MOMA PRESENTS RARELY SCREENED FILMS OF FRENCH DIRECTOR CLAUDE CHABROL

***The Other Claude Chabrol* Includes TV Films and Shorts, Seen for the First Time in the United States**

North American Premiere of *Chez Maupassant: La Parure* (*The Necklace*)

The Other Claude Chabrol
August 17–27, 2007
The Roy and Niuta Titus Theater 2

NEW YORK, August 3, 2007—The Museum of Modern Art presents ***The Other Claude Chabrol,*** a survey of the renowned French director's lesser-known short and feature-length works, many of which were made for French television and will be screened in the United States for the first time. Presented August 17 through 27, 2007, in The Roy and Niuta Titus Theater 2, the 11-title series includes the North American premiere of Chabrol's newest work, the short film *Chez Maupassant: La Parure* (*The Necklace*, 2007), which will be screened on opening night, August 17. The exhibition is organized by Jytte Jensen, Curator, and Leigh Goldstein, Department of Film, The Museum of Modern Art.

Claude Chabrol (French, b. 1930) has directed more than 55 films in the five decades since he emerged among the French New Wave directors with his first feature, the revolutionary *Le Beau Serge* (1958). Within that substantial output are several feature films, as well as works commissioned for French television, that have never before been screened in American theaters.

Among the titles in this exhibition are three films from *Les Histoires insolites*, a *Twilight Zone*-like series in which the stories have a sting in their tail. Chabrol's affinity for literary texts is evident in adaptations of works by Henry James (*Le Banc de la Désolation,* 1974), Pierre Souvestre (*L'Echafaud magique*, 1979), and Guy de Maupassant (*La Parure*), but his talents also extend to the spy capers of the Tigre series, whose tongue-in-cheek campiness are in keeping with the stylish espionage thriller genre of the 1960s.

The famously detached and dispassionate style and dense psychological drama of his well-known films are also evident in films such as the sleepy seaside murder mystery *Au Coeur du mensonge* (*The Color of Lies,* 1998), and *Dr. M* (1990), Chabrol's outlandish reimagining of Fritz Lang's German Expressionist masterpiece *The Testament of Dr. Mabuse* (1933). These films showcase the liberating effect that directing for television appears to have afforded the director and offer a more complete view of Chabrol to American audiences.

Grateful thanks to the Cultural Services of the French Embassy, the Torino Film Festival, and Sub-ti Ltd. Prints courtesy of L'Institut National de l'Audiovisuel, MK2, Progefi, France Télévision Distribution, Jourd'hui Mitchell Productions, and Janus Films.

Images are available at www.moma.org/press

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Public Information:
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Hours:	Wednesday through Monday: 10:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Friday: 10:30 a.m.-8:00 p.m. Closed Tuesday
Museum Adm:	$20 adults; $16 seniors, 65 years and over with I.D.; $12 full-time students with current I.D. Free, members and children 16 and under. (Includes admittance to Museum galleries and film programs) Target Free Friday Nights 4:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m.
Film Adm:	$10 adults; $8 seniors, 65 years and over with I.D. $6 full-time students with current I.D. (For admittance to film programs only)
Subway:	E or V train to Fifth Avenue/53rd Street
Bus:	On Fifth Avenue, take the M1, M2, M3, M4, or M5 to 53rd Street. On Sixth Avenue, take the M5, M6, or M7 to 53rd Street. Or take the M57 and M50 crosstown buses on 57th and 50th Streets.

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THE OTHER CLAUDE CHABROL

SCREENING SCHEDULE

All films are directed by Chabrol and are in French, with English subtitles, unless otherwise noted.

Friday, August 17

6:15 ***Chez Maupassant: La Parure (The Necklace).*** 2007. France. Screenplay by Gérard Jourd'hui, Jacques Santamaria, based on the story by Guy de Maupassant. Episode of the television miniseries *Chez Maupassant*. With Cécile de France, Thomas Chabrol. With evident delight and no mercy, Chabrol portrays the covetous yearnings of a young clerk's wife, whose love for pretty things leads to her undoing. 29 min. North American premiere.

Les Histoires insolites: La Boucle d'oreille (Unusual Stories: The Earring). 1979. France. Screenplay by Jean Bany, based on the story by William Irish, Jr. With Thérèse Liotard, Pierre Douglas. Episode of the television miniseries *Unusual Stories.* Marriage is presented as a layer cake of lies and omissions in this well-crafted suspense story about a wealthy woman who loses an earring at the most inconvenient of moments. 52 min.

8:15 ***Fantômas: L'Echafaud magique.*** 1979. France. Screenplay by Bernard Revon, based on the novel by Pierre Souvestre, Marcel Allain. With Helmut Berger, Gayle Hunnicutt, Jacques Dufilho. Berger is appropriately seductive, swift, intelligent, and secretive as Fantômas, against whom poor workhorse Inspector Juve has no chance. Fantômas kills with class and is pardoned by style and charm. Chabrol could not have imagined a more fitting scenario of make-believe, role-playing, and deception. 94 min.

Saturday, August 18

4:30 ***Les Histoires insolites: Monsieur Bébé (Unusual Stories: Monsieur Bébé).*** 1973. France. Screenplay by Roger Granier, based on the novel by Julio Cortázar. With Denise Gence, Marc Doelnitz, Daniel Ollie. Episode of the television miniseries *Unusual Stories*. In this extreme yet devastating testament to the loneliness of human existence, an older domestic woman, heartbreakingly rendered by Gence, is approached in the kitchen after a party by a young, gay man seeking affection. She is later offered money to act as his mother and becomes emotionally involved in a milieu unfamiliar to her. 53 min.

6:00 ***Les Histoires insolites: L'Invitation à la chasse (Unusual Stories: Invitation to the Hunt).*** 1974. France. Screenplay by Paul Gégauff. With Jean-Louis Maury, Margarethe von Trotta. Episode of the television miniseries *Unusual Stories.* Receiving an unexpected invitation to participate in the annual hunt party given by the local marquis, a common man deludes himself into thinking he's a valued member of society, gets in debt to live up to his own fantasies, puts on airs, and invents a perfectly untrue—but, to his mind, fitting—past for a man of his new station. Then the cruel game starts. 52 min.

7:30 ***Le Banc de la désolation (The Bench of Desolation).*** 1974. France. Screenplay by Roger Grenier, based on the novel by Henry James. With Catherine Samie, Michel Duchaussoy. A mild-mannered book dealer is blackmailed by his ex-fiancée after he refuses to marry her. 52 min.

Sunday, August 19

2:30 ***Au Coeur du mensonge (The Color of Lies).*** 1998. France. Screenplay by Odile Barski, Chabrol. With Sandrine Bonnaire, Jacques Gamblin, Antoine de Caunes. A young girl's rape and murder in an idyllic village on the Bretagne coast becomes the background for a classic Chabrol investigation into class and gender differences, and how they aid or hinder their bearers. Since everybody lies, cheats, and partakes in the general deception called daily living, it's the decent, ordinary people who bear the burden of "getting away with it." 113 min.

5:00 ***Le Banc de la désolation (The Bench of Desolation).*** See Saturday, August 18, 7:30.

Monday, August 20

6:15 ***Dr. M.*** 1990. Germany/France/Italy. Screenplay by Chabrol, Sollace Mitchell, Thomas Bauermeister, based on the novel by Norbert Jacques. With Alan Bates, Jennifer Beals. Chabrol's tribute to Fritz Lang is an outlandish reimagining of Lang's German Expressionist masterpiece *The Testament of Dr. Mabuse* (1933). Shot in Berlin just before the wall came down, the international coproduction presents a reunified city caught in a wave of inexplicable mass suicides. In English. 109 min.

8:30 ***Masques (Masks).*** 1987. France. Screenplay by Odile Barski, Chabrol. With Philippe Noiret, Robin Renucci, Anne Brochet. Chabrol's fascination with games is given its most literal and complex expression in this breezy murder mystery centering on a game show host. Successful, wealthy, and ever smiling, Christian Legagneur affectionately dominates the elderly contestants on his show, as well as his increasingly infirm godchild. But his authority and prowess are challenged when a journalist comes to his isolated country home for an extended visit. 100 min.

Wednesday, August 22

6:15 ***Le Tigre aime la chair fraîche (Code Name: Tiger).*** 1964. France. Screenplay by Roger Hanin, Jean Curtelin. With Hanin, Maria Mauban, Daniela Bianchi. Under the pseudonym Antoine Flachot, lead actor Roger Hanin created a plum role for himself as secret agent Tiger, in what would become a (brief) franchise. A charming rogue

police/military agent and low-rent James Bond, Tiger romances ladies—in this case the wife and daughter of the Turkish Minister under his protection—in the midst of dangerous international intrigue. 90 min.

8:15 ***Le Tigre se parfume à la dynamite (An Orchid for the Tiger).*** 1966. France. Screenplay by Jean Curtelin. With Roger Hanin, Margaret Lee. When sunken treasure is found off the coast of Martinique, the French government sends secret agent Tiger to collect the gold. Chabrol's second and final venture into the Tiger franchise is more parody than imitation of the then wildly popular spy film genre. 85 min.

Thursday, August 23

8:00 ***Chez Maupassant: La Parure (The Necklace).***

Les Histoires insolites: La Boucle d'oreille (Unusual Stories: The Earring). See Friday, August 17, 6:15.

Friday, August 24

6:15 ***Dr. M.*** See Monday, August 20, 6:15.

8:30 ***Les Histoires insolites: Monsieur Bébé (Unusual Stories: Monsieur Bébé).*** See Saturday, August 18, 4:30.

Saturday, August 25

4:30 ***Fantômas: L'Echafaud magique.*** See Friday, August 17, 8:15.

6:30 ***Le Tigre aime la chair fraîche (Code Name: Tiger).*** See Wednesday, August 22, 6:15.

Sunday, August 26

3:00 ***Le Tigre se parfume à la dynamite (An Orchid for the Tiger).*** See Wednesday, August 22, 8:15.

5:00 ***Masques (Masks).*** See Monday, August 20, 8:30.

Monday, August 27

6:30 ***Les Histoires insolites: L'Invitation à la chasse (Unusual Stories: Invitation to the Hunt).*** See Saturday, August 18, 6:00.