



Saving Film & Television for Future Generations

UCLA Film & Television Archive Presents [*Spirits in the Sky: A Weekend with Mary Lambert*](#)
Screenings August 3 and 4, 2019 at the [Billy Wilder Theater at the Hammer Museum](#)

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

LOS ANGELES, CA (July 12, 2019) – The UCLA Film & Television Archive is thrilled to present *Spirits in the Sky*, a weekend of screenings with award-winning, groundbreaking filmmaker, Mary Lambert. Two nights: Saturday, August 3, including a 30th anniversary screening of Stephen King’s horror classic *Pet Sematary*, and Sunday, August 4, featuring a selection of music videos directed by Lambert, and her first feature, *Siesta*, with Academy Award-winning actress Jodie Foster and Emmy Award-winning actress Ellen Barkin in person, and much more at the Billy Wilder Theater at the Hammer Museum, 10899 Wilshire Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90024.

A graduate of the prestigious Rhode Island School of Design, where she studied fine art, filmmaker Mary Lambert applied her art school sensibilities to groundbreaking work in music videos for Madonna, Janet Jackson, Eurythmics and many more pop icons of the period, helping fuel the visually-hungry MTV revolution. Her visual, video world panache led naturally to the hallucinogenic, dreamy landscapes in her first feature, the cult classic, *Siesta* (1987), which received an Independent Spirit Award nomination for Best First Feature. Lambert is perhaps best known for directing Stephen King’s first adaptation of his own work, *Pet Sematary*, the huge box office success that inspired a sequel, *Pet Sematary II*, three years later. Lambert is now a prolific television director who has helmed productions for HBO, FOX, VH1, NBC, CW and YouTube, and is the first woman to direct a SyFy Channel original movie. She has consistently tapped into her own interior mindscape to manifest deeply emotional genre fables, establishing a unique visual lore of her own design.

The Archive is excited to host a weekend with this visionary filmmaker, alongside some very special guests from her early features. The weekend’s conversations will be hosted by film writer and “Switchblade Sisters” podcast host, April Wolfe.

[August 3, 7:30 p.m. – *Pet Sematary* / *Pet Sematary II*](#)

In person: director Mary Lambert; actors Denise Crosby, Brad Greenquist, Miko Hughes, and Dale Midkiff; additional editor Tom Finan.

***Pet Sematary* (1989)** After his toddler Gage is killed in a tragic accident, grieving father Louis (Dale Midkiff) attempts the unspeakable after learning of the regenerative powers of the nearby woods. Initially a story that Stephen King refused to publish, believing for once he had gone “too far,” King and director May Lambert decided to shoot in Maine, where nature’s visual beauty inspired the

autumnal, gripping aesthetic of the picture. Working with a screenplay adapted by the King of Horror himself (his first ever from one of his own books), Lambert and cinematographer Peter Stein (*Friday the 13th Part 2*) render this devastating tale with a distinct brand of emotional horror, laced throughout with the soul of classic fairy tales. As King himself said of the film in *Cinefantastique* magazine in 1991, “I think it does what horror movies are supposed to do. It’s an outlaw genre. It’s an outlaw picture.”

Pet Semetary II (1992) “What is the worst thing that could happen to a 12-year-old boy?” In a recent *Los Angeles Times* interview, director Mary Lambert claimed this question served as the thesis statement for her follow-up to the well-received 1989 Stephen King adaptation. Lensed by Russell Carpenter (*Titanic*) and starring a fresh-from-*Terminator 2: Judgement Day* Edward Furlong, the most critically-lauded contribution to the film is Clancy Brown’s performance, which was nominated for Best Supporting Actor at the Fangoria Chainsaw Awards. Somewhat maligned upon its release, *Pet Semetary II* has since gained a massive cult following among Gen X-ers and metalheads who can’t get enough of The Jesus and Mary Chain, Traci Lords and L7-riddled soundtrack.

[August 4, 7:00 p.m. – *Rapid Eye Movements* / Music Videos / *Siesta*](#)

In person: director Mary Lambert; actors Jodie Foster and Ellen Barkin; editor Glenn Morgan; executive producer Julio Caro.

Rapid Eye Movements (1977) Mary Lambert’s 16-minute moody, animated dreamscape was made at RISD in collaboration with Jeff Carpenter and short-listed for the Academy Awards. *Rapid Eye Movements* plunges viewers into an obscured world of nightlives, eavesdropped phone calls, and philosophical romantic musings.

A special selection of music videos directed by Mary Lambert, courtesy of Warner Records and Universal Music Group.

Siesta (1987) Proclaimed “this year’s *Blue Velvet*” by American Film, it’s not difficult to ascertain why *Siesta* was a controversial, if not critically applauded, feature debut in its day. Shot on location in Spain, with a score performed by the late Miles Davis, this tale of “obsessive love” is wholly distinct among its arthouse contemporaries. Performances from Ellen Barkin and Jodie Foster proclaim the film’s bohemian, outsider spirit from the jump, sweeping us along for a total whirlwind ride through the abstract logic of an unmissable fever dream.

More details and tickets are available on the Archive [website](#).

Doors open 30 minutes prior to program start time. Tickets are \$10 each online. Discounted tickets only apply at the box office: \$9 general admission; \$8 for non-UCLA students, UCLA Alumni Association Members and seniors. Free admission for UCLA students.

About UCLA Film & Television Archive

The mission of the UCLA Film & Television Archive is to save film and television for future generations.

A unit of the UCLA School of Theater, Film and Television, the Archive is internationally renowned for rescuing, preserving and showcasing moving image media and is dedicated to ensuring that the visual achievements of our time are available for information, education and enjoyment. The sixth-largest moving image repository in the world, and the second largest in the U.S., behind only the Library of Congress, the Archive's more than 450,000 holdings are stored in a state-of-the-art facility that meets and exceeds all preservation standards, from nitrate film to digital.

The Archive Research and Study Center provides free access to its holdings to researchers, writers and educators. Many of the Archive's projects are screened at prestigious film events around the globe, as well as [locally at UCLA's Billy Wilder Theater](#).

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