

wexner center
for the arts

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**FILMMAKER D. A. PENNEBAKER VISITS WEXNER CENTER
DIRECTOR INTRODUCES AND DISCUSSES *ZIGGY STARDUST***

D. A. Pennebaker, the internationally acclaimed documentary filmmaker, will visit the Wexner Center in November as part of a series of his music-themed films. Two of his best-known movies, *Ziggy Stardust and the Spiders from Mars* and the Grammy-winning *Down from the Mountain*, will be shown, as well as a free preview screening of his latest film, *Only the Strong Survive*. The series runs November 14–16.

Pennebaker will introduce *Ziggy Stardust* on Saturday, November 16, and will discuss the film afterwards. Advance ticket purchase to this event is strongly recommended.

Pennebaker and his associates pioneered a documentary style in the 1960s that rejected voiceover narration in favor of recording real people and events as they naturally transpired. Pennebaker has produced dozens of films, among them such masterful documentaries as *Don't Look Back* (1966), *Monterey Pop* (1967), and *The War Room* (1994).

The schedule follows; note the special times. Each evening, one ticket buys admission to both films. Tickets per evening are \$5 for the general public; \$4 for Wexner Center members, students, and senior citizens; and \$2 for children under 12.

(more)

news release

Thursday, November 14

***Ziggy Stardust and the Spiders from Mars* (1973)—7 pm**

Restored just in time for Ziggy's 30th anniversary, the digitally re-mastered glam-rock classic *Ziggy Stardust and the Spiders from Mars* (91 minutes) brilliantly documents David Bowie in his final performance as gender-bending alter-ego Ziggy Stardust at London's Hammersmith Odeon in 1973. Called "a satisfyingly nostalgic experience" by *The New York Times*, this was the inspiration for such recent glam and glitter tributes as *Velvet Goldmine* and *Hedwig and the Angry Inch*. Bowie-as-Ziggy belts out such hits as "Changes," "All the Young Dudes," "Oh! You Pretty Things," as well as the Velvet Underground's "White Light/White Heat" and the Rolling Stones' "Let's Spend the Night Together."

***Down from the Mountain* (2001)—9 pm**

When *Down from the Mountain* (98 minutes) opened last year, the *New York Times* raved, "If you have any affection at all for traditional American music, the movie is pretty close to heaven." Featuring onstage and backstage doings at a 2000 concert in Nashville that brought together the musicians whose work was used in the Coen Brothers' Golden Globe-winning film *O brother, Where Art Thou?*, it's a once-in-a-lifetime documentary featuring Alison Krauss, Ralph Stanley, Emmylou Harris, the Cox Family, and the Peasall Sisters, among others.

Friday, November 15

***Ziggy Stardust and the Spiders from Mars*—7 pm**

***Down from the Mountain*—9 pm**

Saturday, November 16

***Ziggy Stardust and the Spiders from Mars*—7 pm**

***Only the Strong Survive* (2002)—9:30 pm (free screening)**

What ever happened to the great soul and rhythm and blues signers of the 1960s and 70s? *Only the Strong Survive* (95 mins.), the latest documentary from Pennebaker and longtime co-director Chris Hegedus, catches up with such great performers as Wilson Pickett, Sam Moore (of Sam and Dave), Mary Wilson (of the Supremes), and Isaac Hayes, and captures a soul revival of Stax and Motown stars in Memphis. Received enthusiastically at the 2002 Cannes Film Festival, *Only the Strong Survive* was called "an enthralling reflection on the condition of the artist in America" by *Le Monde*.

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SEASON SUPPORT

The 2002-03 film/video season is presented with support from the **Rohauer Collection Foundation** and the **Corporate Annual Fund of the Wexner Center Foundation**.

Additional support is provided by the **Ohio Arts Council**.

Images available upon request.

WEXNER CENTER

The Wexner Center for the Arts is The Ohio State University's multidisciplinary, international laboratory for the exploration and advancement of contemporary art. Through exhibitions, screenings, performances, artist residencies, and educational programs, the Wexner Center acts as a forum where established and emerging artists can test ideas and where diverse audiences can participate in cultural experiences that enhance understanding of the art of our time. In its programs, the Wexner Center balances a commitment to experimentation with a commitment to traditions of innovation and affirms the university's mission of education, research, and community service.

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