



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

39th Mill Valley Film Festival, October 6 – 16, 2016
Celebrating the Best in Independent and World Cinema

THE MILL VALLEY FILM FESTIVAL REVEALS COMPLETE LINEUP FOR 39TH EDITION

Highlights Include *LA LA LAND*, *ARRIVAL*, *20TH CENTURY WOMEN*, *LOVING*
Tributes to Nicole Kidman and Julie Dash
Spotlights on Ewan McGregor, Gael García Bernal, and Aaron Eckhart

SAN RAFAEL, CA (September 12, 2016) – The Mill Valley Film Festival, presented by the California Film Institute, announced today the complete lineup for the 39th edition of the Festival (October 6 – 16, 2016). The 11-day event will screen films across Marin County and will feature premieres, panel discussions, and live musical performances. Every year the Festival provides attendees a first glimpse at the potential Academy Award contenders while discovering acclaimed films from local filmmakers and filmmakers across the globe.

OPENING NIGHT | *La La Land* and *Arrival*

The Festival will begin with two of the Fall's most buzzed about films. *La La Land*, Damien Chazelle's (*Whiplash*, MVFF 2014) love letter to dreamers, artists, Hollywood and to filmmaking, will open the Festival alongside Denis Villeneuve's (*Sicario*, *Prisoners*) riveting and thoughtful drama *Arrival*. Chazelle will be on hand for Opening Night with actress Emma Stone for the Bay Area Premiere of *La La Land*. Following both films, MVFF will host the Opening Night Gala at Marin Country Mart.

La La Land screens Thursday, October 6 at 7:00pm & 7:15pm at CinéArts Sequoia in Mill Valley. *Arrival* screens Thursday, October 6, 7:00pm at Century Cinema in Corte Madera

OPENING NIGHT GALA

Following the two films, MVFF39 kicks off this year's festivities with an Opening Night Gala, celebrating the glamor of cinema and our beautiful home in Marin County, at the Marin Country Mart. Enjoy fabulous food provided by Belcampo, Big Jim's BBQ, El Huarache Loco, FarmShop, Fiorello's, Gerard's Paella, Johnny Donuts, Pizza Antica and Sol Food, refreshing beverages provided by Coppola Wines, Bartenders Unlimited, Lagunitas Brewing Company and Equator Coffee, and dance the night away to live music from Ethan Tucker Band. *Opening Night* sponsored by Wells Fargo and co-sponsored by our Official MVFF39 Airline, Delta Air Lines. *Thursday, October 6 at 9:00pm – 12:00pm at Marin Country Mart*

CENTERPIECE SPOTLIGHT | *20th Century Women*

Director Mike Mills, actress Annette Bening and actor Lucas Jade Zumann will be in attendance for the Centerpiece Spotlight presentation of *20th Century Women*. The film follows a single mother who enlists the help of two younger women (Elle Fanning, Greta Gerwig) to help raise her teenage son in the hopes that he will grow to understand women. Following the program, Frantoio will host a reception. *Centerpiece Spotlight* sponsored by Marin Community Foundation. *Thursday, October 13 at 7:00pm at the Christopher B. Smith Rafael Film Center in San Rafael; Centerpiece Spotlight Reception will follow screening from 9:00pm to 11:00pm at Frantoio*

CLOSING NIGHT | *Loving*

The Festival will close with ***Loving***, Jeff Nichols' moving love story about Richard and Mildred Loving, the interracial couple whose love helped change interracial marriage laws in the U.S. Nichols' will be on hand with actors Joel Edgerton and Ruth Negga.

CLOSING NIGHT PARTY

Following the film is our legendary Closing Night Party, this year being held at the breathtakingly beautiful Cavallo Point in Sausalito. Enjoy delectable food provided by Cavallo Point, Farm Burger, Green Chile Kitchen, Sydney's Sweets and more, beverages provided by Lagunitas Brewing Company, Coppola Wine and Equator Coffee and live music from Afrolicious. *Closing Night sponsored by Jackson Square Partners.*

Sunday, October 16 at 5:00pm & 5:15pm at CinéArts Sequoia in Mill Valley; Sunday, October 16 at 5:00pm at the Christopher B. Smith Rafael Film Center in San Rafael
Closing Night Party will follow screenings at 7:30pm – 11:30pm at Cavallo Point in Sausalito

TRIBUTE | Nicole Kidman

Academy Award winning actress Nicole Kidman will be the recipient of an MVFF Tribute for her work in Garth Davis' upcoming drama ***Lion***. Kidman's past work will also be highlighted and she will be presented with the MVFF Award in recognition for her remarkable career. *Tribute Sponsor: Christopher B. and Jeannie Meg Smith.*

Sunday, October 9 at 3:00pm at the Century Cinema in Corte Madera

SPOTLIGHT | Ewan McGregor

Acclaimed actor Ewan McGregor will be on hand for the Bay Area premiere of his directorial debut ***American Pastoral***, an adaptation of the Pulitzer-Prize winning Philip Roth novel. An on-stage conversation will accompany the screening. The program will be followed by a reception at Il Fornaio.

Sunday, October 9 at 7:00pm at the Christopher B. Smith Rafael Film Center in San Rafael

SPOTLIGHT | Gael García Bernal

Actor, director and producer Gael García Bernal (*Y Tu Mamá También*, *The Motorcycle Diaries*) will be the recipient of a Spotlight program highlighting his work in Pablo Larraín's ***Neruda***, the acclaimed bio-pic about beloved poet Pablo Neruda. The program will be followed by a reception at Le Comptoir. *Spotlight Sponsor: Jennifer Coslett MacCready.*

Monday, October 10 at 7:00pm at the Christopher B. Smith Rafael Film Center in San Rafael

TRIBUTE | Julie Dash

25 years after ***Daughters of the Dust*** first premiered, filmmaker and author Julie Dash will be the recipient of a Tribute program at MVFF featuring an onstage conversation with Dash, a clip reel of her work, and a screening of a restored version of ***Daughters of the Dust***. The program will be followed by a reception at Green Chile Kitchen.

Friday, October 14 at 7:30pm at the Christopher B. Smith Rafael Film Center in San Rafael

SPOTLIGHT | Aaron Eckhart

Acclaimed actor Aaron Eckhart will receive an MVFF Spotlight for his role in Ben Younger's highly anticipated film ***Bleed For This***, in which he stars as the veteran trainer Kevin Rooney helping Vinnie Pazienza (Miles Teller) recover from his horrific accident. This program will be followed by a reception at Il Davide. *Spotlight Sponsor: Wareham Development*

Saturday, October 15 at 7:30pm at the Christopher B. Smith Rafael Film Center in San Rafael

Star Wars Trilogy Event

To help commemorate the final days of the Century Cinema in Corte Madera, MVFF39 will host a special daylong event showcasing the original Star Wars Trilogy, all which showed at the theater. The family friendly event will feature a costume parade, prizes and special guests. *Sponsored by Ghilotti Construction Company.*

Saturday, October 8 at the Century Cinema in Corte Madera

- **11:00am - Star Wars Episode IV: A New Hope**
- **2:30pm - Star Wars Episode V: The Empire Strikes Back**
- **6:30pm - Star Wars Episode VI: Return of the Jedi**

MVFF Music

MVFF Music returns for a second year of live performances at the Sweetwater Music Hall. The nine nights include performances by artists featured in MVFF39 films as well as prominent local, national, and international musicians. Confirmed events include Thao Nguyen, Alasdair Fraser & Natalie Haas, Erika Wennerstrom, BANG! Bert Berns Celebration, Fred Hersch, Alejandro Escovedo Trio, and The Great Mill Valley Gospel Show. MVFF Music is sponsored by Marin General Hospital.

Starts Saturday, October 7 and runs till Saturday, October 15 at Sweetwater Music Hall in Mill Valley

MIND THE GAP | Women, Film, Tech

MVFF's women's initiative, Mind The Gap, is a celebration and call to arms to empower women in film and technology. The Festival-wide programming will feature screenings, Q&A's, panels, master classes, and special events highlighting and exploring the work and impact of women in these fields. Highlights include: the first narrative feature from Eleanor Coppola, **Paris Can Wait**; a digital restoration of Julie Dash's **Daughters of the Dust**; a panel about the creation of **Hidden Figures**, the highly anticipated film about female scientists at NASA; and a discussion with the women who work behind the scenes at Walt Disney Animation Studios. Mind The Gap is sponsored by Glassdoor, Marin Community Foundation and AMPAS.

ACTIVE CINEMA | Questions, Engage, Transform

Every year MVFF Active Cinema films explore the world and the issues facing it by engaging and transforming audiences. This year the Festival will team with special guests, co-presenters, and partners to help turn ideas into action. Highlights include: Craig Atkinson's look at the militarization of the police force in **Do Not Resist**; Gianfranco Rossi's Berlin Golden Bear Winner **Fire At Sea**; **Company Town**, Deborah Kaufman and Alan Snitow's look at San Francisco's changing culture; and the Active Cinema Hike, a networking in Nature event.

¡VIVA EL CINE!

¡Viva el Cine! is MVFF's survey of the best Spanish-language and Latin American films from 2016. Highlights include: the controversial Brazilian film **Aquarius**; Pedro Almodovar's latest film **Julieta**, Spain's official foreign language Oscar submission; **Finding Oscar**, about the investigation into the 1982 massacre of a Guatemalan village; **Visitor's Day**, a quiet look at a group home for at risk boys in Mexico; and **The Long Night of Francisco Sanctis** from Argentina.

FOCUS | KINOWERKS

MVFF39 will host a special focus on original MV stories from Germany that center on female characters and creators. Films in this focus include: Germany's official foreign language Oscar submission **Toni Erdmann**; Doris Dörrie looks at two women – one European, one Japanese – who form a special bond in the shadow of Fukushima's post-tsunami wasteland in **Fukushima, Mon Amour**; vivid animation and music enhance the monster tale **Molly Monster**; and **24 Weeks**, Anne Zohra Berrached's powerful drama about a woman facing a moral dilemma when she learns of a complication deep into her pregnancy.

FOCUS | Culinary Cinema

Celebrating a delicious selection of culinary films, MVFF will present a special focus on films that deal with cuisine in cinema. Films in this focus include: **Ella Brennan: Commanding the Table** a celebration of the life of Ella Brennan; **Jeremiah Tower: The Last Magnificent** follows the rise of California and Bay Area culinary legend Jeremiah Tower; **Paris Can Wait**, Eleanor Coppola's narrative directorial debut starring Alec Baldwin and Diane Lane; and **Theater of Life** which follows Massimo Bottera as he launches a project to feed the poor in Milan, Italy.

FOCUS | Smoke Screens

Sponsored by Bloom Farms

On Saturday, October 8, MVFF39 will host a full day of film programming and panel discussions about cannabis. Starting off with **Panel Great Sports! Cannabis In Athletics**, which will discuss the role cannabis can play in the world of sports and followed by films including **Rolling Papers**, **Green Is Gold**, and **One Week and a Day**. The day will also include a special MVFF Music Show at the Sweetwater Café. The festival will be offering a \$50 Canna-Pass, which provides access to all Smoke Screens programs and events.

Additional Highlights

MVFF39 is pleased to host the following Bay Area premieres: **After The Storm**, the latest work from Japanese master Hirokazu Kore-eda; **The Architect**, starring Parker Posey and Eric McCormack; Kelly Reichardt's **Certain Women** starring Kristen Stewart, Michelle Williams, and Laura Dern; Antonio Campos' haunting drama **Christine**; Oscar winner Danis Tanovic's **Death In Sarajevo**; **Denial** starring Rachel Weisz and Timothy Spall; Otto Bell's parable of female empowerment **The Eagle Huntress**; Paul Verhoeven's **Elle** starring Isabelle Huppert; Jim Jarmusch's documentary about rock legend Iggy Pop, **Gimme Danger**; **The Handmaidens**, the latest drama from South Korean auteur Park Chan-wook; Ken Loach's Palme d'Or winner **I, Daniel Blake**; James Franco's **In Dubious Battle**, an adaptation of the John Steinbeck novel; Paolo Virzi's acclaimed Italian comedy **Like Crazy**; Kenneth Lonergan's masterwork **Manchester By The Sea**; Bob Hercules and Rita Coburn Whack's rare look at the life of Maya Angelou in **Maya Angelou And Still I Rise**; Barry Jenkins' gritty drama **Moonlight**; **Paterson** starring Adam Driver and directed by Jim Jarmusch; Terrence Davies' Emily Dickinson bio-pic **A Quiet Passion**; the acclaimed Studio Ghibli feature **The Red Turtle**; Oscar winner Asghar Farhadi's **The Salesman**; Mia Hansen-Love's **Things To Come** starring Isabelle Huppert; and Keith Maitland's SXSW Award Winner **Tower**.

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. Delta Airlines is the official MVFF39 airline.

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 39th 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, 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.

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For Calendar Editor

The 39th Mill Valley Film Festival
Marin County, California

Thursday, October 6 – Sunday, October 16, 2016

Tickets & Information: <http://www.mvff.com>

Complete Press Materials are available at:

[MVFF39 Marketing Materials](#)