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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**ENZIAN PAYS TRIBUTE TO THE LATE GENE WILDER WITH MONTH-LONG PROGRAMMING**

**Orlando, FL** – (December 22, 2016) – As a tribute to the late magnificent actor, comedian, and writer, Enzian will be showcasing some of Gene Wilder’s most beloved films this January and honoring him all month long.

Matthew Curtis, Programming Director of Enzian and the Florida Film Festival, remarked, “With a unique blend of manic energy and world-weary melancholy, Gene Wilder was a great comic actor and magnetic performer who left his mark on American film for a generation. Enzian is proud to celebrate his body of work by screening five of his most enduring classics in the month of January, including three of the best Mel Brooks (and therefore funniest) films ever made, one of the greatest children’s films ever, and the most popular of all the Gene Wilder – Richard Pryor collaborations.”

**WHAT:**

**[Cult Classics: BLAZING SADDLES](#)**

**Tuesday, January 10<sup>th</sup> at 9:30PM**

***In 35mm!***

In this satirical take on Westerns, crafty railroad worker Bart (Cleavon Little) becomes the first black sheriff of Rock Ridge, a frontier town about to be destroyed in order to make way for a new railroad. Initially, the people of Rock Ridge harbor a racial bias toward their new leader. However, they warm to him after realizing that Bart and his perpetually drunk gunfighter friend (Gene Wilder) are the only defense against a wave of thugs sent to rid the town of its population.

USA, 1974, 93 minutes, Rated R, Directed by Mel Brooks

**[Popcorn Flicks in the Park: THE PRODUCERS](#)**

**Thursday, January 12<sup>th</sup> at 7PM | FREE in Central Park!**

**This film is a part of our [Popcorn Flicks](#) series, which takes place in Central Park, Winter Park once a month and it’s FREE and open to the public!**

***50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary screening!***

Down and out producer Max Bialystock (Zero Mostel), who was once the toast of Broadway, trades sexual favors with old ladies for cash contributions. Max’s new accountant Leo Bloom (Gene Wilder), offhandedly muses that if Max found investors for a new production that turned into a flop, he could legally keep all the extra money. The duo begins to put together the worst play possible, titled “Springtime for Hitler”, with a terrible director and a hippie-freak star.

USA, 1967, 88 minutes, Rated PG, Directed by Mel Brooks

**Saturday Matinee Classics: YOUNG FRANKENSTEIN**

**Saturday, January 14<sup>th</sup> at 12PM**

In this spoof of Mary Shelley's gothic tale, the grandson of Victor Frankenstein, a neurosurgeon, has spent his life living down the legend of his grandfather, even changing the pronunciation of his name. When he discovers his grandfather's diary, he begins to feel differently, and returns to the family castle to satisfy his curiosity by replicating his ancestor's experiments. In the process, he creates one very unique monster.

USA, 1974, 106 minutes, Rated PG, Directed by Mel Brooks

**Peanut Butter Matinee Family Film: WILLY WONKA & THE CHOCOLATE FACTORY**

**Sunday, January 22<sup>nd</sup> at 12PM | FREE for kids 12 & under!**

**Presented by Dorman Financial Management**

The last of five coveted "golden tickets" falls into the hands of a sweet but very poor boy. He and his grandpa then get a tour of the strangest chocolate factory in the world. The owner leads five young winners on a thrilling and often dangerous tour of his factory. Based on Roald Dahl's children's classic "Charlie and the Chocolate Factory."

USA, 1971, 100 minutes, Rated G, Directed by Mel Stuart

**Cult Classics: STIR CRAZY**

**Tuesday, January 24<sup>th</sup> at 9:30PM**

***In 35mm!***

***In Collaboration with Zora! Festival***

Enzian is proud to present *Stir Crazy* in collaboration with the 2017 ZORA! Festival, and the Society to Preserve Eatonville. Directed by Sidney Poitier, the groundbreaking Academy Award winner for Best Actor, *Stir Crazy* is the first film directed by an African-American to earn more than \$100 million at the box office. Please arrive promptly for a presentation by the ZORA! Festival on the historical significance of the film, its director, and the week's ZORA! Festival events.

Presentation begins at 9:30PM

Film begins at 9:45PM

**About the ZORA! Festival:**

Taking place January 21st-29th, 2017 in Eatonville and throughout Orange County, Florida, this multi-day, multi-disciplinary event celebrates the life and work of 20th century writer, folklorist and anthropologist, Zora Neale Hurston; her hometown, Eatonville, the nation's oldest incorporated African American municipality and the contributions people of African ancestry have made to the United States and world culture.

A portion of the proceeds from this screening will go to the ZORA! Festival.

**Stir Crazy:**

With a jailbreak offering them their only way out, a despondent duo (Wilder and the great Richard Pryor) rack their brains to figure out a foolproof plan. Fortuitously, one of them discovers an unexpected talent, and an escape plan begins to take shape at the

annual prisoners' rodeo.

USA, 1980, 111 minutes, Rated R, Directed by Sidney Poitier

**WHERE:** **Enzian Theater**, 1300 South Orlando Avenue, Maitland, FL 32751

**INFO:** Enzian is Central Florida's only full-time, not-for-profit cinema for first-run independent and international film, classic revivals, documentary features, and select family entertainment. Enzian, a member-supported organization serving the community for more than 31 years, is home to the Florida Film Festival and Eden Bar. For additional information, visit [Enzian.org](http://Enzian.org) or call general information at (407) 629-1088.

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