

Saving Film & Television for Future Generations

This National Military Appreciation Month, UCLA Film & Television Archive, in Partnership with Hollywood Post 43, The American Legion, Presents a Special Screening of Director Peter Jackson's They Shall Not Grow Old

Saturday, May 11, 2019 at the Post's Historic Egyptian Revival Building

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**LOS ANGELES, CA (Apr. 22, 2019) –** In commemoration of the 100th anniversary of the end of WWI, UCLA Film & Television Archive and Hollywood Post 43, The American Legion, are hosting a free admission screening of director Peter Jackson's masterpiece, *They Shall Not Grow Old* (2018) on Saturday, May 11, 2019 at the Legion Theater, a newly renovated state-of-the-art theater in the historic Hollywood Post building, located at 2035 N. Highland Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90068.

Commissioned by the Imperial War Museum in London to create a film commemorating the 100th anniversary of the 1918 armistice ending World War I, Jackson created a monumental work of art: *They Shall Not Grow Old*. Utilizing original black and white war footage, Jackson spent four years transforming the images into full color, allowing viewers to experience the sights and sounds of the brutal war in the trenches. The result is not only visually astonishing, but also poignant and highly personal. It reflects Jackson's artistry and cinematic vision while giving a view of events that changed the course of history.

This acclaimed film is a remarkable accomplishment that was developed using new digital technology that turned grainy, silent, black and white footage from World War I into a color sound film. The audience is immersed into the world as it existed in 1914 to 1918. It is not only a documentary but also a visualization of what the human experience of the First World War was like for ordinary British soldiers at the front in France.

His first documentary as director, Jackson dedicated this movie to his grandfather and others who fought in the war. The making of this film included going through 600 hours of interviews from 200 veterans and 100 hours of original film. Audio recordings of soldiers recounting their experiences are featured in the film to inspire a greater understanding of what they went through. Voice-overs from soldiers are synchronized with scenes from the film to engage the audience and provide context. More details and the film trailer are available on the Archive website.

"This special screening will be held at the historic Legion Theater in Hollywood, owned and operated by veterans, what better place to share this film? Since May is National Military Appreciation Month, including Military Spouse Appreciation Day and Memorial Day, this event is

our humble way of celebrating and showing appreciation to worldwide military services," said Jan-Christopher Horak, Director of the UCLA Film & Television Archive.

The Consul Generals of Germany, Belgium and the United Kingdom, as well as representatives of the Consulates of France and New Zealand, will be in attendance. We are also honored to host UCLA dignitaries at the event.

## Only a few seats left. Admission is free: register for tickets through Eventbrite.

Limited parking will be available on-site for \$15 (cash only). Free parking will also be available at the northeast corner of Highland Ave. and Milner Rd., a half block north of the building.

Doors and bar open at 6:30 p.m. Program starts with remarks at 7:30 p.m. and film screening at 8 p.m.

## **About Hollywood Post 43**

Post 43 and its members have been a central part of civic, business, and social life in Los Angeles for nearly 100 years. World War I veterans in Los Angeles who worked in the motion picture business chartered the Hollywood Post in 1919 with the goals of service to the community, state, and nation and to help their fellow veterans suffering badly from the effects of the Great War. Hollywood Post 43 has one of the fastest-growing and vibrant memberships in The American Legion today. Veterans from all eras, including an increasing number of post-9/11 war veterans are joining Post 43 because of its storied history, beautiful clubhouse, and opportunities for social and athletic activities, camaraderie, and service.

Members of the Hollywood American Legion are involved every day in helping veterans with accessing VA benefits and care, remedying financial hardship, supporting local ROTC programs, and raising money for college scholarships, all while enjoying great friendships, raising families, and expanding their social and professional networks.

Located at 2035 North Highland Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90068, this spectacularly renovated historic theater, has always been an integral part of Hollywood Post 43, The American Legion, chartered in 1919 by World War I veterans who worked in the motion picture business.

The Post's historic Egyptian Revival building was completed in 1929. Classic Hollywood luminaries—veterans and nonveteran supporters—like Cecil B. DeMille, Adolph Menjou, and Mary Pickford were all instrumental in getting the post on its feet. Post 43 members have included the likes of Clark Gable, Gene Autry, Mickey Rooney, Ronald Reagan, Charlton Heston, Stan Lee, and many more show business figures.

Featuring state of the art digital projection and sound systems as well as 35mm and 70mm capabilities, the historic Legion Theater is the only theater in Hollywood owned and operated by veterans. Seating capacity for the renovated Legion Theater is at 484 seats.

## **About UCLA Film & Television Archive**

The mission of the UCLA Film & Television Archive is to save film and television for future generations.

The Archive is internationally renowned for rescuing, preserving and showcasing moving image media and is dedicated to ensuring that the visual achievements of our time are available for information, education and enjoyment. The sixth-largest moving image repository in the world, and the second largest in the U.S., behind only the Library of Congress, the Archive's more than 450,000 holdings are stored in a state-of-the-art facility that meets and exceeds all preservation standards, from nitrate film to digital.

A unit of UCLA's School of Theater, Film and Television, the Archive's Research and Study Center provides free access to its holdings to researchers, writers and educators. Many of the Archive's projects are screened at prestigious film events around the globe, as well as locally at UCLA's Billy Wilder Theater.

For more information, please contact Marisa Soto at (310) 206-8588 or msoto@cinema.ucla.edu