BAMcinémathek presents the 30th anniversary of Andrei Tarkovsky’s *Nostalghia* for two weeks in a new 35mm print, alongside *Russian Cinema Now*, an 11-film showcase of contemporary films, May 31—Jun 13

In association with *TransCultural Express: American and Russian Arts Today*, a partnership with the Mikhail Prokhorov Fund to promote cultural exchange between American and Russian artists and audiences

Three North American premieres, three US premieres, and special guests including legendary Fugees producer John Forté and friends and acclaimed directors Sergei Loznitsa and Andrey Gryazev

*The Wall Street Journal* is the title sponsor for BAM Rose Cinemas and BAMcinémathek.

Brooklyn, NY/May 10, 2013—From Friday, May 31 through Thursday, June 13, BAMcinémathek presents a two-week run of Russian master Andrei Tarkovsky’s *Nostalghia* in a new 35mm print for its 30th anniversary, alongside *Russian Cinema Now*, a series showcasing contemporary films with special guests and Q&As. Both programs are part of *TransCultural Express: American and Russian Arts Today*, a collaborative venture to promote cultural exchange and the Mikhail Prokhorov Fund’s inaugural artistic alliance with a US performing arts institution. For more information on *TransCultural Express*, download the program press release.

A metaphysical exploration of spiritual isolation and Russian identity, Tarkovsky’s (*Solaris*, *Stalker*) penultimate film *Nostalghia* (1983) follows Russian expat and misanthropic poet Andrei (Oleg Yankovsky, *The Mirror*) as he travels to Italy to conduct research on an 18th-century composer. In the course of his study, he is overcome by melancholy and a longing for his home country—a sentiment reflective of the exiled Tarkovsky’s own struggle with displacement, this being his first film made outside of the USSR (the film’s Italian title translates as “homesickness”). At its Cannes debut, *Nostalghia* won Tarkovsky the prize for Best Director as well as the *Grand Prix du cinéma de création*, an award he shared with Robert Bresson, but the Soviet government prevented the film from winning the Palme d’Or. With music by Debussy, Wagner, Verdi, and Beethoven, Tarkovsky’s “relentlessly poetic” (*Vincent Canby, The New York Times*) late masterwork also features stunning black-and-white flashback sequences. *Nostalghia* is a Kino Lorber release.

Opening *Russian Cinema Now* on Friday, June 7 is Petter Ringbom’s debut feature *The Russian Winter* (2012), a moving documentary about the musician and Grammy-nominated Fugees producer John Forté. This remarkable documentary follows Forté on a nine-week concert tour and humanitarian mission along Russia’s Trans-Siberian Railway, chronicling his incredible journey of redemption and self-discovery from his Brooklyn roots, to his time in prison, and all the
way to the Siberian steppe. Following the screening, Forté will appear in person for a Q&A, and then perform live at BAMcafé alongside Ukrainian funk/hip-hop artist Andrey “SunSay” Zaporozhets, who is featured prominently in the film.

Preeminent filmmaker Sergei Loznitsa has achieved international recognition for his recent narrative work, beginning with My Joy (2010—Jun 8), the first Ukrainian-produced film to compete at Cannes. Called “Ukraine’s answer to Deliverance” (Sight and Sound) and hailed by Manohla Dargis of The New York Times as “suspenseful, mysterious, and at times bitterly funny,” this nightmarish parable of contemporary Ukrainian society follows a young truck driver through a labyrinth of violence. Loznitsa will appear in person for a Q&A after a sneak preview of his most recent feature, In the Fog (2012—Jun 8), a devastating World War II drama set in German-occupied Belarus. This “masterpiece of serious cinema” (Robbie Collin, The Telegraph) won the FIPRESCI prize at Cannes, and will screen with the North American premiere Loznitsa’s newest work, the haunting short film Letter (2013).

Other noteworthy US premieres in the festival are Alexey Balabanov’s Me Too (2012—Jun 9) and Andrey Gryazev’s Tomorrow (2012—Jun 11). Gryazev, a rising star in the Russian film landscape, made this microbudget documentary (reportedly for less than $2,000) about government opposition to the controversial Voina art collective. The film, “a stirring, gripping, and thought-provoking piece of work” (Lee Marshall, Screen), debuted to much acclaim at the Berlinale last spring. Gryazev will appear in person for a Q&A after the 7pm show. Balabanov, known primarily for his Russian mafia films, delivers this comedic Kaurismäki-esque take on Tarkovsky’s tour-de-force sci-fi epic Stalker (1979). This result is a “disarmingly deadpan and deceptively ambitious blend of black comedy, crime, and metaphysics” (Neil Young, The Hollywood Reporter). Other highlights of Russian Cinema Now include the North American premieres of Andrey Stempkovsky’s The Delivery Guy (2013—Jun 10), about a pizza deliveryman who gets entangled with the mob in order to support his ailing father, and Dali Rust’s featurette Marina’s House (2012—Jun 13), an insightful look at the extraordinary family history of writer Marina Tarkovskaya, the sister of director Andrei Tarkovsky and daughter of the eminent Soviet poet Arseny Tarkovsky. Also screening is the US premiere of Avdotia Smirnova’s incisive comedy Kokoko (2012—Jun 9); Victor Ginzburg’s Generation P (2011—Jun 9), a “cross between Mad Men and an acid trip” (Roger Ebert); and Alexander Sokurov’s (Russian Ark) Faust (2011—Jun 12), a unique interpretation of the German legend which won the Golden Lion at the Venice Film Festival.

Press screenings to be announced.

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Film Schedule

Fri, May 31—Sun, Jun 2
2, 4:30, 7, 9:30pm: Nostalghia

Mon, Jun 3—Thu, Jun 6
4:30, 7, 9:30pm: Nostalghia

Fri, Jun 7
4pm: Nostalghia
7pm*: The Russian Winter
*Q&A with John Forté, followed by a performance at BAMcafé

Sat, Jun 8
2pm: Nostalghia
5pm: My Joy
8:15pm*: In the Fog + Letter
*Q&A with Sergei Loznitsa*

**Sun, Jun 9**
2pm: Kokoko
4:30pm: Generation P
7pm: Me Too
9:30pm: Nostalghia

**Mon, Jun 10**
4:30, 9:30pm: Nostalghia
7pm: The Delivery Guy

**Tue, Jun 11**
4:30, 9:30pm: Nostalghia
7pm*: Tomorrow
*Q&A with Andrey Gryazev

**Wed, Jun 12**
8pm: Faust

**Thu, Jun 13**
4:30, 9:30pm: Nostalghia
7pm: Marina’s House + Letter

**Film Descriptions**

*The Delivery Guy* (2013) 88min *North American premiere!*
Directed by Andrey Stempkovsky. With Alexander Plaksin.
Pizza delivery man Alexey (Plaksin) struggles to scrape together the money for his father’s medical treatments. So naturally it’s hard for him to ignore the lucrative but treacherous offer that lands in his lap: a package containing instructions to carry out a mob hit. Unfolding with icy detachment, this enigmatic thriller de-emphasizes the violent action and instead plays up the emotionally charged spaces in between.

**Mon, Jun 10 at 7pm**

*Faust* (2011) 135min
Spurned by the woman he loves, alchemist Heinrich Faust (Zeiler) makes a deal with a diabolical pawnbroker (Adasinsky)—but gets more than he bargained for, including a journey through hell (shot in Iceland). With his ever-gliding camera, iconoclastic auteur Sokurov (*Russian Ark*) offers this hypnotic take on the Faust legend, which *The Guardian* called “part bad dream, part music-less opera...with hallucinatory flashes of fear.” Winner of the Golden Lion at the Venice Film Festival.

**Wed, Jun 12 at 8pm**

*Generation P* (2011) 116min
Directed by Victor Ginzburg. With Vladimir Epifantsev.
In this “cross between *Mad Men* and an acid trip” (Roger Ebert), 20-something poet turned ad man Babylen (Epifantsev) is vaulted to the forefront of post-Communist Russia’s burgeoning capitalistic frenzy when he reveals a knack for corporate sloganeering. This careening, psychedelic whatzit of a movie—“a keyhole into the future of the entire world” (*Time Out London*)—manages to pack in LSD-fueled hallucinations, the occult, Babylonian theology, and the past 20 years of Russian history.

**Sun, Jun 9 at 4:30pm**

*In the Fog* (2012)
Directed by Sergei Loznitsa. With Vladimir Svirski, Vladislav Abashin.
The citizens of Nazi-occupied Belarus face a gut-wrenching moral dilemma—whether to resist or collaborate with the German invaders—in this bleak, beautiful World War II drama by the director of *My...*
Joy. Effectively sparse and ultimately devastating, this “intense, slow-burning and haunting” (The Guardian) tragedy about the horrors of war recalls Elem Klimov’s senses-shattering 1985 film Come and See. Sneak preview courtesy of Strand Releasing.
Sat, Jun 8 at 8:15pm Q&A with Sergei Loznitsa

Kokoko (2012) 90min US premiere!
Directed by Avdotia Smirnova. With Anna Mikhailova, Yana Troyanova.
With shades of Mike Leigh’s incisive social realism, this quirky comedy charts the friendship of two very different women: a bookish St. Petersburg ethnographer (Mikhailova) and a fiery, but aging, party girl (Troyanova). Brought together by a chance encounter, the two bond over their loneliness during a vodka-soaked evening and eventually move in together—an odd-couple pairing that illuminates Russian class differences and commonalities with compassion and wit.
Sun, Jun 9 at 2pm

Letter (2013) 20min North American premiere!
Directed by Sergei Loznitsa.
Assembled from footage he shot at a rural psychiatric facility over the course of a decade, Loznitsa’s (My Joy) haunting short is a record of a place seemingly unstuck in time and space. Filmed in hazy, washed out black and white, the ghostly images unspool like an “artifact resurrected... the sense of lostness, malady and asynchronicity is prevalent” (MUBI Notebook).
Sat, Jun 8 at 8:15pm and Thu, Jun 13 at 7pm

Marina’s House (2012) 57min North American premiere!
Directed by Dali Rust.
In this meditative short, writer Marina Tarkovskaya—daughter of poet Arseny Tarkovsky and sister of director Andrei—guides the viewer through her home and her family’s remarkable history, movingly recounting memories of pain, sadness, and healing through creativity.
Thu, Jun 13 at 7pm

Me Too (2012) 83min US premiere!
Directed by Alexey Balabanov. With Aleksandr Mosin, Jurij Matveyev.
Sun, Jun 9 at 7pm

My Joy (2010) 127min
Directed by Sergei Loznitsa. With Viktor Nemets.
Opening with an image of a corpse being tossed into freshly mixed cement, My Joy allows the human grotesqueries to pile up from there, as a young truck driver (Nemets) wanders through a wasteland of ultra-weirdos and random violence. The former documentarian Loznitsa shoots this ironically titled gonzo horror show with a scarily detached eye, praised by Manohla Dargis of The New York Times as: “suspenseful, mysterious, at times bitterly funny, consistently moving and filled with images of a Russia haunted both by ghosts and the living dead.”
Sat, Jun 8 at 5pm

Nostalghia (1983) 125min New 35mm print!
Directed by Andrei Tarkovsky. With Oleg Yankovsky, Domiziana Giordano, Erland Josephson.
Exiled from the USSR, consummate film poet Tarkovsky (Solaris, Stalker) poured his stirrings of homesickness into this spectrally beautiful, metaphysical exploration of spiritual isolation and Russian identity. While researching the turbulent life of a 17th-century composer in the perpetually mist-shrouded Tuscan countryside, a soul-sick Russian poet (Yankovsky) forms an unusual kinship with an apocalypse-obsessed local madman (Josephson). Tarkovsky evokes the textures of dreams and memories through ravishing monochrome and sepia-toned reveries and flashbacks, while conjuring the hushed and haunted tone of a trance in this late-career masterwork. A Kino Lorber release.
Fri, May 31—Thu, Jun 13

The Russian Winter (2012) 94min
Directed by Petter Ringbom.
In this documentary, Forté—a producer of the legendary 1990s hip-hop outfit The Fugees—goes on a unique tour and humanitarian mission through Russia. While traversing the snow-shrouded landscape of a country in transition, he reflects on music, his time in prison for a drug conviction, and second chances. A FilmBuff release. Fri, Jun 7 at 7pm Q&A with John Forté, followed by a performance at BAMcafé

Tomorrow (2012) 89min US premiere!
Directed by Andrey Gryazev.
Championed by the likes of Brian Eno and Banksy, the controversial activist art collective Voina has been subject to censorship and police brutality by the Russian government for its provocative works—which most famously include flipping over a Moscow cop car and tagging a graffiti phallus on a wall facing the former headquarters of the KGB. This gritty vérité-style documentary shows the inner workings of the group as its members brazenly defy the law, commit acts of vandalism, and unleash their audaciously anti-authoritarian art.
Tue, Jun 11 at 7pm Q&A with Andrey Gryazev

About the Mikhail Prokhorov Fund
The Mikhail Prokhorov Fund is a private charity launched in 2004 by the businessman Mikhail Prokhorov and his sister, Irina Prokhorova. The Foundation’s priority is the support and development of new cultural institutions and initiatives in Russia, with a focus on regional projects as well as the promotion of Russian culture in the global intellectual community.

The Foundation’s activity takes many forms. It is a creative laboratory developing new cultural initiatives, a school nurturing Russia’s next generation of artists and entrepreneurs, and a playground for socio-economic development, all the while combining in its work a few defining characteristics: enlightenment, education, and charity.

www.prokhorovfund.ru

About BAMcinématek

The four-screen BAM Rose Cinemas (BRC) opened in 1998 to offer Brooklyn audiences alternative and independent films that might not play in the borough otherwise, making BAM the only performing arts center in the country with two mainstage theaters and a multiplex cinema. In July 1999, beginning with a series celebrating the work of Spike Lee, BAMcinématek was born as Brooklyn’s only daily, year-round repertory film program. BAMcinématek presents 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. BAMcinématek has not only presented major retrospectives by major filmmakers such as Michelangelo Antonioni, Manoel de Oliveira, Shohei Imamura, Vincente Minnelli (winning a National Film Critics’ Circle Award prize for the retrospective), Kaneto Shindo, Luchino Visconti, , but it has also introduced New York audiences to contemporary artists such as Pedro Costa and Apichatpong Weerasethakul. In addition, BAMcinématek programmed the first US retrospectives of directors Arnaud Desplechin, Nicolas Winding Refn, Hong Sang-soo, and, most recently, Andrzej Zulawski. From 2006 to 2008, BAMcinématek partnered with the Sundance Institute and in June 2009 launched BAMcinemaFest, a 16-day festival of new independent films and repertory favorites with 15 NY feature film premieres; the fifth annual BAMcinemaFest will run from June 19—28, 2013.

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.

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Pepsi is the official beverage of BAM.

Brooklyn Brewery is the preferred beer of BAMcinématek.
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General Information

Tickets: General Admission: $13
BAM Cinema Club Members: $8, BAM Cinema Club Movie Moguls: Free
Seniors & Students (25 and under with a valid ID, Mon—Thu): $9
Bargain matinees (Mon—Thu before 5pm & Fri—Sun before 3pm no holidays): $9

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, is the newest addition to the BAM campus and houses the Judith and Alan Fishman Space and Rita K. Hillman Studio. BAM Rose Cinemas is Brooklyn’s only movie house dedicated to first-run independent and foreign film and repertory programming. BAMcafé, operated by Great Performances, is open for dining prior to BAM Howard Gilman Opera House evening performances. BAMcafé also features an eclectic mix of spoken word and live music for BAMcafé Live on select Friday and Saturday nights with a special BAMcafé Live menu available starting at 6pm.

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
Car: Commercial parking lots are located adjacent to BAM

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