

media alert

wexner center for the arts

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GUS VAN SANT FILM TO MAKE AREA DEBUT AT WEXNER CENTER

Legendary independent filmmaker **Gus Van Sant's** latest film *Last Days* makes its area premiere on **Tuesday, July 12 at 7 pm** in the Wexner Center's Mershon Auditorium. The film, which has already been called "Van Sant's masterpiece" by J. Hoberman of the *Village Voice*, is part of **Gus Van Sant x 3**, the Wexner Center's two-night, three-film showcase of Van Sant's most recent films. Tickets are \$6 for the public and \$4 for Wexner Center members, students, and senior citizens (call 614 292-3535 or stop by the Mershon Auditorium ticket office). The schedule follows.

GUS VAN SANT X 3

Monday, July 11

Double feature

***Gerry* (2002) / 7 pm**

Focusing on two hikers (Matt Damon and Casey Affleck) lost in the desert, *Gerry* (103 mins.) marked a radically different direction in Van Sant's filmmaking. The simple premise belies the film's exquisite lyricism and invention. As John Waters said of the picture: "don't sleep with anyone who doesn't love this film."

***Elephant* (2003) / 9 pm**

Winner of the Palme d'Or and Best Director prizes at the Cannes Film Festival, *Elephant* (81 mins.) is Van Sant's dramatization of a Columbine-like school shooting, made all the more poignant by his portrayal of the students' everyday lives from multiple points of view.

Tuesday, July 12

Area premiere

***Last Days* (2005) / 7 pm**

Last Days (97 mins.) is a rumination on the final hours of a troubled musician.

Expanding on the elliptical narrative style introduced in *Gerry* and *Elephant*, the film follows the Kurt Cobain-like Blake (Michael Pitt) as he wanders through his remote mansion and the surrounding grounds, trying to avoid oblivious friends while seeking solace by working on a new song or briefly visiting a music club. With Asia Argento, Lukas Haas, and Kim Gordon. Special thanks to HBO Films/Picturehouse Films for the screening of *Last Days* and to Gus Van Sant, Sr., for his support.

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