

MUSEUM OF THE MOVING IMAGE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

60TH ANNIVERSARY SCREENINGS OF 'THE SEARCHERS' PAIRED WITH PREVIEW OF 'LES COWBOYS,' A NEW FRENCH FILM INSPIRED BY THE JOHN FORD CLASSIC

June 18 &19, 2016

Astoria, Queens, New York, June 9, 2016—In recognition of the 60th anniversary of John Ford's 1956 film *The Searchers*, Museum of the Moving Image will screen the iconic western along with a special preview screening of Thomas Bidegain's Cesar-nominated *Les Cowboys*, an acclaimed new film that was strongly inspired by *The Searchers*. The films will play back-to-back on June 18 and 19 at the Museum.

John Ford's philosophical portrait of obsession, racism, and heroic solitude, *The Searchers* features John Wayne at his darkest as Ethan Edwards, a Confederate veteran on a relentless years-long attempt to track down his abducted niece and the Comanche chief who kidnapped her. Often lauded as the greatest western of all time, *The Searchers* inspired a generation of screenwriters and directors, most famously Martin Scorsese and Paul Schrader. French Cesar-award winning screenwriter Thomas Bidegain, who authored Jacques Audiard's films *Dheepan*, *Rust and Bone*, and *A Prophet*, is only the latest to play homage to Ford's film in his impressive directorial debut.

Les Cowboys, which debuted at Cannes 2015 before premiering in the main slate of the New York Film Festival, is a decades-long saga spanning pre- to post-9/11, set amidst a sub-culture of western enthusiasts in contemporary France. When a teenage girl, Kelly, vanishes amidst the chaos of a cowboy fair, her father Alain's initial fear quickly turns to anger and disbelief as it becomes increasingly clear that his daughter has willingly abandoned her life and converted to Islam. Convinced that she was coerced, Alain devotes what is left of his broken existence to finding her, eventually bestowing the responsibility of the search onto his son.

In his timely interpretation of *The Searchers*, Bidegain transports the classic iconography of the western genre to contemporary landscapes, traversing the hillsides of France to the deserts of Pakistan. Following these special preview screenings at the Museum, Cohen Media Group will release *Les Cowboys* theatrically on June 24 at Lincoln Plaza and the Sunshine Cinema in New York and the Laemmle Royal in Los Angeles.

The schedule for the Museum's screenings are listed below and [online](#). Tickets for each screening are \$12 (\$9 seniors and students / free for Museum members at the Film Lover and MoMI Kids Premium levels and above). Advance tickets are available online at movingimage.us.

SCHEDULE

The Searchers

SATURDAY, JUNE 18, 12:30 P.M. & SUNDAY, JUNE 19, 2:30 P.M.

Dir. John Ford. 1956, 119 mins. 35mm. With John Wayne, Natalie Wood, Jeff Hunter, Vera Miles.

Les Cowboys

SATURDAY, JUNE 18, 3:00 P.M. & SUNDAY, JUNE 19, 5:15 P.M.

Dir. Thomas Bidegain. 2015, 104 mins. DCP courtesy Cohen Media. With François Damien, Finnegan Oldfield.

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MUSEUM INFORMATION

Museum of the Moving Image (movingimage.us) advances the understanding, enjoyment, and appreciation of the art, history, technique, and technology of film, television, and digital media. In its stunning facilities—acclaimed for both its accessibility and bold design—the Museum presents exhibitions; screenings of significant works; discussion programs featuring actors, directors, craftspeople, and business leaders; and education programs which serve more than 50,000 students each year. The Museum also houses a significant collection of moving-image artifacts.

Hours: Wednesday–Thursday, 10:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Friday, 10:30 to 8:00 p.m. Saturday–Sunday, 11:30 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Museum Admission: \$15 adults; \$11 senior citizens (65+) and students (18+) with ID; \$7 youth (3–17). Children under 3 and Museum members are admitted free. Admission to the galleries is free on Fridays, 4:00 to 8:00 p.m.

Film Screenings: Friday evenings, Saturdays and Sundays, and as scheduled. Unless otherwise noted, tickets are \$12 adults / \$9 students and seniors / \$6 children 3–12 / free for Museum members at the Film Lover level and above. Advance purchase is available online. Ticket purchase may be applied toward same-day admission to the Museum's galleries.

Location: 36-01 35 Avenue (at 37 Street) in Astoria.

Subway: M (weekdays only) or R to Steinway Street. Q (weekdays only) or N to 36 Avenue.

Program Information: Telephone: 718 777 6888; Website: movingimage.us

Membership: <http://movingimage.us/support/membership> or 718 777 6877

The Museum is housed in a building owned by the City of New York and located on the campus of Kaufman Astoria Studios. Its operations are made possible in part by public funds provided through the

New York City Department of Cultural Affairs, the New York City Economic Development Corporation, the New York State Council on the Arts, the National Endowment for the Arts, the National Endowment for the Humanities, the Institute of Museum and Library Services, and the Natural Heritage Trust (administered by the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation, and Historic Preservation). The Museum also receives generous support from numerous corporations, foundations, and individuals.