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Patterson Hood to host fund-raising concert for Robert Osborne's Classic Film Festival

ATHENS, Ga. – Patterson Hood and friends will perform at Farm 255 Restaurant in Athens Wednesday, Dec. 7, at 10 p.m. to raise money in support of Robert Osborne's Classic Film Festival.

Performing will be Hood, William Tonks, Don Chambers, Brad Morgan and John Neff.

All proceeds from the concert will go toward supporting the second annual Robert Osborne's Classic Film Festival, which takes place March 23-26, 2006, at the Classic Center in Athens.

Tickets are \$20 and will be available at the door of Farm 255 on the night of the performance. Farm 255 is located at 255 W. Washington Street, downtown Athens.

Hood, of Drive By Truckers fame, loved the first Osbornefest and offered to help by arranging this concert. He said, "I'm a life long film fanatic; my hopes for the festival were high and they were exceeded. I really want to see this continue and grow."

Osborne, the prime time host of Turner Classic Movies and columnist for The Hollywood Reporter, has picked eight classic films that, according to Osborne, "represent the breadth and variety of Hollywood, independent, and international classic cinema from the 1930s to the 2000s."

The movies in Athens' second celebratory festival are: Alfred Hitchcock's "North by Northwest," Tim Burton's "Ed Wood," Carol Reed's "The Third Man," Blake Edward's "Breakfast at Tiffany's," Steven Spielberg's "Raiders of the Lost Ark," Elia Kazan's "On the Waterfront," Christopher Guest's "Best in Show," and as the special Sunday matinee, the restored archival print of "Gone With the Wind."

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The first Osborne Festival, which took place in January, brought guests Jane Powell, Louise Fletcher, Maximilian Schell, Pia Lindstrom, and Rory Flynn to Athens to discuss their films with Osborne on stage after the screenings. Festival Director Nate Kohn expects that the upcoming festival will feature guests of similar stature. "Look for an announcement of guests after the first of the year," he said.

For the three-and-a half day festival in March, the 2,000-seat Classic Center theatre will be transformed into a world-class movie palace with the installation of a 60-foot motion picture screen (six feet wider than last year) and state-of-the-art 35mm projection and sound systems. Most prints will be pristine archival 35 mm prints from Warner Brothers, Paramount Pictures, Sony Pictures, Walt Disney Studios, and the British Film Institute.

"It's an exciting adventure to see these films the way they were meant to be seen," explained Osborne. "The big screen gives a different dimension and vitality to them." Osborne said that he also plans to include original trailers and cartoons so that festival goers can have the complete movie experience.

In addition, the festival will feature panel discussions hosted by Osborne. Panelists will include University of Georgia scholars, festival guests, artists, critics, and others. The panel topics will relate to the classic festival films and their various influences. These panel discussions will be free and open to the public.

All films, with the exception of the Saturday matinee showing of "Raiders of the Lost Ark," will require a ticket or a festival pass for admission. The matinee will be free and open to the public.

Festival Passes go on sale Dec. 1, at The Classic Center box office, online at www.classiccenter.com or by calling 800/918-6393. Prices are \$60 for a festival pass to all films and panel discussions or \$45 with valid student identification. Tickets for individual films will go on sale in January.

Robert Osborne's Classic Film Festival is an annual non-profit event of the University of Georgia's Grady College of Journalism and Mass Communication. For more information, visit www.grady.uga.edu/osbornefest.

Established in 1915, the Grady College of Journalism and Mass Communication provides seven undergraduate majors: advertising, broadcast news, magazines, newspapers, public relations, publication management and telecommunication arts. The college offers two graduate degrees, and is home to the Knight Chair in Health and Medical Journalism and the Peabody Awards, considered the electronic broadcasting industry's most prestigious prize.

Please note that films on the list are subject to change.