



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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

### MILL VALLEY FILM FESTIVAL ANNOUNCES FESTIVAL FOCUS SMOKE SCREENS: CANNABIS OCTOBER 8, 2016

SAN RAFAEL, CA (October 3, 2016) – The Mill Valley Film Festival (October 6 – 16, 2016), presented by the California Film Institute, announces the Smoke Screens: Cannabis Festival Focus, a full day of programming featuring mind-expanding films and conversations about cannabis.

MVFF39 expands its reach and scope this year with a focus on cannabis: in the media, on film, and in our lives. This Focus includes documentary and international feature film programming as well as a selection of shorts, plus panels and conversations with leading experts in the field, discussing medicinal, historical, and contemporary legislative issues affecting our communities.

#### FILMS

##### **GREEN IS GOLD** (USA - dir. Ryon Baxter) – Narrative Feature

*Sponsored by Lagunitas Brewing Co.*

Set against the complex, captivating world of cannabis, this riveting coming-of-age story focuses on two young brothers forced to fend for themselves in the gorgeous green hills of Northern California. Heartwarming and heartbreaking, this tight, poetic drama is packed with emotional truth.

**Saturday, 10/8, 3:45pm, Sequoia**

**Sunday, 10/9, 6:30pm, Rafael**

*Guests in attendance 10/8 & 10/9: Ryon Baxter (director, writer, actor), Anthony Burns (producer), Jimmy Baxter (actor), Justin Potter (director of photography), Mike Revolvacke (director of photography), Shelly Mitchell (actress), Michael James (actor), Carol Everest (actress)*

##### **ONE WEEK AND A DAY** (Israel - dir. Asaph Polonsky) – Narrative Feature

Upending commonly held notions of how to grieve, this amusing and touching film tell the story of Eyal who steals his deceased son's medical marijuana on the day following the seven days of mourning, or shiva, in the Jewish tradition. Eyal embarks on adventures, some hilariously irresponsible and some ineffably moving. *In Hebrew with English subtitles.*

**Saturday, 10/8, 9:30pm, Sequoia**

**Monday, 10/10, 5:00pm, Rafael**

##### **ROLLING PAPERS** (USA - dir. Mitch Dickman) – Documentary Feature

*Sponsored by Bloom Farms*

This fascinating documentary follows *Denver Post* editor Ricardo Baca and his team through the first year of Colorado's great experiment when dispensaries began selling recreational marijuana to the general public. *Rolling Papers* takes the viewer to the front lines of this brave, new, and truly uncharted, world of legalized marijuana.

**Saturday, 10/8, 12:30pm, Sequoia – program includes Rolling Papers panel**

**Monday, 10/10, 2:15pm, Rafael**

*Guests in attendance 10/8 & 10/10: Mitch Dickman (director), Ricardo Baca (subject)*

##### **5@5 SHORTS COMPILATION – “I WANT TO TAKE YOU HIGHER”**

Inhale deep into the world of marijuana shorts. **Weed: The Story of Marijuana** (US, 1971, 24 min), **The Secret Story** (Brian Applegarth, US, 2016, 16 min) **Bad Habits** (Priscilla Gonzalez Sainz and

Lyntoria Newton, US, 2016, 9 min) **Deflowered with the Marines** (Todd Bishop, US, 2015, 4 min) and **Green Thumb** (Kiel Murray and Phil Lorin, US, 2014, 11 min), Plus trailers, clips, and more!

**Saturday, 10/8, 1:30pm, Sweetwater**

**Thursday, 10/13, 9:00pm, Rafael**

Guests in attendance 10/8 & 10/13: Priscilla Gonzalez Sainz & Lyntoria Newton (*Bad Habits*); Todd Bishop & Georgette Angelos (*Deflowered with the Marines*); Kiel Murray & Phil Lorin (*Green Thumb*); Brian Applegarth (*The Secret Story*)

## PANELS

### **GREAT SPORTS! CANNABIS IN ATHLETICS**

*Sweetwater Music Hall, Mill Valley*

This 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.

**Saturday, 10/8, 11:00am, Sweetwater**

Invited guests:

RYAN MCBEAN, former NFL football player, Denver Broncos

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

*Sponsored by Flow Kana, Co-Presented by 420 Games, Promotional Partner HelloMD*

### **ROLLING PAPERS**

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.

**Saturday, 10/8, 12:30pm, Sequoia**

Invited Guests:

RICARDO BACA, journalist, The Cannabist, Denver Post

STEVE DEANGELO, founder, Harborside Health Center

MITCH DICKMAN, director, ROLLING PAPERS documentary

TAWNIE LOGAN, executive director, Sonoma County Growers Alliance

EMILY PAXHIA, managing director, Poseidon Asset Management

GAYNELL ROGERS, managing director/founder, Bloom Cannabis Group

Moderator: ILANA 'SUGAR' LAYTART, founder and chairwoman, Women Grow Sonoma County Chapter

*Sponsored by Bloom Farms*

## MVFF MUSIC

### **Prezident Brown & The Itals**

Join Jamaican roots reggae artist Prezident Brown and reggae veterans The Itals as they take the spirit of MVFF39's Cannabis Focus day into the night. With decades of music-making behind them, The Itals are still going strong, stalwarts of the Jamaican harmony group sound. A hard working artist who's been touring the US with his band for the last decade, Prez is a champion of the new roots and reality consciousness reggae movement that entertains, informs and inspires.

**Saturday 10/8, Doors 8pm, Show 9pm, Sweetwater**

## CANNA-PASS

Access to all SMOKE SCREENS screenings and events listed below, plus a private reception for program guests and a live music show at Sweetwater Music Hall to close the day out on a celebratory note!

No individual tickets will be needed for pass holders – Canna-Passes are available for will call pick up only on October 8 from 10:00am at the MVFF Box Office (MV Chamber of Commerce, 85 Throckmorton Ave.)

### **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 39<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, 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: @MVFilmFest  
Instagram: @millvalleyfilmfest  
Snapchat: mvfilmfest  
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/MillValleyFilmFestival>

### **For Calendar Editor**

The 39<sup>th</sup> Mill Valley Film Festival  
Marin County, California

Thursday, October 6 – Sunday, October 16, 2016  
Tickets & Information: <http://www.mvff.com>