

FEBRUARY 14-15, 2016

SOMERVILLE THEATRE

SF41

OLD ENOUGH TO KNOW BETTER.

YOUNG ENOUGH TO STAY AWAKE.

# The Thon

## 11:00 A PRE-SHOW & OPENING ANNOUNCEMENTS

### 12:00 P GREMLINS (1984) RATED PG

SF Marathon debut. Anarchic mayhem erupts in the small town of Kingston Falls when lunatic gremlins are inadvertently unleashed on Christmas Eve in this highly original, scary-funny tale of Mogwai-gone-wild from writer Chris Columbus and director Joe Dante. c: Zach Galligan, Phoebe Cates, Hoyt Axton & Corey Feldman. Music by Jerry Goldsmith.

### 2:00 P STARMAN (1984) RATED PG

70mm print. Following his sci-fi films *DARK STAR*, *ESCAPE FROM NEW YORK*, and *The THING*, director John Carpenter turned to examining the human condition—in the guise of a stranded alien from an advanced civilization who, to avoid capture, assumes the form of a grieving, young widow's recently deceased husband. c: Jeff Bridges, Karen Allen & Charles Martin Smith.

### 3:55 P ALIEN-DEFLECTING HELMET DEVICE CONTEST

### 4:05 P HIMMELSKIBET - A TRIP TO MARS (1918) NOT RATED - DENMARK

Featuring live musical accompaniment by Jeff Rapsis, *Himmelskibet* ("heaven ship"), one of two Danish silent sci-fi films, may be cinema's first real space adventure. Tale of Earth travelers welcomed by the people of Mars—pacifists and vegetarians evolved well past their visitors' warlike ways. d: Holger-Madsen. Swedish cast member Nils Asther became a Hollywood star.

### 5:25 P BLADE RUNNER - THE FINAL CUT (1982) RATED R

SF Marathon debut of director Ridley Scott's "Final Cut." Based loosely on Philip K. Dick's novel *Do Androids Dream Of Electric Sheep*. Set in Los Angeles in the year 2019, "Blade Runner" Rick Deckard pursues humanized robot "Replicants" searching for their creator. c: Harrison Ford as Deckard, with Joanna Cassidy, Daryl Hannah, Rutger Hauer, Edward James Olmos & Sean Young. Special f/x wizard/director Douglas Trumbull served as the special photographic f/x supervisor. Music by Vangelis.

### 7:25 P QUANTUM SINGULARITY

### 7:35 P HIGH TREASON (1929) NOT RATED - UNITED KINGDOM

35mm print with restored sound. This rarely seen British film was intended to match Fritz Lang's *Metropolis* (1926). Set in the then-imagined future of 1940—planes land atop skyscrapers, a Channel tunnel links England with the Continent, and television has replaced print journalism—the adherents of an international Peace League attempt to stop two governments from destroying the world in a catastrophic war. d: Maurice Elvery. c: Basil Gill & Benita Hume. Cameo by Raymond Massey.

### 8:45 P EX MACHINA (2015) RATED R

Writer-director Alex Garland's *Ex Machina* has garnered Oscar (screenplay, visual f/x), Golden Globe, and Alliance of Women Film Journalists (screenplay, best supporting actress) nominations. A young programmer at an Internet search giant wins a competition to visit his reclusive CEO's mountain estate. Once arrived, he's charged with evaluating the human qualities of "Ava," a breathtakingly beautiful experiment in artificial intelligence. c: Alicia Vikander, Domhnall Gleeson & Oscar Isaac.

## 10:40 P **THE MAN WHO FELL TO EARTH** (1976) RATED R - UNITED KINGDOM

New stereo restoration. Arriving on Earth in search of water for his family and drought-stricken planet, David Bowie's extraordinary extraterrestrial persona, Thomas Newton, undergoes transformation from alien to human. This was Bowie's first screen role. Based on Walter Tevis' 1963 novel. d: Nicolas Roeg. Also starring Rip Torn, Candy Clark, Buck Henry & Bernie Casey.

## 1:00 A **IDIOCRACY** (2006) RATED R

35mm print. The movie a certain "fair and balanced" media corp. tried to suppress. Forgotten participants in a Human Hibernation Project awaken 500 years hence to a dystopian society of idiots. d: Mike Judge. c: Luke Wilson, Maya Rudolph & Dax Shepard.

## 2:25 A **MICHAEL SCHLESINGER'S "THE BRIDE OF FINKELSTEIN"** (2015 SHORT)

## 2:50 A **PITCH BLACK** (2000) RATED R

When a space transport ship carrying 40 people crash lands on an isolated planet the survivors must contend with an imposing, amoral ex-con in their midst and an unseen terror in the dark. d: David Twohy. c: Vin Diesel, Radha Mitchell.

## 4:45 A **NEVER LET ME GO** (2010) RATED R - UNITED KINGDOM

Unfolding over the course of an alternate mid-20th century history, NEVER LET ME GO explores the complicated inner lives of three British students, the souls they may or may not possess, and the disturbing fate they share. Based on Kazuo Ishiguro's bestselling novel. d: Mark Romanek. c: Carey Mulligan, Andrew Garfield, Keira Knightley, Charlotte Rampling & Sally Hawkins.

## 6:30 A **BIG ASS SPIDER!** (2013) RATED PG-13

Ten stories high and very hungry! Escaped from a military lab, a giant alien spider wreaks havoc on Los Angeles in this suspenseful, campy buddy comedy from director Mike Mendez. c: Greg Grunberg, Lin Shaye & Ruben Pla.

## 7:55 A **DONOVAN'S BRAIN** (1953) NOT RATED

35mm. One of three films based on novelist Curt Siodmak's intriguing tale of a ruthless millionaire's disembodied brain kept alive in a scientist's lab, director Felix Feist's noirish McCarthy-era mind control thriller is closest to the original novel. c: Lew Ayres, Steve Brodie, Gene Evans, & future first lady Nancy Davis (Reagan). Cinematography: Joseph Biroc (*It's A Wonderful Life*).

## 9:25 A **THEY LIVE** (1988) RATED R

35mm. A drifter arrives in LA to discover its consumerist society is being manipulated by aliens using subliminal messages. Director John Carpenter's satire on Reaganomics still resonates more than 25 years later. c: Roddy Piper, Keith David, & Meg Foster.

## 10:45 A **CLOSING • INVASION OF THE BODYSNATCHERS** (1956) NOT RATED

The first—and best—of three film adaptations of Jack Finney's story, director Don Siegel's chilling 1956 depiction of parasitic pod aliens is at its core a reflection on the difference between being human and not. No sleeping now! Written by Daniel Mainwaring with additional dialogue by Sam Peckinpah (uncredited). c: Kevin McCarthy, Dana Wynter & Carolyn Jones.

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### Acknowledgments

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Marathon Team: Frank and Fran Urbano, Bruce Bartoo, Jon Hutton, Tony DiSalvo, Harry O. Lohr, Jr. & Judy Karp, Wallace Kemp, and Dave Chamberlain  
Dan Leblanc (*In Memoriam* video) | Somerville Theatre Team: Ian Judge, Peter, Tom, and David and the Staff of the Starship Somerville  
Judges: Roberto Del, Adam Lovett, Phil Healy, Christopher Maloney, Brett Cromwell, Michele Pettis, Tyler Christopher, Mark Sherwood, Christopher Anderson, Monica Catillo, Patrick Snow, and Connor Denney  
To all the filmmakers who make sci-fi films, thank you for sharing your vision with us. If by chance (likely) we have forgotten someone, please forgive us. Your name may not be written here, but your contribution is in our hearts. Thank you all.

Festival Producer: Garen Daly

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