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217 Films

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Documentary on painter Marsden Hartley makes Boston area debut; First documentary ever made about this American master

BROOKLINE, MASSACHUSETTS (Sept. 26, 2008) -- The documentary "Visible Silence: Marsden Hartley, Painter and Poet" which illuminates the life and work of world-renowned painter Marsden Hartley, makes its Boston area debut with a free screening at the Coolidge Corner Theatre, 290 Harvard Street, in Brookline, Mass. at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday, Oct. 30.

This is the first documentary ever made about this American master. It was written, directed, and narrated by Michael Maglaras of 217 Films.

"Visible Silence" features 43 Hartley paintings and sketches as well as many photographs of Hartley -- from early youth to his final years as "Maine's Painter." Drawing heavily from his poetical works, this documentary, a deeply personal statement by Michael Maglaras, captures the essence of Hartley -- long considered one of the fathers of American Modernism.

Hartley spent his life traveling the world in search of remote and forbidding landscapes. A critical period for Hartley was his stay in Gloucester in the 1930's, where he painted his "Dogtown" series. An entire section of this film is devoted to an important early painting, "Carnival of Autumn," which is in the permanent collection of the Boston Museum of Fine Art. Also featured is the wonderful late painting "Summer, Sea, Window, Red Curtain" from the Addison Gallery of American Art in Andover, Massachusetts.

In May, a Hartley painting sold for \$6.31 million, setting an auction record at Christie's for an American Modernist work, overtaking a record previously held by a work of Georgia O'Keeffe.

Maine Governor John E. Baldacci proclaimed Marsden Hartley Day in the State of Maine when the world premiere of this film was held on Sept. 25 in Hartley's hometown of Lewiston. A national tour is planned for 2008-09. Next stops include:

Nov. 7 – Abromson Community Education Center - University of Southern Maine, Portland, ME
Nov. 13 – New Britain Museum of Art, New Britain, CT

What: Boston area debut of the new Maine-made documentary "Visible Silence: Marsden Hartley, Painter and Poet"

When: Thursday, Oct. 30 at 7 p.m.

Where: Coolidge Corner Theatre, 290 Harvard St., Brookline, Mass. TEL: 617-734-2501

Admission: Free

www.two17films.com

View a clip of the film: <http://www.two17films.com/PressPageVS.htm>

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