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COOLIDGE CORNER THEATRE PRESENTS
BEYOND THUMBS UP: A CRITICAL LOOK AT FILM CRITICISM

EVENT EXPLORES THE ROLE OF FILM CRITICISM IN TODAY'S CULTURE:
OCTOBER 17-18

Brookline, MA -- The Coolidge Corner Theatre, in association with *Cineaste Magazine*, will present **BEYOND THUMBS UP: A CRITICAL LOOK AT FILM CRITICISM**, a two-day seminar that explores the role of film criticism in today's culture. The event is scheduled for Wednesday, October 17 through Thursday, October 18 and brings to Boston several nationally recognized film critics to participate in three panel discussions that include film clips and question-and-answer sessions with the audience. Topics include an introduction to the current state of film criticism, traditional and evolving models of film criticism, and the future outlook for film criticism in the United States. The program was selected for funding by the prestigious Academy Foundation of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences, with additional support from the Richard H. Driehaus Foundation.

The event will be moderated by *Cineaste Magazine* editors **Cynthia Lucia** and **Richard Porton**. Film critics participating include:

Ty Burr is a film critic for the *Boston Globe* since July 2002. For ten years prior to that, he worked for *Entertainment Weekly* as the magazine's chief video critic, and also covered film, music, theater, books, and the internet. He has written two books, "The Hundred Greatest Movies of All Time" (Time-Life Books, 1999) and "The Hundred Greatest Stars of All Time" (Time-Life Books, 1998) and has written articles on film and other subjects in *The New York Times*, *Spin*, the *Boston Phoenix*, and other publications. He is a member of the National Society of Film Critics and the Boston Society of Film Critics.

Scott Foundas has reviewed films for *Variety* since 2000. He is also a regular contributor to *Indiewire.com*, where he has published a series of interviews with leading international filmmakers, including Abbas Kiarostami and Michael Haneke. His work has also appeared in *The St. Petersburg Times* and Canada's *Cinema Scope* magazine. In 2002, he served on the short films jury at the Sundance Film Festival.

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Owen Gleiberman is a film critic for *Entertainment Weekly*, a position he has held since the magazine's launch in 1990. From 1981-89, he worked at *The Boston Phoenix*. His work has also been published in *Film Comment*, and anthologized in the film criticism anthology *Love and Hisses*. He also reviews movies for National Public Radio and for NY1, New York City's 24-hour cable news station. He is a member of the New York Film Critics Circle.

Kent Jones is editor-at-large of *Film Comment* and the American correspondent for *Cahiers du Cinéma*. He is a frequent contributor to *Bookforum* and *Cinemascope*, associate director of programming at The Film Society of Lincoln Center, and a permanent member of the selection committee for the New York Film Festival. He is also the co-writer of "My Voyage to Italy" and other documentaries by Martin Scorsese.

Glenn Kenny is the senior editor and chief film critic of *Premiere*, which he joined the staff of in 1996. He has also written on film and music for *The New York Times*, *The Village Voice*, *Rolling Stone*, *Entertainment Weekly* and other publications. He is the editor of the essay compilation "A Galaxy Not So Far Away: Writers and Artists on 25 Years of 'Star Wars'".

Phillip Lopate is an essayist, film critic and novelist. He has written extensively on movies for *The New York Times*, *Vogue*, *Esquire*, *Film Comment*, *Cineaste* and other publications. A collection of his film criticism was published by Doubleday-Anchor, entitled "Totally Tenderly Tragically." He also edited the anthology "American Movie Critics: From the Silent Era to the Present" for the Library of America. He has served on the selection committee for the New York Film Festival and as Guest Curator for the Telluride Film Festival.

David Sterritt, chairman of the National Society of Film Critics, has also served twice as chairman of the New York Film Critics Circle. He was film critic of *The Christian Science Monitor* for more than 35 years, and his writing has appeared in *Cahiers du Cinema*, *The New York Times*, *Cineaste*, *Film Comment* and many other publications. His most recent book is "Guiltless Pleasures: A David Sterritt Film Reader," and his current projects include a book about Clint Eastwood as actor, director, and icon.

Armond White is film critic for *New York Press*. He is author of "The Resistance: Ten Years of Pop Culture That Shook the World" (Overlook Press) and "Rebel for the Hell of It: The Art-Life of Tupac Shakur" (Thunder's Mouth Press). He has been Chairman of the New York Film Critics Circle, was arts editor of *The City Sun* and has won the Deems Taylor-ASCAP Award for music criticism. His articles have been published world wide in *The New York Times*, *The Nation* and *Sight and Sound*. He is also co-publisher of *First of the Month* quarterly.

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Stephanie Zacharek is a senior writer and film critic for Salon.com. Her writing on books and pop culture has also appeared in *The New York Times*, the *Los Angeles Times Book Review*, *Entertainment Weekly*, *Rolling Stone*, *Newsday*, *Bookforum*, and *Sight and Sound*. She is a member of the National Society of Film Critics.

The Coolidge Corner Theatre is one of the nation's few independently operated movie theaters, run by the not-for-profit Coolidge Corner Theatre Foundation. Over the past several years, the theater has won numerous awards and special acknowledgements -- most notably for an extensive capital campaign supporting upgrades, renovations and a stunning restoration to the theater's original Art Deco detail. The theater is renowned as one of the most successful independent movie-houses in the world and continues a rich tradition of independent film exhibition.

Advance tickets are now available for this event at the Coolidge box office or online at www.coolidge.org. Ticket prices are \$9.75/general admission or \$6.75/Coolidge Members for each of the three sessions. Group rates of \$6.75/person are also available for any group of 10 people or more and students are encouraged to participate at this rate. A three session pass can be purchased for \$25 and will admit you to the entire 2-day event.

The Coolidge Corner Theatre is located at 290 Harvard Street in the heart of Coolidge Corner, Brookline, Massachusetts. For information on programming, call 617-734-2500, or visit the website at www.coolidge.org.

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