

# MUSEUM OF THE MOVING IMAGE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## MUSEUM OF THE MOVING IMAGE STAGES AN EVENT FEATURING INFAMOUS AND RARELY SEEN WORK BY ANDY KAUFMAN

**Museum “happening” includes live performances, screening of *My Breakfast with Blassie*, plus rare clips, and discussion with Kaufman’s brother and sister**

**Saturday, December 14, 2019, 5:00–9:00 p.m.**

Astoria, New York, November 22, 2019— Andy Kaufman (1949–1984) claimed never to have told a joke. A performer working in the field of popular entertainment (*Taxi*, *Saturday Night Live*, and more), he confounded audience expectations and challenged the traditional role of the comic. On Saturday, December 14, 5:00 to 9:00 p.m., Museum of the Moving Image presents **"I Trusted You: Andy Kaufman on the Edge of Performance,"** an evening of live performance, screening and discussion, and milk-and-cookies, presented in the spirit of Kaufman—a Queens native.

Prior to the screening and discussion at 7:00 p.m., visitors are invited to explore the Museum’s first and second floors to discover live performances conceived of by Andy Kaufman, including some that few have ever seen. The lines between intended and unintended, spontaneous and planned will not always be clear. In *Tut’s Fever* Movie Palace, a screening room and artwork by Red Grooms and Lysiane Luong, visitors can drop in to see clips of Kaufman’s interventions on live television. In addition, invoking the time when Kaufman took his 1979 Carnegie Hall audience out for milk and cookies, visitors will be treated to the same, courtesy of Bread Alone Bakery and Oatly.

In the Redstone Theater, ***My Breakfast with Blassie*** (1983, 60 mins.) will be shown. This surreal parody of Louis Malle’s *My Dinner with Andre* (1981) stars Andy Kaufman (“Inter-gender Wrestling Champion of the World”) and pro wrestler and WWWF manager “Classy” Freddie Blassie meeting for breakfast in a Hollywood diner. The film will be followed by a conversation with Kaufman’s brother Michael and sister Carol and audience Q&A.

"I Trusted You: Andy Kaufman on the Edge of Performance" is organized by guest curator Brian Hubble. Special thanks to Sonia Epstein, Associate Curator of Science and Film, for her input.

Tickets are \$20 (\$15 for MoMI Members, students, and senior citizens). Tickets and more information are available at [movingimage.us/andy](http://movingimage.us/andy)

The performers are Eric Ashcraft, Margot Bird, Aron Chilwech, Andy Cross, Ala Dehghan, Yasi Ghanbari, Eliot Greenwald, Sara Mejia Kriendler, Rachel Libeskind, Nora Maité Nieves, Kendra Jayne Patrick, James Powers, Sophia Rauch, Harry Terjanian, and Julio Williams.

**Brian Hubble** is a visual artist who has studied the life and work of Andy Kaufman for over thirteen years. His passion has led him to seek conversations with everyone from actors who worked with Kaufman, to employees at his favorite brothel in the Nevada desert. Along the way, Brian has come to covet the friendship he has developed with Kaufman's younger brother Michael, who has shared unbelievable stories. Recent exhibitions of Hubble's work include Lévy Gorvy in New York City and ADA Gallery in Richmond, Virginia. He is the co-founder of Unisex Salon, an artist-run exhibition space located in Brooklyn. Hubble completed his MFA at The School of the Art Institute of Chicago, where he was the recipient of the William R. French Fellowship.

###

**Press contact:** Tomoko Kawamoto, [tkawamoto@movingimage.us](mailto:tkawamoto@movingimage.us) / 718 777 6830

### **MUSEUM INFORMATION**

**Museum of the Moving Image** ([movingimage.us](http://movingimage.us)) advances the understanding, enjoyment, and appreciation of the art, history, technique, and technology of film, television, and digital media. In its stunning facility—acclaimed for both its accessibility and bold design—the Museum presents exhibitions; screenings of significant works; discussion programs featuring actors, directors, craftspeople, and business leaders; and education programs which serve more than 50,000 students each year. The Museum also houses a significant collection of moving-image artifacts.

Hours: Wed–Thurs, 10:30 a.m.–5:00 p.m. Fri, 10:30 a.m.–8:00 p.m. Sat–Sun, 10:30 a.m.–6:00 p.m.

Museum Admission: \$15 adults; \$11 senior citizens (ages 65+) and students (ages 18+) with ID; \$9 youth (ages 3–17). Children under 3 and Museum members are admitted free. Admission to the galleries is free on Fridays, 4:00 to 8:00 p.m.

Film Screenings: Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays, and as scheduled. Unless otherwise noted, tickets: \$15 adults, \$11 students and seniors, \$9 youth (ages 3–17), free or discounted for Museum members (depending on level of membership). Advance purchase is available online.

**New Release screenings are \$15** (discounted for Museum members, seniors and students)

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

Subway: M or R to Steinway Street. N or W to 36 Ave or Broadway.

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

Membership: <http://movingimage.us/support/membership> or 718 777 6877

Museum of the Moving Image is housed in a building owned by the City of New York and has received significant support from the following public agencies: New York City Department of Cultural Affairs; New York City Council; New York City Economic Development Corporation; New York State Council on the Arts with the support of Governor Andrew M. Cuomo and the New York State Legislature; Institute of Museum and Library Services; National Endowment for the Humanities; National Endowment for the Arts; and Natural Heritage Trust (administered by the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation). For more information, please visit [movingimage.us](http://movingimage.us).