

FONDAZIONE PRADA PRESENTS THE CINEMA PROJECT "SOGGETTIVA NICOLAS WINDING REFN" AND ITS FEBRUARY FILM PROGRAM

Milan, 31 January 2019 – Fondazione Prada presents its February film program, that will include a collaboration with Netflix and the launch of the fourth series of "Soggettiva". Subtitled *Expressway Milano*, the new chapter of "Soggettiva" is a "cinematic journey into the rare and unknown" conceived by Nicolas Winding Refn and byNWR.

"Soggettiva Nicolas Winding Refn" featuring 13 American forgotten films from the online platform byNWR

"Soggettiva Nicolas Winding Refn" will be presented on Friday 22 February 2019 at Fondazione Prada's Cinema. At 6 pm, a conversation will take place between Nicolas Winding Refn, author/byNWR Managing Editor Jimmy McDonough, BUREAU Director David Frost, and the film critic Manlio Gomasca, followed by the screening of *Spring Night, Summer Night* (1967) by Joseph L. Anderson. Entrance is free upon booking. The event will be live streamed on Fondazione Prada's Facebook and YouTube channels.

The talk will focus on Nicolas Winding Refn's new adventure known as byNWR, a revolutionary online site which was first presented in 2018 and developed with London-based agency BUREAU. As stated by Winding Refn, "What we've created is not a film, TV, fashion, photography, lifestyle or political site. It's an installation, an online museum inclusive of everything. There's a movie presented each month, but that film is merely the jumping off point. It's the seed to inspire creativity, provoke a state of mind. The result isn't easy to explain in a soundbite, you have to experience it. byNWR comes with a mystery attached". The platform is set up like a publication, with quarterly volumes of original content divided into three monthly chapters, each of those chapters having been inspired by an accompanying fully-restored film.

byNWR is an opportunity to experience culture and art in an unpredictable and unconventional way. One of the key concepts of byNWR is that it is free of charge. Winding Refn explains: "As the entertainment industry implodes, we embrace the digital revolution. I believe 'free' is the future of entertainment, and the key to that future is our past. Free is the way to bypass the system, the establishment. My desire is not to destroy but inspire."

Acting on that impulse, all public screenings of "Soggettiva Nicolas Winding Refn," taking place at Fondazione's Cinema on Fridays from 1 March to 24 May 2019, will be free. This project focuses on the future of cinema by championing the present, in which the traditional movie-theater experience collaborates with ever-increasing online and mobile film consumption.

byNWR's selection for Fondazione Prada includes 13 forgotten 1960's/1970's American films—from drive-in movies titles to lost avant-garde cinema, horror and gothic fantasy films to musicals, "nudie cutie" movies to religious and propaganda cinema—divided in 4 volumes. Volume 1 titled "Regional Renegades" comprises *The Nest of The Cuckoo Birds* (1965) by Bert Williams, *Hot Thrills and Warm Chills* (1967) by Dale Berry and *Shanty Tramp* (1967) by Joseph P. Mawra. Volume 2 "Missing Links" features *Night Tide* (1961) by Curtis Harrington, *If Footmen Tire You, What Will Horses Do?* (1972) by Ron Ormond, *The Burning Hell* (1974) by Ron Ormond and *Spring Night, Summer Night* (1967) by Joseph L. Anderson. Volume 3 "Hillbillies, Hustlers, and Fallen Idols" presents *Cottonpickin' Chickenpickers* (1967) by Larry E. Jackson, *Wild Guitar* (1962) by Ray Dennis Steckler and *House on Bare Mountain* (1962) by Lee Frost. Volume 4 "Smell of Female" includes *Chained Girls* (1965) by Joseph P. Mawra, *Satan in High Heels* (1962) by Jerald Intrator and *Maidens of Fetish Street* (1966) by Saul Resnick. All films have been meticulously restored in 4K from original camera negatives or the only existing prints by Peter Conheim, byNWR's archivist.

A new collaboration with Netflix: special screenings of *Velvet Buzzsaw* and *High Flying Bird* to enrich "Indagine" section

Fondazione Prada's film program also comprises the section "Indagine" which brings together first releases and films that have not been distributed or are rarely seen in Italy.

In February Fondazione Prada will collaborate with Netflix, exclusively presenting cinema screenings of two new films produced by the internet entertainment service: *Velvet Buzzsaw* directed by Dan Gilroy on Saturday 2 and 9 February and *High Flying Bird* directed by Steven Soderbergh on Saturday 16 and 23 February. This new element will further enrich Fondazione Prada's cinematographic offer, giving the special opportunity to its audience to experience these two films selected for their artistic relevance.

Velvet Buzzsaw, premiered at the Sundance Film Festival, is a thriller set in the contemporary art world scene of Los Angeles. Master of suspense Dan Gilroy (*Nightcrawler*) has assembled an all-star cast (Jake Gyllenhaal, John Malkovich and Billy Magnussen) for a dark, uproarious, and painfully accurate spoof of the art world. Directed by Academy Award winner Steven Soderbergh (*Traffic*) from a script by Academy Award winner Tarell Alvin McCraney (*Moonlight*) and premiered at the Slamdance Film Festival, *High Flying Bird* is set in the professional basketball world and features an acclaimed ensemble cast that includes Zazie Beetz, Melvin Gregg, Sonja Sohn, Zachary Quinto, Kyle MacLachlan and Bill Duke, plus appearances from NBA athletes Reggie Jackson, Karl-Anthony Towns and Donovan Mitchell. Shot entirely on an iPhone, Soderbergh's film represents a technological challenge to the traditional movie making.

“Origine”: a double bill program featuring two German classics from 1940’s and two works by Mexican author Arturo Ripstein

The section *Origine*, dedicated to restored films from the past, re-proposed for their historical and contemporary relevance, includes *Opfergang* (The Great Sacrifice - Germany 1944) by Veit Harlan, associated with *Münchhausen* (Germany, 1943) by Josef von Báky on Sunday 3 and 10 February; and *Profundo Carmesi* (Mexico, France, Spain, 1996) by Arturo Ripstein, presented in its full version in dialogue with *El lugar sin límites* (Mexico, 1977) by the same director on Sunday 17 and 24 February.

Opfergang and *Münchhausen*, shown in their original versions thanks to the support of Friedrich-Wilhelm-Murnau-Stiftung, were perfect showcases for the then newly invented Agfacolor process encouraged by The Third Reich's Minister of Propaganda to demonstrate the supremacy of German technology. Even if these two costume and melodrama films are not openly propaganda works, they can be interpreted as a powerful alternative narration to the dramatic historical reality of that time. Arturo Ripstein's films presentation, realized thanks to the support of Instituto Mexicano de Cinematografía and MK2 (Paris), pays homage to the Mexican film production and to an author of a restless and painful cinema, who has combined in his works suggestions of melodrama with a cruelly realistic style.

“Soggettiva Luc Tuymans” until 15 February

“Soggettiva Luc Tuymans”, curated by the artist on the occasion of his exhibition “Sanguine. Luc Tuymans on Baroque”, will be screened until 15 February, featuring *Medea* (Italy, 1969) by Pier Paolo Pasolini and *Malpertuis* (Belgium, France, Germany, 1971) by Harry Kümel on Friday 1 February; *Aguirre, Der Zorn Gottes* (Aguirre, the Wrath of God – Germany, 1972) by Werner Herzog and *Blue Velvet* (USA, 1986) by David Lynch on Friday 8 February; *There Will Be Blood* (USA, 2007) by Paul Thomas Anderson and *The Social Network* (USA, 2010) by David Fincher on 15 February.

Press contacts:

Fondazione Prada
T +39 02 56 66 26 34
press@fondazioneprada.org
fondazioneprada.org

Information for the public

Entrance to the presentation event of “Soggettiva Nicolas Winding Refn” at 6 pm on Friday 22 February 2019 (a conversation between Nicolas Winding Refn, Jimmy McDonough, David Frost, and Manlio Gomasasca, followed by the screening of *Spring Night, Summer Night*) is free upon booking. The number of available seats is limited.

To request two seats, please send an email with your name and surname and those of your guest to: soggettivanwr@fondazioneprada.org.

The registration will be accepted upon seats availability. Complimentary tickets can be collected at Fondazione Prada’s ticket desk from 5 to 5.45 pm.

The event will be lived streamed on Fondazione Prada’s Facebook and YouTube channels.

The full program of February 2019 is available on Fondazione Prada’s website: fondazioneprada.org