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THE VENTURA FILM SOCIETY RETURNS MARCH 25-28, 2010 WITH ITS FESTIVAL 2010

Ventura, CA (March 4, 2010) - The Ventura Film Society returns March 25-28, with its Festival 2010 at the Historic Elks Lodge, located in Downtown Ventura. The four-day celebration of film expands on the theme, "Discover The World Around You".

This year's festival will be another stunning mix of Local Voices & Global Visions and will include nearly 60 films from local and international filmmakers. Featured events include an 8 film tribute to writer/actor/director **Paul Mazursky**, who will be attending the festival Saturday & Sunday March 27th and 28th. One of America's most respected filmmakers, Mazursky has created a body of work over the past forty years that illuminates the personal, intimate and often hilarious aspects of our human condition. (**See full list below of Mazursky films being screened. See Paul Mazursky Tribute Video at <http://www.youtube.com/user/billysscreeningroom2>**).

Opening night film on Thursday March 25 is "**We Live In Public**" (USA 2009), a chillingly prophetic look at the life and social networking experiments of internet pioneer Josh Harris. Also screening will be "**I Am Love**", the new film from Oscar-winner **Tilda Swinton**, the award-winning documentary features "**No Impact Man**", "**Manda Bala**", "**Touch The Sound**" and "**Freeheld**" (Academy Award 2008). A special screening of "**White Heat**", starring the late Silver Screen Legend and longtime Ventura County resident **Virginia Mayo**. New works from Brooks Institute and Santa Barbara-based Youth Cine Media will also be featured.

*"Community response to our 2009 Spring Festival and Fall Series was really gratifying. We felt an outpouring of support and encouragement for the Ventura Film Society to continue bringing quality alternative cinema to Ventura", says VFS director **Lorenzo DeStefano** .*

The Ventura Film Society's Festival 2010 schedule will include a broad range of films.

Narrative Feature Program includes "I Am Love" (Italy), "4 Months, 3 Weeks, 2 Days" (Romania), "The Sicilian Girl" (Italy), "Paraiso Travel" (Colombia), "Crazy Stranger" (France/Romania), "Molokai-The Story of Father Damien" (Belgium/Australia).

Feature Documentary Program includes "We Live In Public", "No Impact Man", "Manda Bala", "Blue Gold-World Water Wars", "The Third Wave", "Touch The Sound", "Forgotten Ellis Island", "Girls on The Wall", "Once There Was A Country", "Waiting For Hockney", "Herb & Dorothy", "Tupperware!", "Paris Is Burning", "Compañeras", "Signatures" and "Freeheld".

Short Film Program includes “Rift” from returning VFS filmmaker Andrew Huang, “We Have Decided Not To Die” from visionary Australian filmmaker Daniel Askill, “Kick Like A Girl” by Jenny Mackenzie, “Sampsonia Way-City Of Asylum” from returning VFS filmmaker Jose Muniain, “Surfing Dolphins” by Santa Barbara filmmaker Greg Huglin, “Goofy Foot” by Chris Cashman, “9503 Maryknoll” by Phil Taggart, “Bountiful Bounty” by Nathan Cox, “The Closet Artist” from returning VFS filmmaker Michael Thanhouser, and “Devolution” from returning VFS filmmaker Gavin Heffernan.

The VFS Festival 2010 will present a number of shorts from Ventura’s **Brooks Institute** including “Riding High” by Tiffany Israel & Emily Ray, “Un Vie Merveilleuse” by Sean Broadbent, “Daisy” by Jack Major, and “D.On Darox & Linda The Fox” by Simarra Sousa and Melina Pizano.

Special Programs: Eight film tribute to the great American writer/director/actor **Paul Mazursky** to include “Down & Out in Beverly Hills”, “Blume In Love” starring **George Segal** (Festival attendee), “Moscow On The Hudson”, “Next Stop, Greenwich Village”, “Harry & Tonto”, “An Unmarried Woman”, “ Moon Over Parador”, and “Bob & Carol & Ted & Alice”.

Mazursky’s work as an actor will also be honored in such films and television projects as The Sopranos, Curb Your Enthusiasm, and Blackboard Jungle.

As it did in 2009, the VFS will feature the dynamic new work of young filmmakers from Santa Barbara-based **Youth Cine Media**, giving area youth a creative and powerful option to life on the streets.

“**Starring Virginia Mayo**” celebrates the late Hollywood Star and longtime Ventura county resident Virginia Mayo with a screening of “White Heat” starring Jimmy Cagney. Members of Virginia Mayo’s family will attend and offer their remembrances of this vibrant and talented actress.

The **Works-In-Progress Program** includes “Emmett” about Woodland-Hills based musician and inventor Emmett Chapman, a film on renowned Ventura County painter Omar d’Leon by George Sandoval, and two evolving films about the recent castle ramparts project built by Japanese artisans and international sculptors at Ventura’s Grant Park, sponsored by the Serra Cross Conservancy and Art City Inventura.

FESTIVAL LOCATION:

The Historic Elks Lodge
11 S. Ash Street @ Main
Downtown Ventura, Ca. (93001)

ADVANCE TICKETS SALES

Paypal Online:

www.venturafilmsociety.com/tickets

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Ticket Office: Ventura Visitors & Convention
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