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ROOFTOP CINEMA RETURNS TO MADISON MUSEUM OF CONTEMPORARY ART'S ROOFTOP SCULPTURE GARDEN

Screenings Are Set for August 4, 11, and 25, and September 1.

Rooftop Cinema
Features Four
Independent Films
Screened at Sunset
on Thursdays.

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MADISON, WI—Rooftop Cinema, Madison Museum of Contemporary Art's (MMoCA's) popular outdoor film series, returns this August with four critically acclaimed films. Screenings take place in the Museum's Rooftop Sculpture Garden, where audience members can place their camp chairs or blankets and settle in for movies under the stars. Films begin at sundown, approximately 8 PM.

Admission is \$7 per screening, and free for MMoCA members and those 18 and younger. Tickets are available for sale on the Rooftop starting at 7:30 PM the night of each show. Screenings relocate to the MMoCA Lecture Hall if rain is predicted.

This year's lineup features three films produced in the US, and one produced in the UK.

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2022 MMoCA Rooftop Cinema Film Lineup

Thursday, August 4 | 8 PM

***The American Sector* | Courtney Stephens, Pacho Velez | USA | 2020 | 69**

Acclaimed documentarians Courtney Stephens and Pacho Velez (*Manakamana*, *The Reagan Show*) explore how the preservation and display of relics from the Cold War era can inform us about current American culture and politics. Stephens and Velez visit sections of the Berlin Wall on display in over 75 locations across the United States, ranging from the serious (Fort Benning, Georgia) to the bizarre (a casino in Las Vegas).

Thursday, August 11 | 8 PM

***Poly Styrene: I Am a Cliché* | Celeste Bell, Paul Sng | UK | 2021 | 96 minutes**

Poly Styrene was the first woman of color in the England to front a successful rock band, X-Ray Specs. She introduced the world to a new sound of rebellion, using her unconventional voice to sing about identity, consumerism, and everything she saw unfolding in late 1970s Britain. Misogyny, racism, and mental illness plagued Poly's life, scarring her relationship with her daughter Celeste, who became the unwitting guardian of her mother's legacy. Celeste examines her mother's diaries and a previously unopened artistic archive to better understand Poly the icon and Poly the mother.

Thursday, August 25 | 8 PM

***The Village Detective: a song cycle* | Bill Morrison | USA | 2021 | 81 minutes**

In 2016, a fishing boat off the shores of Iceland caught four reels of 35mm film, seemingly of Soviet provenance, in its nets. The discovery wasn't a lost work of major importance, but an incomplete print of a popular Soviet comedy from 1969, starring the beloved Russian actor Mihail Žarov. Bill Morrison, whose previous films *Decasia* and *Dawson City: Frozen Time* utilize lost, deteriorating footage, believes that the water-damaged print can be seen as a fitting reflection on the film work of Žarov, who re-emerges from the bottom of the sea 50 years later like a Russian Rip Van Winkle. Morrison uses the discovery as a jumping off point for his latest meditation on cinema's past.

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MADISON MUSEUM OF CONTEMPORARY ART

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Thursday, September 1 | 8 p.m.

***North by Current* | Angelo Madsen Minax | USA | 2021 | 86 minutes**

North by Current is a visual rumination on the understated relationships between mothers and children, truths and myths, losses and gains. After the inconclusive death of his young niece, filmmaker Angelo Madsen Minax returns to his rural Michigan hometown, preparing to make a film about a broken criminal justice system. Instead, he pivots to excavate the depths of generational addiction, Christian fervor, and trans embodiment. Lyrically assembled images, decades of home movies, and ethereal narration form an idiosyncratic and poetic undertow that guide a viewer through lifetimes and relationships. Like the relentless Michigan seasons, the meaning of family shifts, as Madsen, his sister, and his parents strive tirelessly to accept each other. *North by Current* was featured on the prestigious PBS documentary series *P.O.V.*, and won the Jury Award for Best Documentary at the Milwaukee Film Festival.

Rooftop Cinema is a program of MMoCA's education department and is curated by James Kreul. MMoCA's film programming is generously funded by maiahaus and Venture Investors, LLC.

About MMoCA

The Madison Museum of Contemporary Art's galleries are always admission-free. The Museum's vision is to be an organization that fosters the exchange of ideas and creates experiences that will inspire a wide audience; be a nexus for the work of emerging and established regional, national, and international artists; serve as a catalyst for the continued development of a vigorous community of artists; and provide a forum that will encourage people to be challenged by, reflect on, and make connections between art and the world around them.

The Museum includes four galleries and The Shop, a space to provide interactive contemporary art experiences and educational workshops to the community. The Museum's Rooftop Sculpture Garden provides an urban oasis with an incredible view, making it a lovely setting for cinema, weddings and milestone events, and more. Please visit mmoqa.org to learn more.

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