

BAMcinématek presents *Four More Years: An Election Special*, Jul 15—Aug 3

21 films, spanning six decades, highlight the performance, pageantry and fever of the election cycle

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

Brooklyn, NY/June 6, 2016—From Friday, July 15, through Wednesday, August 3, timed to this year's Democratic and Republican National Conventions, BAMcinématek presents *Four More Years: An Election Special*. With juicy scandals, outsized egos, and Machiavellian backroom deals; the high-stakes blood sport of the American electoral process makes for irresistible cinema. This election season, take a break from the 24/7 news-cycle with some of the all-time best films about democracy in action.

Setting the tone of *Four More Years* is John Frankenheimer's *The Manchurian Candidate* (1962—Jul 15 & 16). Frank Sinatra, Laurence Harvey, and Oscar-nominated Angela Lansbury star in this classic Cold War thriller of a global communist conspiracy. Next, what the *New York Times* referred to as "a spellbinding detective story," is Alan J. Pakula's *All the President's Men* (1976—Jul 16 & 17), starring Dustin Hoffman and Robert Redford as Woodward and Bernstein, the *Washington Post* reporters who uncover one of the biggest political scandals of the century.

Director Frank Capra has two films in the series: his dark fable *Meet John Doe* (1941—Jul 19), starring Barbara Stanwyck as a news reporter who invents a fictitious John Doe (Gary Cooper) to air political grievances, and *State of the Union* (1948—Jul 26), with Spencer Tracy as an aviation tycoon who's pushed into a presidential run. Franklin J. Schaffner's *The Best Man* (1964—Jul 18), stars Henry Fonda and Cliff Robertson as political rivals maneuvering for their party's nomination in this biting Gore Vidal adaptation (penned by Vidal himself), with cinematography by legendary DP Haskell Wexler. Wexler (the subject of a tribute at this year's *Migrating Forms*) is also showcased in *Four More Years* with his directorial debut, *Medium Cool* (1969—Jul 23), a landmark blend of narrative and commentary that captures the turbulence of the infamous 1968 Democratic National Convention in Chicago. 1968 looms large in the series with two other films: *America Is Hard to See* (1970—Jul 20), radical documentarian Emile de Antonio's trenchant, on-the-ground view of that year's presidential election, which provides an indispensable chronicle of one of the most tumultuous American political moments, and Hal Ashby's satirical sex farce *Shampoo* (1975—Jul 22), which brilliantly skewers free love sexual politics and counterculture posturing in the 24 hours leading up to Nixon's 1968 election.

Robert Drew's *Primary* (1960—Jul 21) and Richard Leacock and Noel E. Parmentel, Jr.'s *Campaign Manager* (1964—Jul 21) two watershed works of 1960s direct cinema, anchor the series and capture the drama of the campaign trail with a candidness and spontaneity hitherto unseen in American political journalism. Additional documentaries include pioneering video collective TVTV captures the 1972 Democratic and Republican Conventions with raw immediacy and subversive humor in *The World's Largest TV Studio* (1972—Jul 25) and *Four More Years* (1972—Jul 25).

Not to be missed political features of the 1970s include Michael Ritchie's ***The Candidate*** (1972—Jul 23), starring Robert Redford as a well-meaning lawyer who gradually sells out his ideals over the course of a Senate campaign, and Robert Altman's eccentric masterpiece ***Nashville*** (1975—Jul 24), the ultimate ensemble film with Keith Carradine, Karen Black, and Shelley Duvall starring in a sprawling portrait of both the country music scene and 1970s America.

Four More Years concludes with the Clinton 90s, a hotbed of election films including Warren Beatty's nihilistic kiss-off to America's broken government, ***Bulworth*** (1998—Jul 27); Barry Levinson's political sex-scandal feature ***Wag the Dog*** (1997—Jul 27), starring Dustin Hoffman and Robert DeNiro —released one month before the Clinton-Lewinsky affair broke; and the D. A. Pennebaker and Chris Hegedus directed ***The War Room*** (1993—Jul 28). *The New York Times* called *The War Room* a "revealing film and an invaluable document," the documentary gives a behind-the-scenes look at Bill Clinton's 1992 presidential campaign. The series closes with screenings of Wolfgang Peterson's ***In the Line of Fire*** (1993—Aug 1), a cat and mouse thriller starring Clint Eastwood, John Malkovich and Rene Russo; Mike Nichols' political satire ***Primary Colors*** (1998—Aug 2), is when John Travolta's delivers his best impression of Bill Clinton; Kevin Rafferty and James Ridgeway's candid footage of 1992 New Hampshire primary candidates in ***Feed*** (1992—Aug 3); and moving to the Bush years with Suki Hawley and Michael Galinsky's ***Horns and Halos*** (2002—Aug 3), the documentary that delivers the scoop on a biography the Bush family never wants you to read.

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Four More Years: An Election Special Schedule

Fri, Jul 15

4:15, 7, 9:45pm: *The Manchurian Candidate*

Sat, Jul 16

2, 7:30pm: *The Manchurian Candidate*
4:40pm: *All the President's Men*

Sun, Jul 17

2, 5, 8pm: *All the President's Men*

Mon, Jul 18

4:30, 7, 9:30pm: *The Best Man*

Tue, Jul 19

5, 8pm: *Meet John Doe*

Wed, Jul 20

7, 9:15pm: *America is Hard to See*

Thu, Jul 21

7, 9pm: *Primary + Campaign Manager*

Fri, Jul 22

2, 4:30, 7, 9:30pm: *Shampoo*

Sat, Jul 23

2, 7, 9:30pm: *The Candidate*
4:30pm: *Medium Cool*

Sun, Jul 24

2, 5:30, 9pm: *Nashville*

Mon, Jul 25

4:30, 7, 9:30pm: TVTV Program

Tue, Jul 26

4:30, 7:10, 9:45pm: *State of the Union*

Wed, Jul 27

4:30, 9:15pm: *Bulworth*

7pm: *Wag the Dog*

Thu, Jul 28

4:30, 7, 9:15pm: *The War Room*

Mon, Aug 1

5, 8pm: *In the Line of Fire*

Tue, Aug 2

5, 8pm: *Primary Colors*

Wed, Aug 3

7pm: *Horns and Halos*

9:30pm: *Feed*

Film Descriptions

***All the President's Men* (1976) 138min**

Directed by Alan J. Pakula. With Dustin Hoffman, Robert Redford, Jack Warden.

One of the all-time great political and newspaper films stars Robert Redford and Dustin Hoffman as Woodward and Bernstein, the *Washington Post* reporters whose inquiry into suspicious goings-on at the Watergate Hotel uncovers the biggest political scandal of the century. The final entry in Pakula's '70s "paranoia trilogy" is both a taut investigative thriller and a deep dive into the seamy underside of the American electoral system. 35mm.

Sat, Jul 16 at 4:40pm & Sun, Jul 17 at 2, 5, 8pm

***America is Hard to See* (1970) 90min**

Directed by Emile de Antonio.

Radical filmmaker Emile de Antonio redefined the political documentary with his subversive critiques of Cold War America. This extremely rare film is his trenchant, on-the-ground view of the 1968 presidential election—one of the most tumultuous of all time—and the insurgent candidacy of liberal icon Eugene McCarthy, whose bid for the Democratic nomination galvanized young voters disillusioned with the war in Vietnam. *Print courtesy of MoMA Circulating Film Library. 16mm.*

Wed, Jul 20 at 7, 9:15pm

***The Best Man* (1964) 102min**

Directed by Franklin J. Schaffner. With Henry Fonda, Cliff Robertson, Edie Adams.

Gore Vidal adapted his own poison-pen play for this caustic look at the shady political maneuvering that ensues as two presidential candidates (Fonda & Robertson) vie bitterly for their party's nomination. The combination of Vidal's sardonic dialogue, Haskell Wexler's crisp cinematography, and a top-drawer cast (including an Oscar-nominated Lee Tracy in his last role) yields a razor-sharp satire that's still relevant. 35mm.

Mon, Jul 18 at 4:30, 7, 9:30pm

Bulworth (1998) 108min

Directed by Warren Beatty. With Warren Beatty, Halle Berry, Oliver Platt.

Up for reelection and fed up with sound bite-friendly pandering, California Senator Jay Bulworth (Beatty) hires an assassin to kill him and, in a go-for-broke act of career suicide, transforms himself into a politically incorrect hip-hop prophet spitting uncomfortable truths about the system. Director/co-writer/star Beatty's nihilistic kiss-off to America's broken government is one of the wildest, angriest, and gutsiest political satires to ever come out of Hollywood. 35mm.

Wed, Jul 27 at 4:30, 9:15pm

Campaign Manager (1964) 25min

Directed by Richard Leacock.

This vérité documentary is a fly-on-the-wall profile of John Grenier, the twenty-eight-year-old architect of Barry Goldwater's 1964 presidential run. *Screens with Robert Drew's Primary.*

Thu, Jul 21 at 7, 9pm

The Candidate (1972) 109min

Directed by Michael Ritchie. Robert Redford, Peter Boyle, Melvyn Douglas.

Robert Redford is perfectly cast as an earnest lawyer who gradually sells out his ideals as he goes from well-meaning nice guy to sound bite-spewing political golden boy over the course of a Senate campaign. This incisive satire of the electoral process has a warts-and-all ring of truth thanks to the Academy Award-winning screenplay by Jeremy Lerner, speechwriter to Eugene McCarthy during his 1968 presidential campaign. 35mm.

Sat, Jul 23 at 2, 7, 9:30pm

Feed (1992) 76min.

Directed by Kevin Rafferty, James Ridgeway.

Assembled from candid footage taken from intercepted satellite feeds, this "laugh-out-loud funny" (*Rolling Stone*) documentary captures the wacky world of American politics through the lens of the 1992 New Hampshire primary. While readying their on-camera personas for the podium, unsuspecting presidential candidates are caught in a host of awkward moments, including Bill Clinton avoiding Gennifer Flowers, California governor Jerry Brown snorting a nasal spray, and Pat Buchanan throwing a fit. Reveling in the absurdity of electoral politics, this essential time capsule examines the unholy marriage between mass media and democracy.

Wed, Aug 3 at 9:30pm

Horns and Halos (2002) 90min

Directed by Michael Galinsky & Suki Hawley.

The scion of a powerful political family, a bombshell revelation, and a punk rock publisher determined to bring the story to light: this gritty, gripping documentary gets the inside story on *Fortunate Son*, the controversial biography of George W. Bush—containing allegations that he had been arrested for cocaine possession—that was pulled from publication in the midst of the Texas governor's 2000 presidential run.

Wed, Aug 3 at 7pm

In the Line of Fire (1993) 128min

Directed by Wolfgang Petersen. With Clint Eastwood, John Malkovich, Rene Russo.

Thirty years after he failed to stop the Kennedy assassination, a veteran Secret Service agent (Eastwood) faces off against a sinister sociopath (Malkovich) who's out to kill the current president in the midst of a

reelection campaign. This almost perfectly constructed cat-and-mouse thriller boasts one of Eastwood's best performances, a skin-crawlingly creepy turn by Malkovich, and a score by the great Ennio Morricone. *DCP.*

Mon, Aug 1 at 5, 8pm

The Manchurian Candidate (1962) 126min

Directed by John Frankenheimer. With Frank Sinatra, Laurence Harvey, Angela Lansbury.

John Frankenheimer's eerie, prescient Cold War thriller stars a marvelously creepy, Oscar-nominated Angela Lansbury as the Communist architect of a plot to infiltrate the White House, Laurence Harvey as her unwitting sleeper assassin, and Frank Sinatra as the brainwashed war veteran trying to stop them. Dark satire meets surreal paranoia for the ultimate nightmare vision of American politics. *DCP.*

Fri, Jul 15 at 4:15, 7, 9:45pm & Sat, Jul 16 at 2, 7:30pm

Medium Cool (1969) 111min

Directed by Haskell Wexler. With Robert Forster, Verna Bloom.

Few films capture the turbulence of 1960s America with more immediacy than iconic cinematographer Haskell Wexler's debut feature, a landmark of independent film. During the infamous 1968 Democratic National Convention in Chicago, a disenchanted news cameraman (Forster) finds himself caught between the political protests and the police's violent response to them. Mixing a quasi-scripted narrative with groundbreaking vérité techniques—and culminating in a virtuosic sequence that embeds the camera in the middle of a riot—*Medium Cool* offers an unflinching examination of the media's role in social crisis. *Digital.*

Sat, Jul 23 at 4:30pm

Meet John Doe (1941) 130min

Directed by Frank Capra. With Gary Cooper, Barbara Stanwyck, Edward Arnold.

Gary Cooper goes from down-and-out vagrant to the face of a sham grassroots political movement thanks to a scheme cooked up by Barbara Stanwyck's plucky newspaper reporter. One of Capra's most complex films couches the director's up-with-the-people populism and snappy screwball comedy in a surprisingly dark fable that touches on suicide, corruption, and the threat of Fascism. *Preserved by the Library of Congress. 35mm.*

Tue, Jul 19 at 5, 8pm

Nashville (1975) 160min

Directed by Robert Altman. With Keith Carradine, Karen Black, Shelley Duvall.

The ultimate ensemble film, Robert Altman's eccentric masterpiece follows a dizzying array of country musicians, industry players, and hangers-on who converge upon Music City, USA in the days leading up to a political rally. The masterful juggling of the whopping twenty-four (count 'em) characters makes *Nashville* a technical marvel, but it's also a sprawling, crazy quilt portrait of America at its Bicentennial. *35mm.*

Sun, Jul 24 at 2, 5:30, 9pm

Primary (1960) 60min

Directed by Robert Drew.

Robert Drew's watershed work of direct cinema records the 1960 Wisconsin primary showdown between John F. Kennedy and Hubert Humphrey with a candidness and spontaneity hitherto unseen in American political journalism. *Screens with Ricky Leacock's Campaign Manager.*

Thu, Jul 21 at 7, 9pm

Primary Colors (1998) 143min

Directed by Mike Nichols. With John Travolta, Adrian Lester, Emma Thompson.

Brilliantly scripted by Elaine May, Mike Nichols' alternately hilarious and deadly serious satire of Bill Clinton's 1992 presidential bid follows a young idealist (Lester) who's drawn into the inner circle of a scandal-prone governor (Travolta) vying for his party's nomination. The stellar supporting cast includes Emma Thompson standing in for Hillary, Billy Bob Thornton as a James Carville-like spin-doctor, and an Oscar-nominated Kathy Bates. *35mm*.

Tue, Aug 2 at 5, 8pm

Shampoo (1975) *109min*

Directed by Hal Ashby. With Warren Beatty, Julie Christie, Goldie Hawn.

Made during the midst of the Watergate scandal, Hal Ashby's satirical sex farce (brilliantly scripted by star Beatty and *Chinatown* screenwriter Robert Towne) rewinds back to Election Day 1968 to skewer free love sexual politics and vapid counterculture posturing as a swinging hairdresser (Beatty) bed-hops his way through Beverly Hills in the 24 hours leading up to Nixon's election. *DCP*.

Fri, Jul 22 at 2, 4:30, 7, 9:30pm

State of the Union (1948) *124min*

Directed by Frank Capra. With Spencer Tracy, Katharine Hepburn, Van Johnson.

The legendary Tracy-Hepburn team lights up this snappy seriocomedy (based on a Pulitzer Prize-winning play) from Frank Capra. He's an aviation tycoon who's pushed into a presidential run by a conniving newspaper publisher (a scene-stealing Angela Lansbury, anticipating her turn in *The Manchurian Candidate*). She's his estranged wife with whom he reunites for the sake of optics—but who refuses to be just a political prop. *35mm*.

Tue, Jul 26 at 4:30, 7:10, 9:45pm

TVTV Program

The World's Largest TV Studio (1972) *60min* A landmark of DIY journalism, the inaugural production from pioneering, guerrilla video collective TVTV is an irreverent, on-the-ground view of the 1972 Democratic National Convention. + ***Four More Years*** (1972) *60min* Armed with Portapak video cameras, the San Francisco-based cooperative captures the 1972 Republican National Convention with raw immediacy and subversive humor, juxtaposing Nixon's reelection coronation with anti-Vietnam anger.

Mon, Jul 25 at 4:30, 7, 9:30pm

Wag the Dog (1997) *97min*

Directed by Barry Levinson. With Robert De Niro, Dustin Hoffman, Anne Heche.

How a master spin-doctor (De Niro) deflects attention from a sex scandal threatening to sink the president's reelection bid: enlist a Hollywood super-producer (Hoffman) to invent a phony Albanian war to play out on America's TV screens. Released one month before the Clinton-Lewinsky affair broke, this acidly funny comedy (co-scripted by David Mamet) is a *Network* for the '90s. *35mm*.

Wed, Jul 27 at 7pm

The War Room (1993) *96min*

Directed by Chris Hegedus & D.A. Pennebaker.

Cinéma vérité pioneer D.A. Pennebaker and Chris Hegedus go behind the scenes of Bill Clinton's 1992 presidential bid, following spin-doctors extraordinaire James Carville and George Stephanopoulos as they work round the clock shaping the campaign's message and doing damage control. Crackling with the tension and drama of the campaign trail, *The War Room* is essential viewing for political junkies.

Thu, Jul 28 at 4:30, 7, 9:15pm

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, and William Friedkin, 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 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 eighth annual BAMcinemaFest runs from June 15—26, 2016.

Credits

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

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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, 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, offers a bar menu and dinner entrées 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 Friday and Saturday nights with a bar 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 information, call BAM Ticket Services at 718.636.4100, or visit BAM.org.