

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Tuesday, January 27, 2004

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-- Media Advisory --

**AFI SILVER TO CELEBRATE 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF BEATLES
COMING TO AMERICA AND FIRST US CONCERT
AT WASHINGTON COLISEUM 2/11/64**

OPENING FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 2004

Tribute Includes Footage of Beatles' Ed Sullivan Appearances; Newly Restored Print of A HARD DAY'S NIGHT; Beatles Scholars Martin Lewis, Bruce Spizer & Martin Goldsmith; Washington Post Music Critic Richard Harrington

Silver Spring, Maryland, Tuesday, January 27, 2004—The American Film Institute's AFI Silver Theatre and Cultural Center will launch a week-long 40th Anniversary tribute to the Beatles on Friday, February 6—exactly 40 years after the Beatles arrived in America for their first US visit. The two-week trip included their historic appearances on three consecutive broadcasts of THE ED SULLIVAN SHOW and two concerts, the first of which took place at Washington, DC's Washington Coliseum on February 11, 1964. The AFI Silver will commemorate the Beatles' legendary first visit with a presentation of their first film, A HARD DAY'S NIGHT, which begun shooting just weeks after the visit.

The tribute will include a special Friday, February 6, 8:50 p.m. screening of selected highlights from the three history-breaking Beatles appearances on THE ED SULLIVAN SHOW in February, 1964 (courtesy of Sofa Home Entertainment), along with a presentation of the newly restored print of A HARD DAY'S NIGHT ("the Citizen Kane of Jukebox Musicals"—Andrew Sarris), which screens at both 7:00 and 8:50 p.m. and throughout the week.

Two of the world's leading Beatles historians, Martin Lewis (producer of the DVD Edition of A HARD DAY'S NIGHT) and Bruce Spizer (author of *THE BEATLES ARE COMING! The Birth of Beatlemania in America*), will introduce the 8:50 February 6 presentations and participate in a post-screening panel discussion moderated by Washington Post music critic Richard Harrington. Mr. Spizer will be available to sign copies of his new illustrated historical account of how the Beatles conquered America—including the revelation of how a 15-year-old Silver Spring schoolgirl helped jump-start Beatlemania in America!

During the week-long celebration, AFI Silver will host two special Wednesday, February 11 book-signing events with screenings of A HARD DAY'S NIGHT on the exact anniversary of the Beatles' Washington, DC concert—featuring noted Beatles

author Martin Goldsmith (*The Beatles Come to America*), co-host of *SONGS FOR AGING CHILDREN* and XM Radio program director.

WHAT: Feb 6 Beatles 40th Anniversary Tribute Opening:
Screening of highlights from the Beatles ED SULLIVAN SHOW appearances;
Screenings of the restored print of A HARD DAY'S NIGHT;
Panel discussion with noted Beatles scholars, music critic

Feb 11 Washington Coliseum Concert anniversary:
Special book-signing events and screenings

WHO: Friday, February 6, 8:50 p.m.:
Murray Horwitz, director, AFI Silver Theatre
Martin Lewis, Beatles scholar, producer, DVD Edition A HARD DAY'S NIGHT
Bruce Spizer, Beatles scholar, author, *THE BEATLES ARE COMING!*
Richard Harrington, music critic, The Washington Post

Friday, February 6, 7:00 p.m.:
A HARD DAY'S NIGHT screening only

Wednesday, February 11, 7:00 & 8:50 p.m.:
Murray Horwitz, director, AFI Silver Theatre
Martin Goldsmith, author, *The Beatles Come to America*

WHEN: Friday, February 6: 8:50 p.m. special presentation
Wednesday, February 11, 7:00 & 8:50 p.m. book signing events

WHERE: The AFI Silver Theatre and Cultural Center
8633 Colesville Rd, Silver Spring, MD
(Corner of Colesville Rd. and Georgia Avenue,
two blocks from the Silver Spring Metro stop)

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