



MAY-JUNE 2022

**MFAH** *The Museum of Fine Arts, Houston*  
1001 Bissonnet Street  
Houston, Texas 77005

**MFAH STAFF**

Gary Tinterow, *Director,*  
*The Margaret Alkek Williams Chair*  
*The Museum of Fine Arts, Houston*  
Marian Luntz, *Curator, Film*  
Tracy Stephenson, *Coordinator and Assistant*  
*Programmer, Film*  
Ray Gomez, *Assistant for Community Outreach*  
*and Administration*  
Trey Ferguson, Kirston Otis, Tish Stringer, and  
Joel Parker, *Projectionists*

**RECORDED FILM INFORMATION LINE**  
713-639-7515

**MFAH CALL CENTER**  
713-639-7771

Go to [mfah.org/film](https://mfah.org/film) for updated schedules  
and additional details.



[fb.com/mfahfilms](https://fb.com/mfahfilms)



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[instagram.com/mfahouston](https://instagram.com/mfahouston)



Brown Auditorium Theater (B) Lynn Wyatt Theater (W)

# WELCOME

We are proud to share our May–June lineup, a lively and diverse selection of films screening in the Brown Auditorium Theater and the Lynn Wyatt Theater.

The Museum is the exclusive Houston venue for the national release of *Memoria*, starring Tilda Swinton and directed by the visionary Apichatpong Weerasethakul. Set in Colombia, the story unfolds as a metaphysical journey, enriched by an exceptional sound design that must be experienced in a theater.

This season brings the return of two very popular film festivals. **Five Funny French Films** has moved to early May, taking place Mother's Day weekend, May 6–8, and of course a few of the films feature memorable French *mamans*.

**Jazz on Film**, guest-programmed by independent curator Peter Lucas, takes place June 4–18. His deep knowledge of the intersections between cinema and jazz assures another rewarding edition, including rare classics with memorable jazz scores and immersive documentaries. Check the website for special guests—the list is still being confirmed as I write.

June is Pride Month, and we will be honoring the 40th anniversary of the passing of the iconic Rainer Werner Fassbinder with his 1972 melodrama, *The Bitter Tears of Petra von Kant*, on 35mm. The month ends in catharsis with *Neptune Frost*, an Afrofuturist sci-fi punk musical codirected by multidisciplinary artist Saul Williams and Anisia Uzeyman. We are partnering with the Big Queer Picture Show, a new nomadic programming initiative.

I would like to express my appreciation to members of Film Buffs, our loyalty program. Your ranks have been swelling, as everyone gets more comfortable returning to the cinema. It is truly the most affordable way to see our films. We also encourage gift memberships for special occasions!



Marian Luntz  
Curator, Film and Video



WHEN GRANNY MEETS GRANDPA

## NOW PLAYING

On the cover: *Neptune Frost*

## GENERAL INFORMATION

Please check the location for your movie! Films are screened in Brown Auditorium Theater ® in the Caroline Wiess Law Building (1001 Bissonnet, enter from Main Street) or the Lynn Wyatt Theater ® in the Nancy and Rich Kinder Building (5500 Main Street). See map on back cover.

Refreshments are not permitted in the theaters. Audience members are kindly requested to silence all electronic devices once the film begins. Many films are unrated and may not be appropriate for younger viewers. Call 713-639-7531 with questions.

## PLAN YOUR VISIT

Visit [mfah.org/visit/parking](https://mfah.org/visit/parking) for all parking options. Masks are recommended, but not required to be worn inside Museum

auditoriums. Advance tickets are recommended. Doors open 30 minutes before the screening starts. No late entry. If you have questions about accessibility resources in the Museum's auditoriums, please email [accessibility@mfah.org](mailto:accessibility@mfah.org) or call 713-639-7300.

## ADMISSION

Except where otherwise indicated, general admission is \$9. *Museum members, students with ID, and seniors (65+) receive a \$2 discount.* No other discounts apply. Children 5 and under are admitted free—please check suitability of films for younger viewers.

Purchase tickets in advance at [mfah.org/film](https://mfah.org/film), at membership desks in the Nancy and Rich Kinder Building or Audrey Jones Beck Building during Museum hours, or at the theater box office prior to show time. Credit cards and cash are accepted in person.

## FILM BUFFS

Film Buffs is the Museum's membership group for movie lovers. Call 713-639-7550 or visit [mfah.org/filmbuffs](https://mfah.org/filmbuffs) for more information. Dues

start at \$85 and benefits include discounted admission to MFAH Films, discounted garage parking, and free passes to sneak preview screenings of new films! Museum members are eligible for a discount on the annual dues.

## SUPPORT

Underwriting for the Film Department is provided by Tenaris and the Vaughn Foundation.

Generous funding is provided by The Consulate General of the Republic of Korea; Nina and Michael Zilkha; Consulate General of Italy in Houston; Italian Cultural Institute in Los Angeles; Consulate General of Brazil in Houston; Franci Neely; Carrin Patman and Jim Derrick; L'Alliance Française de Houston; and ILEX Foundation.

Official media partner:

**Houston Public Media**  
A SERVICE OF THE UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON  


[mfah.org/films](https://mfah.org/films)





# MAY 2022

| SUNDAY  | MONDAY    | TUESDAY   | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY   | FRIDAY   | SATURDAY  |
|---|-----------|-----------|-----------|--|--|---|
| <b>1</b><br><br><b>Please note the location of each film:</b><br><b>Brown Auditorium Theater ®</b><br><b>Lynn Wyatt Theater ®</b> | <b>2</b>  | <b>3</b>  | <b>4</b>  | <b>5</b>   | <b>6</b><br>Five Funny French Films<br><b>Do You Do Saint-Tropez? ®</b><br>7:00 p.m.<br><br><b>Hard Shell, Soft Shell ®</b><br>9:00 p.m. | <b>7</b><br>Five Funny French Films<br><b>How to Be a Good Wife ®</b><br>7:00 p.m.<br><br><b>Knock, Knock, It's Mom! ®</b><br>9:15 p.m. |
| <b>8</b><br>Five Funny French Films<br><b>When Granny Meets Grandpa ®</b><br>4:00 p.m.  | <b>9</b>  | <b>10</b> | <b>11</b> | <b>12</b>  | <b>13</b><br>New Releases<br><b>Happening ®</b><br>7:00 p.m.   | <b>14</b><br>New Releases<br><b>Happening ®</b><br>7:00 p.m.  |
| <b>15</b><br>New Releases<br><b>Happening ®</b><br>2:00 p.m.<br><br><b>Juanita ®</b><br>5:00 p.m.                                 | <b>16</b> | <b>17</b> | <b>18</b> | <b>19</b><br>New Releases<br><b>Memoria ®</b><br>7:00 p.m. | <b>20</b><br>New Releases<br><b>Memoria ®</b><br>7:00 p.m.   | <b>21</b><br>New Releases<br><b>Memoria ®</b><br>7:00 p.m.  |
| <b>22</b><br>New Releases<br><b>Memoria ®</b><br>2:00 p.m.  | <b>23</b> | <b>24</b> | <b>25</b> | <b>26</b>  | <b>27</b><br>New Releases<br><b>Rock Bottom Riser ®</b><br>7:00 p.m.   | <b>28</b><br>New Releases<br><b>Rock Bottom Riser ®</b><br>7:00 p.m.  |
| <b>29</b>   | <b>30</b> | <b>31</b> |           |  |  | <br>Pictured:<br><i>How to Be a Good Wife</i>        |

Film Information Line: 713-639-7515. Visit [mfah.org/film](http://mfah.org/film) for program changes and more detailed film descriptions.

# JUNE 2022

| SUNDAY  | MONDAY  | TUESDAY   | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY  | FRIDAY   | SATURDAY   |
|---|---|-----------|-----------|-----------|--|--|
| <br>Pictured: <i>The Bitter Tears of Petra von Kant</i> | <b>Please note the location of each film:</b><br><b>Brown Auditorium Theater ®</b><br><b>Lynn Wyatt Theater ®</b> |           | <b>1</b>  | <b>2</b>  | <b>3</b>   | <b>4</b><br>Jazz on Film<br><b>Odds Against Tomorrow ®</b><br>7:00 p.m.  |
| <b>5</b><br>Jazz on Film<br><b>Sun Ra: A Joyful Noise ®</b><br>5:00 p.m.  | <b>6</b>  | <b>7</b>  | <b>8</b>  | <b>9</b>  | <b>10</b><br>Restorations & Revivals<br><b>The Bitter Tears of Petra von Kant ®</b><br>7:00 p.m. | <b>11</b><br>Jazz on Film<br><b>The Jazz Baroness ®</b><br>7:00 p.m.     |
| <b>12</b><br>Jazz on Film<br><b>Passing Through ®</b><br>5:00 p.m.  | <b>13</b>   | <b>14</b> | <b>15</b> | <b>16</b> | <b>17</b><br>Jazz on Film<br><b>'Round Midnight ®</b><br>7:00 p.m.                               | <b>18</b><br>Jazz on Film<br><b>Odds Against Tomorrow ®</b><br>7:00 p.m. |
| <b>19</b>   | <b>20</b>   | <b>21</b> | <b>22</b> | <b>23</b> | <b>24</b><br>New Releases<br><b>Neptune Frost ®</b><br>7:00 p.m.                                 | <b>25</b><br>New Releases<br><b>Neptune Frost ®</b><br>7:00 p.m.         |
| <b>26</b><br>New Releases<br><b>Neptune Frost ®</b><br>6:00 p.m.  | <b>27</b>   | <b>28</b> | <b>29</b> | <b>30</b> |  |  |

Film Information Line: 713-639-7515. Visit [mfah.org/film](http://mfah.org/film) for program changes and more detailed film descriptions.



## FILM INFORMATION

The screening schedule is subject to change. Please follow MFAH Films on social media. All films are presented in their original languages with English subtitles, except where noted.

Information line: 713-639-7515  
Museum Call Center: 713-639-7771  
Updates: [mfah.org/film](https://mfah.org/film)  
Like us on Facebook: [fb.com/MFAHfilms](https://fb.com/MFAHfilms)  
Follow us on Twitter: [@mfahfilms](https://twitter.com/mfahfilms)  
Follow us on Instagram: [@mfahouston](https://instagram.com/mfahouston)

**Please note the location of each film:**  
**Brown Auditorium Theater** ⓘ  
**Lynn Wyatt Theater** ⓘ

## FIVE FUNNY FRENCH FILMS

Return to the Brown Auditorium Theater and laugh together at the hijinks and memorable characters in the 10th annual edition of this *trés drôle* festival featuring five new comedies! All films in French with English subtitles.

Film festival ticket prices apply: General admission is \$10. *Museum members, students with ID, and seniors (65+) receive \$2 discount.*

*Generous support has been provided by L'Alliance Française de Houston, Franci Neely, Melanie Gray and Mark Wawro, and Nina and Michael Zilkha.*



### DO YOU DO SAINT-TROPEZ? (MYSTÈRE À SAINT-TROPEZ)

Directed by Nicolas Benamou  
(France/Belgium, 2021, 89 min., digital)  
*Friday, May 6, 7:00 p.m.*

Billionaire Tranchant (Benoît Poelvoorde) and his wife Éliane host glamorous celebrities every summer at their luxurious mansion. When threatening letters start to arrive, the arrogant and incompetent detective Boulín (Christian Clavier) is assigned to the case, and turns everyone's vacation into a hilarious game of Clue!



### HARD SHELL, SOFT SHELL (FRAGILE)

Directed by Emma Benestan  
(France, 2021, 100 min., digital)  
*Friday, May 6, 9:00 p.m.*

Az, a handsome 20-something oyster farmer, plunges into depression after a botched proposal to his actress girlfriend. He gets dating advice from feisty female relatives and reality-checked by his pals. This dramedy about love, class, and finding oneself features stunning Mediterranean scenery and an infectious soundtrack from the French-Arab diaspora.

*Young French Cinema is made possible with the support of UniFrance and Villa Albertine in partnership with the Cultural Services of the French Embassy in the United States.*



### HOW TO BE A GOOD WIFE (LA BONNE ÉPOUSE)

Directed by Martin Provost  
(France/Belgium, 2020, 109 min.)  
*Saturday, May 7, 7:00 p.m.*

In 1968 France, prim-and-proper Paulette (Juliette Binoche) runs a school where teenaged girls are sent to prepare for the role of a traditional wife. When her husband dies suddenly, it is revealed that the school is bankrupt, prompting Paulette and her sister-in-law to take responsibility for saving it. Amusing stories follow the free-spirited young women in their charge and Paulette's reconnection with her first love (Edouard Baer), adding charm to a story of female empowerment that resonates with the era's women's liberation movement.



### KNOCK KNOCK, IT'S MOM! (UN TOUR CHEZ MA FILLE)

Directed by Eric Lavaine  
(France, 2020, 88 min.)  
*Saturday, May 7, 9:15 p.m.*

While her apartment is being renovated, Jacqueline (Josiane Balasko) is thrilled to be spending a few days with her eldest daughter Carole (Mathilde Seigner) and her son-in-law. A "few days" turn into a few months and Jacqueline quickly feels at home. She prepares dinners, monopolizes the television, and reorganizes the kitchen . . . who knows how long she will stay! The cast also includes the iconic Line Renaud, still radiant in her 90s.



### WHEN GRANNY MEETS GRANDPA (C'EST QUOI CE PAPY?!)

Directed by Gabriel Julien-Laferrrière  
(France, 2021, 103 min.)  
*Sunday, May 8, 4:00 p.m.*

When everyone's favorite fun-loving granny Aurore (Chantal Ladesou) loses her memory after a fall, she is sent to a nursing home. Her grandchildren hear her mention a mysterious man named Gégé, who they decide is Aurore's only true love, and possibly their long-lost grandfather! Hoping to trigger old memories that will snap her out of her amnesia, the seven grandchildren sneak Aurore out of the home and set out to find the legendary grandpa Gégé on a journey that becomes a lot more adventurous than they anticipated.

## NEW RELEASES



### HAPPENING (L'ÉVÈNEMENT)

Directed by Audrey Diwan  
(France, 2021, 100 min., in French with English subtitles, digital)  
*Friday–Saturday, May 13–14, 7:00 p.m.*  
*Sunday, May 15, 2:00 p.m.*

Based on Annie Ernaux's semi-autobiographical novel, *Happening* follows Anne (Anamaria Vartolomei), a bright young student facing an unwanted pregnancy while abortion is still illegal in 1960s France. *Happening* won the Golden Lion at the 2021 Venice Film Festival.

*Community partner: Cultural Services of the French Embassy*



### JUANITA

Directed by Leticia Tonos  
(Dominican Republic/Spain, 2018, 95 min., in Spanish with English subtitles, digital)  
*Sunday, May 15, 5:00 p.m.*  
*Introduced by Dr. Rachel Afi Quinn, associate professor of Comparative Cultural Studies and Women's, Gender & Sexuality Studies, University of Houston*

While living in Spain, Juanita, who is Dominican, begins a relationship with Mariano, a much older Spanish farmer. On their first trip to Santo Domingo for Christmas, they discover that love can be a tricky thing on the other side of the Atlantic. This romantic comedy was selected by Dr. Rachel Afi Quinn for its resonance with her book *Being La Dominicana: Race and Identity in the Visual Culture of Santo Domingo*.



### MEMORIA

Directed by Apichatpong Weerasethakul  
(Various countries, 2021, 136 min., in English and Spanish with English subtitles, digital)  
*Thursday–Saturday, May 19–21, 7:00 p.m.*  
*Sunday, May 22, 2:00 p.m.*

Tilda Swinton met the visionary Thai filmmaker Apichatpong Weerasethakul at a festival in Colombia and worked with him on a movie there. Swinton plays a woman who becomes an insomniac after being startled by a loud bang. Her efforts to seek solace lead to a series of encounters with an archaeologist and a fisherman. Set in Bogotá, her journey takes her across mountains and the jungle in this enigmatic fusion of science fiction and horror narratives. The MFAH is the exclusive Houston venue for *Memoria*'s national theatrical release.



### ROCK BOTTOM RISER

Directed by Fern Silva  
(USA, 2021, 70 min., 35mm)  
*Friday–Saturday, May 27–28, 7:00 p.m.*

Fern Silva, one of the most scintillating figures to emerge in contemporary experimental cinema, drops an audacious first feature. A sparkling essay film, which, in addressing the worldview of Indigenous Hawaiians, fluidly touches on matters pertaining to ethnography, geology, and the mysteries of the cosmos, while using a dizzying variety of filmic techniques.





**NEPTUNE FROST** ⓑ  
Directed by Saul Williams and Anisia Uzeyman  
(USA/Rwanda, 2021, 105 min., in Kinyarwanda, English, Swahili, and French with English subtitles, digital)  
*Friday–Saturday, June 24–25, 7:00 p.m.*  
*Sunday, June 26, 6:00 p.m.*

Celebrate Pride with an Afrofuturist sci-fi punk musical! Multidisciplinary artist Saul Williams creates a film with an amalgamation of themes, ideas, and songs explored on his 2016 album, *MartyrLoserKing*. Codirected with Anisia Uzeyman, a Rwandan-born artist and Williams’s cinematographer partner, *Neptune Frost* takes place in the hilltops of Burundi, where a group of escaped coltan miners form an anticolonialist computer-hacker collective. From their camp in an otherworldly e-waste dump, they attempt a takeover of the authoritarian regime exploiting the region’s natural resources—and its people.

*Community partners: Houston Cinema Arts Society and Big Queer Picture Show*

## JAZZ ON FILM

**Jazz on Film** returns to the Museum’s Brown Auditorium this June with three weekends of special screenings celebrating the various intersections of jazz and cinema! Organized by curator Peter Lucas, this year’s program features the classic, jazz-scored noir thriller *Odds Against Tomorrow* starring Harry Belafonte; the rarely seen “L.A. Rebellion” gem *Passing Through* scored by Horace Tapscott’s Pan African Peoples Arkestra; and documentaries illuminating the music of cosmic bandleader Sun Ra and the life of jazz patron Baroness Pannonica Rothschild. Join us for the return of this celebrated annual program exploring music, film, and culture.

*Peter Lucas has organized exhibitions, film series, and public programs in association with the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, Contemporary Arts Museum Houston, the Menil Collection, Seattle International Film Festival, Northwest Film Forum, the Museum of Pop Culture (MoPOP), and Aurora Picture Show. Lucas is also a writer, podcaster, and multidisciplinary artist.*



**ODDS AGAINST TOMORROW** ⓑ  
Directed by Robert Wise  
(USA, 1959, 95 minutes, 35mm)  
*Saturdays, June 4 & 18, 7:00 p.m.*

Robert Wise’s noir thriller stars Harry Belafonte and was produced by Belafonte’s HarBel Productions. To pull off a robbery, a former policeman recruits the unlikely partners of a gambling nightclub entertainer and a racist ex-con. A suspenseful crime film and an allegory about racism, greed, and humankind’s propensity for self-destruction, the film’s dynamic musical score composed by John Lewis of the Modern Jazz Quartet is performed by his MJQ bandmates (Milt Jackson, Percy Heath, and Connie Kay) with additional musicians including Bill Evans and Jim Hall.



**SUN RA: A JOYFUL NOISE** ⓑ  
Directed by Robert Mugge  
(USA, 1980, 60 min., 35mm)  
*Sunday, June 5, 5:00 p.m.*  
*Introduced by musician Damon Choice*

Filed between 1978 and 1980, director Robert Mugge’s documentary portrait of mythic free jazz innovator Sun Ra captures performances by Ra and his Arkestra in Philadelphia; Washington, D.C.; and Baltimore. Musical interludes (“Astro Black,” “Spaceship Earth,” “We Travel the Spaceways,” “Requiem for Trevor Johnson”) are intercut with footage of band members at their shared house in Philly’s Germantown neighborhood and Ra standing among Egyptian artifacts while relaying his poetic proclamations about vibrations, myth, and mystery.



**THE JAZZ BARONESS** ⓑ  
Directed by Hannah Rothschild  
(UK, 2009, 83 min., digital)  
*Saturday, June 11, 7:00 p.m.*

This fascinating documentary about jazz patron Baroness Pannonica Rothschild, directed by her great-niece, reveals an intriguingly complex figure. A member of the famous Jewish banking family, Nica began a lifelong obsession with New York’s jazz scene beginning in the 1950s and developed a passionate friendship with one of its greatest artists, Thelonious Monk. Though she ended up in the tabloids when Charlie Parker died at her apartment, she long remained a mystery to most. Pannonica’s voice is provided here by actress Helen Mirren in interview and diary excerpts, and jazz musicians including Quincy Jones and Sonny Rollins are interviewed.



**PASSING THROUGH** ⓑ  
Directed by Larry Clark  
(USA, 1977, 115 min., digital)  
*Sunday, June 12, 5:00 p.m.*

This rarely screened gem of African American independent cinema is the debut feature of filmmaker Larry Clark—a leading figure in the “L.A. Rebellion” movement (and nephew of jazz pianist Sonny Clark). *Passing Through* tells the story of Warmack, a jazz musician just released from prison, who refuses to participate in the exploitative music industry and searches for his grandfather and musical/spiritual mentor. The film’s original score is by Houston-born musician/composer Horace Tapscott and his Pan African Peoples Arkestra, who appear in the film as Warmack’s band. The soundtrack also features songs by Charlie Parker, Eric Dolphy, John Coltrane, the Art Ensemble of Chicago, Alice Coltrane, Sun Ra, and others.

*Digital presentation courtesy of the UCLA Film & Television Archive*



**‘ROUND MIDNIGHT** ⓑ  
Directed by Bertrand Tavernier  
(USA/France, 1986, 136 min., digital)  
*Friday, June 17, 7:00 p.m.*

The acclaimed *‘Round Midnight* is a wistful portrait of a jazz musician near the end of his life. Real-life tenor saxophonist Dexter Gordon stars as Dale Turner (a character based on musicians Lester Young and Bud Powell), who goes to Paris in the late 1950s to play nightly at the Blue Note club. He is befriended by a young Frenchman who idolizes him and tries to steer him away from alcohol abuse. The film’s many jazz performances were recorded live as they are performed—played by Gordon with Herbie Hancock, Freddie Hubbard, Bobby Hutcherson, and others.

## RESTORATIONS & REVIVALS



**THE BITTER TEARS OF PETRA VON KANT** ⓑ  
**VON KANT**(*DIE BITTEREN TRÄNEN DER PETRA VON KANT*)  
Directed by Rainer Werner Fassbinder  
(West Germany, 1972, 125 min., in German with English subtitles, 35mm)  
*Friday, June 10, 7:00 p.m.*

Mark the 40th anniversary of the passing of the legendary Rainer Werner Fassbinder with one of his memorable, Douglas Sirk–influenced melodramas. An unforgiving dissection of the imbalanced relationship between a haughty fashion designer (Margit Carstensen) and an icy ingénue (Hanna Schygulla), the film is based on the writer-director’s own desperate obsession with a young actor and features exquisitely claustrophobic cinematography by Michael Ballhaus and full-throttle performances by an all-female cast.

**ACCESSIBILITY**  
The Museum’s theaters offer accessible seating and assistive listening devices. If you have any questions about the Museum’s accessibility resources and programs, email [accessibility@mfaah.org](mailto:accessibility@mfaah.org) or call 713-639-7300.



Give the gift of cinema to the movie lover in your life! Film Buffs memberships begin at \$85 and include 10 free admissions to MFAH Films. Visit [mfaah.org/filmbuffs](http://mfaah.org/filmbuffs) or call 713-639-7550 for details.