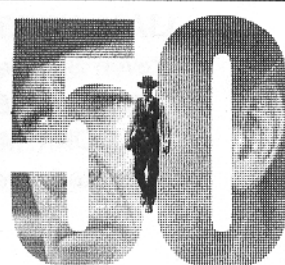


Paramount Pictures & MODA Entertainment
proudly present

HIGH NOON

A 50th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION



- PROGRAM -

Welcome from Pia Lindstrom

Introductory remarks by Liam Neeson

Screening of INSIDE HIGH NOON documentary teaser

Screening of HIGH NOON feature film

Guest panelists discussion and Q&A

Jonathan Foreman, Maria Cooper Janis, John Mulholland, and Tim Zinnemann

Special Guest

William J. Clinton, the 42nd President of the United States

HIGH NOON was hailed upon its release in 1952 as an instant classic. It won several Academy Awards, including one for its legendary star, Gary Cooper. It was named the year's best picture by the New York Film Critics Society. And yet, even though it's high on the American Film Institute's 100 Best Films of the Century, HIGH NOON's respect has been hard won, indeed. Perhaps no other classic film has had such a rocky road as this "simple little western."

Decried by influential auteurist critics and academics, HIGH NOON has been attacked for being untrue to the western genre - read anti-populist; for being "middle-brow" (whatever that might mean); for being social drama hiding behind the western genre - and muddled social drama, at that; for being the most un-American film ever made (courtesy of John Wayne), etc.

However, 50 years after its release, HIGH NOON still powerfully resonates with audiences around the world. When Solidarity needed a universal image to promote democracy and the right to vote in Poland in 1987, they chose Gary Cooper in HIGH NOON, a ballot in his hand rather than a gun. Conservatives and liberals both manage to cite HIGH NOON on the floor of Congress as a metaphor for their competing political ideals. Political cartoonists and headline writers inevitably use HIGH NOON as reference for countless crises. Three American Presidents - Eisenhower, Clinton and current President Bush - call HIGH NOON their favorite film.

On one hand, HIGH NOON has been attacked for being a conservative, damaging portrait of arrogant male paternalism. On the other hand, HIGH NOON is praised for challenging entrenched notions of gender, for exploring masculine anxiety, masculinity as a construct. Feminist critics and academics are offering intriguing and complex new readings to HIGH NOON.

Example: Amy Fowler (Grace Kelly) is having her new husband, Marshall Will Kane (Cooper), quit his career, leave his town, leave his friends, marry outside his church, and open a store of her choosing (wearing, perhaps, an apron?). Does Will Kane take on the villains at noon as a final gasp of masculine protest, as a declaration of independence from his wife's control?

Ernest Hemingway compared a story's meaning to an iceberg - like the iceberg, 7/8th of which lies hidden beneath the surface, 7/8th of a story's meaning lies beneath the surface.

Carl Foreman's bare-to-the-bones script and Fred Zinnemann's equally spare direction are a perfect film correlative to Hemingway's iceberg theory. This taut, seemingly straightforward little suspense western is complex, multi-layered, and perhaps even more relevant today than when it opened 50 years ago.

Excerpts from the feature article HIGH NOON, A LOOK FORWARD by John Mulholland

HOST

LIAM NEESON, The acclaimed Irish-born actor earned an Academy Award nomination for his role in Steven Spielberg's *SCHINDLER'S LIST*. Other notable films include: *MICHAEL COLLINS*, *ROB ROY*, *NELL*, *STAR WARS: EPISODE ONE*, *K-19: THE WIDOWMAKER*, and Martin Scorsese's upcoming *THE GANGS OF NEW YORK*. Mr. Neeson is equally at home on the stage, having appeared on Broadway in *ANNA CHRISTIE* (opposite future wife Natasha Richardson), *THE JUDAS KISS* and *THE CRUCIBLE*.

PANEL GUESTS

JONATHAN FOREMAN, son of "HIGH NOON" screenwriter and producer Carl Foreman, is a senior film critic and columnist for the New York Post. A former attorney, he was born in London and educated on both sides of the Atlantic. Mr. Foreman lives in Manhattan.

MARIA COOPER JANIS MARIA COOPER JANIS, daughter of Gary Cooper, is a renowned painter and photographer. Ms. Janis has recently written *GARY COOPER OFF CAMERA: A DAUGHTER REMEMBERS*, a revealing look at her father through photographs and personal memories. A producer at MODA Entertainment, she is working on 'PARENTLY HOLLYWOOD, a television interview show hosted by Ms. Janis and Pia Lindstrom. She is married to the world-renowned concert pianist, Byron Janis, and lives in Manhattan.

JOHN MULHOLLAND is the writer/director of the upcoming documentary *COOPER & HEMINGWAY: THE TRUE GEN*, about the 20 year friendship between Gary Cooper and Ernest Hemingway. He is also writer/director of *INSIDE HIGH NOON*. He lives in Manhattan.

TIM ZINNEMANN, son of "HIGH NOON" director Fred Zinnemann, has been involved in film at every level of production, from editor to director. He has worked with such directors as Billy Wilder, George Stevens, Howard Hawks, and John Sturges. Mr. Zinnemann started his producing career with *STRAIGHT TIME*, starring Dustin Hoffman. He later produced *THE JERICO MILE*, *THE LONG RIDERS* and *TEX*. Currently, he is set to direct a film based on his own story, scripted by S.E. Hinton. He lives in California.

SPECIAL THANKS TO:

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Matthew Mulholland
Patricia Mulholland
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A STANLEY KRAMER PRODUCTION GARY COOPER GRACE KELLY IN "HIGH NOON"
WITH THOMAS MITCHELL LLOYD BRIDGES KATY JURADO OTTO KRUGER LON CHANEY HENRY MORGAN LEE VAN CLEEF
MUSIC COMPOSED BY DIMITRI TIOMKIN THEME SUNG BY TEX RITTER
SCREENPLAY BY CARL FOREMAN DIRECTED BY FRED ZINNEMANN

Chez Napoléon Restaurant
NYC

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HIGH NOON

(United Artists, 1952, 85 minutes)

Director: **Fred Zinnemann**
Writer: **Carl Foreman**
Original Music: **Dimitri Tiomkin**
Cinematography: **Floyd Crosby**
Editor: **Elmo Williams**
Singer: **Tex Ritter**
Lyricist: **Ned Washington**

Gary Cooper	Will Kane	Ian MacDonald	Frank Miller
Grace Kelly	Amy Kane	Eve McVeagh	Mildred Fuller
Thomas Mitchell	Jonas Henderson	Harry Shannon	Cooper
Lloyd Bridges	Harvey Pell	Lee Van Cleef	Jack Colby
Katy Jurado	Helen Ramirez	Robert J. Wilke	James Pierce
Otto Kruger	Percy Mettrick	Morgan Farley	Minister
Lon Chaney Jr.	Martin Howe	Sheb Wooley	Ben Miller
Harry Morgan	Sam Fuller	Jack Elam	Charlie

FRED ZINNE MANN (29 April 1907, Vienna, Austria - 14 March 1997, London, England, UK) was nominated for eight best director Academy Awards: *Julia* 1977, *A Man for All SEASONS* 1966 (won as director and also as producer), *The Sundowner* 1961 (nominated for director and producer), *The Nun's Story* 1959, *From Here to Eternity* 1953 (won), *High Noon* 1952, *Benji* (Documentary Short, won), and *The Search* 1948. Some of his other films are *The Day of the Jackal* 1973, *A Hateful of Rain* 1957, *Oklahoma* 1955, *While America Sleeps* 1939, and *Tracking the Sleeping Death* 1938.

CARL FOREMAN (23 July 1914- 26 June 1984, Beverly Hills) was blacklisted in the mid 1950s. Some of his other films are *Young Winston* 1972, *Mackenna's Gold* 1969, *The Guns of Navarone* 1961, *A Hatful of Rain* 1957 (originally uncredited), *The Bridge on the River Kwai* 1957 (originally uncredited), *The Sleeping Tiger* 1954 (as Derek Frye), *The Men* 1950, *Young Man with a Horn* 1950 and *Champion* 1949. He was nominated for Academy Awards for *Champion*, *High Noon*, *The Guns of Navarone*, and *Young Winston* and he won the Award for *The Bridge on the River Kwai*, one of the films on which his name could not be used.

GARY COOPER (7 May 1901, Helena Montana- 13 May 1961, Beverly Hills) acted in almost 120 films, beginning with an uncredited role in *Ben Turpin* 1925, and ending with *The Naked Edge* 1961. He was nominated for 5 Academy Awards and won 2 of them: *Mr. Deeds Goes to Town* 1936, *Sergeant York* 1941 (won), *Pride of the Yankees* 1942, *For Whom the Bell Tolls* 1942, *High Noon* 1952 (won). He was also given an Honorary Award in 1961. Some of his other memorable roles are *The Wreck of the Mary Deare* 1959, *Ten North Frederick* 1958, *Friendly Persuasion* 1956, *The Fountainhead* 1959, *The Hanging Tree* 1959, *Meet John Doe*, *The Westerner* 1940, *The Plainsman* 1936, *Lives of a Bengal Lancer* 1935, *A Farewell to Arms* 1932, *The Virginian* 1929, and *Wings*.

HIGH NOON was nominated for seven Oscars and won four of them: Gary Cooper for Best Actor, Harry Gerstad and Elmo Williams for Best Editing, Dimitri Tiomkin for Best Scoring, and Dimitri Tiomkin and Ned Washington for Best Song. The nominations were Fred Zinnemann for Best Director, Stanley Kramer for Best Picture, and Carl Foreman for Best Screenplay. The New York Film Critics Circle awarded it Best Picture and Best Director.

**PARAMOUNT PICTURES & MODA ENTERTAINMENT ARE PROUD TO PRESENT THE
PREMIERE SCREENING OF A NEW PRINT FROM THE ORIGINAL NEGATIVE
At Lincoln Center's Alice Tully Hall - December 16, 2002 for
The 50th Anniversary Celebration of HIGH NOON.**