

LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD



Ernest Borgnine, won the 1955 best actor Academy Award – and the hearts of film audiences around the world – for his performance as a love-lorn butcher in the film “Marty.” **The Rhode Island International Film Festival** is proud to present its 2009 Lifetime Achievement award to Ernest, a true Hollywood legend.

Ernest, 92, the son of an Italian countess, was born Ermete Effron Borgnino in Hamden, Connecticut. He has appeared in 199 movies, including “From Here to Eternity,” “Bad Day at Black Rock,” “The Dirty Dozen,” “The Wild Bunch,” and “The Poseidon Adventure.” His latest is the 2009 film “Another Harvest Moon.”

He served in the Navy from 1935 to 1945, reaching the rank of Gunner’s Mate 1st Class. In 1962, he returned to the Navy as the skipper of PT-73 on the television series “McHale’s Navy,” which ran until 1966, and also starred in the 1964 movie version. He starred in the 80’s series “Airwolf,” which ran for three years. Since 1999 he has been the voice of Mermaid Man on the TV cartoon “SpongeBob SquarePants” and in April appeared on the final episode of “ER.”

Ernest is the only living person who has won a Best Actor Academy Award for a performance given prior to 1960 (“Marty” – 1955).

Previous winners of the **RIIFF Lifetime Achievement Award** have been director **Blake Edwards**; actresses **Cicely Tyson** and **Patricia Neal**; and actors **Seymour Cassel** and **Kim Chan**.

The award will be presented at the world premiere screening of his most recent film, director Greg Swartz’s “Another Harvest Moon,” on Friday, August 7th at 7:00 p.m. at the Columbus Theatre Arts Center (270 Broadway, Providence, RI). Tickets for this special event are \$15.00.