

MUSEUM OF THE MOVING IMAGE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MoMI presents in collaboration with IFC Films:

“Clayography in Motion: Adam Elliot’s *Memoir of a Snail*,”
an installation of puppets from the Golden Globe–nominated film,
and an interactive make-your-own-animation experience for
visitors

Opening December 20, as part of the Museum’s core exhibition *Behind the Screen*, which explores the creative process in film and television



Courtesy of IFC Films | [Press gallery]

Astoria, New York, December 17, 2024 — Beginning December 20 and running through March 2025, Museum of the Moving Image (MoMI) will present ***Clayography in Motion: Adam Elliot’s Memoir of a Snail***, a new exhibit in celebration of the critically acclaimed 2024 stop-motion animated film, *Memoir of a Snail*, recently nominated for a Golden Globe and a Critics Choice Award for Best Animated Feature. The installation will include a variety of handmade puppets exclusively from the film, presented alongside film excerpts, as well as 2-D characters and film sets that visitors can use to create their own stop-motion animations at MoMI’s interactive stations. This new installation will “take over” the animation section of the Museum’s dynamic core exhibition *Behind the Screen*.

From Academy Award®-winning writer and director Adam Elliot, *Memoir of a Snail* is a heartfelt and hilarious chronicle of the life of Grace Pudel (Sarah Snook), an outsider finding her confidence and silver linings amongst the clutter of everyday life.

As in previous work from Elliot, *Memoir* uses clay puppets to explore themes inspired by the filmmaker's own life. "Clayography," a term coined by Elliot to describe his work, merges clay animation and biography.

Memoir of a Snail premiered earlier this year at the Annecy International Animation Film Festival, where it won the Cristal Award for a Feature Film. The film was released in the U.S. by IFC Films on October 25 and is currently available everywhere you rent or buy movies.

On January 3 and 4, the Museum will also present a related screening series, featuring *Memoir of a Snail*, Elliot's earlier feature *Mary and Max* (2009), and five shorts including his Oscar-winning *Harvie Krumpet* (2004)—with Elliot attending in person.

MoMI has presented numerous exhibitions devoted to animation. These have included *Tim Burton: Drawings* (2003), *Gumby and the Art of Stop-Motion Animation* (2005), *The Art of Rise of the Guardians* (2012), *What's Up, Doc? The Animation Art of Chuck Jones* (2014), *Plymptoons: Short Films and Drawings by Bill Plympton* (2014), *The World of Anomalisa* (2015), *Reimagining the Cel: Experiments in Animation from the 1980s* (2019), *D'Oh! Animating America's Favorite Family* (2020), "A Wonderful, Awful Idea": *Animating the Grinch Who Stole Christmas* (2021), and *LAIKA: Life in Stop Motion* (2022–23). In addition, the Museum's core exhibition *Behind the Screen*, which explores the many crafts and creative processes behind moving images, has a section devoted to animation and its link to the birth of cinema.

About Museum of the Moving Image

Founded in 1985, MoMI celebrates the history, art, technology, and future of the moving image in all of its forms. Located 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 most comprehensive 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 MoMI, visit movingimage.org.

About IFC Films

IFC Films is a leading U.S. distributor of independent cinema that is operated by AMC Networks Inc. The company has been at the forefront of championing boundary-pushing, thought-provoking films for 25 years, with a commitment to delivering high-quality, filmmaker-driven cinema across all genres. IFC Films' slate reaches a national

audience through theatrical releases, cable Video On Demand (VOD), and digital platforms.

Some of the company's successes over the years include Andrew Haigh's *45 Years*, Jennifer Kent's *The Babadook*, Matthew Johnson's *Blackberry*, Richard Linklater's *Boyhood*, Armando Iannucci's *The Death of Stalin*, Noah Baumbach's *Frances Ha*, David France's *How to Survive a Plague*, Chris Nash's *In a Violent Nature*, Colin and Cameron Cairnes's *Late Night with the Devil*, Stephen Frears' *The Lost King*, Adam Elliot's *Memoir of a Snail*, Olivier Assayas' *Personal Shopper*, Tran Anh Hung's *The Taste of Things*, Michael Winterbottom's *The Trip*, and Chloe Okuno's *Watcher*.

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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 Governor Kathy Hochul 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).