

# NEWS

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## WALKER ART CENTER PRESENTS IN CONTEXT: TERRENCE MALICK RETROSPECTIVE AND AREA PREMIERE OF *THE TREE OF LIFE*



Terrence Malick's *The Tree of Life* Image: © Twentieth Century Fox Film Corporation

"[Malick has a] gift for wordless poetry, a tidal drifting of images and sounds." —*Guardian*

Minneapolis, April 26, 2011— A filmmaker of uncompromising, unparalleled vision, Terrence Malick makes films with breathtaking panoramic vistas and sweeping soundscapes, masterful voice-over narration and exquisite silences. The Walker Art Center presents In Context: Terrence Malick, May 13-May 21. On June 1, the area premiere of Terrence Malick's heavily anticipated new film, *The Tree of Life*, follows this rare retrospective of the extraordinary filmmaker's work.

A former Rhodes Scholar who studied philosophy and worked in journalism before turning to film, he made his first, the landmark *Badlands*, in 1973 at the age of 29. That year, the New York Film Festival opened with François Truffaut's *Day for Night* and closed with *Badlands*—bookending the program by saluting the European master and announcing the arrival of a new American talent.

Malick's films frame the landscape of the past and investigate our relationship to nature. The *New York Times* characterized his "intoxication with natural beauty" as being "fused so palpably and strangely with the psychic sleepwalking of his human characters." He often peoples his movies with alienated outcasts and corruptible innocents—characters who try to interact with a world that refuses to be mastered by them. These subjects remain in a human scale even when set in the large cultural frame of American history—from early colonialism to the migration westward to World War II and the rebellious youth of the 1950's. We are now ready for his new film's look at growing up in today's America.

Malick has made just five films and is known to be silent about the work he takes years to perfect, leaving interpretation up to the audience. Viewing his complete body of work on majestic 35mm film offers nothing less than a revelatory cinematic experience.



Terrence Malick's *Badlands* Image: © Warner Bros.

All films are written and directed by Terrence Malick, and are screened in the Walker Cinema.

**Tickets:** 612.375.7600 or [walkerart.org/tickets](http://walkerart.org/tickets)

Unless otherwise noted, tickets are \$8 (\$6 Walker members and students with valid ID).

**Cinephile Pass:** See all four retrospective films (excluding *The Tree of Life*) for the price of 3 for \$24 (\$18); passholders receive early access for purchase of tickets to the premiere. Singular tickets to *The Tree of Life* are on sale April 29.

**IN CONTEXT: TERENCE MALICK RETROSPECTIVE AND *THE TREE OF LIFE* PREMIERE  
MAY 13-JUNE 1, 2011**

***Badlands***

**Friday, May 13, 7:30 pm**

Walker Cinema

"Terrence Malick's cool, sometimes brilliant, always ferociously American film." —*New York Times*

In one of the greatest-ever directorial debuts, Malick takes on the real-life story of 19-year-old Charles Starkweather, who with his girlfriend, Caril Ann Fugate, cut a swath of violence throughout the Midwest in the late 1950s, murdering 11 people. Starring Martin Sheen and Sissy Spacek. Selected for preservation in the National Film Registry. 1973, 35mm, 94 minutes.

***Days of Heaven***

**Sunday, May 15, 3 pm**

Walker Cinema

"Hauntingly beautiful in image, sound and rhythm, unashamedly poetic, brimming with sweetness and bitterness, darkness and light." —*Newsweek*

In the 1916 Texas Panhandle, three migrant workers travel from inner city Chicago to harvest wheat for a wealthy Texas farmer. What begins as a scheme for Bill and his lover Abby to con the sickly aristocrat out of his fortune takes a surprising turn. Starring Richard Gere, Brooke Adams, and Sam Shepard. 1978, 35mm, 94 minutes.

***The Thin Red Line***

**Friday, May 20, 7:30 pm**

Walker Cinema

"A masterpiece ... a powerfully written, superbly acted story that casts new light on [Malick's] characteristic themes of nature and culture, thought and language, humanity and inhumanity, paradise lost and transcendence found." —David Sterritt

Based on James Jones' autobiographical novel about the 1942 WWII conflict in Guadalcanal, this meditative, free-associative war opus explores man's combative relationship to nature. With Nick Nolte, Sean Penn, Jim Caviezel, and a host of other notable actors. 1998, 35mm, 171 minutes.



Terrence Malick's *Days of Heaven* Image: © Paramount Pictures



Terrence Malick's *The Thin Red Line* Image: © Twentieth Century Fox Film Corporation



Terrence Malick's *The New World* Image: © Warner Bros.

***The New World***  
**Saturday, May 21, 7:30 pm**  
Walker Cinema

"American history is transformed into a dream-vision of savagery and grace by Terrence Malick in his humid story of colonial settlers on the Virginian coast in 1608." —*Guardian*

Malick's retelling of the story of how the English settlers at Jamestown under Captain Newport along with Captain John Smith encounter Pocahontas is mythic, tragic, and rapturously beautiful. With Colin Farrell, Christopher Plummer, and Q'orianka Kilcher. 2005, 35mm, 135 minutes.

**Area Premiere**  
***The Tree of Life***  
**Wednesday, June 1, 7:30 pm**

Walker Cinema  
Tickets: \$12 (\$10 members and students with valid ID)  
Introduced by producer Bill Pohlad

Sean Penn, Brad Pitt, and Jessica Chastain star in Malick's long-awaited new film, produced by Minneapolis-based River Road Entertainment. Spanning decades, it opens with 11-year-old Midwestern Jack's shifting allegiances between his parents. As he ages, he sees that his family is just one way we become aware of the world and our place in it. 2011, 35mm, 138 minutes.

The premiere of *The Tree of Life* is made possible by River Road Entertainment.

The Walker's ongoing Premieres series is made possible by generous support from Elizabeth Redleaf.

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The In Context series is made possible by generous support from Michelle and Bill Pohlad and Elizabeth Redleaf.

Premier Partners



The Walker Art Center is located at 1750 Hennepin Avenue—where Hennepin meets Lyndale—one block off Highways I-94 and I-394, in Minneapolis.

For public information, call 612.375.7600 or visit [walkerart.org](http://walkerart.org). Stay connected via your mobile device and follow us on Twitter and Facebook.