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*(Above numbers and emails are not for publication)*

**For Immediate Release**

38th Mill Valley Film Festival, October 8 – 18, 2015  
Celebrating the Best in Independent and World Cinema

**THE 38<sup>TH</sup> MILL VALLEY FILM FESTIVAL  
SELECTS AS OPENING NIGHT FILMS  
THE DANISH GIRL AND SPOTLIGHT**

**SAN RAFAEL, CA.** (September 28, 2015) – Returning for its 38<sup>th</sup> year, the Mill Valley Film Festival announced today that the official Opening Night films for 2015 are Focus Features' ***The Danish Girl***, the remarkable love story inspired by the lives of Lili Elbe and Gerda Wegener, and Open Road's ***Spotlight***, the riveting true story of the Boston Globe's investigative team who uncovered a scandal that would rock their city and shock the world. Directors Tom Hooper and Tom McCarthy will be in attendance for their respective films.

***The Danish Girl***

UK/US 2015

Academy Award®-winning *The King's Speech* (MVFF2010) director Tom Hooper returns with another emotionally powerful drama. *The Danish Girl* explores the lives of Lili Elbe (Academy Award® winner Eddie Redmayne, MVFF Spotlight 2014), one of the first people in recorded history to undergo gender confirmation surgery, and Lili's wife Gerda Wegener (Alicia Vikander).

Special Guest: Tom Hooper

**Thursday, October 8 at 7PM and 7:15PM at Century Larkspur Landing**

***Spotlight***

US 2015

Michael Keaton and Mark Ruffalo head an impeccable ensemble cast recreating the true events of 2001, when *The Boston Globe* broke open the massive child molestation scandal within the local Catholic Archdiocese – and the shocking Church cover-up that kept it a dirty secret for decades. It is the *All the President's Men* of our generation.

Special Guest: Thomas McCarthy

**Thursday, October 8 at 7PM and 7:15PM at CinéArts Sequoia**

Following the two films, MVFF38 kicks off this year's festivities with an Opening Night Gala celebrating the glamor of cinema and our beautiful home in Marin County, sponsored by Marin Country Mart. Eat fabulous food provided by Farmshop, Belcampo, Miette, El Huarache Loco, Big Jim's BBQ, Sol Food, Johnny Doughnuts, Fiorello's Artisan Gelato, and The Grand Meringue. Drink refreshing beverages provided by Bartenders Unlimited, Lagunitas Brewing Company, Dark Horse Wines, Hangar 1 Vodka, and Equator Coffee. Festival attendees will dance the evening away with live music from Latin favorites Los Pingous with additional music by The Crackerjack DJs.

**Thursday, October 8 at 9PM at Marin Country Mart**

**About the 38th Mill Valley Film Festival**

Presented by the California Film Institute, the 38th Mill Valley Film Festival runs October 8-18, 2015 at the CinéArts Sequoia (25 Throckmorton Ave., Mill Valley), Christopher B. Smith Rafael

Film Center (1118 Fourth Street, San Rafael), and other venues 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. MVFF welcomes more than 200 filmmakers representing more than 50 countries.

#### **About the California Film Institute**

The non-profit California Film Institute celebrates and promotes film as art and education through the presentation of the Mill Valley Film Festival and year-round exhibitions at the Christopher B. Smith Rafael Film Center, film distribution by CFI Releasing, and building the next generation of filmmakers and audiences through the CFI Education program. For more information visit [www.cafilm.org](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 38<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 Christine Zecca 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 Airlines and San Francisco Chronicle.

#### **For Calendar Editors**

##### **The 38th 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 8 through Sunday, October 18, 2015**

Tickets and Information: [mvff.com](http://mvff.com)

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