



MEDIA CONTACTS

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FULL SCHEDULE AND IMAGES

<http://mondaviarts.org/press>

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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Mondavi Center's Focus on Film: "North by Northwest"

Davis, Calif.—The **Robert and Margrit Mondavi Center for the Performing Arts, UC Davis**, continues its **Hitchcock** segment of the **Focus on Film Series** with a screening of **"North by Northwest."** Showtime is **6:30 p.m. on Monday, Jan. 26**, in the comfortable intimacy of the **Studio Theatre**.

"Time and again, **Alfred Hitchcock** built films around a hero mistaken for a criminal, usually in a very early scene, who spends the bulk of the film on the hunt for the real perpetrator (who of course framed him)," says **Don Roth, Mondavi Center executive director**. "With **'North by Northwest,'** if the film weren't so good, it would almost be a self-parody; Hitchcock pulls out every trick and gimmick in the book." Roth elaborates:

"**Cary Grant** as Madison Avenue advertising executive Roger O. Thornhill is mistaken for a government agent by a gang of spies and, of course, gets blamed for a murder he didn't commit. As he crosses the U.S. in pursuit of the spies who framed him (great portrayals by **James Mason** and **Martin Landau**), he meets up with Eve Kendall (**Eva Marie Saint**), one of the more fully portrayed heroines in a Hitchcock film. The crop duster scene is probably the best use of montage since Eisenstein, and the final scene on Mount Rushmore is riveting and uses a familiar Hitchcock device of having traitors meet their demise at a patriotic location. (Hitchcock warmed up for this with a similar scene in **"Saboteur"** using the Statue of Liberty.)"

"**North by Northwest,**" released in 1959, won the prestigious **Edgar Award** for best motion picture and earned three **Oscar** nominations. Look for Hitchcock's customary cameo at the start of the film in the rush-hour crowd sequence.

The **Mondavi Center Focus on Film Series** brings timeless art-house films to the Studio Theatre on selected Monday nights throughout the 2008–09 events season. The **Hitchcock** series will conclude with **"Strangers on a Train"** on **Feb. 23**. For details, visit MondaviArts.org/events.

Pricing for all Focus on Film events is \$10 for regular tickets and \$5 for students and children. Purchase tickets online at MondaviArts.org, through the Mondavi Center box office at 530-754-2787 or 866-754-2787 (toll-free), or at the door. Accommodations for persons with disabilities are available upon request.

- **"North by Northwest"**
- **Mon., Jan. 26, 6:30 p.m.**
- **Mondavi Center, Studio Theatre**
- **9399 Old Davis Road, Davis, CA 95616 (GPS)**
- **\$10 regular; \$5 students, children**
- **530-754-2787**
866-754-2787 (toll-free)
530-754-5402 (TDD)
MondaviArts.org

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