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Academy-Award Winning Epics Dominate *Reel 13*'s September Schedule on THIRTEEN

Two of acclaimed filmmaker David Lean's classics are among those to air

Romance, war, science fiction and history come to life in the sweeping epic classics featured on ***Reel 13*** in September.

Ranked as the 39th greatest American film of all time by the American Film Institute, *Doctor Zhivago*, the story of love and hardship set during the Bolshevik Revolution, leads the month's schedule of Academy Award-winning classics. The film was recognized with five Academy Awards including "Best Cinematography" and "Best Costume Design," and nominated for five more. It was also the recipient of each of the five Golden Globe awards for which it was nominated.

The following week, Steven Spielberg brings together a disparate group of people, who attempt to contact aliens following encounters with an unidentified flying object, in *Close Encounters of the Third Kind*. The film, which alongside *Star Wars* and *Superman*, led to the reemergence of science fiction films, was nominated for eight Academy Awards, going on to win for "Best Cinematography." It is also listed on numerous American Film Institute lists including "100 Years...100 Movies."

Deemed "culturally, historically, or aesthetically significant," and selected for preservation by the United States Library of Congress National Film registry, Lean's second film of the month, *Lawrence of Arabia*, depicts T.E. Lawrence's adventures in

Arabia during World War I. The time-honored historical epic received seven out of the 10 Academy Awards for which it was nominated, including one for “Best Picture.”

Acclaimed actor and director Richard Attenborough’s epic biographical film *Gandhi* concludes the month’s classic schedule. Attenborough, who passed away last August, was recognized with the Academy Award for “Best Director” for his work on *Gandhi*. The recipient of the “Best Picture” was recognized in eight (out of the eleven) categories for which it was nominated, as well as five Golden Globes and 4 BAFTA awards.

Missed Connections, *Kilimanjaro*, *The Green* and *Someday This Pain Will Be Useful to You* are the month’s independent offerings.

Every Saturday night beginning at 9 p.m., viewers can catch a Hollywood **Classic** followed by an **Indie**, hosted by Columbia University professor **Richard Peña**. The evening concludes with a **Short** film selected by viewers who vote for their favorite of three shorts at Reel13.org.

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“**Doctor Zhivago**” (1965) Dir: David Lean

Boris Pasternak’s story of a poet/doctor (Omar Sharif), his wife (Geraldine Chaplin) and his lover (Julie Christie) unfolds during pre-World War I through the Russian Civil War. With Rod Steiger and Alec Guinness.

“**Missed Connections**” (2012) Dir: Martin Snyder

A romantic comedy about the lengths New Yorkers go to in order to find love. With Jon Abrahams, Mickey Sumner, Waris Ahluwalia and Julia Jones.

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“**Close Encounters of the Third Kind**” (1977) Dir: Steven Spielberg

An Indiana lineman (Richard Dreyfuss) and other UFO sighters make documented contact with space aliens. With François Truffaut, Teri Garr and Melinda Dillon.

“**Kilimanjaro**” (2013) Dir: Walter Strafford

A man climbs Mt. Kilimanjaro after his relationship ends. With Abigail Spencer, Jim Gaffigan and Brian Geraghty.

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“**Lawrence of Arabia**” (1962) Dir: David Lean

A British officer (Peter O’Toole) learns the culture of Arab tribes (Alec Guinness, Anthony Quinn) and unites their tribes against the Turks. With Jack Hawkins, Omar Sharif and José Ferrer.

“**The Green**” (2011) Dir: Steven Williford

A teacher confronts his partner's doubts and his community's homophobia after he is accused of having an affair with a male student. With Jason Butler Harner, Cheyenne Jackson and Illeana Douglas.

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“**Gandhi**” (1982) Dir: Richard Attenborough

Richard Attenborough’s Oscar-winning portrait of the man whose policy of nonviolence won India’s independence. With Ben Kingsley, Candice Bergen and Martin Sheen.

“**Someday This Pain Will Be Useful to You**” (2012) Dir: Roberto Faenza

A portrait of a vulnerable teenager with a deep perception of the world and no idea how to live in it. With Toby Regbo, Marcia Gay Harden, Peter Gallagher, Lucy Liu, Ellen Burstyn and Aubrey Plaza.

WNET is the parent company of THIRTEEN and WLIW21, New York’s public television stations. For more than 50 years, THIRTEEN has been a partner with the tri-state community, using its rich resources to inform and inspire the passionate people of New York and the world to better understand and address the issues that challenge our diverse communities.

Reel 13 is funded by the Sy Syms Foundation and the Rubin Museum of Art.

David Horn is executive producer. Bob Morris is senior producer.

Visit **Reel 13 Online** at www.thirteen.org/sites/reel13/ for additional information.

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About WNET

As New York’s flagship public media provider and the parent company of THIRTEEN and WLIW21 and operator of NJTV, WNET brings quality arts, education and public affairs programming to more than 5 million viewers each week. WNET produces and presents such acclaimed PBS series as Nature, Great Performances, American Masters, PBS NewsHour Weekend, Charlie Rose and a range of documentaries, children’s programs, and local news and cultural offerings available on air and online. Pioneers in educational programming, WNET has created such groundbreaking series as Get the Math, Oh Noah! and Cyberchase and provides tools for educators that bring compelling content to life in the classroom and at home. WNET highlights the tri-state’s unique culture and diverse communities through NYC-ARTS, Reel 13, NJTV News with Mary Alice Williams and MetroFocus, the multi-platform news magazine focusing on the New York region. WNET is also a leader in connecting with viewers on emerging platforms, including the THIRTEEN Explore App where users can stream PBS content for free.