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BAM debuts the Steinberg Screen at the BAM Harvey Theater: a 35-foot-by-19-foot state-of-the-art movie screen gifted by Brooklyn philanthropists Joseph and Diane Steinberg

Unique and historic new space for cinema is one of the city's few venues tailored expressly for live performance as well as film

Starting in June, the Steinberg Screen at the BAM Harvey sets stage for a blockbuster summer, with programming highlights including:

Celebratory BAMcinemaFest 5th anniversary events (including Opening and Closing Night, Jun 19 & Jun 28)

Historic silent film series *The Hitchcock 9*, with live music (Jun 29—Jul 3)

Big Screen Epics series, featuring *2001: A Space Odyssey*, *Lawrence of Arabia*, *Doctor Zhivago*, *The Godfather I & II* (Jul 3—23)

Special sneak previews, including director Nicolas Winding Refn's *Only God Forgives*, with Refn, Ryan Gosling, and Kristin Scott Thomas in attendance (Jul 16)

First-run summer films—from animation to action to art-house—begin Jul 26

Press and industry Steinberg Screen preview event to be held June 18 at the BAM Harvey (651 Fulton Street) at noon

Brooklyn, NY/May 30, 2013—One of the most beloved theaters in New York, the 834-seat BAM Harvey, will double as the city's most unique cinema destination courtesy of a gift from Brooklyn philanthropists Joseph and Diane Steinberg. The 35-foot-by-19-foot Steinberg Screen will be the largest 5D (both 3-D and 2-D capable) screen in Brooklyn, with superlative sound to match: 42 surround sound loudspeakers are permanently mounted to the side and rear

walls of the theater, and adjustable acoustic panels have been added to provide a state-of-the-art cinema experience for all patrons.

“After we launched BAM Rose Cinemas as well as BAMcinématek, our repertory film program, to tremendous success in the late 90s,” says BAM President Karen Brooks Hopkins, “we learned that the BAM audience is also a film audience, in a big way. The Steinberg Screen in many ways is our gift to them, a space unlike any other in Brooklyn which will enable us to do more, whether it be hosting an entire orchestra to accompany a film with live music, or throwing a film premiere in one of the most beautiful spaces in the city.” With plans for concessions that incorporate local purveyors, the Steinberg Screen at the BAM Harvey Theater is set to become a destination for everyone from film connoisseurs drawn by innovative, site-specific BAMcinématek programming to locals wanting to see the latest 3-D summer smash in a blockbuster setting.

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To RSVP to the Steinberg Screen press and industry preview, contact Lisa Thomas at lthomas@BAM.org or 718.724.8023.

About the Steinberg Screen

The Steinberg Screen digital cinema projection system upgrade, a gift from Brooklyn philanthropists Joseph and Diane Steinberg, consists of a 35-ft-by-19-ft front projection screen and a 30,000-lumen cinema projector, also capable of 3D presentations, utilizing the RealD projection system, making it the largest 5D screen in all of Brooklyn. It also features 42 surround sound loudspeakers permanently mounted to the side and rear walls of the theater, and adjustable acoustic panels. “It seems that these days screens and screening rooms are getting smaller and smaller,” notes BAMcinématek’s program director Florence Almozini. “But the new Steinberg Screen is the largest in Brooklyn. I think that fits perfectly with BAM’s track-record as a trailblazer regarding all forms of art.” In addition to these high tech bona fides, the Steinberg Screen offers audiences the unique opportunity to see film in a historic space that has hosted memorable performances by everyone from Cate Blanchett (in *A Streetcar Named Desire*) to Kevin Spacey (in *Richard III*).

The history of the BAM Harvey Theater

In 1904, The Majestic Theater, with 1700 seats, opened at 651 Fulton Street with a stage production of *The Wizard of Oz*. Over the years its fortunes ebbed and flowed, and it was at various times a vaudeville house, a movie theater, and a porn palace, before shuttering in 1968. Its current incarnation as a home for world-class theater and performance was the result of a great bond between two legends; when director Peter Brook sought a suitable BAM home for his nine-hour English-language adaptation of *The Mahabharata*, inspiration struck former BAM President and Executive Producer Harvey Lichtenstein on his daily walk past a boarded up old movie theater at 651 Fulton Street. Brook loved the space and it was soon renovated by Hugh Hardy to hold 874 seats, opening in time for the 1987 Next Wave Festival. (In 1999, upon Lichtenstein’s retirement, it was re-named the BAM Harvey.) Since 1987 it has hosted numerous popular and critically lauded productions, including three seasons of *The*

Bridge Project, *Medea* (with Fiona Shaw), *King Lear* (with Ian McKellen), and Paul Simon's *The Capeman*. In 2012, the space was again remodeled with a seat upgrade and an 834-seat capacity, as well as the addition of new stage entrances.

Steinberg Screen at the BAM Harvey Theater summer programming

BAMcinemaFest (Jun 19—28) is a 10-day film festival presenting the best emerging voices in American independent cinema. This year its Opening Night doubles as the Steinberg Screen's official premiere. With 22 New York premieres and one world premiere, the young festival—dubbed “New York's best independent film showcase” by *The New Yorker*—includes films culled from Sundance, Cannes, Toronto, Berlin, Rotterdam, Locarno, True/False, and SXSW. On June 25, the Steinberg Screen at the BAM Harvey hosts a special event in conjunction with BAMcinemaFest, the New York premiere of *Peaches Does Herself*, a self-directed anti-jukebox musical by the gender-and genre-bending performer, followed by a live performance in BAMcafé. The 2013 edition marks BAMcinemaFest's fifth anniversary, which will be commemorated with more premieres than ever before and special screenings at the Steinberg Screen at the BAM Harvey. For more information, visit: bam.org/bamcinemafest

The Hitchcock 9 (Jun 19—Jul 3) is a national touring series featuring groundbreaking, all-new restorations of the nine surviving silent films directed by the master of suspense. All of the films will be shown in new restorations on DCP, with newly commissioned scores. The opening weekend's screenings will be presented on the Steinberg Screen at the BAM Harvey, with live accompaniment provided by the Mont Alto Motion Picture Orchestra, a chamber quintet dedicated to reviving the silent film music tradition, as well as acclaimed silent film accompanist Stephen Horne. Renowned pianist Steve Sterner provides accompaniment for screenings at BAM Rose Cinemas. The Hitchcock 9 touring festival is a joint venture of the BFI (British Film Institute), Park Circus Films, and Rialto Pictures. For more information, visit: bam.org/thehitchcock-9

On July 16 at 7:30pm, BAMcinématek presents a sneak preview of director Nicolas Winding Refn's new film, ***Only God Forgives***, with in-person appearances by stars Ryan Gosling and Kristin Scott Thomas. *Only God Forgives* is a Radius Release, opening wide on July 19.

BAMcinématek presents **Big Screen Epics** (Jul 3—23), five classic movie epics considered essential viewing on the big screen in acclaimed 4K restorations. Kicking off the series, from July 3 to 9 is Stanley Kubrick's awe-inspiring sci-fi masterwork ***2001: A Space Odyssey*** (1968). David Lean's two Oscar-winning World War I Cinemascope epics—***Lawrence of Arabia*** (1962), starring Peter O'Toole as the eponymous British Army officer, and ***Doctor Zhivago*** (1965), the story of an illicit love affair during the Russian Revolution, with Omar Sharif and Julie Christie—screen on alternating days from July 10 to 16. Francis Ford Coppola's Cosa Nostra masterpiece ***The Godfather*** (1972) and ***The Godfather: Part II*** (1974), the rare sequel to match its predecessor, screen from July 17 to 23, chronicling the ascent of Michael Corleone (Al Pacino) and the founding of an American crime syndicate.

For information regarding BAM venue addresses and directions, please visit: bam.org/visit

Credits

The Wall Street Journal is the title sponsor of BAM Rose Cinemas and BAMcinématek.

Steinberg Screen at the BAM Harvey Theater is made possible by The Joseph S. and Diane H. Steinberg Charitable Trust.

Pepsi is the official beverage of BAM.

Brooklyn Brewery is the preferred beer of BAMcinématek.

BAM Rose Cinemas are named in recognition of a major gift in honor of Jonathan F.P. and Diana Calthorpe Rose.

BAM Rose Cinemas would also like to acknowledge the generous support of The Peter Jay Sharp Foundation, The Estate of Richard B. Fisher, Brooklyn Borough President Marty Markowitz, Brooklyn Delegation of the New York City Council, New York City Department of Cultural Affairs, New York State Council on the Arts, Bloomberg, and Time Warner Inc.

Additional support for BAMcinématek is provided by the Coolidge Corner Theatre Foundation, The Grodzins Fund, The Liman Foundation and Summit Rock Advisors.

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