

MUNSON FILM SERIES



DECEMBER 2024 SCHEDULE

SHOWTIMES
WEDNESDAYS AND FRIDAYS | 2 AND 7:30 P.M.

TICKETS: General Public \$9 | Members \$7 | Students \$5 | Pratt Munson Students Free

DISCOUNTED TICKETS: 10-ticket film passbooks available! Please contact the Munson ticket office at 315-797-0055.

***Benji's Hour* | Regional Premiere | Dec. 4 and 6**

Directed by Gabriel Kahane, 2024, United States, Not Rated, 99 min.



Filmed entirely in and around Utica, Gabriel Kahane's deeply personal feature debut chronicles a lawbreaking teenager (Justin Mark) forced to work at a wig shop for cancer patients owned by the warm-hearted Susan (Catherine Curtin), where he befriends a guarded woman (Holly Heiser) who alters his life. It's a film that gives an honest peek into the often bleak (albeit exceedingly human) existence of Benji, his drug-addicted, alcoholic mother, absentee father, and the others in his orbit. Special thanks to our promotional partner, Film Utica, for their assistance.

***The Outrun* | Dec. 11 and 13**

Directed by Nora Fingscheidt, 2024, United Kingdom, Rated R, 118 min.



The Outrun is a poignant drama based on Amy Liptrot's acclaimed memoir, exploring themes of addiction, recovery, and the healing power of nature. The story follows Rona (Saoirse Ronan), a young woman who returns to the remote Orkney Islands after a decade in London, seeking peace and renewal following a battle with alcoholism. Immersed in the rugged landscapes of her childhood, she confronts her troubled past and finds solace in the untamed beauty of the islands. The film weaves an intimate narrative of self-discovery, resilience, and hope.

Conclave

Dec. 18 and 20

Directed by Edward Berger, 2024, United States/United Kingdom, Rated PG, 120 min.



Conclave is a 2024 mystery thriller adapted from Robert Harris's 2016 novel. The film centers on Cardinal Thomas Lawrence (Ralph Fiennes), who oversees the papal conclave following

the sudden death of the pope. As cardinals from around the world convene to elect a new leader, Lawrence uncovers hidden scandals and political machinations among the candidates, including the liberal Cardinal Bellini (Stanley Tucci) and the conservative Cardinal Tedesco (Sergio Castellitto). The narrative delves into themes of faith, power, and morality, culminating in a surprising revelation that challenges traditional doctrines.

Anora

Thur. Dec. 26 and Fri., Dec. 27

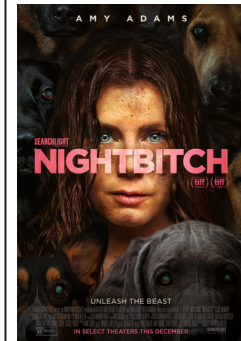
Directed by Sean Baker, 2024
United States, Rated R, 139 min.



Anora is a romantic comedy-drama directed that follows Ani (Mikey Madison), a young exotic dancer from Brooklyn, who becomes romantically involved with Vanya (Mark Eydelshteyn), the son of a Russian oligarch. Their impulsive marriage leads to challenges, including opposition from Vanya's family, who seek to annul the union. The narrative explores themes of love, class disparity, and personal agency, blending humor with social commentary. *Anora* premiered at the Cannes Film Festival, where it won the Palme d'Or, and has received critical acclaim for its storytelling and performances.

***Nightbitch* | Thur., Jan. 2, 7:30 only Fri., Jan. 3, 2 and 7:30 p.m.**

Directed by Gabriel Kahane, 2024
United States, Rated R, 99 min.



Nightbitch is a black comedy/horror film based on Rachel Yoder's 2021 novel. The story follows a former artist, now a stay-at-home mother (Amy Adams), who becomes convinced she's transforming

into a dog, symbolizing her struggle with the constraints of motherhood and loss of personal identity. As her physical changes intensify, she grapples with her new reality, leading to darkly comedic and surreal experiences. The film premiered at the Toronto International Film Festival where critics lauded Amy Adams for "one of the wildest, most ambitious performances of her career."

The Munson Film Series is sponsored by

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the Arts**

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