

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**DANISH FILM FESTIVAL BRINGS BEST OF DENMARK TO ATLANTA**

January 16–24, 2009

ATLANTA, January 12, 2009 – The fourth annual Danish Film Festival returns to the High Museum of Art from January 16 through January 24, 2009. The festival will feature five critically acclaimed Danish films, including the award-winning “The Monastery: Mr. Vig and the Nun” and the family film “Hugo the Movie Star,” from the popular Danish animated series. The festival is co-sponsored by the Danish-American Chamber of Commerce with support from the Danish Film Institute.

“We’re collaborating again with the Danish-American Chamber of Commerce and the Danish Film Institute to bring a diverse and entertaining program to the viewers at the High,” said Linda Dubler, Curator of Media Arts. “This year’s films range in genres, but share the common theme of examining human relationships. We’re also very excited to welcome director Paprika Steen to the showing of her film ‘With Your Permission’.”

The 2009 Danish Film Festival opens on Friday, January 16, with Ole Bornedal’s “Just Another Love Story,” a romantic thriller about Jonas, a crime-scene photographer who is involved in a traumatic car accident. Although Jonas and his family are left unharmed, the woman in the other car, Julia, falls into a coma. Jonas goes to visit Julia in the hospital and becomes involved in a series of lies when Julia and her family take him to be her mysterious boyfriend, Sebastian. It is only a matter of time before his lies are exposed to his wife and Jonas feels trapped. *This film is in Danish with subtitles.*

On Saturday, January 17, director Paprika Steen will attend the showing of her film “With Your Permission.” This comedy follows the relationship between a nitpicking restaurant manager, Jan, and his volatile wife, Benter, who uses him as her punching bag. Jan’s boss finally sends him into group therapy for the abuse incurred by his wife. He accidentally joins the wrong group, but is so embarrassed over being the victim that he passes himself off as an abuser. In therapy, Jan forms an unlikely friendship with two men who help him cook up a plan to solve all of his problems. *This film is in Danish with subtitles.*

The family film “Hugo the Movie Star” will be shown on Sunday, January 18, at 3 p.m. This is the English-language version of the film based on the popular animated Danish children’s series about Hugo, the world’s rarest and cutest creature. Because Hugo is so adorable, he ends up being kidnapped by a pair of filmmakers who are hungry for a hit. Hugo’s long-lost friend, a fox named Rita, is determined to set him free from his captors. By the time Rita finds him, Hugo has become accustomed to his celebrity and is not sure that he wants to return to life in the forest. *This film is appropriate for children ages 3 and older. This screening is free and seating is on a first-come, first-served basis.*

On Friday, January 23, the winner of the Danish Critics’ Prize for a documentary film, “The Monastery: Mr. Vig and the Nun,” will be shown. This film follows an elderly, reclusive Danish man named Mr. Vig on his journey to fulfilling his dream of turning his disheveled home into a monastery. Mr. Vig contacts the Russian Orthodox Church, which sends out a small group of nuns to investigate. The attitudes of the two forces quickly collide, proving that truth is stranger than fiction. In “Eye for Film,” Andrew Robertson called it “a delightful portrait of

two very different characters . . . a meditation on the nature of faith and desire.” *This film is in Danish with subtitles.*

The series closes on Saturday, January 24, with “Just Like Home.” This charming comedy centers on a small Danish town where the comfortably predictable cycle of life is threatened by the report of a naked man roaming the streets at night. In response to this frenzy, the town’s construction workers go on strike, leaving the town square in shambles. A group of concerned citizens takes over the emergency hotline, planning to use it to find the culprit. Director Lone Scherfig says the movie affirms “the fundamental belief that people you hardly know will want the best for you.” *This film is in Danish with subtitles.*

Film Series Schedule

Unless otherwise noted, all films begin at 8 p.m. and are screened in the Richard H. Rich Theatre. The theatre is located in the Memorial Arts Building, adjacent to the High at Peachtree and 15th Streets in midtown Atlanta. All films are in Danish with English subtitles.

“Just Another Love Story”

Friday, January 16

(Denmark, 2007, 100 minutes.)

“The Monastery: Mr. Vig and the Nun”

Friday, January 23

(Denmark, 2007, 84 minutes.)

“With Your Permission”

Saturday, January 17

(Denmark/Sweden, 2007, 100 minutes.)

“Just Like Home”

Saturday, January 24

(Denmark, 2007, 97 minutes.)

“Hugo the Movie Star”

Sunday, January 18, at 3 p.m.

(Denmark, 1996, 69 minutes.)

Support

This program is co-sponsored by the Danish-American Chamber of Commerce with support from the Danish Film Institute. Please visit www.danishfilmfestival.com for more details. 35mm projection facilities in the Rich Auditorium were provided by a gift from George Lefont.

Tickets

To purchase tickets in advance, go to www.High.org, visit the Woodruff Arts Center Box Office, or call 404-733-5000. Tickets for all shows are \$7 general admission and \$6 for students, seniors and Museum members. Patron-level members enter free. Tickets may also be purchased at the door on the night of the screening.

Film Information

The public may call the High’s film hotline at 404-733-4570 for up-to-the-minute information about visiting directors, receptions, changes or cancellations and for a free subscription to the quarterly film calendar. The Museum’s website is www.High.org.

The High Museum of Art

The High Museum of Art, founded in 1905 as the Atlanta Art Association, is the leading art museum in the southeastern United States. With more than 11,000 works of art in its permanent collection, the High Museum of Art has an extensive anthology of 19th- and 20th-century American and decorative art; significant holdings of European paintings; a growing collection of African American art; and burgeoning collections of modern and contemporary art, photography and African art. The High is also dedicated to supporting and collecting works by Southern artists and is distinguished as the only major museum in North America to have a curatorial department specifically devoted to the field of folk and self-taught art. The High’s Media Arts department produces acclaimed annual film series and festivals of foreign, independent and classic cinema. In November 2005, the High opened three new buildings by architect Renzo Piano that more than doubled the Museum’s size, creating a vibrant

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“village for the arts” at the Woodruff Arts Center in midtown Atlanta. *For more information about the High, please visit www.High.org.*

The High Museum of Art is a division of the Woodruff Arts Center in Atlanta, which also includes the Alliance Theatre, the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra, Young Audiences and the 14th Street Playhouse.

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DIGITAL IMAGES FOR THE FILMS ARE AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST

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