

## THE ARTS

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3 p.m. today  
at Booker T.  
Washington High  
School for  
the Performing  
and Visual Arts,  
2501 Flora St., and at  
8 p.m. at the Nasher  
Sculpture Center,  
2001 Flora St., both  
in Dallas. \$30 for  
afternoon salon, \$65  
for evening.  
1-888-695-0888.  
nashersculpture  
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**Isabella  
Rossellini**

starred with  
Adam Monty in  
the 1998 film  
*Left Luggage*.



CoBo Films

# Rossellini at Nasher tonight

Model-actress says  
she's always been  
a director at heart

**By JOY TIPPING**

Staff Writer

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Say "Isabella Rossellini," and most people probably think of three things: her starring role in David Lynch's controversial 1986 film, *Blue Velvet*, her longtime stint as a model for Lancôme and her status as film-legend offspring — her parents were actress Ingrid Bergman and director-producer-screenwriter Roberto Rossellini.

Isabella, 59, says she was always a filmmaker at heart. "When I was young, I wanted to make films about animals," she says by phone



**ROSSELLINI**

from her home in Long Island, N.Y. "And I started out directing short films for Italian television."

After successful modeling and acting careers, the star has gone back behind the camera. She spends most of her time making short films, notably for the Sundance Channel. She expects to talk about those projects and other aspects of her life on Tuesday, when she'll appear at the Nasher-Salon conversation series in Dallas.

In addition to her Sundance projects, Rossellini was recently tapped to make comic films about animals for the cosmetics compa-

ny Burt's Bees, for use on its website.

Rossellini didn't begin acting till she was in her 30s. "Modeling actually gave me the courage to venture into acting," she says. "It was something I had avoided because my family had such success in that area. I knew I could never have the kind of career my mother had."

That's debatable: Rossellini has racked up more than 50 movies in addition to television and Broadway appearances. She won the Independent Spirit Award for best actress for *Blue Velvet* and has received Golden Globe and Emmy nominations.

She says all of her work comes down to one concept: storytelling. "When you act, you express some-

body else's ideas and feelings, another person's desires. You're expressing emotions, and that's also true in modeling to some extent. It's really all just aspects of storytelling, it all fits together."

She's also still in love with animals and is particularly interested in animal behavior and endangered species. She raises puppies that will later be trained as guide dogs, nurturing and socializing them for a year before sending them off for training.

She's likely to be surrounded by friends and family at the Nasher. The parents of her ex-husband, Jonathan Wiedemann, father of 28-year-old Elettra, one of her two children, live in Dallas, and she frequently visits for holidays and such.