



Media Contact: Agnes Gomes-Koizumi  
AGK Media Group  
[agnes@agkmediagroup.com](mailto:agnes@agkmediagroup.com) / 323-937-5488

**LOS ANGELES ART SHOW PARTNERS WITH THE ACADEMY OF MOTION  
PICTURE ARTS & SCIENCES FOR FIRST ANNUAL 'FILMS ON ART'  
DOCUMENTARY FILM SERIES**

2-DAY 'FILMS ON ART' DOCUMENTARY FILM SERIES FEATURING 8 ACADEMY AWARD WINNING AND NOMINATED FILMS WILL OCCUR DURING LOS ANGELES ARTS MONTH IN JANUARY 2009

(Los Angeles, CA—December 2008) The Los Angeles Art Show in conjunction with the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences and the USC School of Cinema Arts will present the First Annual *Films on Art* film series. Free to the public, this series will take place January 17-18, 2009 and will coincide with Los Angeles Art Month. The *Films on Art* series will feature eight documentary films focusing on or featuring artists and the fine arts. All films will be shown at the USC Eileen Norris Cinema Theatre located on USC Campus.

Eight Academy Award-winning and -nominated documentary films will be featured during the two-day film festival. Spanning five decades, each film has been critically celebrated for artistic insight and creative ingenuity.

The two-day program is divided into two themes, *Art Masters* and the *Southern California Connection*. The *Art Masters* grouping will feature a selection of films about celebrated artists Michelangelo di Lodovico Buonarroti Simoni, Marc Chagall and Christo Vladimirov Javacheff. Films include: *The Titan: Story Of Michelangelo; Chagall* and *Christo's Valley Curtain*. The Michelangelo and Chagall films follow the artists through their early works, influences and lifetime achievements. The Christo film documents the artist's famous Valley Curtain project in which the artist stretched a 400-meter-long cloth across the Rifle Gap in Colorado.

The Art Masters program on Saturday January 17 will also feature three guest speakers that will be leading a topical panel discussion on films on art and artists. Speakers include Leonard Neubauer, writer of *Chagall*, Norman Borisoff, writer of *The Titan: The Story of Michelangelo* and Barry Rubinow, editor of *Red Groom: Sunflower in a Hothouse*.

The *Southern California Connection* will feature films about acclaimed local artists, artists exhibiting in Southern California and films about artists that have been inspired or influenced by the Southern California art scene. Working in art media from painting, sculpture, photography and lithography, this film grouping highlights USC art professor Merrell Gage, *Red Grooms*, Sally Mann and Matsumi Kanemitsu. Each of these films offers unique historical and cultural insight and explores topics including: art as a teaching medium, the ephemeral nature of art and the criteria for what is acceptable in art and what is not. The *Southern California Connection* is comprised of four films; *The Face of Lincoln*, *Red Grooms: Sunflower in a Hothouse*, *Blood Ties: The Life and Work of Sally Mann* and *Four Stones for Kanemitsu*.

The *Films on Art* series will begin at 7:30pm with doors opening at 7:00pm on both days. Admission is free and seating is available on a first come, first serve basis. The Eileen Norris Cinema Theatre is located on USC Campus, 850 W. 34<sup>th</sup> Street, Los Angeles CA 90007, adjacent to the South East corner of the USC Cinema Complex. Street parking is available on Jefferson Ave and campus lots are available at a flat rate of \$8.00.

The *Films on Art* series is part of the Los Angeles Art Show's educational programming. Visitors to the *Films on Art* series will receive a \$5.00 discount on entrance to the LA Art Show with film series brochure. The LA Art Show will take place January 21-25, 2009 at the Los Angeles Convention Center 1201 South Figueroa Street, Los Angeles, CA 90015. Secure onsite parking is available for a \$12 fee. For more information, please call KR Martindale Show Management at 310-822-9145 or email [Info@LAArtshow.com](mailto:Info@LAArtshow.com). For media inquiries please contact Agnes Gomes-Koizumi at [agnes@agkmediagroup.com](mailto:agnes@agkmediagroup.com) or call 323-937-5488.

## Films on Arts Series Programming

**Saturday January 17, 2009**

**Time: 7:30pm (Doors Open 7:00pm)**

**Program: Art Masters**

### **Panel Discussion: Film on Art**

Guest Speakers:

Leonard Neubauer, Writer of *Chagall*,

Norman Borisoff Writer of *The Titan: The Story of Michelangelo*

Barry Rubinow, editor of *Red Groom: Sunflower in a Hothouse*.

### **The Titan: Story of Michelangelo (1951) 70 minutes**

The life and works of the great artist Michelangelo Buonarroti are shown against the historical background of his time in Richard Lyford's Oscar-winning portrait. The film begins with Michaelangelo's earliest artworks, and follows his life and career as he achieves lasting fame. Lyford takes detailed looks at some of the artist's most renowned creations and reveals the depths of their beauty, symmetry and precision.

Produced by Robert Snyder, Ralph Alswag, Robert Flaherty

Directed by Richard Lyford

Written by Norman Broisoff

### **Chagall (1963) 18 minutes**

Vincent Price narrates this examination of the work of Russian artist Marc Chagall (1887-1985). The film traces Chagall's youth in a Russian village, his life in France before and after World War II and his residence in the United States during the Nazi occupation. Chagall's reverence for nature, his love of color, and efforts to free himself from traditional forms of expression are explored as the filmmakers document the evolution of the artist's stained-glass windows created for the Synagogue of the Hadassah University Medical Center in Jerusalem, Israel.

Produced by Simon Schiffrin

Written by Leonard Neubauer

Narrated by Vincent Price

### **Christo's Valley Curtain (1973) 27 minutes**

This film by acclaimed documentarians Albert and David Maysles is the permanent record of a project that rocked the artistic community and turned skeptical iron-workers into astonished fans. Conceived and financed by Christo and his wife and partner Jeanne-Claude, "Christo's Valley Curtain" was a nine-ton orange nylon polyamide fabric which stretched a full quarter-mile and was suspended from four steel cables 365 feet above Rifle Gap, Colorado (pop. 2,150). The Maysles brothers document both the work itself as well as the workers who hung the curtain across the valley as they discovered a new form of art.

Produced and directed by Albert Maysles and David Maysles  
Directed by Ellen Hovde

**Sunday January 18, 2009**

**Time: 7:30pm (Doors Open 7:00pm)**

**Program: The Southern California Connection**

**The Face of Lincoln (1955) ca. 20 min.**

This compelling documentary short shows USC art professor Merrell Gage as he sculps President Abraham Lincoln while lecturing about the great man. Starting with an egg shaped mass of clay, Mr. Gage helps you see the face of Lincoln change with the years. The young rugged face of Lincoln's early New Salem period becomes the tired, lined face of the Civil War president.

Produced by Wilbur T. Blume

**Red Grooms: Sunflower in a Hothouse (1986) 21 min.**

A unique and vibrant artist, Red Grooms' work and aesthetic development are traced as the artist takes us on a guided tour of his "picto-sculptoramas:" a blend of painting and sculpture which are three-dimensional and may be walked into. Grooms' art environments are juxtaposed in the film with street scenes of New York and his hometown of Nashville, Tennessee -- sources and inspiration for his perspective and imagery.

Produced by Tom Neff, Madeline Bell

**Blood Ties: The Life and Work of Sally Mann (1993) 30 min.**

Sally Mann was criticized for the images in her controversial 1992 collection *Immediate Family* which included nude depictions of her own children. As Mann, backed by her husband and children, vigorously defends herself, the film raises questions about the rights and responsibilities of motherhood.

Produced by Steven Cantor, Peter Spierer

**Four Stones for Kanemitsu (1973) 28 min.**

Terry Sanders captures the collaboration between artist Matsumi Kanemitsu and master printer Serge Lozingot as they create a four-color lithograph. Beginning with the graining of the stones, the filmmakers follow the process through the aesthetic and technical challenges in drawing, printing, and proofing this complex image.

Produced by June Wayne

Directed by Terry Sanders