



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

BEHIND THE SCREENS PANELS, MASTER CLASSES, AND CONVERSATIONS AT THE 39TH MILL VALLEY FILM FESTIVAL

SAN RAFAEL, CA. (September 12, 2016) – The Mill Valley Film Festival (October 6 – 16, 2016), presented by the California Film Institute, is pleased to present the following panels, master classes and conversations as part of the BEHIND THE SCREENS program at the 39th Mill Valley Film Festival.

Panel | THE WOMEN BEHIND HIDDEN FIGURES

Co-presented by Variety

What does it take to create and launch a film about the brilliant African-American mathematicians who worked behind the scenes at NASA on the first space missions? The female filmmakers behind the scenes at 20th Century Fox present a special sneak peek at the creation of the highly-anticipated *Hidden Figures*. Showcasing footage of the film and its incredible cast (including Janelle Monáe, Taraji P. Henson, and Octavia Spencer), the team will give insights into the creative processes behind a film that celebrates – and claims recognition for – these unsung heroes. Invited guests include:

- Elizabeth Gabler, President, Fox 2000
- Marisa Paiva, Vice President of Production, Fox 2000
- Mandy Walker, Cinematographer, *Hidden Figures*
- Additional guests TBA

Saturday, October 8 at 11:00am | Smith Rafael Film Center

Panel | GREAT SPORTS! CANNABIS IN ATHLETICS

Sponsored by Flow Kana

Panel discussion with leading experts in the sports field will examine the budding connections between cannabis and professional athletics, and the corresponding medicinal and legislative issues that are impacting the profession. Invited guests include:

- Ryan McBean, former NFL football player, Denver Broncos
- Eugene Monroe, former NFL football player, Baltimore Ravens
- Dr. Perry Solomon, Chief Medical Officer, HelloMD
- Adam Steinberg, former NCAA football player, head of bizdev and marketing, Flow Kana
- Moderator: Jim McAlpine, Founder, 420 Games

Saturday, October 8 at 11:00am | Sweetwater Music Hall

Film Screening + Panel | ROLLING PAPERS (film ticket required)

Sponsored by Bloom Farms

Following the screening of the documentary *Rolling Papers*, this hour long panel conversation with media professionals and industry leaders will explore the historical and contemporary legislative issues affecting our communities and our lives. Invited guests include:

- Ricardo Baca, Journalist, Denver Post
- Steve DeAngelo, Founder, Harborside Health Center
- Mitch Dickman, Director, *Rolling Papers*
- Tawnie Logan, Executive Director, Poseidon Asset Management
- Gaynell Rogers, Managing Director/Founder, Bloom Cannabis Group
- Moderator: Ilana ‘Sugar’ Layart, Founder and Chairwoman, Women Grow Sonoma County Chapter

Saturday, October 8 at 12:30pm | CinéArts Sequoia

Master Class | DOCUMENTARY STORYMAKERS

Join leading female documentary filmmakers and thought leaders in this storytelling master class with soty consultant Tom Schlesinger. Learn how their personal heroines’ journeys while making their films inspired them to create transformational stories, as they address the importance – and role – of socially conscious filmmaking. Learn how solutions-oriented stories engage audiences, marketing campaigns help you get to final fut, universal themes resonate with viewers – and much more – as you embark on your own journey. Invited guests include:

- Barbara Boxer, U.S. Senator, California
- Nicole Boxer, Producer (*The Hunting Ground, The Invisible War, the Dean Scream*), director (*How I got Over*)
- Robin Hauser Reynolds, Director (*CODE: Debugging the Gender Gap*)

Saturday, October 8 at 2:00PM | Smith Rafael Film Center

Panel | STORYTELLING IN VIRTUAL REALITY

Sponsored by THX

As the use and impact of Virtual Reality rapidly expands, VR accessibility for consumers and audiences becomes an increasingly important issue Join this panel of filmmakers and technicians as they discuss the many challenges and opportunities of storytelling within this medium. Invited guests include:

- Jason Fiber, Head of Business Products, THX Ltd.
- Tanna Frederick, Producer, Furious M
- Paul T. Kim, Director, content & Services, Samsung Electronics America
- Randal Kleiser, Director, Defrost
- Moderator: Nathalie Mathe, Post-Production VR Supervisor; Co-Creator Utturn

Saturday, October 8 at 5:00PM | Smith Rafael Film Center

Film Screening + Panel | SHE STARTED IT (film ticket required)

Sponsored by Glassdoor

Following the screening of the documentary *She Started It*, there will be a panel discussion with young entrepreneurs, investors, and stakeholders about the strategies and opportunities involved in the world of startups. Intended to inspire as well as inform, young people are encouraged to attend. Invited guests include:

- Sheena Allen, Entrepreneur; Founder, Sheena Allen Apps InstaFunds
- Christine Herron, Director, Intel Capital
- Kelly Keenan Trumpbour, Angel Investor; Founder, See Jane Invest
- Thuy Truong, Entrepreneur; Co-Founder, GreenGar and Tappy
- Moderator: Marco Della Cava, USA Today

Sunday, October 9 at 12:00pm | Smith Rafael Film Center

Panel + Reception | MVFF STATE OF THE INDUSTRY CONVERSATION

More movies are being produced than ever before, but the film industry is going through some of the most dramatic changes in its history. Hear some of the leading experts in the business discuss the future of independent cinema and how filmmakers will be affected by the new trends in production, marketing, distribution and exhibition. Invited guests include:

- Ed Arentz, Managing Director, Music Box Films (*The Innocents*, *Frantz*, *Ida*, *The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo*)
- Blye Faust, Partner and Cofounder, Rocklin|Faust; Producer (*Spotlight*)
- Amy Hobby, Vice President, Artist Programs, Tribeca Film Institute; Producer, Tangerine Entertainment (*Paint It Black*, *Secretary*)
- Ruth Vitale, Chief Executive Officer, CreativeFuture; Founder, Paramount Classics (*the Virgin Suicides*, *Hustle & Flow*)
- Moderator: Paul Cohen, Distributor (*Bad Lieutenant*, *Mephisto*); Executive Director, Torchlight Film Program, Florida State University

Sunday, October 9 at 1:00pm | Smith Rafael Film Center | Reception to follow *Il Davide*

Film Screening + Panel | COMPANY TOWN (film ticket required)

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 2:00pm | CinéArts Sequoia

Active Cinema Hike | NETWORKING IN NATURE | FREE

Filmmakers, festival guests and festival goers can join MVFF staff on this easy 3.5 mile hike to the ocean, exchange ideas and wisdom on filmmaking, filmmaker resources, activism, and strategies for action, all while enjoying the scenic surroundings of Marin County and fresh air on the Tennessee Valley Trail. Bring water and sunblock, and wear good walking shoes. Meet at the Tennessee Valley trailhead parking lot.

Saturday, October 15 at 10:00am | Tennessee Valley Trail

Master Class & Sneak Preview Screening | THE FILMMAKER AS HEROINE SCREENWRITING WITH TOM SCHLESINGER & VALERIE WEISS

Following up on last year's inspiring "Heroine's Journey" workshop, this in-depth case study is a master class in screenwriting. Filmmaker Valerie Weiss (*A Light Beneath Their Feet*, MVFF 2015) and story consultant Tom Schlesinger return to explore Weiss's newest film, *The Archer*, and her upcoming Amazon project as they address the heroine's journey of the filmmaker, how her journey parallels the journeys of her characters, and how she connects with her audience.

Master Class will be followed by a special sneak preview of Valerie Weiss's new film, *The Archer*
Saturday, October 15 at 11:30am | Smith Rafael Film Center

Panel | DISNEY ANIMATION TECHNISTAS

Co-presented by Variety

The huge critical and box office successes of Walt Disney Animation Studio's *Frozen* and *Zootopia* – with onscreen heroines Elsa, Anna, and Judy Hopps – have proven that the time is now for great girl role models. But what about behind the scenes? This family-friendly panel brings together an amazing group of women technologists and creators of recent Disney movies – including the upcoming feature *Moana* – to discuss their groundbreaking work and innovations and explain some of the magic we see onscreen.

Moderator: Steven Gaydos, Vice President, Executive Editor, *Variety*

Sunday, October 16 at 2:00pm | Smith Rafael Film Center

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. Delta Airlines 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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#MVFF39

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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>