

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Who: MONTCLAIR ARTS COUNCIL

What: SNEAK PREVIEW – MIRAMAX'

THE BOY IN THE STRIPED PAJAMAS

When: Friday, November 7, 7 PM

Reception before and after the movie.

Where: Hosted by Montclair Art Museum

How Much: Film and reception are \$20 for MAC and MAM members;
\$25 for nonmembers.

Why: Proceeds will support the MAC Summer Video Internship Program

For tickets: Call 973-744-7555, email: info.montclairarts@gmail.com

or go to www.montclairarts.org

Rated: PG-13 for Holocaust references.

Background: The Boy in the Striped Pajamas is a Miramax film presentation, in association with BBC films and is a Heyday Films production, written and directed by Mark Herman [British award winning director of "Brassed Off," "Little Voice," and "Hope Springs."] who is also executive producer. Produced by David Heyman, of Heyday films, and producer of all five Harry Potter films as well as "I Am Legend," starring Will Smith.

This extraordinary movie was filmed in Hungary during the summer of 2007. It is a dramatization of John Boyne's 2006 award-winning young adult novel which was a Top 10 best seller in the UK and Europe as well as a NY Times bestseller. Written for the screen by Mark Herman, and starring primarily actors from the UK, Boy is a fictional story that offers a unique perspective on how prejudice, hatred and violence affect innocent people, particularly children, during wartime. The imagined story of Bruno and Shmuel sheds light on the brutality, senselessness and devastating consequences of war from an unusual point of view. Together, their tragic journey helps recall the millions of innocent victims of the Holocaust.

The extensive dedication of cast and crew to getting this extraordinary film completed appropriately reflects the belief of David Heyman and Mark Herman that this 1940's depiction of the horrors of the Holocaust is totally relevant today, exhibiting the same cruel actions that are occurring in many conflicts around the world. As John Boyne says, "It goes without saying that a work of fiction set in the Holocaust is contentious....For me, it seemed that the only respectable way to approach the subject was through

innocence, with a fable told from the point of view of a naïve child who couldn't possibly understand the horrors of what he was caught up in. I believe that this naiveté is as close as someone of my generation can get to the dreadfulness of that period."

The filmmakers have faithfully translated the story of the disintegration of a family, due to the loving father's daily job of genocide. And this disintegration, reflected in the tragic friendship between his son, Bruno, and the Jewish prisoner Shmuel, is the father's punishment. The cast includes Asa Butterfield (Son of Rambo and Ashes to Ashes) as Bruno alongside newcomer Jack Scanlon as Shmuel. Bruno's mother and father are played by David Thewlis (Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix) and Vera Farmiga (The Departed, Breaking and Entering); his sister Gretel is played by Amber Beattie (Supernatural, Walking to Nairobi).

MAC is delighted and honored to show this excellent new movie before its official release. Here is your opportunity to see it first.

Another example of MAC connecting people through arts and culture.

Montclair Arts Council is a non-profit organization dedicated to expanding and enriching arts and culture within Montclair. It supports local artists and arts organizations, acting as a catalyst for arts and cultural events, and seeking to enhance economic development through the arts. The Montclair Arts Council is funded in part by the Township of Montclair.