



**ART HOUSE CONVERGENCE PRESENTS
THE FOURTH ANNUAL ART HOUSE THEATER DAY,
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 2019**

**Special programming includes Robert Downey Sr.'s PUTNEY SWOPE,
presented by the American Genre Film Archive
50th Anniversary of the counterculture masterpiece
New 4K restoration by the Academy Film Archive**

Brett Story's THE HOTTEST AUGUST presented by Grasshopper Film

Peter Strickland's IN FABRIC presented by A24

**Ildikó Enyedi's MY TWENTIETH CENTURY presented by
Kino Lorber Repertory
30th Anniversary screening of new 4K Restoration**

**Deborah Stratman's short VEVER (FOR BARBARA) with
cinematography by Barbara Hammer and texts by Maya Deren
Presented by Video Data Bank**

**Over 150 theaters participating in this celebration of the cinematic
experience and its important cultural role in communities nationwide**

August 8, 2019- Art House Convergence, an international organization of independent, community-based, mission-driven movie theaters, is pleased to announce the fourth annual Art House Theater Day, taking place on Wednesday, September 18, 2019.

"Art House Theater Day is a celebration of the essential role that art houses play in their communities. It is an opportunity to share space, ideas, and exceptional films. Throughout their history, art houses have distinguished themselves with programming that is innovative, bold, engaging, and global. This year's combination of new and classic films is vital and forward-looking, while also highlighting the qualities that have made art houses community-destinations for decades" states Art House Convergence Managing Director, Alison Kozberg.

Art House Theater Day 2019 curators, Dan Hudson and Rocío Mesa are "excited to share five films that exemplify the art house experience. We are particularly proud that three of these films were directed by women. PUTNEY SWOPE and MY TWENTIETH CENTURY, feel as absolutely fresh and vital as they did when they were first released. These recent 4K restorations look amazing, and deserve to be seen on the big screen. 50 years after PUTNEY

ART HOUSE THEATER DAY

SWOPE premiered, the issues of race, power, and corporate corruption are as urgent as ever. The Hungarian MY TWENTIETH CENTURY, winner of the Golden Camera award at Cannes exactly 30 years ago, is a beautiful and innovative cinematic rediscovery that portrays two powerful inspiring women ahead of their times. We are also thrilled to partner with A24 to present IN FABRIC, a giallo soaked work from UK auteur Peter Strickland, and exciting sneak peak for cult cinema fans. The documentary THE HOTTEST AUGUST from Guggenheim Fellow Brett Story, brings a unique point of view to the current political and social landscape of the U.S. The 2019 Berlinale premiering short film, VEVER (FOR BARBARA) by Deborah Stratman, is a very touching gem which features a tribute to the filmmaker Barbara Hammer (featuring unreleased film footage shot by Hammer, an interview that Stratman did with Hammer before her passing and previously unreleased sound recordings made by the one and only Maya Deren).

FILMS & DESCRIPTIONS

THE HOTTEST AUGUST

Directed by Brett Story, with director video intro

A Grasshopper Film release

A complex portrait of a city and its inhabitants, The Hottest August gives us a window into the collective consciousness of the present. The film's point of departure is one city over one month: New York City, including its outer boroughs, during August 2017. It's a month heavy with the tension of a new President, growing anxiety over everything from rising rents to marching white nationalists, and unrelenting news of either wildfires or hurricanes on every coast. The film pivots on the question of futurity: what does the future look like from where we are standing? And what if we are not all standing in the same place? The Hottest August offers a mirror onto a society on the verge of catastrophe, registering the anxieties, distractions, and survival strategies that preoccupy ordinary lives.

IN FABRIC

Directed by Peter Strickland

An A24 release

A lonely woman (Marianne Jean-Baptiste), recently separated from her husband, visits a bewitching London department store in search of a dress that will transform her life. She's fitted with a perfectly flattering, artery-red gown—which, in time, will come to unleash a malevolent curse and unstoppable evil, threatening everyone who comes into its path. From acclaimed horror director Peter Strickland (the singular auteur behind the sumptuous sadomasochistic romance The Duke of Burgundy and auditory giallo-homage Berberian Sound Studio) comes a truly nightmarish film, at turns frightening, seductive, and darkly humorous. Channeling voyeuristic fantasies of high fashion and bloodshed, In Fabric is Strickland's most twisted and brilliantly original vision yet.

MY TWENTIETH CENTURY

Directed by Ildikó Enyedi, with director video intro

A Kino Lorber Repertory release

ART HOUSE THEATER DAY

Ildikó Enyedi's fairytale-like, unconventional ironic film luminaire was awarded the Golden Camera at Cannes in 1989. On the eve of the 20th century, two twin girls, Lili the anarchist and Dóra a luxurious woman of loose morals, along with Mr. Z. who loves them as an entity, all reach the Hungarian border at the same time on board the Orient Express. Their story, rushing under the spell of Edison's inventions, is a special 'research of happiness', reclaiming the 'mass murdering century' from the restlessly changing world and the miracle of existence. Tarkovsky's fabulous actor, Oleg Yankovsky, performs an unforgettable double with the young Polish actress Dorothea Segda. The complete 4K digital restoration of the film was carried out at the Hungarian Filmlab, supervised by the Hungarian Film Fund – Hungarian National Film Archive in 2017.

PUTNEY SWOPE

Directed by Roberto Downey Sr., with director audio intro

An American Genre Film Archive release

New 50th Anniversary restoration by The Academy Film Archive and The Film Foundation with funding provided by the George Lucas Family Foundation. An unforgettable late-'60s counterculture masterpiece, Robert Downey Sr.'s PUTNEY SWOPE remains a vital provocation on race, pop culture and America. Putney Swope, the only African-American exec at his ad firm, is unexpectedly elected its president and turns the industry on its ear through a series of outrageous, taboo-busting TV commercials (strewn throughout the film like comedic landmines.) As Swope becomes the Generalissimo of Madison Avenue, Downey takes no prisoners and skewers the entire political spectrum. Essential viewing.

VEVER (FOR BARBARA)

Directed by Barbara Stratman

A Video Data Bank release

A cross-generational binding of three filmmakers seeking alternative possibilities to the power structures they are inherently part of. Each woman extends her reach to a subject she is outside of. Vever grew out of the abandoned film projects of Maya Deren and Barbara Hammer. Shot at the furthest point of a motorcycle trip Hammer took to Guatemala in 1975, and laced through with Deren's reflections of failure, encounter and initiation in 1950s Haiti.

ABOUT ART HOUSE THEATER DAY

Art House Theater Day celebrates the legacy of independent theaters as advocates for cinematic arts. In an age where media has become more digital than tangible, more solitary than social, art house theaters remain the physical spaces where film lovers congregate and connect with intrepid, creative filmmaking. They are the beating heart for new and exciting cinema that is shaping the future of the medium.

Art House Theater Day is made possible by Marquee sponsor Amazon Studios and Premiere sponsor Warner Archive. Additional support provided by EclairPlay, MUBI, and CineLife.

ArtHouseTheaterDay.org

[Facebook](#)

[Twitter](#)

**ART HOUSE
THEATER DAY**

Instagram
#AHTD2019

Select viewing links available upon request. Select talent available for interviews.
For all press inquiries, please contact:
Sylvia Savadjian- Sylvia.Savadjian@gmail.com