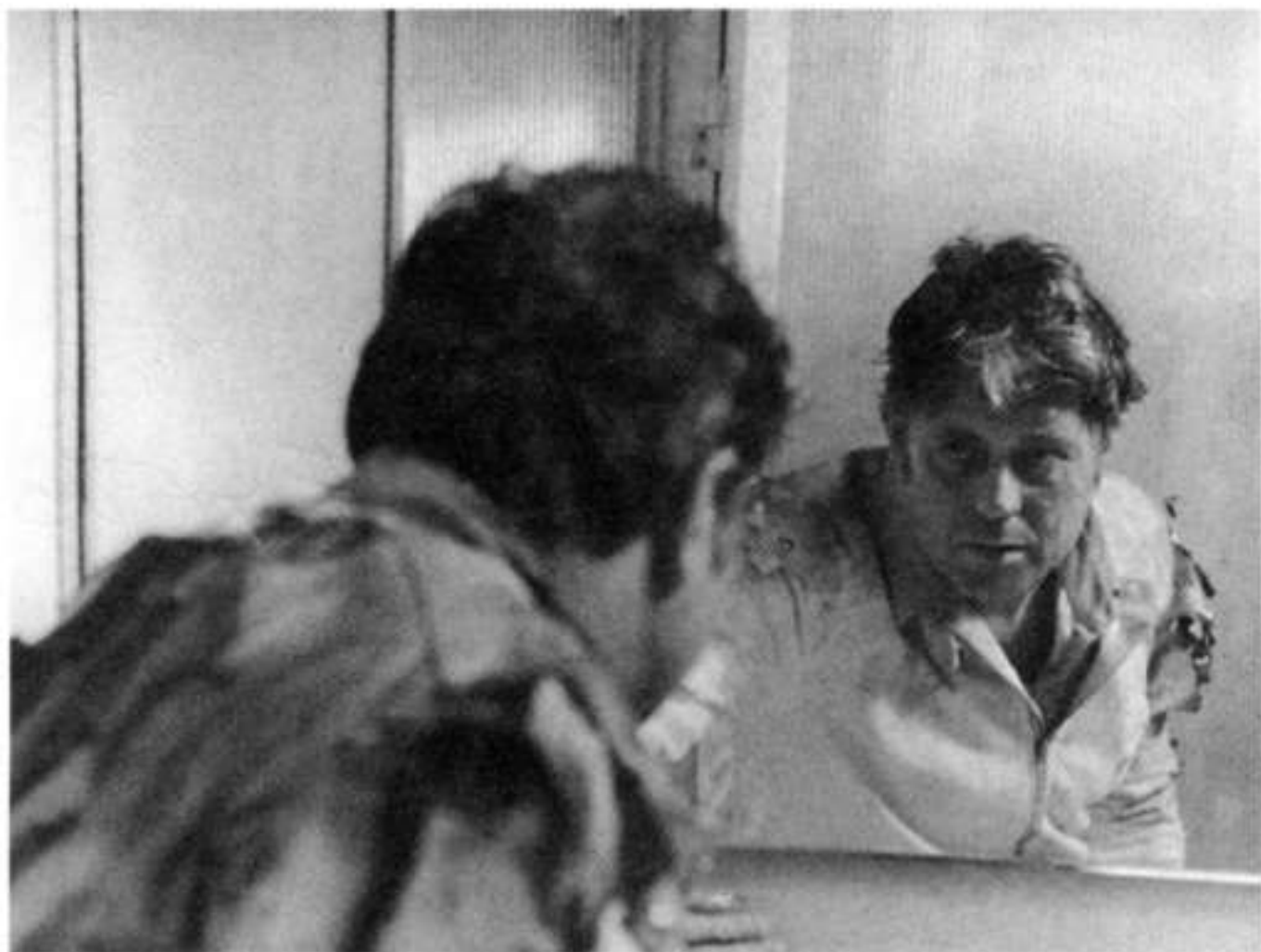


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"SOLARIS seems to me in every way a majestic and achieved work of art: not to make too fine a point of it, a masterpiece." - Mark Le Fanu

*Cinematheque Ontario
Winter 2007*

SOLARIS (SOLJARIS)

Director: Andrei Tarkovsky • USSR 1972 167 minutes • Cast: Donatas Bonionis, Yuri Yarvet

"SOLARIS ranks with the best of Tarkovsky's work, which is to say it ranks with the best of the movies produced at any time" (Jay Scott, *The Globe and Mail*). Originally released in North America in a severely cut and dubbed version, SOLARIS was seen as the Soviet rejoinder to 2001: A SPACE ODYSSEY. When it finally became available in its full-length, original version, critics recognized it as one of Tarkovsky's most important works, not really a science fiction film but a visionary work in which the travel is not so much into outer but inner space, the cosmos of memory, consciousness, dreams. Based on the famous Stanislaw Lem novel, SOLARIS is set in the near future on a planet whose "Thinking Ocean" materializes people's fantasies, much like The Room in STALKER. A scientist is dispatched to investigate strange messages emanating from Solaris, and finds that the cosmonauts sent before him have fallen prey to hallucinatory exhaustion or have been driven to suicide. His dead wife appears, and the rationalist is soon captive of irrational forces: painful apparitions of their life together, his secret and repentive longings for the things he has lost. Feverishly shot in Scope and alternating artificial Soviet colour with black-and-white, SOLARIS is possibly Tarkovsky's most moving statement on loss and regret. - **James Quandt**

Monday, March 12 6:30 p.m. PG

Special ticket prices apply. Please see page 26 for details.