

For immediate release / July 9, 2007

**FILMMAKER GUS VAN SANT RETURNS TO WEXNER CENTER
TO INTRODUCE HIS RARELY SEEN FIRST FILM *MALA NOCHE***

"A rhapsodic slacker noir!"—Nathan Lee, *Village Voice* on *Mala Noche*

Gus Van Sant, the award-winning director of such films as *Drugstore Cowboy*, *Good Will Hunting*, *Elephant*, *Last Days*, and the upcoming *Paranoid Park*, returns to the Wexner Center **Wednesday, August 1** at 7 pm to introduce a brand new 35mm print of *Mala Noche*, his little-seen debut feature. **Tickets are \$7 for the general public and \$5 for Wexner Center members and students** and go **on sale July 10**. Tickets can be purchased at the Wexner Center ticket office (614 292-3535) or Ticketmaster (614 431-3600) or Ticketmaster.com.



Mala Noche
Photo courtesy Janus Films

Mala Noche, now receiving its first proper theatrical release, is a haunting story of unrequited love and culture clash between a convenience store clerk and the young Mexican illegal immigrant with whom he is infatuated. Shot in black-and-white, originally in 16mm, it is one of the key works from the independent filmmaking movement of the 1980s. The modest yet involving story is based on a novella by poet Walt Curtis. More information, including a trailer, is available at www.wexarts.org; more information on *Mala Noche* available at www.janusfilms.com/malanoche.

Van Sant, no stranger to the Wexner Center, previously visited during a 2003 retrospective of his films, when he introduced a preview screening of *Gerry*, then his latest, to a capacity crowd of Wexner Center members. The Center also hosted the local premiere of his last film, the critically acclaimed *Last Days* in 2005.

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