

# MUSEUM OF THE MOVING IMAGE

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **FILM HISTORIAN JOHN BENGTSON TAKES A TRIP THROUGH THE STREETS OF NEW YORK, FOLLOWED BY A SCREENING OF HAROLD LLOYD'S *SPEEDY* WITH LIVE MUSIC BY DONALD SOSIN**

**Sunday, October 16, 3:00 p.m. at Museum of the Moving Image**

With his wonderful books on Buster Keaton and Charlie Chaplin, John Bengtson created an exciting new form of urban archeology by extensively researching the locations in which silent films were photographed. His latest book, *Silent Visions: Discovering Early Hollywood and New York through the Films of Harold Lloyd*, includes an extensive chapter on Lloyd's classic 1928 comedy *Speedy*, which co-stars Babe Ruth, and was filmed on locations throughout Brooklyn, Manhattan, and the Bronx, from Coney Island to Yankee Stadium.

On Sunday, October 16, 2011, at 3:00 p.m., Museum of the Moving Image will present a special program, "Slapstick on the Streets of New York." *Speedy* will be presented in a beautifully restored 35mm print and with live accompaniment by noted silent film composer Donald Sosin, following a presentation by Bengtson. Using a trove of photos, he will show Lloyd's film locations, as they looked in 1928 and as they are today. As film historian Leonard Maltin wrote, "John Bengtson has done it again: Part detective, part historian, this dedicated silent-film enthusiast has opened a window to the past for all of us."

"This will be an unforgettable afternoon for anybody who loves New York City, silent movies, baseball, or live music," said David Schwartz, the Museum's Chief Curator.

After the program, there will be a book signing of Bengtson's *Silent Visions* in the Museum store. Tickets for the screening and presentation are free with Museum admission and will be available first-come, first-served on the day of the event.

*Speedy* (dir. Ted Wilde, 1928, 85 mins.) follows Harold Lloyd as a New York Yankees-obsessed taxi driver who picks up Babe Ruth as a passenger and has to race across the city to get him to the game on time.

**Press Contact:**

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## **MUSEUM INFORMATION**

Hours: Tuesday-Thursday, 10:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Friday, 10:30 to 8:00 p.m. Saturday-Sunday, 10:30 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. **Holiday hours:** The Museum will be open on Mondays from 10:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on Columbus Day (October 10), and on December 26 and January 2. On Christmas Eve (Dec. 24) and New Year's Eve (Dec. 31), the galleries will close at 5:00 p.m. The Museum is closed on Thanksgiving (Nov. 24) and Christmas Day (Dec. 25).

Film Screenings: Friday evenings, Saturdays and Sundays, and as scheduled.

Museum Admission: \$12.00 for adults; \$9.00 for persons over 65 and for students with ID; \$6.00 for children ages 3-18. Children under 3 and Museum members are admitted free. Admission to the galleries is free on Fridays, 4:00 to 8:00 p.m. Tickets for special screenings and events may be purchased in advance by phone at 718 777 6800 or online.

Location: 36-01 35 Avenue (at 37 Street) in Astoria.

Subway: M (weekdays only) or R to Steinway Street. Q (weekdays only) or N to 36 Avenue.

Program Information: Telephone: 718 777 6888; Website: [movingimage.us](http://movingimage.us)

The Museum is housed in a building owned by the City of New York and its operations are made possible in part by public funds provided through the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs, the New York City Economic Development Corporation, the New York State Council on the Arts, the National Endowment for the Arts, the National Endowment for the Humanities, the Institute of Museum and Library Services, and the Natural Heritage Trust (administered by the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation, and Historic Preservation). The Museum also receives generous support from numerous corporations, foundations, and individuals. For more information, please visit [movingimage.us](http://movingimage.us).