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Chicago Architecture Center launches design-centered, at-home film festival in partnership with the Music Box Theatre

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[High-resolution images with captions and credits downloadable here](#)

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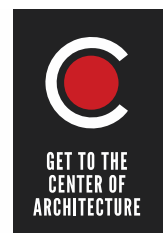
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CHICAGO – The [Chicago Architecture Center](#) (CAC) and Chicago’s [Music Box Theatre](#) are pleased to announce [Celluloid Skylines: An At-Home Architectural Film Festival](#). Comprising four interactive discussions hosted via Zoom, prompts to encourage design-themed household conversations and more, [Celluloid Skylines runs Memorial Day Weekend 2020, Friday, May 22 through Monday, May 25](#), with discussions beginning at 8pm Central Time. Registration is available à la carte or through festival passes offering all four events for the price of three. Current Music Box Theatre and CAC members save 22 percent. The deadline to [register](#), both for individual events and full festival passes, is noon Central Time on Friday, May 22, 2020.

Celluloid Skylines is part of the CAC’s broad array of remotely accessible programming, through and beyond its [temporary suspension](#) of in-person activities. [CAC Live](#) continues with one-time-only events featuring architecture experts, design practitioners, acclaimed authors and industry leaders, while engaging the organization’s corps of more than 600 docents and volunteers; visit architecture.org/caclive to browse and register for upcoming events and [click here to view CAC Live listings through June 17](#). In April 2020, CAC Live attendees joined from 20 U.S. states plus ten countries on five continents.

CAC Live and other events are promoted via free public and CAC member-exclusive versions of [CAC@Home](#), the organization’s digital mini magazine sent every Thursday and archived online at architecture.org/athome.



Celluloid Skylines: An At-Home Architectural Film Festival

Presented by the Chicago Architecture Center in partnership with the Music Box Theatre Memorial Day Weekend 2020, Friday, May 22 through Monday, May 25

\$9 per post-screening discussion, CAC and Music Box Theatre members* \$7

Four-film festival passes \$27, CAC and Music Box Theatre members* \$21

This debut at-home film festival helps attendees explore how filmmakers use architecture to tell extraordinary stories. Celluloid Skylines features four films to stream at home, each followed by discussion via Zoom, facilitated by CAC staff and a guest expert on the film's design themes.

Each discussion features a brief design analysis and a facilitated question-and-answer period. Pre-screening emails include suggestions for ways to "festival-ize" your experience, including links to view Music Box Theatre organist Dennis Scott performing a musical overture, themed cocktail recipes for each film, and a set of prompts to encourage design-themed household discussions. Participants may choose to stream the films according to our recommended start times—such that each film ends just as the discussion begins—or at their own convenience.

Celluloid Skylines: Program Schedule

Discussions are approximately one hour and begin at 8pm Central Time.

Friday, May 22: *Blade Runner*, Ridley Scott, 1982, 117 minutes

In a dystopian imagining of Los Angeles in the year 2019, the Tyrell Corporation develops androids, identified as "replicants," to serve as slaves. The corporation hires a former LAPD officer (Harrison Ford) to hunt down a fugitive group of replicants living undercover as humans. Incorporating a selection of iconic landmark buildings, including Los Angeles Union Station, the Bradbury Building and the Frank Lloyd Wright–designed Ennis-Brown House, *Blade Runner's* futurist production design brilliantly incorporates historic architecture.

Christopher Hawthorne, discussion guest co-host for *Blade Runner*, is [Chief Design Officer for the City of Los Angeles](#) and former architecture critic for *The Los Angeles Times*. Hawthorne is also Professor of Practice at the University of Southern California's Dornsife College of Letters, Arts and Sciences.

Saturday, May 23: *Columbus*, Kogonada, 2017, 100 minutes

The Korean-American son (John Cho) of a celebrated architecture scholar finds himself in Indiana, where his father lies comatose in a local hospital. He strikes up a friendship with Casey (Haley Lu Richardson), a young woman who works in the local library but dreams of leaving town to study architecture. With expertly composed shots of Columbus' remarkable collection of modernist buildings, *Columbus* examines themes of family obligation, home and identity, using architecture as its guiding metaphor.

Anne Surak, discussion guest co-host for *Columbus*, is [Director of Exhibit Columbus](#) with more than 15 years of experience creating collaboration-based projects and gallery exhibitions. Owner of the consulting firm art + space, Surak was the inaugural director of Project 4 gallery in Washington, D.C.

Sunday, May 24: *An Engineer Imagines*, Marcus Robinson, 2019, 80 minutes

This cinematic homage to Peter Rice traces the Irish structural engineer's extraordinary life and career, from his Dundalk childhood to his work on the Sydney Opera House, the Centre Pompidou and the Lloyd's Building, to his untimely death in 1992. Marcus Robinson uses stunning time-lapse photography and revealing interviews to tell the story of a genius who stood in the shadow of architectural icons—until now.

The guest co-host for *An Engineer Imagines* is a structural engineer at [Skidmore, Owings & Merrill](#), to be announced at a later date.

Monday, May 25: *The Hudsucker Proxy*, Joel and Ethan Coen, 1994, 111 minutes

A conniving executive (Paul Newman) devises a corporate takeover after a company's founder dies. To devalue its stock, he promotes naïve business school graduate and amateur inventor Norville Barnes (Tim Robbins) from mailroom clerk to the board of directors. But when Barnes's latest invention succeeds, the company's value launches into the stratosphere. *The Hudsucker Proxy* weaves together iconic Chicago locations with exquisite models to create a larger-than-life metropolis, punctuated by real-life Art Deco treasures.

Jean L. Guarino, PhD, discussion guest co-host for *The Hudsucker Proxy*, is [an author, scholar and architectural historian](#). For the book "Art Deco Chicago: Designing Modern America," she contributed essays on multiple Chicago skyscrapers of the 1920s.

Celluloid Skylines registration grants access to Zoom discussions only; attendees are responsible for viewing films on their own, via multiple platform options provided via email.

*Music Box Theatre members must use the email address associated with their Music Box Theatre membership to redeem their discount on registration via [architecture.org](#). Member discount pricing is the same for CAC members and Music Box Theatre members as well as those who are members of both organizations and can only be redeemed once.

While the CAC Call Center remains closed to support employee safety, voicemails at 312-922-3432 are monitored daily. The CAC responds within 24 hours to all inquiries sent via email to [tickets@architecture.org](#), [boxoffice@architecture.org](#) and [info@architecture.org](#).

Subscriptions via email to *CAC@Home* are free; visit [architecture.org](#) to sign up today. Visit [architecture.org/join](#) to become a member today starting at just \$80 per year.

About the Music Box Theatre

Opened in 1929 and designed by Chicago architect Louis I. Simon, the Music Box Theatre retains its original architecture and design. With a dark blue ceiling, “twinkling stars” and moving cloud formations suggesting a night sky, and walls and towers suggesting an Italian courtyard, patrons are made to feel as if they are watching a film in an open-air Tuscan palazzo. For more than 20 years, the theater has been Chicago’s premier venue for independent, foreign and repertory films. It currently has the largest theater space operated full-time in the city. The Music Box Theatre is independently owned and operated by the Southport Music Box Corporation. Visit musicboxtheatre.com to learn more.

About the Chicago Architecture Center

The Chicago Architecture Center (CAC) is a nonprofit organization founded in 1966, dedicated to inspiring people to discover why design matters. A national leader in architecture and design education, the CAC offers field-leading tours, programs, exhibitions and more that are part of a dynamic journey of lifelong learning.

Opened to the public in 2018, its riverfront location is in the heart of the city, where Michigan Avenue meets the Chicago River, featuring nearly 10,000 square feet of exhibition space filled with super-sized models—and views—of iconic skyscrapers built over the course of more than a century. Exhibitions focus on Chicago’s diverse neighborhoods, housing types, leading architects and future projects, and include the largest scale model of the city, with more than 4,250 miniature buildings, interactive touchscreens, and a cinematic backdrop animating key moments in its history. Highly knowledgeable, enthusiastic CAC docents guide visitors and residents through more than 75 walking tours with more than 7,000 annual departures, plus the Chicago Architecture Foundation Center River Cruise aboard Chicago’s First Lady.

Through partnerships with schools and youth-serving organizations, the CAC reaches approximately 30,000 K–12 students annually, while teacher workshops provide educators with tools and resources they need to advance STEM curricula in their classrooms. Committed to increasing access for populations historically under-represented in ACED (architecture, construction, engineering, and design) professions, the CAC offers many of its education programs—and all of its programs for teens—at no cost to participants. CAC programs for adults and members include talks with acclaimed authors and practicing architects, in-depth presentations on issues and trends in urbanism, and classes unlocking a wide range of subjects with connections to the built environment.

Proceeds from programs, tours and the CAC Design Store, as well as from grants, sponsorships and donations, support its educational mission. Visit architecture.org to learn more and follow @chiarchitecture and #chiarchitecture on social media.

