



News Release

For Immediate Release

Contact:

Ann Obenchain

ann.obenchain@chautauqua.com

303.952.1645

2016 Chautauqua silent film line up announced

31st annual series gets underway June 1

BOULDER, Colo. (March 21, 2016) – The Colorado Chautauqua Association (CCA), steward of Boulder’s cultural and historical gem the Colorado Chautauqua National Historic Landmark, is pleased to announce its 31st annual summer Silent Film Series. Running weekly June 1 – August 9, the film series will feature silent stars and audience favorites such as Buster Keaton, Harold Lloyd, John Gilbert and Charlie Chaplin as well as newly found prints. Live musical accompaniment will be provided by the [Mont Alto Motion Picture Orchestra](#), pianist Hank Troy and the Silent Cinema Trio. The films will be screened in the historic Chautauqua Auditorium (b.1898), whose original rustic, “barn-like” architecture is the perfect setting to celebrate the origins of the silver screen since its atmosphere evokes the feeling of being transported back in time.

FILM SERIES LINE UP

THE GENERAL (1927)

Starring Buster Keaton and featuring live musical accompaniment by Hank Troy, piano

Wednesday June 1, 2016. 7:30 PM

One of the most revered comedies of the silent era, this film finds hapless Southern railroad engineer Johnnie Gray (Buster Keaton) facing off against Union soldiers during the American Civil War. When Johnnie’s fiancée, Annabelle Lee (Marion Mack), is accidentally taken away while on a train stolen by Northern forces, Gray pursues the soldiers, using various modes of transportation in comic action scenes that highlight Keaton’s boundless wit and dexterity. Also screened will be the short film “The Goat” (1921) starring Buster Keaton.

SHOW PEOPLE (1928)

Featuring live musical accompaniment by Hank Troy, piano

Tuesday June 7, 2016. 7:30 PM

Starry-eyed country girl Peggy Pepper (Marion Davies) dreams of being a movie star. So that she can begin her career, she persuades her father (Dell Henderson) to take her to Hollywood. After a rough start, Pepper catches a break when she meets small-time studio liaison Billy Boone (William Haines), who lands her a job acting in a cheap slapstick comedy. Pepper quickly makes a name for herself and is signed for more high-profile projects, much to the dismay of Boone, who is falling for her. Directed by King Vidor.

BARDELYS THE MAGNIFICENT

Featuring live musical accompaniment by the Mont Alto Motion Picture Orchestra

Wednesday June 22, 2016. 7:30 PM.

A dashing rogue (John Gilbert) assumes the identity of a dead traitor and hides at the estate of a lovely, but icy, aristocrat (Eleanor Boardman). Based on a novel by [Rafael Sabatini](#), “Bardelys the Magnificent” is set during the reign of [King Louis XIII](#).

BEAUTY & THE BEAST (1946)

Featuring the 1995 Philip Glass opera soundtrack with English subtitles

Wednesday, June 29, 2016. 7:30 PM

Jean Cocteau’s adaptation of de Beaumont’s fairy-tale of a gentle-hearted beast in love with a simple and beautiful girl. She is drawn to the repellent but strangely fascinating Beast, who tests her fidelity by giving her a key, telling her that if she doesn't return it to him by a specific time, he will die of grief. She is unable to return the key on time, but it is revealed that the Beast is the genuinely handsome one. A simple tale of tragic love that turns into a surreal vision of death, desire, and beauty.

THE CAMERAMAN (1928)

Starring Buster Keaton and featuring live musical accompaniment by Hank Troy, piano

Wednesday, July 6, 2016. 7:30 PM

In this silent classic, photographer Buster (Buster Keaton) meets Sally (Marceline Day), who works as a secretary for the newsreel department at MGM, and falls hard. Trying to win her attention, Buster abandons photography in order to become a news cameraman. In spite of his early failures with a motion camera, Sally takes to him as well. However, veteran cameraman Stagg (Harold Goodwin) also fancies Sally, meaning Buster will need to learn how to film quickly before he loses his job. Also screened will be the short film “The Cook” (1918) starring Buster Keaton & Fatty Arbuckle.

WHY BE GOOD? (1929)

Featuring live musical accompaniment by the Mont Alto Motion Picture Orchestra

Wednesday, July 13 2016. 7:30 PM

A salesgirl (Colleen Moore) falls in love with the wealthy heir to the store where she works, so his father orchestrates an elaborate test of her virtue. This comedy was long considered dead and gone, like so many late-era silent films released on the cusp of the talkie revolution. It was not until 2012 that Cineteca Italiana di Milano, which housed the print, returned it to the United States for restoration.

THE KID (1921)

Starring Charlie Chaplin and featuring live musical accompaniment by Hank Troy, piano

Wednesday, July 20, 2016. 7: 30 PM

Charlie Chaplin’s first full-length feature is a silent masterpiece about a little tramp (Chaplin) who discovers a little orphan (Jackie Coogan) and brings him up but is left desolate when the orphanage reclaims him. Chaplin directed, produced and starred in the film, as well as composed the score. Also screened will be “A Dog’s Life” (1918) starring Charlie Chaplin and a young pup.

THE BIG PARADE (1925)

Featuring live musical accompaniment by The Silent Cinema Trio

Wednesday, July 27, 2016. 7:30 PM

Wealthy young idler Jim Apperson (John Gilbert) enlists during the early days of World War I, to the worry of his mother (Claire McDowell) and the pride of his father (Hobart Bosworth). Sent to the front lines in the French countryside, Jim bonds with his working-class bunkmates Slim (Karl Dane) and Bull (Tom O'Brien) and falls in love with young French farm girl Melisande (Renée Adorée), despite having a girlfriend (Claire Adams) back home. But the romance of war is soon shattered for good. The film heavily influenced all subsequent war films, especially “All Quiet on the Western Front” (1930).

DAUGHTER OF DAWN (1920)

Featuring live musical accompaniment by the Mont Alto Motion Picture Orchestra

Wednesday, August 3, 2016. 7:30 PM

The story, played by an all-Native American cast of 300 Kiowas and Comanches, includes a romantic rivalry, buffalo hunts, a battle, village scenes, dances, deceit, courage, hand-to-hand combat and even a happy ending.

For decades, "Daughter of Dawn" was rumored to exist, but was not in any archive and feared to be a lost film. The 1920 multi-reel, feature-length silent film was rediscovered and restored a few years ago. The Mont Alto Motion Picture Orchestra was commissioned to compose a new soundtrack for the film, which they will premier in Colorado at this screening.

FOR HEAVEN'S SAKE (1926) & NUMBER PLEASE (1918)

Starring Harold Lloyd and featuring live musical accompaniment by Hank Troy, piano

Tuesday August 9, 2016. 7:30 PM

Wealthy ladies' man J. Harold Manners (Harold Lloyd) enjoys a privileged, sheltered life. So, when he finds out his name is being used to bring people into a mission in the poorer part of town, Harold sets out to get his moniker removed from the project. Instead, he meets the priest's daughter, Hope (Jobyna Ralston), and is smitten. That Hope is from the wrong side of the tracks doesn't dissuade Harold from pursuing her. The question is whether this uptown boy can win over a downtown girl. Also screened this evening will be Lloyd's masterpiece short, "Number Please."

TICKET INFORMATION:

- All events take place in the historic Chautauqua Auditorium (b.1898)
- All shows 7:30 PM
- All tickets: \$12.00 (\$6.00 Chautauqua Concert Members), \$6.00 children under 12
- All tickets available for purchase online at tickets.chautauqua.com or via phone or walk up at the Chautauqua Box Office Kiosk.
- The Chautauqua Box Office Kiosk opens May 9 for phone and walk-up sales. Hours: 12 - 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, and 12 - 8 p.m. on Auditorium event days. 303.440.7666.
- Chautauqua Concert Members receive a discount on select tickets and advance purchase privileges.
 - The public is welcome to join as members at any time to take advantage of early purchase privileges and discounts.

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The Colorado Chautauqua Association is a 501(c) (3) nonprofit organization that preserves, perpetuates and improves the site and spirit of the historic Chautauqua, enhancing its community and values through cultural, educational, social and recreational experiences. The chautauqua experience is based on lifelong learning, love of nature, voluntary simplicity, and music, oration and the arts. Historic significance, traditions, cultural relevance, respite and enrichment are among the community benefits provided by the Colorado Chautauqua. CCA serves as the steward of historic Chautauqua. It leases from the City of Boulder and has full responsibility for preservation and use of 26 acres of Chautauqua Park, home to many public buildings, gardens and 99 cottages, 58 of which are available for rental through the Association. The Colorado Chautauqua was designated a National Historic Landmark in 2006. The Colorado Chautauqua Association is a Scientific & Cultural Facilities District (SCFD) Tier II organization. For more information about the Colorado Chautauqua and the CCA visit www.chautauqua.com or www.facebook.com/coloradochautauqua.

For access to historic or event photos, or to arrange interviews with executive director Andrea McGimsey, please contact Ann Obenchain at ann.obenchain@chautauqua.com or 303.952.1645.