

MUSEUM OF THE MOVING IMAGE

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Museum of the Moving Image announces 14th annual First Look Festival, March 12–16, 2025

Reverse Shot Emerging Critics Workshop—call for applications now open!

First Look program lineup to be announced in early February; All-Access Festival Passes now on sale at 25% off

Astoria, New York, January 17, 2025 — Museum of the Moving Image's 14th annual First Look Festival, an annual showcase for new international cinema, will take place March 12–16, 2025. Each year, First Look introduces New York audiences to more than three dozen formally inventive works that seek to redefine the art form, often with the filmmakers in person; and through its Working on It program, engages filmmakers, critics, and students in conversations about the creative process in workshops and work-in-progress screenings.

The lineup for the 14th annual First Look will be announced in early February. All-Access Festival Passes, good for all screenings including Opening and Closing Night and all Working on It sessions, are on sale now through January 31 at 25% off (regularly \$130) with code EARLYBIRD.

First Look will again present the Reverse Shot Emerging Critics Workshop, organized in conjunction with MoMI's house publication for criticism, [Reverse Shot](#). Participating writers, selected via an application process, will have the opportunity to meet established film critics, filmmakers, and other industry professionals; take part in talks and workshops; and attend and cover a major New York festival. Applicants can send a cover letter and three writing samples to: critics@movingimage.org. Deadline is February 14, 2025. For more information, visit movingimage.org/about/reverse-shot-workshop-2025.

First Look was the New York launching point for new works by filmmakers such as Chantal Akerman, Bill and Turner Ross, Sergei Loznitsa, Claire Simon, Hirokazu Koreeda, Jean-Pierre and Luc Dardenne, Ken Jacobs, James Benning, Iliana Sosa, Babak Jalali, Midi Z, Tatiana Huezo, Mohanad Yaqubi, and more. The festival has also been the ideal setting for adventurous media works that expand outside traditional theatrical settings. The 2022 edition featured *As Mine Exactly*, the singular live VR experience by Charlie Shackleton and in 2024, the Museum presented Fiona Tan's *Footsteps* (2024) in a gallery setting. With a programming team led by MoMI's Senior Curator of Film Eric Hynes, Associate Curator of Film Edo Choi, and Curator of Science and Technology

Sonia Epstein, films are invited and selected from international film festivals, with filmmakers appearing either in person or via video.

First Look 2025 is supported by Presenting Sponsors Lismore Road and MUBI. Additional support for Working on It provided by Lismore Road.

#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 stunning 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 MoMI, visit movingimage.org.

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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).