

HAMMER**NEWS RELEASE**

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Hammer Museum Announces Lineup for MoMA Contenders 2023 with Screenings and Exclusive In-Person Q&A's

10 Screenings, Nov. 29 – Dec. 14, 2023



(Los Angeles, CA) — The Hammer Museum announced today this year's selections for MoMA Contenders 2023, the annual film series organized by The Museum of Modern Art, that takes place at the Hammer's Billy Wilder Theater from November 29 through December 14, 2023. This special and ticketed experience offers an exclusive opportunity to see 2023's most meaningful and groundbreaking films just before awards season. Marking the series' eighth year at the Hammer, MoMA Contenders 2023 features **10 nights of film**, followed by intimate and **revealing post-screening conversations with filmmakers and special guests**.

Opening the series at the Hammer on November 29 is Christopher Nolan's *Oppenheimer*, with special guest cinematographer **Hoyte van Hoytema**. Other highlights include *The Boy and the Heron* on November 30, Hayao Miyazaki's first feature film in 10 years; *The Taste of Things* on December 4, followed by a Q&A with the movie's director **Trần Anh Hùng**, winner of the Best Director award at the 2023 Cannes Film Festival; and *May December* on December 11, with a post-screening discussion with director **Todd Haynes** and screenwriter **Samy Burch**.

MoMA Contenders 2023 Schedule

Wednesday, Nov. 29, 7 p.m.

Thursday, Nov. 30, 7 p.m.

Monday, Dec. 4, 7 p.m.

Tuesday, Dec. 5, 7 p.m.

Oppenheimer with Hoyte van Hoytema

The Boy and the Heron

The Taste of Things with Trần Anh Hùng

The Zone of Interest w/ Christian Friedel (actor), Sandra Hüller (actor), Łukasz Żal (cinematographer), Johnnie Burn (sound designer), Mica Levi (composer), Paul Watts (editor)

Images (L-R): *Priscilla*. 2023. USA. Directed by Sofia Coppola. Courtesy A24; *The Boy and the Heron*. 2023. Japan. Directed by Hayao Miyazaki. Courtesy GKIDS; *Killers of the Flower Moon*. 2023. USA. Directed by Martin Scorsese. Courtesy Apple

Wednesday, Dec. 6, 7 p.m.	Priscilla with Stacey Battat and Youree Henley
Thursday, Dec. 7, 7 p.m.	Maestro with special guest
Monday, Dec. 11, 7 p.m.	May December with Todd Haynes and Samy Burch
Tuesday, Dec. 12, 7 p.m.	You Hurt My Feelings with Nicole Holofcener
Wednesday, Dec. 13, 7 p.m.	Past Lives with Greta Lee
Thursday, Dec. 14, 7 p.m.	Killers of the Flower Moon

Hammer members pre-sale begins on Monday, November 6 at 12 p.m. Tickets go on sale to the public on Wednesday, November 15 at 10 a.m. and can be purchased via the [Hammer website](#).

Pricing: **\$20** for general public / **\$10** for Hammer members.

ABOUT MoMA CONTENDERS

For this annual series, the Department of Film at MoMA combs through major studio releases and the top film festivals in the world, selecting influential, innovative films made in the past 12 months that they believe will stand the test of time. Every year there are films that resonate far beyond a theatrical release—if they manage to find their way to a commercial screen at all—or film festival appearance. Their significance can be attributed to a variety of factors, from structure to subject matter to language, but these films are united in their lasting impact on the cinematic art form. Whether bound for awards glory or destined to become a cult classic, each of these films is a contender for lasting historical significance, and any true cinephile will want to catch them on the big screen. Previous guests at the Hammer's iteration have included directors Daniel Kwan and Daniel Scheinert (*Everything Everywhere All at Once*, 2022), Olivia Wilde (*Booksmart*, 2019), Bong Joon-ho (*Parasite*, 2019), Jordan Peele (*Get Out*, 2017), Greta Gerwig (*Lady Bird*, 2017), David O. Russell (*Silver Linings Playbook*, 2012) and Werner Herzog (*Into the Inferno*, 2016), and actors Brendan Fraser (*The Whale*, 2022), Claire Foy (*Women Talking*, 2022), Eddie Murphy (*Dolemite is My Name*, 2019), Chadwick Boseman, Lupita Nyong'o, and Angela Bassett (*Black Panther*, 2018), Jake Gyllenhaal (*Prisoners*, 2013), Jonah Hill (*The Wolf of Wall Street*, 2013), and Kristen Wiig (*Bridesmaids*, 2011). MoMA also presents the related annual series *The Contenders* in New York each November through January.

MoMA Contenders 2023 is organized by The Museum of Modern Art, New York. This film program is organized by Rajendra Roy, The Celeste Bartos Chief Curator of Film, Sean Egan, Producer, Film Exhibitions and Special Projects, and Olivia Priedite, Film Programs Coordinator, The Museum of Modern Art, New York.

The Hammer Museum's presentation is made possible by The Billy and Audrey L. Wilder Foundation.

ABOUT THE FILMS

Oppenheimer

Followed by Q&A with cinematographer **Hoyte van Hoytema**

Wednesday, November 29, 7 p.m.

Brought to cinematic life by **Christopher Nolan**, *Oppenheimer* tells the story of the scientist who famously led the Manhattan Project in its efforts to create an atomic bomb during World War II, and his struggles to deal with the aftermath of his achievement.

Oppenheimer. 2023. Great Britain/USA. Written and directed by Christopher Nolan. With Cillian Murphy, Emily Blunt, Robert Downey, Jr. 70mm. 180 min. Courtesy Universal.

The Boy and the Heron

Thursday, November 30, 7 p.m.

Hayao Miyazaki's first feature film in 10 years, *The Boy and the Heron* is a hand-drawn, original story written and directed by the Academy Award-winning director. In this semi-autobiographical fantasy, a young boy named Mahito, yearning for his mother, ventures into a world shared by the living and the dead. There, death comes to an end, and life finds a new beginning.

The Boy and the Heron. 2023. Japan. Written and directed by Hayao Miyazaki. DCP. In Japanese; English subtitles. 124 min. Courtesy GKids.

The Taste of Things

Followed by Q&A with director **Trần Anh Hùng**

Monday, December 4, 7 p.m.

Director **Trần Anh Hùng**, winner of the Best Director award at the 2023 Cannes Film Festival, meticulously unveils the artistry of a late-19th-century cook (**Juliette Binoche**) and her gourmet employer (**Benoît Magimel**). Lingering over steaming broths, sizzling meats, and luscious sauces, the film engages senses beyond sight and sound.

The Taste of Things. 2023. France. Written and directed by Trần Anh Hùng. With Juliette Binoche, Benoît Magimel, Emmanuel Salinger. DCP. 145 min. Courtesy IFC Films.

The Zone of Interest

Followed by Q&A with Christian Friedel (actor), Sandra Hüller (actor), Łukasz Żal (cinematographer), Johnnie Burn (sound designer), Mica Levi (composer), Paul Watts (editor)

Tuesday, December 5, 7 p.m.

Rudolf Höss (**Christian Friedel**) and his wife Hedwig (**Sandra Hüller**) strive to build a dream life for their family in their home located just outside of Auschwitz, where Rudolf is Commandant. Winner of the Grand Prix at the 2023 Cannes Film Festival, this chilling film directed by **Jonathan Glazer** creates a singular, unsettlingly timeless representation of inhumanity and our capacity for indifference in the face of atrocity.

The Zone of Interest. 2023. USA/Great Britain/Poland. Written and directed by Jonathan Glazer. With Sandra Hüller, Christian Friedel, Freya Kreutzkam. DCP. 105 min. Courtesy A24.

Priscilla

Followed by Q&A with costume designer **Stacey Battat**, and producer **Youree Henley**

Wednesday, December 6, 7 p.m.

Based on Priscilla Presley's 1985 memoir *Elvis and Me*, **Sofia Coppola's** film reconsiders Elvis Presley's story from the perspective of the woman he married, whom he met when he was already one of the

biggest singers on the planet and she was a 14-year-old girl. Through Priscilla's eyes, Coppola tells the unseen side of a great American myth in this deeply felt and ravishingly detailed portrait.

Priscilla. 2023. USA. Written and directed by Sofia Coppola. With Cailee Spaeny, Jacob Elordi. DCP. 113 min. Courtesy A24.

Maestro

With special guest to be announced

Thursday, December 7, 7 p.m.

Maestro is a towering and fearless love story chronicling the lifelong relationship between Leonard Bernstein (**Bradley Cooper**) and Felicia Montealegre Cohn Bernstein (**Carey Mulligan**). A love letter to life and art, *Maestro* at its core is an emotionally epic portrayal of family and love.

Maestro. 2023. USA. Written and directed by Bradley Cooper. With Cooper, Carey Mulligan, Matt Bomer. DCP. 129 min. Courtesy Netflix.

May December

Followed by Q&A with director **Todd Haynes** and screenwriter **Samy Burch**

Monday, December 11, 7 p.m.

Twenty years after their notorious tabloid romance gripped the nation, the married couple, Gracie (**Julianne Moore**) and Joe (**Charles Melton**), buckle under pressure when an actress (**Natalie Portman**) arrives to do research for a film about their past.

May December. 2023. USA. Directed by Todd Haynes. Screenplay by Samy Burch. With Natalie Portman, Julianne Moore, Charles Melton. DCP. 113 min. Courtesy Netflix.

You Hurt My Feelings

Followed by Q&A with director and screenwriter **Nicole Holofcener**

Tuesday, December 12, 7 p.m.

From acclaimed filmmaker **Nicole Holofcener** comes a sharply observed comedy about a novelist whose longstanding marriage is suddenly upended when she overhears her husband give his honest reaction to her latest book. A film about trust, lies, and the things we say to the people we love most.

You Hurt My Feelings. 2023. USA. Written and directed by Nicole Holofcener. With Julia Louis-Dreyfus, Tobias Menzies, Michaela Watkins. DCP. 93 min. Courtesy A24.

Past Lives

Followed by Q&A with actress **Greta Lee**

Wednesday, December 13, 7 p.m.

Nora (**Greta Lee**) and Hae Sung (**Teo Yoo**), two deeply connected childhood friends, are wrested apart after Nora's family emigrates from South Korea. Twenty years later, they are reunited for one fateful week as they confront notions of love and destiny.

Past Lives. 2023. USA. Written and directed by Celine Song. With Greta Lee, Teo Yoo, John Magaro. DCP. 105 min. Courtesy A24.

Killers of the Flower Moon

Thursday, December 14, 7 p.m.

Martin Scorsese's adaptation (co-written with **Eric Roth**) of journalist David Grann's book, *Killers of the Flower Moon: The Osage Murders and the Birth of the FBI*, is an ingenious work of meticulous craft that turns an investigative account of the mysterious murders of wealthy Osage in 1920s Oklahoma into an epic morality tale of greed, love, and deceit. **Lily Gladstone** emits an angelic aura as a noble Osage

woman equally wise and blinded by love; **Leonardo DiCaprio** reaches his career high with an exceptionally nuanced performance as a man with contradictory motives; and **Robert DeNiro** summons the heart of darkness that has been intertwined with the history of our nation.

Killers of the Flower Moon. 2023. USA. Directed by Martin Scorsese. Screenplay by Scorsese, Eric Roth. With Robert De Niro, Leonardo DiCaprio, Lily Gladstone. DCP. 206 min. In English and Osage; English subtitles. Courtesy Apple.

ABOUT THE HAMMER MUSEUM

The Hammer Museum is part of the School of the Arts and Architecture at UCLA, and offers exhibitions and collections that span classic to contemporary art. It holds more than 50,000 works in its collection, including one of the finest collections of works on paper in the nation, the Grunwald Center for the Graphic Arts. Through a wide-ranging, international exhibition program and the Made in L.A. biennial, the Hammer highlights contemporary art since the 1960s, especially the work of emerging and under - recognized artists. The exhibitions, permanent collections, and nearly 300 public programs annually— including film screenings, lectures, symposia, readings, music performances, and workshops for families—are all free to the public.

HAMMER MUSEUM INFORMATION

Admission to all exhibitions and programs at the Hammer Museum is free. Hours: Tuesday–Sunday 11 a.m.–6 p.m. Closed Mondays and national holidays. Hammer Museum, 10899 Wilshire Boulevard at Westwood, Los Angeles. Onsite parking is \$8 for the first 3 hours (maximum \$22), or \$8 flat rate after 5 p.m. Valet parking is available at the Lindbrook Drive entrance for \$10. Visit hammer.ucla.edu for details or call 310-443-7000