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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CELEBRATING 40 YEARS
Showcasing the Best in Independent and World Cinema
Thursday, October 5 – 15, 2017

**MILL VALLEY FILM FESTIVAL ANNOUNCES
TRIBUTE TO ACCLAIMED DIRECTOR **TODD HAYNES**
AND CALIFORNIA PREMIERE OF **WONDERSTRUCK**
ON FRIDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2017**

SAN RAFAEL, CA (August 8, 2017) – The Mill Valley Film Festival is proud to honor acclaimed director Todd Haynes (*Carol*, *Far From Heaven*, *Safe*, *I'm Not There*) with a Tribute, featuring an onstage conversation and presentation of the MVFF Award in recognition of a career that exemplifies the art of great directing. Haynes was last here for MVFF30 in 2007 and returns for MVFF's 40th anniversary in 2017 with the California premiere of his latest film **WONDERSTRUCK**.

Tribute to Todd Haynes

Todd Haynes is a widely admired American independent film director and screenwriter. Critically acclaimed and awarded films include *Poison* (1991), *Safe* (1995), *Far From Heaven* (2002), *I'm Not There* (2007), *Carol* (2015) and *Mildred Pierce* (2011) for television. His latest feature film, *Wonderstruck*, is based on the 2011 novel of the same name by Brian Selznick, who adapted the novel into a screenplay. The film stars Oakes Fegley, Julianne Moore, Michelle Williams and Millicent Simmonds. The film premiered at the 2017 Cannes Film Festival on May 18, 2017, and competed for the Palme d'Or.

Following the *Wonderstruck* screening, Todd Haynes will participate in an onstage conversation and audience Q&A culminating in the presentation of the MVFF Award on Friday, October 13, 2017.

About *WONDERSTRUCK*

US 2017, 117 min

Director Todd Haynes

Based on Brian Selznick's critically acclaimed novel, Ben and Rose are children from two different eras who secretly wish their lives were different. Ben longs for the father he has never known, while Rose dreams of a mysterious actress whose life she chronicles in a scrapbook. When Ben discovers a puzzling clue in his home and Rose reads an enticing headline in the newspaper, both children set out on quests to find what they are missing that unfold with mesmerizing symmetry.

Wonderstruck will be released by Amazon Studios and Roadside Attractions on Friday, October 20, 2017.

About the Mill Valley Film Festival

Presented by the California Film Institute, the 40th Festival runs October 5-15, 2017. Locations this year include: CinéArts@Sequoia (Mill Valley), Christopher B. Smith Rafael Film Center (San Rafael), Lark Theatre (Larkspur), Cinema Corte Madera and other theatres throughout the Bay Area. With a reputation for launching new films and creating awards season buzz, MVFF has earned a reputation as a "filmmakers' festival" by celebrating the best in American independent and world cinema alongside high profile and prestigious award contenders.

MVFF40

About the California Film Institute

The non-profit California Film Institute (CFI) celebrates and promotes film by presenting the annual Mill Valley Film Festival and DocLands Documentary Film Festival, exhibiting film year-round at the Christopher B. Smith Rafael Film Center, and building the next generation of filmmakers and audiences through CFI Education. CFI relies on the generosity of its community to sustain these core programs. The invaluable support of our sponsors, foundations, and individual donors ensures our continued success as we celebrate our 40th year. For more information please visit www.cafilm.org.

Supporters

CFI is once again proud to acknowledge the leadership support of Christopher B. and Jeannie Meg Smith and Jennifer Coslett MacCready, and the continued major support of The Bernard Osher Foundation, The Gruber Family Foundation, The EACH Foundation and The Horace W. Goldsmith Foundation. We are also fortunate to have the contributions of the following Signature and Major Sponsors of the Mill Valley Film Festival: Wells Fargo, Jackson Square Partners, Lucasfilm, Ltd., Maroevich, O'Shea & Coghlan Insurance Services, Wareham Development, Bellam Self Storage and Boxes, Ghilotti Construction Company and San Francisco Chronicle.

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