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MEDIA RELEASE



MoPA Presents
The SAN DIEGO PREMIERE of the documentary film:
Meeting Andrei Tarkovsky

Wednesday, October 28, 2009
Film begins at 7:00 p.m.

(San Diego, CA) - For Immediate Release

EVENT SUMMARY:

The Museum of Photographic Arts (MoPA) in Balboa Park presents the San Diego premiere screening of the documentary film, *Meeting Andrei Tarkovsky* (2008). The screening will take place on Wednesday, October 28, 2009, in the Irwin & Joan Jacobs Theater at MoPA. A question and answer session with filmmaker Dmitry Trakovsky will follow the screening. Sale of the DVD and signing with the filmmaker will follow in the Museum Store, after the program. Admission price is \$8 for the general public, \$6 for students, and free to MoPA members.

FILM DETAILS:

To honor the twentieth anniversary of world-renown director Andrei Tarkovsky's death, filmmaker Dmitry Trakovsky set out in search of his favorite director's legacy. His journey leads him to poignant interviews in California, Italy, Sweden, and, finally, Russia as he attempts to understand the meaning of one of Tarkovsky's most enigmatic beliefs: that death doesn't exist. The documentary was completed in 2008, and won the Jury Special Mention Award at the São Paulo International Film Festival in Brazil.

ABOUT ANDREI TARKOVSKY:

Considered to be one of the most important film directors in the history of cinema, Andrei Tarkovsky was born on 1932 in a small village in the Soviet Union. As a director, he would defy the suffocating pressure of the Soviet film industry to develop a unique cinematic language through seven feature films, including *Ivan's Childhood* (1962) and the meditative epic *Andrei Rublev* (1966) — considered by some as one of the greatest films ever made. Tarkovsky continued to work in Russia throughout the 1970's, completing *Solaris* (1972), *The Mirror* (1975), and *Stalker* (1979) despite ruthless Soviet censorship, which deemed his films too ideologically dangerous because of their free-thinking approach to the mysteries of

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human existence. These constraints prompted Tarkovsky to defect to the West where, during the last years of his life, he filmed *Nostalghia* (1983) and *The Sacrifice* (1986). Tarkovsky died of cancer at age 54 in December 1986, and is buried at the Sainte-Geneviève-des-Bois Cemetery near Paris, France.

ABOUT DMITRY TRAKOVSKY:

Born in February of 1985 in Moscow, Dmitry Trakovsky grew up in suburban Los Angeles after his family immigrated to the United States in 1987. While studying at the University of California Santa Cruz, Dmitry took a strong interest in the nature of images, and began exploring the spiritual possibilities of expression that the language of film offered. Recently, Dmitry founded his own production company, Trakovsky Film, LLC.

More information at trakovskyfilm.com.

Press Opportunities:

Please contact Aki Martin, Marketing & Communications Manager at 619-238-7559, ext. 203 or via email (martin@mopa.org) with any press-related needs.

MoPA Information:

The Museum of Photographic Arts (MoPA) is one of the few museums in the country devoted to photography, film and video. Since its founding in 1983, MoPA has been dedicated to collecting, preserving and exhibiting the entire spectrum of the photographic medium. The museum's endeavors consistently address cultural, historical and social issues through its exhibitions and public programs.

Visit: mopa.org for information about exhibitions, programs and special events.

- **Hours:** Tuesday - Sunday 10 am-5 pm. Closed Mondays.
- **Gallery admission:** \$6 adults; \$4 students, seniors and military; FREE to members and children under 12. Admission is free to San Diego County residents and active military members on the second Tuesday of the month.
- **Docent Tours** for student groups (elementary through college) are available free of charge with advance reservations. Tours for non-students are also available, with advance reservations, at a discounted admission rate.

The Museum of Photographic Arts is accredited by the **American Association of Museums** and is a member-supported, private, non-profit institution. Additional support for museum programs is provided in part by the **City of San Diego Commission for Arts and Culture, the Joan and Irwin Jacobs Fund of the Jewish Community Foundation, the Weingart-Price Fund, the San Diego Foundation, Patrons of the Prado, and the National Endowment for the Arts.**

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