



# MFAH FILMS

MAY-JUNE 2025

**MFAH** *The Museum of Fine Arts, Houston*  
P. O. Box 6826  
Houston, Texas 77265-6826

## 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*  
Albert Rodriguez, *Administrative and Production*  
*Coordinator, Film*  
Jiayi Chen, *Lead Projectionist*  
Kirston Otis, Baird Campbell, Rob Arcos, and  
Joel Parker, *Projectionists*

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

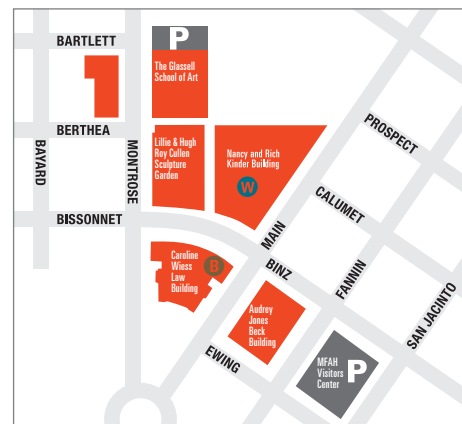
**MFAH CALL CENTER**  
713-639-7771

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

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

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

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



Brown Auditorium Theater **B** Lynn Wyatt Theater **W**

Use the 5500 Main Street entrance or the MFAH parking garages to access tunnels to both theaters.

# WELCOME

We're so proud that the Museum's 35mm-projection capabilities in both the Brown Auditorium Theater and the Lynn Wyatt Theater have been getting media attention. Film and culture writer Craig Lindsey interviewed me in a story he wrote for CultureMap Houston. We were then featured in a segment on ABC13's TV series *Localish*. So perhaps you'd like to mark your calendar for our next 35mm films? We are honoring the late Gene Hackman with a chance to see his memorable early role in *Bonnie and Clyde*, and have set the Houston 35mm premiere of *Anora*, one of the most awarded films of the past year.

The 13th edition of **Five Funny French Films** (or in our shorthand: **FFFF**) is in May. Many of you joined us for its "prequel," **FFFF Classics**, back in March. Alongside new comedies, the 2025 version includes one more hilarious classic we couldn't resist sharing: *Don't Look Now . . . We're Being Shot At!* Let us know what you think—would you like to see two editions of this series in the future?

Our upcoming new releases will bring audiences to far-ranging places, geographically and emotionally. Constance Tsang's *Blue Sun Palace* is an intimate, female-centric story about women who work in a massage parlor in Queens, New York. Intrigue and suspicion abound in the gripping queer noir *Misericordia* by French auteur Alain Guiraudie. And to mix it up, we've programmed the gamer-Shakespeare mash-up *Grand Theft Hamlet*, winner of the Jury Award at SXSW.

I'm very much looking forward to the 11th edition of **Jazz on Film** in June, guest-programmed by Peter Lucas. This year's lineup includes a tribute to the late Quincy Jones, a 35th-anniversary appreciation of Spike Lee's *Mo' Better Blues*, the Oscar-nominated documentary *Soundtrack to a Coup d'Etat*, and much more.



Marian Luntz  
Curator, Film and Video

## NOW PLAYING

On the cover: *Almost Legal*

## GENERAL INFORMATION

Please check the location for your movie! Films are screened in Brown Auditorium Theater in the Caroline Wiess Law Building or the Lynn Wyatt Theater in the Nancy and Rich Kinder Building. Use the 5500 Main Street entrance or the MFAH parking garages to access tunnels to both theaters. See map on back cover. For after-hours films in Brown Auditorium Theater, filmgoers may use the Main Street entrance to the Law Building.

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. Grab a meal at Cafe Leonelli before the Friday-night films when the Museum is open until 9:00 p.m. 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, film tickets are \$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 Audrey Jones Beck Building or the Nancy and Rich Kinder Building during Museum hours, or at the theater box office prior to show time. Credit cards 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 American Friends of Fundacion Proa Inc., The June Leaf and Robert Frank Foundation, and the Vaughn Foundation.

Generous funding is provided by The Consulate General of the Republic of Korea; Foundation for Independent Media Arts; Nina and Michael Zilkha; Lois Chiles; Franci Neely; Carrin Patman and Jim Derrick; Ms. Laurence Unger; and ILEX Foundation.

Inquiries about supporting the Film Department can be directed to Ashley Powell, [apowell@mfah.org](mailto:apowell@mfah.org) or (713) 639-7594.



# MAY 2025

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>MFA FILMS</b> Pictured: <i>Blue Sun Palace</i>	<b>Please note the location of each film:</b> <b>B</b> Brown Auditorium Theater <b>W</b> Lynn Wyatt Theater			1	2	<b>3</b> Restorations & Revivals <b>Bonnie and Clyde</b> <b>W</b> 7:00 p.m.
<b>4</b> Restorations & Revivals <b>Bonnie and Clyde</b> <b>W</b> 5:30 p.m.	5	6	7	8	<b>9</b> Five Funny French Films <b>Don't Look Now . . . We're Being Shot At!</b> <b>B</b> 7:00 p.m.	<b>10</b> Five Funny French Films <b>Almost Legal</b> <b>B</b> 7:00 p.m. <b>Open Season</b> <b>B</b> 8:45 p.m.
<b>11</b> Five Funny French Films <b>Chicken for Linda!</b> <b>B</b> 3:00 p.m. <b>The Art of Nothing*</b> <b>B</b> 5:00 p.m.	12	13	14	15	<b>16</b> New Releases <b>Anora</b> <b>W</b> 7:00 p.m.	<b>17</b> New Releases <b>Anora</b> <b>W</b> 7:00 p.m.
<b>18</b> New Releases <b>Anora</b> <b>W</b> 5:00 p.m.	19	20	21	22	<b>23</b> New Releases <b>Holy Cow</b> <b>B</b> 7:00 p.m.	<b>24</b> New Releases <b>Holy Cow</b> <b>B</b> 7:00 p.m.
25	26	27	28	29	<b>30</b> New Releases <b>Blue Sun Palace</b> <b>B</b> 7:00 p.m.	<b>31</b> New Releases <b>Blue Sun Palace</b> <b>B</b> 7:00 p.m.

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

# JUNE 2025

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>1</b> New Releases <b>Misericordia</b> <b>W</b> 5:00 p.m.	<b>MFA FILMS</b> Pictured: <i>Killer of Sheep</i>	<b>3</b> <b>Please note the location of each film:</b> <b>B</b> Brown Auditorium Theater <b>W</b> Lynn Wyatt Theater	4	5	<b>6</b> Jazz on Film <b>The Slender Thread</b> <b>B</b> 7:00 p.m.	<b>7</b> New Releases <b>Misericordia</b> <b>W</b> 7:00 p.m.
<b>8</b> Jazz on Film <b>Soundtrack to a Coup d'Etat</b> <b>B</b> 5:00 p.m.	9	10	11	12	<b>13</b> Jazz on Film <b>Ornette: Made in America</b> <b>B</b> 7:00 p.m.	<b>14</b> Jazz on Film <b>Mo' Better Blues</b> <b>B</b> 7:00 p.m.
<b>15</b> Restorations & Revivals <b>Killer of Sheep</b> <b>B</b> 5:00 p.m.	16	17	18	19	<b>20</b> Jazz on Film <b>Art Blakey: The Jazz Messenger</b> <b>B</b> 7:00 p.m.	<b>21</b> Jazz on Film <b>The Pawnbroker</b> <b>B</b> 7:00 p.m.
<b>22</b> Restorations & Revivals <b>Killer of Sheep</b> <b>B</b> 5:00 p.m.	23	24	25	26	<b>27</b> New Releases <b>Grand Theft Hamlet</b> <b>B</b> 7:00 p.m.	<b>28</b> New Releases <b>Grand Theft Hamlet</b> <b>B</b> 7:00 p.m.
29	30					

Film Information Line: 713-639-7515. Visit [mfah.org/film](https://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  
Like us on Facebook: fb.com/MFAHfilms  
Follow us on Instagram: @mfahouston

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

## RESTORATIONS & REVIVALS



### BONNIE AND CLYDE

Directed by Arthur Penn  
(USA, 1967, 111 min., 35mm)  
*Saturday, May 3, 7:00 p.m. WYATT*  
*Sunday, May 4, 5:30 p.m. WYATT*

We honor two-time Oscar-winner Gene Hackman (1930–2025), one of the industry’s most celebrated actors, by showcasing his breakout role in *Bonnie and Clyde*. In the 1930s, car thief Clyde Barrow (Warren Beatty) teams up with Bonnie Parker (Faye Dunaway), the daughter of one of his victims, and together they become notorious bank robbers and Depression-era folk legends. They form a gang with Clyde’s brother and sister-in-law (Hackman and Estelle Parsons) and a gas-station employee (Michael J. Pollard), but are on the run after Clyde commits murder during one robbery.



### KILLER OF SHEEP

Directed by Charles Burnett  
(USA, 1977, 80 min., 4K digital restoration)  
*Sundays, June 15 & 22, 5:00 p.m. BROWN*

*Killer of Sheep* examines life in Watts, a neighborhood in Los Angeles, in the mid-1970s through the eyes of Stan (Houston native Henry G. Sanders), a sensitive dreamer who is growing detached from the psychic toll of working at a slaughterhouse. Frustrated by money problems, he finds respite in moments of simple beauty: the warmth of a teacup against his cheek, slow dancing with his wife, holding his daughter. MacArthur Genius Award–winner Charles Burnett’s acclaimed debut—his UCLA thesis film, screening in a stunning new restoration—

combines lyrical elements with a starkly Neorealist, documentary-style approach that chronicles the unfolding story with depth and riveting simplicity. The film’s outstanding score has never sounded better.

*Killer of Sheep has been digitally restored to 4K and remastered by UCLA Film & Television Archive, Milestone Films, and the Criterion Collection. Picture Restoration: Illuminate Hollywood. Photochemical Film Preservation: Film Technology Company. Sound Mix and Restoration: John Polito of Audio Mechanics and Larry Blake. Audio Transfers: DJ Audio, Endpoint Audio Labs. Music Rights: Chris Robertson, Global ImageWorks, and Milestone Films. Restoration supervised by Ross Lipman and Jillian Borders in consultation with Charles Burnett.*

## FIVE FUNNY FRENCH FILMS

Don't miss the 13th edition of this celebration of the uniquely French sense of humor! Visit mfah.org/film for the fifth film. All films are shown digitally in French with English subtitles.

*Generous support received from Franci Neely, Nina and Michael Zilkha, Melanie Gray and Mark Wawro, and Villa Albertine in Houston.*

**\*Film festival tickets** are \$10. *Museum members, students with ID, and seniors (65+) receive a \$2 discount.*



### DON'T LOOK NOW . . . WE'RE BEING SHOT AT! (LA GRANDE VADROUILLE)\*

Directed by Gérard Oury  
(France, 1966, 132 min.)  
*Friday, May 9, 7:00 p.m. BROWN*

Louis de Funès and Bourvil team up again (previously appearing in *The Sucker* [*Le corniard*]) for this timeless comedic masterpiece about several ordinary Frenchmen experiencing an epic voyage through wartime-occupied France. They aim to get to the free zone and help British pilots avoid German captivity along the way. A monument of French comedy and a massive box-office hit, this movie captivated audiences with its witty humor, memorable characters, and poignant human connections.



### ALMOST LEGAL (PRESQUE LÉGAL)\*

Directed by Max Mauroux  
(France, 2024, 82 min.)  
*Saturday, May 10, 7:00 p.m. BROWN*  
**U.S. premiere!**  
*For mature audiences*

Fresh from their studies, Felix and Vincent are a pair of young slackers from the French Atlantic Coast struggling to find their place in the professional world—and in life in general. The pals decide to recruit a team of unlikely “experts” to turn a small local grocery store into an after-hours business for the summer holidays. Rest assured, none of this is completely legal!



### OPEN SEASON (CHASSE GARDÉE)\*

Directed by Frédéric Forestier and Antonin Forlon  
(France, 2022, 101 min.)  
*Saturday, May 10, 8:45 p.m. BROWN*

Parisian hipsters and their two kids have outgrown their city apartment. They jump at the chance to purchase a spacious country home, but there’s a hitch: the deed of sale allows the entire village to hunt on their property! Before long, beasts start trampling into the house and bullets are flying. The family makes a plan to protect themselves, but the locals find out and devise countermeasures. Will they ever find peace? Costarring Didier Bourdon and Thierry Lhermitte.



### CHICKEN FOR LINDA (LINDA VEUT DU POULET!)\*

Directed by Sébastien Laudenbach and Chiara Malta  
(France, 2023, 73 min.)  
*Sunday, May 11, 3:00 p.m. BROWN*

In this award-winning animated gem that’s perfect for Mother’s Day, a mother tries everything to make up with her daughter by preparing a special meal that quickly spirals out of control. *Chicken for Linda!* is a sweet and funny story the whole family will enjoy: a film that speaks of childhood from a child’s perspective, detailed in vibrant hand-painted images and told with humor, music, mischief, and poetry.



### THE ART OF NOTHING (L'ART D'ÊTRE HEUREUX)\*

Directed by Stefan Liberski  
(Belgium/France, 2024, 110 min.)  
*Sunday, May 11, 5:00 p.m. BROWN*  
*For mature audiences*

Jean Yves (played by veteran Belgian comedian Benoît Poelvoorde), a self-absorbed conceptual artist, moves to a seaside village hoping to reinvent himself.

Embraced by the town’s quirky creative community—including flirtatious gallerist Cecile (Camille Cottin, *Call My Agent!*) and congenial plein-air painter Claude, Jean finds himself pulled into interpersonal dramas as well as jokes that may be at his own expense.

## NEW RELEASES



### ANORA

Directed by Sean Baker  
(USA, 2024, 139 min., 35mm)  
*Friday–Saturday, May 16–17, 7:00 p.m. WYATT*  
*Sunday, May 18, 5:00 p.m. WYATT*  
*For mature audiences*

Anora (Oscar-winner Mikey Madison), a young woman from Brooklyn, gets her chance at a Cinderella story when she meets and impulsively marries the son of an oligarch. Once the news reaches Russia, her fairytale is threatened as her new husband’s parents set out for New York to get the marriage annulled. Experience the 35mm premiere to appreciate why *Anora* earned the Palme d’Or at Cannes and continued to triumph through the awards season, culminating in five 2025 Academy Awards, including Best Director for Sean Baker and Best Picture.



### HOLY COW (VINGT DIEUX)

Directed by Louise Courvoisier  
(France, 2024, 90 min., in French with English subtitles, digital)  
*Friday–Saturday, May 23–24, 7:00 p.m. BROWN*  
*For mature audiences*

Carefree teen Totone spends his time drinking with friends and chasing romance. After the sudden death of his father, he is compelled to care for his precocious younger sister while trying to keep their dairy farm afloat. Various schemes later, he enters a cash competition for the best Comté cheese. Set in the gorgeous rural Jura region of Eastern France, *Holy Cow* is a coming-of-age story and an ode to the love of cheese. Winner of two César Awards including Best First Film and Best Female Revelation (Maiwene Barthelemy).





### BLUE SUN PALACE

Directed by Constance Tsang  
(USA, 2024, 116 min., in Mandarin, English, and Min Nan with English subtitles, digital)  
*Friday–Saturday, May 30–31, 7:00 p.m. BROWN*

In a Flushing, Queens, massage parlor, Amy (Wu Ke-Xi) and Didi (Haipeng Xu) navigate romance, happiness, and the obligations of family thousands of miles from home. Despite the physical and emotional toll their work extracts, the women who live at the parlor have fortified an impenetrable sisterhood. When tragedy strikes, Amy is forced to consider her own destiny for the first time ever. Despite finding solace in the company of Cheung (Lee Kang-sheng, known for his roles in the films of Taiwanese auteur Tsai Ming-liang), Amy must leave the city and prioritize her own spirit in order to survive.



### MISERICORDIA (MISÉRICORDE)

Directed by Alain Guiraudie  
(France/Spain/Portugal, 2024, 104 min., in French with English subtitles, digital)  
*Sunday, June 1, 5:00 p.m. WYATT*  
*Saturday, June 7, 7:00 p.m. WYATT*  
*For mature audiences*

After an absence of ten years Jérémie (Félix Kysyl) returns to his hometown of Saint-Martial for the funeral of his beloved former boss. Staying with the widow (Catherine Frot), Jérémie begins to insinuate himself into his mentor's family, while making a surprising—and ultimately beneficial—friendship with a local priest (Jacques Develay). In Alain Guiraudie's (*Stranger by the Lake*) quietly carnal world, violence and eroticism explode with little anticipation, and criminal behavior can seem like a natural extension of physical desire.

Community partner: Big Queer Picture Show



### GRAND THEFT HAMLET

Directed by Sam Crane and Pinny Grylls  
(UK/USA, 2024, 89 min., digital)  
*Friday–Saturday June 27–28, 7:00 p.m. BROWN*

A documentary about two British out-of-work actors attempting the impossible task of mounting a full

production of *Hamlet* inside the ruthless world of Grand Theft Auto. As the COVID-19 pandemic drags on, Mark, who lives alone, is increasingly socially isolated, while Sam is panicking about how he will support his family. They channel their frustrations by immersing themselves in the ferocious, yet beautifully rendered virtual world of Grand Theft Auto online. In one gaming session they stumble across a theater and have an idea: Why not stage *Hamlet* inside the game? Wasn't theater just as dangerous and rowdy a business in Shakespeare's time, and isn't *Hamlet*, a play about revenge, the perfect choice for this place? *Grand Theft Hamlet* won the 2024 SXSW Grand Jury Award.

### JAZZ ON FILM

**Jazz On Film** returns with three weekends of screenings exploring the various intersections of jazz and cinema! Organized by guest curator Peter Lucas, this year's series is bookended by two 1960s films scored by Quincy Jones, who passed away in November. We also present documentaries on drummer Art Blakey and free-jazz visionary Ornette Coleman, the Oscar-nominated *Soundtrack to a Coup d'Etat* connecting jazz with geopolitical history, and a 35th-anniversary screening of Spike Lee's *Mo' Better Blues*.

**Jazz on Film** founder and curator 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; Aurora Picture Show; Seattle International Film Festival; Northwest Film Forum; and the Museum of Pop Culture. Lucas is also a writer and multidisciplinary artist.

*Generous support has been received from the Foundation for Independent Media Art, Anne Tucker and Robert Morris, Rich Levy and Dinah Chetrit, and Gerry Aitken.*



### THE SLENDER THREAD

Directed by Sydney Pollack  
(USA, 1965, 98 min., digital)  
*Friday, June 6, 7:00 p.m. BROWN*

Sydney Pollack's directorial debut stars Sidney Poitier as a young crisis-center volunteer and Anne Bancroft as a suicidal woman who calls the hotline. This dramatic thriller follows their unlikely conversation, the story of her unmooring, and a race against time to save her. It also features one of the best early film scores of Quincy Jones. The feature will be preceded by two early animations by Jim Henson, a program of the Jim Henson Legacy, courtesy of the Jim Henson Company.



### SOUNDTRACK TO A COUP D'ETAT

Directed by Johan Grimonprez  
(Belgium/France/Netherlands, 2024, 150 min., in English, French, Dutch, and Russian with English subtitles, digital)  
*Sunday, June 8, 5:00 p.m. BROWN*  
*For mature audiences*

Johan Grimonprez's Oscar-nominated essay film examines how jazz and geopolitics collided in a nefarious chapter of Cold War history. This propulsive cinematic collage illuminates the political machinations behind the assassination of Congo's first democratically elected leader, Patrice Lumumba. The film also incorporates jazz music and performance footage (Louis Armstrong, Dizzy Gillespie, Abbey Lincoln, Max Roach, and Nina Simone) and explores its connections to colonial power moves.



### ORNETTE: MADE IN AMERICA

Directed by Shirley Clarke  
(USA, 1985, 85 min., digital)  
*Friday, June 13, 7:00 p.m. BROWN*

Shirley Clarke's portrait of Texas jazz visionary Ornette Coleman chronicles the musician's story and captures the premiere of a new work in his hometown of Fort Worth in 1983. The film includes contributions from William S. Burroughs, Don Cherry, Buckminster Fuller, Brion Gysin, Charlie Haden, and Yoko Ono. Before the feature, we present Dick Fontaine's rarely seen short film *David, Moffett and Ornette*, documenting the Ornette Coleman Trio at a Paris studio in 1966.



### MO' BETTER BLUES

Directed by Spike Lee  
(USA, 1990, 130 min., digital)  
*Saturday, June 14, 7:00 p.m. BROWN*  
*Post-film discussion with guest curator Peter Lucas and Jason Woods (DJ Flash Gordon Parks) 35th-anniversary screening!*

Spike Lee's stylish film stars Denzel Washington as a trumpet player attempting to balance craft,

career, and cool while juggling relationships with two women. *Mo' Better Blues* features music by the Branford Marsalis Quartet with Terence Blanchard, recordings by John Coltrane and Miles Davis, and a score composed by Bill Lee.



### ART BLAKEY: THE JAZZ MESSENGER

Directed by Dick Fontaine and Pat Hartley  
(USA, 1988, 78 min., digital)  
*Friday, June 20, 7:00 p.m. BROWN*

Art Blakey formed the Jazz Messengers in the mid-1950s, and the evolving group became a rite of passage for talented young musicians for the next 35 years. This documentary portrait of Blakey captures the legendary drummer, bandleader, and teacher in the 1980s as he leads workshops and performances in London and New York City. It also features candid conversations with Blakey and multiple generations of collaborators including Terence Blanchard, Dizzy Gillespie, Benny Goldson, Wynton Marsalis, and Wayne Shorter.



### THE PAWNBROKER

Directed by Sidney Lumet  
(USA, 1964, 116 min., digital)  
*Saturday, June 21, 7:00 p.m. BROWN*

Director Sidney Lumet's groundbreaking 1964 drama stars Rod Steiger as a German-Jewish immigrant who lives a bitter, lonely existence running a pawn shop in Harlem. As the anniversary of his family's capture by the Nazis approaches, he is increasingly haunted by memories of the concentration camps. The film's music alternates between frantic jazz and lush string orchestration. Quincy Jones's first Hollywood film score features musicians Dave Grusin, Freddie Hubbard, Elvin Jones, and Oliver Nelson.

### ACCESSIBILITY

The Museum's theaters offer accessible seating and assisted listening devices when films feature closed captioning. 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.