

MUSEUM OF THE MOVING IMAGE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

LAST CHANCE TO SEE EXHIBITION 'SPECTACLE: THE MUSIC VIDEO,' WHICH CLOSSES SUNDAY, JUNE 16

Final programs include personal appearances by MTV creator Bob Pittman, filmmaker Jem Cohen, Fugazi member Guy Picciotto, and music artist and filmmaker Woodkid (a.k.a. Yoann Lemoine); an evening of rock-n-roll storytelling; discussion about hip-hop in the YouTube age; screenings of *Instrument*, *Stop Making Sense*, *True Stories*, and *Dancer in the Dark*; more

Astoria, NY, June 5, 2013—In conjunction with the exhibition *Spectacle: The Music Video*—which closes in eleven days on Sunday, June 16—Museum of the Moving Image will present a final round of related programs including personal appearances by music artists and filmmakers **Woodkid (a.k.a. Yoann Lemoine)** (June 15), **Jem Cohen** (June 7), and Fugazi band member **Guy Picciotto** (June 7), as well as the groundbreaking television executive **Bob Pittman** (June 5), who was a founder of and programmer for MTV. In the screening series *Play This Movie Loud!*, organized to accompany *Spectacle*, the Museum will screen Cohen's Fugazi documentary *Instrument*; Lars Von Trier's *Dancer in the Dark*, featuring Björk; and a double feature of Jonathan Demme's *Stop Making Sense* (Talking Heads) and David Byrne's *True Stories*. Additional programs include the live storytelling event **The Soundtrack Series** (June 14) featuring music writer Maura Johnston and other guests, and the panel discussion **Hip-Hop in the YouTube Age** (June 8), moderated by radio host and media activist Harry Allen. A complete schedule of programs is included below; many of these events are free with Museum admission.

For families, the Museum will also present sessions of the **Animated Music Video** workshop on Saturday and Sunday, June 15 and 16. In this 90-minute workshop, children (ages 8+) will have the opportunity to create their own music video using some of the same materials and techniques featured in videos on view in *Spectacle*.

Since it opened on April 3, 2013, *Spectacle: The Music Video* has received wide and enthusiastic praise: "a dizzyingly comprehensive, highly engaging, and refreshingly unpretentious look at history's most innovative and boundary-pushing videos" (*Creators Project*), "vivid and innovative" (*Time Out New York*), "a stunningly comprehensive look at where music videos have been and where they're headed" (*Video Static*), "and as *The Village Voice* put it, the exhibition "just might make you want your MTV all over again."

Spectacle explores music video as an important and influential art form in contemporary culture and is the most comprehensive museum exhibition on music videos presented to date. The exhibition highlights the form's place at the forefront of creative technology, its role in pushing the boundaries of innovative production, its important role as an experimental sandbox for filmmakers, and its lasting effects on popular culture globally. It features more than 300 videos, presented alongside artifacts and interactive experiences.

Spectacle: The Music Video is curated by Jonathan Wells and Meg Grey Wells of Flux, a global creative community and collective that programs film and art events around the world, and was organized by the Contemporary Arts Center in Cincinnati, where it debuted in March 2012. The exhibition at Museum of the Moving Image is presented in partnership with Sonos, the leading manufacturer of wireless audio systems, and VEVO, the world's leading all-premium music video and entertainment platform, with additional support from Adobe and SOL REPUBLIC.

Press contact: Tomoko Kawamoto / tkawamoto@movingimage.us / 718 777 6830

"SPECTACLE: THE MUSIC VIDEO" RELATED PROGRAMS, JUNE 5–16, 2013

Unless otherwise noted, film screenings take place in the Sumner M. Redstone Theater and in the Celeste and Armand Bartos Screening Room at Museum of the Moving Image, 36-01 35 Avenue (at 37 Street), Astoria, and are included with Museum admission. Advance tickets for some special screenings and events are available online at movingimage.us or by calling 718 777 6800.

An Evening with Bob Pittman

Wednesday, June 5, 7:00 p.m.

The co-founder and programmer who led the team that created MTV, Bob Pittman is one of the most successful and influential media executives of his time. He has been described as the only media mogul who is also an entrepreneur, and his work in television and music has indelibly influenced what we now call the "MTV Generation." After launching MTV, which quickly became the most successful cable channel of its time, Pittman oversaw the transformation of Nickelodeon and the launch of Nick at Nite and VH-1. He has been CEO of MTV Networks, AOL Networks, Six Flags Theme Parks, Quantum Media, Century 21 Real Estate, and Time Warner Enterprises. He is now the CEO of Clear Channel Communications, where he is continuing to define the changing media landscape. Pittman has been recognized in *Life's* "Five Original Thinkers of the '80s," *Advertising Age's* "50 Pioneers and Visionaries of TV," and "10 Marketers Who Changed American Culture." This conversation with Bob Pittman will be moderated by the Museum's Executive Director, Carl Goodman.

Free admission, including access to *Spectacle: The Music Video* from 5:00–7:00 p.m.

Reservations are being taken at rsvp@movingimage.us or 718 777 6800. Tickets will be distributed first-come, first-served on the day of the event.

Screening: Fugazi in *Instrument*

With director Jem Cohen and Fugazi guitarist/vocalist Guy Picciotto in person

Friday, June 7, 7:00 p.m.

Dir. Jem Cohen. 2003, 115 mins. Digital projection. With Brendan Canty, Joe Lally, Ian MacKaye. Fugazi's DIY ethos is taken to heart in *Instrument*, Jem Cohen's insightful video document of the band's life over eleven years—from 1987 to 1998. The film, shot in numerous formats, compiles concert footage, interviews, and audience portraits spanning the range of Fugazi's activity during the period. *Instrument* is a tribute not only to the band's continued critical and popular acclaim but also to the independent music scene of Washington D.C. where Fugazi grew up and found its calling. (Part of the series *Play This Movie Loud!*).

Screening: Talking Heads in *Stop Making Sense*

Saturday, June 8, 5:00 p.m.

Dir. Jonathan Demme. 1984, 88 mins. 35mm. With David Byrne, Tina Weymouth, Bernie Worrell, Alex Weir. In *Stop Making Sense*, big-white-suited Talking Heads leader David Byrne is on the verge of something; maybe a nervous breakdown, maybe transcendence. "Don't touch me I'm a real live wire", he warns early on, and this might as well serve as the description for the entire film. Each song contains an electrical pulse that passes from one moment to the next, building upon its own momentum until the entire performance lifts off the ground and vibrates on a frenetic, exuberantly joyful frequency captured beautifully by music-enthusiast director Jonathan Demme and a team of ace cinematographers led by Jordan Cronenweth. (Part of the series *Play This Movie Loud!*).

Screening: David Byrne in *True Stories*

Saturday, June 8, 7:00 p.m.

Dir. David Byrne. 1986, 90 mins. 35mm. With David Byrne, John Goodman, Annie McEnroe. On the occasion of its 150th anniversary, the town of Virgil, Texas stages a "Celebration of Specialness" to commemorate the event; meanwhile a cowboy-hat-wearing David Byrne takes the opportunity to make the acquaintance of some of the town's more eccentric citizens. Filled with off-kilter tales and meditations on the peculiar shape of modern living and featuring a bevy of musical interludes, *True Stories* is an absurdist look at small-town America filtered through the ever-inspired mind of the enigmatic Talking Heads front man. (Part of the series *Play This Movie Loud!*).

Screening: Björk in *Dancer in the Dark*

Sunday, June 9, 2:00 p.m.

Dir. Lars von Trier. 2000, 140 mins. 35mm. With Björk, Catherine Deneuve, David Morse. In Lars von Trier's raw, hyper-real reinvention of the musical, Björk stars as Selma Ježková, a Czech immigrant who moves to America in order to raise money for her son's eye operation. Going blind herself, Selma dreams of being in big Hollywood musicals while she struggles at her job at the local factory. Just as she is reaching her goal, tragedy strikes, and Selma is forced to face consequences outside of her control. Alternating between coarse hand-held camerawork

and glossy musical production, *Dancer in the Dark* is an emotionally devastating portrait of the struggle between a woman's dreams and her reality. (Part of the series *Play This Movie Loud!*).

Hip-Hop in the YouTube Age

A discussion presented by Harry Allen, Hip-Hop Activist & Media Assassin

Sunday, June 9, 5:00 p.m.

How is the rise of Internet video affecting hip-hop? Writer/broadcaster Harry Allen was an early proponent of the Internet, strategizing an online presence for Public Enemy as early as 1991, and publishing the print journal **rap dot com** in 1994. In this event, Allen will lead a discussion, accompanied by a wide selection of clips, exploring online video's significant impact on hip-hop culture. The medium, Allen argues, is changing the message. It is doing this through enabling personal visions that don't fit traditional television formats; providing an outlet for even more direct communication between artists and fans; reviving rare video content; and by other means. Hip-hop has consistently absorbed and incorporated the technology around it, mutating slightly with each new addition. The web provides no exception. Where both go next will be the ultimate focus of this review.

The Soundtrack Series

Live show with Maura Johnston, Dan Charnas, Ronica Reddick, Peter Aguerro, Zachary Lipez. Hosted by Dana Rossi.

Friday, June 14, 7:00 p.m.

The Soundtrack Series is a live show and podcast that celebrates music in our everyday lives—from the hilarious or heartbreaking stories and memories we forever tie to certain songs, to the debates we have over music's most famous arguments. In conjunction with the exhibition *Spectacle: The Music Video*, this special edition features writers and performers telling personal stories about music videos—how one video made a mark on their lives. The event will hold a magnifying glass up to the influence that videos have had on our culture by zeroing in on the personal, specific ways that they have mattered to us. Dana Rossi is the creator and host of The Soundtrack Series, which is regularly presented live at The Gallery at Le Poisson Rouge. Flavorpill has called the series "the best rock and roll storytelling event in New York." Please note: Due to a scheduling conflict, hip-hop artist Jean Grae will not be able to participate as previously announced.

Free admission. Tickets will be given out first-come, first-served on the day of the program.

Sonos and VEVO present: The Director's Studio:

An Evening with Woodkid (a.k.a. Yoann Lemoine)

Saturday, June 15, 7:00 p.m.

Yoann Lemoine is an accomplished filmmaker and musician. He is best known for his music video collaborations with Lana Del Rey ("Born to Die"), Katy Perry ("Teenage Dream"), and Drake featuring Rihanna ("Take Care"). Under the stage name Woodkid, he has just released his first album, *The Golden Age*. Serving not just as a singer-songwriter, Lemoine directs all aspects of the music and image for the project. He will discuss his career and show highlights

from his work.

Free with Museum admission. Tickets will be given out first-come, first-served on the day of the program.

Family Workshop: Animated Music Videos

Saturday, June 15, 1:00 p.m. and 3:00 p.m.

Sunday, June 16, 1:00 p.m. and 3:00 p.m.

Some of the most exciting videos featured in the Museum's exhibition *Spectacle: The Music Video* use stop-motion animation in fun and creative ways. In this 90-minute workshop, children will have the opportunity to create their own music video using some of the same materials and techniques featured in *Spectacle*. After visiting the exhibition with a Museum educator, participants will work together to make an animation with Legos, found objects, or themselves. Ages 8+

Materials fee: \$10 / \$5 for Family members. Family-level Museum members may reserve tickets in advance by calling 718 777 6800.

Museum of the Moving Image (movingimage.us) advances the understanding, enjoyment, and appreciation of the art, history, technique, and technology of film, television, and digital media. In January 2011, the Museum reopened after a major expansion and renovation that nearly doubled its size. Accessible, innovative, and forward-looking, the Museum presents exhibitions, education programs, significant moving-image works, and interpretive programs, and maintains a collection of moving-image related artifacts.

Hours: Tuesday-Thursday, 10:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Friday, 10:30 to 8:00 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, 11:30 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. Closed Mondays, except for select holiday openings.

Film Screenings: Friday evenings, Saturdays and Sundays, and as scheduled. Unless otherwise noted, screenings are included with paid Museum admission.

Museum Admission: \$12.00 for adults; \$9.00 for persons over 65 and for students with ID; \$6.00 for children ages 3-12. Children under 3 and Museum members are admitted free. Admission to the galleries is free on Fridays, 4:00 to 8:00 p.m. Tickets for special screenings and events may be purchased in advance by phone at 718 777 6800 or online.

Location: 36-01 35 Avenue (at 37 Street) in Astoria.

Subway: M (weekdays only) or R to Steinway Street. Q (weekdays only) or N to 36 Avenue.

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

Membership: 718 777 6877, members@movingimage.us

The Museum is housed in a building owned by the City of New York and located on the campus of Kaufman Astoria Studios. Its operations are made possible in part by public funds provided through the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs, the New York City Economic Development Corporation, the New York State Council on the Arts, the National Endowment for the Arts, the National Endowment for the Humanities, the Institute of Museum and Library Services, and the Natural Heritage Trust (administered by the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation, and Historic Preservation). The Museum also receives generous support from numerous corporations, foundations, and individuals. For more information, please visit movingimage.us.

###

