

A mother's courage and a clash of cultures
inspire the artist that transcends both

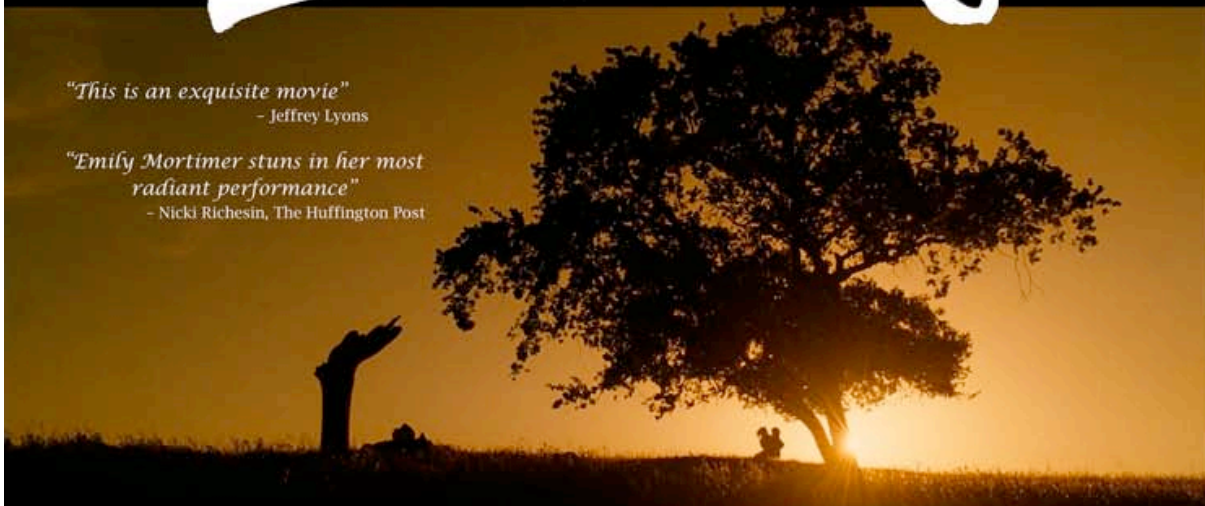


EMILY MORTIMER

Leonie

"This is an exquisite movie"
- Jeffrey Lyons

*"Emily Mortimer stuns in her most
radiant performance"*
- Nicki Richesin, The Huffington Post



From MONTEREY MEDIA
KAZUYUKI MASUDA presents AN ESSEN COMMUNICATIONS HYDE PARK ENTERTAINMENT
A HISAKO MATSUI FILM "LEONIE" EMILY MORTIMER SHIDO NAKAMURA CHRISTINA HENGRICKS MIEKO HARADA
KEIKO TAKESHITA MASATOSHI NAKAMURA KAZUKI YOSHITAKI AND MARY KAY PLACE COSTUME DESIGNER EMILY SCHWEIBER C.S.A.
EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS KAZUKI KUROSAWA (JAPANESE) AND KEVIN GIBBERD PRODUCED BY TAMA YONEI SASHINE HOFFMAN, A.S.C. AND MARYS
EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS GILES MASTERS PRODUCED BY MANU GARGI AND PATRICK AIELLO JOYCE JUN SHUICHI FUKATSU WRITTEN BY ASHOK AMOTRIJAY YUUKI ITOH MASAO NAGAI
DIRECTED BY MASAYO DIJUS "THE LIFE OF GIANI NEGUCHI: JOURNEY WITHOUT BORDER" PRODUCED BY HISAKO MATSUI AND DAVID WEINER "MOTHER" HISAKO MATSUI

PG-13 PARENTS STRONGLY CAUTIONED
SOME MATERIAL MAY BE INAPPROPRIATE FOR CHILDREN UNDER 13
BRIEF SMOKING, DRUG USE AND BREV LANGUAGE

Leonie

Isamu Noguchi once said: "Why I became an artist is related deeply to how my mother lived through her life"

A MONTEREY MEDIA PRESENTATION

STARRING:

EMILY MORTIMER (*"THE NEWSROOM"*; *HUGO*, *SHUTTER ISLAND*, *LOVELY AND AMAZING*, *LARS AND THE REAL GIRL*)

SHIDÔ NAKAMURA (*LETTERS FROM IWO JIMA*, *FEARLESS*, *RED CLIFF*)

CHRISTINA HENDRICKS (*THREE TIME EMMY® NOMINEE FOR "MAD MEN"*; *DRIVE*, *DETACHMENT*, *LIFE AS WE KNOW IT*)

MARY KAY PLACE (*EMMY® AWARD WINNER; IT'S COMPLICATED*, *SWEET HOME ALABAMA*, *"BIG LOVE"*)

Director/Co-Writer/Producer: Hisako Matsui

Producers: Hisako Matsui, Ashok Amritraj, Masao Nagai, Yuuki Itoh, Patrick Aiello, Joyce Jun, Suichi Fukatsu, Manu Gargi.

Writers: Hisako Matsui (screenplay), Masayo Duus (biography), David Wiener (screenplay)

Director of Photography: Tetsuo Nagata (Oscar® Winner)

Editor: Craig Hayes, Sabine Hoffmann

Production Designer: Giles Masters, Osamu Yamaguchi

Original Score: Jan A.P. Kaczmarek (Oscar® Winner)

Casting by: Emily Schweber

Runtime: 102 Minutes

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MPAA: PG-13 for brief sexuality, partial nudity and brief language

Synopsis

Long version:

In the lush tradition of the glorious films of Merchant and Ivory, comes the true life story of Leonie Gilmour (Emily Mortimer), whose life crossed continents, wars and cultures, embodied with courage and passion in search of art and freedom. As an independent young woman seeking to overcome the restrictive female roles in turn-of-the century America, she is retained by the famous Japanese poet, Yone Noguchi, as his editor. Their relationship evolves romantically, however Yone abruptly leaves when she shares with him that she is pregnant. Following him to Japan, she is cast alone to raise their son in a society with few opportunities for women.



A tender and inspiring story of a remarkable woman who nurtures the amazing artistic talent of their son who has only one way to succeed and one person to guide him, as he grows into the world renown artist, Isamu Noguchi.

Short version:

In the lush tradition of the glorious films of Merchant and Ivory, comes the true life story of Leonie Gilmour (Emily Mortimer), whose life crossed continents, wars and cultures, embodied with courage and passion in search of art and freedom. A tender and inspiring story of a remarkable woman who nurtures the amazing artistic talent of her son who has only one way to succeed and one person to guide him, as he grows into the world renown artist, Isamu Noguchi.

Quotes

Making 'Leonie' was one of the most challenging and exciting experiences of my professional life. Filmed over six months and two continents, it gave me an understanding of Japanese culture and life that I would never otherwise have had. I felt in some ways that I experienced many of the experiences Leonie herself had had - when she went from all that was familiar to her in the West to the mysterious, unfathomable East. I worked with a brilliant American crew in New Orleans and California and then all over Japan with incredible Japanese actors and all of Kurosawa's lighting crew as well as his daughter. I am fiercely proud of this film and so happy that Monterey is bringing it to a Western audience.'

- Emily Mortimer

"This is an exquisite movie about a courageous, determined woman. A wonderful story."

- Jeffrey Lyons/LYONS DEN RADIO

"Emily Mortimer stuns in her most radiant performance yet as Leonie in this exquisite portrait of a truly unconventional woman" - Nicki Richesin, The Huffington Post

"Nothing short of magnificent!" - Amy R. Handler, Film Threat

The Inspiration

Beyond national borders, transcending generations, creating the movie that reaches the souls of people all over the world.

Deeply inspired by reading The Life of Isamu Noguchi by Masayo Duus years prior, acclaimed director Hisako Matsui adapted the story of Isamu's mother's remarkable life to screenplay. After Matsui spent several years working through fourteen drafts of the screenplay, filmmakers, assembled from across the globe, shot the film in the lush tradition of the glorious films of Merchant and Ivory, in over 10 cities in both Japan and the U.S.

The resulting film stars award winning actress Emily Mortimer, co-stars 3-time Emmy® nominee Christina Hendricks and Shidô Nakamura and brought together an impressive international ensemble of talented filmmakers include Academy Award® winning composer Jan A.P. Kaczmarek, César du cinéma français winning director of photography Tetsuo Nagata and accomplished producer Ashok Amritraj.

Her rousing bravery and rich legacy are a message that Hisako Matsui and Emily Mortimer are honored to share with modern audiences through "Leonie".

"How Leonie Came to Hollywood, Found a Star and Was Ready for Her Close Up"

Executive Producer Patrick Aiello was the Head of Production and Executive Vice President of Creative Affairs at Hyde Park when Joyce Jun of Katten Law introduced "Leonie" to the company.

Aiello and Jun had enjoyed a previous working relationship on the feature film "Street Fighter: The Legend of Chun Li" from the Japanese video game producer Capcom. The American/Japanese co-production was a successful endeavor and distributed by 20th Century Fox. Jun was pleased to introduce "Leonie" as a flow-up American/Japanese co-production.

Upon Aiello's first read of director/co-writer Hisako Matsui and co-writer David Wiener's screenplay, the project became an immediate priority to produce and assemble an appropriate cast with worldwide appeal.

Aiello met with Matsui and Jun at Katten Law offices where he pitched how his involvement would move the casting process forward. Aiello was asked to meet again where he discussed why he was so attracted to the material.

Aiello's passion to produce "Leonie" came from a collection of independent dramas he's admired throughout his producing career. Films such as Merchant/Ivory's "Surviving Picasso" and "Remains of the Day" were the type of art-house films Aiello would look for to produce. And stories about individuals ahead of their time were always ideal to bring to the screen. Aiello compared Leonie Gilmore's journey to that of Gertrude Bell and Eleanor Roosevelt. Each a determined and accomplished woman when it wasn't acceptable to be so in a male-dominated

world. “Leonie” hit Aiello’s mandate perfectly. The challenge would be to deliver a star that could embody all of these qualities.

Aiello first suggested Emily Mortimer as Leonie to Matsui. Mortimer resembled Leonie Gilmore and offered a wide range of talent as an actor. This fact was evident from Mortimer’s body of work and according to Aiello; he felt there wasn’t a character she couldn’t inhabit. Aiello knew Mortimer’s agent at ICM, and with approval from Matsui, made the offer. Two weeks later, Mortimer wanted to play Leonie and the production was on its way.

As is custom, Mortimer needed to meet with Director Matsui first. A trip was quickly arranged for Aiello and Matsui to meet in London and join Mortimer to get acquainted. At dinner, Mortimer was excited about the role and brought along her mother, Penny, to participate in the meeting. Aiello, Matsui, Mortimer and Penny all had a wonderful evening and after hours of discussion, Mortimer agreed to star as our Leonie Gilmore. We had a movie.

CAST BIOS

EMILY MORTIMER (Leonie Gilmour)

<http://www.imdb.com/name/nm0607865/>



A talented and charming actress, Emily Mortimer continues to challenge herself with a variety of roles that have audiences fully captivated by her onscreen presence.

Mortimer is currently in production on the second season of Academy Award® and Emmy® winning writer, Aaron Sorkin's drama, *The Newsroom*. Produced by Scott Rudin and co-starring Jeff Daniels, the HBO series takes a behind-the-scenes look at a cable news show.

In recent years, Mortimer has worked with some of the most legendary film directors of our era including Martin Scorsese and Woody Allen. Most recently, she was seen in her second collaboration with Scorsese, opposite Sacha Baron Cohen in *Hugo*, which received 11 Academy Award®

nominations, and took home five awards. Mortimer had previously worked with Mr. Scorsese on the box office hit thriller, *Shutter Island* opposite Leonardo DiCaprio. Before that, she starred in one of Woody Allen's most loved films of the last ten years, *Match Point*, for which she received glowing reviews.

Mortimer's break-out performance was in Nicole Holofcener's critically-acclaimed, *Lovely & Amazing*, opposite Catherine Keener. The film won her rave reviews and an Independent Spirit Award for Best Supporting Actress.

She went on to star in David Mackenzie's film, *Young Adam* opposite Ewan McGregor and Tilda Swinton, and earned nominations for Best British Actress at the Empire Awards as well as Best British Actress in a Supporting Role at the London Film Critics Circle Awards.

Following that, she starred opposite Ryan Gosling in the Oscar® nominated comedy, *Lars and the Real Girl*.

Among her numerous other film credits are Brad Anderson's *Transsiberian* opposite Woody Harrelson and Ben Kingsley, David Mamet's *Redbelt*, *Dear Frankie* opposite Gerard Butler which earned her a London Film Critics Award nomination, *City Island*, opposite Andy Garcia; *Harry Brown*, opposite Michael Caine; Stephen Fry's *Bright Young Things*, Kenneth Branagh's *Love's Labour's Lost*, Shekhar Kapur's *Elizabeth*, *The Ghost and the Darkness* with Michael Douglas and Val Kilmer, *Formula 51* with Samuel L. Jackson, Wes Craven's *Scream 3*, *The Kid* opposite Bruce Willis, and the *Pink Panther 1 and 2* opposite Steve Martin.

Mortimer also voiced the character of young Sophie in Walt Disney Studios' English language version of *Howl's Moving Castle*, directed by the renowned Japanese animator Hayao Miyazaki. Most recently, Mortimer starred in The Weinstein Company's *Our Idiot Brother* opposite Paul Rudd, Elizabeth Banks and Zooey Deschanel. She has also lent her voice to John Lasseter's beloved sequel, *Cars 2*, as the beautiful British spy car, "Holley Shiftwell."

In addition to her film projects, Mortimer has starred in a range of television projects for the BBC and played the recurring role of "Phoebe," a love interest for Alec Baldwin's character, during the 2007 season of the hit NBC series *30 Rock*.

On stage, Mortimer's theatre credits include her off-Broadway debut at the Atlantic Theater in the world premiere of Jez Butterworth's *Parlour Song*, directed by Neil Pepe. In November 2007, Mortimer was invited by Eric Idle (Monty Python) to take part in two special performances of his play, *What About Dick?* with a stellar cast that included Billy Connolly, Tim Curry, Eric Idle, Eddie Izzard, and Tracy Ullman. Additional theatre credits include productions of *The Merchant of Venice* for the Lyceum Theatre and *The Lights for the Royal Court*.

CAST BIOS (cont.)

Mortimer was born in London, England – the daughter of famed writer Sir John Mortimer. She attended St. Paul's Girls School in Hammersmith, London and went on to study English and Russian at Oxford University. She currently lives in Brooklyn, New York with her husband, actor Alessandro Nivola and their two children.

Shidô Nakamura (Yone Noguchi)

<http://www.imdb.com/name/nm1217394/>



Born on 14th September, 1972 in Tokyo. A son of the distinguished family of Kabuki world. He had his first role in Kabukiza at age of 8. He had a first Kabuki leading role in 2003. He won total of 5 rookie of the year award for "Ping-pong". He also won Japanese Academy Award best supporting actor for "Like Asura" 2003. His other works are "Be With You" 2004, "Yamato" 2005, "Fearless" with Jet Lee in 2006, Clint Eastwood directed Academy Award nominee "Letters from Iwo Jima" 2006 and John Woo's "Red Cliff" 2008.

Christina Hendricks (Catherine)

<http://www.imdb.com/name/>



Hendricks was born in Knoxville, Tennessee but grew up in Twin Falls, Idaho. Her father, Robert, worked for the forestry department and came originally from England and her mother, Jackie, was a psychologist. The family moved to Fairfax, Virginia when she was 13.

She began acting at school and went into modeling at the age of 18. In her early 20s she also began appearing on TV, landing a recurring role in "Beggars and Choosers" (1999) in 2000 and another on "Kevin Hill" (2004) before rising to international fame in "Mad Men" (2007).

As well as her more famously conventional awards nominations (Emmys®) and wins (SAG Awards) she also won a SyFy Genre Award in for "Best

Special Guest/Television" for her role as Saffron in Joss Whedon's short-lived "Firefly" (2002)

Mary Kay Place (Albiana, Leonie's mother)

<http://www.imdb.com/name/>



(born September 23, 1947) is an American actress, singer, director and screen writer. She is best known for portraying Loretta Hagers on the television series Mary Hartman, Mary Hartman, a role that won her a Primetime Emmy Award for Outstanding Supporting Actress - Comedy Series in 1977. Place also recorded one studio album for Columbia Records in the Hagers persona, which included the Top Ten country music hit "Baby Boy."

CREW BIOS

Hisako Matsui (Director/Co-Writer/Producer)



Born in 1946 Tokyo. Waseda University Alumni.

After a career as magazine writer, she established a production company ,IF, for actors. Essen Communications Ltd. was established in 1985 and produced TV drama programs, travel programs, documentaries and others.

Her high acclaimed directorial début “Yukie”, about a married couple’s love for each other for 45 years was filmed in Louisiana and released in 1998. The film was a selection at many film festivals worldwide.

Her second film, written by Matsui herself, “Oriume”, about an average family in Japan devotedly caring for a senior family member, was released in 2002.

Ashok Amritraj (Producer)



As Chairman and CEO of Hyde Park Entertainment, Ashok Amritraj produced the box office hits BRINGING DOWN THE HOUSE, starring Steve Martin and Academy Award® -nominee Queen Latifah, STREET FIGHTER, based on the extremely popular video game and released by 20th Century Fox, and PREMONITION, starring Sandra Bullock and Julian McMahon, and is regarded as one of the most successful producers working in Hollywood today.

During the span of his 25-year career, having produced or executive produced over 90 films with a worldwide gross in excess of \$1 billion, Amritraj has worked with every major Studio in Hollywood. In 2005, the Indian

International Film Academy presented Amritraj with a Lifetime Achievement Award. In 2004 Amritraj received the Producer of Vision Award from the Hollywood community and the prestigious Pride Of India Award from the American India Foundation.

His other works include MOONLIGHT MILE, directed by Brad Silberling, starring Academy Award® winners Dustin Hoffman, Susan Sarandon and Holly Hunter, ORIGINAL SIN starring Angelina Jolie and Antonio Banderas and the Golden Globe® nominated BANDITS, directed by Barry Levinson starring Bruce Willis, Billy Bob Thornton and Cate Blanchett.

Patrick Aiello (Executive Producer)



Patrick Aiello is a senior film Executive and Producer with extensive experience in creative affairs, film financing, production and distribution of mainstream feature films that hybrids the U.S. studio and independent models. Aiello was the Head of Production at Hyde Park Entertainment and oversaw an internationally driven slate of commercially targeted films financed by private equity from the U.K., ImageNation/Abu Dhabi and Singapore’s MDA. Aiello also serviced the company’s major co-production distribution relationships with 20th Century Fox, MGM, Sony Pictures and Disney. As a senior Executive, Aiello supervised the productions of DEATH SENTENCE for 20th Century Fox as well as PREMONITION and GHOST RIDER: THE SPIRIT OF VENGEANCE for Sony Pictures. Additionally, Aiello

produced STREET FIGHTER: THE LEGEND OF CHUN LI for 20th Century Fox, ASYLUM and THE OTHER END OF THE LINE for MGM, THE DARK COUNTRY for Sony Pictures, THE DOUBLE for ImageNation, DYLAN DOG: DEAD OF NIGHT and LEONIE. Aiello is a member of the Producers Guild of America (PGA), and of the Writers Guild of America, West (WGAw).

Leonie

PRODUCTION STILLS

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Courtesy monterey media



Christina Hendricks as Catherine and Emily Mortimer as Leonie



Christina Hendricks and Emily Mortimer

PRODUCTION STILLS (cont.)

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Emily Mortimer



Shidô Nakamura as Yone Noguchi and Emily Mortimer



Shidô Nakamura and Emily Mortimer

PRODUCTION STILLS (cont.)

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Emily Mortimer



Emily Mortimer



Mary Kay Place as Albiana and Emily Mortimer

PRODUCTION STILLS (cont.)

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Bowie Gunn as young Isamu and Emily Mortimer



Shidô Nakamura, Emily Mortimer and Julian Ogawa as young Isamu



Keiko Takeshita as Setsu Koizumi and Emily Mortimer

PRODUCTION STILLS (cont.)

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Emily Mortimer and Daichi Flaherty as young Isamu



Emily Mortimer and Masatoshi Nakamura as Toshu Senda



Emily Mortimer

PRODUCTION STILLS (cont.)

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Shidô Nakamura and Emily Mortimer



Jan Milligan as Isamu Noguchi as young artist



Saburou Teshigawara as Isamu Noguchi later

ABOUT THE COMPANY

monterey media inc., incorporated in 1979, is a privately owned entertainment company. monterey media is actively engaged in all areas of domestic media, including theatrical distribution, film festivals, and other distinctive venues, television, digital delivery and home entertainment markets.

The Company is known for creating unique and distinctive release strategies tailored to each project. By way of example, in 2005, the Company established a joint venture for the creation of a special theatrical event in conjunction with AMC Theatres to launch the motion picture Indigo: A one day, 603 North America venue showing grossed over \$1,190,000 box office. Recently, monterey media films have been nominated for a Golden Globe Award, Independent Spirit Award, and NAACP Image Award. Many of our films have premiered at Sundance, Toronto, Tribeca, and SXSW Film Festivals.

Summer 2011 saw monterey media films on over 100 screens with the acclaimed Monte Hellman Road to Nowhere hailed as "A Certifiable Masterpiece" by Film Comment with it's premiere at the Film Society of Lincoln Center; Small Town Murder Songs which premiered at TIFF; and the New York Times Critics' Pick Harvest. Upcoming, among others, is Famke Janssen's directorial debut Bringing Up Bobby starring Milla Jovovich, Bill Pullman and Marcia Cross, and Guy Maddin's acclaimed Keyhole, premiering at TIFF, Berlin and SXSW starring Jason Patric, Isabella Rossellini and Udo Kier.

In 2010, the Company completed a 50 city release including New York, Los Angeles, Chicago and Dallas for the acclaimed Trucker starring Michelle Monaghan, Nathan Fillion and Benjamin Bratt (chosen by Roger Ebert as one of the ten best independent films of 2009). For Endgame, from the 2009 Sundance Film Festival starring Academy Award winner William Hurt, monterey created a theatrical release in 30 cities (even after a PBS airing) garnering a Best Actor Golden Globe nomination for co-star Chiwetel Ejifor. The action/adventure/romance The Red Baron starring Joseph Fiennes and Lena Headey launched in Los Angeles at Mann's Chinese on as well as Phoenix, Detroit, San Diego, Portland, Pittsburgh, Toronto, Jacksonville, Louisville and others, while Lovely, Still starring Academy Award Winners Martin Landau and Ellen Burstyn opened 45 cities including New York, Los Angeles, Chicago, Phoenix, Detroit, Philadelphia, Ft. Lauderdale, Denver and San Diego.

The philosophy of doing good while doing well is practically a mantra at monterey media, and in addition to its ritual support of charitable organizations the company has developed a program entitled A Weekend of Unity & Peace. Last year's feature film was Turk Pipkin's One Peace at a Time, with music by Willie Nelson, Bob Dylan and Jack Johnson. www.unityandpeace.org

monterey is known for its creatively coordinated marketing strategies incorporating promotional alliances with such strategic partners as Wal-Mart, Fisher Price, Pepsi Cola, American Express, Amnesty International USA, Make-A-Wish Foundation of America, Children's Cancer Research Fund, Patagonia, Body Glove, KIDS FIRST!, Days Inns, Habitat for Humanity, Greenpeace, the International Motorcycle Shows and Healthy World Healthy Child and Air Pacific.

monterey video & Emerging Technologies

The monterey video division is the 2nd oldest independent video manufacturer and distributor in the United States and incorporates distribution to all digital markets. monterey is well known for its broad marketing and its direct relationships with key retail, mail-order and internet sites, schools and libraries, and specialty markets. The versatile monterey video library encompasses unique feature films and documentaries with the Company having been awarded numerous Multi-Platinum RIAA and ITA sales Awards; prestigious Independent films starring such distinguished actors as Susan Sarandon, John Ritter, Tommy Lee Jones, William Hurt, Forest Whitaker, David Strathairn, Brian Dennehy, Robin Williams, Danny Glover, among many others; celebrated sports programming including Bruce Brown Films On Any Sunday and The Endless Summer; the most prestigious educational yet entertaining library of films adapted from literature's renowned authors combined with acclaimed performances from many of Hollywood's greatest actors; and note-worthy children's programming. In addition, monterey has the honor of being the first video market licensee of the American Film Institute.

