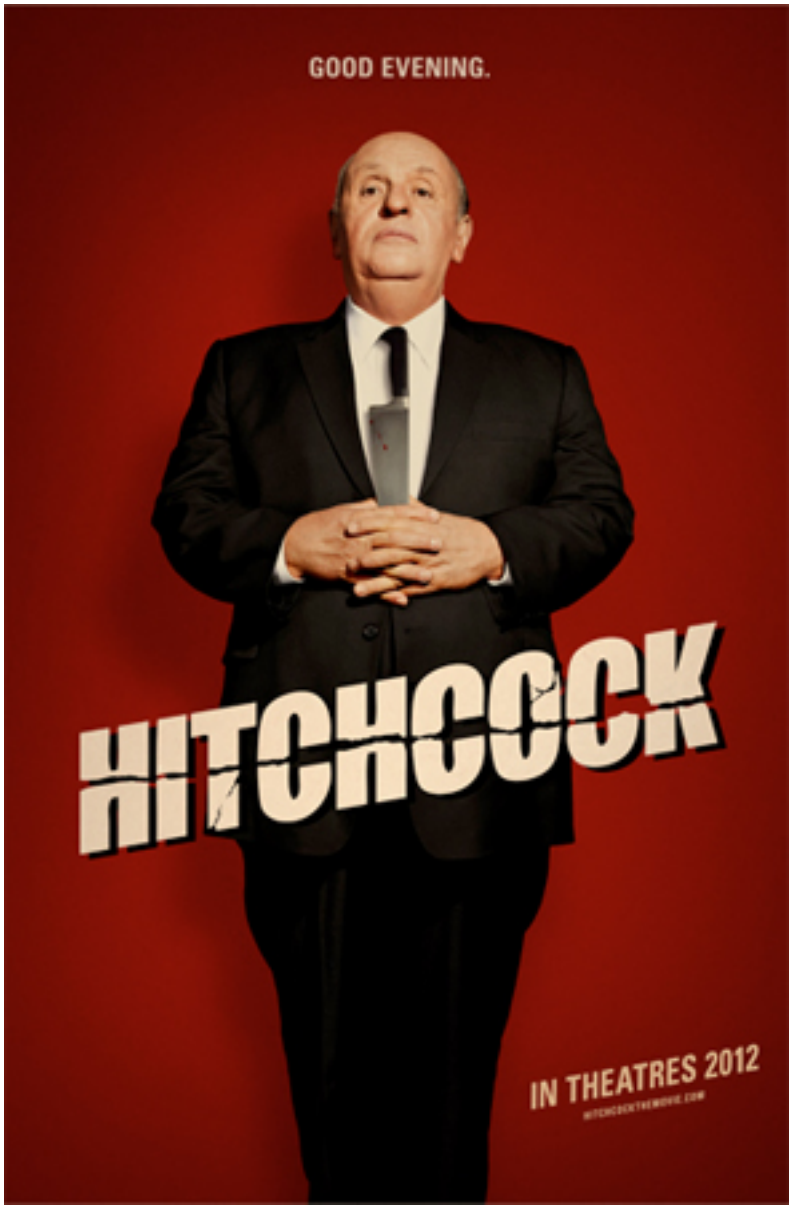

Hitchcock, the much-anticipated feature film from Director Sacha Gervasi, will have its world premiere at the opening night gala of the **American Film Institute's** AFI Fest 2012. Based on the Stephen Rebello book "Alfred Hitchcock and the Making of Psycho," the film was written by John J. McLaughlin and stars Anthony Hopkins as Hitchcock, Helen Mirren, Scarlett Johansson, Jessica Biel and James D'Arcy. "AFI's history with Alfred Hitchcock is a proud one, from a Master Seminar at the AFI Conservatory in 1970 to his receiving the AFI Life Achievement Award in 1979," says Bob Gazzale, AFI's president and CEO. "We are honored to celebrate his lasting legacy with the world premiere of Hitchcock, a bloody valentine to his creative genius and the inspired woman at his side."

Produced by Ivan Reitman, Tom Pollock and Joe Medjuck of **Montecito Picture Company,**

along with Tom Thayer and Alan Barnette, *Hitchcock* is an apt choice to kick off AFI's annual event. "Alfred Hitchcock's signature style has made him one of the most influential directors in the world," says AFI Fest Director Jacqueline Lyanga. "This film pulls back the curtain and takes us behind the scenes of his lifelong collaboration with his wife Alma during the making of his 1960 masterpiece *Psycho*. It's the perfect film to welcome our audience of movie-lovers with on opening night." Fox Searchlight Pictures plans to release *Hitchcock* in November.

AFI Fest will take place on November 1–8 at the several venues in Hollywood, Calif.: the historic Grauman's Chinese Theatre, Chinese 6 Theatres, Egyptian Theatre and Hollywood Roosevelt Hotel. Steven Spielberg's *Lincoln* (starring Daniel Day Lewis) will premiere at the festival's closing night gala. AFI Fest will offer free tickets to all screenings, but only the Star Patron Package and Marquee Patron Package will provide reserved seating at the opening night gala screening of *Hitchcock*. Free individual tickets will be available to AFI members on October 24 in a 24-hour advance window before they become available to the general public on October 25.

For tickets or more information, visit AFI.com/AFIFEST .