



NEWS RELEASE

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JANUSZ KAMIŃSKI TO RECEIVE 20TH ANNUAL FRANKLIN J. SCHAFFNER ALUMNI MEDAL FROM THE AMERICAN FILM INSTITUTE

AFI Alumnus to Receive Honor at Tonight's AFI Life Achievement Award Tribute to Mike Nichols

LOS ANGELES, CA, June 10, 2010 - American Film Institute (AFI) today announced that cinematographer Janusz Kamiński will receive the 2010 Franklin J. Schaffner Alumni Medal. Kamiński will be presented with the medal as part of tonight's AFI Life Achievement Award honoring Mike Nichols, to be held at Sony Pictures Studios in Culver City.

The Franklin J. Schaffner Alumni Medal recognizes the extraordinary creative talents of a graduate of the AFI Conservatory or of the AFI Directing Workshop for Women who symbolize the legacy of Franklin Schaffner. Over the course of a remarkable 40-year career, Schaffner earned a total of 28 Academy Award nominations and the directing Oscar for PATTON in 1970. Schaffner's association with AFI began in 1975, with his election to the AFI Board of Trustees, and lasted until his death in 1989. Past recipients include AFI alumni David Lynch, Terrence Malick, Amy Heckerling, Ed Zwick and Marshall Herskovitz.

About Janusz Kamiński

Janusz Kamiński attended the AFI Conservatory as a Cinematography Fellow from 1987 to 1988. He is widely recognized as one of the most gifted cinematographers in the world today, his work marked by a profound understanding of story and a remarkable gift for technical innovation.

Born in Ziębice, Poland, Kamiński immigrated to the United States in 1981 as a political refugee. He attended Chicago's Columbia College film program, followed by his post-graduate film studies at AFI.

Kamiński honed his craft shooting low-budget thrillers for Roger Corman, where his work caught Steven Spielberg's attention. Their first collaboration was on SCHINDLER'S LIST, and after winning the Academy Award for his indelible images; Kamiński has served as director of photography on every motion picture that Spielberg has directed since. These include SAVING PRIVATE RYAN, for which Kamiński won his second Academy Award, THE LOST WORLD, AMISTAD, ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE: AI, MINORITY REPORT, CATCH ME IF YOU CAN, THE TERMINAL, WAR OF THE WORLDS, MUNICH and INDIANA JONES AND THE KINGDOM OF THE CRYSTAL SKULL.

Kamiński's other notable motion pictures as cinematographer include JERRY MAGUIRE, THE DIVING BELL AND THE BUTTERFLY, FUNNY PEOPLE and the upcoming HOW DO YOU KNOW.

Kamiński has also directed two films, LOST SOULS and the Polish-language HANIA.

About the Franklin J. Schaffner Alumni Medal

The Franklin J. Schaffner Alumni Medal recognizes the extraordinary creative talents of a graduate of the AFI Conservatory or of the AFI Directing Workshop for Women who symbolize the legacy of Franklin Schaffner. The 19 prior recipients of the Schaffner Alumni Medal are: David Lynch, Terrence Malick, Darren Aronofsky, Patty Jenkins, Todd Field, Edward Zwick, Randa Haines, Martin Brest, Jon Avnet, Carl Franklin, John McTiernan, Amy Heckerling, Mimi Leder, John Dahl, Paul Schrader, Marshall Herskovitz, Gary Winick, Mark Waters and Steve Golin.

About the American Film Institute

AFI is America's promise to preserve the history of the motion picture, to honor the artists and their work, and to educate the next generation of storytellers. As a national, public-supported educational and cultural organization, AFI provides leadership in film, television and digital media and is dedicated to initiatives that engage the past, the present and the future of the moving image arts.

AFI preserves the legacy of America's film heritage through the **AFI Catalog of Feature Films**, an authoritative and scholarly record of American films made from 1893 to the present, and the **AFI Archives**, which contains rare footage from AFI's history.

AFI honors the artists and their work through a variety of annual programs and special events, including the **AFI Life Achievement Award** and **AFI Awards**. For 38 years, the **AFI Life Achievement Award** has remained the highest honor for a career in film while **AFI Awards**, the institute's almanac for the 21st century, honors the most outstanding motion pictures and television programs of the year. **AFI's 100 Years... 100 Movies** television events and definitive movie reference lists, as well as **AFI Night at the Movies**, have introduced and reintroduced classic American movies to millions of film lovers. And as the largest nonprofit exhibitor in the United States, AFI offers film enthusiasts a variety of events throughout the year, including **AFI Fest presented by Audi**, the longest running international film festival in Los Angeles; **AFI-Discovery Channel Silverdocs**, the largest documentary festival in the US; **AFI Project: 20/20**, a global exchange initiative, and year-round programming at the **AFI Silver Theatre** in the Washington, D.C. area.

AFI educates the next generation of storytellers at its world-renowned **AFI Conservatory**, offering a two-year Master of Fine Arts degree in six filmmaking disciplines: **Cinematography, Directing, Editing, Producing, Production Design** and **Screenwriting**. AFI also explores new digital technologies through special workshops, and showcases the work of young storytellers through **AFI ScreenNation**.

Additional information about AFI is available at AFI.com.

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