



**THE 39<sup>TH</sup> MILL VALLEY FILM FESTIVAL  
ACTIVE CINEMA  
QUESTION | ENGAGE | TRANSFORM  
OCTOBER 6 – 16, 2016**

MVFF's Active Cinema films are united in their commitment to explore the world and its issues, engage audiences, and transform ideas into action. Join us for screenings throughout the Festival; support the grassroots activism of filmmakers; and engage with admirable work by special guests, co-presenters, and partners.

Join us online to stay connected year-round: [facebook.com/MVFFActiveCinema](https://facebook.com/MVFFActiveCinema).

**SPECIAL EVENTS**

**October 15 - Active Cinema Hike | NETWORKING IN NATURE**

Join Festival staff and guests on this easy 3.5-mile hike to the ocean and exchange ideas and wisdom on filmmaking, filmmaker resources, activism, and strategies for action. Bring water and sunblock, and wear good walking shoes. Meet at the Tennessee Valley trailhead parking lot.

***Saturday, October 15 at 10AM at Tennessee Valley Trail, Free***

**October 9 - Active Cinema Film Screening + Panel | COMPANY TOWN**

What happens if you love tech but can't stand the hype? Is the "sharing economy" liberating or disempowering? How do we preserve diverse communities in cities we love? A panel discussion following the screening of *Company Town* will address these issues and more. Invited guests include:

- DEBORAH KAUFMAN, Director, *Company Town*
- ALAN SNITOW, Director, *Company Town*
- Additional guests TBA

***Sunday, October 9 at 2PM at CinéArts Sequoia***

**ACTIVE CINEMA FILMS**

***Best and Most Beautiful Things / US (Director: Garrett Zevgetis)***  
**In Association with No Bully**

Enter Michelle's world and discover the rich interior life of this indomitable young woman, legally blind and high functioning on the autism spectrum. Refusing to be held back by her presumed "limitations," Michelle fearlessly pushes beyond the boundaries society and her family history would impose upon her, emerging as the unique heroine of her own story.

***Company Town / US (Directors: Deborah Kaufman, Alan Snitow)***  
**In Association with the Sierra Club, San Francisco Bay Chapter**

Local filmmakers Deborah Kaufman and Alan Snitow take to the streets of San Francisco to track last year's supervisor race between incumbent Julie Christensen and former supervisor and lefty firebrand Aaron Peskin. The film's real focus, however, is the way in which every resident is affected by Airbnb and the influx of tech workers.

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***Death By Design* / US (Director: Sue Williams)**

**In Association with the International Campaign for Responsible Technology**

Do you love your phone? Can't imagine life without your trusty digital sidekick? After watching *Death by Design*, we all might pause before our next upgrade. Written, produced, and directed by filmmaker Sue Williams, this intense and illuminating documentary uncovers the nasty global underbelly of electronics manufacturing and disposal.

***Do Not Resist* / US (Director: Craig Atkinson)**

Many have been alarmed by the recent spectacle of police in full riot gear and armored vehicles moving through peaceful demonstrations. Sure to spark debate, this disquieting documentary puts the viewer on the streets in the middle of the action and seeks to examine our growing culture of militarization in law enforcement.

***Fire at Sea (Fuocoammare)* / Italy (Director: Gianfranco Rosi)**

Rosi's beautiful and moving neorealist documentary takes the small Sicilian island of Lampedusa as its focal point to address the European refugee crisis. Without emotional grandstanding or partisan politics, the film brilliantly juxtaposes the side-by-side relationship of Lampedusa's residents with the desperate people trying to reach her shores.

***The Last Dalai Lama?* / US (Director: Mickey Lemle)**

**In Association with the Buddhist Film Foundation**

Simple monk and geopolitical rock star, His Holiness the 14th Dalai Lama has transformed spirituality, neuroscience, and education by adapting ancient Tibetan Buddhist practices for a secular world. Mickey Lemle updates his 1991 *Compassion in Exile* with this intimate look at the good humor and enduring wisdom of His Holiness.

***Visitor's Day (Día de Visita)* / Mexico (Director: Nicole Opper)**

**In Association with the Hanna Boys Center**

Oakland filmmaker Nicole Opper directs this quietly observant documentary about a group home for at-risk boys in Mexico, where they attend school and counseling sessions, as well as tend goats—producers of award-winning cheese. The journey is not without conflict or tears, but it gives each child a much-needed boost toward a brighter future.

***Yasuni Man* / US (Director: Ryan Patrick Killackey)**

**In Association with Amazon Watch and The Pachamama Alliance**

Life hangs in the balance for the Waorani, hunter-gatherers in the biodiverse Yasuni region of the Ecuadorian Amazon. They've successfully fended off waves of missionaries, loggers, oil companies, and politicians—those who would destroy the people and the land out of greed. But how much longer can they do so? *Note: Some graphic content may not be appropriate for young viewers.*

**Complete Press Materials are available at:**

[MVFF39 Marketing Materials](#)

**About the Mill Valley Film Festival**

For nearly four decades, the world-renowned Mill Valley Film Festival (MVFF) has maintained its position as a vital showcase of the global film community, attracting iconic red-carpet talent, burgeoning filmmakers, passionate audiences, and astutely curated premieres. An in-demand destination for film lovers, drawn by unmatched locale and a diverse program of mainstream studio features and new visions from independent voices from around the world, MVFF also hosts an exciting array of filmmaker and industry conversations, panels, parties, and live music performances, featuring the most acclaimed emerging and veteran actors, filmmakers, and musicians of our time. A destination event for cinephiles everywhere, and known for launching new films and creating awards season buzz, MVFF has earned a deserved reputation as a "filmmaker's festival" by celebrating the best in American, independent, and world cinema alongside high profile and prestigious award contenders. Presented by the California Film Institute, this year's Festival runs October 6 – 16, 2016. Opening Night Gala will be held at Marin Country Mart and Closing Night Party will be held at Cavallo Point.

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Screening locations include: CinéArts@Sequoia and The Sweetwater Music Hall (Mill Valley), Christopher B. Smith Rafael Film Center (San Rafael), Cinemark Century Larkspur Landing and Lark Theatre (Larkspur), and Cinemark Century Cinema Corte Madera (Corte Madera).

**About the California Film Institute**

The non-profit California Film Institute celebrates and promotes film as art and education through year-round programming at the non-profit independent theatre, Christopher B. Smith Rafael Film Center, presentation of the acclaimed Mill Valley Film Festival and cultivation of the next generation of filmmakers and audiences through CFI Education programs. For more information, visit <http://www.cafilm.org> or call (415) 383-5256.

**Supporters**

As a nonprofit arts organization, CFI relies on the generosity of its community to sustain not only the Festival, but also the year-round programs of the Christopher B. Smith Rafael Film Center and CFI Education. The invaluable support of our sponsors, foundations, and individual donors ensures our continued success as we celebrate our 39<sup>th</sup> year.

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 Ken and Jackie Broad Family Fund, Drusie and Jim Davis - Drusie Davis Family Fund, The Bernard Osher Foundation, The Gruber Family Foundation, Michael and Susan Schwartz Fund, The Marin Community 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, Zaentz Media Center/A Wareham and Development, Bellam Self Storage and Boxes, Delta Air Lines and San Francisco Chronicle and Government Support from the National Endowment for the Arts.

**Social Media**

#MVFF39

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Instagram: @millvalleyfilmfest

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/MillValleyFilmFestival>

Snapchat: MVFilmFest

**For Calendar Editors**

**The 39<sup>th</sup> Mill Valley Film Festival**

One of the Nation's Top 10 Film Festivals, celebrating the Best of Independent and World Cinema  
Marin County, California

**Thursday, October 6 through Sunday, October 16, 2016**

**Tickets & information: [mvff.com](http://mvff.com)**