

MVFF38 | Sarah Silverman Spotlight

SarahSilvermanonline.com | (Generated from Awards Watch)

Monday, August 24, 2015

Journalist: N/A

**October fest to honor Sarah**Posted on [August 24, 2015](#) by [Gator](#)

This year's California Film Institute Mill Valley Film Festival (October 8-18 in San Rafael, CA) will present Sarah the MVFF Spotlight Award for her work in *I Smile Back*. The movie will be screened at the festival and Sarah will be present for an on-stage Q&A. Here is today's [Awardswatch article](#) about the announcement.

The California Film Institute, which runs the Mill Valley Film Festival has announced it will fete comedian Sarah Silverman for her breakthrough, tour-de-force performance in *I Smile Back*. Along with a screening of her film she will participate in an on-stage conversation and receive the MVFF Spotlight Award. The film, which debuted at the Sundance Film Festival this year and will also be seen at Toronto in September will be released October 23rd from Broad Green Pictures.



Two-time Emmy winner Sarah Silverman is as versatile of a performer as they come. Her repertoire includes everything from film and television, stand-up comedy, to iconic online videos, and she added author to this list when she released a book in 2010, the New York Times Bestseller, *The Bedwetter: Stories of Courage, Redemption, and Pee*. Silverman debuted an hour-long stand-up special, "We Are Miracles," on HBO in 2013. She was awarded a 2014 Primetime Emmy in the Outstanding Writing for a Variety Special category. The special was also nominated for Outstanding Variety Special, and Silverman recently received a WGA nomination as well. An album of the special was recently released through Sub Pop Records, which earned her a 2015 Grammy nomination for Best Comedy Album. Silverman will next be seen in the drama feature, *I Smile Back*, a film adaption of a novel by Amy Koppelman in which she plays the lead role. The film premiered at Sundance. She also has wrapped production on *Ashby* opposite Mickey Rourke and Emma Roberts and recently had a recurring role on season 2 of the Golden Globe nominated series "Masters of Sex."

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Silverman grew up in New Hampshire and attended New York University. In 1993 she joined “Saturday Night Live” as a writer and feature performer and has not stopped working since.

About I Smile Back:

Laney is an attractive, intelligent suburban wife and devoted mother of two adorable children. She has the perfect husband who plays basketball with the kids in the driveway, pristine house, and a shiny SUV for carting the children to their next activity. However, just beneath the façade lie depression and disillusionment that send her careening into a secret world of reckless compulsion. Only very real danger will force her to face the painful root of her destructiveness and its crumbling effect on those she loves.

At the core of *I Smile Back*'s power is an indelible performance. Sarah Silverman reinvent herself as a dramatic actress in the career-defining, intensely layered, and heartbreaking role of Laney. Deftly directed by Adam Salky (*Dare*, 2009 Sundance Film Festival), *I Smile Back* is at times darkly humorous but also harrowing and unflinching as an authentic, humanizing portrait that offers no easy resolution for a damaged woman struggling to come to terms with herself.

The complete schedule for the 38th Mill Valley Film Festival will be announced and available online at www.MVFF.com on Tuesday, September 15, 2015.