



Film

BAM presents Beyond the Canon, May 18, and Screen Epiphanies, May 28

April 16, 2019/Brooklyn, NY—This May, BAM continues two ongoing monthly programs: Beyond the Canon on May 18 with a double bill of searing self-portraits, Bob Fosse's *All that Jazz* (1979) and Richard Pryor's *Jo Jo Dancer, Your Life is Calling* (1986); and on May 28, Screen Epiphanies returns with John Landis' *An American Werewolf in London* (1981), chosen by author Victor LaValle.

Beyond the Canon challenges a conception of film history that skews toward lionizing the white male auteur by pairing one canonized classic with a thematically or stylistically-related work by a filmmaker traditionally excluded from that narrative. May's program will showcase two raw, self-flagellating yet dazzling autobiographical portraits of the artist: Bob Fosse's extravaganza of behind-the-scenes Broadway, open heart surgery, and the most darkly upbeat death committed to film, alongside Richard Pryor's only feature film as a director, *Jo Jo Dancer, Your Life is Calling*, a comedian's journey into the past after a traumatic injury, based on Pryor's own experience of catching fire while freebasing, starring Pryor himself in a performance of exposed-nerve vulnerability.

Later that month, Screen Epiphanies—a series inspired by a program at the British Film Institute, in which prominent figures from the artistic community present a film that inspired their love of cinema—returns with writer Victor LaValle, who presents *An American Werewolf in London*, John Landis' cult classic horror comedy, starring David Naughton and Griffin Dunne. Victor LaValle is the author of seven works of fiction and one comic book. His most recent novel, *The Changeling*, won the World Fantasy Award, and the British World Fantasy Award, among others. His comic book, *Destroyer*, is a continuation of the *Frankenstein* story set in the age of police brutality and Black Lives Matter.

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Sat, May 18

2pm: Beyond the Canon: *All That Jazz* (1979) + *Jo Jo Dancer, Your Life is Calling* (1986)

Tue, May 28

7pm: Screen Epiphanies: *An American Werewolf in London* (1981)

About BAM Film

Since 1998 BAM Rose Cinemas has been Brooklyn's home for alternative, documentary, art-house, and independent films. Combining new releases with year-round repertory program, the four-screen venue hosts new and rarely seen contemporary films, classics, work by local artists, and festivals of films from around the world, often with special appearances by directors, actors, and other guests. BAM has hosted major retrospectives of filmmakers like Spike Lee, Chantal Akerman, John Carpenter, Manoel de Oliveira, Luis Buñuel, King Hu, and Vincente Minnelli (winning a National Film Critics' Circle Award prize for the retrospective), and hosted the first US retrospectives of directors Arnaud Desplechin, Hong Sang-soo, Andrzej Zulawski, and Jiang Wen. Since 2009 the program has also produced BAMcinemaFest, New York's home for American independent film, and has championed the work of filmmakers like Janicza Bravo, Andrew Dosunmu, Lena Dunham, and Alex Ross Perry. The 12-day festival of New York premieres, now in its 11th year, runs from June 12—23, 2019.

Credits:

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General Information

BAM Howard Gilman Opera House, BAM Rose Cinemas, and BAMcafé are located in the Peter Jay Sharp building at 30 Lafayette Avenue (between St Felix Street and Ashland Place) in the Fort Greene neighborhood of Brooklyn. BAM Harvey Theater is located two blocks from the main building at 651 Fulton Street (between Ashland and Rockwell Places). Both locations house Greenlight Bookstore at BAM kiosks. BAM Fisher, located at 321 Ashland Place (between Lafayette Ave and Hanson Place), houses the Judith and Alan Fishman Space and Rita K. Hillman Studio. BAM Rose Cinemas features first-run independent and foreign film and repertory programming.

Subway: 2, 3, 4, 5, Q, B to Atlantic Avenue – Barclays Center (2, 3, 4, 5 to Nevins St for Harvey Theater) D, N, R to Pacific Street; G to Fulton Street; C to Lafayette Avenue

Train: Long Island Railroad to Atlantic Terminal – Barclays Center

Bus: B25, B26, B41, B45, B52, B63, B67 all stop within three blocks of BAM

For ticket information, call BAM Ticket Services at 718.636.4100, or visit BAM.org.