

MUSEUM OF THE MOVING IMAGE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MUSEUM OF THE MOVING IMAGE ANNOUNCES FIRST LOOK WORKING ON IT SCHEDULE, FILMMAKER APPEARANCES, AND PROGRAM UPDATES

11th edition of First Look runs March 16–20; Working on It sessions run on consecutive days, March 16–18.

The prior weekend, March 11–13, MoMI presents Second Look, a selection of films from the past decade of First Look, including Chantal Akerman's *Almayer's Folly*

Astoria, New York, March 1, 2022 — Museum of the Moving Image's 11th edition of First Look, its festival of new and innovative international cinema, which runs March 16–20, has just announced its Working on It program, in-person sessions focused on exploring the creative process, as well as Second Look, a weekend program of highlighted films from the first decade of the Festival. In addition, the official lineup now includes: a Science on Screen presentation of Jenny Perlin's documentary *Bunker*, followed by a conversation with Perlin and producer A.S. Hamrah featuring never-before-seen excerpts from the making of the film; and two added short films, the United States premiere of *Life Without Dreams* (dir. Jessica Bardsley), which will screen with Kirill Serebrennikov's *Petrov's Flu* on March 17, and the New York premiere of *Side by Side* (dir. Polen Ly), which will screen with Saeed Taji Farouky's *A Thousand Fires* on March 19.



On the weekend prior to the Festival, March 11–13, the Museum will present **Second Look: Selections from a Decade of First Look**, featuring titles such as Chantal Akerman's *Almayer's Folly*, the first film ever to show in First Look, in 2012, Vitaly Mansky's *Putin's Witnesses* and Pawel Lozinski's *You Have No Idea How Much I Love You*, and *Three Songs for Benazir*, currently nominated for an Academy Award in the category of Short Documentary.

Also opening March 11 is [Our Ark](#), co-directed by Deniz Tortum and Kathryn Hamilton, a single channel video work that will be on view in the Video Screening Amphitheater (free with Museum admission). In addition, tickets are now on sale for the other gallery-based First Look work: Charlie Shackleton's [As Mine Exactly](#), a unique virtual reality experience, featuring one-on-one live narration by the filmmaker. Only 20 sessions of this VR performance event will be available, March 18–20.

Taking place March 16–18, 12:00–6:00 p.m., Working on It will bring together filmmakers, critics, and the general public for work-in-progress screenings and performances, artist talks and discussions. Highlighted artists in the Working on It program include: **Donal Mosher** and **Michael Palmieri**

(*Spectral Transmissions*); **Anna Fitch** and **Banker White** (*Heaven Through the Backdoor*); staged readings of screenplays by the 2021 Sloan Student Prize winners **Marisa Torelli-Pedevska** (*Starlight*) and **Juli Jackson** (*Delta*), followed by a reception; presentations by **Charlie Shackleton** (*As Mine Exactly*), **Emily Vey Duke**, **Cooper Battersby**, **Devon Narine-Singh**, and **Ellery Bryant** (*The Infernal Grove*); *Reverse Shot* editors, writers, and filmmakers including **Michael Koresky**, **Jeff Reichert**, and **Farihah Zaman**; and student showcases from BFA Film Department, School of Visual Arts and The Jonathan B. Murray Center for Documentary Journalism at the Missouri School of Journalism. Each afternoon session ends with a Happy Hour gathering. See below for more information and schedule.

Working on It is made possible with support from Kickstarter.

As of March 1, the following filmmakers are scheduled to appear in person:

Antoneta Alamat Kusijanović with *Murina* on Opening Night (Mar. 16)
Jessica Bardsley with *Life Without Dreams* (Mar. 17, preceding *Petrov's Flu*)
Sasha Litvintseva and **Beny Wagner** with *Constant* (Mar. 17)
Jenny Perlin and producer **A.S. Hamrah** with *Bunker* (Mar. 17)
Kamar Ahmad Simon with *Day after...* (Mar. 18)
Marek Moučka with *Attention All Passengers + In Shallow Water* (preceding *Faritra*, Mar. 19)
Saeed Taji Farouky with *A Thousand Fires* (Mar. 19)
Ladya Cheryl, lead actress, with *Vengeance Is Mine, All Others Pay Cash* (Mar. 19)
Laura Harrison with *The Limits of Vision* (Mar. 19, Persistent Visions program I)
Linda Scobie with *The Pendulum* (Mar. 19, Persistent Visions program I)
Ben Balcom with *News from Nowhere* (Mar. 19, Persistent Visions program II)
James Edmonds with *Configurations* (Mar. 19, Persistent Visions program II)
Mike Gibisser with *Slow Volumes* (Mar. 19, Persistent Visions program II)
Iliana Sosa with *What We Leave Behind* (Mar. 20)
Nicolaas Schmidt with *First Time [The Time for All but Sunset (Violet)]* (Mar. 20)
Pawel Lozinski with *The Balcony Movie* on Closing Night (Mar. 20)

Preview screeners and interviews with select filmmakers are available.

Please inquire with **Sylvia Savadjian**, First Look Festival publicist (Sylvia.Savadjian@gmail.com). [View First Look press release.](#)

SCHEDULE FOR WORKING ON IT, MARCH 16–18, 2022, DAILY 12:00–6:00 p.m.

Tickets for Working on It are \$15 per day (discounted for students, seniors and youth; free for MoMI members at the Student/Senior level and above). Admission is also included with the First Look Festival pass.

Session 1 (Wednesday, March 16)

Hosted by *Reverse Shot* and Kickstarter. Work-in-progress presentations, dialogues, and live experiments. Guests and presenters include Farihah Zaman, Jeff Reichert, and Michael Koresky of the Museum publication *Reverse Shot*, and filmmakers Donal Mosher and Michael Palmieri (*Spectral Transmissions*). Followed by a Happy Hour.

Session 2 (Thursday, March 17)

Hosted by the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation; BFA Film Department, School of Visual Arts; and Sundance Documentary Film Program. Work-in-progress presentations, dialogues, and live experiments. Guests and presenters include filmmakers Anna Fitch and Banker White (*Heaven Through the Backdoor*), staged readings of the work of the 2021 Sloan Student Grand Jury and Discovery Prize winners Marisa Torelli-Pedevska and Juli Jackson followed by a Sloan-sponsored reception, and recent work by student filmmakers from the BFA Film Department, School of Visual Arts.

Session 3 (Friday, March 18)

Hosted by Field of Vision's If/Then Shorts and The Jonathan B. Murray Center for Documentary Journalism at the Missouri School of Journalism. Work-in-progress presentations, dialogues, and live experiments. Guests and presenters include Charlie Shackleton (*As Mine Exactly*), Emily Vey Duke, Cooper Battersby, Devon Narine-Singh, and Ellery Bryant (*The Infernal Grove*), and recent work by students at The Jonathan B. Murray Center for Documentary Journalism at the Missouri School of Journalism. Followed by a Happy Hour.

First Look 2022 ticket information

Tickets & Passes are on sale now: movingimage.us/series/first-look-2022/

Unless otherwise noted, tickets for individual screening programs are \$15 (\$11 seniors and students / \$9 youth / free for MoMI members starting at the Senior & Student levels (\$7 Classic members). Tickets for Opening and Closing Night are \$20 (\$15 for MoMI Members). An **All-Festival Pass** (incl. Opening and Closing night, and Working on It) is \$120 (Weekend Pass: \$60).

First Look 2022 credits

First Look 2022 was programmed by Eric Hynes, Curator of Film, and Edo Choi, Assistant Curator of Film; Becca Keating, Director of Development and curator of Persistent Visions; Sonia Epstein, Associate Curator of Science and Film; and Jesse Berberich, programmer of Disreputable Cinema.

The programming team would like to acknowledge the following people for their guidance, support, advocacy, and generosity: Michael Andrianaly, Chris Boeckmann, Caitlin Mae Burke, Phil Coldiron, Joost Daamen, Dominic Davis, Kristin Feeley, Robert Greene, Mary Lee Grisanti, Dorota Lech, Mads Mikkelsen, Dan Nuxoll, Janet Pierson, Alla Rachkov, Michael Sicinski, Tomek Smolarski, Abby Sun, Laura Van Halsema, Stacey Woelfel.

Sponsors: First Look is made possible with support from the BFA Film Department, School of Visual Arts; Kickstarter; The Jonathan B. Murray Center for Documentary Journalism at the Missouri School of Journalism; The Harriman Institute at Columbia University; Polish Cultural Institute; German Film Office; Cultural Services of the French Embassy; Cinema Tropical; The Paper Factory Hotel; and the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation. Additional support was provided by the New York State Council on the Arts and the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs.

###

Press contacts:

Sylvia Savadjian, First Look Festival publicist (Sylvia.Savadjian@gmail.com)

Tomoko Kawamoto, MoMI Director of Public Information (tkawamoto@movingimage.us)
Alex Cutler and Hayley Brinkman, Sunshine Sachs (momi@sunshinesachs.com)

Twitter and Instagram: **@MovingImageNYC**
Facebook: **MovingImageMuseum**
Hashtag: **#FirstLookFest**

Museum of the Moving Image (MoMI) is the only institution in the United States that deals comprehensively with the art, technology, enjoyment, and social impact of film, television, and digital media. In its acclaimed facility in Astoria, New York, the Museum presents exhibitions; screenings; discussion programs featuring actors, directors, and creative leaders; and education programs. It houses the nation's largest collection of moving image artifacts and screens over 500 films annually. Its exhibitions—including the core exhibition *Behind the Screen* and *The Jim Henson Exhibition*—are noted for their integration of material objects, interactive experiences, and audiovisual presentations. For more information about the MoMI, visit movingimage.us.

MUSEUM INFORMATION

Hours: Friday, 2:00–8:00 p.m. Saturday–Sunday, 12:00–6:00 p.m.

Museum Admission: \$15 adults; \$11 senior citizens (ages 65+) and students (ages 18+) with ID; \$9 youth (ages 3–17). Children under 3 and Museum members are admitted free.

Address: 36-01 35 Avenue (at 37 Street), Astoria (Queens), NY, 11106

Subway: M (weekdays only) or R to Steinway Street. W (weekdays only) or N to 36 Ave.

Program Information : Telephone: 718 777 6888; Website: movingimage.us

Membership: <https://movingimage.us/join-and-support/become-a-member/> or 718 777 6877

Film Screenings: Friday evenings, Saturdays and Sundays, and as scheduled. Unless noted, tickets are \$15 adults / \$11 students and seniors / \$9 youth (ages 3–17) / free or discounted for Museum members. Advance online purchase is recommended.

[Please note safety protocols for visiting the Museum.](#)

Museum of the Moving Image is housed in a building owned by the City of New York and has received significant support from the following public agencies: New York City Department of Cultural Affairs; New York City Council; New York City Economic Development Corporation; New York State Council on the Arts with the support of the Governor and the New York State Legislature; Institute of Museum and Library Services; National Endowment for the Humanities; National Endowment for the Arts; and Natural Heritage Trust (administered by the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation).