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a division of the toronto
international film festival group

SUMMER 2005, MAY 27-AUGUST 20

experience classics of world cinema



programmes



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Title: Grand Hotel
Director: Edmund Goulding
Year: 1932
Runtime: 113 min
Country: USA
Cast: Greta Garbo, John Barrymore

Screening times and locations:

Wednesday, June 15, 2005

8:15 PM

All films are screened at Jackman Hall

Film Description:

Dubbed "the NASHVILLE of its day" by Andrew Nickolds, GRAND HOTEL traces the intersecting lives and fates of a posh Berlin hotel's guests – forty years before Altman's opus. Garbo practically pirouettes and pliés across the screen as a fading, anxiety-ridden ballerina revived by her love for John Barrymore, a destitute baron forced to steal her pearls to pay off a debt. Besides Garbo, GRAND HOTEL houses an unsurpassable ensemble of actors giving first rate performances: Wallace Beery as a brash, callous industrialist; Lionel Barrymore as his dying accountant, who belatedly discovers the joys of life; Joan Crawford (in a career turning point) as the cynical secretary whose joie de vivre yet remains untarnished; and Lewis Stone as the scarred, war veteran doctor who comments on the unfolding dramas around him with blankly poetic quips. Utterly captivating, with stunning art décor by Cedric Gibbons and a surprise ending that is still guaranteed to shock.

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