

For Immediate Release

MSRI Contact:
Peter Evers
Magnet Public Relations
(510) 601-8700
peter@magnetpr.com

The Hottest Subject of Stage and Screen Becomes A Month Long October Event in Berkeley

Question: Do you know what this year's Academy Award for Best Picture has in common with last year's Pulitzer Prize? Or what both have in common with the previous two Tony Award winning Best plays...?

Answer: Mathematicians and their work! Surprised?

Berkeley, CA—September, 18 2002—Kicking off its 20th Anniversary celebration, the Mathematical Sciences Research Institute (MSRI) today announced that, in association with the Pacific Film Archive, it will produce Cinemath. A unique film festival highlighting a wide variety of subjects and styles, all with a math angle Cinemath will take place on Sundays and Tuesdays during October at the Pacific Film Archive (BAM/PFA) on the UC Berkeley campus.

Cinemath films range from well-known feature length releases to short independent projects. Distinguished professors, authors and mathematicians will moderate each evening's event. Whether it's the belle of 1998's Sundance Film festival, Darren Aronofsky's *Pi*, or John Whitney's short film *Matrix 111*, Cinemath films will demonstrate the allure of mathematics as a seminal topic of film. Similarly, moderators such as MSRI's Special Projects Director, Bob Osserman, and *A Beautiful Mind*'s Dave Bayer, will help explain why the mind of the mathematician and his/her work has held a central role in science as well as the arts across the centuries.

"For the last 20 years, MSRI has been fulfilling its mission to nurture leading edge mathematics and its practitioners and bring the power and beauty of this science to the Bay Area, National and International communities alike," said David Eisenbud, Director of MSRI. "As we celebrate our 20th anniversary this fall, Cinemath is an ideal forum to show the effect mathematics and mathematicians have, not just on science but on art as well. Our goal is to educate, entertain and inspire people about the wonders of math."

The screenings, which begin at 5:30 pm on Sundays, October 6, 13, 20, and 27, will take place at the PFA Theater, located at 2575 Bancroft Way near Bowditch Street, on the southern edge of the U C Berkeley campus. General admission is \$7 for one film and \$8.50 for double features. For more program or ticket information, please phone (510) 642-1412. Advance tickets can be purchased evenings and during weekday business hours at the PFA Theater Box Office, or by telephoning (510) 642-5249.

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About MSRI (www.msri.org)

The Mathematical Sciences Research Institute (MSRI) has existed for 20-years as an independent nonprofit organization serving the world as the premier center for mathematical research and a focal point for the dissemination of mathematical knowledge to all. Since its inception in 1982, the Institute has been primarily funded by the National Science Foundation, with additional support from other government agencies, private foundations, and dozens of academic and commercial organizations. More than 1,300 mathematical scientists visit MSRI each year to take part in some of the most diverse and in depth explorations of mathematics. Please contact Peter Evers at (510) 601-8700 to speak with MSRI about these and other exciting events commemorating MSRI's 20th anniversary.