

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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INTERNATIONAL MOVIE NIGHTS BACK, AT JUST THE RIGHT TIME

The projector is warming up for another East Somerville cultural and cinematic extravaganza. East Somerville Main Streets will launch their 3rd Annual Under the Stars: International Movie Nights to much anticipation on Saturday, Sept. 5th.

As the event goes into its third year, it seems to have celestial timing. “We’re with the fates this year – it’d be hard to have better timing,” said Carrie Dancy, director of East Somerville Main Streets. “The nights line up perfectly with Brazilian Independence Day, the Feast of Cosmos and Damian, and Salvadorian Independence Day. Every night we’ve really got something to celebrate.”

Reclaiming an abandoned lot to create an outdoor cinema may sound strange, but for two years going it seems to be one of the hottest things to do on a Somerville September night.

“If you’ve got an adventurous spirit and a lawn chair, we’re waiting for you,” Dancy commented. Adding, “But never fear, there will be chairs for those there early enough to stake them out.”

An additional draw for the fun and chance taking will be free raffles of both the movie dvd played that night and 2 tickets to Canobie Lake Park’s Screemfest after the movie.

Brian Robertson, owner of East Somerville’s BR Mechanical, commented, “I’m really excited about having movies in the neighborhood I work in; East Somerville’s wonderful and diverse. I’ll have to get there early to get my seats.”

Acclaimed movies from Brazil, Italy, Argentina and a series of animated shorts from El Salvador will be shown in 2009, with each accompanied by a street party to kick things off.

Movies start Sept. 5th with Brazilian Night. The Brazilian musical group Trio Eló Band will start the street party at 6:30pm, followed by a showing of O Ano em Que Meus Pais Saíram de Férias (The Year My Parents Went on Vacation), winner of 21 awards including best picture at the 2008 Cinema Brazil Grand Prize. The night is sponsored by Sydney Accounting.

Commenting on the movie, Somerville resident and expert in Brazilian Cinema, Marcelo Zicker said "Speaking as a Brazilian that loves my country and traditions, I'm thankful to

see people from around the world, acknowledging the fullness of our culture. ‘O Ano Em Que Meus Pais Saíram de Férias’ is one of the best recent Brazilian movies.”

The party will roll on with Italian Night, this year brought to the community by Cubby Oil. The night’s energy will be kicked up a notch by well-known accordion player and performer, Carmen Spada, a regular at Cantina Italiana in the North End. To be shown is the well known film *Pane e Tulipani (Bread and Tulips)*, winner of best film at the 2000 European Film Awards.

The series will close with celebration of the East Somerville community and El Salvadorian Independence Day, with Latin American Night. The night will open with fried dough, Salvadorian delights, and music by Alex Deras, La Tejanita and the Texan Girls, and El Guanaquito – in a concert organized by Gloria Carrigg, a devoted member of the Salvadorian community and a member of the Boston Cultural Council.

There will be a showing of two shorts *from Cuentos de Cipotes (Cipotes’ Stories)*, famed Salvadorian children’s stories. This will be followed by *Luna de Avellaneda (Avellaneda’s Moon)*, a moving story about a Buenos Aires neighborhood coming together to save the local social club.

“This year’s music and movies are really fabulous. We can’t wait for the party to get started,” closed Dancy.

Movie nights to occur Sept. 5th, 12th, and 19th with a rain date of Sept. 26th – event location, 165 Broadway, Somerville behind the Old Fire Station. Music and food, 6:30 pm, and movie showings at 8:00pm. The event is free and open to the public. For more information visit www.eastsomervilleflicks.org, or call 617.623.3869.

Movie Synopsis

September 5

O Ano em Que Meus Pais Saíram de Férias (*The Year my Parents Went on Vacation*)

In Portuguese with English subtitles

104 minutes

In 1970, near the World Cup, ten year old Mauro is left in Bom Retiro, a Jewish and Italian neighborhood in Brazil, to stay with his grandfather while his parents go on vacation. Little do they know, the grandfather has just had a heart attack and died. Mauro makes new friends, cheers for the Brazilian team and sees the movement of the police and militaries on the streets while waiting for his parents.

The movie has won 21 awards including best picture at the 2008 Cinema Brazil Grand Prize.

September 12

Pane e Tulipani (*Bread and Tulips*)

In Italian with English subtitles

114 minutes

Rosalba finds herself alone after her husband and sons forget her at a highway café. When the tour bus leaves her, and her husband calls to tell her to stay put, she rebels and hitchhikes toward home, deciding on a whim to continue to Venice. Will duty and maternal instinct win out, or will Alba stay in Venice to find her true Italian self?

2000 European Film Award for Best Film

Sponsored By Cubby Oil

September 19

Luna de Avellaneda (*Avellaneda's Moon*)

In Spanish with English subtitles

143 minutes

Argentine actor Ricardo Darin stars in this story of a social and sports club in a Buenos Aires neighborhood. The club is decaying and the gatherings are hardly what they used to be. To top things off, Roman (Darin) discovers his wife is having an affair, and their marriage finds itself at its worst. Together with friends from the club, Roman must fight for the survival of the place before it is bought and a casino is built in its place.

About East Somerville Main Streets:

Representing the oldest and most ethnically diverse neighborhood in Somerville, East Somerville Main Streets (ESMS) is a non-profit, public private partnership between East Somerville residents, business owners, community leaders, the City of Somerville, and the National Main Streets Center. Drawing upon the neighborhood's unique historical and cultural energies, ESMS is developing a series of volunteer-driven, community initiatives and events to reflect and promote the true character of East Somerville as a vibrant place to live, visit, and do business.

