

Azur and Asmar

France – SPECIAL EVENT

Animation, Michel Ocelot, 2006/2008, 99 min

In English

Recommended ages 6 to adult

SYMPH – Sat, Mar 7, 4:00pm

Q&A with director Michel Ocelot following the film!

NYICFF is thrilled to welcome director Michel Ocelot back to New York for a celebration of his stunning film *Azur & Asmar*. The event will include an audience Q&A with the director and plenty of door prizes and giveaways—including not-yet-released DVDs for the first 50 families in line! *Azur & Asmar* is a poetic, fairytale-like story that weaves together themes of family, culture and tolerance within a shimmering landscape of incomparable brilliance and beauty. Audiences and critics have been unanimous in their outpouring of praise for this exquisite film: “Quite simply, it’s a visual masterpiece that combines cut-outs with CGI and the mesmeric beauty of Islamic art to create a magical world, in which scarlet lions with blue claws and birds with rainbow wings stand between the blonde Azur and Asmar, the estranged Arab friend of his childhood.” *Empire Magazine*, “Beautiful!” *New York Times*, “Five Stars! Absolutely Gorgeous!” *Time Out New York*, “Impossibly Gorgeous! The year’s most beautiful animated film!” *Salon*, “Mesmerizing! Dazzling! A Feast for the Eyes!” *Seattle Times*, “Sheer Dazzlement! Cinema whose every frame could be hung on an art gallery wall!” *Financial Times*, “Is it too early to announce the most beautiful film of 2009? It’s hard to imagine a more transporting cinematic experience coming our way than this animated feature from the French writer-director Michel Ocelot.” *Chicago Tribune*.