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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**CELEBRATING 40 YEARS**

Showcasing the Best in Independent and World Cinema  
Thursday, October 5 – 15, 2017

**MILL VALLEY FILM FESTIVAL ANNOUNCES  
2017 FESTIVAL DATES AND CALL FOR ENTRIES**

SAN RAFAEL, CA (February 23, 2017) – Mark Fishkin, Founder and Executive Director of the California Film Institute (CFI), announced today the 40th Mill Valley Film Festival (MVFF40) will be held Thursday, October 5 – Sunday, October 15, 2017.

MVFF's programming team, led by Zoë Elton, Director of Programming, also announced the Festival's Call for Entries for feature length films (50 + minutes) and short films in the following categories: Narrative, Documentary, Animation, Children and Family, Experimental and Youth Produced. Festival sections include World Cinema, US Cinema, Valley of the Docs, Family Films and the popular "5@5" shorts programs. Films invited to the festival may also be included in our ongoing initiatives, Mind the Gap, Active Cinema and ¡Viva el Cine!.

**MVFF's regular submission period begins Wednesday, March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2017.**

The Mill Valley Film Festival only accepts online submissions through [FilmFreeway](#), and [WithoutABox](#). Presentation formats for films accepted to MVFF are DCP and 35mm. For more information, visit: [mvff.com](http://mvff.com)

Mill Valley Film Festival offers a high profile, prestigious, non-competitive environment perfect for celebrating the best in independent and world cinema alongside high profile award season contenders. MVFF has a knack for spotting emerging talent as well as drawing legendary artists. Known as the "filmmaker's festival", MVFF welcomes more than 200 filmmakers and guests from around the world.

Last year, the Festival featured over 260 screenings of 200 films, representing 37 countries, with 60 official premieres and more than 70,000 audience members present.

### **About the Mill Valley Film Festival**

Presented by the California Film Institute, the 40<sup>th</sup> Festival runs October 5-15, 2017. Locations this year include: CinéArts@Sequoia (Mill Valley), Christopher B. Smith Rafael Film Center (San Rafael), Lark Theatre (Larkspur) and other theatres 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.

### **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 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 [www.cafilm.org](http://www.cafilm.org) or call (415) 383-5256.

### **Social Media**

#MVFF40

Twitter: @MVFilmFest

Instagram: @millvalleyfilmfest

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