



CENTERS FOR THE ARTS BONITA SPRINGS

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VISUAL ARTS CENTER, 26100 OLD 41 RD

PERFORMING ARTS CENTER, 10150 BONITA BEACH RD

ARTCENTERBONITA.ORG

[MEDIA DROPBOX](#)

Media Contact:

CHRISTINE ELZINGA

Marketing & Creative Director

marketing1@artsbonita.org

239.495.8989 x806

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Screening of Tim Burton's 1994 Cult Classic **ED WOOD**

Starring Johnny Depp, Martin Landau, Sarah Jessica Parker, Bill Murray

Monday, June 26, 2023, 7pm

Tickets are \$8 and include one free drink

Performing Arts Center, Moe Auditorium & Film Center

10150 Bonita Beach Rd, Bonita Springs



[Photos in DROPBOX](#)

June 5, 2023—Bonita Springs—Prepare to embark on a mesmerizing journey into the eccentric world of director Tim Burton and the enigmatic life of filmmaker Edward D. Wood, Jr. as Arts Bonita proudly presents a special screening of the 1994 cult classic film *Ed Wood*, as part of the Film as Fine Art Series, curated by Film Program Director James Bernardinelli.

Ed Wood stands as a masterpiece among Tim Burton's illustrious filmography, hailed as a triumph of artistic vision and storytelling. This critically acclaimed yet lesser-known gem showcases Burton's unparalleled ability to merge darkly whimsical aesthetics with heartfelt narratives, captivating audiences in a world where creativity defies convention, and the audience is always rooting for the underdog.

Ed Wood tells the unbelievable story of Edward D. Wood, Jr., a true pioneer in the realm of low-budget sci-fi and monster movies in the 1950s and 1960s. Revered as "the worst filmmaker of all time," Wood's unconventional approach to filmmaking embraced a spirit of audacity and a dedication to his craft that defied all odds.

Wood's movies were renowned for their idiosyncrasies, from the hilariously exaggerated performances to the always questionable special effects. His writing, often deemed subpar, carried a unique charm that resonated with audiences, showcasing the triumph of heart and imagination over limitations of skill and resources. However, what these productions lacked in polish, they more than made up for in sheer dedication and enthusiasm. Wood's films became a testament to the resilience of the human spirit and the boundless possibilities of pursuing one's artistic vision.



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Despite his films often being ridiculed and dismissed by mainstream critics, Wood's unwavering commitment to his craft became a source of inspiration for many. He championed the underdog and celebrated the creative spirit that refused to be silenced by adversity. Wood's movies may not have achieved commercial success during his lifetime, but his enduring legacy lies in the hearts of those who appreciate the audacious pursuit of dreams.

The screenplay was penned by Scott Alexander and Larry Karaszewski, known for their ability to craft narratives that capture the essence of unique characters and unconventional stories (*Problem Child*, *The People vs. Larry Flynt*). Their skillful writing brought Edward D. Wood, Jr.'s eccentric journey to the screen with humor, heart, and an unwavering belief in the power of pursuing one's artistic vision.

Inspired by Wood's indomitable spirit and passion, Tim Burton embraced the opportunity to bring this captivating story to life. With his characteristic blend of whimsy and darkness, Burton infused *Ed Wood* with his unique artistic sensibilities, creating a cinematic experience that in the end is known as perhaps his finest film.

Leading the cast of *Ed Wood* was the incomparable Johnny Depp, who delivered a transformative performance as the titular character. Depp's portrayal of Ed Wood showcased his remarkable ability to capture the nuances and idiosyncrasies of complex characters. With his uncanny knack for bringing depth and humanity to every role, Depp immersed himself in Wood's persona, elevating the film with his magnetic presence and captivating portrayal.

In addition, Martin Landau's portrayal of the aging, iconic actor Bela Lugosi (*Dracula*, *White Zombie*) in *Ed Wood* garnered critical acclaim and earned him numerous accolades, including an Academy Award for Best Supporting Actor. Landau's mesmerizing performance captured Lugosi's charm, vulnerability, and tragic essence, adding layers of depth to the film and cementing its place as a cinematic gem. One of the main storylines in the film follows Ed Wood's friendship with the ailing, elderly horror film star, who at that point was receiving little acting work and battling drug addiction.

Ed Wood will screen at Arts Bonita's Performing Arts Center, Moe Auditorium & Film Center, 10150 Bonita Beach Road, on Monday, June 26, at 7pm. The screening will kick off with a brief, lively introduction full of fantastic facts about the film, its production, the real Ed Wood, and the film's impact on the world of cinema as a modern cinematic masterpiece. Tickets are \$8 available at the box office, online, or at the door. Each admission comes with a free drink, and items relating to the film will be raffled. Don't miss this exciting chance to see Tim Burton's greatest (and least known) film on the big screen.

ABOUT THE CENTERS FOR THE ARTS BONITA SPRINGS:



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The Centers for the Arts Bonita Springs (Arts Bonita) is committed to enriching the lives of the community by providing year-round opportunities for artistic expression, education, and appreciation. There are two Arts Bonita locations dedicated to the visual and performing arts.

The Visual Arts Center, 26100 Old 41 Road, is a 10-acre, four-building campus, which consists of multiple fine art galleries, fully equipped art studios, a gift shop, beautiful sculpture gardens, and a nature preserve. A variety of classes are offered at this center including painting, drawing, clay, sculpture, glass, mixed media, and more. This center offers unique, year-round art exhibitions and other special events.

The Performing Arts Center, 10150 Bonita Beach Road, is a 4-acre, two-building campus, which is home to the 400-seat Hinman Auditorium and Gallery in the Round, the 200-seat Moe Auditorium & Film Center/Dance Studio, and fully equipped art studios. At this diverse center, patrons can enjoy an ongoing array of live concerts, theatre, comedy, film, lectures, youth and adult dance classes, music lessons, and art classes for all ages and skill levels.

ARTS FOR ALL—Seeking to serve the educational and cultural needs of the diverse community, Arts Bonita offers year-round programming, plus, three top-rated Art Festivals in January, February, and March, which draw hundreds of remarkable artists from around the world to beautiful, historic Downtown Bonita Springs, Florida.

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