foundation (USA)**

Greece. Dir. Alexandros Avranas. 2013, 99 mins. Digital Projection. **U.S. premiere.** With Themis Panou, Eleni Roussinou, Reni Pittaki. Unhappy birthday: The day of her party, 11-year-old Angeliki jumps to her death from her family's fourth-floor balcony. The ensuing investigation into her seemingly inexplicable suicide gradually reveals unspeakable horrors lurking beneath the family's eerily placid surface. The latest in the remarkable wave of iconoclastic new Greek cinema that yielded *Dogtooth* and *Attenberg*, *Miss Violence* unfolds with a skin-crawling sense of deadpan detachment before it explodes in shattering tragedy. Avranas was awarded the Silver Lion for Best Director and actor Themis Panou won Best Actor at the Venice Film Festival.

***The Bucuresti Experiment (Experimentul Bucuresti)***

SUNDAY, APRIL 13, 2:00 P.M. AT MUSEUM OF THE MOVING IMAGE

**Presented by the Romanian Film Initiative**

Romania. Dir. Tom Wilson. 2013, 68 mins. Digital Projection. With Carmen Anton, Andrei Juvina. Director Tom Wilson daringly unearths the real story of the 1989 revolution in Romania, exposing a disquieting alternative history of secret psychological engineering—the only trouble is, where does fact end and fiction begin? Playing a beguiling game of cat and mouse with the audience, Wilson pitches this fascinating experimental documentary in a gray zone somewhere between urgent exposé and sly mockumentary, without tipping his hand as to which it actually is until the final exhilarating minutes. Preceded by the director's debut short *Before the Fall*

(2011).

***I Feel Like Disco (Ich fuhl mich Disco)***

SUNDAY, APRIL 13, 4:30 P.M. AT MUSEUM OF THE MOVING IMAGE

**Presented by Goethe-Institut**

Germany. Dir. Axel Ranisch. 2013, 93 mins. Digital projection. **New York premiere.** With Frithjof Gawenda, Heiko Pinkowski, Robert Alexander Baer. Teenager Florian Herbst is happiest when his dad isn't at home. Then he can dance around the house with his mom, wear crazy costumes, and forget his troubles. But a sudden turn of events removes mom from the household, and father and son are left to cope with each other, just as Florian is coming to terms with his budding sexuality. This assured "musical, sporting tragicomedy for the whole family" is a stylish, deadpan, and deeply moving film by an exciting emerging talent, Axel Ranisch, who was a student of Rosa von Praunheim.

***Sonja and the Bull (Sonja i bik)***

SUNDAY, APRIL 13, 7:30 P.M. AT MUSEUM OF THE MOVING IMAGE

**Presented by the Consulate General of the Republic of Croatia and the Croatian Audiovisual Centre**

Croatia. Dir. Vlatka Vorkapic. 2012, 103 mins. Digital Projection. **New York premiere.** With Judita Frankovic, Goran Bogdan. Set in the unlikely world of bullfighting, this delightfully offbeat comedy concerns Sonja, a big city animal-rights activist lobbying to end the sport. Panicked over the media attention she's received, a pro-bullfighting contingent from the country approaches Sonja with a seriously bizarre, put-up-or-shut-up wager she cannot ignore. An enormous box-office success in Croatia, *Sonja and the Bull* is a winningly acted and directed mix of irreverent satire and sweet-natured romance.

**MUSEUM INFORMATION**

Hours: 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.

Film Screenings: Friday evenings, Saturdays and Sundays, and as scheduled. Tickets for regular film screenings are included with paid Museum admission and free for members.

Museum Admission: \$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. 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](http://movingimage.us)

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 [movingimage.us](http://movingimage.us).

###