

# The Museum of Modern Art

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## CANNES 45 YEARS: FESTIVAL INTERNATIONAL DU FILM

June 19 - October 22, 1992

A major film exhibition celebrating the forty-fifth anniversary of the Cannes Film Festival opens at The Museum of Modern Art on June 19, 1992.

**CANNES 45 YEARS: FESTIVAL INTERNATIONAL DU FILM** reveals significant cinematic accomplishments, trends, and talents that have emerged from the world's foremost film festival. The series is on view through October 22.

Spanning the history of the Festival, **CANNES 45 YEARS: FESTIVAL INTERNATIONAL DU FILM** comprises 140 films from classics to rarely screened works of world cinema that premiered at Cannes. The selection of films includes those presented at the first Festival in 1946 through this year. Highlights of the series are *Rome, Open City* (Roberto Rossellini, 1946), *Los Olvidados* (Luis Buñuel, 1950), *Miss Julie* (Alf Sjöberg, 1950), *The Last Bridge* (Helmut Kautner, 1954), *The 400 Blows* (François Truffaut, 1959), *The Firemen's Ball* (Milos Forman, 1968), *Ali: Fear Eats the Soul* (Rainer Werner Fassbinder, 1974), *Three Crowns of a Sailor* (Raóul Ruiz, 1982), *Sweetie* (Jane Campion, 1989), and *To Sleep with Anger* (Charles Burnett, 1990).

The films in **CANNES 45 YEARS** are chosen from among those films invited by the Festival: the official selection, which includes *Un Certain Regard* (a noncompetitive section); *La Semaine Internationale de la Critique Française* (Critic's Week); *Quinzaine des Réalisateurs* (Director's Fortnight); and *Perspectives du Cinéma Français* (a panorama of young French filmmakers' work).

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The French government and film industry began the Cannes Film Festival in 1946, partly to draw tourists back to the Riviera after the war. Nineteen countries were invited to participate in this competition, the first independent international film festival, and it became an immediate success. Besides judging films and awarding prizes, the Festival organizes receptions, conferences, and tributes. It has grown in recent years to attract approximately 18,000 professionals and 3,000 journalists.

From the Festival, national cinemas and schools of filmmaking, such as Italian neorealism and the French new wave, have become well known to the international film community and audiences alike. Many great directors and stars whose work has been shown at Cannes received their first international acceptance at the Festival.

Each year the Festival recognizes achievements in filmmaking with special awards, headed by the *Palme d'Or* (Golden Palm) for best film in the official selection, awarded by an international jury of noted filmmakers -- directors, producers, actors, writers, cinematographers, and composers -- and critics; and the *Caméra d'Or* (Golden Camera), created in 1978 by Festival director Gilles Jacob for best first feature film presented in any section, awarded by a separate jury.

**CANNES 45 YEARS: FESTIVAL INTERNATIONAL DU FILM** was organized by Mary Lea Bandy, director, and Laurence Kardish, curator, Department of Film, The Museum of Modern Art.

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For further information or film stills, contact Barbara Marshall, film press representative, Department of Public Information, 212/708-9752.