



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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

MILL VALLEY FILM FESTIVAL ANNOUNCES **A SPOTLIGHT ON AARON ECKHART** OCTOBER 15th, 2016

SAN RAFAEL, CA (September 23, 2016) – The Mill Valley Film Festival is proud to honor actor Aaron Eckhart with a Spotlight, featuring an on stage conversation, a screening of BLEED FOR THIS, and the presentation of the MVFF Award.

Spotlight on Aaron Eckhart

Aaron Eckhart's blistering breakout role in Neil LaBute's *In the Company of Men* ignited a promising career in which he continued his acclaimed independent work with LaBute (*Your Friends & Neighbors*, *Nurse Betty*, *Possession*) while developing a notable profile in Hollywood features (*Erin Brockovich*, *Thank You for Smoking*, *The Black Dahlia*, *The Dark Knight*). Eckhart's supporting role in Ben Younger's hotly anticipated *Bleed for This* assures another outstanding performance.

About BLEED FOR THIS

US 2016, 134 min

Director Ben Younger

When horrifying injuries from a car accident threaten to derail the future of boxing champion Vinnie Pazienza (Miles Teller), he refuses to accept that his career could be over. Instead, he stages one of the greatest real-life comeback stories in sports history, with the covert assistance of veteran trainer Kevin Rooney (Aaron Eckhart). A satisfying physical and emotional workout, *Bleed for This* is this generation's *Raging Bull*.

About SPOTLIGHT Program

Spotlight Program will feature an onstage conversation with Aaron Eckhart, a screening of BLEED FOR THIS, and the presentation of the MVFF Award in recognition of his significant performance. Join us after the program for a celebratory reception at Il Davide in San Rafael.

Saturday, October 15th at 7:30PM at the Smith Rafael Film Center

Tickets for SPOTLIGHT on Aaron Eckhart

Program & Party (non-member): \$85 (member): \$75

Program Only (non-member): \$45 (member): \$40

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.

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.

Social Media

#MVFF39

Twitter: @MVFFilmFest

Instagram: @millvalleyfilmfest

Snapchat: mvfilmfest

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

For Calendar Editors

The 39th Mill Valley Film Festival | Marin County, California

Thursday, October 6 through Sunday, October 16, 2016 | Tickets & information: mvff.com