

Film Streams & [Downtown] Omaha Lit Fest Present Q&A with Author Ron Hansen

Lit-Fest Founder Timothy Schaffert to interview Hansen following a screening of the 2007 film adaptation of his book 'The Assassination of Jesse James by the Coward Robert Ford'

Omaha, Nebraska (Wednesday, July 22, 2009)—On Sunday, August 23, at 1 p.m., Film Streams and the [Downtown] Omaha Lit Fest will co-host a special screening of the 2007 Western **THE ASSASSINATION OF JESSE JAMES BY THE COWARD ROBERT FORD**, with a post-show Q&A featuring author and Omaha native Ron Hansen.

Lit Fest founder and author Timothy Schaffert will lead the discussion with Hansen, upon whose novel the film was based. The discussion will begin at 4 p.m.

Born in Omaha, Hansen attended Creighton University before moving on to the University of Iowa's Writers Workshop and Stanford University, where he held a Wallace Stegner Creative Writing Fellowship. He has received fellowships from the Michigan Society of Fellows, the National Endowment for the Arts, the John Simon Guggenheim Foundation, and the Lyndhurst Foundation, and was presented with an Award in Literature from the American Academy and Institute of Arts and Letters. He has taught fiction and screenwriting at such institutions as Stanford, Michigan, Cornell, Iowa, Arizona, and is now the Gerard Manley Hopkins, S.J. Professor in the Arts and Humanities at Santa Clara, where he earned an M.A. in Spirituality in 1995.

In 2007, writer-director Andrew Dominik adapted Hansen's novel "The Assassination of Jesse James by the Coward Robert Ford" into an Academy Award-nominated feature film starring Brad Pitt as Jesse James and Casey Affleck, in an Oscar-nominated performance, as Robert Ford.

The film is being presented at Film Streams' Ruth Sokolof Theater as part of an 8-week, 13-film Westerns series showing through Thursday, August 27.

Now entering its fifth year, the annual [Downtown] Omaha Lit Fest will take place September 18-19. More information can be found at www.omahalitfest.com.

Tickets for the August 23 screening and Q&A with Ron Hansen are on sale now at the box office inside Film Streams' Ruth Sokolof Theater and online at www.filmstreams.org. Tickets are \$8 general, \$6 for seniors, students and teachers, and \$4 for Film Streams Members.

For questions, please contact Casey Logan, at (402) 933-0259 ext. 11 or casey@filmstreams.org.

Film Streams is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization dedicated to enhancing the cultural environment of the Omaha-Council Bluffs area through the presentation and discussion of film as an art form. In July 2007, we opened the Ruth Sokolof Theater, our two-screen cinema located within the Saddle Creek Records development north of downtown Omaha. For more information, visit us online at www.filmstreams.org.