

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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**AFI ANNOUNCES FULL FILM SLATE FOR THE 22ND  
AFI EUROPEAN UNION FILM SHOWCASE IN WASHINGTON, DC,  
NOVEMBER 5-24 AT AFI SILVER THEATRE**

***-- Opening Night, Centerpiece Screenings And Closing Night Presentations Highlight  
AFI's Celebration Of The Best In European Cinema --***

Silver Spring, Maryland, October 26, 2009—The 2009 AFI European Union Film Showcase, the signature fall cultural event for Washington, DC movie lovers and the area's embassy community, will formally kickoff November 5 with the Opening Night feature presentation, **MAMMOTH [Mammut]**, a Swedish/Danish/German coproduction written and directed by Lukas Moodysson (LILYA 4-EVER) and starring Michelle Williams (BROKEBACK MOUNTAIN) and Gael García Bernal (THE MOTORCYCLE DIARIES). The film marks director Moodysson's first foray into English-language filmmaking, and focuses on the global marketplace, and the connections and separations it imposes on families. The film premiered at this year's Berlin International Film Festival.

Other Special Presentations in this year's AFI EU Film Showcase include three Centerpiece Screenings:

--Sweden's **THE GIRL WITH THE DRAGON TATTOO** [Män Som Hatar Kvinnor], (November 7, 8) an adaptation of Stieg Larsson's international best-selling novel, and the all-time box office champ at home in Sweden as well as a hit in every other European country where it has played. Disgraced journalist Mikael Blomquist (Michael Nyquist) and pierced, tattooed twentysomething hacker Lisbeth Salander (Noomi Rapace) form an unlikely detective duo to investigate a long-unsolved murder;

--France's **HENRI-GEORGES CLOUZOT'S INFERNO** [L'Enfer d'Henri-Georges Clouzot], (November 21, 22) documenting a film that was never made. Film restorers excavated 185 cans of footage shot by Clouzot – the French Hitchcock – for an aborted 1964 project called L'ENFER, starring film icon Romy Schneider and Serge Reggiani. The plot involves the owner of a hotel who suspects his much-younger wife is cheating on him. This documentary assembles the film's lost footage, including test shots, psychedelic lighting and odd color schemes to express the thoughts and feelings of the characters. A must-see for fans of French cinema; and

--The United Kingdom's **THE IMAGINARIUM OF DOCTOR PARNASSUS** (November 14), perhaps best known as the late actor Heath Ledger's final film. Boasting accomplished director Terry Gilliam and an all-star cast including Johnny Depp, Jude Law, Christopher Plummer, Colin Farrell and Ledger, the film follows the immortal Doctor Parnassus (Plummer) through the streets of London where he offers passersby an old-fashioned magic show, and for some, a trip through a magic mirror into the deepest

recesses of their imagination. But danger lurks inside the mirror world, as the Devil (Tom Waits) is also a frequent visitor there.

The AFI EU Film Showcase Closing Night film is the United Kingdom's **THE YOUNG VICTORIA**, an energetic, sensitive and smart retelling of the romance between Queen Victoria and Prince Albert, starring Emily Blunt and Rupert Friend. The all-star cast includes Jim Broadbent, Miranda Richardson and Paul Bettany as the behind-the-scenes instigators of a politically profitable marriage, which eventually turns into the real thing. The film is directed by Canada's Jean-Marc Vallée (**C.R.A.Z.Y.**), from a screenplay by the UK's Julian Fellowes (**GOSFORD PARK**).

“This year’s lineup, our largest ever, is a testament to the overall quality and amazing diversity of filmmaking in Europe right now,” said Todd Hitchcock, Film Programmer, AFI Silver Theatre and Cultural Center. “We are particularly proud of the strong slate of films from Sweden, the current holder of the EU Presidency, beginning with Lukas Moodysson’s **MAMMOTH** on Opening Night and **THE GIRL WITH THE DRAGON TATTOO** on our first weekend. Audiences will also discover terrific new films from major filmmakers like Andrzej Wajda, Peter Greenaway, and Terry Gilliam, plus newer talents whose work has been acclaimed at film festivals this year, like Germany’s Maren Ade (**EVERYONE ELSE**) and Romania’s Corneliu Porumbulai (**POLICE, ADJECTIVE**).”

The 2009 EU Film Showcase features a slate of 39 films representing 25 countries, including official foreign language Oscar® selections, festival headliners and U.S. and Washington, DC premieres of major first-run releases. European countries represented in the 2009 Showcase include Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden and the United Kingdom.

Sponsors and supporters of the AFI European Union Film Showcase include the European Commission Delegation in Washington, DC, the Embassy of Sweden, and the cultural counselors of the EU member states.

### **About the AFI Silver Theatre and Cultural Center**

AFI Silver is one of the nation's premier film theaters, building an appreciation of the art and artists through exploring and celebrating new and classic films and filmmakers from around the globe. AFI Silver offers a year-round program of the best in American and international cinema, featuring a dynamic mix of retrospectives, special events, tributes, on-stage guest appearances, specialty first-run movies, festivals, premieres, and education and community-based programs in a theatrical setting of the highest standards. Anchored by the stunningly restored 1938 Silver Theatre, the three-screen AFI Silver Theatre and Cultural Center is a state-of-the-art film and digital media exhibition venue that serves as a national model for preserving and honoring our shared film and film-going heritage.

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