

The Museum of Modern Art

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SCIENCE FICTION FILM SHOW STARTING WITH "DESTINATION MOON" FIRST EXCLUSIVE CELEBRATION OF THIS GENRE IN FOUR WEEK MUSEUM RETROSPECTIVE

A Science Fiction Film Show, opening with George Pal's production "Destination Moon," will be presented by the Department of Film of The Museum of Modern Art, from July 28 through September 23. The show, 56 feature films and five shorts, includes two films which have not yet had American premieres -- "Omicron" by Ugo Gregoretti from Italy, about a worker whose body is inhabited by a Martian, and "Stereo," made independently by a 26-year-old Canadian, David Cronenberg about drug experiments conducted by a mythical Institute for Erotic Inquiry.

The Museum's first compilation of science fiction films dates back to Georges Méliès' "Trip to the Moon" made in 1902 and expects to conclude with "2001, A Space Odyssey." The program also has such favorites as "Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde," the 1932 version with Fredric March, directed by Rouben Mamoulian and considered one of the best of many adaptations of the Robert Louis Stevenson story. Another fantasy film of the thirties is "The Invisible Man," directed by James Whale from the novel by H.G. Wells. The special trick effects in this film would have dazzled pioneer trickster Georges Méliès, it has been said. Méliès, however was the first to venture into science fiction, and his picture is regarded as "a heady mixture of surrealism, humor and pantomime." In a similar satiric vein is René Clair's picture, "Paris Qui Dort," an early existentialist experiment.

The Department of Film has spent several months preparing this series in the light of such current events as explorations of the moon, the expected pictorial close-ups of Mars' surface, and the biological advances in transplanting human organs. Adrienne Mancina, Assistant Curator, and Larry Kardish, Curatorial Assistant, are responsible for assembling the show, designed to re-examine and re-assess some of the more fantastic film hours that anticipated today's discoveries as well as tomorrow's wonders.

In the program notes accompanying this series, Mrs. Mancina points out that science fiction, a term coined in 1929, may have little to do with either science or fiction. Rather it deals with the impact of scientific research and implications of technology upon our lives. Traditional science fiction is a projection of the future, while contemporary science fiction is inclined

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to be more intellectual: it is often referred to as speculative fiction "to distinguish it from films which are more evasive than meditative."

"It was not until the fifties that cinematic science fiction attempted to come to terms with the recent past and the signals of the future," states Mrs. Mancía citing the evil experiments of the concentration camps, the holocaust of the atom bomb, the threat of a programmed, conformist society, and projects to penetrate outer space. All of these, she feels, permeate the collective consciousness with what Susan Sontag has called "the imagination of disaster." Thus, Japan has become one of the most prolific producers of monster movies, as for example "Godzilla, King of the Monsters (1955)."

Monsters, vampires and mad scientists are basic ingredients of science fiction films and often the script becomes lost in the sheer spectacle of destruction, for "the Attraction of the spectacular is as important as the attraction of the unknown." Consequently art direction, special effects and the imaginative use of color and sound, are as important as the story itself. A prime example of an aesthetic horror fiction movie of the fifties is George Pal's "War of the Worlds" (1953), which displayed the maker's genius for spectacle, just as had "Destination Moon" (1950) in which the stars were neither heroes nor villains but rocket machines, styled by leading designers, Hans Knoll and Raymond Loewy.

When science fiction film-makers touch upon our immediate concerns, fears, obsession, hopes, Mrs. Mancía says that they involve us "in an age of cosmic apprehensions" as limitless as the voyage in "2001." As Carlos Clarens wrote in "An Illustrated History of the Horror Film," to which Mrs. Mancía refers, the ultimate contemporary horror is neither death nor destruction, but dehumanization, the loss or at least the questioning of our identity concomitant with the obsolescence of values. These values have existed in "another society" making us "the lost world."

In the Czech film "Voyage to the End of the Universe," (1963) an odyssey to a distant star, the only dangers are from natural causes as meteorites or earthquakes and human interference. "First Men in the Moon" from the H.G. Wells' story is another film of this type. An example of the mad scientist variety preceding it, is "The Man With the X-Ray Eyes," with Ray Milland in the role of a doctor, whose irrational lust for knowledge almost becomes a

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religious quest, though the results of his search are never clearly defined as either damning or purging.

The mad scientist derived from the early horror films, perpetuated such mass destruction, that in our modern world a more creative destroyer had to come into being such as "The Fly." The picture has a strongly moralistic tone inferring that there is a proper use of science in an ever-changing universe, and the hero becomes the subject of his own experiments on behalf of mankind.

In "Forbidden Planet," Shakespeare serves science fiction, since "The Tempest" is the model, though the action takes place on an unknown planet in the year 2200. Like Prospero, the scientist-magician Morbius in the film "has not mastered all the forces he liberates; his Ariel is Robby the Robot, a triumph of cybernetics, only one step removed from total humanity, and Caliban is a pure force of destruction, a projection of the scientists's id, the embodiment of all his subconscious hates and fears..."

But just as the screen scientist craves a new vista, so the viewer of science fiction, it would appear, finds an outlet in such films for his mysterious, untold, and countless fantasies .

The schedule follows:

- July 28
2 & 5:30 DESTINATION MOON. 1950. Producer: George Pal. Directed by Irving Pichel. Screenplay by Rip Van Ronkel, R.A. Heinlein, James O'Hanlon from the novel by Heinlein. Photography by Lionel Lindon. Cartoon sequence by Walter Lantz. Technical advisor, astronomical art. Chesley Bonestell. Special effects by Lee Zavitz. With Warner Anderson, John Archer. Courtesy United Artists. 91 minutes.
- July 29
2 & 5:30 FLASH GORDON, Part 1 at 2, Part 2 at 5:30. 1936. Henry MacRae production. Directed by Frederick Stephani. Screenplay by Stephani, George Plymton, Basil Dickey, Ella O'Neill from Axel Raymond's cartoon strip of the same title. Camera by Jerry Ash and Richard Fryer. Backgrounds and special effects by Ralph Berger, Norman Dewes, Elmer A. Johnson, With Larry "Buster" Crabbe, Jean Rogers. Courtesy of Universal Pictures. Part 1: 140 min. Part 2: 120 min.
- July 31
2, 5:30 & 8 IKARIA XBI. (VOYAGE TO THE END OF THE UNIVERSE.) 1963. Directed by Jindrich Polak. Screenplay by Polak and Pavel Juracek. Camera by Jan Kalis. English dubbed. With Zdenek Stepanek, Radovan Lukavsky. Courtesy American-International Pictures. 80 min.
- August 1
2 & 5:30 VOYAGE DANS LA LUNE (TRIP TO THE MOON) 1902. A film by Georges Méliès.
FIRST MEN IN THE MOON. 1964. Directed by Nathan Juran. Screenplay by Nigel Kneale and Jan Read from the novel by H.G. Wells. With Edward Judd, Lionel Jeffries, Martha Hyer. Courtesy of Columbia Pictures. 103 min.
- August 2
3 & 5:30 ROCKETSHIP X-M. 1950. Written, produced, and directed by Kurt Neumann. With Lloyd Bridges, Osa Massen, Hugh O'Brien. 79 min.

Additional information and stills available from Elizabeth Shaw, Director, and Lillian Gerard, Film Coordinator, Department of Public Information, The Museum of Modern Art, 11 West 53 Street, New York, N.Y. 10019. 956-7501, 7296

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- August 3
2 & 5:30 THE TIME MACHINE. 1960. Produced and directed by George Pal. Screenplay by David Duncan from the novel by H.G. Wells. Special photographic effects by Gene Warren and Wah Chang. With Rod Taylor, Alan Young, Yvette Mimieux, Sebastian Cabot. Courtesy of M-G-M. 103 min.
- August 4
2 & 5:30 DR. JEKYLL AND MR. HYDE. 1932. Directed by Rouben Mamoulian. Screenplay by Samuel Hoffenstein and Percy Heath from the novel by Robert Louis Stevenson. With Fredr March, Miriam Hopkins. 98 min.
- August 5
2:00 THE INVISIBLE MAN. 1933. Directed by James Whale. Screenplay by R.C. Sheriff from the novel by H.G. Wells. With Claude Rains, Gloria Stuart. 70 min.
5:30 CREATURE WITH THE ATOM BRAIN. 1955. Directed by Edward L. Cahn. Story and screenplay by Curt Siodmak. With Richard Denning, Angela Stevens. Courtesy of Columbia Pictures. 69 min.
- August
2, 5:30 X, THE MAN WITH THE X-RAY EYES. 1963. Produced by James H. Nicholson, Samuel & 8 Z. Arkoff. Directed by Roger Corman. Screenplay by Robert Dillon from an original screenplay by Ray Russell. With Ray Milland, Diana VanDeVlis. Courtesy of American-International Pictures. 80 min.
- August 8
2 & 5:30 THE FLY. 1958. Produced and directed by Kurt Newmann. Screenplay by James Clavel based on a story by George Langelaan. With Vincent Price, Al Hedison. Courtesy of Warner Bros./Seven Arts. 94 min.
- August 9
3 & 5:30 THE INCREDIBLE SHRINKING MAN. 1957. Produced by Albert Zugsmith. Directed by Jack Arnold. Screenplay by Richard Matheson from his novel of the same title. With Grant Williams, Randy Stuart. Courtesy of Universal Pictures. 81 min.
- August 10
2 & 5:30 CRACK IN THE WORLD. 1965. Produced by Bernard Glasser, Lester A. Sansom. Directed by Andrew Marton. Screenplay by Jon Manchip White and Julian Halevy from a story by Jon Manchip White. With Dana Andrews, Janette Scott. Courtesy of Paramount Pictures. 96 min.
- August 11
2 & 5:30 PARIS QUI DORT (THE CRAZY RAY). 1923. A silent film by René Clair. 40 min.
FIEND WITHOUT A FACE. 1958. Produced by John Croydon. Directed by Arthur Crabtree. Screenplay by Herbert J. Leder based on a story by Amelia Reynolds Long. With Marshall Thompson, Terence Kilburn. Courtesy of M-G-M. 74 min.
- August 12
2 & 5:30 THE DAY THE EARTH CAUGHT FIRE. 1961. Produced and directed by Val Guest. Screenplay by Wolf Mankowitz and Val Guest. With Janet Munro, Leo McKern. Courtesy of Universal Pictures. 99 min.
- August 14
2, 5:30 PANIC IN THE YEAR ZERO. 1962. Produced by Lou Rusoff, Arnold Houghland. Directed & 8 by Ray Milland. Screenplay by Jay Simms and John Morton from a story by Jay Simms. With Ray Milland, Jean Hagen, Frankie Avalon. Courtesy of American-International Pictures. 92 min.
- August 15
2:00 THE WORLD, THE FLESH, THE DEVIL. 1959. Produced by Sol C. Siegel-HarBel. Written and directed by Randal MacDougall. With Harry Belafonte, Inger Stevens, Mel Ferré. Courtesy of M-G-M. 95 min.
5:30 FIVE. 1951. Produced, written and directed by Arch Obler. With William Phipps, Susan Douglas, James Anderson, Charles Lampkin, Earl Lee. Courtesy of Columbia Pictures. 93 min.
- August 16
3 & 5:30 FORBIDDEN PLANET. 1956. Produced by Nicholas Nayfack. Directed by Fred McLeod Wilcox. Screenplay by Cyril Hume based on a story by Irving Block and Allen Adler. Courtesy of M-G-M. 98 min.
- August 17
2 & 5:30 CONQUEST OF SPACE. 1955. Produced by George Pal. Directed by Byron Haskin. Screenplay by James O'Hanlon. Special effects by John P. Fulton, Irmin Roberts, Paul Lerpae, Ivyle Burks, Jan Domela. With Walter Brooke, Eric Fleming. Courtesy of Paramount Pictures. 80 min.
- August 18
August 19
2:00 TO BE ANNOUNCED.
THINGS TO COME. 1936. Produced by Alexander Korda. Directed by William Cameron Menzies. Story and screenplay by H.G. Wells. With Raymond Massey, Ralph Richardson, Maurice Braddell, Sir Cedric Hardwicke. 96 min.
5:30 TRANSATLANTIC TUNNEL. 1935. A Gaumont-British production. Directed by Maurice Elv. Screenplay by Kurt Siodmak from the novel by B. Kellermann. With Richard Dix, Leslie Banks, Walter Huston. 90 min.

- August 21
1 & 5:30
8
OMICRON. 1963. Directed by Ugo Gregoretti. With Renato Salvatore. In Italian with English sub-titles. Courtesy of Walter Reade. 102 min.
- August 22
1 & 5:30
LA DECIMA VITTIMA (THE TENTH VICTIM). 1965. Produced by Carlo Ponti. Directed by Elio Petri. Screenplay by Elio Petri, Ennio Flaiano, Tonino Guerra, based on a story by Robert Sheckley. With Marcello Mastroianni, Ursula Andress, Elsa Martinelli. Courtesy of Avco-Embassy. 92 min.
- August 23
1 & 5:30
SECONDS. 1966. Produced by John Frankenheimer, Edward Lewis. Directed by John Frankenheimer. Screenplay by Lewis John Carlino from the novel by David Ely. With Rook Hudson, Salome Jens. Courtesy of Paramount Pictures. 106 min.
- August 24
1 & 5:30
FAHRENHEIT 451. 1966. Produced by Lewis M. Allen. Directed by François Truffaut. Screenplay by François Truffaut and Jean Louis Richard based on the novel by Ray Bradbury. With Oskar Werner, Julie Christie. Courtesy of Universal Pictures. 113 min.
- August 25
2 & 5:30
PERMUTATIONS. 1968. A film by John Whitney. 10 min.
FANTASTIC VOYAGE. 1966. Produced by Saul David. Directed by Richard Fleischer. Screenplay by Harry Kleiner. With Stephen Boyd, Raquel Welch, Edmond O'Brien, Donald Pleasance. Courtesy of Twentieth Century-Fox. 100 min.
- August 26
2 & 5:30
BEYOND THE TIME BARRIER. 1960. Produced by Robert Clarke. Directed by Edgar C. Ulmer. With Robert Clarke, Darlene Tompkins, Courtesy of American-International Pictures. 75 min.
- August 28
2, 5:30
& 8
THE DAY THE EARTH STOOD STILL. 1951. Produced by Julian Blaustein. Directed by Robert Wise. Screenplay by Edmund H. North based on a story by Harry Bates. With Michael Rennie, Patricia Neal. Courtesy of Warner Bros./ Seven Arts. 92 min.
- August 29
2 & 5:30
MIRROR/MIRROR, episode from the television series Star Trek.
BEACHHEAD, a pilot episode for the television series The Invaders. 1967. A QM production. Directed by Joseph Sargent. With Roy Thinnes, J.D.Cannon, James Daly. 55 min.
- August 30
3 & 5:30
WAR OF THE WORLDS. 1953. Produced by George Pal. Directed by Byron Haskin. Screenplay by Barre Lyndon from the novel by H.G. Wells. With Gene Barry, Ann Robinson. Courtesy of Paramount Pictures. 85 min.
- August 31
2 & 5:30
THE BLOB. 1958. Produced by Jack H. Harris. Directed by Irvin S. Yeaworth, Jr. Screenplay by Theodore Simonson and Kate Phillips. With Steve McQueen. 85 min.
- Sept. 1
2 & 5:30
TRIP TO THE MOON. 1968. A film by Scott Bartlett. 20 min.
THE QUARTERMASS EXPERIMENT. 1956. Produced by Anthony Hinds. Directed by Val Guest. Screenplay by Richard Landau. With Brian Donlevy, Margia Dean. Courtesy of United Artists. 78 min.
- Sept. 2
2 & 5:30
TOMEN NINGEN (THE H-MAN). 1959. A Toho Production. Directed by Inoshiro Honda. Screenplay by Takeshi Kiumra from a story by Hideo Kaijo. With Yumi Shirakawa, Kenji Sahara. Courtesy of Columbia Pictures. 79 min.
- Sept. 4
2, 5:30
& 8
THIS ISLAND EARTH. 1955. Produced by William Alland. Directed by Joseph Newman. Screenplay by Franklin Coen, and Edward G. O'Callaghan from the novel by Raymond F. Jones. Special photography by David S. Horsley and Clifford Stine. With Jeff Morrow, Faith Domergue, Rex Reason. Courtesy of Universal Pictures. 87 min.
- Sept. 5
2 & 5:30
QUARTERMASS AND THE PIT (FIVE MILLION YEARS TO EARTH). 1968. A Hammer production. Directed by Val Guest. Screenplay by Nigel Kneale from his novel of the same title. With Andrew Keir, Barbara Shelley. Courtesy of Twentieth Century-Fox. 92 min.
- Sept. 6
3 & 5:30
IT CAME FROM OUTER SPACE. 1953. Produced by William Alland. Directed by Jack Arnold. Screenplay by Harny Essex from a story by Ray Bradbury. With Richard Carlson, Barbara Rush. Courtesy of Universal Pictures. 81 min.
- Sept. 7
2 & 5:30
THE THING. 1951. Directed by Christian Nyby. Produced by Howard Hawks. Screenplay by Charles Lederer. Based on the story "Who Goes There" by John W. Campbell, Jr. With Kenneth Tobey, Robert Cornwithe, Douglas Spencer. 89 min.
- Sept. 8
2:00
REVENGE OF FRANKENSTEIN. 1958. Directed by Terrence Fisher. Produced by Hammer Films.(G.B.). Screenplay by Jimmy Sangster. With Peter Cushing, Lionel Jeffries. Courtesy of Columbia Pictures. 94 min.
- 5:30
ATRAGON. 1964. Produced by Toho Films. Directed by I. Honda. With Kenji Sawara, Akema Kita. Courtesy of American-International. 88 min.
INCREDIBLE VOYAGE OF JULES VERNE. Courtesy Contemporary-McGraw Hill. 20 min.

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- Sept. 9
2:00 only
EARTH VS. THE FLYING SAUCERS. 1956. Produced by Charles H. Scheer. Directed by Fred F. Sears. Screenplay by George Worthing Yates, Raymond T. Marcus. Story by Curt Siodmak. Suggested by "Flying Saucers from Outer Space" by Maj. Donald E. Keyhoe. With Hugh Marlowe, Joan Taylor. 82 min.
- Sept. 11
2, 5:30
& 8
THE 4-D MAN. 1959. Produced by Jack Harris. Directed by Irvin Shortess Yeaworthy. With Robert Lansing, Lee Meriweather. Courtesy Jack Harris. 85 min.
- Sept. 12
2 & 5:30
WHEN WORLDS COLLIDE. 1951. Directed by Rudolph Maté. Produced by George Pal. Screenplay by Sydney Boehm, from the original story by Edwin Balmer and Philip Wylie. With Richard Derr, Barbara Rush, Peter Hanson. Courtesy of Paramount Pictures. 81 min.
- Sept. 13
3 & 5:30
THE DAMNED. 1961. Directed by Joseph Losey. Screenplay by Evan Jones from the novel "Children of Light" by H. L. Lawrence. With Macdonald Carey, Shirley Ann Field. Courtesy of Columbia Pictures. c. 90 min.
- Sept. 14
2 & 5:30
INVASION OF THE BODY SNATCHERS. 1956. Directed by Don Siegel. Produced by Walter Wanger. Screenplay by Daniel Mainwaring, from a story by Jack Finney. With Kevin McCarthy, Dana Wynter, Carolyn Jones. Courtesy of Ideal Pictures-Audio Film Center. 80 min.
- Sept. 15
2:00
METROPOLIS (1926). Directed by Fritz Lang. Produced by UFA Germany. Screenplay by Fritz Lang, Thea von Harbon. With Brigitte Helm, Alfred Abel, Gustave Froelich. 100 min.
- 5:30
DIE FRAU IM MOND (WOMAN IN THE MOON) (BY ROCKET TO THE MOON) 1929. UFA Production. Directed by Fritz Lang. From the novel "Die Frau Im Mond" by Thea Harbou. With Klaus Pohl, Willy Fritsch. 97 min.
- Sept. 16
2:00
VILLAGE OF THE DAMNED. 1960. Directed by Wolf Rilla. Produced by M-G-M. (G.B.). Screenplay by Sterling Siliphant, Wolf Rilla, George Barclay. From the novel "The Midwich Cuckoos" by John Wyndham. With George Sanders, Barbara Shelley, Michael Gwynne. Courtesy of Columbia Pictures. 78 min.
- Sept. 18
2, 5:30
& 8
ALPHAVILLE. 1965. Directed by Jean-Luc Godard. Produced by Chaumiane (France). Screenplay by Jean-Luc Godard. With Eddie Constantine, Anna Karina, Akin Tamiroff. Courtesy of Contemporary McGraw-Hill. 100 min.
- Sept. 19
2 & 5:30
CREATION OF THE HUMANOIDS. 1963. Directed by Wesley E. Barry. Produced by Genie Productions. Screenplay by Jay Simms. With Don Megowan, Erica Elliot, Frances McCann. 84 min.
- SINS OF THE FLESHAPOIDS. 1965. Film by Mike Kuchar. With Bob Cowan, Donna Kerness. Courtesy of filmmakers Cooperative. 50 mins.
- Sept. 20
5 & 5:30
TERRORE NELLO SPAZIO (DEMON PLANET) (PLANET OF THE VAMPIRES). Directed by Mario Bava. Screenplay by Pestriniero, Melchior, Bevilacqua, Cosulich, Bava, Roman, Salvia. With Barry Sullivan, Norma Bengell. Courtesy of American-International. 80 min. 1965.
- Sept. 21
2 & 5:30
MOON. by Scott Bartlett. 15 min.
ROBINSON CRUSOE OF MARS. 1964. Directed by Byron Haskin. Produced by Paramount. Screenplay by Ib Melchoir, John Higgins. With Paul Mantee, Vic Ludin, Adam West. Courtesy of Paramount Pictures. 110 min.
- Sept. 22
2 & 5:30
LA JETEE. 1963. Directed by Chris Marker. Produced by Argos Films (France). Screenplay by Chris Marker. With Helène Chatelain, Davos Hanich, Jacques Ledoux. Courtesy of Janus Films/New Cinema Collections. 30 min.
STEREO. 1969. A film by David Cronenberg. Courtesy of Janus Films/New Cinema Collection. 61 min.
- Sept. 23
2 & 5:30
2001, A SPACE ODYSSEY (tentative). Produced and directed by Stanley Kubrick. Screenplay by Stanley Kubrick, Arthur C. Clarke. With Keir Dullea, Gary Lockwood, William Sylvester. 160 min.