





# Art Directors Guild Film Society and The American Cinematheque Salute Douglas Fairbanks' and Designer Maurice Leloir's THE IRON MASK (1928) With Screening & Panel

## ADG Film Series 2012 Premieres Sunday, May 20, 5:30 p.m. Egyptian Theatre

**LOS ANGELES, May 2, 2012** — The Art Directors Guild (ADG) Film Society and The American Cinematheque kick off the Guild's 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary year and 2012 Film Series with Douglas Fairbanks' classic *The Iron Mask* (1928) at the Egyptian Theatre in Hollywood on May 20 at 5:30 p.m. The screening will be a tribute to Fairbanks, a great early patron of film design, as well as the film's designer, Maurice Leloir, and the excellence of Hollywood film design from its earliest days. *The Iron Mask,* directed by Allan Dwan and a sequel to *The Three Muskateers* (1921), was Fairbanks' final silent swashbuckler and is considered the last of his great successes. A single 35mm print exists, restored by famed film historian Kevin Brownlow, and will be flown in from London to be projected with the acclaimed Carl Davis score. The 2012 ADG Film Series is sponsored by <u>The Hollywood Reporter</u>. For *The Iron Mask* images: <u>The Iron Mask</u>; For ticket information: <u>American Cinematheque</u>

A panel discussion will follow the film, with guests including John Tibbetts, authority on Fairbanks and Professor of Film at the University of Kansas; Laurence Bennett, Oscarnominated Production Designer of *The Artist*; and Patrick Stanbury producer, historian, film restorationist and Mr. Brownlow's partner.

The screening was inspired by Professor Tibbetts' republishing of Maurice Leloir's memoirs. Douglas Fairbanks, in his tireless efforts to present the finest in motion picture design, sought out the 74-year-old designer, induced him to leave Paris and come to Hollywood to supervise the costumes, sets, and fashion details of the Court of Louis XIII and XIV. Leloir's memoir, *Five Months In Hollywood With Douglas Fairbanks*, published in French in 1929, recounts his adventures with Fairbanks in the fabled Hollywood of the 1920s.

Bennett will share his own experiences recreating the world of the 1920s Hollywood in 21<sup>st</sup> Century Los Angeles. Stanbury will discuss the reconstruction and restoration of the *The Iron Mask, a nearly lost* classic. The discussion will be moderated by Film Society founder and Production Designer John Muto.

In addition to the screening of the feature *The Iron Mask*, the Film Society presentation will include a large screen presentation of Leloir's designs, rare stills, details from the restoration of the film, and a lobby display of orginal posters and artwork from the collection of Dr. Tracey Goessel, as well as Fairbanks' fascinating first effort at a Musketeer-style costumed swashbuckler, *A Modern Muskateer* (1917).

Douglas Fairbanks figured prominently in the early history of the Egyptian Theatre,

which is celebrating its 90th anniversary this year. His *Robin Hood* was the first Hollywood movie premiere as well as the opening night film when the Egyptian Theatre first opened for business on October 18, 1922. Fairbanks, a great friend of Egyptian Theatre impresario Sid Grauman, also premiered his films *The Thief Of Bagdad* and *The Black Pirate* in the first few years that the theatre was open.

The 2012 ADG/American Cinematheque Screening Series schedule also includes *Ziegfeld Follies* (1945) honoring Supervising Art Director Cedric Gibbons, Sunday, June 17, at the Aero Theatre; *Captain Blood* (1935) or *The Sea Hawk* (1940) Sunday, July 22 at the Egyptian Theatre; and *Just Imagine* (1930) honoring Stephen Goosson, Sunday, August 19, at the Aero Theatre.

Representing the ADG are Guild President Tom Walsh and Film Series Founder John Muto. Working with them are the American Cinematheque's Gwen Deglise and Grant Moninger. General admission: \$11. American Cinematheque members: \$7. Students/Seniors with valid ID: \$9. All screenings start at 5:30 p.m. 24-hour information is available at 323-466-FILM (3456).

NOTE TO MEDIA: Major media are invited to cover. ###

### About the Art Directors Guild:

The Art Directors Guild (IATSE Local 800) represents nearly 2,000 members who work throughout the United States, Canada and the rest of the world in film, television and theater as Production Designers, Art Directors, and Assistant Art Directors; Scenic, Title and Graphic Artists; Illustrators and Matte Artists; and Set Designers and Model Makers. Established in 1937, ADG's ongoing activities include a Film Society; an annual Awards Banquet, a creative/technology community (5D: The Future of Immersive Design) and Membership Directory; a bimonthly professional magazine (Perspective); and extensive technology-training programs, creative workshops and craft and art exhibitions. The Guild's Online Directory/Website Resource: Art Directors Guild; Follow ADG on Twitter: @ADG800; For Facebook: Facebook.

#### About American Cinematheque:

Established in 1981, the American Cinematheque is a 501 C 3 non-profit viewer-supported film exhibition and cultural organization dedicated to the celebration of the Moving Picture in all of its forms. At the Egyptian Theatre, the Cinematheque presents daily film and video programming which ranges from the classics of American and international cinema to new independent films and digital work. Exhibition of rare works, special and rare prints, etc., combined with fascinating post-screening discussions with the filmmakers who created the work, are a Cinematheque tradition that keep audiences coming back for once-in-a-lifetime cinema experiences. The American Cinematheque renovated and reopened (on Dec. 4, 1998) the historic 1922 Hollywood Egyptian Theatre. This includes a state-of-the-art 616-seat theatre housed within Sid Grauman's first grand movie palace on Hollywood Boulevard. The exotic courtyard is fully restored to its 1922 grandeur. The Egyptian was the home of the very first Hollywood movie premiere in 1922. In January 2005, the American Cinematheque expanded its programming to the 1940 Aero Theatre on Montana Avenue in Santa Monica. For more information about American Cinematheque, visit the website: <u>American Cinematheque</u>. Follow the American Cinematheque on Twitter (@sidgrauman) and Facebook (Egyptian Theatre, Aero Theatre).

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