

# MYSTICARTSCENTER

CREATIVITY CULTURE COMMUNITY

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

CONTACT: Brandy Kolmer, Director, Development and Public Relations  
Phone: 860.536.7601x203 Fax: 860.536.0610  
Email: development@mysticarts.org

## **New MAC Cinema Series Begins Featuring Films about New York Artists**

**MYSTIC, CT** – September 4 – The fall season of the **Mystic Arts Center’s Artist Cinema Series** begins Sunday, September 20, with the first in a monthly series of biographic films set in New York City.

The series delves into the seedy underside of the art world in the latter half of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century when drugs and emotional disturbances often affected the lives of the most provocative and transformative artists. The September film, **Basquiat**, explores the life of young New York City street graffiti artist Jean-Michel Basquiat who shot from obscurity to fame in the 1980s and became the first African-American international art star. New York artist Diane Arbus is revealed in the movie **Fur**, and the troubled writer and women’s activist Valerie Solanas, is examined in **I Shot Andy Warhol**.

Each film is followed by an interactive post-screening discussion with a regional film expert, and all are screened at the Olde Mistick Village Art Cinemas, which generously donates the use of one theater each month. A complete listing of the fall series is below.

**Sunday, September 20, 2 pm**      **Basquiat** (1996) In 1981, Jean-Michel Basquiat, played by Jeffrey Wright, was a 19-year-old graffiti artist living on the streets. Eight years later, he was a world-renowned neo-expressionist painter dead of a heroine overdose. A post-film interactive discussion will follow led by Joy Pepe, Art Historian and Professor Emerita at the Lyme Academy College of Fine Arts.

- Continued -

Art Movie Series  
Page 2  
September 4 2009

**Sunday, October 18, 2 pm** **Fur** (2006) Nicole Kidman stars as controversial and acclaimed photographer Diane Arbus, who took her own life in 1971 after rising to fame for her bizarre and often disturbing black-and-white images capturing the bizarre with stark clarity. Also starring Robert Downey, Jr. The post-film discussion will be led by Dr. Nina K. Martin, Director of Film Studies at Connecticut College.

**Sunday, November 15, 2 pm** **I Shot Andy Warhol** (1996) In 1968, radical feminist Valerie Solanas, played by Lili Taylor, shot pop-art icon Andy Warhol. This film traces her life up to that moment, from childhood abuse and college prostitution to Warhol's dismissal of her male-bashing screenplay. Also starring Jared Harris. Post-film discussion led by Joy Pepe, Art Historian and Professor Emerita at the Lyme Academy College of Fine Art.

Tickets are \$8 for MAC members, \$10 for the general public, and may be purchased at the Cinema box office. All proceeds benefit Mystic Arts Center programming.

For directions or information about the cinemas, visit [oldemistickflicks.com](http://oldemistickflicks.com). The Olde Mistick Village Art Cinemas is located at 27 Coogan Blvd in the Olde Mistick Village.

For information about Mystic Arts Center programs, visit [www.mysticarts.org](http://www.mysticarts.org) or call (860) 536-7601x209. The Mystic Arts Center is a non-profit community arts organization dedicated to serving the region's artistic, cultural and creative needs through studio education, exhibitions and educational outreach programming.

###

